



***LEAD*ing during your Summer Vacation**

Weather notwithstanding... **SUMMER IS HERE!**

I have come to realize that Calgarians really love their summers:

- Things are green.
- The mountains are ready for hiking.
- The days are long.
- The bike baths are ice-free.
- It's time to play, relax and travel.
- Stampede.

All these wonderful facts and activities seem to impact how often folks are able to come the church and worship with us. It doesn't, however, have to impact your walk with God.

For the last year or so, we've been talking about the LEAD initiative. This is a process to have us move from where we are to being a vibrant, growing congregation. The first step was to form a Listening Team. Since May, 2018, the Listening Team has been listening to God:

- Through prayer and Scripture
- Through the congregation
- Through the neighborhood

In the narthex, you'll find some posters on the pillars sharing what we've been hearing. The Listening Team is in the process of discerning what we believe God is saying with an eye toward possible experiments in partnering with people in the neighborhood. But you can also be part of the LEAD initiative this summer.

LEAD is an acronym for **L**iving **E**veryday **A**s a **D**isciple. If we want to grow as a congregation, we must not only grow in numbers but in depth.

Whether we wake up this summer...

....looking toward another day of work, or
---in a bed halfway across the country or across the

world, or
...rejoicing that there is no school, or
...getting ready to golf, or
...braced for a day of driving, or
...looking forward to being with family, or
...excited about Stampede, or
...dreading stampede, or
...looking forward to a day of relaxation,

...you can choose to take another step in your discipleship and walking with God.

It can look like:

- Saying a prayer of thanks at God's amazing creation
- Saying a prayer for someone who is hurting
- Living the day with an intention of being encouraging or of service
- Practicing generosity with family, friends, and strangers
- Letting go of an unforgiving spirit
- Choosing to put the best possible interpretation on what people say and do
- Smiling till your face hurts
- Read a book of the Bible (or listen to it on audio)
- Volunteering for something worthwhile
- Meditating for 20 minutes
- Inviting a neighbor over for dinner

Of course, the list goes on and on. What would deepen your walk with God?

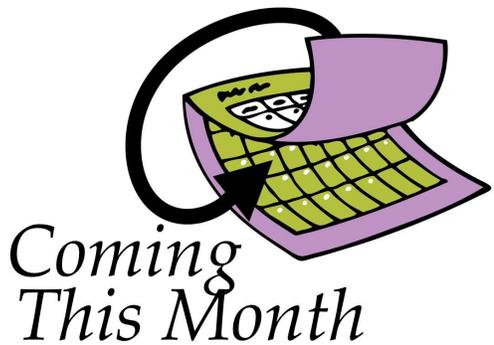
Will you take on being a LEADer this summer?

Peace,

Pastor Paul



A glance at Summer Ministry Happenings....



- July 3 - Sandwich Making - 7:30 am
- July 7 - Stampede Breakfast - following worship
- July 11 - Listening Team Mtg. - 7 pm
- July 15 - August 11 - Dianne's Leave of Absence
- July 22 - August 1 - Catherine's Professional Development Time
- August 7 - Sandwich Making - 7:30 am
- August 14 - Council Meeting - 7 pm

August 18 - 24 - Cantare "Get in the Groove" Week

Have a Great Summer!!!



In this Month's Issue

Love the Lord your God with.....

Heart -	pg. 3-5
Soul -	pg. 6-12
Mind -	pg. 13-14
Strength -	pg. 15-19
Bishop's Message -	pg. 20
Calendar -	pg. 21-22

Lutheran Church of the Cross

10620 Elbow Drive SW Calgary, AB

www.churchofthecross.ca

churchofthecross@shaw.ca

Pastors Laura & Phil Holck

Intern Kate Zaiser

Minister of Music—Catherine Glaser-Climie

Office Administrator—Dianne Fortier

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.



CHURCH OF THE CROSS

LEAD ... love God with all your heart



Listening Team Update



Listening Team Vision

To be outwardly focused, joining in God's mission in a changing world

Listening Team's Purpose

To create a congregational movement that generates curiosity, imagination and wonder across the community

What did we hear God saying through Scripture (*Book of Acts*)?

- Normal, everyday people in everyday situations can make a difference
- Little things can have a big impact on people
- Something; someone transformed their lives and they just had to share it--couldn't sit on it
- Relieved to find "growing the church" doesn't mean knocking on doors
- It means -- the church is exciting & the Holy Spirit brings people together
- Peter's attitude was infectious: "Yes, and...." to whatever was happening
- Their boldness came from their own experience
- Crises lead to opportunity. The crisis is never the end of the story
- Everyone was welcome: Being left out isn't desirable or Christian

Summary Statements

- It's the simple things that drew people together -- there weren't boundaries, or the boundaries didn't prohibit the drawing together: Fellowship, being inclusive, breaking bread: ALL THREE TOGETHER
- Feeling loved, valued, filling your belly, adding meaning doesn't have to be complicated
- What are you up to as a church that **only you can** accomplish with God's help?
- What are you up to as a church that **you can only** accomplish with God's help?
- People want simple, deep, truth and connection.

