



The world is as we will it



A few days ago, amid everything brown and dead in our yard at home, I noticed the green leaves from our daisies beginning to poke through the layers of decaying leaves and winter grime. I wondered if these were a sign of spring, or simply false spring. Had they been fooled by our warm February and March?

In some ways, April is a really crappy month. Our streets are filled with muck and gravel and many of us know we won't see the street sweepers in our neighborhoods until June. Though a hopeful sign that summer is approaching, things that sprout are vulnerable to a late winter storm. Our income and tax reports are due to CRA. Humph!

In other ways, April is the best month of the year. In April, everything begins to come together. 2015 is sewn up with the filing of our tax returns and we are free to look ahead and plan 2016 ventures and adventures. The sun is on the horizon and the days are lengthening. Swimsuits line the shelves in the stores and flower bulbs are available almost everywhere it seems.

The daisies sprouting in our yard are a reminder that our lives are colored and shaped by our perspective. I could look at them and think, "You'll never make it, kids." Or I can be encouraged (literally "in-heartened") by their presence.

These days there is a lot of dreary talk around us: the economy is not so great, our neighbors south of the border seem to have lost their minds, ISIS is reigning horror in Europe and the Middle East, we are all

another year older and not necessarily wiser.

The daisies in our yard remind me that the world becomes what we say about it. World peace seems like a huge unattainable accomplishment, but only because we speak of it that way.

When I review the last 12 months of our life together, I see world peace budding here, like those daisies. People here have made connections with people in other Christian congregations. They have worshipped

in the Jewish Temple, Calgary's SW Mosque, and prayed in the Blackfoot sweat lodge. People have shared meals with Muslim strangers, turned friends, and experienced a little known fact of our world: people are people are people are people....

We have nothing to fear but the fear that threatens to color our lives and drive us into depression about the state of things. In April, we stand on the cusp between the death of winter and the blossoming life of summer. And we stand

beside Jesus, who beckons us to give ourselves fully to life.

What step can you take to live a little? ...love a little? ...follow Jesus a little more closely? How can you change what you are saying about the world? Can you find a stranger (and make a friend) who might help you do just that?

Pastor Laura

There were two boys who were out to test a very wise and respected old man. One day they caught a small bird and devised a plan. The boy who held the bird said, "Let's take the bird to the wise man. I'll ask him if it is dead or alive. If he says 'alive,' I'll crush the bird. If he says 'dead,' I'll open my hand and let the bird fly." So they went to the wise man and the boy said, "If you are so wise, tell me, is this bird dead or alive?" The wise man paused for a moment, then said, "It is as you will it."



A glance at April Ministry Happenings....



- April 1** - Youth Activity
- April 2** - Men's Breakfast—8 am
Knitting for Peace—10:30 am
- April 3** - Communion Sunday
- April 12** - Prayer & Care—10:30 am

April 16 - Men's Breakfast—8 am
M & M Women's Group—10 am

April 17 - Communion Sunday
BIKE TO CHURCH SUNDAY!!!!

April 20 - Council Meeting—7 pm

April 24 - FOOD BANK SUNDAY
YOUTH BOTTLE DRIVE
BLAST Showcase

April 26 - Prayer & Care—5:30 pm

April 30 - Men's Breakfast—8 am

Morning Prayer—Every morning
at 9 am—Monday—Thursday.

Choir—Thursday evenings at 7:15
pm

Faith Formation—Tuesday eve-
nings at 7 pm

Youth Band—Monday afternoons
at 4:30 pm



Lutheran Church of the Cross

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 Pastors Laura & Phil Holck
 403-255-4792

Mission

Gathered by God to worship and grow.
 Empowered by Spirit to love and care for each other
 Living Christ's love by witnessing to all.

Vision

To be a vibrant and growing congregation unified in sharing
 the love of Christ through words and actions.



