



Dear friends in Christ, our Saviour and Lord!

The past few months have been busy days, filled with expectation, preparation, and celebration. It is interesting that we put so much time and effort into Christmas. There was the shopping, the wrapping, the baking, the decorating, and perhaps the trip planning. So much to do; so little time to do it, and it seems that it is over and down before we know it.

I took down the Christmas tree after Epiphany, and have put away all the inside decorations. The outside lights are still on the house, but I won't have them on. Gifts are no longer under the tree; they are used or put away in their spot. We've taken a last look at the Christmas cards. While truly blessed through the Advent preparation for the Messiah's birth, and then celebrating the true *Twelve Days of Christmas*, the time has come to put those things aside and to get on with the rest of our days.

The transition from the busyness and joy of Christmas can often be a low point for many people. Even the weather seems to remind us that these are dull, gray days. It can make life seem overwhelming. It can seem to bleak; so empty. It may even be a bit intimidating.

How do we approach each new day? Jesus reminds us:

"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?" (Matthew 6:25–27, ESV)

"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matthew 6:34, ESV)

There is a way to make the best of each and every day, and that is to go forward in faith, clinging to the Saviour, who came to give Himself for us on the cross, and who lives to guide us in all our lives. When Christ is our help for each day, that brings us hope and peace. No, it doesn't mean that nothing bad will happen to us. It doesn't mean that we won't get sick, or that we or those we love won't face death. It doesn't mean work is always going to go just the way we want, or that we will have all the money we need to do the things that need to be done.

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What it does mean is that the God, who has called us as His own, will always be faithful to His plans for us. It does mean that He is with us, to help us, strengthen us and bless us. It does mean that He will not let anything happen that will take us from Him.

The hymn writer said it well:

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,

Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;

Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure. (LSB 733, st. 1-2)

This is how we go forward in faith. God is our help. He has been there through all our days. He has blessed us in the past. He will be our hope in each new day. He will shelter and deliver His people. He will do the same for His church. Confident of that, we go forward in faith, trusting Him to lead us, guide and bless us.

In His Service,
Pastor Bode

Mission of the Month

JANUARY: LUTHERANS FOR LIFE - CANADA

Lutherans for Life-Canada (LFL-C) is a pro-life, pro-family ministry whose mission is to “witness to the sanctity of human life through education based on the Word of God.” The vision of LFL-C is to be a biblical, pro-life voice and resource to Lutherans, and through them, transform society. Through local chapters and Life Ministry Coordinators, LFL-C educates on life issues from a biblical law/gospel perspective through LFL produced videos, publications, audio tapes and materials for worship and Bible study. LFL-C believes that every human life – from conception to natural death, regardless of physical or mental challenges or condition of dependence – is precious in God’s sight.



Technology Boundaries



Take it Home!

Sunday, February 25, 2018

11:45 am

Foothills Lutheran Church

With computers, tablets, and smartphones in every home and access to the Internet easily available, Christian families are faced with questions of proper use, appropriate supervision and boundaries. Come for a discussion over lunch about technology use and work together to establish healthy computer boundaries in your family!

RSVP to: miriam@foothillslutheran.com

Designed for children born in 2008 and their parents.

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Children & Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

"How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103

Thank you to our Sunday School children for sharing the good news of our Saviour's birth in the Children's Christmas Service "Bells Tell the Story" on December 10th. We also give thanks for the parents and teachers who helped them to prepare for this service, and to Brenda Bode for her work in directing the children. Sunday School classes carried on through the Christmas season. We are nearly finished our walk through the Old Testament, and will begin our study of the New Testament on January 21st.

All classes (adults and children) begin at **9:00 am** with an opening together in the sanctuary. We sing, pray, and have an introduction to our day's lesson. Our lessons for January and February are:

January 7	God's People Go Home
January 14	Esther
January 21	The Birth of John Foretold
January 28	The Birth of Jesus Foretold
February 4	Mary Visits Elizabeth
February 11	The Birth of John
February 18	An Angel Visits Joseph
February 25	The Birth of Jesus

Our hymns of the month are #411 for January and #424 for February.

Sunday School is part of our children's ministry supported by the congregation. However, we do receive an offering at each Sunday School opening to remind us that all we have is a gift from God. Each year, Sunday School offerings are designated to a mission serving children. This year our offerings are being sent to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Airdrie, for their children's programs. Offering envelopes are available from Deaconess Miriam.

Parents! You are encouraged to attend Adult Bible Study while your children are in Sunday School. If you have children not yet Sunday School age, you are welcome to bring your little ones along to Adult study, upstairs in the Fellowship Hall, where the book of Revelation is being studied.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Ladies, you are invited to join us for Bible study and snacks at 7:30 pm the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of the month (**Note the change!**). We have two sessions left on

our "Fruit of the Spirit" study, and will be selecting our next topic. Mark these dates on your calendar: **January 9th and 23rd and February 13th and 27th**. We meet at Deaconess Miriam's home, 10122 Hidden Valley Dr. NW (although the January 23rd Bible study will be at Michelle Heumann's). Please bring a small snack to share AND YOUR BIBLES!

