

FOOT PRINT



A Letter from the Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters in Christs of Foothills,

As we think about this time of the year, especially September, for many people it's a time of transitions. I feel like I've been in a state of transition for the last few months... oh wait, that's because I have! These last few months have been full of transitioning from one congregation, Peace Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, to another, Foothills, obviously. It's been about transitioning from one home (selling that house in Winnipeg, packing it up, and moving everything, or many things, here) to another home (buying that house in Calgary sight unseen!), and all the bonuses that come with a new-to-us house (what are we missing, what do we need to buy, what can we do to make it feel like home, etc.). And now as I write this, Andrea is in the transition of getting ready to go back to work (or to work in a new job), and the kids are preparing to go back to school (or to a new school, where they will all be in the same school together). And even though I've had an almost two-month head start on them with all the new transitions (since I've had the normal routine of working and they've had the summer away from school/work), there are still more things to come. As we get to September, here at Foothills we have programs and groups starting back up that have taken a break for a while. Maybe there will be people that haven't been around as much this summer that I haven't even met yet, and they haven't met me.

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Glenn Worcester, Pastor

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And even though there are many things that have been going on, there are even more things to come. And part of that transition is figuring out how I fit into all of these things.

As much as I like to think that I'm like Paul, I'm more of the 1 Timothy 1:15 Paul (the worst of sinners) compared to the 1 Corinthians 9:22 Paul (all things to all people). As much as I would like to be all things to all people in ministry, I cannot be all places at all times, nor do I really think you want me to be! So, as Lutherans say, what does this mean? Why am I telling you these things? Because I've only been here since July, and in the next number of months (if you haven't already), some of you may be thinking or saying, "pastor, we normally do this (fill in the blank for whatever "this" is), are you going to do it (this thing)?" And the answer is: maybe... maybe not... time will tell. Sometimes, when people bring things up (whatever they may be), it's the first-time hearing about it. And if it's the first-time hearing about it, I can't really give an answer immediately. When you look at the call documents of a pastor (not something you might do regularly, and even when a congregation goes through a call process maybe YOU still don't look) it talks about the responsibilities of a pastor. The first thing listed is for me, the pastor, to "administer the Word of God in its full truth and purity." The second thing is to "administer the holy sacraments." This is what we call "Word and Sacrament" ministry. It's the most important thing a pastor does, and it does incorporate many things, the main one being the worship service, where the Word is proclaimed, and the sacraments are administered. What the documents do NOT do is get into specifics. It does not say the responsibility of the pastor is to lead this specific Bible study on this specific day at this specific time. Does it mean I will do that? Maybe. Certainly, Bible study is part of the ministry of the Word, and you might expect the pastor, who has spent countless hours studying the Bible, to lead a Bible study. I also know that in the long-term goals of Foothills, there is a section on increasing engagement of members, one of those things includes having lay leaders for Bible study. Whether a certain Bible study is led by the pastor, me, or by a lay person, or by Dcn. Miriam, these are all part of the conversations and planning that is or will be happening. Which means, by the time you read this, some of those things may have been figured out, and your question has been answered!

And let me tell you this. In the short amount of time that I've been here, I have had MANY things brought to my attention that I had no information about previously. As we think about the summer months ending, and programs and groups and meetings starting back up again, communication will be the key in helping me to know all the things that happen so that I don't miss something. So, if you have questions or are concerned that I might miss something, let me know! Even if I do know about something, I'd rather have you bring it to my attention, so that I can confirm it's been communicated to me, and so that I know it's important to you. Also, I don't want you thinking "I'm sure someone has already told him about that, so I don't need to." Because, what if everyone feels the same way? Then no one will tell me! That doesn't mean that I will be the one responsible for the thing you tell me about, but at least I know about it.