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Church of the Cross gives to CLWR

Many thanks to everyone for an amazing Cause of the Month to support Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). Giving to CLWR topped \$2500 for the support of CLWR relief causes and to help ship We Care Living and Learning Kits to the Syrian refugee camp in Jordan. Some highlights from February's Cause of the Month:

Erika McLeod and Dorothy Baker had a BLAST sewing sundresses from pillowcases, along with other women who quilt on Thursday mornings. Erika personally sewed over 30 dresses herself! Our boxes of quilts, sundresses, and We Care Kits will be shipped this month, thanks to David Baker.

The Social Ministry Committee hosted the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, which has been since called "A Hoot!" Along with great food, the Confirmands hosted a tradition pancake race, Youth Dimension provided beignets and pralines, and a tag-team MasterChef style cooking competition gave lucky winners access to Mardi Gras beads.

For their story showcase, BLAST hosted an amazing Refugee Experience that allowed congregation members to sample refugees camp food, "visit" a refugee hospital and school, and discover some facts about refugee camp shelters and the availability of water. Over 50 We Care Living and Learning Kits were assembled.

Beginning in September, a small group of women have been meeting weekly to sew quilts for CLWR. These beautiful and functional works of art will be blessed before they are shipped to CLWR this month.



Radical hospitality:

A Ministry of Kindness

Long ago a good friend of mine told me I was hard on people, especially myself. It was a particularly painful conversation for me, for who likes to have their faults pointed out to them? My faults weren't terrible ones, after all. I simply wanted people to strive for ideals and integrity. I thought we should have good goals and work to get there. I got upset when people didn't seem to "get with the program."

Yet I remember what he said as if it were yesterday, "Be kind. Everyone is doing the best they can. Even you."

Since that time, his admonition to kindness has shaped me. Over the years I have noticed how goodness is the foundation of humanity. People really do want goodness and generosity to flourish in the world. Yes, sometimes we are distracted or led astray by other aspirations, but our human family is at its heart good natured, kind, and peace seeking. We are created in the image of a loving God.

Of course every community needs goals and the structure and discipline to get there. We need formation, integrity, and a solid foundation.

But people need kindness first. People need respite, oasis, and healing. When we let kindness be the heart of our life together, people experience healing and welcome. How we treat one another matters. That's one of the things I love about this place. People here are genuinely kind and genuinely welcoming.

What would it look like to practice that kindness everywhere all the time? What would it look like if we

claimed our city as our parish?

The heart of radical hospitality is kindness. Therefore be kind. Everyone really is doing the best they can.

Pastor Laura



Upcoming Youth Events

April 1 – Table Tennis and Movie night

April 24 - Bottle Drive

May 15 – Glass making with Austin Nixon residents

May 29—Bottle Drive

June 5 – Zoo photo scavenger hunt AND/OR interfaith event

Worship Matters: The Easter Season and the Paschal Candle

"Liturgy" is the formal name for our worship form and patterns. It comes to us from the ancient Greek words "leitōs" (public) and "ergos" (work) and can be translated "public work" or the "work of the people."

If Lent is a season of searching and the Triduum ("Triduum" is the Latin name for "Three Days", meaning the time from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday) is an exploration of darkness and light, Easter is a season of triumph. Everything that was dead lives again, and we are swept up in God's great reversal: nothing is as we thought it was.

Not only has death been conquered, everything we see has been conquered. The forces that think they rule this world and look like they rule this world give way to what cannot be seen: love, joy, peace, kindness, gentleness, generosity, and more, as the fruit of the Spirit pour forth from the open tomb of Jesus.

We no longer have reason to fear death, or anything else we face in this life. The empty tomb tells us all of our fears are ungrounded. The Kingdom of God is present in the people of God; nothing in this world could ever touch it.

Furthermore, the power Jesus exhibited in his earthly life now spreads to his followers. The disciples bring healing, power, hope, promise and life wherever they go. What began with Jesus was handed to Peter, James, Lydia, and Paul and continues through the centuries to us in our time. We become God's life in the world.



The Paschal candle, lit for the first time at the Great Vigil of Easter, remains lit throughout the Easter season. Other than at baptisms and funerals, this is the only time the Paschal candle is lit. It is a symbol of the bodily presence of the resurrected Christ and

his power being given to us. During the Easter season, we hear ancient stories of his power taking hold in ordinary people and we learn to claim that power as his disciples. At baptism, he empowers his people with his own resurrected life. At death he comes to remind us all he is Lord. He himself is our escort to our eternal home.