MOMS & TOTS

Mothers of infants and toddlers...



We have completed our study entitled "The Beauty of Balance", and will select a new topic in January. Join us with your young child (age newborn to 4 years old) to spend some time together with other moms in study, prayer and fellowship. We meet the first and third Thursdays of the month at 10:00 am in Room 8, just off the Fireside Room. It's a great way to make connections. Mark these dates on your calendar: **January 4** (note that we will gather only once in January), **and February 1st and 15th**. See you there!

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's choir is rehearsing regularly. We are looking for an opportunity to sing at Foothills Lutheran Manor, and during worship sometime in the next several months. Rehearsals are the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. It's not too late to join in! We are learning a bit about music and how to use our voices, and most of all planting God's Word in our hearts through song. Bring your child age 4-10! Please speak with Deaconess Miriam for more information or to register.



SATURDAY KIDS BIBLE CLUB!

KIDS BIBLE CLUB will meet **Saturday, January 6th and Saturday, February 3rd** from 9:30 – 11:30 am. This year our theme is **Love in Jesus**, and we will be looking at the Ten Commandments as gifts from God, and how He works to help us love Him and love others. We have covered the First Table of the Commandments, which teach us how to love God, and are moving to the Second Table, which teach us how to love others, beginning with parents and other authorities. If you are interested in having your children participate, please contact Deaconess Miriam to register your child age 4-10. Consider bringing a friend, or offer to volunteer!

Youth

Happy New Year! Every Sunday morning we meet at 9am for our time of study together. We are currently working our way through Galatians and we have lots of submissions on what you would like to look at and talk about but please let us know of any additional topics and we will do our best to get them in on a Sunday morning or during one of our Friday events.

The Friday events are underway, so be sure to mark down these upcoming dates in your calendar:



January 26: Winter Sport Night! The Winter Olympics will soon be upon us and we are celebrating by getting out and enjoying a favourite winter sport. Am I being vague? Yep. So you best be checking your emails to find out what awesome winter sport we will be taking in!



February 9: Science Night! Look forward to a night of experiments, games, activities, and study all centered around science and sciencey things. Which clearly I am not leading because I know so very little about science and sciencey things. Sciencey is most likely not a real word but I just really enjoy using it and typing it. Check your email because this night will be a blast...not literally, unless we make one of those volcanoes (hmm).



February 13: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner: This is the youth's annual fundraiser. This year we will be raising funds to help our youth subsidize the fees for the District Youth Gathering happening in Camrose July 5-8, 2018. So come out and enjoy some pancakes as support our youth as they look forward to going to the gathering.



February 23: Movie night! We have yet to decide the movie for this night, but be sure that it will not only be a great movie but that the study that follows it will be even better.

Be sure to be checking your emails for our regular updates and if you want to be added to our email list please talk to Pastor Eric and he will get back to you on there pronto.

Our youth events are for those in grades 7-12. With all of our events you are always more than welcome to invite any of your friends. If you have any questions please feel free to get a hold of Pastor Eric, or Kayla, or Michelle... and if you can't find any of us, and you're desperate, Trevor.

Family Time in Christ

The Lutheran Church of Australia identifies four "Cornerposts" for building faith at home: We have looked at the first two "Cornerposts" in previous issues, and now we will look at the third.

Faith Rituals and Traditions

"...tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads...Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates". Deuteronomy 11:19

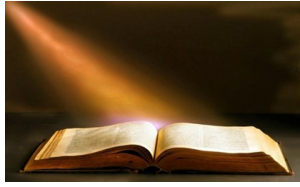
Symbols, rituals and traditions give shape and order to our lives – they give us patterns to live by and remind us of what is important. They tell us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves, and join us with others in, and outside of, our own households. For the youngest, they engage the senses, build experiences, imprint happy memories, and tell them they belong too. The challenge for today's Christian home is to rediscover, or invent new rituals and traditions that will encourage household members to exercise their faith. For example:

- Mealtime prayers. These are important reminders that that we depend on our heavenly Father for everything that we need, and that He cares for us every minute of every day.
- Blessing one another. As family members bless one another, spouses, siblings, parents and children, have the privilege of reminding each other that God has put His name on them, that He loves them, and that the relationship they have is also one of family in Christ.
- Observing the Church Year – When these rhythms come outside of church walls and into the home, family members are reminded that they are part of a larger family, and that God's plan of salvation was enacted to them. Take the seasons home with you!
- Giving a faith "twist" to birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, start and end of the school year, and other annual celebrations. Incorporate prayer, Scripture, and blessing into your celebrations.
- Celebrating Baptismal birthdays. We are become part of a family through childbirth or adoption. We become part of God's family in our birth through the waters of baptism and our adoption as His precious son or daughter. Track baptismal birthdays of every family member and make that day a celebration of life in Christ Jesus.

