



Dear friends in Christ:

It doesn't take long after the Christmas displays are taken down for stores to put up displays for Valentine's Day. This day has become a celebration of love, which has made it a "must celebrate" holiday for the romantics and a day to be despised by the lovelorn.

Sending cards, candy, or flowers to a loved one may be one of the stranger ways to celebrate a day that commends one of the martyrs of the third century. Valentine was a physician and priest living in Rome during the rule of the Emperor Claudius. The commemoration of his death, which occurred in the year 270, became part of the calendar of remembrance in the early church of the West. Tradition suggests that on the day of his execution for his Christian faith, he left a note of encouragement for a child of his jailer, who Valentine is said to have healed from blindness. He signed the note, "from your Valentine", written on an irregularly-shaped piece of paper. This greeting became a pattern for millions of written expressions of love and caring that now are the highlight of Valentine's Day in many nations.

Another common legend states that he defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. That would have made him an enemy of the state.

Our secular customs may have little to do with Valentine himself. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, these customs have more to do with the time of year during which Valentine's Day is observed. It seems that in England and France during the Middle Ages, there was the belief that half-way through the second month of the year, birds began to seek their mates. So, February 14, St. Valentine's Day, began to be seen as having some special meaning for lovers.

Valentine's Day falls between two even greater celebrations of love. The first one, of course, is Christmas, as God's love is revealed for us in that manger in Bethlehem. The second is Lent, and the reminder of all that our dear Saviour endured that we may be forgiven and have life in His Kingdom.

Valentine was a real person. The legends around him may have some truth. Regardless, there is a love that is very true. It is not legend. It is not imagined. It is love evident in the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. It is the love that finds its greatest gift in the loving sacrifice

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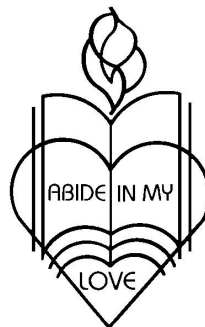
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of Jesus Christ on the cross. It is a love that is for us and for all people. It is a love that rescues us from eternal death in hell—truly a fate worse than death! It is a love that provides for us, cares for us, and assures us that we will have a blessed life with our God in the glory of His heaven.

What makes this love all the more astounding is the fact that we are absolutely unworthy of this love. This truth is summed up so well in the words of one of my favourite Lenten hymns:

*My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?* (LSB 430, st. 1)

I don't deserve the love that Jesus has for me. You don't deserve the love that Jesus has for you. Yet our God loves us! He declares: ***"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."*** (Jeremiah 31:3, ESV) John assures us: ***"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."*** (1 John 3:1, ESV)

We have spoken of the various aspects of the word, "love" in the Bible. When we speak of the love that God has for us we always come back to the word, "agape". This love is unconditional and keeps reaching out to other people even when they do not return this kind of love. Even when we say and do sinful things God's love reaches out to us. No, He doesn't want us to wander or to do those things that are against His will. He wants us to live in His love. He wants the best for us, and that includes keeping us from those things that create hurt, pain and wickedness in our lives. He wants us to know the joy of His love as we face each and every day in the confidence of His love.

People may rejoice in Valentine's celebration of love. Others may feel left out because they don't feel loved or don't love anyone else. Knowing we are loved by God; knowing that we are covered by that loving sacrifice of Christ on the cross, and blessed with the life of love we have in His resurrection, we celebrate the greatest love the world has ever known. No one is excluded from this love. Let that love warm your heart this Valentine's Day and always!

Ruth Hand M. Book

In His love and ours,

Mission of the Month

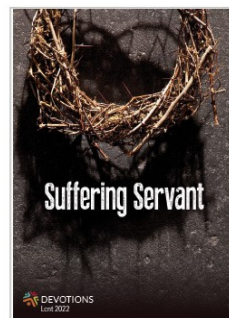
FEBRUARY

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church has been the mission of Lutheran Hour Ministries for many years. Through ministry programs such as The Lutheran Hour, International Ministries, Men's NetWork, MISSION U and others, LHM is calling our communities, our country, and our world back to God. Your gift to this mission of the month helps bring a message of rescue, restoration and renewal in Jesus Christ to millions of people who desperately need to hear it.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

In *Suffering Servant*, we encounter Jesus the Man sent to redeem a lost world. Born in the flesh, Jesus became like us. Taking the form of a Servant, He emptied Himself. Bearing our sins to the cross, He gives us newness of life through His victory over death won for us by His resurrection from the dead.



You can get Lutheran Hour devotions in your email or read online: To subscribe, go to <https://www.lhm.org/newsroom/canada.asp>. Printed copies in regular and large print are available on the Welcome Desk.



Children & Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

“Lord; teach me your statutes!” Psalm 119:11-12

Our Sunday School students, along with parents, confirmation students, youth and even a few of our senior members, undertook another recorded children’s service this past Christmas. Thank you to all who participated in *“The Promised Saviour”*, and to Evan Stene, who did the video editing and put it all together. The video was presented as part of the worship service on December 12th.

Sunday School continues with the option of children either attending in person, or joining us for a Zoom opening and having Sunday School at home with their parents. A weekly e-mail is sent out with materials and a Zoom link for all families, so that families can decide what will work best! **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.**

For those who attend in person, current Alberta Health guidelines are being followed in terms of masking and distancing. 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.

Our teachers continue to meet monthly for Bible Study and planning, and we are grateful for the diligence they show in their own study so that they can teach our youngest members.

Parents, God bless you as you continue to guide your children in their learning of God’s Word!