What does all that mean? It means that in all of the discussions with all of the different areas of ministry at Foothills, and figuring out how I fit into all these things, decisions will be made based on time and priorities. How much time is spent in all the different areas, and what are the main priorities for Foothills. For example, if we had 5 Bible studies happening that I was expected to lead, and each Bible study lasted for 1 hour, and each Bible study needed 1 hour of prep time (and for all of you who have ever led a Bible study, you can figure out how accurate that is!), that would be 10 hours per week focused solely on Bible study. And then you go through all the other areas and see what are the expectations of everyone, how much time all of those things need, and then you figure out if the expectations are realistic. Is it realistic for the pastor to lead 5 Bible studies? Is it realistic for him to lead 3, or 1, or none? That's not to say that I don't want to teach Bible study, or that I don't like Bible study, but we have to be realistic in how much one person can do (and this isn't just for me, it is for all the staff, since we also have a new office administrator who is in a similar boat to me, as well as volunteers), whether or not this is a main priority for this person,

and then we go from there. And maybe we even have to adjust accordingly. Maybe one person takes on more, while another person takes on less in order to take on more in a different area.

It's all about the balance. And not just the balance of serving Foothills, it's all about the balance of vocation. And vocation is your specific place in life. Most, if not all of us, have many vocations. They can be the same or different than other people. The vocation I've been talking about so far is that of pastor. That is not a vocation that many of you reading this have. I also have the vocation of husband, that many of you reading this do have! Same with the vocation of father. These are the three main vocations I have. I often tell people that my first vocation is that of husband, my second is that of father, and my third is that of pastor. However, when it comes to the amount of time spent in each of these vocations, it's usually flipped. I spend the most time (any given day) in my role as pastor, and my role as father is given more time than my role as husband. So, even though my most important role is that of husband, it usually gets the least amount of time on a daily basis. And so, when we talk about balance, it's not just balancing the things that I do at Foothills, it's balancing those three main vocations. And sometimes priorities have to change. For example, when a kid is sick at school and has to get picked up, whose responsibility is it? Who has to leave their work to take care of the kids? Many of you who are parents, where both of you worked, have gone through this before, so you understand a little. Is it realistic for the same parent to always have to be the one to leave work and take care of sick kids? Is it more practical for the parent who works 5 minutes from their school be the one to pick up the kids? Is the expectation that this will be a shared responsibility (These questions are rhetorical, by the way, they are there to get you thinking)?

Why do you I tell you all of this? Because, I'm not just the pastor of Foothills, I'm also the husband of Andrea, and the father of Micah, Ivy, and Jonah. And I need to make sure that Andrea, and Micah, and Ivy, and Jonah are all taken care of. If I cannot take care of them, how can you expect me to take care of Christ's flock (see 1 Timothy 3:4-5)? Also, because each and every one of you will have expectations of the pastor, of me. Some of those expectations have been formed by all the previous pastors you have had, whether at Foothills or somewhere else. Some of them might be normal expectations that I will gladly meet, and some of them might be unrealistic expectations, that I will happily decline. All of them are expectations that we can talk about (as long as I know about them), and in the end we will see where reality meets those expectations. That is part of the journey that we are all on together.

As I wrap this up, know that I'm here for all of you, and am more than willing to talk about anything, be it faith, life, the Bible, expectations, ideas, goals, hopes, dreams, you name it, I'll be ready. Until then...

In Christ,
Pastor Glenn

Fall Youth Retreat



We haven't had a fall youth retreat here since 2019, and after how much the youth from Alberta enjoyed getting to know each other at the IMPACT Youth Gathering this summer, I felt like it was time to try again! As well as looking for youth to attend, we'll be looking for volunteers to help with various things, including kitchen shifts and supplying nut-free snack foods. Watch the bulletin for more info!

Submitted by Michelle Heumann

Presidents Report:

Let me first say that the Parish Planning Council (PPC) and the congregation are very saddened by the loss of Barb Vincent. Although Barb is peacefully with our Lord, we will miss her contribution to the PPC as secretary and all the work she did in the congregation. Our prayers and support are with Brian as he deals with this tragedy. We will need a new secretary for the Parish Planning Council. Duties include keeping minutes of PPC and Voters' meetings, maintaining the register of voting members at Foothills. If you have talents and skills in this area, please contact me.

