



Dear Friends in Christ, our living Lord:

Normally the beginning of September holds a great deal of promise for us. New classes begin. Sunday School children move up a grade; Confirmation classes begin. Groups like the choir meet again, and some of the fellowship activities that have taken a 'vacation' for the summer start up once again.

We come together in the fall and catch up on the things that our brothers and sisters have been doing over the summer, especially those who have been travelling. We enjoy a cup of coffee together and rejoice in the family we are in Christ.

Sadly, those things aren't happening this year. Yes, we've begun to hold classes, although with a very different approach that provides the physical distancing we need. We are seeing the faces of God's people again—well, their eyes at least. People are trying to 'catch up', although it is hard with the social distancing and the fact that we are asking people not to gather in groups in the building. It seems so un-Lutheran to set aside our coffee hour, and we miss that cup of coffee. We also miss the joy of singing together with the gusto that rightfully belong to the praise of our God.

The one, unchanging truth is that our God is always with us; His love for us has not changed. He, who created the world and all that is in it is still the God who works for the sake of His dear people. At a funeral last week, I mentioned an old gospel song, "His Eye is on the Sparrow". That hymn, written by Civilla D. Martin (who was born in Nova Scotia, by the way) reminds us that in all that happens; in all we face; in all the good and bad of life, we have one constant Friend. We have the One who always watches over us. Read the words of Jesus in Matthew 6, which is the basis of the thoughts in this hymn. What does Jesus say? He says: "Don't worry. I know your needs. I am caring for you. You are precious to me". That gives us confidence and courage to face each day.

Yes, things are different. We're still struggling to make sense of everything. We don't have the freedoms of the past, nor the confidence that we can do all that we want to do. We are guarded and cautious, as is fitting and proper. We do all we can do, but we come back to the one thing that makes the difference: the Lord of Glory, Might and Power continues to be with His people. He will deliver us from the cares of this world into the joy of all that He has prepared for us. Until then, He will keep us under His watchful eye.

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As Civilla D. Martin wrote:

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,

when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Refrain: I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy)

I sing because I'm free, (I'm free)

for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled," his tender word I hear,

and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;

though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

[Refrain]

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,

when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,

I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;

his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

[Refrain]

Civilla D. Martin

God bless you as you remember this wonderful truth, dear people loved by God!

In His Service,



AS OUR IN-PERSON WORSHIP CONTINUES, so does our schedule of Holy Communion. While there are many who are taking advantage of this opportunity in worship, there are many others who may not be able to be in worship for health and safety reasons. We don't want to keep you from the Sacrament, and invite you to ask the pastors for an opportunity for private communion. We will arrange these as needed after the service on Sunday, from 11:30 - 12:30, with these private communions being held either in the sanctuary or the Fireside Room. Contact the office or the pastors to arrange this.

PASTORAL VISITS IN THE HOSPITAL: At the beginning of August, the pastors can again make hospital visits, but only under certain conditions. According to the Alberta Health Service guidelines:

A community faith/religious leader may meet with a patient/ family in hospital if requested by the patient, or their Designated Family/ Support Person. These visits must be booked with the unit. These individuals must be screened upon entry to the building, follow all AHS PPE protocols, practice physical distancing and hand hygiene on entry and exit of the facility.

If you are hospitalized and desire a visit, you or your designated family visitor must arrange for that visit with the pastor and the hospital unit. We do seek to care for you and encourage you through prayer and the Word. Please let us know if we can serve you in this way.

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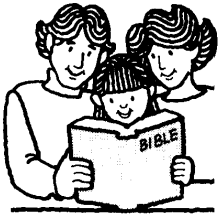
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Children & Family Ministry

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

School has started again, and our prayer is that your children are settling in well. We have been lifting parents, children and teachers up in prayer, that God would watch over all 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 have resumed our regular curriculum, beginning a high level view of the New Testament. All of our families were contacted by early September

to discuss your thoughts on Sunday School. Some of you have chosen to return to in-person Sunday School, and some of you have opted for Sunday School at home. We will do our best to support both approaches!

Thank you to our teachers, Mrs. Colhoun and Mrs. Morine working with our Preschool to Grade 1 students, and Mrs. Stene and Mrs. Bode working with our Grades 2-5 students.

Our upcoming lessons include:

Sep 20	Claimed and Tested (The Baptism and Temptation)	Luke 3:15-22; 4:1-13
Sep 27	Fishers Follow (Jesus Calls His Disciples)	Luke 5:1-11
Oct 04	The Wine Sign (A Wedding at Cana)	John 2:1-11
Oct 11	Mountain Message (Jesus Preaches on a Mount)	Matthew 6:25-34
Oct 18	A Weather Wonder (Jesus Calms a Storm)	Matthew 6:25-34
Oct 25	A Life Restored (Jairus’ Daughter)	Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

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

Our Tuesday evening Bible study has continued to meet on Zoom through the summer. We are working through a resource entitled *“Jesus: A Study on the Words of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John”*. We will continue meeting, on Zoom for now. If you’d like to join us, please contact Deaconess Miriam.

