



Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

September 2024

Volume 14 No. 09

Pastor's Message

Last month brought some heavy news with the announcements of Memory Beck's and Rob Gibson's deaths, as well as the funeral of Rose Krueger. Also, many of us had illnesses and injuries in our respective families. Even if you have not personally experienced your own sorrow, odds are people you know are suffering their own share of hardships. This is why we need Christ. We need his hope and promise in sullen times like these.

One of the worst mistakes we can make in comforting someone or in our own grieving is trying to get over it before we are ready. The solution to the problem of sorrow is not to cover up sadness with superficial happiness. We must process and express grief, otherwise it will retreat into our very bones to prolong itself. Acknowledging pain and death as present evils is part of the process of moving beyond them. Christ himself wept with the sisters of Lazarus to help them through their pain before raising Lazarus (John 11:33-36). The Gospel message came with the raising of Lazarus, but Jesus allowed emotions to be worked out prior to the acceptance of the Gospel. Grief takes time.

When we look to the hope we find in Christ, our eyes level upon his resurrection. We see the promise that mourning, pain, and death have their end in him. One day, they will lose all grip on our hearts and let us be perfectly at peace with the Lord. He will wipe away every tear. But Christ cannot rise without first dying. He

must take upon himself the suffering, mockery, and loss that strikes this world prior to resolving them in his sacrifice. If we look at the Passion (lit. "suffering/enduring") narratives in scripture, beginning with the agony in the garden of Gethsemane through to Christ's entombment (Matt 26:47-27:65; Mark 14:32-15-47; Luke 22:39-23:56; John 18:1-19:42), we find that more than double is written about the suffering of Christ than the resurrection itself (Matt 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1-29). The Gospel writers are acknowledging there is great suffering in this world before the promise of Christ's resurrection takes hold. We still need to read through all that Christ suffered, understanding the evils offered physically, psychologically, and physically, before we come to these evils fully passing away in Christ. We need to hear that he has taken our pain upon himself.

Christ understands our sorrows because he has personally undergone them. He has experienced pain in his flesh, in his soul (Matt 26:38), and in his relationships with others (John 11:33-36). Our Lord was afflicted by evil like we are and yet was not without hope. He remains the Resurrection and the Life. Though we may die, yet shall our flesh be raised from dust, and our spirits restored. Allow yourself to grieve, knowing our Lord was afflicted as well. He has overcome sin and death, and you will as well.

God's peace,
Pastor Adam Chandler

Music Notes



Chime choir rehearsals: every Saturday 3–4pm

Belle Voci choir rehearsals: every Thursday 3–4pm

Every Saturday: organ rehearsals 2–3pm

Every Thursday 2–3pm extra musician rehearsal time for Repose Recitals

Upcoming Repose Recital: Saturday Sept 21st, 3 pm, 'Songs of Summer'

See you soon,
Barb

LWML-C News



It's that time of year when children "rush" back to school to renew friendships and share stories about how they spent their summer vacation. Life returns to what is often perceived as a regular schedule.

Lunch and Learn creates an opportunity to enjoy fellowship and conversation over a meal and study God's word together with your sisters in Christ. Save the date: Thursday, September 29th at noon in the church meeting room.

Last month's newsletter featured the highlights of our 12th National Convention, however there is one additional story I would like to share.

On July 6, approximately 50 members of the Vancouver Island Circuit came together to explore God's world by hiking Mount Washington, just above Courtenay. Participants ranged in age from as young as a few months to 100 years young, and together

we enjoyed much fun, laughter, conversation, and delicious watermelon. A cornerstone of any LWMLC convention is a mission walk and or activity. This hike was my chosen Mission Walk. Thanks to God and your generosity, nearly \$600.00 was pledged in support of LWMLC's next triennium mission program. My heartfelt thanks to everyone for your support. All praise and glory be to God for the pledges, organizers, and for providing a visually stunning location for a mission walk.



Fall is a great time to plan your winter activities. LWML ladies are working hard to give you an experience that is unforgettable. Starting with our LWMLC Sunday celebrations on October 6th. Mark your calendar now.

Made With Love

See what your hands can do—stitched with love. Charity sewing has always been a cornerstone of ladies' groups and LWMLC ladies have too used their talents, gotten involved, been a part of an outreach, and worked together to bring joy into people's lives both as recipients and producers. This fall, all

ladies are invited to seize the opportunity to partner with Street Hope Victoria ministries by sewing backpack love tote bags. Please stay tuned to this newsletter for ways to fill these totes. On the first and second Thursdays of the month, starting September 5th in the meeting room at 1pm, please consider taking some time from your busy fall schedule and join us as we sing a new song to the Lord.



