



Pastor's Message

Holidays during the Church year—including the many saint days that people don't usually track on the calendar—are times to interrupt the regular cycle of readings and reflections to help us focus on something particular in the faith. On Sept 14, for instance, we celebrated Holy Cross Day which calls attention to the importance of the role of the cross in our salvation during a Church season which normally focuses on the teachings and ministry of Jesus. There have been quite a few special celebrations this year which have fallen on Sundays such as the Feasts of St Bartholomew (Sept 14) and St Matthew (Sept 21), which goes to show how many holidays we have on the Church calendar that we don't always think about.

The more familiar holidays (“holy days”) for this time of year are Reformation Day and All Saints because, regardless of when they appear during the week, we “observe” them on a Sunday. Observing them means they come up every year on our calendars. “Celebrating” them means having our festivities the day of, which would be Oct 31 for Reformation Day and Nov 1 for All Saints Day; but “observing” them is to transfer the celebrations to the closest available Sunday. What makes these days so special for us that we do this instead of letting them pass by if they are not on a Sunday?

All Saints Day marks when we look to the unity of the Christian Church across heaven and earth, thanking God for the faithful departed and entrusting them to His care. In many ways, All Saints is a true testament to our hope in Christ. We know that all who believe will not perish but have

eternal life. This means for all those whose flesh has failed and no longer houses their spirit, they continue in the life of Christ and will rise up on the Last Day. Until that time, we acknowledge they are not gone—not truly. They still have communion with us in the body of Christ.

Reformation Day is several centuries younger than All Saints with All Saints Day starting to be observed in the 4th century (to have the date of Nov 1 finalized by the 9th). Reformation Day began in 1567 with the 50th anniversary of the 95 Theses but only became an annual observance beginning in 1667. What the day marks is not simply the posting of the Theses. It commemorates the whole of the Reformation movement where the Gospel message of salvation by grace was placed back in prominence. Over the years, some people have drifted into hero-worship of Luther, but the core of the holiday is the Gospel itself: we are saved by God's grace received through faith apart from our works.

I'm looking forward to observing these holy days with you.

God bless,
Pastor Adam Chandler



Music Notes



The Chime Choir has resumed rehearsals, meeting each Thursday at 4 pm for an hour. We play the opening meditation for most Sunday services.

Our chimers include Theo, Angel, Mel, Barb, and our newest chimer, April!

Chiming is easy, lots of fun, and we have all gotten to know and appreciate one another a little bit better as a member of the chime choir! New members are always welcome ☐

The Belle Voci choir has resumed rehearsals, meeting each Thursday at 3 pm until 4 pm. We gather to enjoy singing, to learn something new, and to enjoy fellowship. We sing approximately once per month for the Sunday service opening meditation, and we also prepare a few songs for upcoming Repose Recitals. If you enjoy singing, come and join us !!! ☐

Repose Recitals for this fall are scheduled for:
Saturday October 25th 3 pm 'Chorales'
Saturday Nov 29th 3 pm 'Spirituals'

All are welcome, bring a friend! ☐

Blessings to all,
Barb



God's blessings and congratulations to Nancy Starlings' two granddaughters (Ashley and Lindsay) and their husbands, who were both married in August.

Pray Without Ceasing

Scripture says to pray without ceasing. "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Several people that I know will say, "I will pray for you." And I have said the same to others. There are times when I am praying, that the list is long and before the "Amen", I ask God to be with the people He knows needs Him right now so no one is missed.

Whether the time of praying is now or Biblical times, there has always been a need to pray, be it on a personal level, for family and friends or on a worldwide scale. Prayers can be one liners with God, as we navigate a busy day, or long thoughtful talks during a quieter time when we can reflect on our needs or reasons for gratitude. It is important to say, "Thank you, God," even during difficult times in our lives, to remind ourselves of the myriads of gifts He provides, moment by moment.

Praying reminds us not to take for granted our family or freedom to worship or having what we need. "Thank you, God, for enough!". Enough, covers the wide range of what God provides each day for us. It grounds us in our faith to remember that even though more sounds enticing, enough is all that we need.

During our Lunch and Learn session in September, we studied a time in Paul's life, in 2 Corinthians chapter 12, when he was in prison, asking God to remove the thorn from his flesh. We talked about not only the possible nature of Paul's thorn, but also shared some of our own "thorns". God reminds us that His grace is all that we require. "My grace is

sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." verse 9 Is God talking about having enough?

