



Dear Friends in Christ, our living Lord:

“So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12, ESV)

Back when I was in seminary, one of my courses required us to read a book entitled, *Make Your Illness Count*. It was written by a hospital chaplain who acknowledges that none of us like illness, but that God can work through our illnesses to teach us and to lead us into a closer relationship with Him, as we understand His guiding hand at work in all things in our lives.

With every changing news report about COVID people become more frustrated, disappointed and disillusioned. When is this going to end? Why is this happening? And, of course the big one: where are you in all this, God?

From various things happening in the congregations of our circuit, our region and our synod, it is easy to see how the devil has been using this difficult time for his own evil ends. He is leading and tempting us into the anger, the disappointment and the disregard for one another that makes him so pleased with himself.

Thankfully, we know that even as the devil works, our God is also at work and has delivered us from the devil. That is what got me thinking about that book from seminary, so that we ask, “what will you have us learn, Lord, through all of this?”

I see several ways in which God uses this to teach us:

God is teaching us patience. We all know the plans that we have for our lives, and yet so many of them were / have been put on hold. We have learned to stand in lines that separate us when we can’t be crowded in to certain spaces. More than that, I see God teaching us to be patient with one another. We may need patience because of the different ways we feel about COVID and the protocols and the constant changes. We need patience with one another, because it will take time for us to get back into the routine of our work together and time to return to the many things that we now realize we took for granted in the church. God, teach us that patience!

God is teaching us compassion. Compassion leads us to care for the needs of others. It leads us to pray for those who are ill. It moves us to reach out to that person who is isolated or to help someone get their groceries. Compassion leads us to do all that we can to protect the health and well-being of the people around us, the people in our church family, and even the people at the mall. Scripture says: *“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”* (Galatians 6:2, ESV) This is our call to compassion.

Foothills Lutheran Church

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God is teaching us to trust. So many things have been taken out of our control. We may feel that we are being treated unfairly because of restrictions. Perhaps we wonder what will happen to our job with all the ups and downs of openings and closings. What about those who have been sick, or who truly fear that they are going to contract COVID? We're fearful of vaccines; we are fearful of those who haven't had their vaccinations. We worry about what the church is going to be like if and when all this is over. In all our fears, doubts and uncertainties, we can trust in God. One Scripture passage I keep going back to in these days is from Psalm 46: ***"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah***" (Psalm 46:10–11, ESV) We are so blessed because the Lord is with us. We can trust in Him, for He will reveal His purpose and grace among us. We know that He has already worked all things for our good. We know all that is ours through Jesus Christ. That leads us to the confidence Paul expressed: ***"But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies."*** (2 Corinthians 4:7–10, ESV)

It is never easy to make the trials of our life count for something good. It isn't always easy to see God's plans and purposes in the midst of those trials. Yes, Satan is going to work—and work hard. But Satan is beaten. He is defeated because your Saviour went into battle for you. His death and His resurrection declare that we are redeemed; we are blessed; we are the winners.

We may be tired and frustrated and disillusioned. We may wonder what lies ahead. I can't tell you that, but I am sure of this: our God will work to bless us, to teach us and to guide us into the joyful hope that comes as we trust in Him.

In His Service,



President's Report

Over the period with the many Covid restrictions, Brenda Bode faithfully made sure we had a picture and sound for on-line streaming. Thank her when you see her. Thanks go out to the many volunteers who helped to keep our worship on Sundays and Wednesdays to continue – the ushers, the cantors, the Covid committee, members of the altar guild, and our caretaker, Brian Vincent who kept the church clean and disinfected.

Last April the church was inspected by our insurance provider – Ecclesiastical Insurance. They made specific recommendations for changes to ensure the safety of our members. Over the summer work was done on the parking lots and sidewalks to reduce the chance of slipping in the parking lot in winter and tripping on sidewalks going to the SW and W entrances of the church. Soon work will be completed on installing windows on doors to a couple of our Sunday School classrooms and replacing old windows on the student residence. Later in the summer we hope to have repairs done to our siding, some gutters, and roofing issues. All of these repairs will keep our church property in good shape for the future.

On September 1 the PPC is meeting to discuss the future of our preschool. Also, recommendations by Metrix (an accounting firm that specializes in non profit organizations such as our church) will be made regarding our Designated funds and our accounting procedures. The Oromo Lutherans have made a request to resume worship services at Foothills. Progress on these items will be brought forward to the next Voter's Meeting – Sunday, September 19th at 12:00 pm.