Consider the daily, weekly, monthly and yearly rhythms of life in your household, and think about how old traditions can be given faith-meaning, or new traditions can be introduced to support and build faith in your home.

In March we will look at the final "Cornerpost" for building faith. May our Lord Jesus strengthen your faith and your family as you live together in His Word!

Board of Christian Education Update



“Teach...that the next generation may set their hope in God” – Psalm 78

As we move into a new year, the Board of Education would like to encourage you to spend time every day in God’s Word. This can take many forms including Bible study, short devotions, going to church, Portals of Prayer, and many others. If you need assistance finding something that’s right for you, please contact the church staff and we will be happy to help.

As Christians, we are blessed so much by the ability to read God’s Word and understand what He is revealing to us in it, and we want to recognize the very important role we each play in passing that knowledge on to the next generation. For that reason, the Board of Education has picked Psalm 78 as its theme verse for the coming year: “Teach...that the next generation may set their hope in God”. While God does all the work in bringing us to faith and keeping us in that faith, he chooses to use us to bring his Word to the world, and many times that starts with our families. We pray you will take advantage of the blessing God has given you and then pass that blessing on to those around you.

For a look back at 2017, please see the voters’ package for January 2018 which has an overview of the whole year of 2017.

We will be hosting our annual Lent Bible study, and encourage all church board members and their families to come and study God’s word together. We also encourage all congregation members to spend time during Lent studying God’s Word along side the leadership in order to strengthen our faith and bring us closer to the God who bled and died for our sins. It will be held each Monday starting on February 26 and ending March 19.

Check out the Creation Ministries resources in the brochure rack above the guest book! The Board stocks information on dinosaurs, the age of the earth, carbon dating, and starlight, evolution vs natural selection, the ice age, continental drift, and Noah’s ark. We’ve recently added information on mammoths, dating methods, and how the different "races" arose. Let us know if you're looking for any info that's not there!



Have you joined the (private) Facebook group for Foothills members who want to connect to Christian Ed via social media?

www.facebook.com/groups/flechristianed/

We post announcements and event reminders to the group; if you use Facebook more than you read the bulletin, this group might be for you!

For other Christian Education news see Sunday school and family ministry news on page 3, youth on page 4, Preschool news on page 6 and library news on page 9.

There is some sort of Christian education opportunity at Foothills nearly every day of the week; if you’re looking to learn, we are here to facilitate. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly!

The Board of Ed is:

Chair: Trevor Heumann

Staff Members: Pastor David Bode, Pastor Eric Moffett, Deaconess Miriam Winstanley, Preschool Director Betty Ann Chandler

Board Members: Kayla Moffett, Sydney Stene, Tobi Stene, Ron Voss

PARENTING FAMILIES: FROM ME TO WE



We will be offering this parenting course once again in the New Year. This six-session course covers key parenting topics such as Commitment, Communication, Consistency, Consequences, Crisis, and Community, and is helpful to parents of children of all ages.

The course will be offered Saturdays beginning **February 10th**. Childcare will be provided. If you are interested, speak with Deaconess Miriam. We will work out timing based on what works for the families who have expressed interest.

A Peek Into Our Preschool

Play-based Learning in Early Childhood

Preschools are known by other names, such as play-school, nursery school, and pre-kindergarten. There is no set preschool curriculum in Alberta so programs may range from merely unstructured supervised play, to Montessori which is very structured independent learning. Most early childhood programs tend to be somewhere in the middle. What is play-based programming? Teachers purposefully using play to teach and/or facilitate learning in the classroom.

Play-based preschools are designed to offer learning centers with an array of materials and activities balanced with play-based group activities. Children's natural curiosity prompts them to interact with different materials in different ways. Every toy or activity in the classroom on any particular day has a purpose. For example, let us look at how pre-printing skills might be addressed in various ways in the preschool classroom.