Our upcoming lessons include:

February 06	The Wise King (Solomon Prays for Wisdom)	1 Kings 3:5-15; Proverbs 3:1-12
February 13	The Unwise Wise King (Solomon Builds the Temple)	1 Kings 6:11-38; 11:1-11
February 20	<i>Family Day Weekend - No Lesson Today</i>	
February 27	Provided for Prophet (God Provides for Elijah)	1 Kings 17
March 06	Consuming Fire (Elijah and the Prophets of Baal)	1 Kings 18:17-40
March 13	A Whirlwind Ascent (Elijah is Taken to Heaven)	2 Kings 2:1-15
March 20	Healing Waters (Naaman and Elisha)	2 Kings 5:1-16
March 27	Unwilling Prophet (Jonah)	Jonah 1-3

LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Our Tuesday and Wednesday Ladies’ studies continue to meet weekly:

Our **Tuesday evening** group meets at 7:30 pm and is now looking at a study from the Lutheran Spirituality series entitled *“Community: We are Not Alone.”* We are currently meeting on Zoom only.

Our second Ladies’ Study now meets **Thursdays at 1:30 pm** for an in-depth study of the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Some of us come in person to meet at the church, and some join in by Zoom.

New members are always welcome! Please contact Deaconess Miriam for more information or to join us.

VBS JESUS OUR LIFEGUARD

Planning is under way for this year’s Vacation Bible School. God willing, we will be in person, running one week only, the week of **July 4th to 8th**. More information will be out in early March, and registration will open mid-March.

We will of course be looking for volunteer teachers, classroom helpers, and crafts and games leaders and helpers. Contact Deaconess Miriam if you have any questions or to volunteer!

Notes from the President

As I am writing to inform you of what has been happening at Foothills, Jason Kenney has announced the beginning of lifting restrictions due to Covid. We will try our best to keep you informed as to the changes that will occur at Foothills for our worship, our Bible studies, and our fellowship opportunities. I am sure that many will still be cautious and concerned that we do not move into these changes too quickly. Masks will still be required for the near future. We will continue to have services put online. Watch for more information to be sent out by the Foothill's COVID Committee to explain the changes as they get implemented.

Now for some other items....

At our last Voter's meeting on January 29, 2022, a motion to close the Foothills Lutheran Preschool was passed. Much thought and discussion was given to this measure, first at the Board of Elders level, then at the Parish Planning Council level and finally at the Voter's meeting. This difficult decision was made as the preschool could not financially sustain itself and would put a burden on the budget that was being presented at the meeting. Also, the need for volunteers to look after some of the administrative tasks required by the preschool would be difficult to fill.

I thank Betty Ann Chandler for her 20 years of faithful service and thank the other staff and volunteers for their service to the mission of the preschool. Betty Ann was always willing to handle this difficult teaching / administrative position; handling a diverse group of students with a variety of learning issues (this would include language issues as well as developmental learning issues).

Sage Properties, who handle the funds previously known as the ABC District Church Extension Fund, are in the process of liquidating the various properties at the Prince of Peace property.

The sale of the bare lands to the north of the school was completed in December at a price of 3.5 million dollars.

The sale of the "Manor" and the "Harbour" has been held up as work to pipe in water from Conrich has not been completed. A potential buyer withdrew their offer to purchase because of this delay.

Prince of Peace school will be taken over by another educational party with a 10-year lease. They wish to purchase the property and they are in a fundraising drive to help make the purchase a reality.

We will be keeping you informed as we learn more.

Regarding the **Representative Action** which our church was a part of; we received information that a settlement had been achieved. We received \$175,803.48 as our portion of that settlement.

We are working on a new lease agreement with the **Oromo Lutheran Church** as we are allowing them to worship at Foothills on Sunday afternoons. We hope to eliminate some of the problems that occurred in the past by their congregation use of our facility.

At the Voter's meeting we approved the following slate of **nominations for Lutheran Church Canada (LCC) representatives** at the Annual convention to be held this coming June in Edmonton:

President: Pastor Laverne Hautz and Pastor Timothy Teuscher
Vice President: Pastor Michael Schutz and Pastor Thomas Kruesel

Regional Pastor: Pastor Robert Mohns and Pastor Darren Siegle

Circuit Counsellor: Pastor David Bode and Pastor David Dressler

Convention Delegate from our congregation: Ralf Hinterleitner and Tim Roth (alternate)

Pastoral Delegate: Pastor Eric Moffett

Much work has been completed to satisfy the stipulations of the **Risk Assessment Report** by Ecclesiastical Insurance.

Currently we have an electrician working at making our electrical issues a thing of the past. Our church will be up to code and safer over the long run by his work.

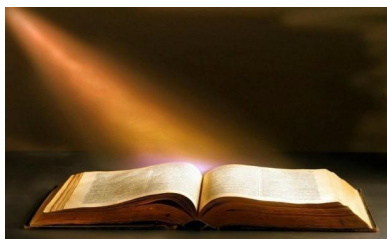
A roofing company has cleaned and repaired the flat section of our roof. They repaired some of the shingles that had come loose on the sanctuary. The gutters and downpipes on the north side (the fellowship hall side of the church) have been replaced and secured. As the weather improves, the roofing repair will eventually be completed.

We recently purchased a fire resistant storage cupboard. This will be a safer way of storing paints and cleaning products at our property.

Ecclesiastical Insurance is pleased with the progress we have made in getting repairs and inspections done.

Watch for announcements from Sarah Knudtson and the Fellowship Committee as they seek ways to offer fellowship opportunities for our members. They have sent out a questionnaire which members can indicate what kind of fellowship they are comfortable in these Covid times.

