



## Discernment Continued... The Ignatian Method of Discernment

Last month in the Crossbeams, I wrote about *discernment* as dwelling in the question, *How do we know what God is trying to tell us?* Last week, I attended a clergy retreat and our speaker was a Jesuit priest who talked about St. Ignatius and his method of discernment.

St. Ignatius was born in 1491 in Spain to a rather well-off family. He lived a rather comfortable life but his leg was shattered while defending his town from the French. While he was recuperating in the hospital, he asked for novels to read, but the only books available were *a Life of the Saints* and *a Life of Christ*. As he pondered his life and future, his dreams shifted from a life of courtly adventure and women to a life of following Christ in the way of St. Francis and St. Dominic. After recovery, he became a monk but felt compelled to live a life of contemplative action. His writings and spirituality are known for their applicability to daily life.

Below are excerpts from an article on Ignatian Discernment ([www.marquette.edu/faith/ignatian-principles-for-making-decisions.php](http://www.marquette.edu/faith/ignatian-principles-for-making-decisions.php)).

**Seven basic attitudes or qualities that a person must have** as preconditions for entering into an authentic discernment process seeking God's will:

1. **Openness:** We must approach the decision in question with an open mind and an open heart. We cannot find God's will for us if we enter into the decision-making process with a pre-conceived outcome based on our self-will, biases, and what Ignatius calls "attachments," that is, an attitude of "I already have my mind made up, so don't confuse me with the facts!"

2. **Generosity:** To enter into a decision-making process with such openness requires a generous spirit with which we, with a largeness of heart, put no conditions on what God might call us to. This is like writing God a signed "blank check" letting God fill in the amount and content of the check. Only a generous person would do this.

3. **Courage:** Such openness and generosity require courage, for God might be asking something difficult, challenging, and risky of us. It takes courage to give up control and trustingly put the decision in God's hands while seeking God's will over our own.

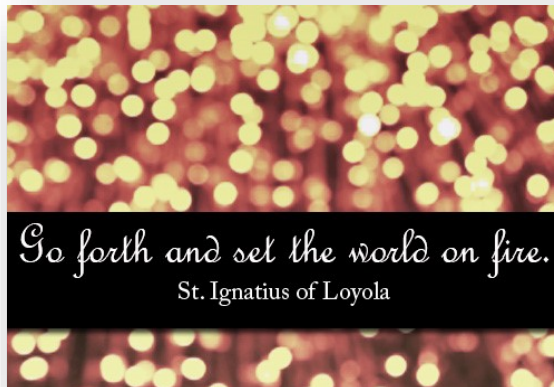
4. **Interior freedom:** To make such a prayerful, generous, courageous decision requires interior freedom. Ignatius describes three types of people and their differing approaches to decision making:

a. The first type is "**all talk and no action.**" This kind of person is full of good intentions but remains so distracted by his or her busyness about so many relatively inconsequential things that they never get around to the "one thing necessary," namely, God's will for them.

b. The second type of person **does everything but the one thing necessary.** These people may do all kinds of good things in their life *but* don't face the central issue of what God is calling them to.

c. The third type of person is the only one who is **truly free.** Their whole and deepest desire is to do whatever God's will is for them with no conditions

attached. This is the attitude necessary to authentically find and follow God's will for us.



5. **A habit of prayerful reflection on one's experience:** How can we hear God's call if we're not listening? How can we listen, if we're not praying? To make a prayerful decision, we must first pray, putting aside a significant portion of time (twenty minutes or more) on a daily basis to quiet ourselves, put ourselves in God's presence, and listen to what God is saying to us in the interior of our hearts. Ignatius' key method of prayer is *The Examen of Consciousness*, a way of reflecting each day on how God has been at work in one's life.

6. **Having one's priorities straight:** There is a ruthless logic to Ignatius's spirituality. If serving God, our Creator and Lord, is the ultimate goal of our lives, then everything else in our lives must be kept in the subordinate position of a means to that end. This means that things such as opportunities, experiences, and relationships are to be valued and chosen only insofar as they contribute to our ultimate goal in life and rejected insofar as they deter us from that goal.

