



Our Family

Hope Lutheran Monthly Newsletter

May/June 2026

Volume 16 No. 03

Pastor's Message

Our March for Life worship service is on May 14 before the march downtown in the afternoon. We will be showing to our community that we stand with the life God has given us and that we will not stand with death being regulated and commended in our land. It's a social issue the Church can be outspoken about. Some people in our congregation have commented to me that they don't recall hearing from their pastors as much about social or even political issues as they have heard from me. I think there are two main reasons for this.

One will be that I personally find myself more and more engaged in various social issues as they arise in society. While I haven't always had my ear to the ground, Christian ethics is a passion of mine so I tend to try and understand the whys and the hows of culture's embroiled topics.

The second reason why you probably haven't had pastors talk as much on social issues is that there wasn't as much of a need years ago. Even though Christian belief has been slowly bleeding out from Western society since the Enlightenment, our culture has always drawn from Christian belief in some way. For example, our nation's laws are still based on Christian principles. You shall not kill or steal; although modern society has done away with many strictures surround adultery, honouring parents, etc. which are now considered so mainstream that they are accepted and expected sins in our culture. And although

people nominally agree that we shouldn't kill others, the pedestal people place abortion and euthanasia is more than concerning. Christians have to acknowledge the fact that our society is becoming less and less Christian.

There remains hope. Regardless of how much Christianity is rejected or even persecuted and prosecuted, we have Christ's Word that those who confess him before people will be professed by Christ as his before God the Father (Matt 10:32). Neither death nor life, things present, nor things to come, even persecution, danger, or sword, will be able to separate us from Christ's love (Rom 8:35-39). And this message is being spread to our culture. There are young people—particularly young men—who are hearing the voice of Christ and are coming into the Church. You saw a glimpse of this on Easter with five men being confirmed. Other congregations have been experiencing things like this more and more. People are seeking salvation, not condemnation of others.

The world offers godlessness and everything entailed by ungodly living, but Christ offers life and salvation. He offers hope not only for your redemption but for purpose in your life. In the godliness of the Church, you become who you should be: a forgiven sinner prepared for good and godly works (Eph 2:8-10). Amen, thank you Lord Jesus.

In Christ,
Pastor Adam Chandler

bemoan their fate and think of readjustments or even revenge later. What the world needs is another Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) who wanted everybody to follow Christian lifestyle as exemplified by Jesus, or at least a revitalized Quaker movement that wants peace above all.

What can we do individually to live and let live in peace? Electing peace-minded leaders and support neutrality is about all; as well as of course setting examples of peaceful behaviour and contented living as God wants us to be (Heb 12:14 and Phil 4:11) and trust in God's guidance – so let's do it!

In His Service,
Paul

New Beginnings or A Time for Everything under Heaven

Every day, "The Lord has made", is a new beginning. God wipes our sin's slate clean. Our lives are full of new beginnings, full of firsts. Some are significant such as the day we are born, our baptism when we become a child of God, our first day of school, confirmation, or our first job. Some firsts are moments in time, like the first word spoken, first day of Sunday School, first goal on the team, or first trip without our parents.

As God's child, we are woven together to be His voice, His hands, and His feet figuratively or actually in this world that He has created for us. We will stumble or fail. Even then, God will use our actions to fulfill His purpose. Jesus hears our prayers. Through Him, we are given the words to say and the opportunities we need to do His work. God presents the path that we are to follow and equips us along the way.

Christian mentors are to guide the youth and support the adults. Even in the autumn of our lives, as our bodies slow down and our words often stick in our throats, God provides us with tasks we can do to obey Jesus' commandment, "To love our neighbours as ourselves." We can listen, pray, hold their hands, share a hug, or connect with a call or a text. In Ecclesiastes, 3:1, it is spelled out that in our lives, "There is a time for everything under heaven".

Whatever our time in life, we are to love one another by showing kindness, forgiveness, encouragement, comfort, letting go, praying, and praying again. God tells us to pray without ceasing. Through each of these actions, with God's help, we are able to provide God-pleasing fresh starts for others, as well as ourselves. Just as there is a time for happenings in life, there are new beginnings each day.

God bless this day that the Lord has made for you!

In Christ,
Louise

Remembering...

**David Leslie
Gibson**



Our sympathies and God's love to Laura Gibson and family, on the loss of a beloved husband, father to April, Rachel and Ron, grandfather to Adrianna, Raisa, Eric and Kevin.

2026 Synod Convention



One Lord, One Faith, One Body

The Thirteenth Regular Convention of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) will meet from June 12-15, 2026 with the theme: "Together One: One Lord, One Faith, One Body," based on Ephesians 4:4-6.

Our prayers to all the delegates traveling to attend the Convention; we especially pray for safe travels for Pastor Chandler) and Deborah Gruben.



Happy Birthday to you with May and June birthdays. Wishing you many returns of the day. May God Bless you with health, wealth and prosperity in your life.

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Biennial Elections coming in May 2026

Every two years, the members of Hope have the duty to elect members to the Parish Planning Council (PPC).

The members of the PPC are:

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Chair of the Board of Lay Ministry

Chair of the Board of Properties

Chair of the Board of Stewardship

Chair of the Board of Education & Youth

Pastor Chandler is "ex-officio"

The members are not allowed to be elected for 3 consecutive terms. So, Michael Rumsch (Lay Ministry) & Melvin Klassen (President) are not eligible to be re-elected.

So, who among Hope's members is willing to be elected to serve? Somebody that you see in a mirror in your home? If there is somebody whom you think will be willing, please tell Pastor Chandler.

Also, the Board of Properties & the Board of Lay Ministry also need members for their board, to assist each Board's chairperson.

Mel Klassen

Fund Raising Update

We have raised \$77,898.00! THANK YOU to all who have contributed. Please help us reach our goal of \$96,000 to fix the church roof.