Board of Christian Education Update



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

The season of Lent is quickly approaching. With that, the annual Lenten Leaders' Bible Study will be held with the focus being on Prayer. We are looking at offering two “cohorts” for this Bible study—in person and online. We will meet on **Monday** evenings beginning on **March 7th**. We'll have more details about our plans in the coming days so look for announcements in the Sunday bulletin.

A decision has been made by the voters for the closure of the preschool. Looking ahead there are a number of tasks which need to be addressed. Some are small while others are more involved and will require some time. The Board of Christian Education is asking our members to consider assisting with this endeavor. There will be a need for someone to lead in the role of Project Manager as well as individuals to help out with the smaller details outlined by the Project Manager. Those who have an interest in helping in any way can email the Board at education@foothillslutheran.com, call in to the office or speak to a staff member.

We are looking forward to the reopening of the library and it does seem as though that may become possible in the coming weeks. When its doors do open, we 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 two people who could share the leading role. We will also be asking for volunteers to assist the librarian with organizing and reshelving. If that is something of interest to you, email and let us know.

Adult Bible Study opportunities continue to be available throughout the week for in-person study. Some of the Bible studies are also combined on Zoom to allow people at home to join in God's Word. Sunday morning Bible Study has resumed beginning at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Please indicate you are planning to attend when you register for Worship Service by simply adding “study” after your first name.

We have many Creation Ministries resources in the Narthex. There are booklets available on a variety of topics including Noah's Flood, Who was Cain's Wife, How Did We Get Our Bible, Is Human Life Special plus many more. Please help yourself to those that are of interest to you.

If there are other topics you would like to learn about, email the Board at education@foothillslutheran.com.



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

FROM CONCORDIA SEMINARY, EDMONTON:

As the Winter Semester 2 unfolds, we thank God for you and your partnership and support. Please continue your prayers and every avenue of support for our seminary mission of “forming servants for Jesus' sake,” who will be “shepherds after [God's] own heart!”

Youth Group (LYF)

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

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 during the break between Christmas and New Year's). Stay connected with youth news by giving Pastor Eric your email address!

~~February 18: Bonus family event - Shine FM & the Hitmen~~

We had been hoping to go a Hitmen game, but we'll try again in December!

February 25: Trampoline Park

Watch for an email with details about where we're going and when to meet. Plan to bring a friend!

March 4: NYG Event

The National Youth Gathering is hosting an event for youth who are going to the NYG in July so that youth groups can meet each other before they get there. The exact start time is TBA - it might be earlier than usual - but we'll be meeting at the church for a devo, visiting, and games with other youth groups across Canada.

March 18: March Madness Games

We'll be at the church from 7 to 10 pm for some crazy games and fun.

Monday, April 4: NYG Registration Deadline

If you're coming with us to the NYG, have your paper forms in to Pastor Eric by this day, and make sure you fill out the online registration form as well. Our final meeting about the NYG will be on June 5 after church.

April 8: Church Family Board Games Night

Join us at the church from 7 to 10 pm for board games! Everyone from the church is invited, and feel free to bring a friend. Please RSVP to Michelle by Monday, April 4.

We have tentative plans for events for the rest of the school year - keep in mind that they're so far away that things might change, but we're doing some not-Friday night events, so **save these dates!** April 29 (7 to 10 at the church, as well as a parents' session with Miriam), the

afternoon of Sunday, May 15 (photo scavenger hunt), May 27 (an overnighter), and during the day on June 4 (paintball). Our final event of the school year will be games at the church from 7 to 10 on June 24, and those who are just finishing up grade 6 are invited as well.

The annual slo-pitch tournament will be August 5 to 7, 2022, in Revelstoke, BC!

Mission of the Month

MARCH

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

The 12th LCC NYG will be July 15-19, 2022, in Winnipeg, and the theme is "IN NOT OF," based on Philippians 3:20. The NYG's mission statement is: "Providing opportunities for Lutheran youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ," which is accomplished by providing opportunities for youth, leaders, and volunteers to join in corporate worship, study God's Word, be equipped through large and small group sessions, reach out to the community through servant events, and engage in fellowship and fun. For more info about the NYG, visit www.lccnyg.ca.

The Foothills youth group is well provided for; the \$495 registration fee and travel costs have been taken care of through fundraising and donations for all our youth. However, the registration fee has been \$495 since 2007, even though it actually costs closer to \$700 per person, and that difference is subsidized by donations to the NYG budget, which is managed through Synod office. This funding helps all the youth groups in the Synod be able to attend.

You can donate by marking your offering envelope for "the Synod NYG fund".

To donate directly to Synod office with a credit card, go to <https://lccnyg.ca/support-the-nyg/> and click on "Donate via the Lutheran Church-Canada website," or mail a cheque to Lutheran Church-Canada with "NYG donation" on the memo line.

If you have questions about the NYG, Michelle Heumann and Pastor Eric are on the planning committee!

Board of Stewardship

FEBRUARY IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH!

Stewardship is about giving of our time, talents and treasures to God out of thankfulness for all He has done for us. Even though 2021 was a very difficult year, we have still been blessed with many gifts from our Lord. The most important of these gifts has not changed in the past year. It is the gift of salvation and eternal life through our belief that Christ died to save us. There are other gifts as well. We still live in one of the most affluent countries in the world that allows us the freedom to worship our Lord. We have excellent health care and health care workers who have been so important in preventing loss of life during the Covid crisis. When we examine our lives, we have many blessings to be thankful for and it is out of this thankfulness that we should cheerfully give back to the Lord of our time, talents and treasures.