Other news from the PPC and the congregational meetings.

The Oromo donation was overwhelmingly approved by the congregation at the July Voters' meeting. There was some question as to whether there was a quorum at the meeting, but upon further checking the voting register, we had a large number over the quorum. Thank you for all voting members who attended this meeting.

Now that we have Pastor Glenn in place, we will be revisiting our long-range plans. It is important that our new Pastor is aligned with our future direction and we have a few initiatives we have put on hold until Pastor Glenn arrived.

We have installed a new volunteer job board in the fellowship hall. Volunteer opportunities are presented on this board, and volunteers can also add their name to this board if there is an area in the church that they can use their time and talents.

We have developed a new electronic church directory. This will be rolled out in September. Let me know if you are interested in volunteering your time to do the initial population of this directory. This directory will allow our members to access our church directory via our website using their own personal ID login and password.

We held elections in June and have all PPC and Elder positions filled. We will be posting pictures of our PPC and Elders in the Narthex so that the congregation can familiarize themselves with our church leaders. Thank you to all of you who let your name stand for various positions.

Thank you to all volunteers in our church for your gifts of time and talents. Our church could not run without you.

In service to our Lord,
Dale Dusterhoft
President.

LWMLC News



By Geraldine Chimirri-Russell

One of the signals that summer is almost over is the annual email that I receive from the Office reminding me that it is time to submit the September/ October Report from Foothills Lutheran Women's Missionary League Of Canada. Summer sun changes to fun Fall activities.

Our first meeting of the Fall is scheduled for Monday, 28 September, 2026 at noon. We usually meet in the Fellowship Hall on the fourth Monday in the month and have an informal social time, followed by a Bible Study and a short business meeting.

This year our society will be hosting the annual Rally for the societies in the Southern Alberta Zone. This is an exciting challenge for us. Recently the other Societies have set the bar very high for these events, but we are a resourceful, creative group of ladies who will do our very best to make the event a memorable success.

We plan to continue making our memory books and visiting the residents in the Manor at least twice in the year. We will continue to raise money to support the worthy missions voted on by the whole membership of the organization across Canada.

We remember, with our prayers, those members who can no longer come to our meetings and those who have recently passed away. Our thoughts of these, our sisters, are full of joy and gratitude for all their support and companionship. Of course, we are always delighted to have new members. All ladies are welcome to come to the meetings.

Finally, as always, our thanks to the Foothills congregation, who have supported our mission work with your prayers and generous financial gifts.

Geraldine Chimirri-Russell
President

FAITH AT HOME

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. Deaconess Miriam has resources for families to help them fill this role at every age and stage. She'd love to talk with you! See below for more information on our upcoming sessions.

FAMILY TIME IN CHRIST

Worshipping Together as the Family of God.

Have you been to a family reunion lately? They are wonderful, welcoming, intergenerational events. Our worship together as the people of God is like a regular family reunion. Believers age 0 – 100+ gather together to receive God's gifts of grace, and to respond with thanksgiving and praise. When we bring our children to worship, we teach them that they are indeed part of the family of God. We rejoice that in our congregation we see children being brought to Jesus' feet in the worship service. We know that it takes commitment and consistency on the part of parents, and those who help them, to bring children into the rhythm of our worship. More importantly, we know also that you are laying a foundation for their future life in the Church. God bless you! Here are some tips for worshipping with children from those who have gone before you:

1. Give quick reminders of where you are going.

Remind them that they are coming to God's house, and that they will be there together with God's family. Talk about the people they will see, and what will happen at Church.

2. Point out important parts of the service to your children as they happen — This helps keep them

focused on why they are there and helps them understand what is going on. Practice simple parts of the liturgy at home and give them notice when a part that they know is coming up in the service.

3. Point out the items they can see in the Church – Notice banners, candles, altar, cross, etc. and talk about what they tell us.

