



Discernment... or How do we know what God is trying to tell us?

A couple of weeks ago, I was sitting in a Synod Council meeting and the question before us was, *How do we discern what God is calling us to do?*

A couple of days before that, I was leading a Bible study on Acts 8 where the Holy Spirit *tells* Philip to go south on the road to Gaza where he encounters the Ethiopian eunuch. The question came up, *How does the Holy Spirit tell US something?*

It does not get more fundamental than that does it? How do we know that the ideas we have are of God?

The second weekend of September, I had the opportunity to be with our brothers and sisters in Trinity Lutheran Church in Whitehorse. One of the stories I heard them tell was about how they got their pipe organ. Here's the story as best I remember it...

It all started a few years ago when they had the idea of trying to find an organ for their sanctuary. Somehow, they heard that there was a church in Pennsylvania (I believe it was Philadelphia) that was selling their pipe organ. One of the members of Trinity contacted the church selling the organ to find out how much they were asking. The conversation went like this:

How much are you asking for the organ?

Between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

That's a little bit more than we can afford.

How much can you offer?

We could pay one dollar...

Oh.

After the bids were closed, Trinity was notified that their offer had been accepted! (*They turned down an offer of \$15,000 from someone who wanted the organ for their home because they liked the idea of the organ being used for worship.*)

There was still the problem of getting the organ from Pennsylvania to Whitehorse. Well, a trucking company in Whitehorse was purchasing a new truck in Ontario and was going to have to hire someone to go there and drive it back. Trinity Lutheran got word of this and offered to drive the truck back free of charge... as long as they could swing down into the U.S. and put "a few things" in the back.

When the truck with the organ parts made it to Whitehorse, congregation members started unloading it. A man working across the street noticed them during his coffee break and recognized that these were organ pipes. He not only had experience assembling organs but also tuning them. So he offered his services, helped build the organ, tuned it, and continues to be an active member to this day.

As you hear this story, you might be thinking:

Wow! What luck! Or

What an amazing string of coincidences!

It doesn't take much of a step to appreciate that God's fingers seems to have been all over this!

It is usually the case that it is in looking back that we are best able to recognize or see God's hand in our lives. It is a little bit more of a challenge to recognize it in the moment.

How do we recognize God's will? I don't have the definite answer, but I know that it fundamentally depends upon a desire to do God's will and an openness to *listen* to God.

We know that we encounter God's living Word we engage with the Bible.

We know that prayer is communication with God.

Getting our hearts right.

Bible study.

Prayer.

Those aren't bad places to start!

How do you know it is God talking?



Pastor Paul

A glance at October Ministry Happenings....



- Oct. 1** - Men's Breakfast—8 am
- Oct. 1**— Agape Café—6 pm
- Oct. 3** - Water2Wine rehearsal—4:30 pm
- Oct. 4** - Faith Formation—4—8:30 pm

Oct. 5—Sandwich Making—7:30 am

Oct. 6— Choir—7:15 pm

Oct. 11 - Prayer & Care—11:30 am—potluck lunch

Oct. 11 - Faith Formation—4—8:30 pm

Oct. 12—Council Meeting—7 pm

Oct. 15 - Men's Breakfast—8 am

Oct. 16 - Germany Presentation Lunch—following BLAST

Oct. 16 - Choir "*Joy to the World*" event @ St. Peters Anglican—2-4

Oct. 18 - Faith Formation—4—8:30 pm

Oct. 22 - M & M Women`s Group—10 am

Oct. 25 - Prayer & Care—5:30 pm—potluck supper

Oct. 25 - Faith Formation—4—8:30 pm

Oct. 29 - Glass making—"*God & You Creating*" - 9 am—2 pm

Oct. 30 - Confirmation Sunday

Oct. 30 - Book Club Discussion—following worship

*****All events are at Lutheran Church of the Cross, unless otherwise stated.

**Morning Prayer—9 am—
Monday—Thursday**

**Fellowship & Coffee at
Tim Hortons—every Tuesday
morning at 10 am.
11472 Braeside Dr. SW.**



Lutheran Church of the Cross

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www.churchofthecross.ca
churchofthecross@shaw.ca
 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.