Lastly, I would like to personally invite many of our members back to worship in person at Foothills. You may wear a mask if you wish to keep safe (many do). You should be able to socially distance as there are many half empty pews. We are singing hymns again! We still have certain protocols in place to protect the worshipers during communion. We are working on other changes made to respect the restrictions that the province has put in place for the safety of all. We all want to get back to the normal we once knew and have gained an appreciation for.

Again, join us in worshipping our God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit and share with us in hearing and reflecting on God's Word.

Tim Roth - President

Children & Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes!" Psalm 119:11-12

School has started again, and our prayer is that your children are settling in well. Sunday School will begin on September 12th, and we look forward to having our children back again in with us. We do, however, recognize the anxiety that our currently rising Covid-19 case numbers may be causing.

Our teachers met on September 2nd, and decided that we would offer both an online Sunday School opening and materials for those who prefer to continue teaching at home, as well as a "one-room" option for those who would like to attend in person. Two teachers will lead class for all ages in one of our larger spaces, rooms 2-3. During this time, openings will be done in the classroom. **To allow our teachers to plan well, we are asking that you let us know by Friday noon if your children will be attending the following Sunday.** This approach will be re-evaluated in October as we look at attendance and determine whether we should divide the children into more classes.

For those of you who plan to continue teaching at home for the time being, a Zoom link will be sent out each week with an invitation to join in a time together at 9:00 on Sunday mornings.

The Board of Christian Education and our Covid Committee have made the decision to follow the Calgary Board of Education guidelines on masking, so teachers and students will be required to mask during Sunday School. Please screen your children for symptoms at home as you would for school and keep them at home if they are not well. We ask that you come in the lower west doors, where sanitizer will be available on your entry.

Please contact Deaconess Miriam if you have questions about any of these approaches.



Parents, we commend you for embracing the task of teaching your children through the ups and downs of the pandemic, and we are eager to support you in that task. You've developed the habit of talking about God's Word at home, spending time in it together, and encouraging your children in their study of it. God bless you as you continue to grow together. Please know

that 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.

Our upcoming lessons include:

Sep 19	A Basket of Hope (Moses is Born)	Exodus 1:1-2:10
Sep 26	Signs of the True God (Moses and the Plagues)	Exodus 7
Oct 03	The Passover Promise (The Passover)	Exodus 12:1-32
Oct 10	Food from Heaven (God Cares for His People)	Exodus 16
Oct 17	Waterworks Season Thanksgiving (Water from the Rock)	Exodus 17:1-7
Oct 24	The Idle Idol (The Golden Calf)	Exodus 31:18-32:35
Oct 31	A Tent for God (God with His People)	Exodus 25:1-19; 40:1-8, 34-38

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

During the past year, both our Tuesday and Wednesday Ladies' studies have been meeting on Zoom for the most part. In the summer our Wednesday study began meeting in person. As with all of our studies we will determine with participants whether they prefer to meet in person or on Zoom, and will organize accordingly.

Our Tuesday evening group meets at 7:30 pm and is looking at a study on Philippians, entitled "JOY".

Our Wednesday afternoon study meets Wednesdays at 1:15 pm for an in-depth study of the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

Both studies are currently meeting on Zoom. New members are always welcome! Please contact Deaconess Miriam for more information or to join us.

VBS Goes Online Again at FLC

We started the year believing that Vacation Bible School could be in person for 2021. Pastor Eric and Deaconess Miriam got to work on our home-grown curriculum, “Jesus, Our Good Shepherd”, and began contacting prospective volunteers and attendees. When it became apparent that a third wave of Covid-19 was upon us in May, we made the decision to move VBS online once again.

This year, we knew better what to do, and with the help of many willing hearts, hands and voices were able to provide openings, Bible and application lessons as well as crafts at three levels, and music to go with each of five days. The program was based on Psalm 23, with companion Bible Lessons for each section of the Psalm. By the end of the week, if they did their memory work, the children would have memorized the whole of Psalm 23.

Sixty-seven children from 40 families registered and received craft packs. Families used the YouTube videos at times that suited them – some finishing the program in a week, some doing them one day a week through the summer. One parent sent an e-mail: “Loving the flexibility of online videos. We’re having fun!”

Thank you to all who helped, and all who supported us with your prayers. We all miss in-person VBS, and God willing we’ll be back at it next year!