What did we hear God saying through the Congregation?

Group	Summary Statement/s
Choir	We need to play a bigger game!
PHD	We have a really good place to stand
Sandwich Makers	Care for people.
Men's Breakfast	Trust the process. We are called to responsible discipleship.
Confirmation	We want community
Greg's Group	<i>Stretch and Grow</i>
Women's Group	<i>Be strengthened and supported to serve others.</i>
Faith Formation	<i>Balance discipleship development and action</i>

LEAD ... love God with all your heart

Individuals	<i>Remember who and whose we are.</i>
Quilters	<i>Nurture the Spirit.</i>
University Age	<i>Don't forget about us!</i>
Families with Young Children	<i>Our way of life is welcoming, inclusive and transformative. We need support to live it</i>
Open/Individuals	<i>We need to take bold steps. The risk is worth it.</i>
Youth Group	<i>Make faith authentic and accessible</i>

What did we hear God saying through the Neighborhood?

Category	Group/Org.	Summary Statement/s
Public Services	Police Services Public Library Fire Dept.	Our neighborhood is becoming increasingly elderly, transient, immigrant and socially isolated. Our neighborhood needs us to be a vibrant source of community and connectedness... and they are hungry for it.
Fitness Center	Orange Theory	People are hungry for community.
Community Associations	Braeside Cedarbrae Haysboro Woodcreek	There are people that are passionate about community-building but they don't know how to accomplish it in the 21 st century.
Churches/ Indigenous	Casey Eagle Speaker Holy Spirit Cath. St. Gerard's Southwood United St. Mary's Univ.	Care about your neighbors. Just try things and I will bless your efforts! Vision of the churches being a united front of caring for the community.
Public Officials	MP Bob Benzen	Be open to new ways of connecting (communicating).
Health & Social Services	Southwest Communities Resource Centre (Debra Armstrong)	There's no shortage of opportunities to make a difference right in our neighborhood.

The Listening Team is now working on brainstorming possible linkages between the congregation and the community, through listening, prayer and guided conversation we hope to let go of our personal preferences and discern where God is calling the congregation. Our goal is to identifying one or two connections to the neighborhood that seem most likely to fit within the gifts of the congregation.



Submitted by Hilary Gray,
Listening Team Facilitator

LEAD ... love God with all your heart

One in Love

By Richard Rohr

The following is the daily devotion for Sunday, June 2, 2019 from the Center for Action and Contemplation. It is part of that week's theme, "Unity and Diversity." cac.org/category/daily-meditations/

The primary problem is that our identities are too small. We tend to rely most on our smaller, cultural identities and ignore our larger, common identity as members of the body of Christ. . . . Indeed, adopting a common identity is the key to tearing down cultural divisions and working toward reconciliation. — Christena Cleveland [1] God's major problem in liberating humanity has become apparent to me as I consider the undying recurrence of hatred of the other, century after century, in culture after culture and religion after religion.

The dualistic mind, upon which most of us were taught to rely, is simply incapable of the task of creating unity. It automatically divides reality into binary opposites and does most of its thinking inside this limited frame. It dares to call this choosing of sides "thinking" because that is all it knows how to do. "Really good" thinking then becomes devising a strong argument for our side's superiority versus another country, race, group, political party, or religion.

It seems we must have our other! We struggle to know who we are except by opposition and exclusion. Eucharist was supposed to tell Christians who we are in a positive and inclusionary way. But many Catholics, particularly clergy, have made the Holy Meal into a "prize for the perfect" and a "reward for good behavior" instead of medicine for sickness—which we all equally need. Now I see what our real sickness is. Our sickness or "sin" is the illusion of separateness, a completely mistaken identity which is far too small and too boundaried. The Eucharist is

made to order to remind us that we are all one body of Christ. Even those in "other flocks" (see John 10:16)—other religions or no religion at all—are still part of the one body of God, which is, first of all, creation itself.

Christianity's long history of anti-Semitism is one example of this. Throughout Europe, leaders at the highest levels of church and culture, and even canonized saints, thought Jews were a problem—while their own leader Jesus, his mother Mary, and all the apostles were fully Jewish! Figure that one out. Anti-Semitism only lessened for a time during the Crusades when Christians directed their negative energy toward Muslims. Later, when there were no obvious "others" around, we Christians divided into warring denominations and did our fighting there.

Humans are wired to scapegoat and project our shadow elsewhere. Being able to recognize our own negativity takes foundational conversion and transformation of the egoic self. Unitive consciousness—the awareness that we are all one in Love—lays a solid foundation for social critique and acts of justice. I hope we will let God show us how to think and live in new ways, ways that meet the very real needs of our time on this suffering planet.

[1] Christena Cleveland, *Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces that Keep Us Apart* (InterVarsity Press: 2013), 177-178.

