



***“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*** (Matthew 5:14–16, ESV)

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus:

Many years ago in a mountain village in Europe, a wealthy nobleman wondered what legacy he could leave to his townspeople. He made a good decision. He decided to build them a church. No one was permitted to see the plans or the inside of the church until it was finished. At its grand opening, the people gathered and marvelled at the beauty of the new church. Everything had been thought of and included. It was a masterpiece. But then someone said, “Wait a minute! Where are the lamps? It is really quite dark in here. How will the church be lighted?” The nobleman pointed to some brackets in the walls, and then he gave each family a lamp, which they were to bring with them each time they came to worship. “Each time you are here” the nobleman said, “the place where you are seated will be lighted. Each time you are not here, that place will be dark. This is to remind you that without you, some part of God’s house will be dark”.

In some ways our church seems a bit dark of late. After all, you can’t be here! There is no banter of brothers and sisters in Christ sharing their days with one another. There is no rousing singing of hymns, or the blending of voices in harmony. There are no smiling faces at the door; no hugs, or handshakes, or words of peace to one another. People aren’t showing rapt attention to the sermon (or drifting off in the middle of it, either!) We all know that this is just the times and the circumstances, and things do seem brighter when we are able to join together in that live streaming service. But again, I want you to know that the church seems darker without you being here.

Yet the church is not dark. John assures us: ***“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”*** (John 1:5, ESV) And, in case there is any doubt as to that light, Jesus says: ***“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*** (John 8:12, ESV) In the One who is the light of the world, we know that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, or as the psalmist puts it: ***“For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.”*** (Psalm 36:9, ESV)

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## From the Pastor Cont'd

If there is one reality I see in these days, it is that the world needs that light. The world seems very dark in so many ways. People are looking for answers. I grieve every time I hear someone else tell me of a lost job. There are concerns that the suicide rate may increase. Legal experts tell us that after all is said and done, our courts will be burdened by lawsuits, as people try to find some compensation for all that they are sure has gone wrong in the midst of this COVID crisis. We continue to hear people speculate about what our “new normal” is going to be. Uncertainty seems to be the only certainty.

In the midst of all this, the world needs the light that Jesus brings. That is why Jesus sends us as salt and as light into the world. We not only bring that light together so that the church may shine as a beacon in the world; we also carry it into our homes, our community and our world. With physical distancing that may be harder right now, but we can still shine with that light of Christ for others. I think of Peter’s words of encouragement: **“but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.”** (1 Peter 3:15, ESV) As God gives us opportunity, we can share the hope that is in. Invite someone to “join you” in worship, by inviting them to our service. Pray for those around you. Let them know you see that Light that shines in the darkness.

Every time we think of that lonely member or friend who may be feeling very trapped by the isolation, and we call them with a kind word, we are bringing that light to a dark place. Maybe you’ve been out for a walk, knocked on a door of someone you know and, in a good variation of “ding-dong dash”, you’ve moved to the end of the sidewalk, just so you can say hello, and see that friend for a moment. That can brighten someone’s day. We have people who have delivered Sunday School materials, Portals of Prayer and other spiritual resources to those who can’t get out. They are shining with the light.

The darkness may try to surround us, but it can’t extinguish the light of Christ. That light still shines in us, too. May the glow of that Light of the World, reflected in each of us, brighten your days!

In His Light,



## Children & Family Ministry

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

*“Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope. This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life.” Psalm 119:49-5*

God’s blessings to you, dear families, as you navigate uncharted territory during this period of isolation. We pray for you all regularly, and you are never very far from our minds. May God, in His mercy, watch over you and keep you safe in His tender care.

You’ve all received a copy of the Enduring Faith One-Room Sunday School curriculum that they have been kind enough to share free of charge. Please use this resource to keep your children regularly in God’s Word, and to maintain the habit of Sunday School (habits are so important right now!) You will find the schedule of lessons for May and June below.

Thank you to those families who have taken on the task of making encouragement cards and pictures for some of our homebound and more isolated members. Those gifts will be most appreciated. If any families wish to be connected in this way, please contact Deaconess Miriam.

We have dropped craft packs off to our families, just to let you know that we are thinking of you. If there are specific supplies that you are in need of, please let us know – we might be able to help!