7. Not confusing ends with means: Ignatius comments: "It becomes obvious how easy it is for me to forget such a simple truth as the end and goal of my whole existence when I consider the manner in which choices are often made. Many people, for example, choose marriage, which is a means. They then only secondarily consider the service and praise of God our Lord in marriage, though to follow God's lead in my life is always our human project. Many people first choose to make a lot of money or to be successful, and only afterwards to be able to serve God by it. And so too in their striving for power, popularity, and so on. All of these people exhibit an attitude of putting God into second place, and they want God to come into their lives only after accommodating their own disordered and self-centered attachments. In other words, they mix up the order of an end and a means to that end. What they ought to seek first and above all else, they often put last." (Spiritual Exercises., [169])

Having these seven essential attitudes of openness, generosity, interior freedom, prayerful reflection on experience, having one's priorities straight, and not confusing ends with means, the discernor has their satellite dish pointed in the right direction in order to receive God's signals. Possessing these qualities is the precondition for hearing God's call through an authentic discernment process.

### Three Distinct "Times" for Decision Making

Ignatius observes that in making an important decision we tend to find ourselves in one of three basic situations. We tend to either (1) feel inner clarity or certainty about what to do, or (2) we feel inner conflict about what to do, feeling pulled in different directions (for example, feeling drawn to both religious life and having a family), or (3) there is not much of anything going on inside and we feel clueless. If we find ourselves in the first situation where we feel inner clarity, we're lucky. Then we know what we should do and just have to go ahead and do it. If we're not so lucky to have this inner clarity, and we're often not, then Ignatius gives the following suggestions to help us make a good, prayerful decision when we're feeling conflicted and uncertain.

### Seven Practical Discernment Techniques

1. Ignatius suggests that we start the decision making process by putting before our mind what it is we want to decide about.

2. He then asks us to pray for the grace to "try to be like a balance at equilibrium, without leaning to either side" (*Spiritual Exercises*, [179]). In other words, we should try to the extent possible not to prefer one option to the other but only desire to do God's will. To help us maintain focus and perspective, he asks us to keep the ultimate end and goal of our existence clearly before us.

3. Then we pray for God to enlighten and move us to seek only what is most conducive to God's service and praise.

4. One suggestion Ignatius makes is to imagine a person we

never met who seeks our help in how to respond to God's call in the same decision we are considering. We then observe what advice we give this person and follow it ourselves. This is helpful since most of us are better at giving others advice than at figuring out what we should do.

5. Another suggestion is that we imagine ourselves at the end of our lives either on our deathbed or after our death standing before Christ our Judge. How would we feel about our decision then? What would we say to Christ about the decision we have just made? We should choose now the course of action that would give us happiness and joy in looking back on it from our deathbed and in presenting it to Christ on the day of our judgment.

6. When we do not experience inner clarity about the correct decision to be made, Ignatius suggests that we use our reason to weigh the matter carefully to attempt to come to a decision in line with our living out God's will in our lives. To do this we should, bearing in mind our ultimate goal, prepare a list of pros and cons noticing if any of the reasons listed stand out from the others and why and see which way this might point us.

7. Having come to a decision, we turn again to God and beg for signs of God's confirmation that the decision is leading us toward God's service and praise. The usual sign of this confirmation from God is an experience of peacefulness about the decision. The confirmed decision has a feeling of "rightness" about it, and we feel a sense of God's presence, blessing, and love. This is a very important step, since the feeling of rightness, peace, and joy about a decision is a positive indicator that we have made the right decision whereas feelings of anxiety, heaviness, sadness, and darkness often indicate the opposite.

### Summary

- In summary, in order to make a good, prayerful decision...
- We need to look at the decision prayerfully from all angles.
- We need to take time with the decision, be patient, trust the process, and ultimately trust that God will lead us to the right place if we do our part as best we can.
- In the end, we must follow what our heart and gut tell us to do and what seems right to us. In life decisions and matters of the heart we rarely feel complete certainty and clarity. This is more than a rational process. However, once we've considered the decision prayerfully, consulted others we trust, and have attained all the data we reasonably can, we need to take a leap of faith and make a decision.