Adapted from Richard Rohr, "Introduction," "Unity and Diversity," *Oneing*, vol. 6, no. 2 (CAC Publishing: 2018), 13-14; and

Richard Rohr: *Essential Teachings on Love*, eds. Joelle Chase and Judy Traeger (Orbis Books: 2018), 88-89



Cause of the month for July & August

CALGARY FOOD BANK

Even in summer there is an ongoing need for food hampers at the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank. Food donations can be left in our food hamper box located at the East door entrance or you may make a monetary donation of cash or cheque (make cheque payable to the Lutheran Church of the Cross).

Grocery items that are always needed are: **canned vegetables, fruit, soup, meat and fish; pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, cereal, rice and juice.**

OUR WISH LIST

Help make each emergency food hamper meet Canada's Food Guidelines by donating our most needed items.

 PASTA SAUCE	 PASTA	 MACARONI & CHEESE	 PEANUT BUTTER	 CANNED SOUP
 RICE	 JUICE	 CEREAL	 CANNED BEANS	 CANNED MEAT AND FISH
 CANNED VEGETABLES <small>carrots, peas, green beans, mixed vegetables, tomatoes</small>			 CANNED FRUIT <small>peaches, pears, mixed fruit, pineapple, oranges</small>	

3 WAYS TO DONATE

- 1 Drop off your non-perishable food in the donation bins at any major grocery store.
- 2 Drop off non-perishable or fresh donations directly to the food bank at our warehouse, door #3.
- 3 Hold a food drive and have your non-perishable food picked up by our drivers.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can donate while you grocery shop. There are non-perishable donation bins at most major grocery stores in Calgary.



Canadian Lutheran World Relief

The following is an excerpt from C.L.W.R.: *“In 2018 we dispatched three containers of supplies to Mauritania, Liberia and Cameroon. These shipments benefited many children and elderly. For families that have already lost so much a warm quilt or a carefully prepared We Care kit means a lot.*

We are happy to report that in 2018 the We Care program with your help shipped 13,790 quilts and blankets and 7807 We Care Kits. Together we were able to send 31,858 kg of aid, valued at over \$303,784. We know that with your help we will be able to do so much more in 2019”

Submitted by
Pearl Schuster

LEAD ... love God with all your soul

AFFIRMING MINISTRY TEAM

Affirming Faith Ministry Team *Affirming/Inclusive Ministries Network*

We have perhaps not mentioned before that LCOC is a member of the Calgary and Area Affirming/Inclusive Ministries Network. This group is made of the faith communities noted on this map which you may find interesting:

<https://affirmingconnections.com/ministrymap>

Other groups involved include the Calgary Rainbow Railroad, PRISM – a mentoring program through the Boys and Girls clubs of Calgary – Calgary Queer Church, and Affirming Connections, an umbrella organization with Pam Rocker at its helm. There are also faith communities who are not yet officially affirming but attend the meetings to report on their “journey.”

The group meets approximately once a month, and at the most recent meeting on June 12, we were introduced to the Rainbow Elders, a group focussing on isolation and the experiences of seniors of the LGBTQ+ community in nursing home and other senior facilities. These good folks have begun a program that involves speaking with the organizations responsible for senior facilities across the city with suggestions for staff training. They have also been visiting churches, and I hope I can speak for the team when I say that we hope to offer our congregation an opportunity to meet and visit with them.

Pride Parade is also an active member of the network and as we move quickly toward Labour Day weekend and the Calgary Pride Parade their preparations are well underway. We will be walking with the Affirming/Inclusive Ministries group this year, carrying our own Lutheran banner. We will keep you updated, but so hope that our congregation will out in large numbers, if not to walk in the parade, then to stand in support of this event that has increased in size in amazing and joyful spirit. It was estimated that last year’s Parade had tens of thousands of cheering on-lookers. This, our friend, Dale Kwong, reminded me is in stark contrast to the first parades where people walked wearing masks because they were afraid to declare their identity, and many of the bystanders were hecklers.

Our Affirming Faith Library

We now have a number of books for adults, teens, and children in our affirming faith library which you will see on display in the narthex on Sundays very soon. We are looking to expand the library and rather than simply ask for donations of cash for purchasing the books, I asked my librarian daughter, Elisabeth, if she would assist in providing a “wish list” so that you could peruse, see if there are books you would like to read, and order them for inclusion in our library. Elisabeth tells me there is not a lot of adult fiction on the list (mostly Alberta authors) more non-fiction and memoir, but a representative sample of kids’ and teen books.