Another opportunity to lend a helping hand is to join us on the third Thursday of the month (starting September 19th) as we partner with the ladies from the First Open Heart Society (FOHS) of BC to sew heart pillows. You don't need to know how to sew; you can help to cut and trim or just join us for fellowship.

Blessings,
Deborah

Family News

Karlee (nee Bowers) and Kevin Costanzo welcomed their baby girl on Wed July 24th (two weeks early) at 9:14am. Alex Ripleigh Adeline Costanzo is named after Karlee's uncle, sister and grandma. Baby Alex is the granddaughter of past Hope Lutheran members Diane and Peter Bowers (current members of St John's Lutheran, Vernon). And more exciting news for the Bowers family; on July 13th, Ripleigh got engaged to her boyfriend, Marek.



IN MEMORIAM

Robert Gibson

With a ready smile and sense of fun, Robert Gibson had a presence. He enjoyed hiking and camping in the grandeur of God's world, but was equally happy at home, developing systems for work on his computer or debating any number of topics with anyone who had time to do the same.

He attended the annual family camps at Rath Trevor Park in Parksville and was always at the centre of the activities, be it the sandcastle-building contests, the multi-generational games, or the skits and songs around the evening campfires. Spending time with his family was important to him, as was his beliefs and faith in God. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and co-workers. Our comfort is knowing that he is now in the arms of God. Our condolences and prayers for the family, especially his parents, David and Laura, and siblings April, Ron, and Rachel and her family.

Rose Krueger

Rose was laid to rest next to her husband, Lawrence, at the Veterans' Cemetery, beside God's Acre Chapel in Esquimalt, on August 16th with her family and friends in attendance. She was born in 1927 in a small town in Saskatchewan. With one year of normal school, she began her working life as a schoolteacher. After moving to Ottawa, she worked for the federal government before returning to her home province where she met and married Lawrence, an officer in the Royal Canadian Airforce. Their two sons were born while they were based in Germany for four years, before

moving back to Canada and eventually to Victoria where they were both longtime, active members at Hope.

As a good cook and natural hostess, Rose was an active member of the Lutheran Women's League. They served up wonderful meals at potlucks and celebration dinners and she was part of the kitchen crew that provided snacks and smiles to children at the annual Vacation Bible Schools.

To Rose and her husband, family was everything. She often travelled to Toronto to visit their son, Blair, his wife, and their twin boys. Between trips, she was in constant communication by phone or computer. Their son, Vaughan, had moved to Victoria to be close by, but sadly, predeceased her.

We will all have our special memories of Rose. Mine will be the lace edged collars and string of pearls that she wore Sunday mornings, but more than that, her conversation and sincere interest in how the family was doing, even in later years when I visited her at her home. May you rest in peace, Rose, with your Saviour.

Memory Beck

A loving wife to Harold for 69 years and mother to two sons, Darrell and Bruce (predeceased), Memory is aptly described by Darrell as "a force of nature" in her obituary. Born in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, her family moved to Port Alberni in her early years and she lived on the Lower Mainland before settling in Victoria with her own family. She was an accomplished athlete in school and had an early career in teaching at the elementary level. She was a talented acrylic landscape palette painter and teacher, seamstress, knitter, and crafts person in all things fabric, making dolls and clothing for stuffed animals. As a

couple, Memory and Harold were active members at Norway House.

At Hope, they were both involved in the workings of the church. Harold was on the Properties Board and Memory supported the Lutheran Women's League with donations and baking for their craft fairs and dinners. She also helped with VBS in the summer. They often brought neighbours and friends to the potluck dinners as their guests.

God be with Memory's family and give them peace.

Good Morning, God!

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24) This is the wording on a lovely glass box that sits on my desk. It is a reminder that we are to greet the morning with a positive attitude, knowing that whatever the day brings, be it happy or sad, we are to remember that God is close at hand.



There are going to be times that we wish we could go hide under the covers for the morning or, much worse, have events happen that are devastating or tragic and change the direction of our lives. When we are faced with this kind of sadness, it is often out of our control. It is then I believe that God wants us to lean on Him, pray to Him and seek Him out for comfort.

