

FOOTHILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH



July / August
2020

Dear Friends in Christ, our living Lord:

One of the concerns, frustrations and struggles we have with beginning in-person worship again is that the guidelines from Alberta Health discourage singing by congregations in the church. We may have different feelings about the type of music we like, or about the hymns we especially like to sing. One thing I believe we can agree on is good hymns speak the faith in a very unique and special way. They are expressions of the heart, like the psalms of the Bible. A good hymn confesses the faith we have in the Saviour; they give voice to our praise of God, who has taken away our sin and given us life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. They are more than an emotional expression; they are words of faith and hope and trust. They are the ways we praise and pray. They comfort the heart; they edify the soul. Luther said that singing hymns can drive away the devil.

Maybe that is why so many hymns come from some of the darkest times of life. One in particular that has been dear to me is an old German hymn that is said to have been more widely used in German churches over the years than any other, with the exception of Luther's great hymn, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. When we hear it, we would not think of it coming from such a time of tragedy. Yet the hymn was written during the 30 Years' War of 1618–48—a war that has been described as the most devastating in all history. The hymn? *Now Thank We All Our God*.

Martin Rinkart was called at the age of 31 to pastor the Lutheran church in his native city of Eilenberg, Germany. He arrived there just as the dreadful bloodshed of the 30 Years' War began. He spent the remaining 32 years of his life faithfully ministering to these needy people.

We all know the affects that COVID-19 has had on our country, our province and our city. We have lost so much, and still face so much uncertainty. We read each day about new cases and more deaths. We may have lost our job, been laid off or had our hours reduced. We all know at least one person in this situation, or others who have even lost their businesses. Yet what we experience today was nothing compared to the results of that war between Catholic and Protestant forces from various countries throughout Europe. Germany was at the heart of the war, and during this time the German population dwindled from 16 million to 6 million. Eilenberg, where Martin Rinkart ministered, was a walled city which became a frightfully over-crowded refuge for political and military fugitives from far and near. Throughout these war years several waves of deadly diseases and famines swept the city, as the various armies marched through the town, leaving death and destruction in their wake.

The plague of 1637 was particularly severe. At its height Rinkart was the only minister remaining to care for the sick and dying, sometimes conducting between 40 and 50 funerals a day. He had trouble providing for his family, and his home was often crowded with refugees, too.

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Continued page 2

Pastor's Message (cont'd)

Yet in the midst of it all, Rinkart can pen the words of triumph, praise and thanks that fill this hymn. His words confirm for each of us this truth taught in Scripture, that as God's children, we too can be "more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

*Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.*

As we face the ongoing confusion, uncertainty and even hopefulness of these days, I pray we never forget that God who is with us all the way, and whose mercies still bless us with His love.

*Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!*

As we sing, we commend ourselves to God in each and every need of our lives. We can, and do have, the confidence of our faith that God knows our needs. He, who created the heavens and the earth is still in control of all that happens. He, who redeemed us through the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ has not left us alone and destitute. He has not forgotten us in these days. We may not know all His purposes, but we can rejoice in His love for us. We pray that He will, indeed deliver us from all that is happening. We pray He will provide for us. Most importantly, we look beyond the ills of this world to eternity, and we know He has delivered us from the ills of the next world, too by bringing us into His Kingdom of life, peace and joy.

So, what is left, except to acknowledge that in the midst of all that is wrong in this world and in our lives, God is still good and still worthy of praise. To Him be the glory as we sing:

*All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore. (LSB 895)*

In His Service and Praise,
Pastor Bode

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.

Many of you used the Enduring Faith One-Room curriculum to continue Sunday School while being asked to isolate. We came to the end of that unit on June 21st. May your study of God's Word together as a family these past months bear much fruit!

The current "Guidelines for Places of Worship" by Alberta Health Services do allow for the resumption of Sunday School, with protocols in place. We'll be talking about that through the summer, and will keep you posted on Sunday School plans for the fall. Many of our families completed a short survey sent out several weeks ago, and we thank you for your feedback.

