



The Vine

Summer 2016

WELCOME

Ministry Team

All are members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Pastor

Lee Woolery
 403-253-1453 extn 11
 403-301-0011(home)
 403-809-3487(cell/text)
 pastor@oursaviourchurch.ca

Pastor Lee's Office hours:
 Monday to Thursday
 9:00 am to Noon

Administration

Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor
 403-253-1453
 403-540-1765 (cell/text)
 admin@oursaviourchurch.ca

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry

Jesse Ramson
 Beginning August 5th
 403-253-1453 ext 14
 youth@oursaviourchurch.ca

Office hours to be announced

VBS Coordinator

Shauna Gross
 403-253-1453 extn 10
 vbs@oursaviourchurch.ca

Church Board 2016-2017

Jaqui Anderson
 Elaine Barnes
 Rachelle Ellis
 Doug Gebrandt
 Phyllis Gale
 Jens Kaack
 Jennifer May
 Garry Mihaichuk
 Bob Montgomery
 Darren Tenor

Summer Office Hours:

Tuesday to Thursday
 9:00 am to Noon
 Regular hours resume Sept 5th

www.oursaviourchurch.ca

8831 Fairmount Drive SE, Calgary, T2H 0Z4

Facebook: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour



“A JEW, A CHRISTIAN, AND A MUSLIM WALK INTO A PARKING LOT...”

“A Jew, a Christian, and a Muslim walk into a parking lot” certainly looks like the beginning of some kind of joke that leaves us waiting for the punch line. However, even though this is not a joke, there is a punch line: “..and end up building a shared campus for all three places of worship.” I discovered this headline in a recent “Sojourners” magazine article. It caught my immediate attention and imagination. Wondering where this was leading, I found out that this related to a true story of what was happening in the city where I grew up, Omaha, Nebraska.

The senior rabbi of the oldest synagogue in Nebraska, Temple Israel, approached the American Muslim Institute about sharing a common parking lot as both religious communities were constructing new buildings. These two communities had developed a unique relationship previously in 2001 following the September 11th terrorist attacks. The people of Temple Israel had taken steps at that time to protect a local mosque from “Islamophobic attacks. The seed of sharing the same parking lot eventually grew into the Tri-Faith Initiative as the Countryside Community Church, a United Church of Christ congregation, became a partner. Imagine that! A Jewish synagogue, a Muslim mosque, and a Christian church literally sharing common ground.

“The thought is that on the Tri-Faith Initiative campus, when Jews see Muslims praying on a regular basis or when Christians know what is happening in a synagogue, fear and misunderstanding of the other will dissipate.”

The idea is not to create one blended religion, but rather to promote an interfaith community where each partner lives out their faith authentically. The common ground that this Initiative is experiencing is that hate is conquered by peace and love. The hope is that this movement will inspire others. So far the House of One in Berlin is raising funds to build a single house of worship for Jews, Muslim and Christians. And in Bentonville, Arkansas, there is talk of finding a way for all three Abrahamic faiths to come together.

So what would it look like if we spent more time listening to others, discovering places of common ground rather than only looking for differences and suspicions that keep us apart? What would happen if love, grace and respect were more prominent in our relationships? What would it be like to really love our neighbor? Perhaps the light of Jesus would shine even more brightly. Just a thought; what do you think?

God's peace

Pastor Lee



Family Ministry Year-End Wind-up





We are pleased to announce that Jesse Ramson will join our team as Director of Children's and Youth Ministry starting on August 5. Jesse will serve a thirty hour workweek during our busy school year period.

Jesse has strong youth leadership experience, leading a church youth group similar to our size as well as serving youth with the YMCA in Wasaga Beach, Ontario. He is musically talented, serving as leader on many worship teams and bands.

Jesse is working on a Bachelor of Arts in Religion through Luther Rice University.

He will graduate in spring of 2017, and aspires to continue in a Masters program with a long term objective of ordained ministry.