We have the time as the Lord has blessed each of us with 24 hours of it every day. We should give some of this time back to God every day in Christian service to Him and others, in prayer, personal devotion, worship and Bible study. God has also blessed each of us with gifts and talents and we should willingly look to how we can use our gifts in His church and in our daily lives to further His mission of bringing all people to know Christ. We have also been blessed with wealth and treasures. Our jobs and wealth are blessings from our Lord, and we should cheerfully give our treasures to God. For as God has told us in 2 Corinthians 9:7 *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

In February we will be focusing on Stewardship and reminding each of us of our duty to give back of our time, talents and treasures. You will be seeing information throughout the month that is focused on stewardship and we ask each member to personally examine how you can give back to your Lord. At the end of the month we will ask all members to fill out a Time and Talents Questionnaire which will help us to use the talents of our members in the various volunteer opportunities and roles in the congregation.

I ask each of you to also examine what you can give of your treasures. We have set our 2022 offerings goal at \$431,000.00 which is a 1.7% increase in giving over 2021 levels which I believe, is very attainable. Even with this increase we will fall short of our expenses and will have to borrow from our savings this upcoming year to keep bal-

ance our budget. We are willing to do this as we have significant savings to draw upon and due to the unique situation we are in and recognizing that our members are under financial strain due to the Covid situation. We don't, however, want to be in the habit of using our savings every year to meet our commitment so continue to ask each of you to prayerfully examine if you can increase your offerings in 2021 by at least 2%. This would help our situation.

Please take the time in February to read the various stewardship information we will be providing, to fill out the Time and Treasures Questionnaire and to personally reflect on the gifts God has given you and how you can give those gifts back to Him out of thankfulness for all He has given you.

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

Kids Say the Darnedest Things!

After church one Sunday, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided I'm going to be a minister when I grow up."

"That's okay with us," the mother said, "But what made you decide to be a minister?"

"Well," the boy replied, "I'll have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit still and listen."



On Ash Wednesday, members at Kilbourne (Ohio) United Methodist Church were coming forward for the imposition of ashes on their foreheads. Two-year-old Brenna Wagoner, upset that her mother was not taking her to the altar, was overheard exclaiming: "But I want to get a tattoo just like Daddy's!"



The old pastor made it a practice to visit the parish school one day a week. He walked into the 4th grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came up with about 40 names. He jokingly told them that in his day students knew the names of all the states. One lad raised his hand and said, "Yes, but in those days there were only 13."

Family Time in Christ

FAMILY PRAYER WALK

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found... Psalm 32:6

Lent is approaching – a time for prayer. Active families might want to make their prayers active too. As the weather begins to warm up, and we spend more time outdoors, take the opportunity for a walk spent in prayer. Walk in your neighbourhood, or go somewhere special, but before you go, talk about what you will see, and the prayers you can pray for yourselves and others while in motion.

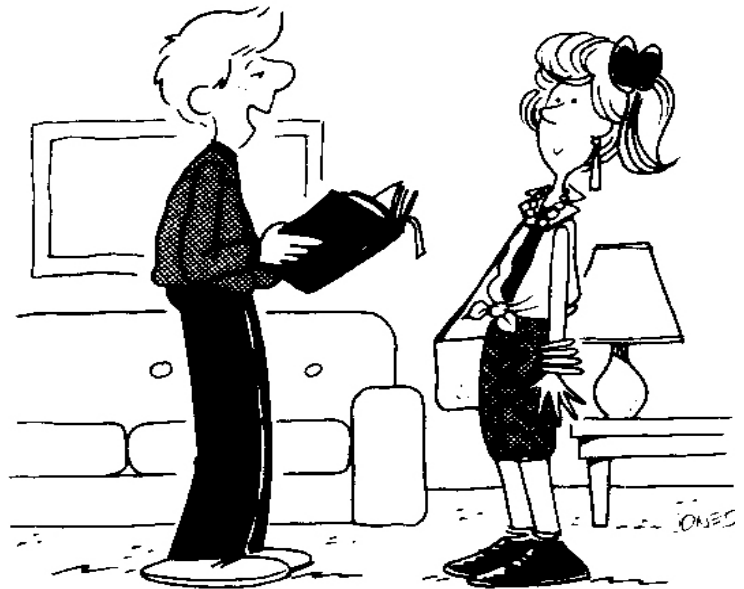
Pray for your neighbours you know and their families. Lift up to God their circumstances – work, school, illness, fears, family. Pray for the neighbours you don't know, that they would know God's love in Jesus, their Saviour. As you walk past a playground, pray for the children who visit there and enjoy each other's company. Is there a school in your area? Pray for teachers, students and parents. A health clinic? Pray for those who are sick or in pain, and those who care for them. A fire or ambulance station? Pray for the safety of our first responders and those they care for. You get the idea!

Plan for who will pray at each stop so it's not a surprise. Before or after your walk, make cards or draw pictures together to drop in a mailbox or at a front desk to let your neighbours know that they have been prayed for.

God's blessings on your family prayer time!

FAMILY ZOOM TIME

We know that we haven't been able to be together for awhile, and so we are offering an opportunity for a parent touch-base. If you are interested in ZOOMING with other parents just to check in and talk about how things are going, let Deaconess Miriam know, and we'll schedule something that meets your timing needs.



"YOU CAN RELAX . . . THERE'S NOTHING IN LEVITICUS AGAINST HANGING OUT IN THE MALL!"

Technology Boundaries



Take it Home!
Sunday, February 27, 2022
11:45 am

With computers, ipads, and smartphones in every home, and access to the internet easily available, Christian families are faced with questions of proper use, appropriate supervision and boundaries. Bring your lunch and we'll talk about technology use and healthy boundaries for your family!