Take a step in your discipleship Encourage One Another

According to the Gospel of Matthew, when Jesus taught his disciples on the Mount of Olives, he gave them the beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, and instructions for their life together (see Matthew chapters 5-7). He concerned himself and his teachings with modifying human behavior. Jesus knew that people operate first for self-preservation and second for relationship with others. He sought to reverse that.

Jesus spent his entire life building up a small group of followers and instructing them in a new way of living; a way of loving concern for others as a primary motive in life. He said to them, "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:3). He taught people to stop justifying themselves and overlooking their own faults while picking their brothers and sisters apart for theirs. Instead he taught his followers and disciples to care for one another, encourage one another, outdo one another in showing honor, and in so doing, build up the body of Christ. How can you encourage your brothers and sisters at Church of the Cross?

Part of a disciple's job description is to encourage one another in building up the body of Christ. At this year's AGM, we began a year-long emphasis here at Church of the Cross called "Take a Step," encouraging each and every person here to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their own discipleship and take a step in strengthening one or more areas of discipleship. See our website for more information and for resources to help you on your way.



Encourage
one another
and build up
each other....

I Thessalonians 5:11, NRSV

Word for Children on the web!

Have you checked out our website lately?

We have a new tab for *Word for Children*, our Sunday morning ministry that pairs children's picture books with biblical stories. This resource is fully searchable and easily accessible to help you make connections between the biblical stories and picture books widely available through the public library system or your favorite book seller.



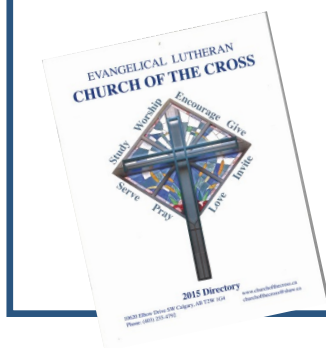
Why not give Word for Children a try? You could make it part of your story routine at home and help build your child's foundation of biblical literacy and interest in the sacred stories that shape all of our lives.

This is an ever-expanding database that will grow with time as we add more stories to our Sunday children's time.

Do you have a favorite book you wish were paired with a biblical story? Let Pastor Laura know (*send a text or email or drop a note in her church mailbox*) and she'll get right on it! Does your family need a Spark Story Bible? Let the office know!

www.churchofthecross.ca

New Pictorial Directories



Are available for sale in
the office, for

\$15.

See Dianne

Pictures from Holy Week & Easter



Listening to God, Here & Now

Imagine that you are looking down on the world from God's perspective and able to see where God's Spirit is at work...

In particular, imagine that you are looking down at Lutheran Church of the Cross, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the rest of Calgary.

Where do you imagine that you would see God's Spirit active? And what would she be doing?

Where would she be:

- working for justice?
- giving comfort, shelter or healing?
- gathering people for mutual support and encouragement?
- bringing hope, love and grace?

I believe that you would see activity centered in our congregation and congregations around us (I hope!). But are those the only places and the only organizations? I don't think so. In fact, I have seen God's Spirit active in supposedly "secular" organizations and supposedly "secular" people.

- How might we discover what God doing among and around us?
- How can we discern what God wants to do among and around us?
- Who is God hoping we will partner with?

I think these are questions really worth our time to inquire into!

In my experience, the process of discerning God's will is a process. Fundamentally, it boils down to *listening to and for God*. Prayer plays a key role in this. Listening through prayer is a key element of this. Listening through God's Word—Holy Scripture—is also key. The other key element is *listening to God through others*. If any of these elements is absent, then our listening to God is impaired. When a community is in prayerful, scripturally grounded discernment about ministry, God's "speaking" often occurs as a resonance between what is heard in prayer, read in the Bible, and heard from each other.