We look forward to Jesse's ministry service here at Our Saviour. He will join us at an important time, becoming involved with the VBS activity, and doing early fall program planning as we approach the busy Back to School period. Please plan on welcoming and supporting Jesse as he starts his ministry to our young.

Submitted by Walter Hall, Human Resources



Greetings from Jesse

Dear Lutheran Church of Our Saviour,

My name is Jesse Ramson, and I'm extremely excited to be joining your church family as leader of youth and family ministries. I come with a wealth of experience dealing with youth and children, and am wholly committed to helping the congregation grow stronger together as a family in Jesus' name. I have worked with children as a part of the YMCA for many years, and have also led youth groups for a few different churches. My focus is on igniting the passion in young people's hearts, souls, and minds to seek out Jesus in every aspect of their lives. I want to help youth build stronger relationships that will be long-lasting and can withstand whatever the world and Satan throws at them. I want to build excitement within children that leads them to turn to the Bible more and more, as they grow in knowledge and maturity within their faith. I want to strengthen the connection between the young people and the rest of the congregation, and help turn the church's focus towards the future. Thank you in advance for welcoming me into your family, I would ask for your prayers that God truly blesses my ministry and the impact that it has on the families within the congregation.

Sincerely,

Jesse Ramson

Y'ALL ARE INVITED

TO LCOS'S ★★

STAMPEDE BREAKFAST



Sunday, July 17th

8am to 10:30am

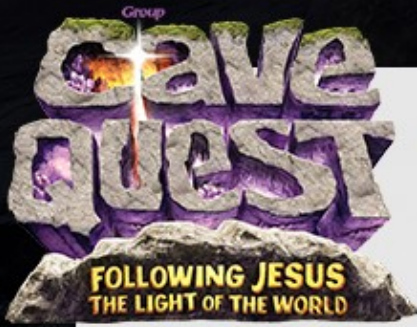
CHURCH SERVICE TO FOLLOW AT 11AM



LIVE BAND

TONE JONES

DONATIONS GO TOWARDS PUT BOOTS TO HUNGER



Gear up for an adventure!

August 22nd to 26th, 2016

9 am until noon at LCOS

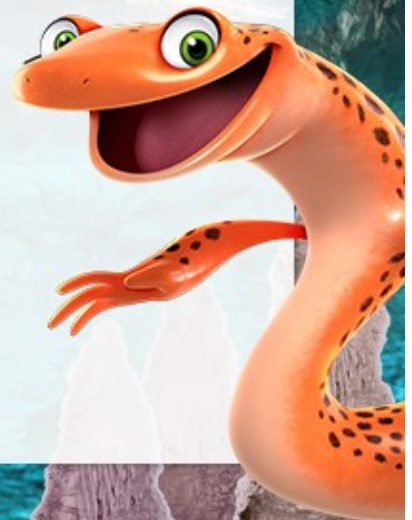
Gear up for an over-the-top underground adventure with Sal, Mawtha, Radar, Olivia and Ray as kids experience God's word in surprising and unforgettable ways. Kids will learn how Jesus gives us hope, courage, direction, love and power in a way which makes it easy for them to remember and apply to real life. Sign up today at www.vbsfun.ca or at the church office.

There are many ways to help support VBS. Sign up in the foyer to volunteer your time as a leader or helper during VBS or donate items needed to run VBS for up to 100 kids and volunteers. Below is a simple list of items needed. For the full list and amounts, please see the VBS board in the foyer or website.

NEEDED:

Welch's Fruit Snacks	New Sponges	Black Tarp or Plastic
Goldfish (cheddar)	Bubble Wands	Rope Lights
Marble Cheese Sticks	Flickering Tea Lights	Sandwich Ziploc Bags
Dole Pineapple Tidbits	Duct Tape	Removable Glue Dots
Kraft Ranch Dressing	Cotton Balls	Stone Coloured Spray Paint
Blueberries	Brown Kraft Paper	Cardboard
Large Oranges	Plastic Drinking Straws	Brown Paper Lunch Bags (approx. 2" 4'x8' boards)
10oz Plastic Cups	Blue Tarp	Seedless Regular Sized Purple Grapes
Starburst candies	Black Construction Paper	
Black Spray Paint	New Tube Socks	
Battery Operated Christmas Lights		
Large Foam Insulation Boards from Home Store		

* Non-perishable items can be brought to the church starting May 14th.
Perishable items should be brought to the church on AUGUST 21st.
Thank you in advance. Any questions call the church at 403-253-1453.