If any family would like to carry on with Sunday School through the summer, please contact Deaconess Miriam, who has a resource entitled "3-in-1" that can be shared.

God's blessings on your summer!

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. We will be in touch regarding our ability to meet in person closer to the fall.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Our two Ladies' Bible Studies have been meeting – from a distance! Tuesday evenings we meet by Skype at 7:30 pm to study "Jesus: A Study on the Words of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John". We will continue meeting, as the group is available, through the summer. If you'd like to join us, please contact Deaconess Miriam.

Our Wednesday afternoon study has been looking at "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. We will be taking a break for the summer.

Children & Family Ministry



“GOD’S PROMISES FOR ME”

VBS will look different this year, but it’s still happening! We need, more than ever, to remember that God keeps His promises to us. All of them. We’ve been working on a plan for a home-based VBS. Openings, lessons, application sessions, and craft directions will be recorded and put on a YouTube channel, which will be able to be accessed by families any time after July 13th, on a schedule that works for them. Craft boxes are being prepared for families who registered prior to June 15th and will be available for pick-up the week of July 6th. Families who register after June 15th will receive a supply list and instructions, as well as access to the YouTube lessons. This will also be part of a larger LCC outreach initiative. Please pray for the children and families who will be accessing VBS in a different way this year, that God would strengthen their faith as they gather around His Word at home.

Mission of the Month

July

Canadian Lutheran Bible Translators (“CLBT”)

Inspired by God’s love for humanity, Canadian Lutheran World Relief challenges the causes and responds to the consequences of human suffer and poverty. CLWR is the agency that provides for the work done by the Kuhns in Cameroon and others like them. While we support the Kuhns, there is a need to provide for the administration of the whole programme.

August

Mustard Seed

The Mustard Seed is a safe and supportive place where people experiencing problems associated with poverty and homelessness can have their physical needs met in the short term, but also begin to heal and grow mentally, emotionally, and spiritually for a better life down the road. We have had a team help prepare and serve dinners.

Family Time In Christ

Do you go to the beach together in the summer? It’s nice just to spend time wading, building sandcastles, and relaxing on the sand. Take your time on the sand to teach a spiritual lesson to your children.

Watch the waves come in and go out over the sand. Every time there is a wave, the shape of the sand changes (a bit, or a lot, depending on the force of the wave). It will not stay put. Stand in the sand for awhile. It begins to shift under your weight. It moves. What happens to sand if it is windy? It blows everywhere. See what happens to a sand castle when you pour water on it, or when the tide comes in. Ask your children if they would like to build their house on the sand. It would not provide a very solid foundation!

Now see if you can find a large rock by the water. Can water change its shape? Only over a very long time. Will it move if the water comes in? It will stay put. Will the wind blow it somewhere else? No – it will stay where it is. A rock gives a better foundation.

Read Matthew 7:24-27 and discuss:

- How is the faith of believers like a house built on rock?
- Jesus is called our Rock – how does He strengthen our faith?
- What comfort do you find in the fact that Jesus, our Rock, does not change?
- How do you build your life on the Words of Jesus?

Find a flat rock and paint it with the word “faith”. Keep it where you can be reminded that your faith is built on Jesus, our Rock.

Memorize together Psalm 18:2a: “The Lord is my rock and fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge.”

God bless your family time in Christ this summer!



Report from the President

With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions placed by the province for the safety of all people, we have struggled to work on congregational matters. The Parish Planning Council (PPC) has had 2 meetings using the ZOOM app to work on issues confronting our congregation.

The first issue we have had to deal with is the budgetary woes due to a loss in revenue.

- The university closed so that parking fees we received are now nonexistent. The OROMO congregation is not able to worship at Foothills so we have not collected rent from them. The Preschool was shut down March 15th by the province, so tuition has not been collected from those families.
- It was felt that we needed to reduce hours or terminate positions that we could no longer afford to pay. Our focus was on cutting hours for part-time staff and to look at terminating Betty Ann Chandler's position as teacher/principal of our preschool.