Our lessons for May and June are:

May 03	A Telling Truth - Pentecost	Acts 2:1-24
May 10	A Servant Speaks - Stephen	Acts 6-7
May 17	A Deacon Delivers – Philip and an Ethiopian	Acts 8:26-40
May 24	An Enemy Converts - Saul	Acts 9:1-31
May 31	A Soldier Believes – A Philippian Jailer	Acts 16:16-40
June 07	A Returning Truth – Christ Returns	Revelation 21:1-22:5
June 14	A Shepherd Loves	John 10:1-18
June 21	A Tree View - Zacchaeus	Luke 19:1-10

## Children & Family Ministry

### **MOMS & TOTS**

#### ***Mothers of infants and toddlers...***



Our regular meeting times are on hold for now, but please feel free to contact Deaconess Miriam if you are interested in a short time of conversation and devotion on Skype or Zoom.

### **LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

Our two Ladies' Bible Studies are continuing to meet – from a distance! Tuesday evenings we meet by Skype at 7:30 pm, and are in the process of finishing our study on perseverance in prayer in the book of Nehemiah. Mid-May we will begin a study on the life of Christ and his teachings in a study which brings together the four Gospel accounts.

Our Wednesday afternoon study is doing “A Longer Look at the Lessons” during this time of social distancing. This study takes an in-depth look at the readings for the previous Sunday. We meet on Zoom at 1:15 pm.

If you are interested in joining either of these studies, please contact Deaconess Miriam.

### ***SATURDAY KIDS BIBLE CLUB!***

Our monthly KIDS BIBLE CLUB is suspended for the time being. In April an adapted lesson plan with a craft idea was sent to families whose children normally attend. May would be our last lesson on Jesus, Our Good Shepherd, and this lesson will also be sent to families. God willing, we will be able to resume our time together again this fall!

### **SUMMER VBS - “GOD’S PROMISES FOR ME”**

Thank you to all who have registered their children for our summer VBS. Unfortunately, with mass gathering restrictions likely to be in place now through the summer, we will not be able to hold VBS as we usually do. We are currently discussing other ways to deliver VBS to families in their homes this summer, and will keep you posted over the next few weeks. In the meantime, please know that all of our families are in our prayers. May God grant you His peace, and patient endurance through these days.

## Family Time In Christ

May is a time when we plant gardens, and watch flowers begin to grow. We can still do these things, even in the midst of a pandemic. We hear birds sing in the trees, and watch bunnies hop around the neighbourhood. The grass greens up and starts to grow again. It's a good time to talk about how our faithful God sustains and renews His creation, and about how He cares for us. Use Matthew 6:25-34 and Psalm 104 to teach your children about God's tender care for what He has made – including them, and that we can trust in Him. As you work in the garden, or walk in the park, use these conversation starters with your family:

- How does God take care of birds, animals and flowers?
- God loves everything He has made, but what of all the things He has made is of the most value to Him?
- What does it mean to worry? What do we worry about? What does God say to us when we worry?
- In what ways does God take care of our family each and every day?

Remind your children that God also uses them to take care of His creation (including other people!) Think of ways that you can do that as a family.

- Make a bird feeder.
- Plant and take care of a vegetable garden together. Designate a portion of the harvest for a shelter or a soup kitchen.
- Include your children in the family's recycling program.
- Participate together in a community spring clean-up.

God bless you this spring, as your family finds ways to support each other, and to care for others who are also loved by Him!



## FLC Easter Lily Project Delivers Joy

Pssst. Wanna buy joy? You can't go wrong giving an Easter lily to a shut-in!

I began the post-Easter Foothills Lutheran Church Lily Project by giving one to my Mother in a Didsbury nursing home the day after Easter. Which son wouldn't try something good out on his mother! She was thrilled. And I couldn't ever visit her – the staff delivered the potted plant and I phoned her to make sure it arrived. Then I stood outside her window and waved.

In these strange days of the COVID 19 virus pandemic, almost everyone has become a shut-in, especially when the temperatures were still cold. So if I made a 93-yr old lady happy, why not spread more joy of Easter around?

I ran over to the Beddington Co-op Food Store and sure enough, they had hardly sold any of their lilies. The produce manager had just a little time to listen to my feel-good story of what I wanted to do. With the flowers as a “depreciating asset” and with my charity appeal, she dropped the price from \$15 each to \$5. I suggested I'd take 20. She almost fell over.