(*Draw Me Into Your Friendship: The Spiritual Exercises, A Literal Translation and a Contemporary Reading* by David Fleming, SJ, [5, 16, 24-26, 149-55, 169] Numbers refer to the paragraph numbers of the Ignatian text. All quotations from *The Spiritual Exercises* in this booklet are taken from Fleming's contemporary reading of the *Spiritual Exercises*.  
Pastor Phil

# A glance at November Ministry Happenings....



**November 2** - Sandwich Making—7:30 am

**November 3** - Soup Making—9:30 am

Knitting—6 pm

**November 5** - Knit & Chat—10 am—noon

**November 6** - Advent Tea planning Meeting—following worship

**November 8** - Prayer & Care—11:30 am

**November 8** - An Evening with Else Svendsen—7—8:30 pm

**November 10**—Knitting—6 pm

**November 12** - Men's Breakfast—8 am

**November 13** - BLAST SHOWCASE—following worship

**November 17** - Knitting—6 pm

**November 19** - M & M Women's Group—10 am

**November 19** - Lay Academy—10:30 am—noon (sponsored by Lutheran Seminary)

**November 22** - Prayer & Care—5:15 pm

**November 24** - Knitting—6 pm

**November 26** - Men's Breakfast—8 am

**November 27** - Book Club Discussion—following worship

**November 28** - Women's Advent Program @ Southwood United Church—7 pm

**November 29** - Mentor Night @ confirmation—7 pm

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

**Morning Prayer—9 am—**

**Monday—Thursday**

**Fellowship & Coffee at**

**Tim Hortons—every Tuesday  
morning at 10 am.**

**11472 Braeside Dr. SW.**



## Lutheran Church of the Cross

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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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# An evening with **ELSE SVENDSEN**



Else was born in Denmark, #10 of 11 children, into a very loving family. She was born on a farm, in a small community, where the main focus was the church. Everyone had pride in their community, and every farm had a flag pole. Else was 12 years old when the war was happening.

Come, be inspired by faith in action.

Come, be inspired by God's amazing grace.

Come, be inspired by our own Else Svendsen!

**Tuesday, November 8, 2016 @ 7 pm**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### MARY & MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

**Saturday, November 19 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Church

**Session 3: Paul and the power of failure: when God chooses the unlikely**

Please join us for this final session of the three part study exploring biblical images of a God who acts beyond our conceptions of what's "fair".

### Women's Advent Celebration:

Southwood United &  
Lutheran Church of the Cross  
**Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m.** at  
Southwood United Church  
Hosted by the women of Southwood



Begin Advent with us at this very special joint gathering where Southwood United will lead us in worship and Lutheran Church of the Cross will lead the fellowship time to follow.  
(Church of the Cross women please bring baking or dessert to share)

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### November Cause of the Month Families in Need

During November and December we hope to supply food vouchers for families who struggle to meet their needs during the winter and holiday season. Your continued support is much appreciated.

As our Christmas project we will again do the 'stuff a pair of socks' for the Mustard Seed. A box will be placed in the narthex for the collection of socks and needed items.

Some of the items needed are: *soap, shampoo and conditioner, razors, toothbrush and toothpaste, Kleenex, bandaides, gloves, personal hygiene items, gift cards from Tim Hortons, etc., chocolate bars or candy treats, note of encouragement for Christmas, transit tickets.* December 11<sup>th</sup> is the final day for collection!



## Prayer and Care

In the book *Reclaiming the "L" Word* author Kelly A. Fryer encourages us to practice the following five strategic behaviors.

1. PRAY ALWAYS
2. SET PEOPLE FREE
3. TAKE ACTION
4. EXPECT SURPRISES
5. BE HOPEFUL

*Please join us as we work on these strategies*

**November 8** at 11:30 for Pot Luck Lunch and Meeting

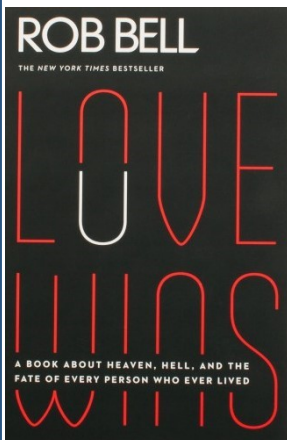
**November 22** at 5:15 for Pot Luck Supper and Meeting