Lorne Rosenau and I met with Brian Vincent to come up with a reduced hours scenario for his duties due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions on programming at the church.

As the Preschool was closed on March 15th, Amy Chandler's position as teacher aide was not needed.

Both Brian and Amy were counselled to apply for the CERB funding from the federal government.

Carol Kehler voluntarily reduced her hours to help with our church's budgetary woes.

- Finally, over much discussion, it was decided that due to the many uncertainties about the viability of continuing the preschool in the fall, we would terminate Betty Ann Chandler's position as teacher/principal as of July 30th. The Preschool will not open in the fall. Again Lorne Rosenau and I met with Betty Ann to outline the concerns of the PPC and the Elders prior to this decision.

The PPC and the Elders will review the possibility of reopening the Preschool in the fall of 2021 when we hope that the pandemic has been beaten and the province will have lifted all restrictions on our operations as a church.

There is an area of concern in the operations of our congregation as to having Voter's meetings. With the restrictions on meetings placed by the province, Voter's meetings would be problematic. Motions were put forward at PPC and at the Elder's meetings to have all positions extended by a year rather than worry about holding elections and dealing with the turnover that comes from new people filling those positions. The Voters will have to ratify this motion and a mail out has been prepared to inform the Voters and get a response from the members of that body. Future Voter's meetings may be held that are a hybrid of meeting at the church and using Zoom technology. Details have yet to be worked out.

The PPC and the Elders have adopted the recommendations of our pastoral staff as to the reopening of our church for worship. Unfortunately, we are restricted to holding services with 50 people in attendance (that includes the 5 staff helping to run the service). There are many regulations that must be observed in holding church services in these pandemic times. Please read materials sent out about registering to attend church so that we follow the guidelines set out by the province.

Tim Roth

Parish Planning Council Effective July 1, 2020

President: Tim Roth

Vice President: Lorne Rosenau

Treasurer: Brian Chandler

Directors / Board Chairs:

Church Properties: Brad Otke

Education: Co-chairs Kayla Moffett and
Tobi Stene

Evangelism: Mark Kihn

Fellowship: Heather Sommers

Human Care Ministries: Christine Heumann

Stewardship: Dale Dusterhoft

Board of Elders:

Gary Anderson

Colin Bablitz

Thomas Benz

Darcy Drysdale

Hans Dueck

Robert Heumann

Goodluck Nwaerendu

Lorne Rosenau

Evangelism/Outreach

We made a major effort during the COVIDS 19 virus outbreak to reach out to our members who might be alone for long periods of time. With the isolation, the quarantine, and with winter lingering, several of our members were quite alone.

After Easter we secured about 40 Easter lilies from Co-op Food Stores at a discount and delivered them to about 40 mainly single members of the church. We were able to purchase them at a huge discount. A friend of Foothills wrote a major cheque to pay for the lilies.

We also used the opportunity during the drop-offs to check up and visit with our members. We offered them a Portals of Prayer booklet, a Canadian Lutheran magazine, an Edmonton Concordia Seminary newsletter, and our church's "Foot Print" newsletter.

Some recipients also used the chance to hand off contribution cheques for the church, which we put into the church offering plate on the altar.

We followed up on the Lily Project with a care package for Mother's Day with single mothers and widows in the church. The boxful included a potted plant, a specialty bar of soap, snacks, and an essential item – a roll of toilet paper.

Our gesture was popular with the 31 recipients, and we received many gracious "thank-you" notes and phone calls. Again, we delivered publications with packages and we picked up a few cheques for Foothills. We also performed one shopping trip for groceries.

Thank you to the manager of the Beddington Safeway, Bill Forgay, who gave us a \$250 gift certificate to purchase most of the care package items. We also had a few secondary contribution cheques to pay the bills.

We are just wrapping up the care packages for Father's Day, which included a box of "Dad's" cookies. The boxes are going out to widowers and to single fathers. And once again Bill Forgay gave us a \$250 Safeway gift certificate to pay most of the costs on this effort. We have about 25 deliveries planned.