Enhancing eye/hand coordination & flexibility of finger muscles:

- Songs & finger plays with actions using fine motor skills (e.g. "Tommy Thumb")
- Scissor skills
- Using toothpicks to paint colored icing on a cookie

Strengthening finger & hand muscles might be addressed by using:

- Using spring clothes pins to hang up artwork or in various games or crafts
- Using droppers in the water table or in various artwork
- Using tweezers to pick up items in sand or water table

Learning how letters of the alphabet are formed:

- Handwriting Without Tears puzzles with sticks and curves
- Finding specific details in a picture
- Concentration game – finding 2 cards exactly the same

Learning English print orientation such as top to bottom & left to right, letters make up words, words make up sentences, printing is talk written down:

- Providing paper and pencil in dramatic play such as veterinarian center
- Using photos or objects held by a group of children standing left to right to cue memory of objects listed in a song
- Adult scribe a story to go along with a child's piece of artwork

Ear training in hearing the sounds in a word:

- Phonetic substitution songs
- Rhyming stories
- Brainstorming other words that start with the same sound

Phonics: Knowing how sounds are represented in print:

- Stories, songs, coloring pages used in Animated Literacy or other curriculum
- Recognizing the first letter in your name by your coat hook
- Exaggerating the primary sound in a word each time it is used in a story

How to hold a pencil (i.e. pincer grasp) could be addressed by:

- Decorating art projects with small sequins, beans, stickers, etc.
- Using small broken crayons, broken chalk, used pencil crayons, etc. so palm grasp is impossible
- Lacing activities

Preschool children are taught through play, enabling learning time to be naturally extended because it is varied and fun instead of forced singular practice. Play-based learning in early childhood starts children on the path of being an enthusiastic, engaged, lifelong learners.

Respectfully submitted by Betty Ann Chandler

Preschool Registration for Fall

Foothills Lutheran Christian Preschool begins to accept registrations for the September 2018 – June 2019 school year next month. Morning classes tend to fill first.

- Returning students, who will be attending for their second year, may register starting Feb. 5.
- Siblings of former students and members of Foothills Lutheran Church may register beginning Feb. 12.
- On Feb. 20 at 11:45, registrations open to the public.

Registration packages (on blue paper) may be obtained on the table outside our preschool room (room 5 on the walk-out level) or by printing them from our website at www.preschool.foothillslutheran.com once the month of February begins. Once forms are fully completed, they may be submitted to our preschool principal/teacher along with the registration fee and one month's tuition deposit to hold the child's spot until classes begin in September. Betty Ann (i.e. Mrs. Chandler) would be happy to answer any questions or set up a time to visit the classroom if you wish.

Board of Fellowship

CONTINUING EVENTS:

Coffee Teams

We are blessed to have the following teams provide coffee, tea and a little treat to welcome us on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in joining a team, please contact Belinda Perrin at (403) 239-9100 or belindaperrin@gmail.com



- Jan 7 LWML Luncheon
Jan 14 Heather Sommers, Warren Kee, Matt Pfaff, Kareen and Merv Borgenson
Jan 21 Mark Kihn, Alice Churney, Diane Voss and Liane Voss Roper
Jan 28 **Voter's Meeting** – Heather Sommers and Brenda Bode

Feb 4 Tim and Tracy Roth, Jay and Kim Anderson and Walter and Lois Zwick
Feb 11 Ingrid Kubke and Robert Kubke
Feb 18 Shirley and Carl Berdahl, Ellen Wagner, Cheryl Lemke

Baking for Coffee Treats

What's coffee without treats? If you enjoy baking, we would greatly appreciate treats for Sunday morning coffee. Please **label items with the date**, and put them in the upright freezer in the kitchen. We **prefer cookies and squares** instead of whole loaves as they are easier to thaw on Sunday morning. Due to allergies, please do not use peanut butter in your baking. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Sommers.

Do you have any suggestions, questions or concerns? Contact Heather Sommers at (403) 230-2487.



Noteworthy

UPCOMING VOTER'S MEETING:

January 28th following a light lunch after service. Mark it on your calendars and plan to attend.

LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDY:

Starting Tuesday, January 9th Pastor Eldon and Marian Ohlinger will be leading another 9 week in-depth LifeLight Bible Study on First Corinthians. These studies do require home work so we can all be prepared to share with the class and all grow together in our faith. If you plan to attend we will provide you with the necessary study materials.

At this time we welcome back all previous members, plus any other interested members, to join us. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. and class ends at 11:30 a.m.

Also starting Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall there will be a 9-week LifeLight Bible Study on Romans, Part 2. For more details contact Elke Bittman.

ADULT GAMES NIGHT:

Adult Games Night in the Fellowship Hall, Friday, January 19th @7:00. Bring your favourite board games/card games and a snack to share. Please contact Kelly Dueck with any questions at kel.frog@shaw.ca.

PEROGY BEE:

The PEROGY BEE is back!!! As long as the weather is good, we will be making our famous perogies on Saturday, January 27th starting at 9:00am. Mark it in your calendar! A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall. Please include your email, as this is how you will be contacted with instructions on what you need to bring that morning (it's cooked potatoes, just with special instructions). We have a blast, meet new people, and make LOTS of tasty perogies!! Please extend the invitation to others, and don't forget to include them on the sign-up sheet.



Continued on page 14...

Silver Saints

Dear Foothills Silver Saints,

I have enjoyed working with you for all these many years. It has been a blessing for me and my wife to know all of you better from a personal perspective.

