



*It just took a moment...*

Last month, Fort McMurray burned.

One moment, there were trees upon trees, green and reaching toward the sky.

The next, they were torches burning brilliantly but leaving behind a black, charred wasteland that was once a forest.

One moment, there were rows and rows of houses... homes... where families lived and loved.

The next, hollowed out hulls and smoldering ruins with people on the road to places of shelter.

And that is the way of violence and destruction...

One moment, the World Trade Center towers are standing.

The next, the buildings are collapsed along with the lives of thousands after planes are flown into them.

One moment, a crowded restaurant is bustling with conversation and eating.

The next, carnage and suffering after a suicide bomber ignites their vest.

One moment, a family is having a joyful conversation heading off on vacation.

The next, bent metal and bodies after an impaired driver veers into their lane.

This kind of violence and destruction happens in our relationships also...

... a careless word...

... an unfulfilled commitment...

... a betrayed trust...

... a misguided intention...

... bit of gossip...

... a false accusation...

... a harsh word in a moment of anger...

And a relationship is severed or a friendship broken.

One moment, love and partnership is present.

The next is hurt, anger, loneliness, and distrust.

Why is it so easy for things that have taken a long time—even a lifetime—to build to be destroyed in a matter of seconds or minutes?

A house gone?

A relationship broken?

A career over?

A reputation tainted?

A life ended?

How I wish there were quick fixes to all of this destruction. We love quick fixes like winning the lottery or miraculous cures or some other kind of magic to repair, rebuild or restore what was.

In the ancient Greek tragedies, they called this kind of magical ending the *deus ex machine* (translated as *an act of God*.) Very often our prayers will tend toward this kind of petition... *God, please fix this and make it like it was!*

In my experience, it doesn't seem to be the way that God tends to work. The *acts of God* that I see most often are the on-going loving, serving, encouraging, generous, forgiving, devotional actions that God uses to create and enhance life. Some are "newsworthy" because they involve millions of dollars or millions of people. Most fly under the radar but can be just as powerful in bringing hope and life.

The residents of Fort McMurray talk about returning and rebuilding. This will take a long time, a deep commitment, and an organized effort. In a real sense, though, they can never "rebuild" Fort McMurray. They will never be able to make it just as it was or restore it to the same city or community that it was.

I suggest that more accurately, they are choosing to create Fort McMurray *anew*. As the new houses, buildings and churches are built, they will also be building and creating the *new* Fort McMurray. Their city will never be the same and neither will their community. Their memory of the fire and the losses they experienced will be a common history they share. So also will the memory of their rescue, the courage of the firefighters, the generosity of those who gave money, shelter and comfort be a common history that they share.

This seems to me to be the way God tends to work... the way God calls us to be at work. It is through the choice to give of ourselves for others... we call that love. When the setbacks both large and small crash into our lives, we have the opportunity to continue to choose to love, to hope, to build, to encourage, to forgive... to live.

The bad news is that we are never *done* doing this work. The good news is that every moment is the opportunity to choose to create life through our words and our actions.

As the residents of Fort McMurray begin to create their lives anew, may they have strength, courage, hope and the resources they need. May the love and generosity of God be tangible for them through the love and generosity of their fellow human beings.

Peace,

*Pastor Phil*

## A glance at June Ministry Happenings....



**June 1** - Sandwich Making—7:30 am

**June 4** - Remembering Garden Planting—9 am

**June 5** - Choir Service of Praise

**June 5** - Appreciation Potluck to follow worship & BLAST

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

**June 7** - Prayer and Care—10:30 am—potluck lunch

**June 9** - *The Papal Basilicas of Rome*—3D Presentation @ Scotiabank Theatre Chinook—see Hilary Gray

**June 11** - M & M women's bible study—10 am

**June 12** - *"Luther, Bach & the Beatles"* presentation from Rostad Tours—lunch provided. Please RSVP

**June 16—18**—Synod Convention

**June 17—19** - Church Outdoor Camping

**June 21** - Prayer and Care—5:30 pm—potluck supper

**June 26** - Youth Bottle Drive and FOOD BANK SUNDAY

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



### Lutheran Church of the Cross

10620 Elbow Drive SW Calgary, AB

[www.churchofthecross.ca](http://www.churchofthecross.ca)

[churchofthecross@shaw.ca](mailto: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.