As for children, we mailed out Kid's Club activity booklets to our younger people. We know children love to receive an envelope in the mail addressed to them! Already we have 20 of those mailed out.

We did reach beyond our congregational lists on all of these efforts, and invited non-members to attend church

once we get worship services started up again. If by chance we missed you or a family member, we offer our regrets. We worked hard and fast to make all of this outreach happen.

Thanks again to those who helped out. People were truly grateful to receive the flowers and/or care packages. The good Lord presented us with an opportunity, and we did our best to follow up on it.

Onwards, In Christ's service –
Mark Kihn

Silver Saints

As with all of our church activities, the Silver Saints have also not been allowed to meet for any get-togethers. We hope that we can resume our activities in September. In the meantime, many members are visiting on the phone, which helps keeps us in touch and socializing. Pray that a vaccine is produced so this pandemic can be ended soon. Hopefully you will have a pleasant summer. Blessings to one and all!

Helen Duholke

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,



I hope all of you are keeping well during these difficult days. God willing, we again will have the opportunity to participate in the OCC Campaign. Boxes and brochures will be available in the Fall to pack or make a donation.

It is also possible to pack a shoebox online. We are also looking at some additional methods to help those people who want to fill a shoebox by delivering and picking up boxes from people's home. Remember that everything is in God's hands and the above may be adjusted or changed as we get closer to the Fall. If you are going shopping this summer it is an excellent time to pick up bargains on school supplies, clothing and toys. Please call me at 403-295-0271 if you have any questions.

Elke Bittmann

Ordination Adam Chandler



Adam Robert Chandler was ordained on June 21, 2020 at his home congregation of Foothills Lutheran Church in Calgary, Alberta. Since travel is impeded due to the global pandemic, Adam's assigned congregation of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in Victoria graciously permitted him to be ordained in Calgary before being installed in Hope so his extended family could attend. Adam's grandfather (who took part in the ordination), great grandfather, and great uncle also served as Lutheran pastors in western Canada. With his mother having taught in a Lutheran preschool for 17 years (7 of which found his sister working in the classroom), Adam is a fourth generation church worker. Adam was baptized in 1989 by Pastor Eldon Ohlinger, his grandfather, on Pastor Ohlinger's birthday. This was the first infant baptism in the new sanctuary of Foothills Lutheran, wherein Adam was later confirmed and, now, ordained. The stole Adam received in the ordination service was a gift from his grandfather, who in turn had received it as a gift from Foothills on the congregation's 25th anniversary. The Old Testament reading was delivered by

Pastor Ohlinger, Epistle from Regional Pastor Robert Mohns, the Gospel reading by the seminary president Dr. Jim Gimbel, and the sermon by Adam's faculty advisor at the seminary, Dr. John Hellwege. Adam's pastor, David Bode, read a verse over him at the ordination which happened to be the confirmation verse of Adam's uncle. Adam's middle name, Robert, comes from his uncle who died in an accident before Adam was born. Also in attendance were Adam's baptismal sponsors and his first Sunday School teacher. Foothills staff Pastor Bode and Deaconess Miriam Winstanley served as liturgist and organist respectively.



*L to R: Rev. Robert Mohns, Dr. John Hellwege, Rev. Adam Chandler,
Dr. Jim Gimbel, Rev. Eldon Ohlinger, Rev. David Bode.*



Chandler Family: Amy, Adam, Brian and Betty Ann



Proud Grandparents: Marian and Pastor Eldon Ohlinger



Baptismal sponsors, Brian Ohlinger and Karen Sharp



LWML-C

LWML-C Mission Projects



Thanks to all of you for supporting our mission projects through your prayers and mite donations. Please continue to save used eyeglasses and used postage

stamps, leaving 1/4" border around the stamps. Used eyeglasses are sent around the world to help people with vision problems. Used postage stamps are sent to the Canadian Bible Society and sold to stamp collectors with proceeds going toward the purchase of Bibles for inmates in Canadian prisons.