I grabbed a few potted lilies, got a bit of potting soil on my front seat (one tipped), and began driving. My idea was to get 30 delivered to church shut-ins, and to a few others, just for good measure.

So each day after work, I'd get a few more lilies, grab the church phone directory and make a few calls, to line-up a few deliveries in a particular area of NW Calgary. My system worked – people were home to answer the phone, the streets were empty of traffic, and so I zoomed with abandon. And hey, after a day, my truck began to smell wonderful.

I centered the Lily Project on our church widows, knowing they might be lonely, need cheering up, and I'd have a quick chance to listen to any needs. I added a few single mothers to that list and a few elderly couples. I'd arrive, ring the doorbell, set the flower on the step, and back up 6 ft. I was always met with astonishment, happiness, even an occasional shriek. That was my reward.

In two instances, I met church members unexpectedly – I handed off lilies.

I did carry Portals of Prayer devotional booklet with me to hand off, of which I did a few. I did minor grocery shopping for two lily recipients. I delivered a large-print Bible to another. One gracious lady offered me a \$20 tip for my efforts – I placed that into the church offering

plate under her name. And I did courier several offering cheques to church.

Ten days after I started, I had delivered 35 lilies. I ran three Co-op Stores out of lily inventory. I ended up with a few orange and yellow versions. Two members declined – they were allergic to lilies. Who knew? I'll still make that up and deliver something else – maybe homemade Maple Cream Fudge – nobody will turn down that gift!

My Mother suggests lilies are associated with Easter because their flowers resemble trumpets, hence trumpeting the Good News of Jesus' resurrection. They are also lily-white as the sheets were in the resurrection tomb. And they are a flower of springtime. All good.

While chatting with a buddy in the energy industry, he asked, “What have you been up to?” I laid it on heavy, telling him about the Lily Project. He got enthused. And offered to write the church a cheque for expenses. What I guessed \$300 in costs, he offered \$500, just to make sure. The next morning I picked up his cheque (parking lot hand-off) - and gave him a lily for his wife, and another for his mother.

So what to do for an encore? Mother's Day will be here soon on Sunday, May 10.

- by *Mark Kihn*



# A Peek Into Our Preschool

## OUR PRESCHOOL YEAR TO DATE

I will share more than I usually do in the Foot Print with the recent changes in our world. 2020 began in typical fashion, but in mid-March, the provincial government closed schools, preschools, and day cares in response to the covid-19 crisis.

### Classroom time prior to March 15

- Taught 77 half-day classes using thematic units incorporating motor skill and social skill learning. Pre-kindergarten concept focus during the first 2.5 months included: Colors gray/silver, pink, purple, white; Letters C, G, H, O, S, W; Numbers: 3, 4.
- Christian Studies included Simeon & Anna at the temple, Wisemen visit Jesus, Zacchaeus Bible accounts; Application piece for: *God's House*; *God takes Care of Me*; *God Forgives Me*; *Sharing God's Love*; *God Hears Me* which culminated in the construction of a Bedtime Prayer Book.
- 6 children, identified through screening, were approved for early intervention programming. Children began speech/language and/or occupational therapy in their home or at preschool. 5 of these 6 also qualified for support from an aide, paid by government funds, to assist them in being successful in the classroom. I attended Individual Program Plan Meetings if they were scheduled before or after class time.
- Report Cards for all our students were completed and then sent home. Parent/Teacher interviews followed.
- The efforts of parent volunteers who helped wash and sanitize toys in the classroom as well as parents who performed a chore outside the classroom were much appreciated.

### Office time prior to March 15

- Rented our classroom space to a group of early intervention students gathered by our provider from several preschools in NW Calgary on the 2 afternoons/week when we don't offer class. They brought in their own supplies to offer extra program time for these children. This program was funded by early intervention funding at no cost to the special needs' children. I received permission to instruct these children in how to cover coughs, discard tissues, and wash hands in line with current practises. We do this every year in our classes, but we had even more of an emphasis this year. The children had fun learning these protocols in an enter-

taining way. This rental agreement was to go for 15 weeks, but only went for 2 before preschools closed.

- Began placing advertising for fall registrations, talking with prospective parents, and accepting fall registrations.
- Updated program plan and submitted to provincial licensing officer.
- Sorted donated items. Sanitized and filed or passed on to another non-profit.