Last year, after our worship on the first Sunday of Advent, the council held a listening event to hear the responses to the following inquiries:

- *Tell us a story about an experience you have had with*

ELCOC that demonstrates why you care about and belong to church.

- *What are the pressures facing you and your family?*
- *What are your hopes for yourself and your family?*
- *How do you see God at work and leading us both within and beyond the congregation. Can you tell a story about a time you saw God at work, molding or calling us to something new.*

This first listening event was organized by the congregation council so that it might have some congregational input as the council is discerning its plans for the future. Those that participated expressed appreciation for the opportunity to be heard. They also commented that it was rather inspiring and insightful to hear other people's stories and hopes.

I don't think we are finished listening yet! My hope is that we will embrace this kind of "deep listening" as an on-going endeavor and practice within *and with our surrounding community*. Real listening is what undergirds our efforts to worship, pray, give, study, invite, serve and encourage.

To support our listening, I would like to tell you about MACG.

The Metro Alliance for Common Good (MACG) is a broad based organization made up of individuals and organizations committed to bringing together interested Calgarians from business, faith communities, organized labour and the social sector to transform our city into a community that acts justly and respects all. One of the primary tools they use is called a "*listening campaign*." The concept is simple. Listen to people's stories. Listen to the challenges they face. Listen to their hopes for the future. It is simple and profound.

With the listening event we had in November, we had a taste of this. What might be possible if we embrace listening as an intentional, on-going activity of the congregation?

On **Saturday, April 30th**, at Knox United Church, MACG is sponsoring a workshop called "Community Organizing for Congregational Renewal." Thanks to a Triune Foundation Grant, some of us will be attending this workshop for free to see how this kind of intentional listening might support and strengthen our congregation. I am particularly excited about the possibility of partnering with other Lutheran congregations, other Christian congregations, and other organizations so that we might be part of the broader movements of God's Spirit around us!

Peace
Pastor Phil

CAUSE OF THE MONTH

Cause of the Month

Camp Kuriakos

Kuriakos is a New Testament Greek word meaning
'belonging to the Lord'.

What's so special about camp?

Camp is a place where people are free to explore, to create, and to grow. Participation at camp will develop:

- self esteem and self awareness
- physical activity
- Independence and decision making skills
- building friendships
- faith development
- community commitment

Are there any church members interested in partial sponsorship of fees to attend Camp this Summer? Contact Georgina or any member of Social Ministry Com.

WALK OR RUN FOR LOVE

Lutheran Hospital Ministries

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Prayer & Care

Tuesday, April 12

10:30 am

potluck lunch

April 26 —5:30

pm—potluck



Dust off your bike, tune up your gears & polish your seat!



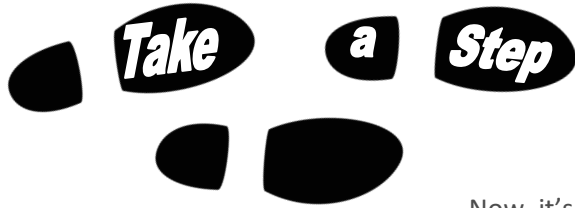
On Sunday April 17, the outdoor group is hosting *"Bike to Church Sunday"*.

Bike to church....and invite a friend!



If you have any of the *"Journeying Through Grief"* booklets at home and you are finished with them, could you please return them to the church?





The Toothpaste Problem

Have you ever noticed that you use more toothpaste on your toothbrush when the tube is full than when it starts getting toward the end? When I start noticing that I'm getting low on toothpaste, then I start paying attention to how much toothpaste I am using and only use the amount that I really need.

Now, it's not the end of the world when one uses the last bit of toothpaste in a tube, especially if there is another one in the medicine cabinet. Some things are so easily replenishable.

Imagine that your paycheck is like a tube of toothpaste. When you first get it, it seems like so much money and it is easy to "squeeze" it away. As the month draws to an end, the money starts running out and you get rather stingy with your money. Even things that are rather important may get put off get less money because the "tube" is almost empty. If only you'd been more disciplined at the beginning of the month!