LWML-C Foothills Society Events

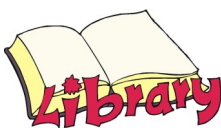
We miss hosting fellowship events such as teas at Foothills Manor and our annual Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet. As soon as restrictions due to COVID-19 are lifted, we will resume holding meetings and planning outreach events.

For more information, visit our website: www.lutheranwomen.ca.

We do not know what the future holds, but we know Who holds the future!

Wishing you God's blessings,
Cheryl Lemke, president, Foothills LWML-C Society

Library Notes



As the church library is still unavailable for most of us, I'd encourage you to read a good article in the current (May/June) Canadian Lutheran that's online as well as in print. "God's Gift of Literature", written by Mary J. Moerbe, a Lutheran Deaconess in Oklahoma, is a thoughtful consideration of the value of many types of good literature in our lives. She not only encourages us to read widely, but also to write and to share that writing with others.

Dianne Frayne

Board of Education

The Board of Education held our last meeting in February. We were eager to finalize plans and preparation for the season of Lent and begin our Bible Study on "The Sanctity of Life". It goes without saying that those plans, like for most everyone, needed to be put on hold in adherence to restrictions that were implemented due to COVID-19.

Bible studies and Confirmation have continued to be offered and held via Zoom. Sunday School families have received weekly updates through email. These updates included a weekly lesson, a suggested craft activity, Bible readings from the lesson and words of support and encouragement. Confirmation and Sunday School will wrap up in June for the summer.

VBS will be offered in July in a modified format. Families that have registered will receive a craft box in advance. It will include items needed to complete lessons, application sessions and craft instruction will be pre-recorded and available on a YouTube channel. Families will then work through these lessons with their children at home.

The annual Youth Retreat scheduled for July 2-5 in Grand Forks, BC has been postponed. Stay tuned for further details on that at a later time.

The Board of Education will hold our next meeting on June 29, with hopes that possibly we can meet in person. We will look at plans for the fall and begin preparation for programming that will start again in September. The details of that and how it will precisely look may change between now and then, but we look forward to the time when we can gather together and share in the peace and joy of God's love for each of us.

Any questions that you have for the Board of Education can be emailed to education@foothillslutheran.com.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy summer!

The Board of Ed is:

Chairs: Kayla Moffett & Tobi Stene

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

Board Members: Trevor Heumann, Michelle Heumann

Submitted by Tobi Stene

LYF in Christ (Youth)

Youth group, or LYF (Lutheran Youth at Foothills), is for youth in grades 7 to 12. Stay connected by joining the youth Snapchat or Instagram (talk to Kayla or Michelle to join), giving Pastor Eric your email address, or joining the Facebook group.

www.facebook.com/groups/flcchristianed

Some youth activities have still happened over the last couple of months, although of course looking different than usual. A highlight was care package delivery at the end of May in preparation for a Netflix Party in early June. Between them, the youth leaders stopped at thirteen houses in one day, and had physically distant visits with most of the youth. A couple of weeks later, we watched the same Netflix movie and visited on Skype after.

The annual photo scavenger hunt will be taking place in July! It will look a little different than normal, so check out www.foothillslutheran.com/blog/2020/06/28/scavenger-hunt/ for the details.

As well, there will also be some volunteer training for youth in conjunction with VBS, taking place sometime during August. This will be available for all youth, whether they participated in VBS training last year or not. Watch your email for more details, or contact Michelle for more info.

If youth or parents have ideas for events (whether virtually or physically distant), or Bible study topics, please let one of the leaders know.



The **IMPACT Youth Gathering** has been rescheduled to July 1 to 4, 2021! It will still be at Pines Bible Camp in Grand Forks, BC.

The **National Youth Gathering** in Winnipeg has been moved to July 2022, exact dates TBA.

You can follow them both on Instagram at [@impactyouthgathering](https://www.instagram.com/impactyouthgathering) and [@lcc_nyg](https://www.instagram.com/lcc_nyg) to keep up to date on the news.