### Other

- I presented a session at our circuit's Sunday School teachers' workshop on "Responding to Diverse Learning Needs in the Sunday School Context".
- Attended Board of Christian Education, PPC, Preschool Prayer, and Voters' meetings and sang in the choir.

### Communication with children and families after March 15

- Informed all preschool families of the government directive to close schools/preschools.
- Wrote and attached a page to the preschool website on how to talk to your preschooler about covid-19. This was emailed to all preschool families and forwarded to the teachers of the preschool Sunday School class. The last few points apply to everyone:
  - God loves you very much. He is with you always. You can talk to Him if you feel sick, sad, worried, bored, or happy. You can talk to Him anywhere at any time.
  - God is stronger than a virus. We don't always know why some things happen, but God does. God can turn whatever happens to something that is good.

(Go to: [preschool.foothillslutheran.com/talking-to-preschoolers-about-the-coronavirus/](https://preschool.foothillslutheran.com/talking-to-preschoolers-about-the-coronavirus/) to read the whole page.)

- Provincial early intervention services could not continue so allowed provider access to retrieve observation notes and equipment.
- Emailed range of activity ideas for preschool families to do at home using water play to connect with literacy.
- Placed Scholastic order and then delivered books to a child's porch for his birthday when they arrived.
- Emailed activity ideas for painting and how to connect these activities with literacy. Many of the children emailed me a photo of their paintings.
- Emailed YouTube links to songs used most recently in

# A Peek Into Our Preschool

*Cont'd from page 5*

- Emailed link for children's literature online. Some families rely on books from the public library, but libraries are now closed.
- Informed preschool families about VBS in July and link to live streamed Sunday worship service. Preschool families took advantage of both links.
- Emailed each child to connect individually. Many parents emailed me a photo of something their child had been doing at home.
- Adapted and sent Deaconess Miriam's email to Sunday School families regarding Easter Egg decorating to preschool families since we couldn't do this joint activity at the church this year. This included a link to a family devotion resource (thank you, Miriam) and the Easter story told in a way that preschoolers who had not heard the account before would find meaningful.

- Holy Week Porch visits:

Prepared package for each child consisting of:

- Their almost completed Bedtime Prayer book with remaining words pasted in for them and included appropriate stickers so children could complete their book and picture read while parents read the words. Emailed the link for the music in case they would like to sing it or play it on their piano instead of saying the prayer. (one older sibling is learning to play piano during social isolation)
- Students' indoor preschool shoes
- Chocolate Easter Eggs
- Poster/bookmark, etc. gifted to preschool
- Artwork that had been in their basket at school.
- Asked the children to prepare an Easter greeting to display in their window so Ms. Amy and I could see them when we delivered their package.
- We delivered to each child's porch and took a photo of whatever they put in the window.
- Talked with the children and parents who came to the door from the bottom of their porch steps. One parent put some money in an envelope to cover my gas and made an e transfer donation to our preschool. One child gave us a bar of perfumed soap she had made with her older sister as a craft that week. It was good to see all the smiles we have been missing.
- The next week, I set up a Facebook page for the preschool. This is the first time I have used Facebook, so I am learning as I go.

## **In the office after March 15:**

- Purging out-dated files from office and the classroom.
- Caught up on reading professional development information in regard to one of our special needs' students who will be returning next school year. Shared classroom observations in a letter for another returning early intervention student to give to family doctor to help rule out any physical factors that may be at play.
- Fleshing out idea based on feedback from families and respecting copyright for weekly or bi-weekly individual Skype sessions with each child to help them complete ABC book begun in September. I hope to support overwhelmed parents as they parent and serve as teacher in a confined space as I pull together literacy, pre-math skills, prayer, and music.
- FLC member offered to pay for the Children's Bibles on order that we gift to students going on to kindergarten at the end of June. Returning children receive an Arch Book. Those are already here.
- We had to cancel our annual class photo so looking into possibility of porch portraits.