In this Month's Issue

The Peace Post	pg. 3
BLAST	pg. 4
Retreats & Ministries	pg. 5
Women`s Ministry	pg. 6
Book of the Month	pg. 7
Changing phones to trees!!!	Pg. 8
LOGOs Retreat	pg. 9
Meet our family from Syria	pg. 10
Message from our Bishop	pg. 11
Volunteers for October	pg. 13
Help Needed	Pg. 14
Agape Café	pg. 16
2016 Conference Convention	pg. 17
Around Town	pg. 18
Calendar	pg. 19

SYNOD OF ALBERTA AND THE TERRITORIES

The peace post

One year ago, I stood in the art room at **Lutheran Church of the Cross, Calgary**, in the company of four other youth, listening intently to our leader and mentor, **Rev. Laura Holck**. Scattered among us were various paint cans filled with splashes of vivid colour and paint brushes waiting to take on our creativity. Within minutes, excited voices crowded the room as we shared our ideas and sketched them onto the long wooden

beam in front of us. It wasn't long before it was being slathered with green and yellow, purple and blue—a canvas for hope and aspirations, a canvas for peace. Peace between all nations, peace between all peoples. Peace.

Several months later, just after Calgary's Pride Weekend, the room had a different aura as we gazed at the same post, yet this time slashed with black. Vandalized, and pulled right out of the ground. Strangely,

none of us were angry. Surprised and filled with questions, but not angry. "Why?" we asked. "Why?"

There were many theories—maybe the offender thought that as a Christian church we shouldn't be accepting of the LGBTQ community. Or maybe, there hadn't been a reason at all. Maybe it was simply a case of someone acting without thinking, influenced by alcohol or drugs. We didn't know, but that didn't stop us from doing something about it.

We decided to add a plaque explaining the peace post's story from its point of view, as well as three more posts, each side portraying a different shade of the rainbow, an international symbol of acceptance for those who are different from us. We painted them in a way that all six colours were visible no matter which direction you were going as you passed them. These we grounded next to the original peace post, which had been cleaned up enough to read, but not more than was necessary.

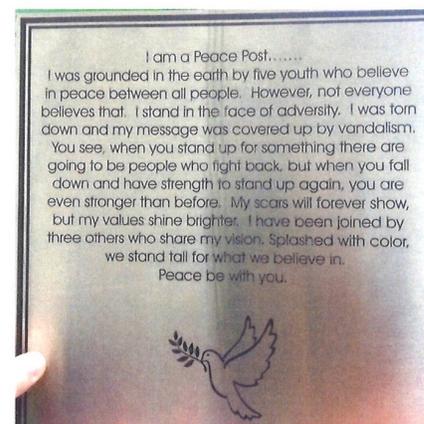
We knew that when we stand up for something, we stand in the face of adversity. The world will fight back and they will scar us. But we will get back up again and show our scars, because we know what is right, even if they do not see it yet. And we will never stop trying to open their eyes.

—Hannah Rude



PHOTOS BY LISA RUDE.

The peace post, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Calgary.



The plaque explaining the peace post's story from its point of view.

Reprinted with permission from *Canada Lutheran*.



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.

October BLAST—MOSES!

October BLAST Showcase
Sunday, October 30th

In October, we will be spending time with the saga of Moses:

- His escape from the pharaoh at birth
- His calling at the Burning Bush
- Challenging the Pharaoh
- Escape from Egypt
- Mt. Sinai
- The Experience in the wilderness

WHO WILL
SAVE US?



Will you volunteer with BLAST this year?

We are very excited about our experiential Bible learning experience called BLAST. And... to have it be effective and sustainable, we need YOU to participate. Whatever your age, Bible knowledge, or expertise, we can use you to help us pass on the faith that we share to our children. Please let Kathy or the church office know which Sundays you would be willing to spend time with OUR children in Christ's name to assist or even lead!

Kathy Bishop – bishop4thomson@gmail.com; Dianne (Church office) 403.2554792..

CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES

SATURDAY RETREAT:

God and You Creating Together



Genesis 1 reveals that God is tremendously creative. Genesis 1 also tells us that we are created in the image of God; we are creative too!

Lots of people think they don't have a creative bone in their bodies, but it's quite simply not true. **Everyone is creative, even if that creativity has been dormant!**

On **Saturday, October 29**, discover some of your own creativity, the joy of creating something lovely, and how you and God make a creative team. **Pastor Laura and Lise Wilson lead a retreat on creativity from 9 am to 2 pm, lunch included.** Our creative medium is fused glass bowls. Please RSVP in the narthex on Sundays. **A \$65 fee covers the cost of materials.**

2016 CONFIRMANDS

Come and celebrate with **Goanar Both Reath, Gundars Jautaikis, and Catherine Schmidt** as they affirm their faith in God.

Their confirmation stoles will be in the narthex before worship. Please arrive early to sign their stoles as a sign of your support for their continued faith formation.

Confirmed youth and adults are invited to wear their confirmation stoles and children are encouraged to wear their baptismal stoles to worship.