The fifth annual **photo scavenger hunt** is on! This year it will take place over two weeks in late July, and, as always, everyone from Foothills is invited to participate.

To participate, you need to:

1. Register your team with Pastor Eric (a team can be between 1 to 15 people!) and should have a team name.
2. Pick up your scavenger hunt package from the youth leaders at the church
 - between 7 and 8 pm on Friday, July 10 **OR**
 - between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm on Sunday, July 12.
 - You need a package to get bonus points, but you can play without one.
3. The scavenger hunt will begin at 7 pm on Friday, July 10, when the list of things to find will be posted at: www.foothillslutheran.com/blog/2020/06/28/scavenger-hunt/
4. Take photos of the things or locations with as many of your team members as possible in each photo. Be creative! And for bonus points, use the prop items in your scavenger hunt package.
5. The scavenger hunt will end at noon on Sunday, July 26. You must have sent your team's photos to Pastor Eric via a shared Google folder or a flash drive by that time in order for your photos to be tallied. Late submissions will receive a reduction in points.
6. The winner will be announced and the trophy lamp awarded at an event in August. Watch for more info on a date and time!



A Peek Into Our Preschool

It is with mixed emotions that I write my final “A Peek into our Preschool” submission to the Foot Print. There has been joy and sorrow over the last couple months.

It has been my joy to be able to set up weekly half hour virtual preschool sessions one-to-one with each of my students in May. Eighteen out of twenty children participated. The first week in May, Ms. Amy and I did porch visits to drop off a craft for the children to make for their moms for Mothers Day. Also included was their artwork from preschool bulletin boards and their Alphabet Scrapbook that we work on over the course of a school year. Each week online, we would complete another page employing stories, songs, games, devotions, and sometimes just chatting about their feelings during this difficult time. The 4 May sessions were free and then families were asked to pay to participate in June. We added our 19th student and even enrolled a cousin of one of our students to join us for the month of June! Two children wished to have 2 half-hour sessions per week! The one-to-one format allowed me to better address the needs of each child. For example, one of our students has a diagnosis of non-verbal ASD and another is already reading at a grade 1 level. Needless to say, their sessions do not look the same. For example, the latter child reads me a passage from her older brother’s Children’s Bible that was gifted to him when he graduated from our preschool several years ago.

Our PPC decided to close our preschool for the 2020/2021 school year on May 25. Three days later the government gave permission for preschools to open June 1 with restricted class size. Public playgrounds opened as well. I surveyed our families. The vast majority preferred to pay for the virtual preschool sessions instead of sending their child to a classroom in June. Some were concerned with potential exposure to the virus and others wished to wait until September for logistical reasons when older children will be returning to class. The next week, the government gave permission for preschools to offer full class size. I received several enquiries from other families wishing to register for September. Regular weekly sanitizing which has been mandatory for over a decade was augmented to include measures that we added in January. These would stay in place in addition to a few more precautions that already fit our space such as the preschool

having its own entrance. Ms. Amy and I are especially concerned for children that qualify for early intervention next year that had registered with us for September. Without being registered in a preschool, they will not receive therapy funding. Some preschools in the NW have lost their space for the fall because of covid-19 so it may be difficult for families to find another program. Our early intervention provider was disappointed we would not be open since we could accommodate children attending 4 mornings or 3 longer mornings which would be the new requirement for therapy, while some of the other preschools they work with cannot.



Our school year closed with a graduation parade where children moving on to kindergarten received a children’s Bible and those that would be requiring another year of preschool received an Arch book. Parents received their tax receipts. Families decorated their cars with balloons, posters, ribbons, etc. This photo is of one of our students who wanted to give her teachers a small gift to place on a table outside the preschool door where the student gift bags lined up. Families were very appreciative that their teachers cared about them through this difficult time. The children also heard that God loves them and that God loves EVERYONE in our weekly tutoring sessions. Given what we see on the news, this message is so important in our world at this time.