Betty Ann Chandler, Preschool Principal/Teacher

## **PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**

We miss our preschool friends and look forward to having children in our classroom once restrictions ease. We offer a nurturing, fun, caring, Christian environment utilizing Animated Literacy, Handwriting Without Tears, quality children's literature, varied centres, pre-math, music, cooking, and science for children ages 2.5, 3, and 4 years of age. Emerging social skills, creativity, fine and gross motor skills are fostered and supported. Speech screen and early intervention available on-site. Fenced outdoor playground and optional family activities supplement regular programming. Experienced teacher with B.Ed., Child Development Supervisor Certificate, Child Intervention Services Child Abuse Protocols Certificate, and SAPTA membership. All staff first-aid certified, university educated, and well versed in children's developmental needs. Connect with us through our website at [preschool.foothillslutheran.com](http://preschool.foothillslutheran.com). Emails and phone messages are returned most weekdays as we maintain social distancing.

## Board of Fellowship

## Notes from the Choir

### COFFEE TEAMS



Thank you to the wonderful teams that provide fellowship after service on Sunday mornings. Do you want to join a team or create your own, please contact Belinda Perrin at (403) 239-9100.

- Team 1 Mark Kihn, Art Hanger, Kim Harvey, Alice Churney, Ron & Diane Voss and Liane Voss-Roper
- Team 2 Anni & Brad Adams, Elfrieda Stewart, Jan Geggie, Marilyn Harrison and Kathy Hilland
- Team 3 Elise Glans, Vi & Otto Dusterhoft, Anne Marie Kothari and Colleen Judiesch
- Team 4 Pat & Lorne, Kristy & Kellen Rosenau and Lucy Oberhammer
- Team 5 Tracy & Tim Roth and John & Diane Voss
- Team 6 Belinda & Dave Perrin, Herb & Jane Gurski and Brenda Bode
- Team 7 Ingrid Kubke and Robert Kubke
- Team 8 Shirley & Carl Berdahl, Ellen Wagner and Cheryl Lemke
- Team 9 Heather Sommers, Warren Kee, Merv and Karen Borgeson
- Team 10 Carol & Lloyd Sandau, Bob & Elsie Will and Bill & Erika Schultz

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Stampede Breakfast – July 12, 2020

Due to the uncertainty with Covid-19, it was decided to cancel this year's Stampede Breakfast. I am hoping we can get together later in the year to celebrate. Any questions, please contact Anni Adams or myself.

Do you have any suggestions, questions or concerns for the Board of Fellowship? Contact Heather Sommers at (403) 829-2366.

Blessings,  
Heather

#### MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH

##### Vacation Bible School (VBS)

An internal outreach effort, designed to share the good news of Jesus with the children of our church and our community.



What a great start we had for the new 2020 year; unfortunately, with the Covid-19 situation, we have not been able to practice or sing for services. It's a sad time that we cannot make a joyful noise to the Lord in church. We miss it, and I'm sure you do also. Please join us all in watching the services on Sunday and Wednesday and join in the singing there! We will hopefully start up again in September and if you would like to help us make a joyful noise again, please join us Wednesdays at 7:30 in the choir loft. Details will follow as to when we will start to meet again! Blessings to you and your families – we are praying for your physical and mental well-being!

Christine Heumann

## Human Care Ministry

As the new Chair to this Board, I want to thank everyone for their encouragement and support as I work my way through all the duties of this Board. I especially want to sincerely thank Stacey Bablitz for all her support and time in transitioning this to me. In such a difficult time as we are in, I encourage you to call either myself or the church if you are in need. Even if you just want someone to talk to – call me! We are all “self-isolating” and “social-distancing”, but that doesn't mean we can't support each other in any way we can. I look forward to hearing from you!!

Respectfully and prayerfully submitted,  
Christine Heumann

#### JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH

##### Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)

Meets the needs of those in crisis around the world. Provides food and physical support, as well as training in life-skills for third world countries.

# Board of Stewardship

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**Stewardship during these difficult times:** During these unprecedented times we as a society and as a congregation have had to take extraordinary measures to protect the health of our members and the public at large. The most significant of these measures has been to cancel worship services. Although worship services have been cancelled, the work of the church continues. Our staff continue to provide ministry to our members, to the University community, to pre-school families, to families in our congregation, and to those hurting and in need in the community. Our Christian responsibility as Stewards of all that God has given us has also not changed. We have been given gifts of time, talents and treasures to use to further Gods kingdom. During these isolated times we can still use these gifts in service to our Lord.