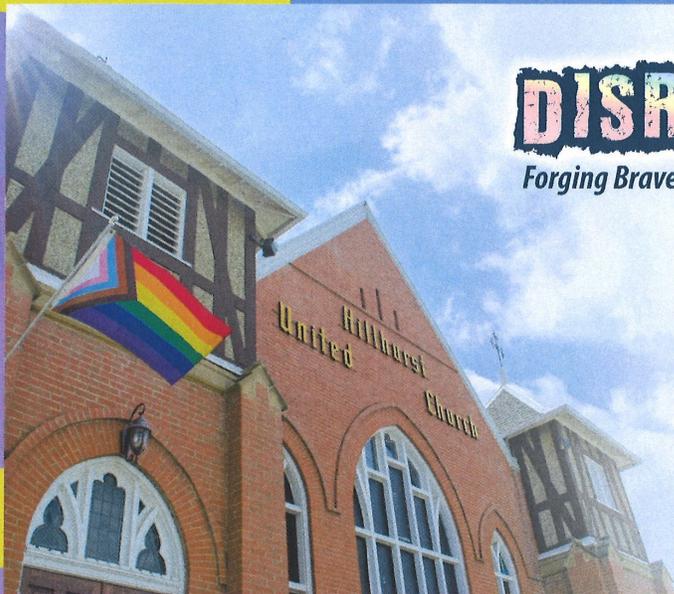
<https://www.amazon.ca/hz/wishlist/ls/1WN4VD58IVDEZ?&sort=default>

As we have mentioned before, we would welcome anyone who would like to join on this team. Meetings are not frequent, but always interesting, and the people and organizations with whom and which we connect inspire us. If you ideas or requests for speakers or films you would like us to offer, please let us know.

Betty Jane Hegerat for the Affirming Faith Ministry Team:
Pastor Laura, Dianne Fortier, Marilyn Jonasson, Judy Shore-Isford

LEAD  ... love God with all your **soul**

**JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL
AFFIRM UNITED CONFERENCE!**



DISRUPTIVE FAITH

Forging Brave & Inclusive Communities in Divided Times

 **Affirm/S'affirmer**
UNITED ENSEMBLE
Annual Conference
July 26 - 28, 2019
Calgary, Alberta



DISRUPTIVE FAITH!

JULY 26-28, 2019

**FORGING BRAVE & INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES IN DIVIDED TIMES
LOCATION: HILLHURST UNITED CHURCH, CALGARY, AB**

If you're looking for new ways to engage and expand your faith and social justice work, this conference is for you! Our time together will include thematic speakers, worship, workshops, conversation, children and youth programming, entertainment, and meals! All faiths and backgrounds welcome.

Featured keynotes and workshops with Harlan Pruden and Rev. Emmy Kegler, a media workshop with Mike Morrison, a staged reading of the play 'Caretakers', and much more!

FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER: HILLHURSTUNITED.COM/TICKETS

ROSES FOR MY MOTHER

by Judy Shore-Isford

In 2016, my son Edwin was completing his last semester of his B.F.A. majoring in photography, at University of Leeds, England. My husband and I visited him there and during our excursions to various places, I took pictures of roses. Although it was Fall, there were many plants still in glorious bloom. A short time later, Edwin began to send me pictures of roses wherever he happened to be. He set up an album on Facebook and named it Roses For My Mother. I felt touched by this gesture. Edwin asked me why I loved gardening and flowers and roses, especially. It has taken me considerable time to answer that question, and I hope this gives him insight.



Dear Edwin,

My father and his sister, Aunt Iva were the main people in my life who gave me a love of gardening. They told me stories of helping their mother with planting, weeding, watering and all the tasks that come with gardens. They lived in challenging times where seeds from last year had to be kept for the next year's plantings. You could not readily go to a store to buy packets of seeds.

My father was raised Anglican and my mother Presbyterian. They did not attend Church; instead they enrolled my brothers and me in a nearby Presbyterian Church where I attended Sunday School and Youth Group. At the age of seventeen, I chose to be baptized. My Faith journey has evolved from there.

When I am down on my knees, with a trowel or watering can, I become contemplative and can actually feel God's presence. I feel the soft earth, the sun on my face, His breath from a gentle wind and I know, for that moment, that God is present. I close my eyes and the fragrance of my rose bed brings back images of bygone days, where I am alongside my father or aunt, knowing they are still with me in spirit. When I cut a rose to give to a friend or your sister or simply to put on my table, I think of all of my loved ones. There are roses in my garden in memory of people who have passed on.

Each of us has a story to tell, and my rose garden is a part of that story. Thank you, Edwin, for asking why roses mean so much to me.

LEAD  ... love God with all your **soul**

The Way of Christ

Weekends and community experiences that make a difference

ForWord

Sunday Sept 29, 2019

6:30-8 pm

at Church
of the Cross

10620 Elbow Dr. SW

- People speak in relevant ways about their struggles and faith
- Small group conversation and prayer
- Music, worship and a free-will giving opportunity to support *The Way of Christ*
- Potluck: Bring something to share

All Are Welcome

For more information, contact Laura Holck: lauraholck@gmail.com

*ForWords are also an opportunity to hear about
The Way of Christ Weekends*

Rediscover, Reconnect, Renew your life in 72 hours

LEAD ... love God with all your soul



LIFE Group

WHERE: The Holcks
111 Queen Anne Way SE T2J 4R3

WHEN: Thursday evenings, 5-7pm
June 27, July 11, July 25

WHAT: Supper, Lectio Divina scripture reading, Conversation, and discussion of these questions:

1. When have I felt closest to God in the last few days?
2. What is the most helpful insight from today's scripture? What is my plan to enrich my interaction with scripture in the next few days?
3. What have I done in the last few days to witness to and serve others? What is my plan to enlarge my witness and service in the next few days?