In these cases, the "rejoice" part perhaps is to recognize that our Lord is in charge and is close by to listen to our prayers. "Hear my cry, oh God; listen to my prayer. From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint;

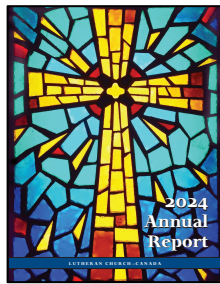
lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe." (Psalm 61:1-3). Be "glad", not for the situation, but for the knowledge that He is "always with us".

By greeting God each morning, it is a reminder of whose world this is and that whatever the day brings, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

Your Sister in Christ,
Louise

Lutheran Church-Canada Annual Report Highlights

The Lutheran Church-Canada 2024 Annual Report is the first of its kind and comes about as a result of LLC's Purpose and Priorities Planning Process in 2023-2024. Some highlights appear below. For more, including a message from LCC's President Timothy Teuscher, read the full report online at www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca



Missions Abroad

LCC is active in many countries around the world. In Nicaragua, for example, we provide nutritious food to children, creating opportunities for pastors and deaconesses to share the Gospel. In Ukraine, we provide basic care packages and clean water to people in need, alongside spiritual care. We are even seeing congregational growth in the midst of war! And in Southeast Asia, LCC is training a new generation of church workers in Thailand and Cambodia. We are also active in Costa Rica, Honduras, Israel and Haiti.

Missions At Home

At home in Canada, LCC's mission work has led to the establishment of several congregations. Our work with Ethiopian immigrants, for example, has grown to include groups in Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray, and Vancouver – with the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Halifax, and Victoria joining the list over the past year. Other language ministries include the Haitian community in Quebec City; Hindi and Urdu communities in the GTA; Mandarin and Cantonese communities in B.C.'s Lower Mainland; the Amharic community in Calgary; and Farsi speakers in the Niagara region of Ontario.



Finances and Other Reports

LCC's 2023-2024 fiscal period ended with a surplus – primarily thanks to unrestricted gifts received near the end of the fiscal year. This year marks the completion of congregational costs related to paying off a funding deficit in the DB pension plan. We ask congregations to consider donating 10 to 15 percent of these savings as additional mission remittances to LCC in order to help LCC reach its budget for 2024-2025.

Find more information in the full Annual Report, including reports on the work of Regional Pastors; an update on advancement; financial graphs; statistics; and the Synod's mission statement.

"In the annual report, you will read that Jesus is still Lord of all, is still present among us by means of His Word, and is still building His church even through our meagre means and efforts."

– President Timothy Teuscher

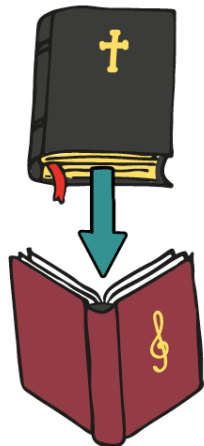
Children's Corner and For Those Young at Heart

What are "rites"?

No, "rites" are not the opposite of "wrongs," though it might sound that way. In the church, rites are the words and texts of the Divine Services and Prayer Offices. [Almost all of the rites in our hymnal are straight from the Bible.](#)

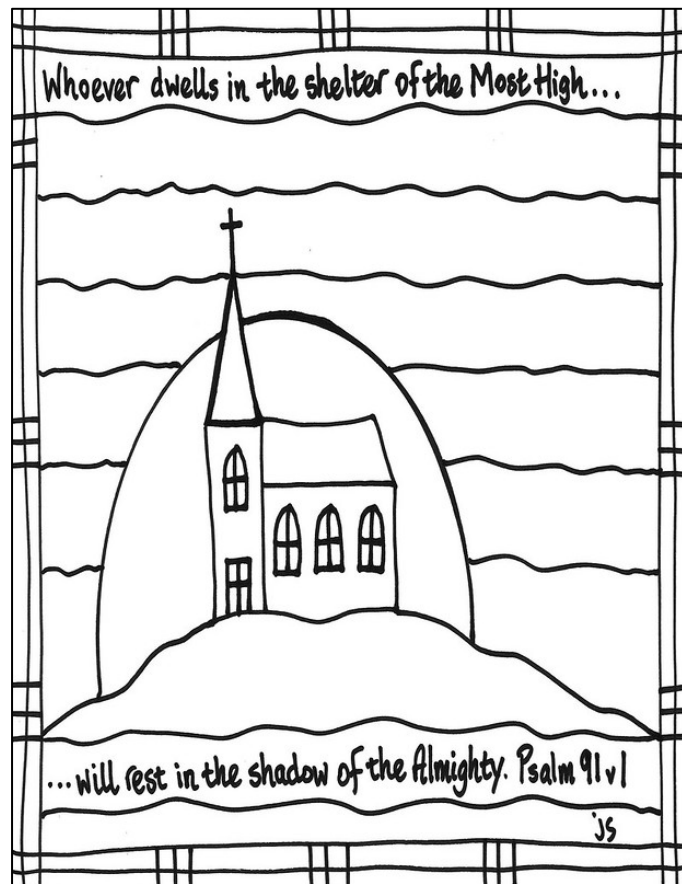
Why do we use rites?