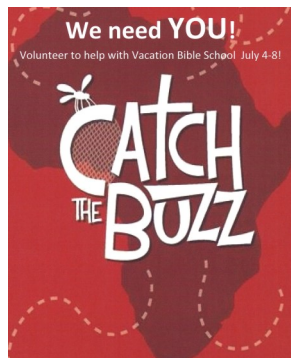
**CHURCH OF THE CROSS**

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# VBS : Catch the Buzz

We will host *Catch the Buzz*, Vacation Bible School aimed at learning about Jesus and his community of followers and making a difference for Africa as the world works to irradiate malaria, **July 4-8, 9 am - noon.**  
**The cost is \$10/day.**



Daily Bible stories, songs, games, crafts, and snacks as well as education about malaria will help us learn how to follow Jesus and make a difference in the world.

To register your children for Vacation Bible School, or if you are willing to serve on the team, please phone the church office. The **registration deadline is June 12.**

***Marla the Mosquito and Jesus thank you!***



## New Fellowship Opportunity

Tuesday mornings @ Tim Hortons—10 am

**Any age is welcome!**

11472 Braeside Drive SW

*Calling for the creation of a viable Christian community, Elizabeth O'Connor's impassioned letters consider many of the complex issues facing Christians today, including leadership, authority, separation, dependence, independence, and the role of money in the Christian community. Here is an excerpt from a letter on giving.*

## Should We Tithe?

When the founding members, young and poor, were forming themselves into a properly incorporated community of faith, they struggled for a discipline of membership that would help them and future members to deal concretely with at least some aspects of the handling of money. In its first writing the discipline read, "We commit ourselves to giving 10 percent of our gross income to the work of the Church."

Their proposed constitution and disciplines were submitted to Reinhold Niebuhr, an eminent theologian of the last generation, who had agreed to read them and comment. His only suggestion concerned the discipline on money. "I would suggest," Niebuhr said, "that you commit yourselves not to tithing but to proportionate giving, with tithing as an economic floor beneath you below which you will not go unless there are some compelling reasons." The discipline was rewritten and stands today in each of the six new faith communities:

We covenant with Christ and one another to give proportionately beginning with a tithe of our incomes.

None of us has to be an accountant to know what 10 percent of a gross income is, but each of us has to be a person on his knees before God if we are to understand our commitment to proportionate giving. Proportionate to what? Proportionate to the accumulated wealth of one's family? Proportionate to one's income and the demands upon it, which vary from family to family? Proportionate to one's sense of security and the degree of anxiety with which one lives? Proportionate to the keenness of our awareness of those who suffer? Proportionate to our sense of justice and God's ownership of all wealth? Pro-

portionate to our sense of stewardship for those who follow after us? And so on, and so forth. The answer, of course, in proportion to all of these things.

Elizabeth O'Connor, *Letters to Scattered Pilgrims*



**Take a step in your discipleship...**

## **Cultivating Generosity**

Someone recently asked me: *"When do you think the economy is going to recover? When will this crisis end?"* I answered, *"As soon as people like you and me stop relating to it like it's a crisis."*

Every moment is an opportunity. The trouble is, we are too accustomed to *"how it used to be"* to recognize the opportunity we now face. So, we hunker down, bracing ourselves for the next impact.

Statistics show that after the economic crisis of 2008, the saving rate for North American families was 5.5%. It was the first time it had been positive in over 5 years. It was a sign of changing values: people began saving money instead of spending, because they became afraid of what might be lurking in their future.

What lurks in the future?

### **Nothing.**

There isn't anything in the future, except what we put there. We will stop acting anxious when we stop acting anxious. We will stop being scared when we stop being scared.