Thank you for the card and gift you presented me with and all those encouraging remarks. They are much appreciated.

A special thank you to Wil and Vi Printz for their support for many years.

To Mark Kihn who was always willing to help me secure the Red Arrow Bus at a reduced price for our trips to different places.

To the Sandau's for allowing us to have our picnic at their place for years which took a lot of stress off of me trying to find a place for our annual wind-up.

To Pastor Bode who is supportive of us being part of FLC Silver Saints.

Oh! God forbid that I don't forget to thank my other half for all her help and support when I was ready to quit. She urged me on so that our Silver Saints would continue meeting.

And now, last but not least, to all you good and kind people who pitched in with attendance and bringing good food to help our Silver Saints succeed. Thank you very much.

If I forgot to include something or someone, please forgive me.

My prayer is that our gracious Lord continue to bless and guide you good people for many more years to come.

*Sincerely Your Brother in Christ,
Harold Ziprick*

Silver Saints Upcoming Events

Jan 24 Samaritan's Purse Trip to Houston
Guest Speaker Mark Kihn

Feb 14 Chinese Dinner
Guest Speakers Jan Geggie & Paul Paetkau

Cameroon Mission Trip – Thank you!

On January 13th, 2018 seven members of Lutheran Church Canada will travel from Alberta and British Columbia to Cameroon to undertake two projects. Deaconess Miriam is privileged to be part of that team.

Thank you to Foothills Congregation for its generous support of the West Africa Missionaries' Retreat, which will run January 16-21 in Ngaoundéré, Cameroon. Over \$6,100.00 was contributed as part of the Mission of the Month, and thanks to donations from other congregations only \$1,000 of the \$5,000 committed under the 2017 budget was needed for this project to be fully funded, at \$16,000.00. Thank you!

The mission team will support this retreat in a variety of ways, including music support for worship, family time programming, and a VBS-type program for the children while parents are in study sessions.

Once the retreat is finished, five members of the team will travel to Galim, where Pastor Mike Kuhn is working, to help with completion of a library to be connected with the Galim Lutheran School, but also to be available to the community. This \$23,000.00 project is also fully funded, through an individual donation and other fundraising efforts.

Please pray for the mission team, for safe travel, good health, and that their work would be fruitful. The team includes Sid and Melanie Kuhn, Red Deer; Jessie Branson, Markerville; Rhonda Kelman, Parksville, B.C.; President Glenn Schaffer, Edmonton; Sherry LaRose, Red Deer; and Deaconess Miriam Winstanley, Calgary. If you have any questions about this Mission Trip, Deaconess Miriam will be happy to speak with you.



Board of Human Care Ministries



Thanks be to God for His gentle care and love over His children as we came together to celebrate the anniversary of our church through the “50 for 50” service events during 2017. The events provided opportunities of fellowship for us to get to know each other better, exposed us to new oppor-

tunities of service in our community, brought our youth into service together with the adult membership, and allowed us to witness our belief and faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”*

Matthew 5:16

50
FOOTHILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
for fifty

A year in review of the 50 for 50 will be provided in the annual report and posted on the Human Care Ministry board.

In looking ahead to 2018 please playfully consider your blessings and the gifts that God has bestowed upon you to share with His people. Perhaps you are considering direct volunteer work at the Mustard Seed, Food Bank, Good Food Box, Haiti Arise Ministries, or the U of C ministry with Pastor Eric. Within our church family, there is *always a need* for the visitations of homebound members, providing transportation or housekeeping, and of course new ideas and energy on the Board of Human Care.

With God’s help, we want to continue to support our church family, so please feel welcome to share your concerns about your own needs or those of others in confidence on the prayer card located in the pews, by speaking with a staff or board member, or an email or phone call.



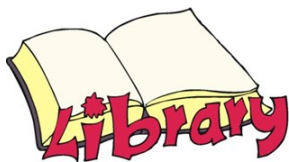
We have several FLC T-Shirts available.

Look for upcoming events: a workshop on Dementia, a group booking for The Good Food Box.

A Blessed and Happy New Year to all.

This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. 1 John 5:14-15

In an effort to provide the best resources available to our members, we are in the process of updating and re-organizing the library. A big thanks to Dianne Frayne for offering to look through our current resources, but we still need help with cataloging, shelving, and organizing. If you would like to help with that, or anything else, please contact Trevor Heumann and we would be glad to help you get involved.



We will be hosting a **Parents’ Discussion Night** early this year. If you are a parent of kids of any age, we encourage you to come to this event, and submit questions you think your kids may ask and that you would like answers for to Miriam or the pastors in advance. More information to come very soon.