RSVP TO:

miriam@foothillslutheran.com

**Designed for parents
and their children born in 2012**

Board of Human Care Ministries

As we care for one another, let us also remember the people in need in our communities.

Please remember:

THE CALGARY FOOD BANK – The food bank has distributed twice as many hampers this year than last year. Non-perishable items can be donated at any grocery store or put in the blue bucket beside the men's wash-room.

They also have a "Birthday Kit Wish List". These are kits for children who might not otherwise enjoy the luxury of a birthday party. They are nestled under the Emergency Food Hamper Program and are available for children aged one to 12 whose families are getting a food hamper within three weeks of their birthday. This initiative supports the social well-being of the children accessing the Emergency Food Hamper Program by allowing them and their families to celebrate their birthdays. **Last year, the Food Bank distributed 3,628 birthday party kits.** The wish list includes a cake mix, icing, candles, balloons, stuffed animal or teddy bear, an age-appropriate book, microwave popcorn, plus party supplies to serve. If you wish to contribute to this initiative, there is a bucket near the washrooms marked "Birthday Kit Wish List" (check out the bulletin board).

THE MUSTARD SEED – The need is great this year with the number of homeless people living outdoors as well as accessing the shelters. Items in great need now are winter coats, boots, warm mitts and gloves, toques and sweaters. If you are cleaning out your closet and don't know where your donations would be put to the best use, please put them in the Mustard Seed bucket and I will deliver them.

INN FROM THE COLD – This organization is also looking for donations of food and clothing as they assist the homeless and people seeking refuge from family situations.

LADIES – SPRING CLEANING?? As you clean out your closet or decide that you have unwanted items, **please consider giving those items to Dress For Success.** They are looking for gently-used, professional clothing for women re-entering the workplace. Items include things such as skirts, pants, blouses, new hose and underwear items, shoes, purses, boots and jewellery. One of their greatest needs right now are warm winter coats and boots.

MEALS ON WHEELS – What a wonderful opportunity we have to deliver meals to infirmed or shut-ins! Our route consists of between 2 – 4 deliveries every Thursday morning. Do you have a couple of hours to help us deliver meals? With many drivers, we can spread out the days we volunteer. Foothills has been delivering meals for this organization for 35 YEARS!! Please contact me if you want more information.

As with all of these organizations that we support, I thank you for YOUR support of the Board of Human Care. I am always looking for volunteers to help me on my committee! If you can spare a few hours a month, I would be most grateful for your assistance!!!

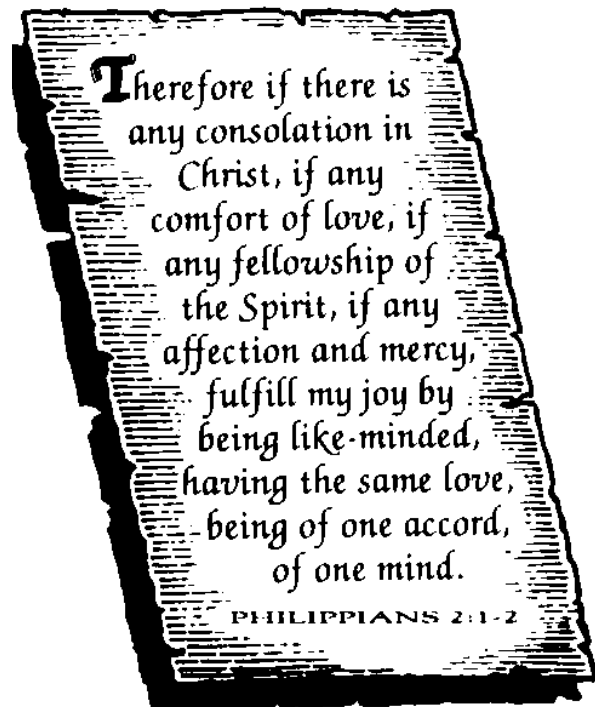
Thanks to everyone for their prayers as we carry on through this difficult and frustrating time. We pray that God will lead us out of this time with a smile and caring spirit until we can all hug again!!

"No distrust made him [Abraham] waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised." Romans 4:20-21.

Let US not waver from God's promise to deliver us.

By God's grace and promise, I remain always ready to serve!

Christine Heumann



LWMLC News

January Mission of the Month: Mites for LWMLC Mission Grants

Thanks to all of you for supporting our Mission Grants for 2021 – 2024 through Foothills Mission of the Month LWMLC Mite donations. The various mission projects are pictured on a poster on our LWMLC bulletin board. Beside each picture is a graph displaying the progress made in nationwide offerings toward these projects. Monies are given according to need and as funds become available. These graphs will be updated periodically.

Valentines for Congregational Shut-ins

Thanks to everyone who shared the love of Jesus by creating and sending valentines to our shut-ins. Special thanks to our church staff for orchestrating this initiative!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This is a new endeavour: praying while you knit or crochet a shawl for someone who is ill or going through a difficult time or for someone who is looking forward to celebrating a special event such as a baptism or wedding. Visit the website: prayershawl.com for shawl patterns and examples of prayers.

You could also participate in our **Patchwork of Prayers** initiative by knitting or crocheting squares which will be sewn together to make a shawl for a congregational member in need of a wearable hug. For patterns and more information, contact: Geraldine Chimirri-Russell (403-208-8119) or Jutta Colhoun (403-280-0980).

Our next monthly meetings will be February 28th and March 28th from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. We begin with Bible study led by Pastor Bode, followed by a short business meeting. All ladies are welcome!

Check out our bulletin board by the entrance to the kitchen. Information on mission projects and upcoming events are on display.