What is there to do right now? Start behaving like you are living in the future you want to see. Cultivate generosity by being generous. It really will turn the world around. You see, generosity and courage are functions of vision. If you believe the world is going you-know-where in a hand-basket, you will behave accordingly. If you believe you can make a difference, you will.

The main thing to remember is that we belong to God, not the stock market, the oil sands, or the government. Begin to think about those around you who are afraid....What can you do for them?

### **Things you can DO:**

- While everyone is hoarding their money, give some away. Give it to people who are struggling, to the homeless person at the stoplight, to your favorite charity, to the church.
- Don't let the news dictate what you do. Plan your budget in faith and stick to it, *no matter what!*
- Invite God into your financial equation. Have you

asked God what you should do with your money, or do you think your plan is better?

- Watch inspirational movies about people who've done much with little for example, *"Pay It Forward," "Gandhi,"* or *"Remember the Titans"*. Generosity is a function of clarity of vision!



*"A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."* - Martin Luther

Praying for peace in your generosity,

Pastor Laura



**Be a Faithful Steward**



## Social Ministry—June Cause of the Month

### *The Narrow Road Home*

**Some women walk a difficult road.**

**They shouldn't have to walk it alone.**



Narrow Road Home

*healing hearts, healing minds, healing families*

# The Narrow Road Run



**All proceeds to support**

## **The Narrow Road Home**

A place of healing & restoration for women caught in the devastating cycle of addiction, emotional anguish, abuse and exploitation.

**5K WALK / RUN & KIDS RACE**  
**June 4, 2016 | High River, AB**



This is going to be a **FAMILY EVENT!** We would love to have you come join the run/walk, but if you can't, come anyway!

We will have a **bake sale, a bouncy castle, facepainting, ice cream and more!** **Starting at 9am.**

We also need plenty of **volunteers** to help with preparation, as well as on the day of the event. If you would like to help out, please contact us ASAP!

**Register, sponsor, pledge or volunteer at**  
**[www.narrowroadhome.com](http://www.narrowroadhome.com)**  
**or contact [narrowroadevents@outlook.com](mailto:narrowroadevents@outlook.com)**

## Appreciation Sunday June 5



Following worship **Sunday, June 5**, we will have a congregation-wide potluck appreciation lunch. Who do you especially appreciate? Which ministries especially make a difference for you? Who would you like to thank? This day is a

chance for you to express your thanks to everyone in ministry around you. Jot a note of thanks, buy a card for a person or two, or do something more special – it's up to you! Make your expressions of thank small enough to fit in the church mailbox slots and deliver them there before June 5. Bring a dish to share. We'll have a separate table for allergen-free foods, so feel free to list ingredients! Thank you, everyone, for all you do to make Church of the Cross such a loving and inviting place. **See you for lunch June 5!** Don't forget....It's Choir Sunday too, so this is a great time to thank our musicians and choir members!

*PS—this is also the Surprise Welcome to Canada party for Pastor Laura, Pastor Phil and Paul. Don't forget to wear red and white, bring your favorite tuque, and bring something to share for the potluck.*



### Will you be able to donate to the Refugee Mission fund?

As part of our commitment to our refugee family, we will help support them financially for six months – the Canadian Government adding their financial support for another six months. Financial support is, then, ongoing, necessary and very much appreciated!

You may contribute to this fund through your own congregation by designating an offering to the **Refugee Mission**.

**Watch for details on the moving bulletin board in the narthex.**

## Give a child a friend

Do you like to knit or crochet?

Why not make a small stuffed animal for our Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) Living and Learning Kits?

CLWR Living and Learning Kits give students in refugee camps and resettlement areas school supplies, personal hygiene items, and a cuddly friend to love.

Pick up a kit at church, on the counter below the Social Ministry bulletin board. Don't know where that is? Ask around; someone will point you in the right direction.

The creation of stuffed animals is an ongoing project that culminates in February, 2017.

Have more patterns or ideas? Talk to Pastor Laura.