Games Group

**Games Group meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday
of each month including the summer**

**July 5th & 19th
August 2nd & 16th**

You are welcome to drop in at any time.
We accept new members year round.

We play Bridge, Mexican Train, Cribbage and a variety of other games and always are looking at learning more. Join us for a game or two and get to know us. We also enjoy celebrating life's big events of our members such birthdays, anniversaries and other life events.

We would also like to extend a warm "thank you" for those that help with set-up, take-down and snacks each week.

Operation Eyesight

285 million people in the world suffer from blindness and low vision, while 80% of the cases can be avoided!

In developing countries, being visually impaired is not a disability, it's a death sentence – especially for the very young and old.

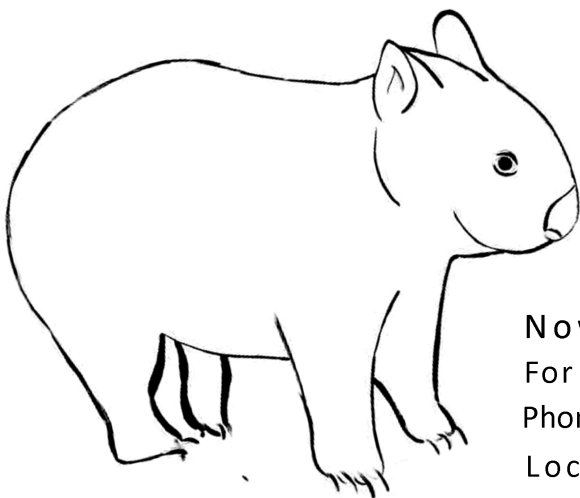
Blindness and poverty is a terrible combination. Operation Eyesight has its home base in Calgary and works to preserve eyesight throughout Africa and India. You can donate by phoning 403-283-6323 or 1-800-585-8265 or on line at www.operationeyesight.com



For All The World To See

**a new preschool is
opening this fall**

**Painted wombat
fine arts preschool INC**



Now accepting registrations for 2016/2017
For more information or to register contact Shauna at
Phone: 403 9034277 email: hello@paintedwombat.com
Located at 8831 Fairmount Drive SE Calgary AB



Peace Out!

Acadia Area Day Camp

(sponsored by McDougall United, Acadia Community Garden and Art Society,
Lutheran Church of our Saviour and, Strong Neighbourhoods Initiative)

Held at McDougall United Church

August 8-12 for Ages 6-12

9 am—4 pm (before and after available for an extra charge)

Cost: \$100

Bursaries are available based on need. Contact McDougall United Church
office.muc@shaw.ca or (403)252-1620 to apply.

Mornings include stories, crafts, games and music.

Afternoons include fieldtrips around Acadia,
including the Community Garden.

Lunch and snacks included.

Space Limited! Register Early



Acadia School Lunch Program: By The Numbers

In conjunction with McDougall United Church we are supporting a brown bag style lunch program for children at Acadia School, David Thompson and Lord Beaverbrook High School. The program will begin again on September 7th.

See below for a brief summary of what we did in the 2015/2016 school year:

- 710 sandwiches
- 529 cheese/crackers
- 526 fruit/veggie cups
- 585 cookies

Total food items – 2,350



We provided lunches for a total of 28 weeks throughout the school year for an average of 84 food items per week. Typically the average would be more like 90 to 95 items, but there were a few weeks where David Thompson did not require lunches. We started at the end of September at one lunch a month, then in October agreed to two lunches a month and then in January increased to once a week. (This coming year we are starting the first week of September on a weekly basis).