The biblical concept that addresses this is called "first fruits" giving. In Proverbs 3:9, we read:

*"Honor the Lord with your substance –
and with the first fruits of all your produce."*

This concept of First Fruits giving is the spiritual practice of giving thanks to God by returning to God the first fruits of our labors. With regard to money, it looks like committing a portion of one's income to the church and making that one of the FIRST payments made when the "tube is full" (as opposed to seeing what might be left after everything else is paid for). One of the remarkable "miracles" of first fruits giving is how this commitment to God seems to increase the amount of money one has to live on! Try it and see!

Try it also with the things you are good at... with your time... with your energy... with your focus. Devote the first and best of your life to God—instead of any spare talent, time, energy or focus—and watch how the abundance of talent, time, energy & focus begins to grow!

Take a Step in first fruits giving!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Mary & Martha Bible Study

Saturday, APRIL 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

Please join us for the 4th and final study in the series entitled **CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP**

(An exploration of Paul's writings in the book of Philippians)

Keeping on Keeping on (Philippians 4:4-23)





BLAST is our Sunday morning learning experience following worship where children, youth and adults get to experience a Bible story through art, drama, food, building & play.

Coming in APRIL: Bible Story: *The Healing of the Ten Lepers*

April BLAST Showcase: Sunday, April 24th

This month, the learning will all be about the Healing of the Ten Lepers . Activities will include making “gummy” men, cookie men, Lego & Wood sculptures, photos & frames, “finger faces,” and a drama.

In March, no Showcase but a FEAST!

In February, the learning was all be about the Lord’s Supper . Activities included baking, eating, other activities and teaching around Holy Communion. On Palm Sunday, we joined the congregation for a very special celebration of Holy Communion in sanctuary as we finished the story of the Lost Son with a homecoming feast!



For
Parents

Involving Children!

You may have noticed that we have young people involved in worship and in other ministries and activities around the congregation. We have youth who are acolytes. We have a youth band that provides music. We have young people who read the lessons. The sound system and Powerpoint are usually managed by youth. We have young people who are changing the outside sign. On Palm Sunday, we had a young girl explain to us what Holy Communion was all about!

We believe that nurturing our young people in the faith includes teaching them the stories of the Bible. But we also believe that it means involving them as much as possible in all aspects of our faith life together: worship, prayer, serving, encouraging, inviting, and giving. We invite parents into the inquiry about ways that we can involve your children more in the activities of the church. Do you think your children could help pass the offering plates? Maybe your family could volunteer to usher... Is there some art that they might be able to create for our worship space? Do you think your child might be old enough to read the lessons? Is there another opportunity that comes to mind?

Let us know! We are committed to this being a place where all of us get to learn and grow in our abilities to live out our faith!

The Outdoor Recreation Koinonia Group



invites members and friends of Lutheran Church of the Cross to a weekend of ...

Kananaskis Camping

Friday evening, June 17 to Sunday, June 19

Lower Lake Group Campsite - both tents and RVs welcome.

A variety of family-based activities will be planned (*more to come*), along with Sunday worship.

To help us with planning, please confirm your attendance as soon as you can with Laverne Rude,

rudel@telus.net or 403-686-7311, or sign the sign-up list (*to be posted soon*).

(And if you don't have camping gear, we can find some for you.)

Grey Power Activities for the spring

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Senior Open Rehearsals.



Friday April 29th 10am—Symphonie Fantastique

Friday May 9th 10am Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky with Karen Gomyo

I need to reserve at least 1 week in advance of the event, Cost is \$10 and we go out for lunch afterwards.

Please email hgray64@icloud.com if interested.

Cineplex In the Gallery –cinematic tour of exhibits around the world, bringing you up close and personal to the greatest art exhibitions and galleries across the globe.

Cost: general admission \$17, Senior \$16, Group 3 or more \$15:30 at Scotiabank Theatre Chinook

April 14th Thursday 7:30pm Leonardo Da Vinci – the Genius in Milan 2D – 1hr 30 mins

May 19th Thursday 7:30pm Painting the Modern Garden from Monet to Matisse - 2hr

June 9th Thursday 7:30pm The Papal Basilicas of Rome 3D – 1hr 30 mins

For more details visit <http://www.cineplex.com/Events/InTheGallery>

Please email Hilary Gray at hgray64@icloud.com if interested.