Are you interested in attending or do you need dates in the future?
Text or email Laura (403) 540-0053 lauraholck@gmail.com

LEAD ... love God with all your soul

So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish!

That's what the dolphins say as they leave the earth in Douglas Adam's book of the same title. Good byes are hard, so it is tempting to stick with glib quotes. Instead, perhaps I could say so long and thanks for all the...

- ...love. Thank you for welcoming me, and then welcoming Alliott.
- ...courage. Thank you for having the courage to make the financial commitment of having an intern.
- ...generosity. Thank you for sharing your pastors with me (and other seminarians) so that they could share their experience.
- ...lessons. Thank you for teaching me what it means to pastor.
- ...pastor's stoles. Thank you for the tangible gift to remind me of this congregation.
- ...grace. Thank you for the grace you have given me when I have made mistakes or been slow to act.



This internship has been an amazing start to my ministry. I will be staying in Calgary for the next year as I finish up my studies and enjoy some more time with Alliott. I will be sure to keep you up to date as I work toward first call.

Go on your way in Joy my friends!

Intern Pastor Kate



Summe

LEAD ... love God with all your mind

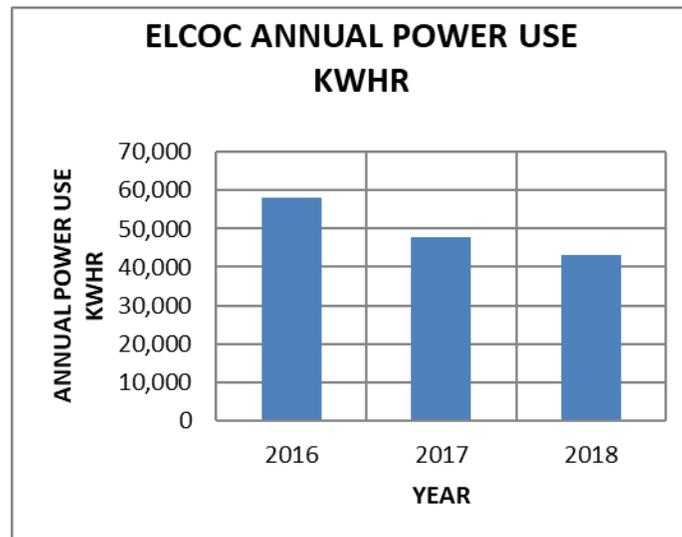
CHURCH UTILITIES: Some good news.

Natural resources that we use in operating our church facilities are:

- electrical power for lighting, heating, kitchen and office operations.
- natural gas for heating (supplemented by the use of electric space heaters)
- water for domestic use (kitchen and washrooms) and for irrigation of gardens and lawns.

Good news - our power use has decreased 20% over the 3 year period 2016 to 2018. Much of this reduction in power consumption has come from the installation of LED lighting inside and outside of the building and some has come from better management – turning off lights and appliances when not needed.

The chart illustrates this achievement.



Thanks to everyone that helped make this possible. We should note that our primary source of electrical power are coal and natural gas fueled power generation plants -reduced power demand means less CO2 release.

Glenn Schultz

Legacy Writing

The stories that are untold, the questions no one asked, the precious memories we want to leave for the important people in our lives—this is legacy writing.

On June 17, Ellen Kelly, a local writer and long time teacher of writing personal essay and memory, offered the first workshop she’s facilitated focussed on capturing our legacy in words at LCOC.



Writing triggers: write about a childhood memory from as far back as you can; choose an evocative scent/smell and write; a piece of music that takes you back to an event, a memory you want to capture; did you end up in the place you dreamed about when you were very young?; write about a fork in the road of your life. Writing, reading, discussion, lunch and more writing. Ellen thanks the “lovely people” she met on Monday, we thank Ellen for sharing her wisdom, and send regrets to those who wanted to come but could not.

Save The Date

Save The Date

Skip the cooking and the dishes. Stir in conversation, laughter, learning, and community. Commit NOW for our 4-day congregational experiment in Feeding our souls.

Faith Formation is for everyone. Tuesdays, 5-7pm. And it’s OK if you need to leave a little early to get the kids to bed!

Faith Formation ... Four Tuesdays This Fall



LEAD ... love God with all your **strength**

The Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre

THANK YOU for participating in this year's Baby Bottle campaign by filling a baby bottle or donating online. Your gifts truly enhance the lives of women and babies in our community. Please visit www.pregcare.com for further info on services provided.