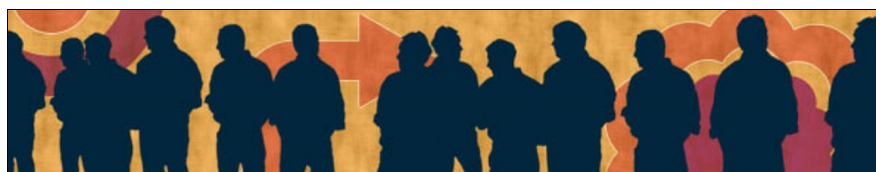
Total spent was \$740.98 – overall average worked out to \$26.46 per week

Donated items came from a variety of sources including:

- all cookies were provided from LCOS members
- occasional donations of veggies and crackers, eggs, ham and fruit from congregational events
- occasional donations of lunch meat, brown paper bags and sandwich bags from LCOS members
- McDougall Church provided crackers

Guiding Mission—Community Organizing

The Guiding Mission team and LCOS has joined The Metro Alliance for Common Good with the goal of working with interested Calgarians to address various social issues.



**Metro Alliance for the Common Good -
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 harness our shared interest and power to address the issues we face in Calgary. We are facing unprecedented challenges as a city. While as individual groups we might have a little bit of power to make our community better, together we can create a chorus that can't be ignored.

All members of LCOS may participate in the various sessions that MACG offers in Calgary throughout the year at no cost. If you have any interest in social justice this is an organization to connect with.

Contact Darren Tenor, Joe Schulz or
Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor for more information.

Our Refugee Family

Our refugee family: We have begun to prepare a home for our Syrian family Zuheir, Maram, Mohammad and Hamza.

The most pressing need at this time is the Budget and Finances Group. This is a group of like-minded people who will take on the task of financial and budget mentoring for the family. This would involve working closely as a small group and closely with the family, particularly for the first few months of their lives in Canada, helping them learn budgeting and financial survival in Canada

Below are a few other areas of need at this time.

- Translators (do you know someone who speaks Arabic and could assist?)
- Shopping Group (helping the family learn to about food shopping)
- Teaching new cooking skills to a young mother and father
- Employment Group (connecting with employment opportunities – the father has some cooking skills)
- Cultural outings (getting to know and experience the city and area)
- Phones and Technology Group

A designated account has been set up in support of the SW Conference Refugee program above. All donations should be clearly marked "Refugee Mission Fund". Please contact Garry Mihaichuk 403-217-0081 or Jaqui Anderson 403-453-4071 with questions or offers of assistance.



CLWR & We Care Program Milestone!

CLWR and the We Care program will be celebrating in their Winnipeg warehouse on Friday September 9th the passing of the **100,000 We Care orders** mark and **CLWR's 70th Anniversary!**

Thanks to everyone involved in the We Care program since 1990, over **1,127,226 kg of donated material has been shipped overseas** to those in dire need. This includes quilts and blankets, baby bundles, school supplies and much more!



Message for Congregations

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ –

As I am preparing this month's message I am keenly aware that it is just over one month since the evacuation of the city of Fort McMurray.

We live in the wake of unbelievable devastation; and, in the wake of incredible generosity.

We live with the reality that many have no home to call home; and, that thousands more are returning to see what they will find.

With you, I give thanks to God for the generosity of those from our own communities, province, nation, and indeed, from around the world, in providing for evacuees, for the safety of the emergency crews and first responders, and for all who continue to coordinate and to plan at every level.



I know that you will continue to hold the people of Fort McMurray in your prayers. Many remain displaced. Many know uncertainty. There are various forms of trauma.

I know that you will continue to welcome those who join you for worship.