Confirmation takes place on **Sunday, October 30th.**

**Would you like a visit from one of the pastors or from someone from Prayer & Care?
Let us know! Call or email the church office**

We are looking for people to serve as friends and guides for new members. If you are willing to have coffee and talk about life, faith, and our church community with new members, please contact the office. (403-255-4792)

Tell Dianne you are interested in shepherding new members. We'll give you next steps. . . .

Confirmation Class



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

MARY & MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, October 22nd at 10:00 a.m. at the Church
When God's Not Fair -Session 2 -
Jesus and the evil eye: When God blesses the unde-
serving.

We continue our 3 part study exploring biblical images of a God who acts beyond our conceptions of what's "fair". We'll delve into what it means to worship this God of ours who forgives the guilty, chooses the unlikely and gives to those who haven't "earned" it.

We invite all women to drop in for study and discussion as you are able. Materials used are from 'Gather' Magazine. We would love to have you join us!

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION



Gather, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, offers a mix of articles, theological reflections, devotions, and stories of comfort and challenge that help readers grow in faith and engage in ministry and action. *Gather* is published 10 times a year with combined issues

in January/February and July/August. The M&M Group receives a bulk subscription and if you wish to be included the cost is \$20 (CDN) per year. (please see Laurie or Marilyn)

Digital access (computer, iPad, Android) is free to print subscribers.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

October Cause of the Month Bethany Care Centre

Every Sunday in October, Church of the Cross will provide volunteers to help residents of Bethany Care Centre to the 2:00 p.m. Worship Service. We need approximately 8 volunteers to push wheelchairs and work elevators. A signup sheet is available in the narthex or talk to Georgina.

Quilting Group will meet every Thursday at 9:00 am and this is your invitation to join us. All quilts are sent to C.L.W.R.

PRAY FOR A YOUNG PERSON



Praying the Proverbs is a great opportunity to pray for a young person. This simple program encourages every adult at Church of the Cross to select a young person affiliated with the congregation and pray for their needs and their character development every day for an entire year. The supplied guide offers a virtue, Bible verse, and suggested short prayer to include in your daily devotional time as you consider the life, opportunities, and character development of a young person. Pastor Laura reflects, "The first time I saw this program, I thought it was great. I started praying for a young person, but what quickly developed were more inclusive and expansive prayers for my own children, myself, my friends and family, my civic leaders, and all the people of the world."

This is a no-stress opportunity to pray! If you miss a day, or a week, simply begin again with the prayer focus that matches the day's date and you're on your way again. If you haven't yet chosen a young person, names are still available in the narthex. Pick one up or phone the church office. We are happy to pair you up!

October Book of the Month

Love Does

*Discover a Secretly
Incredible Life
in an Ordinary World*
by Bob Goff

As a college student he spent 16 days in the Pacific Ocean with five guys and a crate of canned meat. As a father he took his kids on a world tour to eat ice cream with heads of state. He made friends in Uganda, and they liked him so much he became the Ugandan consul. He pursued his wife for three years before she agreed to date him. His grades weren't good enough to get into law school, so he sat on a bench outside the Dean's office for seven days until they finally let him enroll.

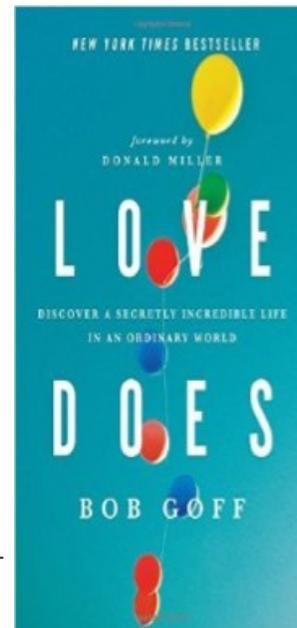
Bob Goff has become something of a legend, and his friends consider him the world's best-kept secret. Those same friends have long insisted he write a book. What follows are paradigm shifts, musings, and stories from one of the world's most delightfully engaging and winsome people. What fuels his impact? Love. But it's not the kind of love that stops at thoughts and feelings. Bob's love takes action. Bob believes *Love Does*.

When *Love Does*, life gets interesting. Each day turns into a hilarious, whimsical, meaningful chance that makes faith simple and real. Each chapter is a story that forms a book, a life. And this is one life you don't want to miss.

Light and fun, unique and profound, the lessons drawn from Bob's life and attitude just might inspire you to be secretly incredible, too.