Our Wednesday afternoon study took a break for the summer, but will resume meeting on September 30th. We’ll be doing a study that takes an in-depth look at the readings for the previous Sunday. Those who want to meet in person are welcome to join us at the church Wednesdays at 1:30 pm for a physically distanced time together. Those who prefer to Zoom in will also be welcome. Contact Deaconess Miriam if you are interested in joining us.

Steps of Christian Growth

Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17).
Rejoice in the Lord alway (Phil. 4:4).
Add to your faith virtue (2 Peter 1:5).
Ye have not, because ye ask not (James 4:2).

Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it (John 2:5).
Only fear the LORD, and serve him (1 Sam. 12:24).
Remember the words of the Lord Jesus (Acts 20:35).
Keep thyself pure (1 Tim. 5:22).

Go ye into all the world, and preach (Mark 16:15).
In all thy ways acknowledge him (Prov. 3:6).
Vow, and pay unto the LORD (Ps. 76:11).
Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ
 (2 Tim. 2:3).

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Children & Family Ministry

SUMMER VBS - "GOD'S PROMISES FOR ME"

We were in our normal VBS mode and had begun to register families the beginning of March when Covid-19 became part of our reality. The decision was made in early May to change to a "virtual VBS", with pre-recorded video openings and lessons, and prepared crafts that could be picked up prior to the scheduled VBS start of July 13th. Eighty-three children from 45 families were registered by July 13th but because the videos have been available on YouTube, many more have made use of this program.

Each day's lessons focused around an Old Testament promise from God that was fulfilled in His Son, Jesus. The full program can be accessed on the Foothills Lutheran Church YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVYh5wd3h74IHCHWVcHfIHA>.

Thank you to staff and volunteers who worked so hard to put this program together!

- 75 craft packs were distributed to students - crafts were designed and materials prepped by Stacey and McKenna Bablitz, and assembled at the church by Amanda and Derek Kiefer. Playdough for the craft kits was made by Brenda Bode, Christine Heumann and Tobi Stene.
- 45 individual videos were prepared:
 - * Daily openings – Pastor Bode
 - * Craft instructions Grades 1-2 and 3-5 – Stacey and McKenna Bablitz
 - * Bible and Application Lessons
 - * Preschool-Kindergarten (included craft instructions) – Betty Ann Chandler
 - * Grades 1-2 – Deaconess Miriam
 - * Grades 3-6 – Pastor Eric

Videos were uploaded to YouTube by Pastor Eric and made available July 13th.

We pray that the families who participated in our virtual VBS were blessed by their time together in God's Word and comforted by the truth that "all of God's promises are yes in Jesus".

Family Time In Christ

Many passages in Scripture describe God as our Rock. David, after rescue from his enemies, says "*The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer.*" (2 Samuel 22:2). When you hear God described as a rock, what comes to mind? As a fortress? As your deliverer? As we help our children deal with the changes and fears that Covid-19 has brought, help them to remember that the Lord God is with them in these ways.

- Take your children for a walk in the neighbourhood. How many different kinds of rocks can you find? Think of as many words as you can to describe a rock. How is God like a rock? How has He been a rock in your lives this year? Bring some rocks home if you can and decorate them with the Bible passage above.
- Find pictures of fortresses on the internet. Build one with Lego. What is the purpose of a fortress? From what things has God protected you as your fortress? For what do you ask His protection now?
- A deliverer is someone who saves someone from a bad or painful experience, or brings them through it safely. How has the Lord God been your deliverer? From what has He delivered you?

Remember that you can bring all of your fears and needs to your gracious Lord God in prayer. And don't forget to give Him thanks and praise for His work for your good as Rock, Fortress, and Deliverer.

God's blessings to you, dear families!



Video graphing:
Deaconess Miriam Gr 1-2



Video graphing:
Pastor Eric Gr 3-5

Silver Saints

After telephone conversations with some of our members, it was decided it is too risky for us to gather for meetings and socializing at this time.