Wendy McCulloch



## November Book of the Month

**Love Wins** by Rob Bell



*First, I believe that Jesus' story is first and foremost about the love of God for every single one of us. It is a stunning, beautiful, expansive love, and it is for everybody, everywhere.*

*There are a growing number of us who have become acutely aware that Jesus's story has been hijacked by a number of other stories, stories*

*Jesus isn't interested in telling, because they have nothing to do with what he came to do. The plot has been lost, and it's time to reclaim it.*

*A staggering number of people have been taught that a select few Christians will spend forever in a peaceful, joyous place called heaven, while the rest of humanity spend forever in torment and punishment in hell with no chance for anything better. It's been clearly communicated to many that this belief is a central truth of the Christian faith and to reject it is, in essence, to reject Jesus. This is misguided and toxic and ultimately subverts the contagious spread of Jesus's message of love, peace, forgiveness, and joy that our world desperately needs to hear.*

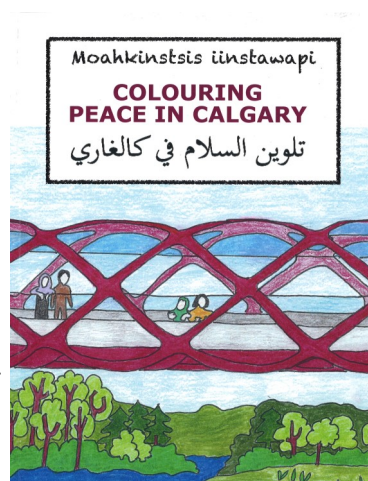
*I've written this book because the kind of faith Jesus invites us into doesn't skirt the big questions about topics like God and Jesus and salvation and judgment and heaven and hell, but takes us deep into the heart of them.*

Rob Bell

**December Book—The Greatest Gift** by Ann Voskamp



A group of Calgary artists has a unique way to welcome Syrian refugees and other newcomers to our city — a colouring book featuring Calgary's landmarks and natural areas. It's called Colouring for Peace in Calgary.



Colouring Peace in Calgary is a welcoming gift to Syrian refugees and other newcomers. "We

hope the pictures of Calgary landmarks and natural areas will offer newcomers tranquility and that they'll feel happy to add their own colour and creativity to our city," says Carolyn Pogue, Coordinator for Colouring Peace in Calgary. The project received support from St. Andrew's Regional Ministries.

The all-ages colouring book is written in English, Arabic as well as Blackfoot. Blackfoot is one of the book's languages to help newcomers understand that Calgary is also in the traditional territories of the Blackfoot peoples.

The project began with a group of artists at Hillhurst United Church, one of several United Churches sponsoring refugees. A city-wide call resulted in illustrations by 30 Calgarians. One contributor, Urszula Ciechanska, is an elementary school teacher. "I have worked with a number of new immigrant children, including Syrian refugees. Images are one of the best communication tools. Pictures are a universal language and open doors to understanding when there is a language barrier," says Ciechanska. Ciechanska's contribution to the colouring project is a Blackfoot dancer performing at the Calgary Stampede. Mayor Nenshi wrote an enthusiastic endorsement. Arabic translations were provided by Imam Mohamed Mahmoud and Blackfoot translations were done by Elders Randy Bottle and Anita Eaglebear.

For every colouring book sold, one book will be given to a Syrian refugee family. **Each book is \$10.** You can purchase colouring books at:

- **St. Andrew's Centre** 1-10601 Southport Rd. SW (near Anderson LRT)

tel. 403-259-4080 [www.andychurch.org/](http://www.andychurch.org/) Email: [office@andychurch.org](mailto:office@andychurch.org)