On a recent Saturday afternoon (May 28) many of you know that Cathy and I journeyed just outside of Rochester (south of Athabasca) to join Pastor Susan and Cliff Horton and many current and former members of Christ the King Lutheran. What an amazing gathering filled with joy, thanksgiving, gratitude, pain, tears, baptism, Eucharist, shared meal and farewell and thanksgiving for the ministry of Pastor Susan and Cliff who are beginning their planned retirement. The congregation continues conversation begun with St. Thomas Anglican and with the Diocese and ABT Synod about shared ministry in Ft. McMurray. It was a gift to worship together, to hear the stories – the experiences, the shared loss and hope.

As you are aware, through the ABT Synod – Special Bulletins and Wednesday's Word: update, conversation and regular communication continues with CLWR, LC-C and the ELCIC through our Synod. Church groups and congregations in Alberta are invited to apply for funds for programs they feel will benefit the congregations and people of Fort McMurray from the CLWR Emergency Fund. Grant application forms and further details are

available from our Synod Office. I am thankful for the shared work of CLWR, LC-C and our Synod.

Recently denominational leaders met via conference call – Toronto, Edmonton, Asia, Ft. McMurray – Anglican Church of Canada, Salvation Army, United Church of Canada, Mennonite, ELCIC, and others I have forgotten – to share the response and work of each to this devastation. From that conference call it was decided that a more local conversation of denominational leaders should take place to coordinate responses, plan collaboratively and share resources. Again, I am thankful for the opportunity to be in partnership together and to participate in this conversation.



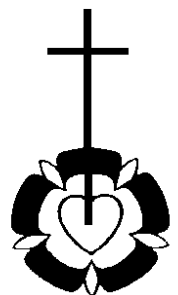
Dear sisters and brothers. There will be further updates to our Synod. We know that as the days go by, other events will begin to dominate media reports and people's attention. This is when we will be needed the most to walk with and support our sisters and brothers.

We continue to pray: Our Lord and God, grant us grace to know your love in whatever we face. Give us patience and thankfulness, even in our pain, anxiety or loss; and move us with compassion and tenderness for our afflicted neighbours; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (Recovering from Trauma, Evangelical Lutheran Worship; Pastoral Care, pg. 188).

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
Evangelical Lutheran Church in
Canada



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

LCOS

ICE CREAM

SUNDAE SOCIAL



August 28th

Join us after the 10 AM service for
some old fashioned ice cream sundaes.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



CALGARY AGING IN PLACE CO-OPERATIVE CONCEPT

"Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be." Robert Browning (1812-1889)

In a Co-operative the seniors that are members are the owners, they decide what the Co-operative does.

The mission of the Cooperative is to allow for seniors to stay at home and be supported as they age. The first leg of this project is to find services that support our members by providing services such as house cleaning, handy persons, snow removal, lawn care, etc. The concept being as a member you get to help determine what those services will be as we grow.

We are also looking for existing service providers in your community, if you know of anyone who owns their own business and offering any of these services, please do encourage them to also come out and meet with us. All service providers will be required to complete a Criminal and Vulnerable Sector Check with Calgary Police Services.

We are looking at other opportunities to continue support of the live at home option for seniors in our communities, such as a secondary suite in your existing home. Suites would be managed by our Co-operative in consultation with the home owner.

Please join us at one of our membership drives in your community to hear more about this concept.
Contact us by: Phone [403-630-1427](tel:403-630-1427) or Email: calgaryaginginplace@gmail.com for more information.
Website: www.calgaryaginginplace.ca (under development)

You can also talk to LCOS member Alice Rodier: cerear@telusplanet.net, (403) 252-0087

Get on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) at LCOS

Did you know that you may give to LCOS via pre-authorized remittance one time per month from your bank or credit union chequing account? This program is like any other pre-authorized debit program and is called the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) program. Debits will be drawn from accounts on the 20th of each month. Whenever the 20th falls on a weekend or holiday, the debits will be drawn on the first business day following the 20th. Donations via the PAR program will be recorded on quarterly statements and year-end tax receipts along with all other giving.

Amounts from PAR can be directed to:

- 1) The LCOS general budget
- 2) Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)
- 3) Capital Maintenance

You can give additional amounts and to other purposes via your regular donation envelopes.

The minimum amount to give via this program is a total of \$50.00 per month.