Job Postings

Evangelism and Public Relations

Role description:

- Overall, be concerned for the sharing of Christ with those who are not yet disciples at Foothills, with a focus on those whom Foothills people are already connected with in some way.
- Note – some of the responsibilities listed in the constitution are now completed by others (eg. arranging greeters) and the Pastor (e.g., following up with visitors).
- Note - board members are recruited by the Director to aid with these responsibilities.
- Encourage members to reach out to the connections, to share Christ. Encourage education in this regard.
- Arrange information for prospective disciples / visitors to Foothills (e.g., information at entrance).
- Arranging advertising as appropriate.
- Submit an annual budget and Director approves board expenses.
- Participate in Parish Planning Council (PPC) Meetings (approx. 8/yr) and Voter's Meetings (approx. 3-yr), from the perspective of this role and the overall advancing of the congregation's ministry.

Key skills (gifts, talents):

- See what is needed for all roles.
- A heart for sharing Christ with those who do not yet know Him.
- Caring, supportive, encouraging – Able to encourage Foothills disciples in their abilities to reach out to others.
- Administrative – Able to put together a budget, and monitor expenditures.

Time commitment:

- 2-4 hours per week on average.

(Whole Life) Stewardship

Role description:

- Overall, be concerned for the development of good stewardship attitudes in regard to time, talents, and treasures. (Encourage people to live their faith.) Also encourage good stewardship of the resources given to Foothills.
- Note – some of the responsibilities listed in the constitution are now completed by others (eg. keep congregational talent file, recording, and counting offerings).
- Note - board members are recruited by the Director to aid with these responsibilities.
- Encourage members to live their faith, to use their time, talents, and treasures in God's service. Encourage education in this regard. (e.g., Footprint articles, Spiritual Gifts training.)
- Annually, arrange for the collection of time, talent, and treasure information.
- Determine, and foster where appropriate, support for external missions and charities.
- Review special gifts to the congregation, and express appreciation for all gifts.
- Create the annual congregational budget, based on inputs from other boards.
- Submit an annual budget and Director approves board expenses.
- Participate in Parish Planning Council (PPC) Meetings (approx. 8/yr) and Voter's Meetings (approx. 3/yr), from the perspective of this role and the overall advancing of the congregation's ministry.

Key skills (gifts, talents):

- See what is needed for all roles.
- A heart for good stewardship, always seeking the best use of time, talent, and treasures.
- Supportive, encouraging – Able to encourage congregants in the use of their time, talent, and treasures.
- Administrative – Able to put together a budget, and monitor expenditures.

Time commitment:

- 2-4 hours per week on average.

Samaritan's Purse Houston Trip Offers Trials, Triumphs

The villain wasn't the hard work, or the long days of grim toil. It wasn't the tough Bossman. Neither was it the mould, nor the damp smell of it. The villains weren't scurrying cockroaches, or skulking Bayou rats. The culprit was 35C heat: relentless, oppressive, humid. We melted.

Yet the week-long stint of cleaning up Houston houses in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, is something I would repeat. And I wouldn't be the naïve rookie I was in early November.

Samaritan's Purse (SP) had been on the scene since late August when Harvey blew through and devastated the Gulf Coastal Lowlands. SP recruited volunteers from across Canada and the United States. They usually had one crew of Canadians down in Pearland, Texas, which was SP disaster relief headquarters at Crosspoint Church in that southern suburb of America's 4th largest city. Our 12-person crew included good-hearted souls from Victoria, Vancouver, Saskatoon, New Brunswick, P.E.I., and five from Alberta.

Our military-like set-up meant wake-up at 5:30 with breakfast at 6:30. After morning announcements and a short devotion, we'd pack a lunch, and then our orange-shirted hordes would scramble into vehicles for our pre-screened job-sites.

Once there, our team leader would go through the work assignments with the homeowner and crew. We'd usually begin ripping out rotten drywall, and mould-ridden insulation, usually loading a handy dumpster. Sometimes we'd tear out entire bathrooms and kitchens. After clean-up, we'd then spray a mould disinfectant/retardant onto the wooden house frame, and then the dwelling would be ready for the re-build phase.

Evenings meant a dash along Houston freeways back to HQ, a quick shower, supper at 6:30, quiet time at 9 in the dormitory (temporary buildings with sleeping bags, air mattresses on the floor), and lights-out at 10. Sleep came easily.

Our rewards were few, but lasting. Rarely have I encountered heart-felt gratitude as on this effort. The despairing homeowners gained new hope after our work – and they expressed it. We were God's love in action. A few had seemingly given up on clean-up, and perhaps didn't even know where to get help – or what the "next step" should be. And some had no (or little) insurance to pay flood clean-up bills. That was where SP volunteers served, and the situations we encountered.

SP organizers equipped us well with safety items such as masks and protective eye-wear, and their trailer-load of tools kept us efficient. They also offered us top-notch meals at their 24-hr cafeteria.