Love Does is available at church or online at Chapters Indigo and amazon.ca. ***Conversations about Love Does will take place in the North Meeting Room on October 30 following worship.***

Coming up in November: *Rediscover Jesus* by Matthew Kelly.





Turn your old cell phone into a tree.

We are recycling used cell phones and smart tablets to support the environment and the goals of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation celebration. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada has set a goal to plant 500,000 trees in Canada and around the world by October 31, 2017. You can support this initiative by donating your used cell phone or smart tablet to Lutheran Church of the Cross (donation box in the office), or by making a monetary offering to the 500th Anniversary initiative (make cheques payable to Lutheran Church of the Cross and write "Reformation initiative" on the memo line).



Canadian Lutheran World Relief

RELIEF SHIPMENT NEWS

shipped.

CLWR announced that We Care Living and Learning Kits, sundresses, and quilts donated this spring have

Over **4000 quilts and blankets, 1479 baby blankets, 6505 We Care Kits** (2692 of which were Living and Learning Kits) **and 50 hygiene buckets** were shipped to Johannesburg to support programs in South Africa and Lesotho. This shipment also included large supplies of toothpaste, soap, toys, and sundresses. South Africa experiences extreme weather patterns due to climate change, with temperature reaching as low as -4°C. This shipment will support groups like Orphans for Lesotho, many schools and other organizations in need. South Africa has many destitute families, many of which are child-headed households.

A second shipment, containing **1260 quilts, 570 baby blankets, 3751 We Care Kits, 40 hygiene buckets** and a large supply of soap, toothpaste, toys, and sundresses was sent to Swaziland. Swaziland is currently experiencing one of the worst droughts in the nation's history. This shipment of donated material is coming at a very crucial time when there is a lot of unemployment and strife. The donation of material aid goods will help support those affected by the drought.

Thank you for contributing to CLWR (our Cause of the Month for February), sewing sundresses, and helping to pack Living and Learning Kits. Together with Lutherans across Canada, we are making a difference for people in need.

You can subscribe to CLWR's We Care Network news by emailing wecare@clwr.mb.ca

What is it?

LOGOS is both a fun and a deep Christian experience, presented as a 3-day retreat. LOGOS is designed to revitalize your life of faith in the atmosphere of Christian community. People who attend and people who serve LOGOS say it is one of the best faith experiences they have ever had.

The Greek word *logos* means “word.” In the Gospel of John *logos* refers to Jesus, the word-made-flesh. The intent of LOGOS is that you encounter the Living Word and that God will speak a word to you, just for you.



What can I expect?

On the LOGOS weekend, you will spend time in a small group of people. You will hear talks, sing, worship, eat, and do a service project. Although the format is very simple, you can expect so much more. You can expect to be inspired, to laugh, to be moved, and to finish your weekend with a renewed vigor for life.

Who is it for?

LOGOS is for **confirmed youth** from around the synod who are interested in:

- deepening their faith life,
- getting to know and getting connected with other youth around the synod, and
- developing their leadership ability.

(Those who attended the LOGOS at Church of the Cross two years ago are eligible to serve on the team. If you are interested in being on the team, please contact Pastor Phil.)

Why is it SO CHEAP?

Thanks to a grant from the *Lutheran Triune Educational and Benevolent Society of Calgary*, we are able to offer this first LOGOS at Camp Kuriakos *for half price!* Our goal is to introduce this experience to youth from as many different Lutheran congregations around the synod as we can... but we only have room for 40 participants. Therefore, for the first two youth from each congregation, the cost is only \$70 each. *[For any additional youth, the cost will be \$135 plus GST.]*

How do I register or get more information?

To register, go the Camp Kuriakos website <www.kuriakos.ab.ca> and look for **LOGOS** or call Camp Kuriakos at (403) 746-2702. If you are planning on being on the team, contact Pastor Phil for special registration instructions.

For more information, contact Pastor Phil Holck by email (philholck@gmail.com) or phone (403) 813-6797.

They have arrived!

The refugee family we had been anticipating for what seems forever, arrived at the Calgary airport on September 8. They have settled in well and are busily being taken on a walk through their neighbourhood, to get Alberta Health Numbers, to get personal photo ID, on a trip downtown on the C-Train, getting English lessons and on and on. I hope we are not wearing them out. They've even been taken to a mosque in time for the Eid al-Adha festival. They were very surprised and happy about that.



Mohammad, Zuheir, Maram, Hamza

Just a reminder, offering to **Refugee Mission** is still needed. I'm sure there are more than a few in our congregation who still remember what it was like.