## Update on Refugee Family - May 12, 2016

We have begun to prepare a home for a young Syrian family that will be arriving in our midst in the next few weeks. We do not have a firm arrival date. However, we are close to securing an apartment for them in the south/central area of the city, near Lutheran Church of Our Saviour and Lutheran Church of the Cross. We have been gifted almost all of the furniture they will need. And we have begun to set up groups to handle the various tasks that are needed over the next few weeks and months. **Check the bulletin board area for a detailed list of needs and let your pastor or key contact know where you would like to help. Perhaps your congregation would like to take leadership for a particular task or group?**

### **Some areas of need:**

- \_\_\_ **Budget and Finances Group** – financial mentoring and budgeting for the family
- \_\_\_ Finishing the outfitting of the apartment (*we have most furniture*)
- \_\_\_ **Shopping Group** (*helping the family learn to about food shopping*)
- \_\_\_ **Teaching new cooking skills** to a young mother and father
- \_\_\_ **Education and Language Learning Group** (*connecting the family with Language classes, as well as providing informal language learning opportunities*)
- \_\_\_ **Connecting family with play groups** and children's opportunities
- \_\_\_ **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**

**People on Refugee Committee:** Walter Driedger, Doug & Georgina Normandin, Corliss Holmes & Dianne Fortier



**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.

### **SUMMER BLAST**

*June: Fruits of the Spirit*

BLAST in June will take its cue from Galatians 5:22-23,

*By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

*There is no law against such things.*

Participants will have the opportunity to make their own *mobile* to symbolize the way the Spirit moves in their lives! We will also have an ongoing project to create a large *Faith Practices Mobile* to adorn our Sanctuary!

*Coming Next Month:*

***Tie Die July!***

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, **CLOTHE YOURSELVES** with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord<sup>1</sup> has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> Above all, **CLOTHE YOURSELVES** with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.  
Colossians 3:12-14

## **The Banquet of the King!** Sunday, May 29th

A special thanks to the Confirmation Class for planning, designing and leading  
BLAST in May:

Gundars & Justin for DAILY BREAD

Natalie & Catherine for THOU ART

Goanar, Sam & Blake for ACTS 2

Nyachang & Mikaela for CREATION

Also thanks to our youth band, *Water 2 Wine* for providing the music during worship.



## Save the date for the spring planting of the Remembering Garden Saturday June 4, 9-11 am!



Bring a pink or purple petunia to plant in the remembering garden to honor and remember girls and women whose lives have been violently taken. As a congregation we remember Brittney McInnes and the hundreds of missing and murdered Aboriginal women. We invite the community to include others whose lives have been taken, bring plants, and remember with us. Our in-

formal service of planting will include the music and storytelling of Sisters from Another Mother, an aboriginal performing group. Refreshments will also be served. This event is open to everyone.

### Prayer & Care

**Tuesday, June  
14th, 10:30 am  
potluck lunch**

**Tues,  
June 28th, 5:30 pm  
potluck supper**



**There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board beside the  
mailboxes for keeping the flower pots and hanging  
plants watered over June, July and August. Please sign  
up for a week or two. Do it as an individual or a family  
and help us keep our church entrances beautiful and  
welcoming.**