Human Care Ministry

The Helping Hands Kitchen cooking day is slated for Saturday, October 16th. You will see the sign-up sheets on the HCM board. There are SO many ways to participate – volunteer some time, some items needed to make the meals, monetary donations to buy fresh meat, or simply to pray that the meals we deliver will be a blessing to them. Watch Sunday bulletins for more information.

The COVID-19 Committee is still aware of the rising cases and are looking at the guidelines for our in-person Sunday School and Confirmation classes. We are liaising with Miriam regarding the City’s and AHS’s recommendations and how they might apply to us. **A HUGE thank you to Brian Vincent and his crew of volunteers** who clean and sanitize our whole church after services. We are all safe, in part, because of their diligence.

Family Time in Christ

It’s nearly September, and families are preparing for the return to school. Schedules will change again, and extra-curricular activities will become part of many families’ daily and weekly routines. Don’t let busy schedules push out your time together in Christ. Bedtime presents a wonderful opportunity for a faith conversation. Gather the family together at the earliest bedtime, and share highs and lows of the day with each other. Talk about the blessings and joys of the day, and the frustrations and concerns. Then pray with and for each other, taking your cues from what has been shared. As your children get older, the time of day you choose to do this sharing might change, but you will notice that the depth of what is shared will increase, and so will your bond of love in Christ!

Faith at Home

Hopefully, most of our members are aware of this program we offer at Foothills. But it much more than a program. It is what God wants for families! God told His people: *And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.* (Deuteronomy 6:6-9 - ESV)

As a congregation we are encouraging the families of our congregation to adopt a Faith-at-Home lifestyle, where parents claim their God-given role as primary faith-teachers of their children. There are two sessions offered this month. “My Bible”, happens in two parts, with parents presenting Bibles to their children during the services on Sunday, September 12th, with a time together for parents and children after worship. “My Church” will be presented on Sunday, September 25th in the sanctuary during Sunday School.

Youth Event News

Youth group, or LYF (Lutheran Youth @ Foothills), is for youth in grades 7 to 12, and friends are welcome! We usually meet every other Friday from 7 to 10 pm, although sometimes the dates and times change slightly depending on the event or to avoid long weekends. We also meet every Sunday during the school year at 9 am for Bible study (except for long weekends and the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's). If you have suggestions for study topics, let one of the youth leaders know!

Friday, September 10: IMPACT...but shorter

Since we weren't able to have an in-person youth gathering, IMPACT will be online! We're gathering at the church from 7 to 10 pm to participate in the livestream, and please bring a device to play Kahoot on. If you aren't able to be there in person, you can join the Zoom from wherever you are, or watch the sessions on YouTube later, so let us know if you'd like to do that instead.

Sunday, September 26: Family Slo-pitch Game

We'll meet at a diamond on Sunday afternoon for a fun game - watch for details on a time and location.

Friday, October 15: Calgary Farmyard Corn Maze

We'll meet at the church at 6 pm and leave by 6:15 to go to the corn maze south of Calgary. Bring a flashlight and dress for the weather, and pickup will be back at the church at 10. Visit www.calgaryfarmyard.com to buy your tickets ahead of time for \$18.95 plus GST per person, or buy them at the gate for \$22.95 plus GST. Please RSVP so we can arrange transportation!

Friday, October 22: Games & Study at the Church

We'll be at the church from 7 to 10 pm for games and a study on ways to engage with God's Word when you're not at the church, and we'll be giving everyone devotional resources to take home and use. Games might be outside if the weather isn't terrible, so dress warmly, and bring a water bottle and a snack.

Friday, November 5: Laser Tag

Our plan is to go play laser tag, so watch for details on cost and timing.

Save the dates!



Save November 19 and December 3 and 17, and watch for more info in the next Foot Print and the bulletin.

The National Youth Gathering in Winnipeg will be **July 15-19, 2022**, and Pastor Eric will be the main speaker! We'll be having an info meeting for parents and youth after the worship service on **Sunday, December 5**. You can also follow the NYG on Instagram at @lcc_nyg to keep up to date on the news.

*Two little babies, oh the joy!
Imagine that, a girl and a boy!*

A baby shower was held for Wesley and Wren Moffett on Saturday, August 21st in the back yard of the parsonage. Individually wrapped lemon filled cream puffs and enormous cookies were enjoyed while we watched the twins and visited. Trying to guess the top boy and girl names over the past 40 years and playing a baby item version of the Price is Right came with lots of laughs being shared. Many thanks to the generosity of members of the congregation, Wesley and Wren received car seats, a rocker, baby gates, books and toys for them to enjoy as they grow.