We can use our time to reach out to those around us in our families, our church and within our circle of friends. Many people are struggling with these difficult times and spending time on the phone or through social media checking in with our contacts can be very valuable for them and us. We can see what issues they may be having and we may help to prevent loneliness and despair that comes from being isolated. I was talking to a Pastor recently who has taken to phoning a number of his members each day just to see how they are doing. He commented on how valuable it was spending time connecting with his members now that he isn't in as many meetings as he used to be.

Giving of our talents can also continue while we are quarantined and working from home. For example, in a recent discussion with a church member she commented that she now has more time to look into some programs for our congregation that can be used after we get back to normal. Each of us has gifts that can still be used to further God's work, even if we are not seeing each other as regularly as we used to. This may be the time that God needs your gifts more than ever so don't hide them under a rock.

We must also continue to give our treasures to our Lord. This is more important now than ever as we are not regularly attending worship and giving our weekly offering can slip without being reminded of it during a worship service. We still have expenses in our congregation and it is essential that we continue to provide our offerings as we did before. If we don't, we won't be able to pay our staff or keep the church running.

We have set up a few ways for each of you to do this. There are three methods to submit donations:

- 1) Direct Deposit (preferred) – forms available from FLC Office (provision of bank account details to authorize auto debit; presently processed the 20th of every month; more frequent dates may be made available). Contact the church office and a copy of the form can be emailed to you, you can fill it in, scan it and send it back or drop by the church and fill in the information.
- 2) Mail (or drop off) cheques to FLC Office
- 3) E-transfers – transfer funds directly from your bank account much like any other electronic payment. The recipient's email address is:

[financials@foothillslutheran.com](mailto:financials@foothillslutheran.com).

The church is set for automatic deposits so a password is not required.

God has called us to be good stewards of all that He has given us. It is very important that we continue to practice this good stewardship during these difficult times. I ask that you continue to pray for healing for those affected by the COVID-19 virus, for good health for our families, our congregation, and all of society. For strength and good health for our Church workers, healthcare and essential service workers and for an improved economy so people can return to work.

In service to our Lord,

Dale Dusterhoft

Chairman – Board of Stewardship

**A WORD OF THANKS:** We are blessed to have a few people who are able to assist in bringing our online services to you each week. We've had people ask, "who's voices do I hear in the church?" They are the voices of those who are making sure that the sound is running and that the PowerPoint is displayed (Trevor and Michelle Heumann); that the camera is running (Brenda Bode) and that the music is provided (Deaconess Miriam). Of course, the pastors are here, too. We do thank the Heumanns and Brenda Bode for their assistance. As simple as all this may seem, we couldn't do it without you.



## Board of Christian Education



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

We find ourselves well into the season of Spring however it has been anything but typical of what we expect to see.

Dr. Joe Askin began our Lent Bible Study with a presentation on “The Lutheran Perspective on Medical Aid in Dying”. It was an evening with 69 people in attendance. Dr. Askin provided an abundance of information, answered many questions and provided sources and links for further reference.

We continued the following 2 Monday evenings with Pastor Eric leading our study on the “Sanctity of Life”. The government restrictions implemented for social distancing then fell upon us shortly thereafter, which halted further opportunity to gather together.

That being said, there are various Bible Studies that are now available to all of us. Some run on Zoom, others through Skype. Several emails from our Pastors and Deaconess have gone out inviting members to participate as well as links to daily devotions. And of course, we are grateful for the Sunday morning and Wednesday evening Worship Service available to us all over livestream.

Any questions that you have for the Board of Education can be emailed to [education@foothillslutheran.com](mailto:education@foothillslutheran.com).

We look forward to having the opportunity to gather together again soon and resuming the old and familiar normal.

The Board of Ed is:

*Chairs: Kayla Moffett & Tobi Stene*

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

*Board Members: Trevor Heumann, Michelle Heumann*

- Submitted Tobi Stene

## Board of Elders

It has already become a cliché, “these are unprecedented times”, except for a handful of our members who were around in 1918 during the Spanish Flu. The elders hope that all of you had a very joyous and blessed Easter despite the social distancing that we are experiencing. We have been meeting online via Zoom to continue our work of serving our Lord through you, the members of FLC. One of the roles of the elders is to aid the Pastors and Deaconess in the spiritual caring and growth of the congregation.