You can sign up, make banking or donation amount changes, or withdraw from the program at any time. These changes will be effective the month following the submission of the change. Forms are available to process these changes. The program is administered by the Financial Secretary. Authorization forms are available in the Place of Welcome.

PAR: If you give by the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) Program and you have made a change to your pledge amount for 2016 (as compared to 2015), you will need to complete a PAR Amount Change form and submit to the Financial Secretary via church mailbox # 91. If the form is submitted by February 01, 2016 the amount will be effective for the February 20, 2016 withdrawal.

Internet e-transfers are also available!

To make a one time or recurring email transfer simply send donations to donate@oursaviourchurch.ca. Please include either your envelope number or your name and address in the email so that we can give you a proper receipt at the year's end.

Mortgage Reduction Offering Change

As the church mortgage is now paid off, any offerings given in the Mortgage Reduction Offering envelope dated May 01, 2016 in your set of envelopes will go towards Capital Maintenance. This will be designated to build a fund for future capital expenditures that will be required by the church.

English Conversation Classes

We are continuing to make additional plans for a fall launch of classes. If you are interested in learning more about helping out please contact Katharine in the office.

In the fall, there will also be an opportunity to take a 30-hour training program, "Reaching Out with English." This program offers practical instruction for teaching conversational English to adults in your church or community if you are interested in diving deeper into the topic. We also will be making Intercultural Communication workshops available to understand and appreciate people from different cultures and develop more effective ways of communicating with them.



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Let's walk together with newcomers to Canada!

Financial Report – submitted by Cliff Blumhagen

	YTD - 2016	YTD - 2015
Budgeted Giving	\$138,524.95	\$158,584.56
Designated Giving	\$25,972.75	\$17,378.86
Non-Receiptable / Credit	\$875.00	\$1,667.66
Other Income	\$6,430.12	\$7,124.10
TOTAL	\$171,802.82	\$184,755.18
Average Weekly Budget Offering	\$6,296.59	\$7,208.39
Average Weekly Budget Required	\$7,115.00	\$7,193.00
PAR Giving (included in above total)	\$23,966.00	\$26,915.00
Number of envelopes issued	171	165
Number of envelopes unused	27	14
Number of pledges (budget)	78	79
Number on or over pledge (budget)	48	51
Number under pledge (budget)	30	28
Average Weekly Attendance	184	191

Comments:

Year to date budgeted giving for 2016 is 12.65% lower than 2015.

Designated Giving for 2016 includes:

CLWR (\$2,100.00)
 CLWR: Fort McMurray Fire (\$1,165.00)
 Urgent Care (\$2,380.00)
 Coldest Night of the Year (\$1,129.25)
 Grant: Alberta Synod:ESL Program (\$2,800.00)
 Watoto Concert (\$1,343.15)

Capital Maintenance (includes
 Ark Mural (\$5,480.00)
 Refugee Mission (\$2,630.00)
 Refugee Mission-Advent (\$2,600.00)
 Memorial Fund (\$2,460.00)

Designated Giving for 2015 includes:

CLWR (\$2,000.00)
 CLWR: Give Life Project
 (\$1,270.00)
 CLWR: Nepal (\$1,310.00)
 Urgent Care (\$2,000.00)
 Memorial Fund (\$7,158.86)
 Jack Beck Ticket Sales
 (\$1,190.00)

Summer Plans—It is not too late

Men's Motorcycle Retreat

Pastors Reg Berg and Laird Borst (*Ride Captain* and *Tail Gunner*) are planning a Men's Motorcycle Retreat to take place this summer – July 17-21, 2016, using Hinton, AB as their base. Day trip destinations are open for discussion. Evenings will be spent together, building community, sharing stories of life and faith. Costs are still being determined: most will be the cost of fuel and meals on the road. Details will be shared as they become available; for more information, email Pastor Reg at Pr.RegBerg@gmail.com



Canadian ^{The} Badlands
Passion
Play

The Canadian Badlands Passion Play

Come see and/or volunteer

Over 400 volunteers are needed to make the show a success. The Passion Play is currently seeking day volunteers to serve as car parkers, ushers, first-aid workers, ticket sellers, program distributors, and concession/gift shop workers. The 6:00 evening performances for this year are July 8, 10, 15, 16, & 22. The 4:00 afternoon performances are July 9, 17, 23, & 24.