If you are interested but don't have transportation – please let me know and we will organize transportation.

Badlands Passion Play – Saturday July 16th—watch for more information.

Hands

*If I strain my ears,
And listen carefully,
I can hear the Creator's pencil
Scratching against the paper*

*He sketches curves and wrinkle lines
He use shadow and light to create
ridges
Meticulously carving out fingerprints*

*His work is etched with criss-crosses
Rugged mismatched with smooth
A furrowed brow, a dimming light
He labels it "hands"*

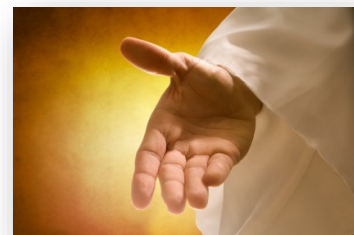
*I avert my eyes for a moment,
And upon returning my gaze,
The scene has changed*

*The purity of the paper has been
replaced with slashes of blood,
Blood and pain,
Excruciating pain*

*The air is pierced with sharp cries,
And desolate wails,
It reeks of greed,
And sorrow*

*And I watch in utter horror,
As those same hands,
The ones that were loved and toiled
over,
Pound hatred and steel into their
Maker*

Hannah Rude



Message from our Bishop

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ –

Throughout 2016 I invite you to reflect with me on the theme of *“Practicing Our Faith”* as you gather for church council, adult study, youth group, coffee group, choir rehearsal and are engaged in learning, discernment and reflection together. Dorothy Bass has edited an excellent resource published several years ago by Jossey-Bass, *Practicing Our Faith*, which I will be using as a primary resource. Together with Don Richter, Dorothy Bass has also edited a second book, *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens*, published by Upper Room Books, which is also an excellent resource. Each article will include a Scripture reference, thematic reflection, questions for consideration, and a prayer. Portions of this article were also used in the February 2013 Monthly Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders and the March 2014 edition of the Canada Lutheran.

In testimony, people speak truthfully about what they have experienced and seen, offering it to the community for the edification of all.

Thomas Hoyt Jr., *“Testimony,” Practicing Our Faith Testimony*

Throughout 2008 the Church Council (where I was serving) and I worked through Diana Butler Bass’, *Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church Is Transforming the Faith* (©2006 HarperCollins), at our council meetings. Butler Bass, in her extensive three-year study of churches across the United States, discovered that many mainline Protestant churches were flourishing in contradiction to decades of accepted wisdom. As she delved into the rich life of various Episcopal, United Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and Lutheran congregations, certain consistent practices – such as hospitality, contemplation, diversity, justice, discernment, worship – and testimony – emerged as core expressions of congregations seeking to rediscover authentic Christian faith and witness today.

I admit I was intrigued by her chapter on testimony which she defines as ‘talking the walk’ – a sharing of one’s journey in faith with others during a time of worship – a practice which began in the early church (see the book of Acts) when the new believers prayed for boldness in speaking about God. In fact, the entire New Testament is a testimony, a record of experiences that early Christians had with the transformative power of God.

Unlike the stories of Puritans and revivalists, testimony is not a spirituality of arrival – of the certainty of securing eternal life. Testimony “is the act of getting there. Pilgrimage stories.... And, in telling the stories of our lives, we find we are not alone on

the journey. Other pilgrims are on this road, too. Pilgrims have always told stories along the way. And, in those stories, we may well hear God ringing in our ears” (page 142).

What would it be like, we wondered, if individuals from our community of faith were invited to share a story of faith with us during worship? Sharing a brief testimony – much like many confirmants do when they affirm their baptism on confirmation Sunday. Sharing individual stories of being surprised by God’s love and grace and transformed in unanticipated ways. And we wondered if we did so if our congregation would discover – testify – “to the power of stories to change us” (page 139), and see anew the continuing work of the Holy Spirit among us and through us?

Well, we wondered and we sought individuals to share a brief testimony as we began worship each month throughout the year.