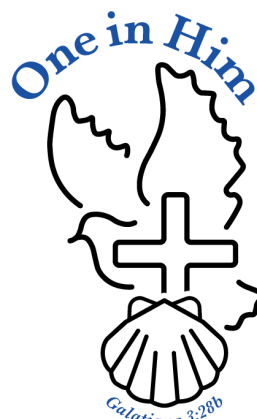
God's blessings,

Cheryl Lemke, Foothills LWMLC Society President

WONDERFUL • COUNSELOR • THE MIGHTY GOD • KING OF KINGS • MESSIAH

Jesus

THE GREAT I AM • EVERLASTING FATHER • LORD OF LORDS • PRINCE OF PEACE



LWMLC ABC District Convention

June 2—4, 2022

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

Red Deer, AB

Under the theme: "One in Him" based on Galatians 3:28b: "For you are all one in Christ Jesus", we'll gather for the last district convention. Please consider joining us! You have the option of participating in person or on-line.

The Prayers of a Child

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" As she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late, but don't shove me either!"

One night Mike's parents overheard this prayer: "Now I lay me down to rest, and hope to pass tomorrow's test, If I should die before I wake, that's one less test I have to take."

A little boy's prayer: "Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mommy and my sister and my brother and my doggy and me. Oh, please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to you, we're gonna be in a big mess."

Church Christmas concert role uncovered new talent

"Editor's note: The following Christmas article by Mark Kihn appeared in Manitoba's largest farm newspaper, The Manitoba Co-operator, on Dec. 23, 2021. Take a walk down memory lane with Mark."

I had not chosen the spotlight for that 1973 church Christmas concert. It was more like people had pushed me onto the stage – Mother and the Preacher. Who could resist?

I'm not sure what transpired at that Christmas Eve concert practice on the Saturday prior, but the resulting decisions caused me stress. As a 13-year old teenager, I thought I should have a "say" in all of the decisions in my life. I guessed incorrectly.

Mom had gathered her three youngest children, herded them into the white Chevy Biscayne, and we rambled off from our farm at Basswood, Manitoba, to the Lutheran Church in Erickson. We always enjoyed the 30-minute ride because it meant going down the steep hill of Hwy. #10, and through the Little Saskatchewan (Minnedosa) River valley. At the top, Manitoba's parkland region unfolded – no more prairies. What a vista!

We pulled into the snow-packed church parking lot and tumbled out of the car. It was a normal cold Manitoba winter morning. We rushed into the church. My younger brothers, Tim and Ron, were part of the shepherd entourage, and I assumed I would be also.

But wait a minute! Mom and Rev. Tysseland began a side discussion. He handed Mom a sheaf of papers and she headed my way. I should have ducked and ran. That would have been futile, however. It was tough to avoid Mom, especially when she was on a mission.

Mom sat me down on the front pew. She explained that the teen-age boy who was slated to narrate couldn't make it, so the Pastor chose me to do it. And Mom had agreed.

Things happened fast. I got "stage fright" immediately. In no particular order, I was assailed by tension, stress, anxiousness, and nervousness – and whatever other emotion applied. And worse, Mom's comforting words didn't work.

I protested. I was too young. Who was the fellow who bailed out? I wanted to be a shepherd with my brothers. And finally, "I don't want to." Mom deflected my arguments as easily as NHL goalie Tony Esposito handled shots from the blue line.

Then Mom went on offence. She began to encourage and



praise me. She said I was old enough; that I had a strong voice (thanks puberty); that I was a good reader having read comic books to my brothers; and that the manger scene was made up of older babies, toddlers, early schoolers, and 10-year olds. A few were hardly out of diapers, she mentioned.

Ok, that clinched it. I was in Grade 7, quite above and aloof from that bed-wetter bunch.

I soon stood on the Manitoba Yellow Pages in the actual Pastor's pulpit over-looking the empty church. Hey, what a great view! Maybe those five steps getting here were the actual "Stairway to Heaven" from the rock 'n roll song.

The usual Christmas drama began, with all the usual mishaps. The 10-year olds forgot their lines, the wings fell off the little angels, the toddlers wandered over to the manger to see if a real baby was in it, and the older babies just wanted their mothers. They were hungry too. The rehearsal pressure had reduced them to basic needs: Momma and a cookie.

But as for me, I took to my role. I read the transition parts between scenes. Most of the words were three syllables or less. I didn't have to memorize anything. There was no costume for me – good. Mom said I could wear a suit coat for the performance. It was a hand-me-down from an older cousin, but nobody would know anyways.

Later, Mom said I had read well. The script just called them "angels," not "cherubim's and seraphim's," thank goodness. The Pastor's microphone helped. I would just have to practice my parts a few times on my own.

We headed home. We zoomed up that mile-long valley hill then turned west at the empty Cameron School. I promised myself I would cycle the hill on a summer day – but I haven’t yet.

My younger brothers were happy too. They used their hooked shepherds’ sticks to trip each other and “accidentally” poke one another in the back. Their formula was simple – mayhem equalled fun. The Sunday School teacher/drama director, Mr. Burkett, did not agree, however.

Two days passed quickly. School was already out for Christmas holidays and so we six siblings were carefree. After evening chores, where we left the hay mangers full and the cattle lowing, we crowded into the car. I wore my burgundy suit coat under my winter parka.

Mom helped to relax my tension by leading us in Christmas carols. Dad was gripping the steering wheel and shifting the gears, claiming there were ice and snow patches on the road. Mom suggested that he “slow down a bit.”

We arrived to church 30 minutes early. My younger brothers had to don their costumes. My older siblings and parents wanted to get up-front seats. I wanted a glass of water.