Save the date! Saturday, September 14, 2019

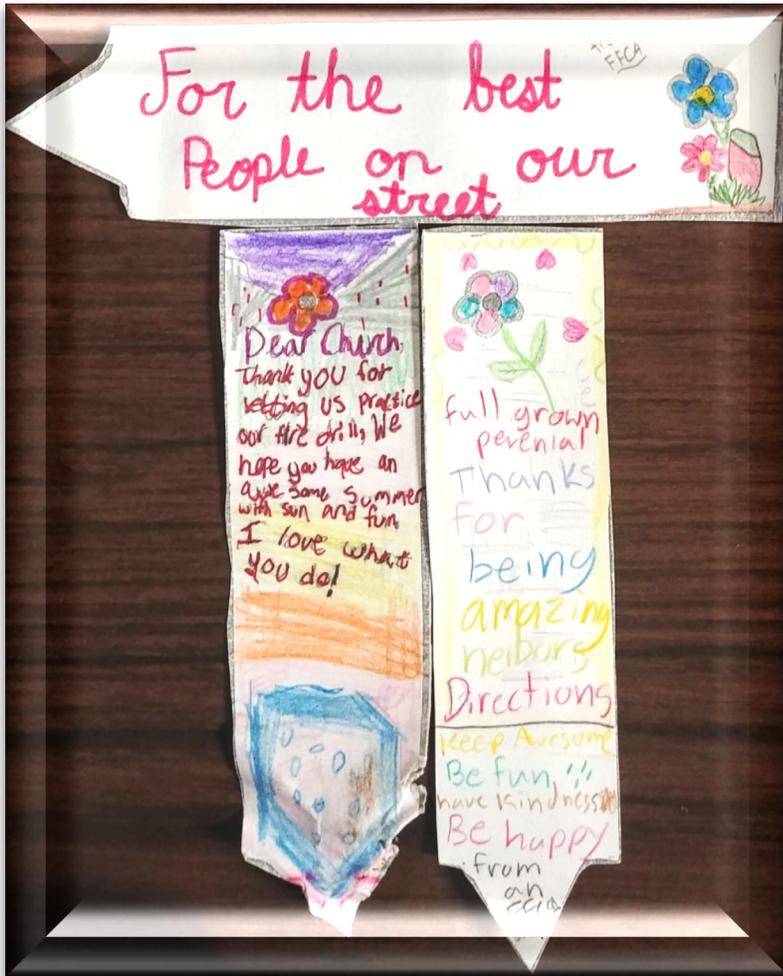
COMMUNITY CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

at Lutheran Church of the Cross

Donations of clean, gently used clothing will be gratefully **accepted at church Sept. 10 to 13**



LEAD ... love God with all your strength



Relationship with our Neighbors!

On Wed. June 19 the grade four Spanish class from Foundations for the Future School came over to use our kitchen and cook Mexican food. THEY ALSO BROUGHT WITH THEM 40 PRE-PACKED WE CARE KITS FOR CLWR and many extra supplies for making more kits. Whenever these students are in the church they are so respectful of the building and also friendly to anyone that happens to be in the church.

There is a hanging basket of flowers in the east entrance that was also brought over and inside the basket were these little notes to us.