And together, we heard *“God ringing in our ears.”*

Read and Reflect: I Corinthians 1:4-6; Jeremiah 1:6-9

Discuss and Reflect:

What in this reading leads you to say, “I wonder about...”, or, “I noticed...”

Consider sharing a story from your faith journey – emphasizing God’s work, God’s initiative, God’s activity – and how you were surprised, changed, transformed.

How might testimony be practiced in your ministry context?

Comment on the following: Testimony “is the act of getting there. Pilgrimage stories.... And, in telling the stories of our lives, we find we are not alone on the journey. Other pilgrims are on this road, too. Pilgrims have always told stories along the way. And, in those stories, we may well hear God ringing in our ears”.

Pray together: Come, Holy Spirit, open our eyes, enter our hearts, release our tongues to “talk the walk” so that we might hear You ringing in our ears. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

In Christ Jesus –
Shalom,
+Larry

The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop
Synod of Alberta and the Territories





Join the **REFORMATION** **CHALLENGE!**

Help plant 500,000 trees

A tree is a gift in so many ways; absorbing carbon dioxide, retaining soil, providing shade, being beautiful. The world needs more trees.

Where do you see a need for trees? Where could you plant them? In your neighbourhood, at your congregation or around the world? The ELCIC encourages our members to find diverse ways to gift the world with trees.

Plant trees around your church, community, home, etc... in Canada or consider supporting one of the following are two opportunities to help us reach this goal:

- The Environmental Education Centre (EEC) in Beit Jala, Palestine plants olive trees. These trees create more green spaces in Palestine and combat climate change. IT costs the EEC \$12 per tree, which includes students participating in the tree planting process.
- [Canadian Lutheran World Relief](#) (CLWR) through The Lutheran World Federation, will be planting a total of 150,000 tree seedlings in the upcoming two planting seasons (2015 and 2016) in Lalibela, Ethiopia. A total of 60 hectares of degraded land will be covered with trees in the two-year period. \$50 provides for a grove of 50 trees.

Planting trees is a tangible expression that creation is not for sale.



Around town

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY CELEBRATION AND FUNDRAISING DINNER

Make your own tacos
¡buen provencho!

RSVP to Margaret Propp mpropp@calgary.ca or phone 403-471-9895
Further details will be given with RSVP

FRIDAY
April 29

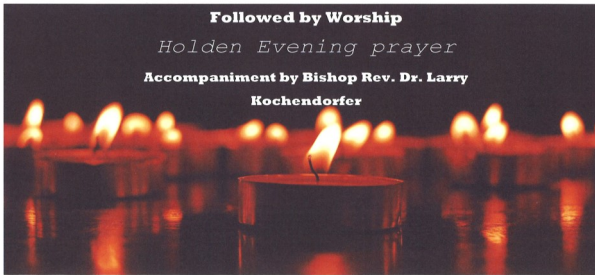
6:30 PM

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3527 BOULTON RD NW

Followed by Worship

Holden Evening prayer

Accompaniment by Bishop Rev. Dr. Larry
Kochendorfer



Kuriakos Gathers Together

A Fundraising Evening

Saturday, April 30, 2016

4:00 - 9:00 pm

Sylvan Lake Community Hall

Table of 8/\$400 or \$50/plate

Great Entertainment Fabulous Food Live & Silent Auction Items

To review sponsorship packages,
purchases tickets or donate auction items,
please visit www.kuriakos.ab.ca

The LCBI Concert Choir performs at 7:30 pm April 1 at

Lutheran Church Of The Master,
216 Main St SE, Airdrie. The evening
features a broad range of musical
selections, as well as a number of
small vocal and instrumental
ensembles, and some dramatic
presentations. There will also be a
gallery of student art work to enjoy.

This exceptional evening of enter-
tainment is provided free of charge.
A free-will offering taken during the
service to support the school and
the choir on their tour.