- **Sunnyside Art Supplies**  
132 10 Street NW. Tel 403-475-



## Turn your old cell phone into a tree.

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



*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.*

### November BLAST

**November 6**—Moses Story activities

**November 13**—BLAST Showcase

**November 20**—Advent Workshop

**November 27**—Isaiah



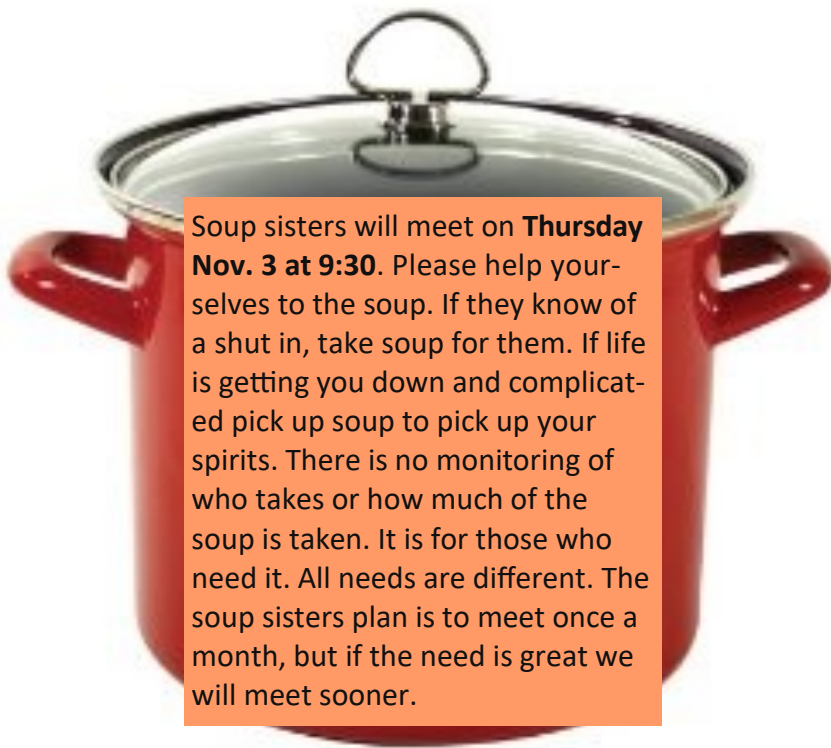
## Women's Advent Tea - A Sacred Season



Save the date for the Women's Advent Tea to be held **Saturday, December 10** in the narthex. Women of all ages are welcome. There will be time for tea, Christmas baking and conversation to enjoy as we make the Advent and Christmas season purposefully sacred.

A **planning committee** is meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 6** after church in the North Meeting Room (across from the sanctuary). Please bring your ideas and contact Cindy Tester at [403-276-](tel:403-276-4442)

[4442](tel:403-276-4442), [testergc@gmail.com](mailto:testergc@gmail.com) to get involved.



Soup sisters will meet on **Thursday Nov. 3 at 9:30**. Please help yourselves to the soup. If they know of a shut in, take soup for them. If life is getting you down and complicated pick up soup to pick up your spirits. There is no monitoring of who takes or how much of the soup is taken. It is for those who need it. All needs are different. The soup sisters plan is to meet once a month, but if the need is great we will meet sooner.

*Saturday morning*  
Knitting resumes on  
Saturday,  
**November 5th @**  
10 am—noon.

***Come and knit and  
chat!!!***





## LOGOS



Love Of God, Others

Last month, Pastor Laura, Pastor Phil, Sarah, Hannah and Heather helped lead the LOGOS retreat at Camp Kuriakos for youth from the ABT Synod. Members of Lutheran Church of the Cross should be very proud about the leadership that these youth provided at this weekend and the way the Holy Spirit moved to strengthen the faith of the participants and enliven them to be at work in their home congregations. After many talks, singing, sharing, praying and worshipping, the retreat culminated in a conversation about: *What can we do to empower the youth of the synod to make a difference in the world?* Areas of concern and interest included: mental health, the environment, peer-to-peer ministry, identifying local service projects, and inspirational youth rallies. One of the ideas was to approach the Synod Youth Gathering committee to have the next synod gathering be a LOGOS weekend (*which they all agreed to be on the team to help make happen!*).

Thanks to all those who were praying for the LOGOS weekend and its participants.

## A quilted square for Church of the Cross

This year Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) celebrates its 70th anniversary. Through the We Care program, they have invited all church groups and individuals to be part of creating a quilt together to display in the CLWR warehouse and at future events.