If you are interested in volunteering you can sign up online by going to www.canadianpassionplay.com and clicking on the **Volunteer** link. Or you can contact Sienna Holden, the volunteer coordinator, either by email at volunteer.pplay@gmail.com, or by phone at 1-888-823-2001 ext. 222.

If you are not interested in volunteering but would like to see the show you can order tickets online at www.canadianpassionplay.com or by phone at 1-888-823-2001 ext. 221.

Kuriakos at Sylvan Lake Bible Camp.

Kuriakos is a year-round camping and outdoor education centre, specializing in summer camps and school programs for all ages. Camps include kids camps for ages 6 to 9, ages 8 to 11, ages 10 to 14, ages 11 to 16, ages 12 to 14, ages 13 to 18, ages 14 to 18, soccer camp, dance camp and MADD camp. They also have family camps, senior camps, and men's and women's retreats.

✝ KURIAKOS



Where God's Grace Runs Free

Wilderness Ranch—Where God's Grace Runs Free

Wilderness Ranch's mission is to provide in a wilderness setting a program of education and fellowship where faith and trust in Jesus Christ is integrated into everyday living. Programs take place in two locations and include trailblazers (age 9 to 12), pioneers (age 12 and up), outriders, scouts and sky riders (age 14 and up), adult retreats (over 18) and family camps (all ages).

No Greater Love Music Festival—August 13 & 14



The Digital Age

Summer is here at last and that means that Canada's largest Christian music festival is just a few months away! No Greater Love 2016 runs August 13th and 14th on the Stoney Nakoda Nation in Morley, AB, with the stunning backdrop of the Rocky Mountains. What better place to share in God's unfailing love? Let's fill the field!

The amazing lineup this year includes Switchfoot, Tenth Avenue North, Michael W. Smith, and many more talented artists. There's something fun for everyone on the 100 acre festival grounds—from an authentic First Nations Cultural Village to an Urban Village with a skateboard park, Kid's Fun Zone, Food Truck Village, and camping areas!



Switchfoot



Sanctus Real

This outdoor festival will be a world-class musical celebration of God's unfailing love - showcasing an amazing lineup of top International and Canadian Christian Artists. The vision is to unite the full spectrum of the Christian community through the universal language of music - an experience that promises to have much more lasting impact than simply a 2 day concert in a field! It is our prayer that this festival will encourage all those who attend that we too are capable of "great love" - demonstrating God's unfailing love, to each other and to the community.



7EVEN TH TIME DOWN



Dan Bremnes



The Union of Sinners and Saints

Pastor Lee and I attended this convention, held on June 16-18 at Augustana University College, Camrose. This is a biennial event held to bring all congregations together to discuss current church directions and to chart future priority activity plans.

The convention theme and program highlights were centred on the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the impact of Martin Luther with his doctrine of "justification of grace through faith". This prompted a very dramatic change in the direction of Christianity that continues to resonate today.

While the Reformation anniversary is one that truly deserves celebration, the convention turned to face the challenges of injustice faced by humankind today. Like the church oppression faced in Luther's times, today there are serious social injustices that demand attention. The convention theme, "**Liberated by God's grace**", had the sub-themes of 'Salvation – not for sale', 'Human beings – not for sale' and 'Creation – not for sale.'

