



# Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

October 2024

Volume 14 No. 10

## *Pastor's Message*

The Tuesday morning Bible study had an interesting conversation about how new and available technology has increased certain problems (pornography addiction, exploitation of youth, etc.). The comment was made that, back in the 1950s and '60s, the church would not have talked about stuff like this—and not because the technologies in question weren't around at that time. Back then, controversial issues like these weren't really talked about despite their existence. The atmosphere was such that, "Christians don't speak about such things." However, our lack of addressing such things as the body of Christ in the public and congregational squares have allowed these issues to go somewhat unaddressed and largely unopposed.

Our church should be a safe space where Christians can feel comfortable bringing forward personal and social concerns to discuss in a loving manner. This can be done in large part during regular times of fellowship, such as over coffee following the worship service. We use it as a time to catch up with each other, but it can also serve to have hard-hitting conversations about our lives as Christians out in the world. Casual conversations can address them lightly and heavier conversations can be held in Bible study or one-on-one with the pastor.

Looking to the events in this newsletter, I would like to give an example of one such conversation. It has been remarked to me that

Hope Lutheran has historically had little to do with non-Lutheran groups, but I preached at Living Hope Baptist Church's second anniversary service on Sept 15, and we are set to help Street Hope Victoria—a non-denominational Christian organization—collect drawstring bags for the homeless. Why engage with non-Lutherans? Because our congregation can use help spreading Christ's love to our community.

Does this mean we are compromising on doctrinal lines or now have open fellowship? No. Fellowship is determined by agreeing on (1) God giving grace through Christ, (2) that we receive this grace through Word and Sacrament, and (3) that the Office of the Keys distributes these things (i.e. a right understanding of ministry). While all three Hopes (Lutheran, Living, and Street) agree on the first point—which means we are all Christians—we disagree on the latter two. This means we cannot claim unity in worship (i.e. fellowship), but we can conduct the non-doctrinal aspects of the Christian faith together, such as giving charity. In my sermon to Living Hope, I mentioned this by saying we are not in fellowship, but we do agree on the Word, which I preached to the best of my ability, including the fact we receive grace through the Sacraments, which Baptists deny. Until the time we openly agree on these things, we pray with Christ that the Father brings unity to the entire Christian Church on earth (John 17:21).

In Christ,  
Pastor Adam Chandler

## Music Notes



We said goodbye to summer with a *Repose Recital* enjoyed by a group of roughly 30 people who joyfully sang and listened to songs and hymns of Summer and Creation. Many thanks to all who made this such an enjoyable afternoon!

The Chime Choir has returned to its regular rehearsals, held on Saturdays at 3 pm. Our chimers are Mel, Andrew, Milo, Angel, Theo, and me. Thank you for your beautiful music during our worship services.

The Belle Voci Choir has also returned to its regular rehearsals which are held Thursdays, 3 pm. We are a mixed choir, and we sing both sacred and secular music. The next Sunday that Belle Voci will sing for a worship service will be Nov 3rd for All Saints Sunday.

Upcoming *Repose Recitals* are:

Saturday Oct 26th 3 pm 'Songs and Psalms'

Saturday Nov 30th 3 pm 'Belle Voci Choir and our Chime Choir Fall Recital'

Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord...

Barb

## LWML-C News



Sing! Sing to the Lord a New Song! Let's try this oldie:

*Lord give me courage to be true to you in all I say and do;*

*Give me your love to keep me sweet to everyone I chance to meet;*

*Give me your power to keep me strong;*

*Give me the Faith that all may see how very real you are to me;*

*Give me wisdom to choose best;  
Help me perform each task with zest;  
Give me vision to see your plan;  
Use me, Lord, wherever you can.*

In collaboration with our sisters in Christ at Redeemer, the LWMLC ladies are busy sewing backpacks and gifting them to the homeless through the Street Hope Victoria Outreach ministry. Our goal is to provide 30 + 1 backpacks in thanks to the Lord for 30 years of blessings to LWMLC since 1993; PLUS 1 for this year marks our society's 60th anniversary; milestones worth singing praises to the Lord.



Please join us, NO experience necessary! We're all learning together as we have fun striving to bring physical comfort and a new song of HOPE to those dealing with homelessness.

You can get involved by writing a personal message of hope as well as gathering items of what's needed to fill these backpacks. Most needed are socks, underwear, and hats, mittens, and toiletries (travel size) toothbrush, toothpaste, and deodorant, feminine hygiene products, razors, lotions, Kleenex, wet wipes, combs or brushes. Please see the bulletin board for a complete list. This project will continue until Advent. All donations are welcome and can be placed in the basket in the Narthex, marked "Comforting People".