The Moffett Family



Wren in her rocker

Board of Elders

The summer months are usually a time when people rest and relax and typically get away for a holiday. As Covid continues we continue to experience nothing that is “usual” or “typical”. In fact this past summer has been extremely atypical. The record breaking heat wave of the last week of June, the devastating forest fires in BC with the loss of property, the lingering smoke in Calgary, the drought on the prairies, and the fourth wave of Covid; you might ask “what is this world coming to?” A common descriptive is “apocalyptic”. “Where is God in all of this?” As the Board of Elders is concerned with the spiritual well-being of each individual in our congregation let us be reassured, that from the days of creation when God put the earth in motion, He is always in control. It is stated in Job 37:15 “Do you know how God controls the clouds and makes the lightning flash?” We are reminded in Hebrews that “our God will never leave us nor forsake us.” Our pastors have reassured us many times that “we will get through this.”

The elders would like to remind our members that there is no limit on attendance at our Sunday morning or Wednesday evening services. When you are ready and feel safe to attend we welcome you back with open arms. Masks are optional and social distancing, where possible, is good practice.

A few of the elders have stepped down as their terms of office are up. To that end, we are looking for “a few good men” to be a part of the board. We ask that if you are contacted and asked to let your name stand for an elder position, that you give the opportunity prayerful consideration before making your decision.

We are not sure what this “new year” in the church will look like with the various programs starting up again when safety and restrictions allow. If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns we ask you talk with an elder and have your voice heard. If you would like to be a part of the board please talk to the pastors, deaconess, Tim Roth, or any of the active or past elders.

In His service,

Lorne Rosenau (chairperson)

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.

Operation Christmas Child



As the last days of summer linger on and the cool briskness of fall is just around the corner we look forward to the approach of winter with songs of carols soon to be heard. During the special Christmas season we will join in hearing God’s Word, carols and prayers. But many of us will also put up a tree, bake or shop. But we must also remember many children are living in war poverty and natural disasters. Many have nothing. Operation Christmas Child is asking for help to fill shoeboxes with everything from toys to toothbrushes (no toothpaste). Much more info will follow in upcoming bulletins. Also feel free to talk to me for more information at any time.

Elke Bittmann
403-830-2143

Every child will be offered the booklet “*The Greatest Gift That Tells the Gospel Story*”.

Human Care Ministry

We are still in the process of sending out emails and physical cards for birthdays, anniversaries, grief packages, get well and encouragement cards. Many phone calls and emails have been received thanking the committee for remembering them, either on a birthday or when dealing with health issues.

Two loads of clothes have been delivered to Dress For Success. We are still very busy delivering meals on Thursday mornings for Meals On Wheels. Please prayerfully consider if you might help us in this regard – we only deliver to between 3 and 5 residences – you have no physical contact with the people as we all wear masks and normally leave the meals on a doorknob or in a pack by the door.

The Helping Hands Kitchen cooking day is slated for Saturday October 16th. You will see the sign-up sheets on the HCM board very shortly. There are SO many ways to participate – volunteer some time, some items needed to make the meals, monetary donations to buy fresh meat, or simply to pray that the meals we deliver will be a blessing to them. Watch Sunday bulletins for more information.

The covid-19 committee is still aware of the rising cases and are looking at the guidelines for our in-person Sunday School and Confirmation classes. We are liaising with Deaconess Miriam regarding the City's and AHC's recommendations and how they might apply to us. **A HUGE thank you to Brian Vincent and his crew of volunteers** who clean and sanitize our whole church after services. We are all safe, in part, because of their diligence.

Board of Stewardship

Giving by our members is still behind our target for the year as our offerings to date are approximately \$240,000.00 and our target for the end of August to meet our budget is about \$299,000, which leaves us a \$59,000.00 deficit. Summer is our slowest giving months so falling behind was somewhat expected, however, not to this extent. I ask each of our members to prayerfully give what they can to help us meet our budget and reduce this deficit.

We have also seen a deficit of volunteers within our congregation. It appears fatigue from Covid and an absence from regular church life has left many people not volunteering as we did in the past. This is leaving us short people on committees and limits our ability to reach out to the community with our various human care ministries. Again, please prayerfully consider what time you can give back to God out of thankfulness for all that He has given us.

We thank all of you who have faithfully remained committed to the church and we look forward to a return to a more normal church life as the year progresses.