4. Introduce your children to people – Let them meet the ushers, those who are sitting around you, the Pastor, the musicians. Your children are important to all of us!

5. Bring quiet toys and books or grab a busy bag from the back of the Church — Soft photo albums, short books, or a special soft toy can help during those times when a child gets wiggly.

6. Take a walk if you need to - Use the narthex or the nursery to settle your child or give him or her a short wiggle break if necessary but bring them back to worship so they don't get too attached there!

7. Remember that kids will be kids —If they (or you) have a bad morning, don't let that keep you from coming next week. God loves your children, and so do we!

8. Ask for help if you need it – There are many people in our congregation who are willing to be an extra lap or set of hands during worship. Check in with Deaconess Miriam if you want to be introduced to some of them.

God bless you as your family worships with the family of God!

Yours in Christ
Deaconess Miriam



Children and Family Ministry

by Deaconess Miriam Winstanely

SUNDAY SCHOOL

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

God’s blessings to all of our Sunday School students, our teachers, and our parents. We hope you had a restful summer full of family time. Our Sunday School year begins on Rally Day, September 13th! We look forward to welcoming all children age 3 through grade 5 to hear and learn about Jesus’ love for them. This year we will be finishing our walk through the Old Testament, beginning with the prophet Elijah, and will follow that with an in depth look at the New Testament.



We will have some new teachers joining us this year, and we give thanks to God for their willingness to share their gifts in our Sunday School.

Sept 13/26	God provides for Elijah	1 Kings 17
Sept 20/26	Elijah and the Prophets of Baal	1 Kings 18:17-40
Sept 27/27	Elijah is taken to heaven	2 Kings 2:1-15
Oct 4/26	Naaman and Elisha	2 Kings 5:1-16
Oct 11/26	No Classes - Thanksgiving	
Oct 18/26	Jonah	Jonah 1-3
Oct 25/26	God calls Isaiah	Isaiah 6:1-8; 52:7-53:12



Children’s Choir

Children’s Choir is back! Children age 4 and up are invited to join us for twice monthly practices where we will learn God’s Word through song, learn what we can do with our voices, learn a bit about music, and learn how to sing with others. If you are interested in having your children participate, please contact Deaconess Miriam at 403-284-1342 or miriam@foothillslutheran.com.

OUR SUMMER VBS “Jesus, Bread of Life”

Ran July 20-24. God provided many willing hands so that children in our community could hear and learn God’s Word, and we are grateful for the time they spent with us! 52 children attended, with an average daily attendance of 50. Approximately 15% of these children were unchurched. We are in the process of connecting with our VBS students through a VBS newsletter, and with invitations to join us for worship and to check out our children and family ministry opportunities. Thank you to the 33 volunteers who stepped up to make VBS possible. We couldn’t do it without your willing hearts. Thanks be to God!



My Bible

God’s Word is truth, and He gives us His Word in the Bible. Your child is old enough to begin to explore God’s truth using his or her very own Bible.



On Sunday, September 13th you will fulfill one of the promises you made at your child’s baptism as you place a Bible in his or her hands during the worship service. A copy of the Faith Alive Student Bible will be provided.

Then join us after service on September 20th for a light lunch and time for parents and children to learn together about their Bible and how to use it. Children will have an opportunity to create their own Bible cover.

Younger children are welcome in the session so that mom and dad can come together.

Sunday, September 13, 2026
Presentation of Bibles during the worship
service at 10:15 am

RSVP TO: Foothills Lutheran Church
403-284-1342
miriam@foothillslutheran.com

“My Bible” session following the
September 20th service.

Designed for children born in 2019 and their parents.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Two Ladies' study groups are running, with new members always welcome.

Our Tuesday group meets weekly at 7:00 pm and will be continuing its study of "Strong and Courageous," a look at how God worked through Joshua to establish His people in the promised land.

Our Thursday afternoon study meets weekly at 1:30 pm for an in-depth study of the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

Both studies take place in person, with the option of participation online via Zoom. Contact Deaconess Miriam for more information!