The elders have focussed their efforts of contacting all of our members by telephone or email. Each elder has a portion of the congregation designated to him to contact. Please be patient as the elders work through their list to make that personal contact with each of you. Some elders have 60+ members to contact in the evenings as they are still working their careers from home during the day. We feel this is an important and caring ministry that we contact you and ask you if there are any concerns that you may have during these times of isolation. Are there concerns that your individual elder can assist you with or do you have questions or needs that may be directed to the Pastors, Deaconess, or human care ministries in our church? Please do not hesitate to contact your elder, if you know his contact information, if you have anything you would like to discuss with him. We are all here to help one another get through these very different, stressful, and trying times.

Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything. James 1: 2-4

He is Risen, indeed. Alleluia!

Respectfully submitted in His Service,  
Lorne Rosenau, Chair – Board of Elders  
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**FOOT PRINT** information such as financials and birthday/anniversary listings have been removed but are available to members who contact the office by phone or email ([office@foothillslutheran.com](mailto:office@foothillslutheran.com)).

## From Pastor Eric

For the past few months I've had Romans 12:12 as my phone wallpaper, and in the past weeks it's been a constant reminder and focus point for me, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." In these days more than ever we need to look to all 3 parts.

We "rejoice in hope", that may seem like a grave impossibility in these days but hope is looking forward to what God has accomplished for us and promised us. That is why we are able to rejoice, because there is a massive light at the end of the tunnel that is greater than the darkest days we may go through.

"Be patient in tribulation", if you're like me you've now finished whatever shows you really wanted to catch up on and it's getting nicer outside and yet with physical distancing there feels like a large barrier holding us back. The world is in a very uneasy place right now and things may change drastically coming out of this, and so God calls us to be patient. He reminds us that we are His and that he has us in the palm of his hand. One of my favourite portions of Scripture is the beginning of Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God," it's a reminder to us that he is in charge and in control and that sometimes we need to be still (as difficult as I know being still is for some of you, myself included).

While we are patient and while we rejoice God calls us to "be constant in prayer." We have the ability to come to God with all our worries, fears, praises, and thanksgivings, and lay them right at the feet of the one who did, does, and will continue to do awesome things in our lives. And even in our isolation from each other and those around us we know that God is always with us. Never forgotten, never forsaken.

Pastor Eric

## From the Library

**I Didn't Write an Article:** Although I spent a lot of time thinking, I couldn't quite put together an article for this issue of Foot Print.

Perhaps I could have suggested that we look into Bible storybooks that enlarge on the great stories of David, of Moses, of Joshua, of Ruth, or later, of the apostles, of Paul, of Mary and Martha.

Or that we explore the unvisited index section of our hymnbooks – finding the subject index that might suggest just the right hymn to look through for spiritual help and comfort; the index that might introduce us to unknown pieces by a favourite composer or writer; the tune index that could open up a new way of relating to favourite words set to different music.

And of course, I could have suggested that it was important to keep a little notebook handy as well, for writing down the topics and titles to explore when we have easier access to the church library and the public library too – I add to my own lists every day

But more and more, I was drawn back to taking a break from TV and from the online world to the simple act of reading, perhaps to children, to each other, and of course in solitude. And reading some of the classics of literature and imagination and character that we might not have looked at for many years – the brilliant Narnia Chronicles; Little Women; Silas Marner; Little Dorrit - so many possibilities that I could suggest. Although it was written for parents, I found many titles in Sarah Clarkson's little paperback "Caught Up in a Story: Fostering a storyformed life of great books & imagination with your children".

So I'll be looking forward to hearing what you've been reading – perhaps then I could write an article for the newsletter!

**How are things going?** In some ways, it is hard to answer that question. We really don't have some of the stats and information that we often use to measure the work and the involvement of our members.

We do not have any fixed idea of attendance, but we know that our services are typically receiving about 200 plus views. Some of those are from across the country; some are family of members in other communities. We assume that our families may all be watching together on 1 device, but we don't know the exact numbers. Our prayer is that we will continue to be faithful in our time together around God's Word.

We continue to do all we can to reach out to our members. Bible studies have continued online (if you would like to join those that are continuing, please let the pastors or Miriam know). It is strange being so removed from our church family, but we do pray for you; we do ask that God would be gracious and deliver us from this pandemic, and that He will continue to provide for His people. May He also bless us as we seek to be the family we are in Christ in these days!