LWML News

On Saturday April 11, the Island Zone Spring Rally, was hosted by the Courtenay ladies, under the theme Be Encouraged for God is with Us, based on Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding"

God blessed this event with safe travel and 27 LWMLC attendees plus three Pastors.

Our day began with a warm welcome from host society newly elected President Karen Kubke followed by a Divine Service led by host Pastor Kubke as officiant with Zone Counsellor Pastor Chandler as proclaimer. Providing a great opportunity to grow in faith and commune with our league sisters in Christ which usually only happens at a convention.



A litany for the blessings on completed mission projects and our in gathering gifts was led by host society President Karen. These gifts of love to be delivered later to the Nesting Place- a local society offering practical support for families in need, pregnancy options as well as grief support for the whole family.

We gathered for picture taking on the front steps and after a delicious lunch reassembled for a brief hymn singing and offering in support of the Nesting Place.



Guest speaker Adrianna Blitterswyk a recipient of one of our 2024-2027 mission grants shared her faith journey through a power point presentation. This helped us learn more about how God led her to accept the position of Youth Director for Trinity, Richmond and Killarney Park congregations as well as provided insights into the challenges of her ministry.



A humorous skit performed by the ladies of Port Alberni encouraged us to love each other as well as our neighbor. Followed by a brief business meeting chaired by Zone President and a closing devotion by Nanaimo society concluded our day.



It was a wonderful day for growing in our faith, serving the Lord, and making and renewing friendships. A day full of fun, fellowship and friends.

Blessings to all and all praise to God

Your sister in Christ,
Debora

Lunch & Learn

Join us for lunch and bible study on the first Wednesday of the month (May 6th and June 3rd) at noon. All ladies welcome!

Heart Pillows

Join us on Thursday, May 21st and June 18th as we sew heart pillows for the First Open Heart Society of BC. No sewing skills required. We will be breaking for the summer and hopefully resume in September.

Lunch with Pastor

Join Pastor Chandler for lunch and fellowship after worship on the first Sunday of the month – May 3rd and June 7th. Meeting place: Food Court, Hillside Mall near EDO at 12:30 pm.

Mother's Day

Come and celebrate Mother's Day with us with Sundaes on Sunday, May 10th

Father's Day Potluck Lunch

Join us on Sunday, June 21st after the worship service for a Father's Day Potluck Lunch and fellowship. Let us celebrate our Fathers!

Thank You Note

The words of 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 calls us to be one body with many different parts. The meaning of these words was evident in how each person contributed to honouring our brother in Christ David Gibson. On behalf of our Hope family Thank You! we really appreciated your participation and assistance during this difficult time

Deborah



From Baptism to Confirmation

Baptism is a sign and seal of God's grace to us and in confirmation we publicly say yes and agree with God's promises. This year's Easter celebration was particularly special with the five gentlemen featured above: Denny, Johnathan, Timothy, Charlie and Ken. We welcome them to the Lord's table and into the family of God here at Hope.







As a reminder of this day on behalf of the congregation presented each one with a Christmas ornament etched with their confirmation verse while the LWML encouraged them to grow in faith with a devotional book.











Vernon Youth Group visiting Victoria -having an evening worship. Stayed at the church two nights (April 27-29)

Hope Lutheran Calendar

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 4 th Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30 am Lunch with Pastor	27	28 Bible Study 10:00 am	29	30 Belle Voci 3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	1	2
3 5 th Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30 am <i>Lunch with Pastor</i> 12:30 pm  Janine Gardiner	4	5 Bible Study 10:00 am	6 Lunch & Learn 12 pm	7 Chimes Rehearsal 4:00 pm	8	9
10 6 th Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30 am  Nicola Theim	11	12 Bible Study 10:00 am  Deborah Gruben	13  Queen Shikwambi	14 March for Life 11:30 am Chimes Rehearsal 400pm PPC Meeting	15	16 Amica Prayer Service 2:30 pm Repose Recital 3:00 pm "Tranquility"  Carol Fitterer
17 7 th Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30 am	18	19 Bible Study 10:00 am	20	21 Sewing Circle (Heart Pillows) 1:00 pm	22	23 Games Night 4:00 pm
24 Pentecost Sunday Worship 10:30 am	25	26 Bible Study 10:00 am	27	28 Sewing Circle 1:00 pm	29  Betty Yelden	30 
31 Trinity Sunday Worship 10:30 am Congregation Meeting	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Jade Russell Laura Frandsen Louise Rushton Theodora Henry		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Trinity Sunday Worship 10:30 am	1	2 Bible Study 10:00 am	3 Lunch & Learn 12 noon  Barbara Guidetti	4  Bruce Frandsen	5 Good Friday Service 10:30 am	6  Christian Braeunig Noah Frandsen
7 2 nd Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30 am <i>Lunch with Pastor 12:30 pm</i>	8	9 Bible Study 10:00 am	10	11 Sewing Circle 1:00 pm	12 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 2026 Synod Convention, June 12=15 </div>	13  Jessica Gardiner
14 3 rd Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30 am	15	16 Bible Study 10:00 am	17	18 Sewing Circle (Heart Pillows) 1:00 pm	19	20 Amica Prayer Service 2:30 pm  Paul Smale Mario Guidetti
21 4 th Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30 am <i>Father's Day Potluck Lunch</i>	22	23 Bible Study 10:00 am	24	25	26	27  Louise Rushton
28 5 th Sunday a Pentecost Worship 10:30 am  Susan Theim	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 am  Connor Starling	1	2	3	4
	Notes	ELDER: Michael Rumsch (250-588-0776)		Altar Guild: Deborah Gruben Jade Russell Laura Frandsen Louise Rushton Theodora Henry		