FLC Youth Group

Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to participate in our monthly youth activities - here is what is coming up. Please contact Evan Stene or the church office to connect!

- Sep 11 – Youth at the Church, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Sep 25 – Corn Maze, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Oct 2 – Youth at the Church, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Nov 6 – The Youth Decide, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Nov 20 – Servant Event, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Dec 4 – Christmas Party, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Jan 8, 2027 – Youth at the Church, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Jan 22, 2027 – Swimming, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Feb 5, 2027 – Youth at the Church, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Feb 19, 2027 – Activate, 7:00–10:00 PM
- Mar 5, 2027 – Youth at the Church – Bo..., 7:00–10:00 PM
- Mar 19, 2027 – Mini Golf, 7:00–9:00 PM
- Apr 2, 2027 – Youth at the Church, 7:00 PM
- Apr 16, 2027 – Lasertag, 7:00 PM
- Apr 30, 2027 – Servant Event – Spring Cl..., 7:00–9:00 PM
- May 14, 2027 – Escape Room, 7:00–10:00 PM
- May 28, 2027 – Youth at the Church, 7:00–10:00 PM



Lunch Bunch

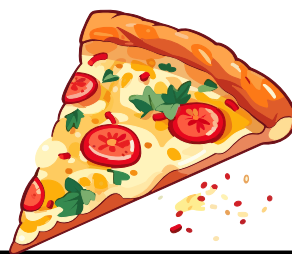
by Betty Ann Chandler

LUNCH BUNCH

We meet for lunch on the last Tuesday of the month at various restaurants in the NW for food and fellowship. Seniors, family members, friends, etc. Watch for a sign-up sheet just outside the fellowship hall in the narthex. Please sign up for each event separately so we have an accurate count for the reservation. If you need assistance with transportation, make a note when you sign-up. We would love to have you join us.

Upcoming Meetups:

- On September 29 we meet at Stavros Pizza in Ranchlands at 12:15.
- On October 27 we meet at Chianti's in Crowfoot at 12:15.



Adult Choir

by Richard Harding



Lift your voice in praise! The Adult Choir welcomes all who enjoy singing and sharing the gift of music in worship. Join us as we make a joyful noise to the Lord and proclaim His Word through song. New members are always welcome! For anyone interested in joining, we welcome any and all who want to explore singing with us! Singing has always been a significant form of both worship and prayer. St. Augustine wrote, "The singing praise is not just singing but is the act of loving God." It is worship. Singing harmony can only be done in a group where every member is an integral part of the whole. We will practice together every Thursday from 7:00 PM to 8:30, in the choir loft. If you wish to join us, please contact me, Richard Harding, at 403 869 5818 or email rmharding@shaw.ca, so I will be able to be better prepared to integrate you into what we are working on.



FELLOWSHIP - Submitted by Heather Sommers

We are always looking for members to join or create a new coffee team, if you are interested, please contact me.

Sept 13 - Rally Day

Join the start of many educational opportunities this Sunday with treats and refreshments.

Sept 27 - Voters Meeting

Create your own sandwich to enjoy during the meeting.

Oct 4 - BBQ

Watch for future bulletin announcements as your Church Council puts on lunch

Oct 25 - Ministry Appreciation Pie Social

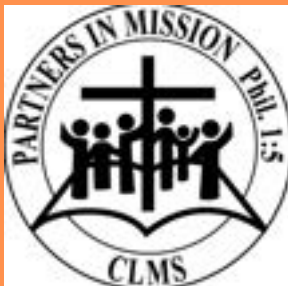
Honor Pastor Glenn and Deaconess Miriam for all they do for each and every member of Foothills.



September Mission of the Month:

Concordia Lutheran Mission Society

A mission agency formed by mission-minded LCC individuals. Seeks to encourage and expand the mission work beyond that which the Synod can do at present.