I went downstairs and read through my parts one last time. Mom found me and told me to go to the washroom again. She didn’t want any troubles – neither did I. She then said I could practice walking up into the pulpit again. Sure, why not?

As we came up through the back altar entrance, I began to hear this rumble of voices, almost a commotion. I looked out and the church was packed. For a village of 500, plus the surrounding area, the place was overflowing. The ushers had set out extra chairs, older teens leaned up against the walls, and tykes stood on Mommas’ knees, wobbling, and wailing.

Mom said to walk up to the pulpit and arrange my pages. Okay, no worries, but then Mr. Burkett spotted me. He told me to announce: “The performance would begin in 10 minutes.” Okay, but I could feel a leg starting to quiver.

What to do? So I shook my leg even more. Nobody could see it anyway. I blurted out “The Performance begins in 10 minutes.” The crowd hushed. My siblings below smiled. I walked back down the pulpit steps, collapsed into a chair, found my glass of water and relaxed. Mr Burkett walked by and muttered a hurried “Thanks.”

He was stressed.

I began to reason. Everyone else had decided I could do this job, except for me. I’d better adjust my attitude and “get with it.” I might uncover a new talent.

Pastor Tysseland welcomed the congregation, lead an opening prayer, and we began a Christmas hymn, perhaps “Once in Royal David’s City.” What a chorus of voices from that full house!

I recall few details, as everything blurred, but the whole concert went well, according to my sisters. The angels almost floated, the shepherds herded their stuffed toy sheep, the Wise men remembered their speaking lines, and pronounced “frankincense” correctly. Mary and Joseph moved around the stage perfectly. The cardboard Bethlehem Inn was still too full to have a room. My brothers behaved.

Afterwards, the reviews were good. I had spoken loudly, clearly, with the right emphasis, and at the proper moments. I even received a few “Good job” and “Well done” comments on the way out. I am sure I glowed. I walked on air. A Sunday School teacher handed me a kid’s Christmas candy bag. I grabbed it.

I located the family car. Dad had the Biscayne warmed up already. I piled in, accepted a few accolades, dove into the candy bag, and shared it. Mom greeted me with “You did a good job, Mark.” Her kind words warmed my heart. They still do.

So for that 1973 Christmas Eve, “the world in solemn stillness lay,” and it may have been a “silent night,” except for the six exuberant candy-sugar fuelled children in the Chevy.

“Alfred, slow down. There’s snow on the road,” Mom whispered from the passenger seat.

Photos: *outside of Erickson church, altar area inside, Christmas concert scene,*



Board of Evangelism

Evangelism Committee Keeps Busy in 2021

We began the New Year with Maple Cream Fudge-making and we made hand-offs to selected shut-ins, widows, and widowers. We made 23 drop-offs.

By mid-January, we were cooking and delivering rice/sauerkraut/chicken/vegetable casseroles to selected shut-ins. We later switched to macaroni/rice/chicken/vegetable casseroles for variety. In all, we made and handed off 18. We repeated this in Nov./Dec. and handed off 14.

In fact, we continued this project for much of the year, especially in the fall. We accepted financial contributions towards the church's Organ Fund.

In February, in order to keep connected with congregation members, we took on the task on emptying and delivering the contents of church mail slots, including offering envelope boxes. With our porch visits, we brought greetings from the church and spread cheer as members accepted their "mail" of Christmas cards, Lutheran magazines, devotional booklets, recent Sunday bulletins, and in some cases, their year-end tax receipts. By the end of February, we had delivered 35 tax receipts.

In March, I twice met with a group that rents the church facilities and invited their attendees to church. Two of them attended FLC around Easter time.

In late April, we were just wrapping up the mail slot hand-offs. We completed 41.

Also in April, we made a deal with the Brentwood Co-op Food Store. We obtained 3-litre jugs of Heinz Vegetable Juice at a discounted rate of \$1 ea. We spread 19 jugs around to shut-ins, once again using the hand-out as a chance for a porch visit. With the on-set of spring, we thought the vegetable juice would remind people of gardening season.

In later July, we did a modest Saskatoon Berry Project wherein we picked wild Saskatoons on Nose Hill and gave away 500 ml containers to shut-ins and others. Later, we picked berries at the Saskatoon Berry Farm in Carstairs and accepted financial gifts for the Organ Fund.

In the fall, we secured \$10 gift cards from the Beddington Safeway and gave away 10 of those to needy and grateful recipients. In one case, two cards went to a non-church family whereby the father had begun into dementia at age 72. He lost his job and the family descended into poverty.

We did three Care Hampers in December to members. Again, Safeway helped us.

Throughout the year, we continued to invite men to the monthly Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study. Our phone calls and text message reminders went to 15 – 25 people each time. We also invited non-members and lapsed members.

Through all these activities, we accepted Offering Envelopes for the Foothills Treasury. We delivered 78 of those to Foothills as an extra service to our members.

Our great God continues to bless us and keep us during these trying times.