I will be working on filming the 10 lessons for VBS on YouTube for preschool/kindergarten children and putting together individual craft materials bag for pick up for each of the 23 in that class registered so far. Following that, I will be winding up some clerical pieces with the preschool. July 30 will be my last day.

It is sad to say “good-bye” after teaching at FLCP for the past 17 years. I began teaching preschool 3 mornings per week and am considering looking for something part time again. It has been a blessing to be able to share God’s love with children and families in our community. It has been a blessing to be able to work alongside my daughter for the last 7 years. It has been a blessing being able to teach all the children in a family as children grow up. It has been a blessing identifying, working with, and integrating children that would benefit from early intervention. It has been a blessing getting to know families from many cultures whose children are growing up with two or three languages. It has been a blessing to be able

A Peek Into Our Preschool

Cont'd from page 10 . . .

to work with each child as the unique person God made them to be and nurture them as they grow and learn, especially as our world does not always value a young child as an actual person yet.

I plan to continue to offer half-hour virtual preschool sessions to children who would have returned in fall as a private tutor if families would like to continue. Amy will help me set up a website so I may include others if there is interest. Perhaps I could even offer some sort of virtual Sunday School for children in isolated areas. Amy and I are both considering various options moving forward. Although neither of us knows what lies ahead, God does. Please keep us, the children, and their families in your prayers. With all that is going on in our world at the present time, kindness, caring, and the message of God's love is so important. As one father so graciously stated, "You are of great value to the community and humanity, please keep up the great work."

Human Care Ministries

The year of 2019 did not have a Director of Human Care Ministries to lead it, but there were people who stayed in touch with the congregation. A huge thank you to Elfrieda Heiden and Elfie Stewart who still sent out grief books and cards. Also to Stacey Bablitz who was always there for whomever needed assistance. As assistance was needed, there were always helpers who would come forward.

As the new chair of the Board of Human Care Ministries, I look forward to ramping up all our activities that we have had to put aside during this trying time. Again, if anyone should need assistance, please don't hesitate to call me or send me an email.

A BIG thank you to Mark Kihn who has been assembling and delivering baskets for Mother's Day and Father's Day. His tireless enthusiasm to help when needed is a blessing to us all, and I can't thank him enough for what he does.

As we are able to gather again, watch for more news about an upcoming Helping Hands Kitchen Saturday in October. If you feel that your heart wants to help us serve others, please let me know as we ramp up our activities again.

Christine Heumann

Board of Elders

These are strange, different, and difficult times for the church and its members. Since mid-March, until the writing of this report, we have been in isolation and "social distancing" due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As a church family this can be a very difficult time as we cannot physically worship together. The elders hope and pray that our members have been maintaining their relationship with our Lord by joining in our worship services on-line through Facebook on Sunday morning at 10:15 and/or Wednesday evening at 6:30. These services can be streamed live or accessed anytime from our website by clicking on the "videos" link. The elders have been diligently attempting to contact each member on the elders' Shepherding list to touch base and inquire as to any concerns or needs that you may have during these days. The elders have been meeting regularly via Zoom to maintain their duties as a board.

The Board of Elders would like to thank Phil Lemke for his leadership and initiatives as chair of the board in 2019 and the first couple of months of 2020. Phil has a deep-rooted passion for the spiritual health and growth of the congregation. A significant initiative that he introduced, and consistently monitored, was the contact that each elder is to make with every communicate member on the elders' Shepherding List. He is also very concerned with the spiritual well-being of those communicate members who do not attend worship on a regular basis. Another initiative that Phil proposed to the elders, and is a work in progress, is to contact past confirmands and inquire about their "walk with the Lord" and encourage them back to FLC if they have lapsed in their attendance. He also ensured that the issue of the "Designated funds" continued to move forward in a timely manner. Phil stepped down from the chair position at the end of February.

Submitted in His service,
Lorne Rosenau (chair)



"After Ted closes with prayer, there will be a brief meeting in the parking lot to determine what, if anything, was actually decided in this meeting."