LEAD ... love God with all your strength

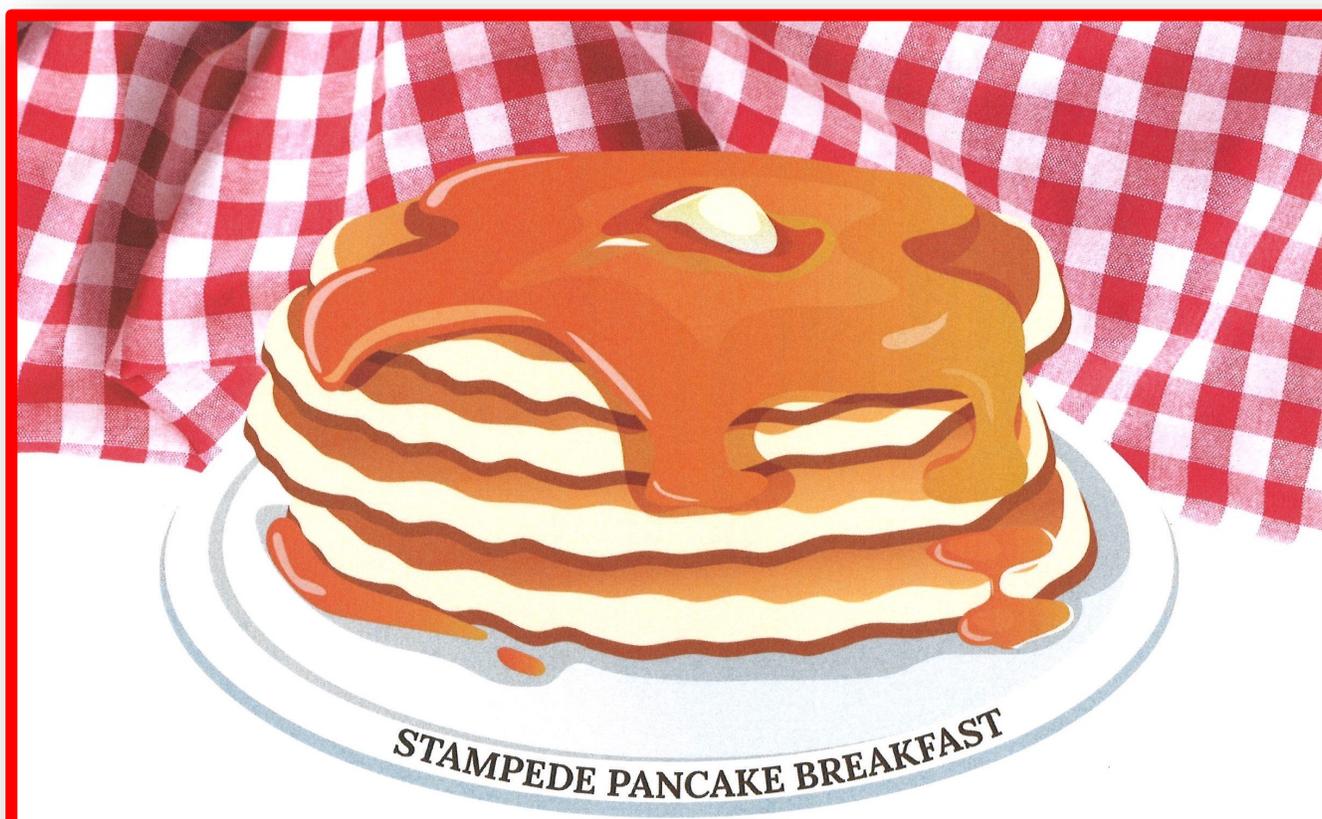


On Saturday evening, June 22, we were honoured to host six storytellers from The Shoe Project. In its sixth year now, The Shoe Project is a writing and performance workshop which gives immigrant women the opportunity to tell the stories of the journey that brought them to Canada --through a pair of shoes.

These are women who had homes and family, professions and careers in Iran, Eritrea, Syria, South Korea, Tibet (Bomdila) Iraq, and Peru.

Underlying each experience, there is the strife of conflict and war, but the stories were about resilience and told with courage and humour too.

After the performances and Q&A, we came together--audience and storytellers--to share soup and bread and friendship. Building bridges to deeper understanding.



Pancakes & Sausages
available following
worship!
Ya Hoo!!

Sunday, July 7
11:30 am –
1 pm
Lutheran Church of the Cross
10620 Elbow Drive SW

**HELP US STOMP OUT
HUNGER THIS STAMPEDE**

Bring a non-perishable food item or donate funds to support the Calgary Food Bank.



#BootsYYC

Burn it... until its dead!

Last year around this time we were looking at a \$135 000 mortgage, BUT THANKS TO YOUR INCREDIBLE RESPONSE to a mortgage drive, we paid down **\$59 000** beyond our regular payments!!

We again have an opportunity on August 1, 2019 to pay down, or ideally pay off, our mortgage.

Thanks to ongoing payments our next challenge is a much reduced **\$48 000**.

Shedding this burden would ease our current operating expenses by almost \$20 600 per year.

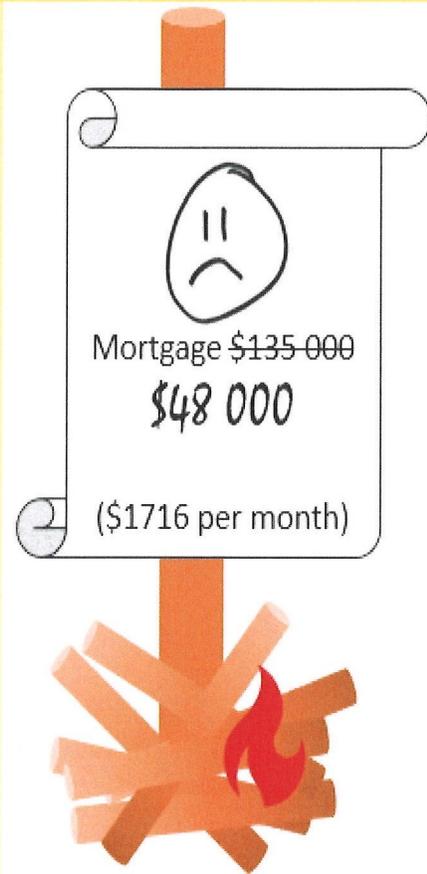
So, you have some stocks or other investments just laying around? Need more tax deductions? Found another couple of ounces of gold under the couch? Rusty ol' Bitcoin? Or maybe you've got just a few hard-earned bucks to share in addition to your regular offering...but if we pull together we can put a huge dent in our monthly mortgage, if not be free of it completely.