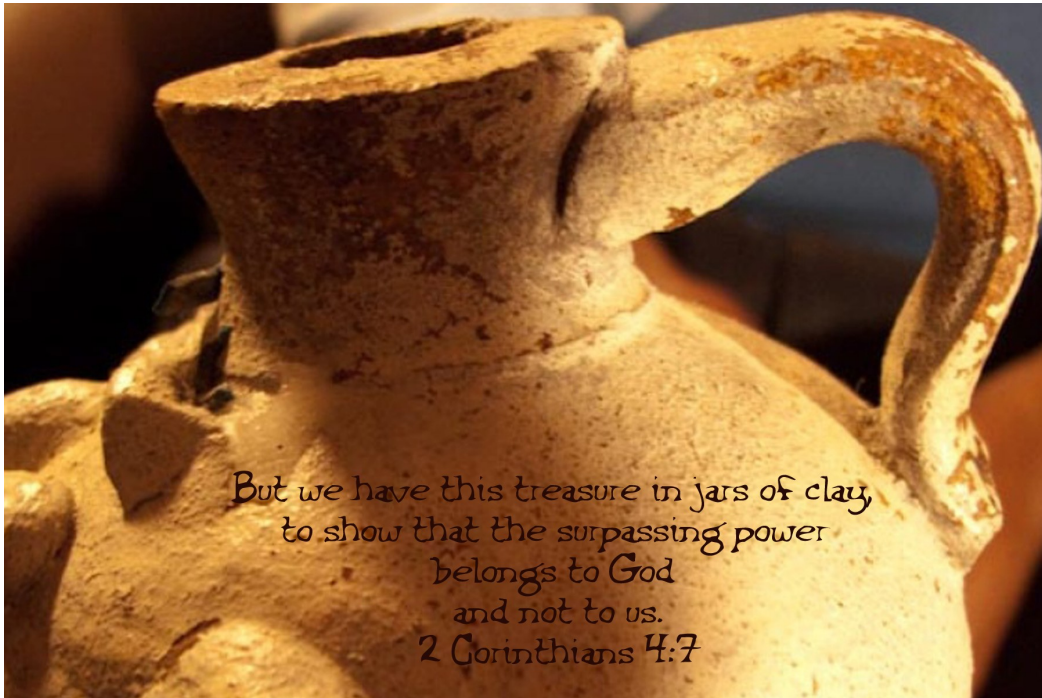
# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## Mary & Martha Bible Study

**Saturday, JUNE 11th at 10:00 a.m.** at the church.

This study session is entitled: *The Heart of the Matter- Conflict, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation - Treasure in clay jars*

Theme verse: **2 Corinthians 4:7**



### FORMULA4HOPE

SUNDAY MAY 8 - SUNDAY JUNE 19, 2016

**STEP ONE**  
Grab an empty bottle this Mother's Day.

**STEP TWO**  
Fill the bottle with loose change and bills.

**STEP THREE**  
Return the full bottle this Father's Day.

Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre

24 HR HELPLINE  
PREGNANCY TESTS  
PEER COUNSELLING  
MATERNITY & BABY CLOTHES  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

PARENTING CLASSES  
POST ABORTION SUPPORT  
BIRTH MOMS' SUPPORT  
REFERRALS  
[PREGCARE.COM](http://PREGCARE.COM)

**Formula 4 Hope Campaign ... the baby bottle campaign in support of The Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre!** Please return your cash filled baby bottles to the church office by Father's Day, **June 19.**

The Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre is a non-profit agency offering assistance for anyone facing an unplanned pregnancy. Thank you for your support!



## Community Garden News

Spring has sprung and you may have noticed a few upgrades to our community garden. Our growing beds have been widened and our pathways have a thick, fresh layer of mulch to discourage weeds and keep the garden tidy. We had some extra help shoveling mulch from the good folks in the Helping Hands group. Thanks guys! You will also notice a beautiful garden bench handcrafted by Marvin Erickson. What a nice addition to the garden. Many of the vegetables that require a cool start such as peas and carrots have already been seeded. The more tender crops such as beans and tomatoes will be going in after the long weekend.

As in past years, we will be growing food for distribution to charitable agencies such as the Dream Centre and Made by Momma. We also encourage relationships within our immediate community by sharing some of our produce with our neighbours in the senior's housing next door as well as designating a portion of a garden bed for Kathy Bishop's Garden Club from the charter school across the street. It sounds like Kathy has a large, enthusiastic group ready to enjoy learning about the science and enjoyment of growing food.



This year we have joined Calgary's Community Gardens Resource Network. The Network membership is free and provides community gardeners with information, educational opportunities and sharing of resources.

If you would like to be on the email or phone list so you can participate in upcoming gardening opportunities please contact me, Terry Kopperud, at [kopperud@shaw.ca](mailto:kopperud@shaw.ca) or 403-255-9561. Our garden provides a great opportunity to show little ones where their food comes from and begin honing their connection with the earth. We encourage people to enter the garden and observe the growth of the plants over the summer. It is there for all to enjoy!