SONGS FROM FAR AND WIDE

LCBI High School Concert Choir
2016 Spring Tour

Under the direction of Graham Codling

Friday, April 1 | 7:30pm
Lutheran Church of the Master
216 Main Street SE
Airdrie, Alberta

www.lcbi.sk.ca

facebook.com/LCBIHighSchool

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Lutheran Hospital
Ministries
SOUTHERN ALBERTA

WALK OR RUN FOR LOVE

Saturday, April 30, 2016

Support Lutheran Hospital Ministries – Southern
Alberta's Visitors

Who bring Jesus' Healing to Patients in Hospitals and Care Centres

Join the Fun  Raise the Funds \$\$\$

Walk or Run 5 km through Confederation Park

Sponsor a Walker or Runner

Support by Donations

9:00 am Registration at Faith Lutheran Church

1903 – 19 Avenue NW, Calgary

9:30 am Walk & Run Begin

Finish with Lunch at Faith Lutheran Church

Tax Receipts will be issued for sponsorship donations of \$10 or more.

Pledge forms are available from your Church Office
or from

Lutheran Hospital Ministries – Southern Alberta
66 – 7 Street NE, Calgary, AB T2E 4B7

Phone: (403) 264-4045 email: lhmsac@gmail.com

Website: www.lhmsa.ca

THE WALK WILL TAKE PLACE COME RAIN OR SHINE, OR SNOW

The Sixteenth Biennial Convention

Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada



Thursday, June 16 - Saturday, June 18, 2016

University of Alberta - Augustana Campus

Camrose, Alberta

One Delegate Still

Needed.

Guest Presenters:

The Rev. Dr. Gordon Jensen: ***Salvation Not For Sale***

National Bishop Susan Johnson: ***Humanity Not For Sale***

The Rt. Rev. Mark McDonald (National Indigenous Anglican Bishop):

Creation Not For Sale

The Synod of Alberta and the Territories echoes and supports the Lutheran World Federation theme of Liberated by God's Grace and the three subthemes

(Creation - Not for Sale, Salvation - Not for Sale, and Human Beings - Not for Sale) as we participate in this international and ecumenical commemoration.

The commemoration gives us the opportunity to remember and reflect on the Reformation and what it means for us now, living as Lutheran people within the whole body of Christ.

April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Cause of the Month Camp Kuriakos				Communion Sundays— April 3 & 17		
					1 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm Youth Night	2 Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3pm Knitting—10:30 am
3 Adult S.S.—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST - following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	4 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Youth Band—4:30 p m	5 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm— Faith Journey—7 pm	6 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	7 Morning Prayer—9 am Quilting—9 am Soup Sisters—9:30 am Kodaly—1:15—4:45 FACE—3—8 pm Choir—7:15 pm EA.—7 pm	8 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	9 FACE—9 am—3 pm
10 Adult S.S.—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST S—following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	11 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Youth Band—4:30 p m	12 Prayer & Care—10:30 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm— Faith Journey—7 pm	13 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	14 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—4—8 pm Kodaly—1:15—4:45 FACE—3—8 pm Choir—7:15 pm EA.—7 pm	15 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	16 Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3pm M & M—10 am
17 Adult S.S.—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following wor- ship SWCG—1—3 pm	18 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Youth Band—4:30 p m	19 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm— Faith Journey—7 pm	20 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm Council Mtg.—7 pm SWCG—7 pm	21 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—4—8 pm Kodaly—1:15—4:45 FACE—3—8 pm Choir—7:15 pm EA.—7 pm	22 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	23 FACE—9 am—3pm
24 Adult S.S.—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST SHOWCASE - following worship SWCG—1—4 pm YOUTH BOTTLE DRIVE FOOD BANK SUNDAY	25 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Youth Band—4:30 p m	26 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm Prayer & Care—5:30 pm Faith Formation—7 pm— Faith Journey—7 pm	27 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	28 Morning Prayer—9 am Quilting—9 am FACE—3—8 pm Kodaly—1:15—4:45 Choir—7:15 pm EA.—7 pm	29 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm Campus Ministry Banquet—6:30 pm @ Hope Lutheran	30 Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3pm MACG Event @ Knox UC—9:30 am—3 pm