Truly it was an experience of a lifetime as we worked to fulfill the SP motto of "Helping in Jesus' name." I found new friends and lost seven pounds along the way. When our crew split up for home, one gal mused: "See you at the next disaster."

However, the 35C heat had robbed me of my ability to think clearly. It ground us down. It pervaded our thoughts. Maybe it was a dream?

- by Mark Kihn, Calgary

Book Review

Wife's book offers vignettes, commentary into Lutheran parsonage life

- by Mark Kihn, Calgary

There'll be two opinions about "A Peek into the Parsonage." Those who have been associated with pastors (wife, children, siblings) will suggest, "Yup, I could have told you that." Those outside of parsonage goings-on will mutter, "Wow, I had no idea!"

Elaine Wolters has compiled a collection of vignettes about her life in the parsonage, going back more than 30 years when her husband, Mel, was Ordained. The 345-page soft-cover is an enlightening review of her family adventures in their parishes in Churchbridge, Sask.; Neepawa, (& Minnedosa) Man.; Canmore, Alta.; and Fairview (& Hines Creek), Alta.

We'll hear about the felons who wanted gasoline for their car, but instead, Pastor Mel found out they were "WANTED." He called the Police, who nabbed them. We'll sympathize with the bride and groom, whose Best Man fainted, and then was hauled off to the hospital. And we'll join them on a trip up the Alaska Highway and then the Dempster Highway to the northern reaches of the continent. On this one, I'll give away the plot – the villain was sharp-edged gravel, which caused endless flat tires.

Author Wolters ends each escapade with a Bible verse to sum up her feelings. Once a wobbly church member with whiskey on his breath, stopped by after too much pre-Christmas celebrations. She calmly fed him a few cookies, pulled on a coat, and then walked him the few blocks to his house. The story ends with Luke 21:34 "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the cares of this life, and that day come upon you like a trap."

The Wolters both grew up in southern Idaho along the Snake River. They have returned there in retirement near the town of Jerome. Mel attended Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Ill., beginning in Sept., 1962. With three small children, they headed across America to President Lincoln's hometown. After years of instruction, plus a year-long vicarage in Sidney, Mont., he was Ordained in July, 1967. He received his pastoral "call" to Churchbridge, Sask. He remained in Canada for all of his ministry years.

A few of Elaine's tales deal with their adjustments as new Canadians, but she doesn't dwell on the differences. The Wolters seemed to fit in well north of the 49th parallel.

In their Idaho retirement, beginning May 1997, the Wolters became involved with Lutheran relief organizations, and they took trips into disaster-affected areas of the United States. The book details their experiences there also.

In about 1999, I met up with Pastor Mel as he helped move his daughter Tammy and her husband Chris Klarenbach to Calgary. Mel told me a story that didn't make it into the book. In retirement he did extra preaching in area "vacant" Lutheran churches. One was in Hailey, Idaho, near Sun Valley, just north of where he lives. I believe it was a Christmas Eve service in a small Lutheran Church there. He looked up from his pulpit and thought he should recognize the family at the back. After church, he met Hollywood's Bruce Willis and Demi Moore and their children. It was Mel's brush with fame.

Dorothy Mauthe, Box 1164, Neepawa, Man. R0J 1H0 is selling the book. The \$35 cost includes shipping/handling.

Editor's Note: In the late 1970s, Mark Kihn, along with his five siblings and parents, were members at Our Saviour Lutheran, in Minnedosa, Man. Pastor Mel led the church as a mission congregation. As a teen-ager, Mark got a first-hand "Peek into the Parsonage."

...Continued from page 7

NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE: Check out our church website at www.foothillslutheran.com.

OUR PARSONAGE IS ONCE AGAIN AVAILABLE AS A STUDENT RESIDENCE. We are looking for students to take up residence effective immediately. If you are aware of students who may be looking for residence, please let the office know. The rent is \$500/month.

PHOTO DIRECTORY: *"I'm not sure who that was sitting across from me."*

That probably happens more than we would like to admit. We don't always get to meet everyone and there are faces we may recognize, but we can't put a name to them.

One great help with this, and a wonderful way to draw us together as a family in Christ is through our Visual Directory. It has been some years since we printed a directory (the last one we did "in-house" in 2012, and of course, there have been a fair number of changes in this family of God over those years.

We will be producing another directory, with photos to be taken February 22 - 24 of this year. There is no direct cost to the church, and you will have the opportunity to buy portraits and photos to share. It only takes a single appointment, as you can see your proofs at the same time as your photos are taken.

How wonderful it would be if we had the entire congregation included in this. You can help by being open to the callers who will soon be scheduling appointments. You may not think we need your photo, but we do want it, so let's all take a few minutes and make this effort a great blessing for our congregation!