Walter Driedger

MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ –

At its March 2016 meeting Synod Council approved my request for a sabbatical leave, November 1, 2016-January 31, 2017. What follows is a shortened, edited version of my proposal to Synod Council:

A Sabbatical Leave Proposal: Unwrapping the Gift of a Sabbatical Leave

And after [Jesus] had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. Matthew 14:23

Prologue

The Sabbath pattern - six days of work, followed by one of rest - is woven deep into the fabric of the Bible - it is seen, fundamentally, as a gift! The root word means to cease, to desist. The idea is not that of relaxation or refreshment, but cessation from activity. The first story of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures (Genesis 1-2:4a) climaxes on the seventh day, the first time there was a seventh day. Having created everything, God rests, and blesses this day, and makes it holy.

Later, God teaches the people of Israel to share in the blessing of this day (Exodus 16). After bringing them out of Egyptian slavery into the wilderness, God sends them manna, commanding them to gather enough each morning for that day's food alone. Mistrusting, they gather more than they need, but it rots. On the sixth day, however, they are told to gather enough to last for two days. Miraculously, the extra does not rot, and those mistrustful ones who go out on the seventh morning to gather more food find none. God is teaching them, through their own hunger and nature's provisions, to keep the Sabbath, even before Moses receives the commandments on Sinai.

When those commandments come, the Sabbath commandment is the longest and, in some ways, the most puzzling. Unlike any of the others, it takes quite different forms in the two passages where the Ten Commandments appear. Both versions require the same behavior - work on six days, rest on one, but each gives a different reason. What is wonderful is that each reason arises from a fundamental truth about God's relationship to humanity.

The Exodus commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) to "remember"

the Sabbath day is grounded in the story of creation. The human pattern of six days of work and one of rest follows God's pattern as creator; God's people are to rest on one day because God did. In both work and rest, human beings are in the image of God. At the same time, they are not God but God's creatures, who must honor God by obeying this commandment.

In Deuteronomy, the commandment (Deuteronomy 5:12-15) to "observe" the Sabbath day is tied to the experience of a people newly released from bondage. Slaves cannot take a day off; free people can. When they stop work every seventh day, the people will remember that the Lord brought them out of slavery, and they will see to it that no one within their own dominion, not even animals, will work without respite. Sabbath is a recurring testimony against the drudgery of slavery.



Together, these two renderings of the Sabbath commandment summarize the most fundamental stories and beliefs of the Scriptures: creation and exodus, humanity in God's image and a people liberated from captivity. In both remembering and observing, the Sabbath is understood to be gift.

Later, Christians continued to treasure the Sabbath commandment, along with the other nine commandments from Sinai. They also came to believe, however, that its meaning had changed with the new creation God began with Christ's death and resurrection. The holy day from now on, therefore, was not the seventh but the eighth, the day on which the future burst into the present.

Unwrapping the Gift

Unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave means for me, first of all, understanding - or seeing - such a "time" as this woven into the biblical stories of creation, exodus and resurrection. Whether we know the term "Sabbath" or not, we, the harried citizens of the 21st century, yearn for this reality. We need Sabbath, even though we doubt that we have time for it. As your Bishop, ministering with you and among you, I yearn for a time of Sabbath. I yearn for an opportunity to reflect on my call to ministry, specifically to episcopal ministry, to prayerfully consider God's relationship with me and my relationship with God, and to reflect on my relationship with God's people - specifically to a community named and called, The Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

Message from our Bishop—continued

Unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave brings with it a deep sense of gratitude and thanksgiving for me. To be serving with and among a community of faith with the means and the will to offer such a gift means more than words can adequately express. Thank-you! This is a gift not only for me, but for Cathy. And on her behalf, I say thank-you!

Unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave brings with it questions too! I confess that I am somewhat anxious about not being with you. Today, at this vantage point, I question how I will “leave” well, and how I will “re-enter” well. Know that I will miss you! I will be wondering how God is working in your lives and in the life of each community of faith and each ministry. I will need your prayers for myself, for Cathy and our family. I will be praying for you constantly!

And finally, unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave means that this time is also a gift for you, The Synod of Alberta and the Territories. As individuals share their gifts our community will be blessed. As people work together in order that ministry is done, relationships will be built. As our Synod continues to explore and live in to its mission priorities of Spirit-Led Leadership, Hope-Filled Discipleship, Innovative Tradition and Collaborative Partnerships ministry will be explored in perhaps new, exciting and challenging ways.

Sabbatical Leave

I have named, and Synod Council has supported, The Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow, Assistant to the Bishop for Mission to serve as Commissary while I am away. She will have the same responsibilities and be similarly accountable in this capacity for the three months of Sabbatical leave. In addition, while meeting with the Conference of Deans in September we be reviewing our Synod’s Call Process as well as other agenda items given that I will be away.