These global challenges, such as the fact that human slavery today is greater than at any time in history, appear to be so enormous that our local church has little possible impact on the resolutions. You should feel some comfort that our energy does have impact. Consider just a few of our many initiatives in place today:

- * The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), working through Canadian Lutheran World Relief, as part of the Lutheran World Federation, is a recognized leader in refugee services in "hot spots" such as Syria and Sudan.
- * We have a target of sponsoring 500 refugees to be settled in Canada
- * We have the objective to raise funds for 500 scholarships in schools of the Evangelical Church in Jordan
- * We sponsor Pastor Brian Rude in El Salvador, where he has the respect of both rebel and government leaders for his fair and sensitive advocating for the needs of the disenfranchised.
- * Canadian native communities have expressed appreciation for the stance taken by the ELCIC in support of their basic rights and in support of ecological issues to protect "the land" and to prompt more compassionate sharing of natural resources.

The Convention itself was heartwarming, combining the important "business" concerns with inspirational opening Eucharist Hymn Festival and other worship services and gatherings for song. I must also note the wonderful warm interaction between all the attendees to the convention. There were 112 rostered leaders and 72 lay delegates present. With few opportunities for them to get together, it was wonderful to see old friends warmly greeting each other and joyfully recounting stories of past events.



Pastor Lee received special recognition for having served 40 years in ministry. He seemingly knew "everyone" at the convention and was constantly greeted by old friends, friends of all ages and backgrounds. Pastor continues to amaze as he was able to easily recall family names, activities and social events from the past.

One problematic convention issue relates to our general Alberta financial challenge as the impact it has on our educational institutions. There is a funding shortfall in our support for schools such as the Lutheran Theological Seminary and Lutheran College Bible Institute (LCBI), a support that is needed to keep them from ceasing operations.

In summary, the convention had very positive constructive atmosphere. We closed with a sense of well being and good thoughts for the future of our church family.






Human Beings –
Not for Sale


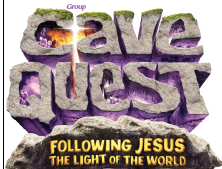



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Subscribe to our online calendar via the website</p> <p>Receive the Vine via email by sending an email to office@oursaviourchurch.ca</p>					1 Canada Day 	2
3 10:00 Worship Service	4 7:00 Al-anon Information	5 1:00 Games Group	6 7:00 Al-anon	7 2:00 Cups–Karate class	8	9
10 Sandwich Sunday 10:00 Worship Service	11	12	13 7:00 Al-anon	14 2:00 Cups–Karate class	15	16
17  8:00 to 10:30 am 11:00 Worship Service	18 6:00—8:00 Preschool Sneak-a-peek 	19 1:00 Games Group	20 7:00 Al-anon	21 2:00 Cups–Karate class	22	23
24 10:00 Worship Service	25	26	27 7:00 Al-anon	28 2:00 Cups–Karate class	29	30
31 10:00 Worship Service						

August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Heritage Day Office Closed	2 1:00 Games Group	3 7:00 Al-anon	4 2:00 Cups– Karate class	5	6
7 10:00 Worship Service	8 Acadia Peace Camp  7:00 Al-anon	9 Acadia Peace Camp	10 Acadia Peace Camp 7:00 Al-anon	11 Acadia Peace Camp 2:00 Cups– Karate class	12 Acadia Peace Camp	13
14 Sandwich Sunday 10:00 Worship Service	15	16 1:00 Games Group 6:00—8:00 Preschool Open House	17 7:00 Al-anon	18 2:00 Cups– Karate class 7:15 Flock Care	19	20 6:00 VBS Decorating
21 10:00 Worship Service VBS Volunteer Meet- ing after Service and final decorating	22 Vacation Bible School 9:00—noon 	23 Vacation Bible School 9:00—noon	24 Vacation Bible School 9:00—noon 7:00 Al-anon	25 Vacation Bible School 9:00—noon 2:00 Cups– Karate class	26 Vacation Bible School 9:00—noon	27
28 10:00 Worship 11:00 Ice Cream Sundae Sunday 	29 6:00—8:00 Preschool Open House 	30 7:00 Church Board	31 7:00 Al-anon		<p>Subscribe to our online calendar via the website .</p> <p>Receive the Vine via email by sending an email to office@oursaviourchurch.ca</p>	