As soon as it is safe to do so, we will contact everyone by phone and through the church bulletins and Foot Print. It is likely this coronavirus will be impacting us for a long time according to news reports, so we should make a point of contacting one another especially if feeling lonely or if you know someone who may be lonely. If you need phone numbers, call the church office at 403-284-1342 or me, Helen 403-288-5655. Pray that this virus pandemic is soon over and hopefully you enjoy a happy and pleasant fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Duholke

Helping Hands Kitchen

We had planned on doing this in October, but with all the restrictions on being safe, we will not be able to meet in the kitchen to make meals. BUT, there is an alternative – would you be willing to make a few meals and put them in the kitchen freezer? If you would consider doing this, please let me know and I will provide the containers for you. Also let me know what you would like to make so as to keep track of what is coming to the church. We have so many people now in need of everyday things like meals, and I would ask that you prayerfully consider helping people who need our assistance. I thank you for your past contributions and let's make this a successful ministry. There is no time limit to this, and can be brought to the church at any time. Please call me with any questions.

In God's grace we all go forward,

Christine Heumann (403) 710-8347 or christineheumanncg@gmail.com

LWMLC



Foothills LWMLC Society Meetings

Our meetings are resuming on Monday, September 28th. All ladies are welcome!

Because of restrictions due to COVID, our format has changed. There will be no fellowship time before our meeting. We will begin at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall for those who want to gather in person. Masks are mandatory. Bring your own Bible and beverage.

Joining by zoom is also an option. If you would like to participate by zoom, please let me know so you can be included.

We will begin with the Fall Tapestry Bible Study, led by Pastor Bode, followed by a short business meeting. Our focus will be on mission initiatives, at home and abroad. Unfortunately, all fellowship activities are put on hold until restrictions due to COVID have been lifted.

Ways You Can Support

- Saving used eyeglasses for Operation Eyesight.
- Saving used postage stamps for Canadian Bible Society. Stamps are purchased by stamp collectors, with proceeds going toward the purchase of Bibles for inmates in Canadian prisons.
- Knitting items for those in need.
- Phoning shut-ins.
- Staying in touch with others through webinars: (1) "God's Blessings in a Time of Pandemic", led by Pastor Jonathan Kraemer, LWMLC ABC District Pastoral Counsellor on Saturday, October 17, at 10:00 a.m. MDT. Register by Tuesday, October 13, 2020 by email: linda.horton2@shaw.ca. (2) On November 7, Rev. Dr. David Somers, LCC's Missionary-at-Large, French ministries in Quebec, will update us on the firsthand work our mites are doing in that ministry. When available, details will be printed in Foothills Sunday bulletin.
- Giving donations to LWMLC through your offerings.

Please contact me if you have any questions or ideas you would like to share.

God's blessings,

Cheryl Lemke

(Foothills LWMLC Society, president)

Board of Elders

The Board of Elders acknowledges Pastor Eric's five years in the ministry and service to our Lord; the anniversary was August 30. We thank Pastor Eric for the work he does as Associate Pastor. We have seen Eric grow as a young Pastor who answered his first call from God to serve our congregation. We have repeatedly observed the passion Pastor Eric has for serving his Lord by spreading the gospel in the delivery of the Word through his sermons and bible studies. His ministry touches many individuals, of all ages, within our congregation, our community, and across Canada. Pastor Eric is an integral part of the planning, coordinating, and implementing of our VBS. The enrolment and participation has grown consistently throughout the past five years. He is actively involved with the youth of the Lutheran church. He is one of the youth leaders at Foothills, co-chair of the Impact (regional) youth gathering committee, is part of the national youth gathering committee, and is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the national youth gathering in 2022. God has blessed Pastor Eric's ministry at the University of Calgary. He has 161 student contacts whom he ministers to through bible study or 1 on 1 conversations. We must also recognise Pastor Eric's ministry through his music. He contributes to our contemporary worship and other services by singing and playing a variety of instruments including guitar, piano, and drums. There are probably others – we'll have to see how God has blessed this one-man band. The life, career, and ministry of a pastor is not a 9 to 5, 5 days a week occupation. Pastor Eric puts in countless hours at meetings, visitations, telephone calls, and personal contacts with Christians and non-Christians fulfilling the call that he answered from God. The tenure of a pastor is also supported by a patient and understanding wife. We also recognise and thank Kayla who has also contributed to Pastor Eric's ministry for the past five years. We are truly blessed to have Pastor Eric as one of our pastors and we thank God for his ministry.

Respectfully submitted in His service,

Lorne Rosenau

Mission of the Month

September: Concordia Lutheran Mission Society

An auxiliary organization within LCC, CLMS works to support various missionary, educational, and social ministry projects in Canada and around the world. They are an independent mission society, but work in partnership with Lutheran Church—Canada, seeking to enhance our efforts to reach out with the Gospel. Your gift helps with this wonderful work!