By the way, you can *transfer securities without triggering a capital gain*. Contact Brian Anderson for more info.

Please direct your contributions to the Building Fund in advance of July 15, 2019.

Thank you!

Dean Larsen, Council Secretary



By: The Rev. Prema Samuel, Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life

Grace and Peace to you from God, our Parent, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, and the Holy Spirit our Guide and Counselor.

A few years ago, I was called and ordained to serve among the wonderful people in a Long-Term Care Centre, where I learnt the beauty and the miracle of being present with someone, ranging from sharing coffee with conversation through to their time approaching death. Being a part of that Holy Moment, to just be present, and witness God at work – what a Blessing.

During my time as Chaplain, along with staff and people in care, we have worked side by side, continually exploring our faith. We've gathered in large groups and small to discuss our ideas about God and Jesus. We've sought to discover what it means to be a Christian and where God is, in our present day and situation. We've worshipped, worked and celebrated together. We have seen God working in our midst – what a Blessing.

Alongside of my time as Chaplain, I have also come together with many of you as Preacher and Congregation; as Pastor and Parishioner: individuals in relationship with each other. I thank God for the many times I have been invited into lives; sharing with me the highs and lows; in times of joy and anguish, thanksgiving and suffering, introductions and goodbyes, during life-changing moments – what a Blessing!

And now, God's call has extended to serve the Synod of Alberta & The Territories – What an honor to be asking the very question along with each of you, 'Where is God calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God Leading us?' What a Blessing to witness and journey together with you to where God is calling us.

Having celebrated Pentecost Sunday recently, we ask these familiar questions, 'Where is God Calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God Leading us?' We don't truly know; but one thing is certain: the future lies together, in community, following God as a community, the body of Christ. Together we can bravely face the future in trust and hope. My experience of this church shows me that we are strongest when we stand together. I hope to bring a continued sense of community and relationship in my ministry as Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life within the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

I always thank God for all of you in my prayers. Brothers and sisters, I ask that you pray for me as I walk alongside of you in this journey.

May the peace of God be with us in all that we do. May the grace of our Lord Jesus, God's anointed, be with us all.

In the Name of +Christ.

Prema Samuel - Assistant to the Bishop





July 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Cause of the Month Calgary Food Bank						
	1 OFFICE CLOSED AA - noon -1	2 Coffee @ Tim Hortons - 10 am	3 Sandwich Making - 7:30 am AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	4	5 Office Closed SWCG—7 pm	6 SWCG - 10 am
7 Worship—10 am Stampede Breakfast - following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	8 Staff Mtg.—10:am AA - noon -1	9 Coffee @ Tim Hortons - 10 am	10 AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	11	12 Office Closed SWCG—7 pm	13 SWCG - 10 am
National Convention - Regina, SK						
14 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—3 pm	15 Staff Mtg.—10:am AA - noon -1	16 Coffee @ Tim Hortons - 10 am	17 AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	18	19 Office Closed SWCG—7 pm	20 SWCG - 10 am
21 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—3 pm	22 Staff Mtg.—10 am AA - noon -1	23 Coffee @ Tim Hortons - 10 am	24 AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	25	26 Office Closed	27 SWCG - 10 am
28 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—4 pm	29 Staff Mtg.—10 am AA - noon -1	30 Coffee @ Tim Hortons - 10 am	31 AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	Communion July 7 and 21		



August 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Cause of the Month Calgary Food Bank </div>						
<div style="border: 2px solid brown; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Communion August 4 & 25 </div>				1	2 SWCG—7 pm	3 SWCG - 10 am
4 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—3 pm	5 OFFICE CLOSED AA - noon -1	6 Coffee @ Tim Hor- tons - 10 am	7 Sandwich Making - 7:30 am AA - noon -1 AHS Caregivers - 1:30 pm	8	9 Office Closed SWCG—7 pm	10 SWCG - 10 am
11 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—3 pm	12 Staff Mtg.—10:am AA - noon -1	13 Coffee @ Tim Hor- tons - 10 am	14 AA - noon -1 Council Mtg. - 7 pm SWCG—7 pm	15	16 Office Closed SWCG—7 pm	17 SWCG - 10 am
18 Worship—10 am Cantare - 1 - 5 pm SWCG—1—3 pm	19 Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Staff Mtg.—10 am AA - noon -1	20 Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Coffee @ Tim Hor- tons - 10 am	21 Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	22 Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm	23 Office Closed Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm SWCG—7 pm	24 Cantare Get in the Groove - 8:30 am - 5:30 pm
25 Worship—10 am SWCG—1—4 pm	26 Staff Mtg.—10 am AA - noon -1	27 Coffee @ Tim Hor- tons - 10 am	28 AA - noon -1 SWCG—7 pm	29	30 SWCG—7 pm	31 SWCG - 10 am