Using a pattern inspired by **Hilary Gray, Doris Urquhart and Lillian Kozac** have created a 9½-inch quilted square on our behalf, to be sewn into the anniversary quilt. Well done, ladies! Beautiful work!



All Saints' Sunday



## All Saints Sunday Special Service

**Sunday, November 6th**—please remember to phone in the names of your loved ones that have died since last November 2nd.

# We are all called to care and pray

Church of the Cross has a team of people who pray together and visit people who are ill, homebound, or in the hospital or another care facility. The *Prayer and Care* group meets twice monthly to support people in their prayer lives and in their ministries of caring for others.

If you are caring for someone who is ill, or if you visit people as a spiritual friend, *Prayer and Care* would love to support you. Simply attend one of the two potluck meals monthly (lunch on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday or dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) and feast on the food, devotions, and prayers of your brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you are visiting people as a spiritual friend, please let the church office know.

## ***How do I know if I am called to visit someone?***

That's a great question!

If you are concerned for the physical, mental, or spiritual health of someone and feel they should be visited, that's often a sign that God is calling **you** to do some visiting. Worry, concern, and recurring thoughts about someone who is struggling are often a nudge from God to either pick up the phone and connect with them, or make plans to go and see them. This is a great way to serve your church community and help the pastoral staff at the same time!

People who are struggling usually appreciate phone calls and visits from their friends. If you phone or visit and discover that your friend needs to speak with the pastor or someone else from Prayer and Care, please call the church office.

***But remember, visits from the pastor or Prayer and Care group do not replace your own visits, phone calls, and well wishes!*** What people really value are their friendships and what people often need is the prayer and caring of their life-long friends.

If someone suggests to you that the pastor(s) or Prayer and Care group should be visiting someone, you might kindly suggest that maybe they are trying to hand off the call God has given to them to someone else! Urge them to take a step in encouragement, and to make sure they get the support they need!

*If you would like a visit from one of the Pastors, or from someone on the Prayer and Care team, please contact the church office.*

## Noah's Pudding

Also known as "*asure*," this unique Turkish dessert is made with barley, legumes, dried fruits, and nuts. Traditional folklore holds that Noah gathered all of the remaining food-stuffs to make this sweet pudding when he and his family left the ark. Today it represents the best of multicultural community and the goodness people are capable of when they share their gifts with one another. Therefore, it has become customary to share Noah's Pudding with others.



On **November 13**, members of Calgary's Turkish community will be here after worship to share Noah's Pudding with us and share the gifts of multiculturalism and friendship. (Isn't Canada a great place?)



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Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Canada Lutheran Representative: Dianne Fortier

Return by: November 6

CL-BULLETIN/2016

# Germany: Luther, Bach & the Beatles



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

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

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

## Communion Assistants

**Nov. 6**—Doris & Don Urquhart

**Nov. 20**—Hilary Gray & June Kvicala



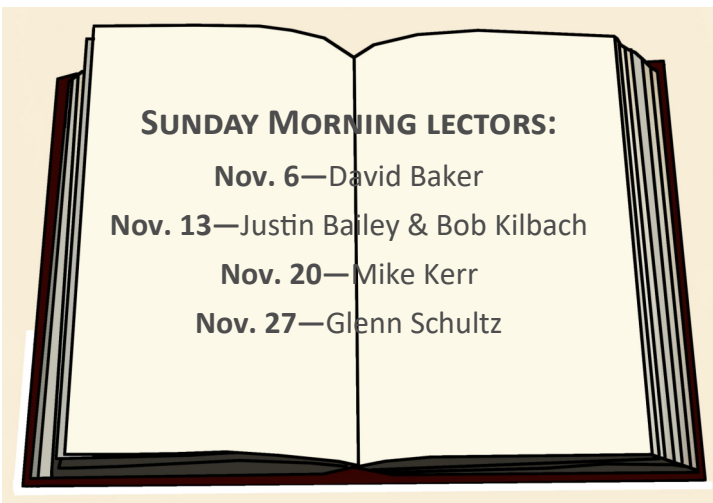
## SUNDAY MORNING LECTORS:

**Nov. 6**—David Baker

**Nov. 13**—Justin Bailey & Bob Kilbach

**Nov. 20**—Mike Kerr

**Nov. 27**—Glenn Schultz



## SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE

### SET-UP

**November**—Grey Power

**December**—Gardening Group

**January** - Outdoor Group

**February** - Confirmants and Parents

**March** - Council



## Communion Set-up

**Nov. 6**—Alice Vickerson & Georgina Normandin

**Nov. 20**—Joyce Kirbyson





## Conversations That Make a Difference

A Workshop on How to Have  
Encouraging Conversations  
Sunday, November 13 at 11:30am  
In the Sanctuary



One of the Seven Faith Practices (you know... Worship, Pray, Study, Give, Invite, Serve...) is **Encourage**. *Encourage* literally means to *give heart to*. You probably know someone in your life who—after almost every conversation with them—you feel better, uplifted, and encouraged. Would you like to be such a person? What would it be like if every member at Church of the Cross had *encouraging* conversations with each other AND with the people they encounter in their lives?

If you are interested in playing this game of encouragement in your life but feel like you don't know how, then join us for this workshop: *Conversations That Make a Difference*. We'll talk about talking & listening and give you guidance and confidence in having encouraging conversations everywhere in your life!

For more information, *talk* to Corliss or Pastor Phil

## Family Advent Retreat at Kuriakos



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

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

This retreat is intended to enrich faith and worship, providing support for practicing Advent. It's a chance for families to become involved in worship, and for congregations to share ideas.

Enjoy a weekend *Set Apart to be Together* as your family and congregation still and settle for a season of waiting and anticipation.

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

# Knitting Nights

There are those times in life when words are either too much or not enough and there is nothing you can do about it. In days like that I like to set everything aside and take some soft, colorful yarn and let my hands to create something. It calms my anxiousness, it helps me to express myself in a different way, it teaches me important life lessons and gives me second and third chances.

Do you sometimes feel like you need a break? Do you sometimes not know what to do with yourself? Do you want to show somebody that you care more than words can express? Do you want to learn something new and infinitely diverse? Maybe you just wish for somebody to be with for a while?

Our knitting nights give us all that and even more. And there always is one more spot – for you. *Baiba*



## Knitting Nights: Thursdays at 6. Look for us in the pink chairs.

### ***What if I can't knit or crochet?***

Come anyway! If you want to learn more than you already know, you are most welcome. We come together to share ideas and skills. And do not worry about needles and yarn either – we will provide some to start with.

### ***Do I have to come every time?***

We would like to see you as often as possible, but rest assured – nobody is taking attendance if you skip a Thursday sometimes. Nor is there any set curriculum - the only thing you are going to miss is us.

### ***Is it just for old church ladies?***

Not at all! Everyone is welcome to come and have a break, sit back and make something soft and pretty for yourself or somebody you care for.

### ***Does this replace Knit and Chat?***

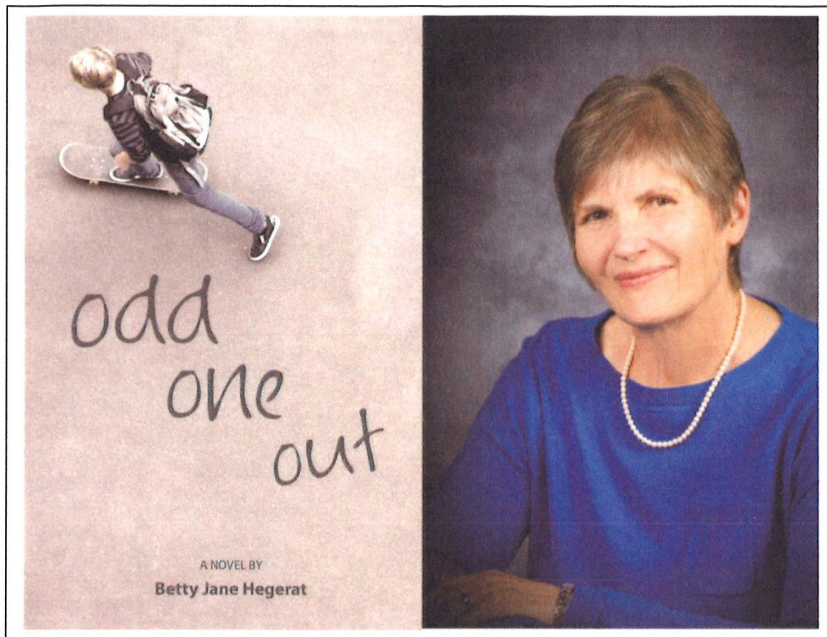
**No. Knit and Chat continues on the first Saturday morning of each month.** Knitting Nights is held each Thursday evening at 6.