I know that you will keep Julianne and Darla Wildfang, Executive Assistant, and each of our synod staff in your prayers.

I will not be receiving correspondence nor be in communication during these three months.

Goals of the Sabbatical Leave

As our Sabbatical Leave Policy states: “The purpose of the sabbatical leave will be to provide a respite from the demands of work and routine and renewal of self. It is not in-

tended that a course of study be undertaken during this time, although this is not precluded.”

Cathy and I will be welcoming this period of time away together in warmer climates where our Spanish can be put into practice. We are planning that our children would join us for two weeks in this locale.

A regular part of the Sabbatical leave will be time for prayer, reflection and journaling.

One of my greater sins has been the neglect of my own physical well being. Consistency in exercise and in care of my body will also be part of the Sabbatical leave.

Conclusion

I look forward to ministering with you, and among you, upon my return! I am confident that even then, we will continue exploring together this gift of Sabbath - unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave - and seeing such a “time” as this woven into the biblical stories of creation, exodus and resurrection.

In Christ –
Shalom,
+Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

*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

**Spirit -Led Leadership - Hope-Filled Discipleship -
Innovative Tradition - Collaborative Partnerships**

Southwestern /Southern Conference Convention

October 22

8:15 am—3:30 pm

Nazareth Lutheran Church,
Standard, AB

Delegates are needed!

Germany: Luther, Bach & the Beatles



Reserve the date now! **October 21—November 4, 2017**

Your church staff is traveling to Germany to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and you are invited to join them!

If you are interested, reserve October 2017 on your calendar and have a conversation with Pastor Laura.

Information Luncheon will be held on **Sunday, October 16 following worship**. This is for people that have already signed up **AND** for people that have some interest in signing up. Please RSVP to the church office.

Communion Assistants

October 2—June Kvicala & Brigitte Calkhoven

October 16—Georgina & Doug Normandin

October 30—Jim & Anna Johansson



SUNDAY MORNING LECTORS:

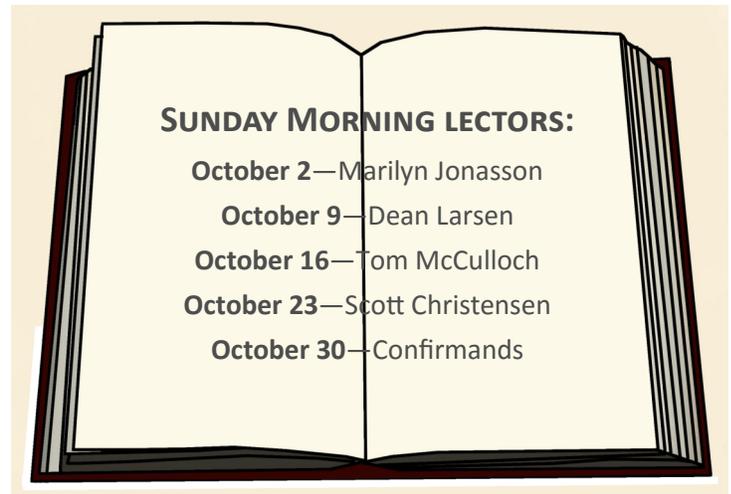
October 2—Marilyn Jonasson

October 9—Dean Larsen

October 16—Tom McCulloch

October 23—Scott Christensen

October 30—Confirmands



SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE

SET-UP

October—Men's Breakfast

November—Grey Power

December—Gardening Group



Communion Set-up

October 2—Doris Urquhart & Lise Wilson

October 16—June Kvicala & Pearl Schuster

October 30—June Kvicala & Pearl Schuster





CHILDREN'S OFFERINGS

We encourage you to teach your children to give offerings to support the church and its mission. Teaching young children to present offerings encourages a life-long practice of sharing wealth and resources with those in need. Our offerings, given throughout our lives support the lives of other people by providing jobs, goods and services, and sanctuary.

Offerings given by children at Church of the Cross support these global missions:

- *the synodical partnership between our home synod of Alberta and the Territories and Columbia*
- *the food and education sponsorship of children in impoverished areas of the world through World Vision*
- *the nationally supported global relief efforts of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR).*

Children are encouraged to bring these weekly offerings to worship: Loose change (World Vision and Columbia) and/or new toothpaste and new individually sealed toothbrushes to support the creation of We Care Living and Learning kits to be sent to children living in refugee camps (CLWR). Please send your children up to the front of the church during the offering time on Sunday mornings. Their offerings will be collected in the **wooden** offering plates.