Our weaknesses remind us that God is in charge and that He cares for us every single day of our lives. Praying throughout the day, and sometimes during the night, keeps us closer to the path He has prepared for us. Prayer is our connection with Him, through Christ. It is this connection that enriches our time on this earth and keeps our eyes on our Lord. "For when I am weak, then I am strong." verse 10.

So, continue to "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing and give thanks"..

In Christ,
Louise

Some Thoughts on Longevity

Whenever the subject of longevity comes up, somebody is bound to mention Methuselah, and rightly so, as he is the longest-living man in the Bible (Genesis 5:27) – a record likely to stand forever. When God had created Adam and Eve and they disregarded His Order and got evicted from Eden, Adam had to work in the field and Eve had to suffer giving birth to her sons, one of whom (Cain) killed the other (Abel) – the first murder after only one generation! While Adam himself lived for 930 years (Eve's, or any other women's lifespan is not mentioned), generation after generation of humans misbehaved to the extent that God became more and more annoyed, fixing their maximum life length at 120 (Gen. 6:2) and culminating in His sending the Great Flood (Gen.6:5). It wiped out all of Adam's descendants, that is all then existing

humankind. Only Noah and his family found favour with the Lord, who saved them and animals. Noah, besides Daniel and Job one of Israel's three righteous men, thus became with his three sons the new fathers of humankind (Gen. 9:19).

While several of Noah's wider family and some descendants lived several hundred years, there is no mention of such longevity in recorded western history. On the contrary: What we now call middle-age seems to have been the normal lifespan at the time of the Romans – sixty-plus being tops. Even at Luther's time, Reaching seventy was the exception rather than the rule (he died at 63). Much depended (and still depends) on the so-called class: the lower, the shorter your life-expectancy; the first industrial labourers died early.

Today, average lifespan in the West is about 75 for men and 80 for women; however, there are wide variations depending on where people live and what their lifestyles (given or chosen) are.

Here in North America culture and medical efforts aim at making you live longer, and that has been quite successful with people living well into their nineties, even beyond a hundred is not spectacular. But this emphasis on longer life may be misplaced – what is needed is better health as we age. As it stands, people live longer, yes, but that means the need more services, requiring more caregivers at all levels. In economic terms, fewer workers are available for "productive" occupations and thus less revenue. For governments this means more funds must go to support elderly people in terms of health care, homes, and hospitals. Here in Canada the ratio of working to retired people is shrinking more and more, costing more and more. How to pay for it all, with

proportionately fewer and fewer taxpayers? And governments wanting to cut taxes when they need to be raised?

All we can hope that governments, doctors, and individuals concern themselves more with healthy living rather than just living longer – that should be the aim. Still, the Lord determines everybody’s lifespan; we can only cause it to be shorter or longer by how we live according to His design.

Paul



On Saturday, Oct 18th if you are able, come help us for the Fall cleaning inside and outside the church, starting at 10 am. Please bring your own gardening tools.

Reformation Sunday Potluck Lunch



In celebration of Reformation, we will be having a potluck lunch on Sunday, October 26th following the Worship service. Come join us for fellowship and lunch. Please do let us know if you plan to attend and what delicious dish you may be bringing, a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

Circuit Convocation

On Saturday, November 22, a Circuit Convocation is planned to be held at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Nanaimo from 9 am to 3:30 pm. You are invited to gather together with members of all the LCC congregations of

Vancouver Island for a time of worship, instruction, discussion, and fellowship. Rev. Jacob Quast, LCC Director of Domestic Missions, will be with us to encourage us, through preaching and teaching, to actively participate in our Lord’s mission within our congregations, communities, and circuit.

Mustard Seed Donations



The Mustard Seed Food Bank is the most accessible food bank in the Greater Victoria providing 600,000 pounds of food, beverages and hygiene products to families and individuals; equivalent of an estimated 480,000 meals or 1,300+ meals per day! During the month of October, we will be collecting for the Mustard Seed Food Bank. Monetary donation can be put in your Offering Envelops, just mark it “Mustard Seed”. A box will be place in the Narthex if you prefer to donate goods. Currently they are looking for 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
- ⊙ Toilet Paper

Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!.



God’s blessings on the marriage of Julia, daughter of Susan and Erwin Theim.

Pastor's 5th Anniversary at Hope

Thank you to all you contributed and helped to make the event successful. Here are some highlights (in pictures).



Church Anniversary

Hope's 80th Anniversary is coming up at the end of December but we will be celebrating it in February 2026. Stay tuned for further information.



In Sympathy for the deaths of our brothers and sister in Christ. God's Words of comfort for the families of Earl Mohns, Doug Shumka and Elvira Balodis. May God put His arms around them and give them peace.