### ***Where do I sign up?***

No need for that – just come in.







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

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

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

## **Odd One Out** **Betty Jane Hegerat**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



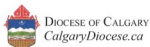
# Around Town

THE POPE AND LUTHERAN  
LEADERS COMMEMORATE  
THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE REFORMATION:  
VIDEO AND COMMENTARY



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016**  
**7:00 PM-8:30 PM**  
**CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTRE**  
**120-17 AVE SW, CALGARY**

FOR FREE TICKETS CONTACT:  
CAROLINE.SILVEIRA@CALGARYDIOCESE.CA



## **St. Gerard's CWL Bazaar & White Elephant Sale**

Sat., Nov. 19th, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm  
Sun., Nov. 20th, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

**St. Gerard's Church Hall**  
8944 Elbow Dr. SW

**HUGE White Elephant Sale**  
**Bake Table Silent Auction**  
**Crafts Hot Lunch & MORE**

*Free Admission*  
*Everyone Welcome*



## **Women's Retreat**

**November 4-6, 2016**

**\$150 +gst | Age 18+**

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

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

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

# November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm	<b>2</b> Sandwich Making—7:30 Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—9 am—8 pm Bible Study—9:30 am AHS Caregivers—1 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>3</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Quilting—9 am Soup Making—9:30 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm Knitting—6 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	<b>4</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm <div>Women's Retreat—Kuriakos</div>	<b>5</b> FACE—9 am—3 pm Knitting—10 am—12
<b>6</b> Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship Advent Tea planning—11:30 SWCG—1—3 pm	<b>7</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	<b>8</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 Prayer & Care—11:30 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm— An Evening with Else Svendsen	<b>9</b> Morning Prayer—9 am FACE—9 am—8 pm Bible Study—9:30 am SWCG—7 pm Council Mtg.—7 pm	<b>10</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Quilting—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm Knitting—6 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	<b>11</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>12</b> Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3 pm
<b>13</b> Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST SHOWCASE—following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	<b>14</b> Morning Prayer—9 am— Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm	<b>15</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7 pm	<b>16</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>17</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Quilting—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm Knitting—6 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	<b>18</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>19</b> FACE—9 am—3 pm M & M—10 am Lay Academy—10:30—noon
<b>20</b> Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST—following worship SWCG—1—3 pm	<b>21</b> Kodaly—9:15 am  Water2Wine—4:30 pm	<b>22</b> Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 FACE—3—8 pm Prayer & Care—5:15 pm  <b>NO CONFIRMATION</b>	<b>23</b> FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>24</b> Quilting—9 am Kodaly—1:15 pm FACE—3—8 pm Knitting—6 pm EA—7 pm Choir—7:15 pm	<b>25</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> FACE—9—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<b>26</b> Men's Breakfast—8 am FACE—9 am—3 pm
<b>27</b> First Sun. of Advent Adult Study—9 am Worship—10 am BLAST - following worship SWCG—1—4 pm	<b>28</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Kodaly—9:15 am Staff Mtg.—10:15 am Water2Wine—4:30 pm Women's Advent Program @ Southwood UC—7 pm	<b>29</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Coffee @ Tim Hortons—10 am FACE—3—8 pm Faith Formation—7—8:30 pm—MENTOR NIGHT	<b>30</b> Morning Prayer—9 am Bible Study—9:30 am FACE—9 am—8 pm SWCG—7 pm	<div>November 21—26—Pastors in Saskatoon teaching at the seminary.</div> <div>Communion Sundays November 6 &amp; 20</div> <div>Cause of the Month Families in Need</div>		