October: BC Mission Boat

A group of people living on Vancouver Island, had a vision to build a boat in 1999 and travel to remote parts of the BC Coast to share the love of Jesus Christ with people living in remote communities. Between the years 2000 and 2010, they did this by taking teams in a boat to each community. Since that time the BC Mission Boat Society takes teams using various modes of transportation including car, water taxi and ferry to these communities. Various teams from all over Canada and the USA join us throughout the year to offer kid's club, men's and women's bible studies, family games nights, elder breakfasts and spa nights for the people living in the communities we travel to. Our hope is to encourage believers in the communities and share the love of our Saviour to the people.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Praise God that we are able to worship again in person, of course following health dictates. Operation Christmas Child ("OCC") is a go—God willing.

OCC is an outreach ministry of Samaritan's Purse to children living in war, poverty and disaster. The gospel is shared with these children.

Countries receiving shoeboxes are Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Gambia, Senegal, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone.

Boxes and brochures will be available at the beginning of October. If you would like assistance in getting, returning or filling a box, please call me. If you would like to do your box online go to packabox.ca You can also make a financial donation.

Call Elke at 403-295-0271. Also note that boxes will be taken to Samaritan's Purse in November, Further details will follow.

Elke Bittmann

Backyard/front porch concerts become increasingly popular in the city

So you've planned a backyard concert for Labour Day. You've invited 50 people and convinced your son's Jazz Band into playing for free. But the mid-day forecast predicted rain, maybe snow? The temperature has dropped to 5C. Mother Nature would not cooperate. What to do?

Maxine Abraham, an energetic 81-year old widow in NW Calgary, charged ahead anyway. She got a friend to set up a 10' by 20' canopy in case of rain. The band brought shelters. She spaced out her lawn chairs, and encouraged people to bring their own. Her mind was set on a Labour Day event, come what may.

At 4 p.m., "Gin Joint" took to the "stage," which was the edge of a small rise. The audience of 17 settled in with their parkas, toques, and facemasks. This was an end-of-summer garden party in the age of Covid 19.

The drummer and the trombone player wore gloves, and the saxophone player wiped her sniffling nose. One guitar player shoved his hands into his pockets between songs. Was it a concert or a test of resilience?

All that dissipated with the first round of applause after "Midnight in Moscow" led off the concert. Even the clapping action warmed up the audience.

The Band had already done a dozen of these events during the summer on front lawns, front porches, back gardens, and side streets. Frankly, the crowd size was about normal, said John Abraham, a leader of the Jazz ensemble. "We never know what to expect," he added. He plays the tuba and trombone, plus he serves as an occasional soloist. In real life, John works as an urban transportation engineer.

After 12 musical numbers and an hour later, the Band bid farewell with "O When the Saints go Marching in," the crowd scattered and people moved on. The Band still had another concert that afternoon. Most of the crowd went to their vehicles and turned on the heater. A few stayed for Maxine's rhubarb/Saskatoon cake in her warm house. As an extra bonus for guests, she gave a tour of her art gallery on her lower floor.

Maxine's heart was warm though. She was happy for those who came and enjoyed the performance, and her beautiful flowery yard. "It's hard to get together these days, and out-doors is still the safest," she commented. Her invitees included neighbors, friends, her Lutheran Church choir, and family. "We'll try this again, but on a warmer day," she promised.

She did not charge any admission, but some attendees offered money, and so Maxine gathered it for her church's Organ Fund. Soon she had cash and pledges for more than \$100. "That was an unexpected bonus," she exclaimed.

By 8 p.m., the last friend left and there was a slight dusting of snow on Maxine's back steps. The rain held off – and so did the snow. And nobody in the crowd offered a discouraging word.

-- By Mark Kihn, Calgary



The Story of the Praying Hands

For years people have admired the art masterpiece known as "The Praying Hands." Behind this work of art is a fascinating story of love and sacrifice.

In the late fifteenth century two struggling young art students, Albrecht Dürer and Franz Knigstein, worked as laborers to earn money for their art studies. But the work was long and hard and it left them little time to study art.

Finally they agreed to draw lots and let the loser support them both while the winner continued to study. Albrecht won, but he agreed to support Franz after achieving success so his friend could finish his studies.

After becoming successful, Albrecht sought out Franz to keep his bargain. But he soon discovered the enormous sacrifice his friend had made. As Franz had worked at hard labor, his fingers had become twisted and stiff. His long, slender fingers and sensitive hands had been ruined for life. He could no longer manage the delicate brush strokes so necessary for executing fine paintings. But in spite of the price he had paid, Franz was not bitter. He was happy that his friend Albrecht had attained success.

One day Albrecht saw his loyal friend kneeling, his rough hands entwined in silent prayer. Albrecht quickly sketched the hands, later using the rough sketch to create his masterpiece known as "The Praying Hands."