Rites make up a majority of our worship services. These rites are the written words of our God as they have been given to us in the Bible. In these rites we hear the voice of our Savior, Jesus, proclaiming with His own words His victory over sin, death and the power of the devil. He is giving to us the forgiveness of sins which He won for us when He died on the cross and rose again at Easter. There is nothing better than for Christ's church to worship using such wonderful rites!



Before or after the Divine Service, discuss the meaning of "rites" with your child. At home, choose portions of the Divine Service and study the purpose of the rites used. Encourage your children to recognize the importance of a worship life grounded in God's Word and Sacraments, which the rites of our hymnal provide. Be sure to ask your pastor if you have any questions.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 15 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship  Sean McIntyre	2	3 10:00am Bible Study  Jennifer Darby	4	5 1:00pm Sewing Group 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	6	7 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
8 16 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship  Sean McIntyre	9	10 10:00am Bible Study	11	12 1:00pm Sewing Group 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci 6:00pm PPC Meeting	13	14 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
15 17 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	16	17 10:00am Bible Study	18	19 1:00pm Sewing Group (Heart Pillows) 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	20  Laura Gibson	21 3:00pm Repose Recital "Songs of Summer"  Joan Raines
22 18 th Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship Congregation Meeting	23  Taira Johnson	24 10:00am Bible Study	25	26 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	27	28 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
29 St. Michael and All Angels Sunday 10:30am Worship Pastor Coltman Visit	30	1 10:00am Bible Study	2	3 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	4 	5 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		

Prayer Calendar

September 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (<i>Labour Day</i>) Jesus, may I find time to seek to know Your will.	2 <i>"...be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might."</i> (Eph. 6:10)	3 Lord, help me to follow the example of Christ in my life.	4 Jesus, may I ever be mindful of Your sacrifice for my sins.	5 God, help me to reflect the light Your Son brought into the world.	6 Lord, keep Your eye on us and bless our nation.	7 <i>"And the peace of God....will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."</i> (Philippians 4:7)
8 Lord, strengthen my faith on the path to salvation.	9 Thank you , Lord, for the sacrifice of Christ.	10 Lord , may the Word of Christ dwell in me richly.	11 Lord Jesus, give me an open door to share Christ's love.	12 Lord, may You use Your perfect patience with me, and show me mercy.	13 <i>" For there is one God....and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ."</i> (1 Tim.2:5)	14 Heavenly Father, I confess my love for Christ, who rescued me.
15 Dear Lord, bless my family members and help me to care for them.	16 Dear Lord, help me to find contentment in confessing Christ as my Saviour.	17 May God's Anointed One forgive my sins this day.	18 Lord God, give me the power to resist temptation.	19 Holy Spirit, bring comfort to us in our sufferings.	20 <i>"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden."</i> (Matt. 5:14)	21 Father, thank You for reconciling us to Yourself in Christ.
22 Encourage us, Holy Spirit, to cast all our anxieties on Jesus.	23 Thank You Jesus, for sharing with us Your power over death.	24 Lord Jesus ,give us ears to hear, and faith to accept Your Words.	25 Wash me and cleanse me, dear Jesus, through the power of Your Word.	26 Thank You Father, for the inheritance of eternal life that is ours because of Jesus.	27 Father, help us gladly to surrender our thoughts and agendas to You today.	28 Dear Jesus, give us willing hearts to joyfully serve others.
29 God of all the universe, thank You for Michael and all angels who testify of You.	30 Father, renew our minds and hearts to know and love You above all else.					

Friendship Month