Tellers Needed

If you are interested or wondering what a Teller does please speak to Marie Russell (Hope's Financial Secretary) or Linda Russell (Hope's Treasurer). We do need your help in this area.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

1924 Carrick St., Victoria, B.C., V8R 2M4

Ph: 250-592-4124

Email: helc@shaw.ca

hopevictoria.lutheranchurchcanada.ca

Pastor Adam Chandler

Ph: 778-350-9332

Email: pastorhelc@shaw.ca



LWML News

A very big thank you to everyone who worked to make our appreciation dinner for Pastor Chandler, the success it was. "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit...To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12: 4, 7.

October 5th we celebrate and give thanks to God for the blessings He provides through our league.

November 1 All Saints Day-- A Morning Prayer Retreat.

From 9:30 -1 pm live streamed from Grace, Edmonton, lead by Pastor Neil Stern This opportunity to gather at the church and experience a spiritually enriching time with others and our Lord and will be followed by a fellowship luncheon. Be sure to mark your calendars.

November 22nd - NEXT Mites in Action Webinar


Adrianna Blitterswyk Youth Director – Trinity and Killarney Lutheran Churches will provide an update on her opportunities to work with youth and a recipient of a mission grant. Although the date of this webinar conflicts with the Circuit Convocation at St Paul’s Nanaimo it is important to know that plans are underway to view it at a later date on you tube. As partners in sharing the Gospel I encourage all to seize the opportunity to meet Rev. Jacob Quast, LCC Director of Domestic Missions together let us discover what God is call us to do.

Bringing the 2027 Convention Closer to HOME

July 16-18 Regina, Saskatchewan has been selected for our National Convention under the theme "Go and Tell" based on Mark 16:15

The scriptures are filled with examples of godly people who used their gifts in God’s service. We have different gifts, according to the grace given each of us. Romans 12:6 a NIV) what are your gifts? No matter what the gift, it is from God and it is meant for giving Him glory.

Blessings
Deborah








 LWML Prayer Calendar for the month is available at:
<https://lutheranwomen.ca/growing-gods-word/prayer-calendars/>

Crafters Wanted

Opportunities for people who enjoy knitting, crocheting or sewing are available. With fall on its way, there is a need for toques, scarves and mitts. Yarn is available on request. Quilting sessions are at both Redeemer and Hope. For more information, please speak to Theodora or Deborah.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 16 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	29	30	1 Lunch & Learn 12:00 pm	2 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	3	4  Herb Hess
5 LWMLC Sunday Worship 10:30 am	6	7 Bible Study 10:00 am	8	9 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm  Hilary McIntyre	10	11
12 Thanksgiving/Harvest Observance Worship 10:30 am  Marie Russell Jessica Lind	13 	14 Bible Study 10:00 am	15  Kevin Starling	16 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	17	18 Fall Church Clean Up 10:00 am Amica Prayer Service 2:30 pm
19 19 th Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am  Judith Kovacs	20	21 Bible Study 10:00 am	22	23 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	24	25 Repose Recital 3:00 pm "Chorales"
26 Reformation Sunday Worship 10:30 am Reformation Potluck Lunch	27  Eleanor Murdoch	28 Bible Study 10:00 am  Gene Murdoch	29	30 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	31  Nicolle Rushton	1
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
26 Reformation Sunday Worship 10:30 am Reformation Potluck Lunch	27	27 Bible Study 10:00 am	28 . .	29 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	31	1 All Saints Day – a Morning Prayer Retreat 8:30 am Change clocks before aoin to bed 
2 All Saints Sunday Worship 10:30 am Daylight Saving Time	3	4 Bible Study 10:00 am	5 . Lunch & Learn 12:00 pm	6 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm  Shane Johnson	7	8
9 22 nd Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	10	11 Bible Study 10:00 am 	12	13 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm PPC Meeting 6:00 pm	14	15 Amica Prayer Service 2:30 pm
16 23 rd Sunday a. Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	17	18 Bible Study 10:00 am	19	20 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm  Ken Dill	21	22 Circuit Convocation, Nanaimo  Ashley Fitterer
23 Last Sunday of the Church Year Worship 10:30 am	24	25 Bible Study 10:00 am	26	27 Belle Voci Rehearsal 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm  Mark Russell	28	29 Repose Recital 3:00 pm "Spirituals" 
30 1 st Sunday in Advent Worship 10:30 am Congregation Meeting	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)	Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Laura Frandsen Theodora Henry Louise Rushton Jade Russell			