In Service to our Lord,
Dale Dusterhoft
Chairman, Board of Stewardship

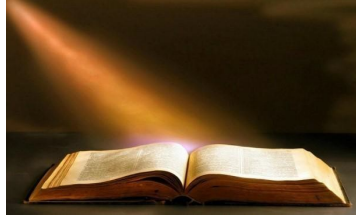
Let us sing a new song to the Lord (soon!!)



Many people are hesitant to join the choir this fall due to the rising number of covid cases. As we did not have enough people indicate that they would come on September 8th, I have postponed choir for now. I will reassess this closer to Christmas about starting again in January 2022. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information. If you would like to join us in January, please contact me.

Christine Heumann
Choir Director

Board of Christian Education Update



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

September is here and the summer months have already passed. It is the time of year where many of us return to a more structured routine and the Board of Christian Education is excited to see some of those weekly study and learning opportunities return to the calendar.

Rally Sunday is coming up on September 12. Sunday School, Youth Bible Study and Confirmation classes will all resume that morning. These opportunities are planned in-person. Adult Bible Study on Sunday morning will resume at a later time. There are also Bible Studies ongoing throughout the week. Some are in-person while others are offered in combination with Zoom. You can contact the office if you are looking for more information or interested in taking part in a mid-week study group.

The library remains locked and unavailable at the present time. We look forward to when we can open its door and invite people to enjoy the resources that are in it. In preparation for that day we are currently looking for someone to fill the role of librarian. This could be one individual or a pair who could share the leading role. Our previous librarian has offered assistance in outlining the work that has been completed and what tasks are needed to be completed. We will also be asking for volunteers to assist the librarian with organizing and re-shelving. If that is something of interest to you, email and let us know. Many hands make light work.

We have many Creation Ministries resources in the Narthex. Some of the resources are being replenished and we expect them to arrive shortly. In addition, you will also find some new response booklets from Concordia Publishing House. They are :

- A Biblical Response to Divorce
- A Biblical Response to Transgenderism
- A Biblical Response to Suicide

Please help yourself to those that are of interest to you. You can email the board if there are other topics you would like to learn about.

education@foothillslutheran.com

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



www.facebook.com/groups/flcchristianed/

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

God bless us all as we continue learning about God and His great love for us.

The Board of Ed is:

Co-Chair – Kayla Moffett and Tobi Stene

Staff Members – Pastor David Bode, Pastor Eric Moffett and Deaconess Miriam Winstanley

Board Members – Michelle Heumann, Trevor Heumann

Golden Ball Tournament—Aug 6-8, 2021



Leading Sunday morning worship are Pastor Eric, Joel Haberstock and Gary Brucker.

LWML-C News

The League Pledge

In fervent gratitude for the Saviour's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption, we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Saviour our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.

Rev. Harry Fricke, Author

Foothills LWML-C Society strives to fulfill the commitments of this pledge at home and abroad and we thank all of you for partnering with us in these endeavours.

LWML-C National Convention

"Christ Lives in Me" July 8 – 10, 2021

We had an uplifting and inspirational virtual convention with our Christian sisters across Canada. As well as worshipping and learning together, we set mission goals for 2021-2024. You can view the selected projects for mission grants at <https://youtu.be/QilKStb41no>

At our monthly society meetings, we begin with Bible Study, led by Pastor Bode, and then have our business meeting. As well as staying apprised of activities on the national and district levels, we discuss ways in which we can support our fellow members of Foothills Lutheran, Foothills Manor, and our local community. We welcome guests and new members! Please consider joining us! We are praying we will be able to meet in person, but will meet virtually if pandemic restrictions require it.

Our **next society meetings** are:

Monday, September 27th and Monday, October 25th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Please check out our bulletin board display by the kitchen entrance!

God's blessings,

Cheryl Lemke, Foothills LWML-C President

Treasurer's Comments

Annual Financial Statements

The December 31, 2020 annual financial statements are available at the church office. If you prefer a PDF copy please request a copy from Carol.

You will notice that we have upgraded the external accountants report to a Review Engagement Report.

PPC felt this was necessary to improve the financial reporting in accordance with Accounting Standards for Not For Profit Organizations.

Another reason for this upgrade was to provide more accurate figures regarding our Designated Funds Project.

Next steps include integrating all of the changes into our accounting system so that we can provide better current financial reports.

Stay tuned for more changes.

Designated Funds Project Committee Update

Our committee presented its report and recommendations to PPC at the September 1, 2021 PPC meeting.

Approved recommendations will be presented at the September 19, 2021 Voters' meeting at which time next steps will be discussed and approved.

Stay tuned.

Robert Heumann CA CFP CPA
Treasurer