Sharing Christmas Joy

On Saturday, December 9th, we sponsored a Christmas tea at the Manor, sharing Christmas baking and singing Christmas carols with the residents. We had a wonderful afternoon together!

Epiphany Lunch

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Epiphany lunch on Sunday, January 7th. We appreciate your donations of food and monetary gifts toward our mission projects.

Comfort Dolls

Deaconess Miriam will be taking comfort dolls to Cameroon to give to the children of missionaries living there including Pastor Mike and Kara Kuhn's children: Tobias, Gideon and Gloria. These dolls were created by some of our members who plan to knit more for other children in need, such as those in the hospital or in emergency shelters here in Calgary. If you are interested in becoming involved in this project and would like the doll pattern, please contact me.

Used Eyeglasses and Stamps

Thanks to all of you who have contributed used eyeglasses and stamps for these ongoing mission projects. Operation Eyesight sends used eyeglasses to countries around the world to help people with vision problems. Canadian Bible Society sells postage stamps to stamp collectors. Proceeds are used to purchase Bibles for inmates in Canadian prisons. (Leave ¼" border around the stamps.) Please continue to place your donations in the designated bins in the church foyer. Thanks!

Monthly Meetings


We usually meet on the fourth Monday of the month and always welcome guests and new members.

Upcoming Meetings: January 22 and February 26
Noon: Bring your own lunch and enjoy the fellowship

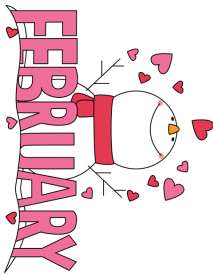
12:30 – 1:15: Business Meeting
1:15 – 2:30: Luther and the Reformation – DVD & Discussion



January 2018 at FLC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 10 am LifeLight 7:30 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Miriam's	3 6:30 pm Worship 7:30 pm Choir	4 10 am Moms & Tots 6 pm Elders 7 pm Youth Retreat Meeting	5 7 pm Congregational Family Board Games Night	6 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:30 am Kids Bible Club 9:30 am LWML Bible Study
7 9 am Education Hour 10:15 am Worship w/ Communion 11:45 am LWML Pot Blessing	8 7 pm Sunday School Meeting	9 10 am LifeLight 7:30 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Miriam's	10 1:30 pm Silver Saints 6:30 pm Worship 7:30 pm Choir	11 6 pm Children's Choir 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	12 7 pm Congregational Family Board Games Night	13 Jan 13 - 29 Cameroon Mission Trip
14 9 am Education Hour 10:15 am Worship	15 7 pm PPC Meeting	16 10 am LifeLight	17 6:30 pm Worship/ Communion 7:30 pm Choir	18 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	19 6:30 pm Young Adults @ Mustard Seed 7 pm Adult Games Night	20
21 9 am Education Hour 10:15 Worship/ Communion	22 12 noon LWML	23 10 am LifeLight 7:30 pm Ladies Bible Study	24 1:30 pm Silver Saints 6:30 pm Worship 7:30 pm Choir	25 7 pm LifeLight 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	26 Youth Event	27 9 am Perogy Bee
28 9 am Education Hour 10:15 am Worship VOTER'S MEETING	29 FLCP - Professional Development Day 7 pm Combined PPC & Elders Meeting	30 10 am LifeLight	31 6:30 pm Worship/ Communion 7:30 pm Choir			

February 2018 at FLC

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10 am Moms & Tots 7 pm Lifelight 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	2	3 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:30 am Kids Bible Club 9:30 am LWML Bible Study
4 9 am Education Hour 10:15 Worship/Communion	5 7 pm Sunday School Meeting	6 10 am Lifelight 6 pm Elders Meeting	7 6:30 pm Worship 7:30 pm Choir	8 6 pm Children's Choir 7 pm Lifelight 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes	9 Youth Science Night	10
11 9 am Education Hour 10:15 Worship	12 7 pm Board of Christian Education	13 Shrove Tuesday 10 am Lifelight 5:30 pm Pancake Dinner 7:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study @ Miriam's	14 12:00 pm Silver Saints 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	15 10 am Moms & Tots 7 pm Lifelight 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	16 FLCP Parent/Teacher Conference	17
18 9 am Education Hour 10:15 Worship/Communion	19 Family Day 7 pm Lent Bible Study	20 10 am Lifelight	21 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Serv. 7:30 pm Choir	22 Photo Directory 6 pm Children's Choir 7 pm Lifelight 7 pm Front to Back @ Bodes'	23 Photo Directory Youth Movie Night	24 Photo Directory
25 9 am Education Hour 10:15 Worship 12 pm Faith @ Home Technology Boundaries	26 12 pm LWML-C 7 pm Lent Bible Study	27 10 am Lifelight 7:30 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Miriam's	28 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Lenten Serv. 7:30 pm Choir			