October Mission of the Month:

LAMP

Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots has been providing spiritual witness and nurturing faith in communities in northern remote areas of Canada, most accessible only by plane, since 1970. Through the ministry of pastor/missionary pilots and short- and long-term volunteers-in-mission various programs bring the Gospel to these isolated areas. Each year over 5000 children, youth and adults are impacted by the ministry of LAMP.



Board of Christian Education Update

by Tobi Stene



“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly ...”

Colossians 3:16

September is here and the summer has quickly passed by. We are excited and looking forward to getting things started with the upcoming year of Christian Education. As the Board of Christian Education plans and prepares for the start off in September, please remember that we are here for you throughout the entire year. If you have questions or a particular interest in a certain topic, don't hesitate to reach out to any of the board members, the church office, Pastor Glenn or Deaconess Miriam. We are happy to hear from you and help in any way we can.

Rally Sunday is coming up on September 13th. Sunday School, Youth Bible Study and Confirmation classes will all resume that morning. Adult Bible study has been ongoing throughout the summer and you will find that being held in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to join us after worship service for our Rally Sunday treats. There will also be coffee and beverages served. As well as great fellowship, you can learn about the many learning opportunities here at Foothills from Sunday morning education to weekday Bible studies along with family groups, youth group and more. You will also get a chance to hear about the fun that was had at the IMPACT gathering in Grand Forks, BC, the connections the youth made with one another, along with the excitement of VBS earlier this summer. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Don't forget to stop in and visit the library or check out the brochure rack in the Narthex. You will find a variety of booklets on a wide range of topics that are interesting and very helpful. There have been some new resources added earlier this summer so please help yourself to those that are of interest to you. You can email the board at education@foothillslutheran.com if there are other topics you would like to learn about.

The Board of Christian Education is:

Chair: Tobi Stene

Staff Members: Pastor Glenn & Deaconess Miriam
Winstanley

Board Members: Michelle Heumann, Trevor Heumann,
Rick Nelson, Derek Kiefer, Evan Stene.

Youth Representative: Faith Dueck.

Librarian: Michelle Funke.

Email: education@foothillslutheran.com

Join our private Facebook group!

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!

www.facebook.com/groups/flcchristianed/

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

by Elke Bittmann

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him. Nahum: 1:7

OCC is an outreach ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Shoe boxes are filled with hygiene items, school supplies, toys, and a “wow” item for children living in poverty, war zones, or experiencing the fallout from natural disasters. Boxes sent from Canada are destined for Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, The Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Philippines and Ukraine. The gospel message is also shared. Boxes, brochures/labels, and item lists for OCC are on the table by Deaconess Miriam's office. There will be a bin under the table for any extra items. Please pray over your box, that it will go to the child God intended it; to go to. Please return boxes to FLC no later than November 22. Contact Elke Bittmann at church or email her at elkebittmann54@gmail.com for further information.



HUMAN CARE REPORT

Welcome back to everyone as we begin a new year of bible studies, education classes and craft sessions (let us not forget about pot blessings!!).

Human Care has a number of activities this year beginning with the Craft Tea on September 8th from 1:30-3:00 pm. You will have the opportunity to make 1 or 2 Thanksgiving crafts, bring you own craft, OR, just come for tea and fellowship. If you plan on coming, there is a sign-up sheet on the Human Care bulletin board to ensure there are enough cutouts for all attendees. If you have any ideas for crafts for Christmas (decorations, rock painting, card making), I would love to hear them! Pictures are also welcome if you find a great craft. Here is what we will be making:



On October 13th, we will be starting Christmas crafts.

The Christmas Blessings Tree will again be set up at the end of November. If you know of someone with a need this Christmas (or loves a particular treat), please keep them in mind when the tree is assembled.



Respectfully submitted by Christine Heumann
Chair, Human Care Ministries
Cell: (403) 710-8347
Email: christineheumanncg@gmail.com

CHURCH PROPERTIES.

By Tim Roth



A lot goes into maintaining a house never mind a building as big and beautiful as Foothills. We have been busy this summer keeping up with the never ending task of ensuring our building is safe and beautiful each and every week.