## The Outdoor Recreation Koinonia Group

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

### Kananaskis Camping

**Friday evening, June 17 to Sunday, June 19**

**Lower Lake Group Campsite - both tents and RVs welcome.**

A variety of family-based activities will be planned (*more to come*), along with Sunday worship. To help us with planning, please confirm your attendance as soon as you can with Laverne Rude,

**[rudel@telus.net](mailto:rudel@telus.net) or 403-686-7311**

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

## Grey Power Activities

### Cineplex in the gallery

#### THE PAPAL BASILICAS OF ROME

The Papal Basilicas of Rome 3D is a unique film that combines history, spirituality, architecture and art. It takes its cue from the Extraordinary Jubilee proclaimed by Pope Francis, which will see the faithful from all over the world pour into Rome in their millions, to cross the threshold of the Papal Basilicas and obtain a plenary indulgence. The opening of the Holy Doors will be an historical moment, certain to draw the whole world's attention to Rome's Papal Basilicas and be the ideal opportunity to tell the story, in spectacular 3D, using a narrative language that will emotionally involve audiences, as they witness the magnificence that lies inside the four Basilicas.

#### ShowTime's

#### 3D PRESENTATION

Thursday June 9, 2016. 7:30 pm lasts 1.5hours

Please email [hgray64@icloud.com](mailto:hgray64@icloud.com) if interested at least 1 week before the event.

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



## Feedback request from the Co-Administrators:

As many of you know we have had some concerns with the brick patio wall on the north side of the church.

We are currently exploring options on how to improve this patio area as well as how to alleviate some of the security and safety concerns that the brick wall poses. If you have any suggestions or thoughts on this we would appreciate hearing from you.

Many thanks

Dennis Kozak and Tammy Kozlowski

Co-administrators - ELCoc



New Members Are Joining

### Membership Sunday May 29th

**Baptism**—Dirk Risse

**Transfer or Affirmation of faith**— Anna Risse, Jamie Risse, Cindy Werner, Matthew Miller, Morgan Miller, Stacey Kotlar, Logan Kotlar, Paige & Nora Kotlar, Erin Harde, Arwyne & Bristol Burt.

Please pray for these new members and welcome them into our church family.



# Message from our Bishop

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ –

As I am preparing this month's message I am keenly aware that it is nearly two weeks since the evacuation of the city of Fort McMurray.

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

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. They remain displaced. There is much uncertainty. There are various forms of trauma.

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

I know that you will respond as you are able. Not, "remarkably," as someone said to me recently, "but as I am able."

Thank you to those who gathered last Tuesday, May 10, for a Synod hosted time of prayer and candle lighting, using *Holden Evening Prayer*, at Trinity, Edmonton. And thank you to Trinity for opening your door for our Synod to gather. I am aware that many others planned similar worship services within your own communities. Wonderful!

Last Wednesday I received correspondence from an ELCIC Pastor serving a small rural community in the Saskatchewan Synod who shared that, as the Church Council met the previous evening, they had worshipped using *Holden Evening Prayer*, at the same time our Synod hosted worship was taking place in Edmonton. Wonderful!

As you are aware, through the ABT Synod – Special Bulletin: update, conversation and planning 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.**

Pastor Susan Horton continues to be in regular contact with members and friends of Christ the King, Fort McMurray. Many have been inquiring as to an update regarding last week's Prayer Request (May 10) for Pastor Susan who had been admitted to hospital. She was discharged from hospital in Edmonton this past Sunday, May 15. Your prayers for continued healing are appreciated.

Pastor Horton shared with me a May 9 CBC News item from a woman forced to evacuate her home in La Ronge, Saskatchewan, during last summer's wildfires which I found helpful. Kandis Riese was forced to leave her community, with 13,000 others, in a moment's notice. She has put her experiences and her thoughts during her evacuation on paper, along with advice for evacuees and volunteers who are helping out. I have edited the article which you will find below. . The article in its entirety can be found here: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/sask-evacuee-fort-mcmurray-1.3569008>

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



## Synod Convention –

June 16–18

Camrose, AB

Our delegates are: **Pastor Laura,**  
**Pastor Phil, Kathy Bishop and**  
**Nyajouk Kulang.**



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

## Help plant 500,000 trees

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

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

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

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

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



# Germany: Luther, Bach & the Beatles

The dates are set: **October 21 – November 4, 2017!**

**The itinerary is confirmed!**

**The reservations are made!**

Join your church staff as we tour Germany, celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. We will follow the journey of Martin Luther, getting to know him and the places he lived. **We'll visit Eisleben, Eisenach, and Erfurt – homes to some of the most important Luther sites. We'll be in Wittenburg 500 years to the day that Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the community church. We will also explore Leipzig, where Johann Sebastian Bach was the cantor for 27 years, and the town of Halle, the birthplace of Georg Friedrich Handel and home to Martin Luther's original Death Mask. We'll also visit the world's largest museum dedicated to the Beatles.**

Beyond what we'll do and see is the tremendous value in what happens to us and with us as we travel together. Deepen your friendships with the staff and fellow travelers as we share life together in marketplaces, churches, restaurants, and on the traveling coach.



## Informational lunch: June 12 following worship.

# Lunch.

Feed your curiosity™

Please feel free to attend regardless of your intent to travel. Our meeting will include a video presentation of some of the places we'll visit, which can be inspiring and educational even if you don't go on the trip! RSVP for the lunch to the church office by **Monday June 6, so we can handle the food appropriately.**

**On Sunday, May 8th, we had the privilege of hearing Dr. Tony Campolo at worship.** 28 families signed up to sponsor children in **Dulce Tierra Nuevo Sol, Colombia.** Located in the northern part of South America, Colombia has one of the largest displaced populations in the world. Due to political and social unrest, 3 million people have been forced to abandon their homes. Dulce Tierra Nuevo Sol is home to more than 250,000 people who face poverty, violence and family instability. Some of the most vulnerable people in this area include displaced families who migrated to protect loved ones from violence. Having to leave their homes, land and jobs has caused both financial and family problems as parents struggle to rebuild and provide for their children.

Thank you for your generosity.

# June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Cause of the Month <i>"Narrow Road Home"</i>				Communion Sundays <b>June 5 &amp; 19</b>		
			1 Sandwich Making—7:30 am Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am Caregivers—1:30 pm FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	2 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	3 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	4 FACE—9 am—2 pm Remembering Garden Planting—9 am
5 Worship—10 am - Choir Sun BLAST - following worship Potluck lunch—following BLAST SWCG—1—3 pm	6 Morning Prayer—9 am Staff Mtg.—10 am	7 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons FACE—3—8 pm	8 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	9 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm	10 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	11 FACE—9 am—2 pm M & M—10 am
12 Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship Luther, Bach & Beatles presentation—lunch Youth to zoo SWCG—1—3 pm	13 Morning Prayer—9 am Staff Mtg.—10 am	14 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons Prayer & Care—10:30 am FACE—3—8 pm	15 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	16 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm Synod Convention begins in Camrose	17 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	18 FACE—9 am—2 pm Honens Master Class Auditions—9 am—2 pm
					<b>OUTDOOR CAMPING</b>	
19 <b>Father's Day</b> Worship—10 am BLAST—following wor- ship SWCG—1—3 pm	20 Morning Prayer—9 am Staff Mtg.—10 am	21 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons FACE—3—8 pm	22 Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	23 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm	24 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	25 FACE—9 am—2 pm
26 Worship—10 am BLAST - following wor- ship VBS team mtg.—noon SWCG—1—4 pm <b>YOUTH BOTTLE DRIVE</b> <b>FOOD BANK SUNDAY</b>	27 Morning Prayer—9 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am	28 Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons FACE—3—8 pm Prayer & Care—5:30 pm	29 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	30 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—3—8 pm EA—7 pm	Happy Canada Day! 