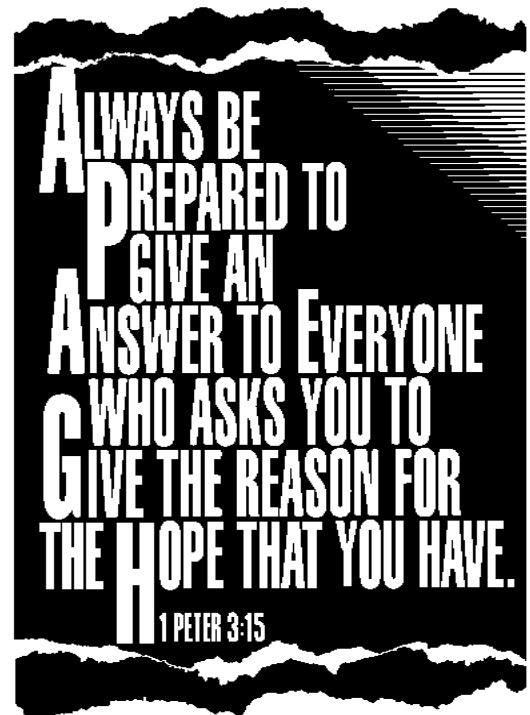
Mark Kihn, evangelism/outreach (January 29, 2022)

Operation Christmas Child

It's important to remember that the needs of children in regions of natural disaster, poverty and war torn countries go on all year long. Consider buying items during the year especially sales e.g., post Christmas or seasonal. You may also wish to make a cash donation.



We have the privilege to come to God in prayer and we can lift up the children helped by Samaritans Purse that the Gospel is heard by them and all others.



DESIGNATED FUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

FOOTPRINT

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

Committee members are: Dale Dusterhoft, Lorne Rosenau, Robert Heumann

Report to the Voters presented by: Robert Heumann

DONOR LIST PROJECT

LS BUILDING FUND:

LS Building Fund total contributions per our general ledger = \$1,621,213,

LS Building Fund donor list identified = \$1,523,094 = 93.95%

LS MINISTRY FUND:

[LS Ministry Fund total contributions per our general ledger = \\$20,791](#)

LS Ministry Fund donor list identified = \$5,492 = 26.41%

NEXT STEPS:

Having exhausted all options searching for donor lists, we are moving on to the next step which is to prepare a donor options letter which will be sent to the donors of record.

Outline the issues

List the years and amounts of the donations to each project

Describe the donor's options

Set an option date and request a decision

Committee to seek legal advice regarding the Mount Calvary Fund.

UPDATE RE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 VOTER'S MEETING:

In accordance with the Professional Advice received from the Metrix Group and the subsequent approval of PPC, The Voters approved the closing of the following Internally Restricted Funds and the transfer of the assets from each respective fund to Unrestricted Net Assets.:

LS Building Fund,

LS Ministry Fund and

Mount Calvary Fund.

The total of said transfers was \$1,244,565

FOOTHILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CALGARY
2022 BUDGET VOTER APPROVED - SUMMARY
VOTER'S MEETING JANUARY 29, 2022

		2021 PRELIMINARY ACTUALS	2021 Budget	2021 VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)	2022 BUDGET REQUEST	COMMENTS
OPERATING RECEIPTS						
ENVELOPE OFFERINGS	4010	416,666	425,000	(\$8,334)	\$431,000	USES 2021 ACTUAL AS A BASE LINE
PLATE OFFERINGS	4020	2,187	2,000	\$187	\$2,100	
VISITOR OFFERINGS	4030	18,158	12,000	\$6,158	\$12,000	\$7000.00 moved to envelope offerings in 2022.
FACILITY RENTALS	4110	2,465	1,600	\$865	\$2,400	
PARKING REVENUE	4115	2,575	4,000	(\$1,425)	\$2,600	
STUDENT RESIDENCE	4120	9,100	4,000	\$5,100	\$12,000	
FACILITY RENTAL - OROMO	4125	-	2,700	(\$2,700)	\$6,000	overall \$13k increase in rental revenues
FLCP TUITION	4145	-	-	\$0	\$0	
DESIGNATED INCOME - ORGAN FUND LOAN		8,223	-	\$8,223	\$10,000	\$10,000 bequest is coming
INTEREST & OTHER INCOME	4130	8,435	5,500	\$2,935	\$12,000	
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS		467,809	456,800	\$11,009	\$490,100	\$467 + \$13 + \$10 = \$490
OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS						
TOTAL PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL		16,178	11,725	(\$4,453)	\$15,250	
TOTAL BOARD OF ELDERS		353,389	370,779	\$17,390	\$378,582	2.1% INCREASE OVER 2021 BUDGET
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION		1,832	4,304	\$2,472	\$4,405	
TOTAL BOARD OF EVANGELISM		99	1,800	\$1,701	\$500	
BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP						
LUTHERAN CHURCH CANADA	5006	36,250	36,250	\$0	\$36,250	
LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES	5020	3,000	3,000	\$0	\$3,000	
LUTHERAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS	5021	6,000	6,000	\$0	\$6,000	
CONVENTION ASSESSMENTS	5220	-	-	\$0	\$6,710	Already paid in 2020 so no cash outlay in 2022
OFFERING ENVELOPES	5805	391	200	(\$191)	\$700	
TOTAL BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP		45,641	45,450	(\$191)	\$52,660	
TOTAL BOARD OF HUMAN CARE MINISTRY		2,073	2,250	\$177	\$2,700	
TOTAL BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP		50	1,000	950	1,300	
TOTAL BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTIES		86,313	69,570	(\$16,743)	\$92,850	
NON-REFUNDABLE GST	2315	2,767	1,500	(\$1,267)	\$1,100	
TOTAL OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS		508,342	508,378	\$36	\$549,347	
EXCESS/(DEFICIENCY) OF OPERATING RECEIPTS OVER OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS		-\$40,533	-\$51,578	\$11,045	-\$59,247	Actual cash outlay is \$51,737 as \$7,510 has been pre-paid.
JUNE 2021 VOTERS APPROVED AN EXTRA \$20,000 FOR REPAIRS.						
			-\$20,000			
ADJUSTED BUDGET FOR 2021		-\$40,533	-\$71,578	\$31,045	-\$59,247	SHORTFALL WILL COME OUT OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS