



Pastor's Message

It has been five years since I began pastoring this church. I came to Vancouver Island to shepherd Hope Lutheran Church on 1 July 2020 and I was installed as her pastor on 19 July 2020.

There are many thoughts and reflections on those past five years, but it is difficult to unpack it all within a single newsletter article. There were also the normal challenges of learning to be a pastor compounded with the challenges of COVID towards the beginning of my ministry. I could talk about the different projects and accomplishments that I made but that would be particularly odd considering it is never me alone who accomplishes things in the Church.

First and foremost, God grants the glory to His Church, and I can do nothing of my own since it is Christ who lives in me. But aside from God, there is truly no solitary action I can take in our congregation without her members being involved. Every project has its participants who work alongside me or provide donations to make everything happen. For example, Hope Lutheran was without any livestreaming before I arrived in Victoria, and we did not have it even months after I was installed. It was Heid Morgan and her family who secured the technology needed for this, with various people help manage the stream, who made it possible to reach our members who cannot come in person. Other projects of sending out clothing, money, food, booklets, and Bibles were not just me either, but involved many members of the church who heard the call of Christ.

Even my Bible studies are not solitary because those need people to attend, otherwise I would be a noisy gong clanging in an empty room. The worship services also could not happen unless I received a call from this congregation to preach and teach on Sunday morning and any other special services besides. Our regulars and visitors give me the promise that God's Word lives in our church and reaches wherever they bring it.

This church is a union of God with people and the union of ourselves to one another. And this means we are also sharing the life of Christ amongst ourselves. When we come to faith, it is no longer we who live but Christ who lives in us (Gal 2:20). Since we are in Christ, we are also united into one body where each member belongs to all the others, offering the gifts and graces we have individually received (Rom 12:5-6). Part of being a pastor is to receive and share in the lives of his flock as he offers his life to them in service. It's not always easy for any of us to live up to our part, but thanks be to God that He guides us through this unified life in Christ.

God bless,
Pastor Adam Chandler



Music Notes



The next Repose, 'Passion of the Pipe Organ', will be on Saturday August 23rd at 3:00 pm. It will be 30 minutes of non-stop pipe organ music for meditation under candlelight. Andrew will be playing his trumpet on 2 of the songs. Invite a friend, everyone welcome!

This summer I asked Mark Beiderwieden if he possibly had the time to build one last chime table for our church, as we have been using my little craft table! Three days later I received an email that it was completed and was in the sanctuary! A huge thank you to Mark for his time and talent, and for doing this do quickly!



Blessings to all,
Barb

Music to soothe the Soul

The musical offerings at Hope, also known as Reposes, are a peaceful 30 minutes of instrumental and /or choral selections.

The most recent one was on July 19th. It was a candlelight concert, with chimes and piano titled, "Soulful Music..." and the compositions included: Greensleeves, Adagio in G Minor, and Benedictus. Conversation, cookies



and lemonade afterwards, completed the delightful experience.

Actions speak louder than words, but words may be the kind action

"A new command I (Jesus) give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34.

During Covid, we were often reminded to be kind. Medical centres and most public offices still have signage reminding us to show kindness to each other so that we do not forget.

In Proverbs 16:24, it says, " Pleasant words are a honeycomb-sweet to the soul and healing to the bones (the whole body)". Kind words can help to heal a wounded mind and heart. Raw honey has been used, and still is, to heal minor wounds or burns because of its antibacterial and other healing qualities.

The following story illustrates the power and value of a positive message. The manager had sent a note to an elderly knitter who loved to make baby sweaters to sell in her shop. The woman was not able to leave her home, so a friend brought in the knitted items. On one occasion, a short letter was sent thanking her for making the beautiful garments. It went on to say how delighted customers were to be able to buy the sweaters made with soft wool and love. The knitter's daughter came a while later to sadly relate that her mother had died and she wanted to donate the last of the outfits. She was also thankful for the encouraging letter that she had found, saved, in a memory box of special cards and photos.

We may never know the effect of a kind remark to a friend or even a stranger. However, Jesus reminds us to show love through action or word not for reward but, "By this (action) all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35.

In Christ,
Louise

Some Thoughts on Waste

A few generations ago you grew up with the adage "Waste not, want not", the milder form of the famous pilgrims' motto "Use it up or wear it out, make it do or do without" – partly dictated the rules of good stewardship and partly by limited availability or outright scarcity of materials.

Back in semi-industrialized Europe repairing all kinds of equipment soon became a large field of activity, leading to specialized training and generations of skilled tradesmen. There also developed an emphasis on good-quality products that would last. The world-famous Robert Bosch Company, for example, was founded on the promise of making products of only the highest quality – and it did, using well-trained workers.

Now look at North America after colonization and the latest two or three generations. With the USA until very recently the undisputed economic superpower which can/could afford to make or have made almost everything cheaply and new – thus out with the old! Unabashed consumerism and incessant advertising have largely converted the population into wasteful buyers rather than careful maintainers of what they already have (see Hebrews 13:5).

Most disturbing is the seeming absence of concern on the part of industry and government, as well as a good many people, about the mountains of continually discarded "old stuff" – an affordable byproduct of progress, the say – but now much longer?

Yes, we in Canada are so lucky, blessed with almost everything in materials and resources, as well as lots of space – tempting us to continue using "landfills" to bury our ever-growing "garbage" – the most primitive way of dealing with it –rather than making efforts to reduce it in the first place and recovering reusable portions (labour intensive, but soon unavoidable). Current recycling is less that what was done during and after WW II in Europe.

We have a relatively small repair industry, partly due to insufficient apprenticeships, thus few tradespeople – we import some by immigration. Still, there is little emphasis on maintenance – people have been conditioned to rather buy a new item. Manufacturers seem to have placed visual appeal and sophistication over longevity of their products: Remember when a fridge lasted twenty years? Now you are lucky if a new one lasts ten, and could you fine a repairman who does a good job (and afford the bill?).

Simply put, we have put quantity over quality, with no thought of all that goes to waste.

Yes, God gave us "dominion over ...everything that moves upon the earth" (Genesis 1:28), but not over the earth itself and what is on it or in it, at least not expressly – that depends on responsible stewardship (also see the Story of Talents, Matthew 25:14-30). Industrialization has given us a lifestyle of riches – and waste, which we must reduce and/or reuse: Relying

on an ever-growing economy is an irresponsible concept, as everything on earth is finite. Sooner or later we will have to do with less, or God and Nature will do that for us – might as well get used to that now...

Paul

Picture Board

Steven Ingstrup will be starting to take pictures in September to update the picture board. So bring on your best smiles!



Recognition Potluck Lunch

Thanksgiving is going to come one month early with a potluck to celebrate, with thankfulness, Pastor Chandler's 5 years of ministry at Hope. So, mark September 7th, on your calendar and find your favourite salad, sandwich or squares recipe to make and share for lunch after church. Speak with Marie or Theodora to offer your help with dishes, planning and serving.

This luncheon will mark the beginning of our fall programs and give us an opportunity for fellowship. We hope to see you there!



Have you Noticed?



The church sign on the building has been changed, enlarging the letters for better visibility.

Games Night

Please see the upcoming church bulletins for the next Games and Supper Night. Bring games, a friend and shareable finger food for snacks, dinner, and fun.



Best wishes and God's blessings to both Lindsay and Ashley Fitterer on their upcoming marriages in August.

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LWML Prayer Calendar for the month is available at:

<https://lutheranwomen.ca/growing-gods-word/prayer-calendars/>



LWML News

LWMLC District Prayer Retreats are scheduled to be held in each district this fall. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the ABC District Prayer Retreat scheduled for **(All Saints' Day) Saturday, November 1 from 9:30 am–1 pm (MST); 8:30 am–12 pm (PST)**. Each Prayer Retreat will use the material based on what was created by Pastor Beinert and Pastor Schnarr; two districts are offering as a one-day event and two districts are offering as an overnight retreat. We pray that you will set aside the date and plan to gather to attend. The ABC Prayer Retreat will be live streamed from Grace, Edmonton. Pastor Neil Stern, Grace Lead Pastor, has graciously agreed to lead us. You will have the opportunity to gather at the location of your choice, perhaps your church or home, and experience a spiritually enriching time with others and our Lord. The morning prayer retreat will be followed by a Fellowship Luncheon, perhaps you will plan to do something similar. You will be required to register so that we can provide you with live stream link information along with other materials. If you are in the Edmonton area, we encourage you to join us. Please register by email to: vpdaabc@lutherwomen.c.

God's Blessings,
 Sherley Hearty
 LWMLC Inc, VP District Administration, ABC
 District

Lunch and Learn will restart on Wednesday, September 3rd at 12:00 pm. At the last Lunch and Learn, it was decided to change the day from the fourth Thursday of the month to the

first Wednesday of the month. All ladies are welcome!

Sewing Circle for the Heart Pillows will restart on Thursday, September 18th at 1:00 pm. Ladies and gents, if you would like to help please join us. No sewing skills required.

LWMLC Sunday

Sing for joy and be glad all our days. Psalm 90:14.



On this special Sunday we celebrate and give thanks to God for the blessings He provides through the league. Come and join us in worship and fellowship on Sunday, October 5th.

God Will Take Care of You

Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

The hymn "God will take care of you," is attributed to Civilla D. Martin, who lived from (1866-1948). She was the wife of Walter Stillman Martin, who was a Baptist minister and collaborated with his wife on several hymns. The story of this hymn is that Walter was going off to preach, and Civilla became ill and could not go with him. He was reluctant to go without her, but their son spoke up and asked his father: "Don't you think that if God wants you to preach today, He will take care of mother while you are away?" While Walter was away, Civilla, who was feeling somewhat better, composed the words to the hymn based on 1 Peter 5:7. When her husband returned, he

composed the music to go with the words Civilla had written.

Nahum 1:7 tells us “The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him.” This verse is also a great reminder for us to remember that God is there for us when we have times of trouble. God is a refuge, a safe place, and He will care for us when we put our trust Him. When we face the unknown - a diagnosis that we were not expecting, a tragedy in our family, or anything that shakes our world, our family, or our faith - we need to understand that God is in charge. God will take care of each and every detail of our lives. Psalm 145:18 says, “The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.” Let’s call upon God to take care of us every day, all the way through our life’s journey.

We pray: Father God, please take care of me, even when I don’t ask. Amen.

*Devotion by Pauline Huth,
Christian Growth, ABC District*

God will take care of you

*Be not dismayed whate’er betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.*

*God will take care of you,
Through every day o’er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.*

*Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.*

*All you may need He will provide,
God will take care of you;
Nothing you ask will be denied,
God will take care of you.*

*No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.*

Civilla D. Martin, 1094

Farewell Andrew!

We pray for success and satisfaction in the next chapter in Andrew's career, as he will be leaving Victoria the end of August. We will miss chatting with you about your travels, your knowledgeable background in naval history and many other topics. We will also miss your musical contributions to our services and reposes with your expertise in trumpet and chimes. We hope that you will keep in touch and maybe even visit our side of Canada in the future! God bless your future endeavours, Andrew!



Hope Lutheran Calendar

August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 7 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	28	29	30	31	1	2  Michael Russell
3 8 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	4  Willie Fitterer	5  Stephen Gruben	6	7  Erwin Theim	8  Harold Beck Karla Rudram	9
10 9 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am  Sandra Starling	11	12	13  Fred Smale	14  Nicole Novakovics	15	16
17 10 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	18	19	20	21	22  Marilyn Hess	23 Repose Recital 3:00 pm <i>'Organ Etudes'</i>
24 St Bartholomew, Apostle Worship 10:30 am	25	26  Mark Beiderwieden	27	28	29	30
31 12 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Laura Frandsen Theodora Henry Louise Rushton Jade Russell		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 12 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	1	2 Bible Study 10:00 am  Jennifer Darby	3 	4 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	5	6
7 13 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am <i>Potluck Lunch to celebrate Pastor's 5 years!</i>	8  Sean McIntyre	9 Bible Study 10:00 am	10	11 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	12	13
14 Holy Cross Worship 10:30 am	15	16 Bible Study 10:00 am	17	18 Heart Pillows 1:00 pm Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	19	20  Laura Gibson
21 St Matthew Worship 10:30 am  Joan Rains	22	23 Bible Study 10:00 am  Taira Johnson	24	25 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	26	27
28 16 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 am	1	2	3	4
	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Laura Frandsen Theodora Henry Louise Rushton Jade Russell		