As the first Sunday in October approaches, LWMLC invites everyone to join in on our 60th Anniversary, a chance to celebrate God's faithfulness and provision as we joyfully work together in His name.

Sharing Jesus heart to heart,  
Deborah

## ***Baptism***

Emery Hannah Smale, daughter of Paul and Allison Smale, granddaughter of Fred and Gaylyn Smale, was born July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, and baptized on September 15, 2024, at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Welcome to God's family, Emery!



## ***Celebrating A Second Year at Hope***

Living Hope, the second congregation in our church, celebrated their second anniversary as a church on Sept 15th, with a joyous worship service. Pastor Chandler was invited to give the sermon. The service was enhanced by their upbeat worship and praise music team. After a group photo was taken of all those in attendance, we were all treated to a delicious dinner in the church hall and musical entertainment to mark this year's theme, "Growing Together". Our thanks to Living Hope for their gracious hospitality.

Louise



## October is Mustard Seed Month

The Mustard Seed operates the most accessible food bank in the greater Victoria area. It has provided roughly 600,000 pounds of food, beverages and hygiene products to families and individuals which equates to about 480,000 meals or 1,300+ meals per day!



October is a month of thankfulness and as we give thanks for what we have received, let us remember those who have less; the homeless and the hungry.

Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting donations for the Mustard Seed Food Bank. Monetary donations can be placed in your offering envelop and marked "Mustard Seed".

If you prefer to donate non-perishable food stuffs, they currently need the following items: sources of protein like peanut butter, canned fish (e.g. tuna) and canned meats (e.g. chicken, beef), healthy nonperishables (e.g. cereal, beans, pasta, canned vegetables and fruit), female hygiene products, toothpaste, and toilet paper.

*"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." (Colossians 2:6-7)*

## God Moments of Beauty Colour Our World with Joy

"You will fill me with joy in your presence."  
(Psalm 16:11)

Whether it is working in the garden or sitting close by nature collecting thoughts or calming minds, be fully aware of the moments of God's beauty.

This past week, the local deer wandered through the church yard. There is an oval indent in the middle of the long grasses of the overgrown side garden where one of them perhaps sleeps in the evenings. A hummingbird sings its "clicking" call to me from the cedar tree. The ravens call and respond to the neighbouring ones as they have for many years, from the tallest trees across the way in the park. Honeybees and other insects are active among the autumn wild purple asters that readily reseed themselves each year. Finally, the hummingbird, in its glory of iridescent green, trusts my stillness and flies down to flit from blossom to nectar-heavy blossom on the fuchsia bushes. My heart is at peace. Find your quiet place to feel your own restfulness.

God is great; His beauty on this earth completes our lives. "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these." (Luke 12:27)

Joy is a gift from the Holy Spirit so we may delight in these moments of nature's beauty! My two-year-old grandson's face lit up with awe, one evening when his father told him that God had painted the fiery sunset. "God did that?!" he asked.

"[T]he fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5 22-23)

In Christ,  
Louise

## *Some Thoughts on Attitude*

When we hear someone saying of someone else he or she “has an attitude”, it is not exactly flattering; rather, it implies a somewhat haughty person, difficult to get along with. These days, people tend to be in a sour mood, squeezed by personal, economic, and political uncertainties, secretly quoting, “Nothing is certain except for death and taxes” (Mark Twain). Indeed, we live in tough times: after decades of relative peace and quiet, we had Covid and now have inflation, mortgage squeezes, a doctor shortage, and crowded ERs, as well as general belt-tightening, not to mention wars in Ukraine and Gaza and spreading unrest in the Middle East.

For the older ones among us who witnessed World War II, as well as the wars in Vietnam and Iraq, it is “déjà vu all over again” (Yogi Berra), but for the middle aged and younger ones, the situation may well look frightening, especially if they are not (yet) firm believers. So, what to do about it?

As Christians, we don’t really have a problem; our faith ought to let us face everything the world can throw at us with calmness. Confidence in our Lord, who has accepted us in baptism as His children, who knows us completely (down to the number of hairs on our heads), and who has a plan for each of us, gives us that firm attitude. Even real or seeming adversity cannot weaken that.

So why not adopt, live with, and display that positive attitude? The Bible is full of helpful stories—think of David, Joshua, Joseph, and many others—and has many a saying for our comfort. For example, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart... and he will make your path straight” (Prov. 3:5-6) or Mark’s exhortation:

“Do not be afraid, just believe” (Mark 5:36), which sums it up rather nicely. And there are many more encouraging verses throughout to help us face what comes. Not only that, but we can strengthen other people’s attitudes by “loving our neighbour” in the daily grind—a kind word to the cleaner who worked hours in dust or the cashier who stands all day—can do wonders, just to feel appreciated.

Whether our “glass is half-full or half-empty” is up to us to decide. With a positive attitude and a bit of humour thrown in and trusting in the Lord’s help, that glass (our life) will get fuller, even if that is not apparent right away. In St. Paul’s epistle to the Romans, we have a wonderful guide to take whatever may come: “We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God.” (Rom. 8:28). Thus, we really have nothing to worry about, and that should be reflected in our attitude, which we feel inside and show to the outside, which in turn should be noticeable and thereby encouraging to others.

For those in difficulties now, try it—a positive attitude will pick you up and help you deal with whatever is getting you down!

Paul

**Adele Yager** has moved!

Please note her new contact info below:

959 Benvenuto Avenue  
Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1J8  
(778) 351-6210

***God’s Blessings to Everyone  
with October Birthdays!***



# Children's Corner and For Those Young at Heart

## *Do Lutherans honour and remember the saints?*

Yes. Remembering and honouring the saints is very "Lutheran." God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions teach that remembering and honouring the saints is a great thing to do.

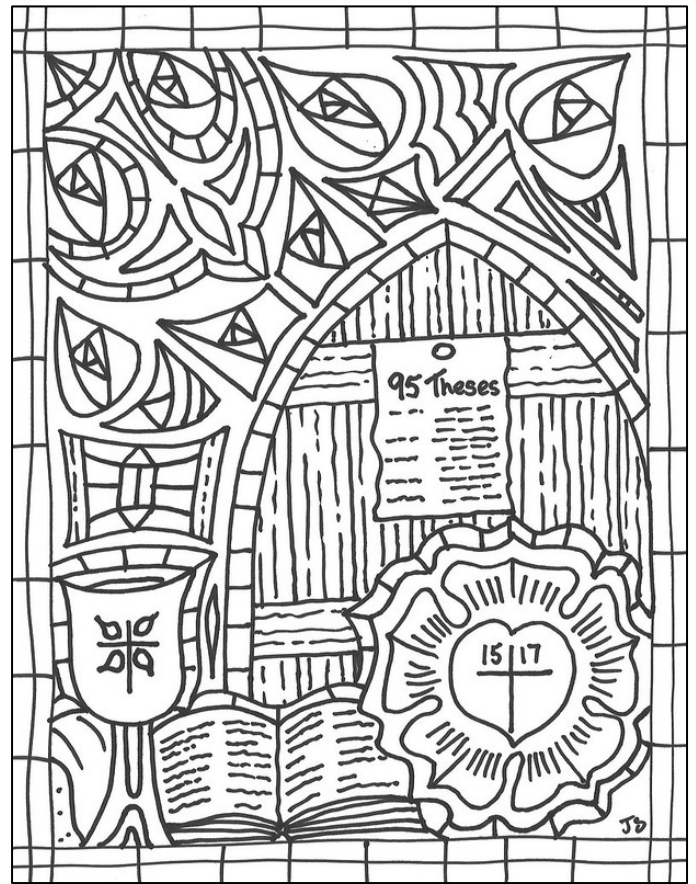
## *Why is it such a great thing to do?*

The Apology of the Augsburg Confession, which explains what Lutherans believe, teaches that we honour the saints for three reasons. 1 Thanksgiving. When we honour the saints, we thank God for "showing (his people) examples of his mercy, revealing his will to save men, and giving teachers and other gifts to the church." 2 Strengthening our faith. When we see how our Lord forgives the saints, we are "encouraged to believe that grace does abound more than sin." (Do you remember when Peter, one of the disciples, denied Jesus three times? Even the Apostles sinned and received forgiveness.) 3 "the imitation, first of their faith and then of their other virtues ..." We pray that God would keep us as strong in the faith as they were!



Explain to your children that we are not praying to the saints; we are simply honouring them on a special day in the Church Year. Remind them that when we die, we will be with our Lord in heaven, which is where the saints are right now.













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### The Reformation Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters to solve the puzzle!

1. UAOPRGYRT \_\_\_\_\_
2. OTORUCPNRI \_\_\_\_\_
3. YLCRGE \_\_\_\_\_
4. HTE SSAENRAIECN \_\_\_\_\_
5. OSMNYI \_\_\_\_\_
6. LMRASPIUL \_\_\_\_\_
7. PIOSMTEN \_\_\_\_\_
8. EIEENSASBMT \_\_\_\_\_
9. TESTARTPON \_\_\_\_\_
10. EILBB \_\_\_\_\_
11. INNPGTIR SPSE \_\_\_\_\_
12. NARTIM ETLRUH \_\_\_\_\_
13. CEDENIUGNLSL \_\_\_\_\_
14. EEHNAV \_\_\_\_\_
15. ACCHTLIO \_\_\_\_\_
16. CRCHUH \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> St. Michael and All Angels Sunday 10:30am Worship <i>Pastor Coltman Visit</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Pastor out of office                      Sept 30-Oct 3</i>	<b>1</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	<b>4</b>  Herb Hess	<b>5</b> 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
<b>6</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Lunch with Pastor	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>9</b>  Hilary McIntyre	<b>10</b> 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice  Marie Russell Jean Bricklund Jessica Lind
<b>13</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship <i>Pastor out of office                      Oct 13-Oct 17</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00am Bible Study  Kevin Starling	<b>16</b>  Milo Novakovics	<b>17</b> 1:00pm Sewing Group (Heart Pillows) 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal 3:00pm Belle Voci  Solfrid White Prum Thor Michael Rumsch	<b>18</b>  Martina Fleischmann	<b>19</b> 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice  Judith Kovats
<b>20</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday a. Pentecost 10:30am Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 3:00pm Repose Recital "Songs and Psalms"
<b>27</b> Reformation Day 10:30am Worship  Eleanor Murdoch	<b>28</b>  Gene Murdoch	<b>29</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 2:00pm Extra Rehearsal Time 3:00pm Belle Voci  Nicolle Rushton	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 2:00pm Organ Practice 3:00pm Chimes Practice
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>ELDER:</b> Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		<b>Altar Guild:</b> Deborah Gruben Theodora Henry Eleanor Murdoch Louise Rushton		

# Prayer Calendar



## October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p><b>1</b> Help me to have a cheerful hope in Your mercy today and always.</p>	<p><b>2</b> Thank you for the preaching and teaching of our faithful pastors.</p>	<p><b>3</b> Thank you, Lord, for all Your blessings today.</p>	<p><b>4</b> Dear Lord, guide me to serve You with my actions and words.</p>	<p><b>5</b> Grant patience to all people who care and direct our children across Canada.</p>
<p><b>6</b> Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (Psalm 51:10)</p>	<p><b>7</b> Guide and guard all who work in dangerous positions for the sake of others.</p>	<p><b>8</b> Grant me a sincere love for all people, through Christ Jesus.</p>	<p><b>9</b> Grant Your peace to all our friends and family in long-term care.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Thank you, God, for forgiving my sins.</p>	<p><b>11</b> We pray that Your Word be preached in its truth and purity.</p>	<p><b>12</b> Lord, help me to encourage others to nurture their faith in You.</p>
<p><b>13</b> Prepare my heart to hear Your Word and to take it to heart.</p>	<p><b>14</b> We give You thanks for all the earthly blessings You provide to us each day.</p>	<p><b>15</b> Dear Lord give me a thankful heart.</p>	<p><b>16</b> Thank you for people willing to serve in leadership roles. Bless our bosses.</p>	<p><b>17</b> May the joy of the Lord make me a blessing to others.</p>	<p><b>18</b> Open my eyes that I may see where I can serve You today.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Lord, bring comfort to all who mourn. (Psalm 147:3)</p>
<p><b>20</b> This is the day that the Lord has made (Psalm 118:24), grant us Your peace.</p>	<p><b>21</b> Lord, strengthen all who suffer with anxiety.</p>	<p><b>22</b> God bless all those who work in healthcare.</p>	<p><b>23</b> Bring healing to all people who are sick and suffering. May they know Your care.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Thank you dear Lord for Your peace that surpasses all human understanding.</p>	<p><b>25</b> Give open hearts and minds to hear Your Word and obey it.</p>	<p><b>26</b> Help us to see the beauty in the changing seasons.</p>
<p><b>27</b> Grant Your people a steadfast faith in Christ Jesus.</p>	<p><b>28</b> Forgive us when we grumble. Give us a grateful heart.</p>	<p><b>29</b> Remember all Your servants of the Word at home and abroad.</p>	<p><b>30</b> Be with all our members who are mourning today, and grant them Your peace.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Thank you for guiding Martin Luther to understand Your Word.</p>		

This calendar has been prepared for your use by the Christian Growth Committee of Lutheran Women's Missionary League—Canada