Work done since May 2026

- Thank you to the Bablitz's planted the flowers in our flower boxes.
- roof drains remained clear as we cleaned the roof of debris that had collected over the past year with the help of Rob Kaut.
- you might notice that the parking lines are easier to see giving it a fresh new look. As well as the lower parking lot improvements including a storm drain.
- extensive yard work. Stump removal cleanup, trees trimmed, grass seed and soil applied and water regularly.
- wheel chair access in back pews. Thanks Steven Tofan.
- Electrical work to ensure the new air conditioner installed could handle the power. Thank you Al Innes.
- Thank you to those that helped, Brian Chandler, Al Innes, Tim and Linda Hohm, with church cleaning when needed in Brian's absence.

Stay tuned for upcoming projects come learn about them at the Voters' meeting Sept 27th, 2026.

Help us care for God's house! Volunteers are always needed to assist with various church building maintenance and upkeep projects. If you are able to lend a hand or have skills that could be helpful, please contact the church office. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated!

Being Salt and Light

- submitted by Betty Ann Chandler Board of Evangelism.

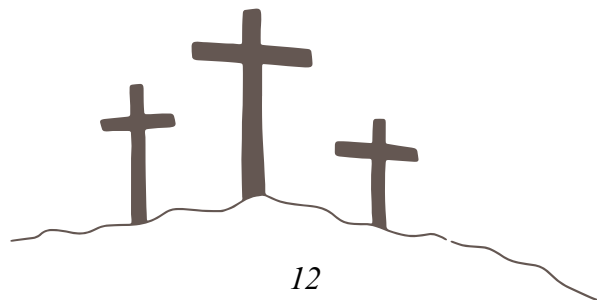
Over the summer months, issues of concern for Christians in Canada were still taking place. Consider adding these to your prayer list as we move forward into fall:

1. Praise God that on June 17, a Special Joint Parliamentary Committee recommended to delay indefinitely, the activation of the expansion of Medical Assistance in Dying (i.e. MAID) to include individuals whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. This would apply to those suffering from depression, anxiety, OCD, schizophrenia, narcissism, etc. If the committee's recommendation is NOT adopted when parliament reconvenes, the expansion of MAID will automatically be implemented on March 17, 2027. Please keep the adoption of this recommendation in your prayers. For the past couple years, mainstream media has deliberately not covered the annual March for Life taking place each May outside the parliament buildings in provincial capitals so fewer Canadians are even aware of this proposed expansion. If you feel so moved, you could respectfully contact your MP, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Health and/or the Attorney General as we share God's love for all people.

2. As of July 18, Bill C9 officially came into effect. This new federal law removes the exemption for sincerely held religious beliefs so the reading aloud of passages of scripture with which someone may not agree, could be deemed "hate speech". A person of faith could then be potentially charged and possibly convicted at a judge's discretion. We can thank God, however, that in Alberta, we are blessed with more protection than most provinces. Our premier has stated that although "the federal government does have the power of criminal law" [the province currently has] "the power of non-enforcement." Our premier stated publically that she wants to prevent police from using their time and resources to monitor religious teachings. We can also thank God that so many Christians came forward and witnessed to their faith during the time this bill was being considered. One Christian website stated that they helped facilitate 202,271 phone calls made to MP's, 262,527 pieces of mail sent to MP's (although it was found many postcards were deliberately boxed and never reached MP's offices), and 1,098 organizations representing 1.4 million Canadians signed a declaration speaking against the adoption of this bill. Please pray that God would guide those serving in law enforcement and in our courts as the bill is now law in our country.

3. As of July 29, chaplains in the Canadian Armed Forces are no longer permitted to say the name of God or pray during public ceremonies such as Remembrance Day, festive/seasonal mess dinners (e.g. Christmas), graduation parades, etc. Prayer was initially banned in 2023, but because of public push back, prayer was still allowed that year at Remembrance Day observances. However, prayer by military chaplains was subsequently disallowed in public ceremonies in 2024 and 2025. This coming Remembrance Day, only "spiritual reflections" will be allowed. Thank God that civilian led events such as those held by the Royal Canadian Legion may still include prayers led by civilian clergy even though CAF chaplains are prevented from sharing God's love and comfort in this way at official Canadian Armed Forces ceremonies and events. If you feel moved, you could respectfully share your views with your local member of parliament, the minister of National Defense and/or the Chief of Military Personnel Administrative Response Centre.

Please pray about the slowly increasing restrictions in regard to religious freedom and freedom of speech in Canada.



Synod Delegate News

by Michelle Heumann

Rev. Dr. Vieira's presentation on the Greek work *koinonia*, which I mentioned in the last issue of the Foot Print as a highlight of Synod Convention, is available in a condensed format in the issue of The Canadian Lutheran that arrived at the church in August. It is also available in its entirety in a recording on Lutheran Church-Canada's YouTube channel, which you can access via the QR code, or by skipping about 43 minutes into the video titled "2026 Synod Convention | June 13, Session 2."

As well, this issue of The Canadian Lutheran (with a photo of Pres. Teuscher from Convention on the cover) contains a number of different articles recapping the events of Convention.

Available on The Canadian Lutheran website is a short update from Dcn. Samantha Neeb, LCC's Associate Director – Family Ministries, on her first year in the position, which is new to LCC. You may have met her when she came to help with our VBS in 2024, while she was finishing her deacon training at Concordia Lutheran Seminary. Pastor Eric and I had collaborated on the 2022 Synod Convention Overture that led to this position, and I presented at one of Dcn. Neeb's webinars earlier this year (on Foothills' VBS volunteers-in-training program), so I am very glad to see how many opportunities she's finding to nurture youth, young adult, and family ministry in the Synod.

<https://www.canadianlutheran.ca/domestic-missions-one-year-of-serving-and-equipping-youth-and-families-across-lutheran-church-canada/>

On September 6, at 4pm CT, the new Synod leaders will be installed at a special service at Beautiful Saviour Lutheran Church in Winnipeg. This will include the President, Vice President, and Regional Pastors. Please keep them in your prayers as this new quadrennium begins.

Submitted by Michelle Heumann, Foothills' Synod Voting Delegate



September

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 11:00 am Paul Kurtz funeral	3 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study 7:00 pm Board of Education meeting	4 11:00 am Jerry Oberhammer funeral	5
6 9:00 am Adult Bible study 10:15 am Worship with Communion	7 Labour Day Office closed	8 1:30-3:00 pm Craft tea 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	9 6:30 pm Sunday School Meeting	10 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	11 7:00-10:00 pm Youth group at church	12
13 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship and Bible presentations <u>Rally</u> Sunday hot dog lunch	14 7:00 pm PPC meeting	15 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	16	17 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	18	19
20 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship with Communion 11:45 am Faith at Home -My Bible	21	22 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study 8:00 pm Elders meeting	23 10:00 am Winkel Drumneller	24 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	25 7:00-10:00pm Youth Corn Maze	26
27 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship Voters meeting after service	28	29 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	30	1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study		

October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	2 7:00-10:00 pm Youth at the Church	3
4 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship with Communion PPC BBQ after service	5 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	6 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	7	8 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	9	10
11 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship	12	13 1:30-3:00 pm Craft tea 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	14	15 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	16 Fall Youth retreat. Connected-Together	17 Fall Youth retreat. Connected-Together
18 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship with Communion Faith @ Home Money and me after worship 1:00 pm youth retreat ends	19	20 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	21	22 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	23 7:00 9:00 am Calgary Leadership Prayer breakfast BMO Centre	24
25 9:00 am Chirstian Education Hour 10:15 am Worship Ministry Appreciation Pie Social	26	27 7:00 pm Tuesday Ladies study	28 10:am Cirouit Winkel- Torrington	29 1:30 pm Thursday Ladies Study	30	31