Children's offering envelopes are available on the table near the mailboxes. If your child makes a monetary offering in these envelopes, or any envelope with his/her name on the outside, the offering is eligible for a tax receipt and will be credited to your family's record of offerings.

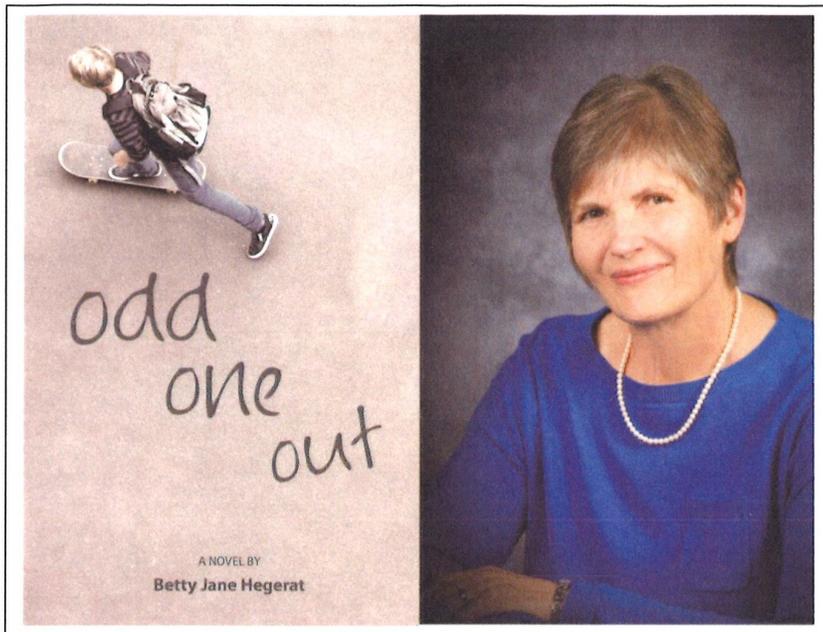
DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE ITEMS?

Oufook and Selma, a medical doctor and pharmacist who fled Turkey because of the "attempted coup" are resettling in Calgary. They and their children are sleeping on mattresses on the floor and can use these items:

- *Queen size bed frame (and box spring if the frame requires it)*
- *Twin size bed frame (and box spring if the frame requires it)*
 - *Dressers*
 - *Dining room table & chairs*

Do you have any of these items? If so, please contact Pastor Laura (403) 540-0053.





Odd One Out **Betty Jane Hegerat**

"There's a person here, Roof. You need to come home."

"Here where? In the house? You let a stranger in the house?"

"Well she's just a girl. Or like a young woman or whatever."

My phone was fading again. It does that. Mom got it as a cheap add-on to her own cell.

Or: Maybe the stranger had her hands around Josie's throat?

Every single lesson we'd been taught about what to do when we were home alone--and our mom and dad take their child-rearing way more seriously than any normal parents--was racing through my head. 911 flashed in big red numbers. "Josie!" I shouted. "Can you hear me? Should I call the police?"

"No! You idiot!" No problem with the volume now. I held the phone a few inches from my ear. Then Josie's voice dropped to a whisper. "This isn't dangerous, Roof, only kind of... weird. Just come home, 'kay?"

Rufus Peters has never felt exceptional in any way. How could he, with a twin sister who outshines him at everything they do? His two problems are finding a way to wiggle out of a student exchange to Quebec, and liberating Boreas, his skateboard, from the principal's contraband cupboard. After Amelia knocks on their door, life in the Peters family goes from plain old "Just Cheese Please" to Nick's Pizza's "Grand Slam and More." Roof makes it his mission to solve The Mystery of the Mexican Stranger.

Betty Jane Hegerat has generously donated 15 copies of her most recent book, **"Odd One Out"** to the youth group to help them kick off their fundraising for the next CLAY gathering in 2018. If you have yet to pick up a copy of her book, consider supporting the leadership and faith development of our youth and buy the book from us!

Copies are available for \$20 in the church office.

Payments can be made by cash or cheque to **Church of the Cross** and should be directed to **"Youth Conferences and Conventions"** fund.

Family Advent Retreat at Kuriakos

Join us at this new retreat for families and congregations, **November 11-13, 2016.**

This year's theme, **Why Wait?**, focusses on the reasons for Advent, and will help us to prepare for Christmas with our congregations and our families. You'll leave Kuriakos with a plan for how to live out this season of preparation within your family, and resources for sharing Advent with the rest of your congregation.



This retreat is intended to enrich faith and worship, providing support for practicing Advent. It's a chance for families to become involved in worship, and for congregations to share ideas. Enjoy a weekend *Set Apart to be Together* as your family and congregation still and settle for a season of waiting and anticipation.

Developed in partnership with congregations from across the province. Activities will be provided for all ages.

Register at: www.kuriakos.ab.ca or call: 403-746-2702



The *Agape Café* is a 4-course dinner and evening of stories and entertainment celebrating God's love for us and our love for God and each other. The *Agape Café* supports the ministry interests and needs of young people at Church of the Cross.

Saturday October 1 at 6 pm, the *Agape Café* will support *Light the Night* (the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada) and its Local Honored Hero, our own **Matthew Miller**

Cost: free will offering

Please RSVP in the narthex or by calling the church office.

Let us know if you have any food sensitivities.

*If you are interested in cooking or serving for the *Agape Café*, please contact Pastor Laura*

One Bread, One Body

(ELW #496)

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. *Galatians 3:28*

2016 Conference Conventions

Northern Conference Convention:

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 - Trinity Lutheran, Westlock

East & West Central Conferences Convention:

October 15 - Messiah Lutheran, Camrose

Southern & Southwest Conferences Convention:

October 22 - Nazareth Lutheran, Standard

Guest Presenters:

Dr. Julien Hammond, Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Officer, Roman Catholic Diocese of Edmonton
Reformation 500; A Roman Catholic Perspective

Wayne Street, Synod Council Chair, member of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Lethbridge
Area Leadership Teams

The Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry, ABT Synod National Church Council Representative; Chair of Faith, Order and Doctrine Committee of the National Church Council, Pastor of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Red Deer.
To Love Our Neighbours as Ourselves; A Study of Orders of Ministry in the ELCIC

All Conference Convention Registrations and Reports are online.

Please go to the Synod website: www.albertasynod.ca
Select the Conference tab under "Conventions" on the home page.

**Offerings at the Conference Conventions will be collected and then divided between:
"On Eagle's Wings and The Synod Bishop's Discretionary Fund"**

Around Town

THE NURSING HEALTH MINISTRY

In conjunction with the
Heritage Seniors presents:



MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016

1:30 TO 3:00 PM

This is a follow-up to the May session on scams & identity fraud.

Presenter is **Constable Carter Duchesney**, from The Calgary Police Service Crime Prevention Unit.

EVERYONE WELCOME

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
In the Karl English Lounge
703 Heritage Drive SW

Note:

**The Fall Supper for
this year has been
cancelled.**



Lutheran Hospital Ministries

Notice of AGM

Saturday, October 15 @ 9:30 am

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

66—7 Street NE



Women's Retreat

November 4-6, 2016

\$150 +gst | Age 18+

**Guest Speaker - Rev. Dr. Laura Holck
& Lise Wilson (*The Glass Lady*)**

This weekend is a great way for moms and daughters, sisters, close friends or new acquaintances to spend a weekend with God and each other. Let us cook the meals and clean up while you enjoy time to relax, learn, and laugh.

With time to enjoy good company, joyful laughter, delicious food, and creative crafts- this will be a weekend you won't want to miss! We will also offer massages on Saturday afternoon (\$30), and plenty of silliness to go around.

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid brown; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Cause of the Month Bethany Care Centre </div>						1 Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3 pm Agape Café—6 pm
2 Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	3 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	4 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7	5 Sandwich Making—7:30 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—9 am—8 pm Bible Study—9:30 am AHS Caregivers—1 pm	6 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	7 OFFICE CLOSED SWCG—7 pm	8 FACE—9 am—3 pm
9 Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	10 OFFICE CLOSED 	11 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am Prayer & Care—11:30 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm	12 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm Council Mtg.—7 pm	13 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	14 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	15 Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3 pm
16 Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship Germany lunch—12—2 Joy to the World joint event for choirs—3-5 SWCG—1—3 pm	17 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	18 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7—8:30 pm	19 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	20 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	21 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	22 FACE—9 am—3 pm M & M—10 am
23 Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST - following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	24 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	25 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am FACE—3—8 pm Prayer & Care—5:30 pm Faith Formation—7—8:30 pm	26 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	27 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	28 OFFICE CLOSED FACE—9—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	29 FACE—9 am—3 pm "God & You Creating" - Glass Making—9 am—2 pm
30 Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am— Confirmation BLAST SHOWCASE - following worship Book Club—noon FOOD BANK SUNDAY SWCG—1—4 pm	31 Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	<div style="border: 2px solid brown; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Communion Sundays October 2, 16, 30 </div>				