



October 2016

The Vine

Happy Thanksgiving



Ministry Team

All are members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

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www.oursaviourchurch.ca

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Facebook: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour



As of September 28, 2016.

THE WITTENBERG DOOR

“When one door closes, another door opens, but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us” (Alexander Graham Bell)

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted a notice on the church door at Wittenberg. These 95 theses were presented “out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be discussed at Wittenberg.” Discussed indeed! The reception was mixed, to say the least. For many, the door closed between the Roman Catholic community and the followers of Martin Luther and other reformers.

I can remember, growing up, that our pastor was emphatic that we never enter a Catholic church. Some couples entered a mixed married (a Lutheran marrying a Catholic) with fear and trembling. Lutherans and Catholics often were reluctant to worship and work together. There are way too many stories of conflict, contention and misunderstanding that have separated us. For too many times, differences have become the reference point.

As we enter the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, this door, definitely by God’s grace and guidance, is opening wider. A new reference point is being established in Lund, Sweden, on the 31st of this month. Pope Francis and Bishop Munib A. Younan (President of the Lutheran World Federation) and Rev. Martin Junge (LWF General Secretary) will be leading worship together. They will be echoing the words of a joint statement made in June, 2013 (“From Conflict to Communion”): **“Lutheran and Catholics today enjoy a growth in mutual understanding, cooperation and respect. They have come to acknowledge that more unites than divides them...”**

At this Lutheran-Catholic Commemoration of the Reformation, five commitments will be highlighted:

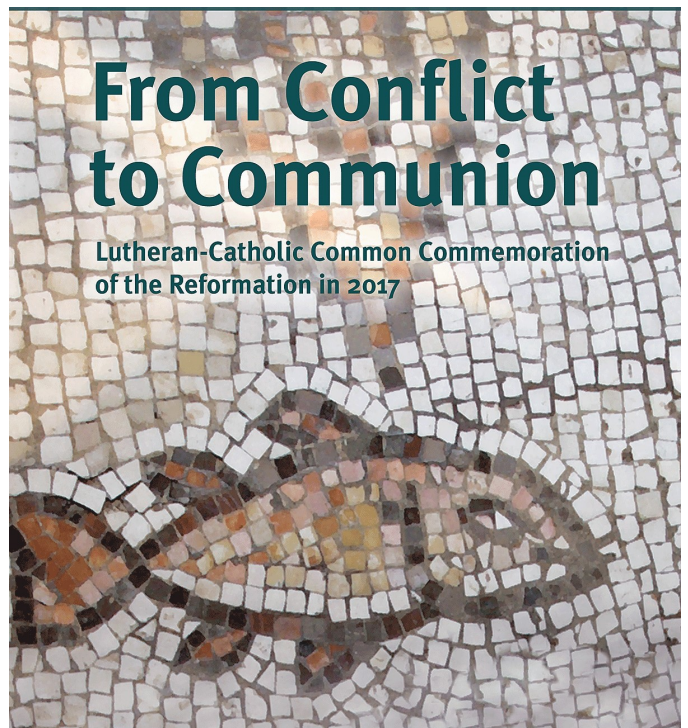
Catholics and Lutherans should always begin from the perspective of unity and not from the point of view of division in order to strengthen what is held in common even through the differences are more easily seen and experienced.

Lutherans and Catholics must let themselves continuously be transformed by the encounter with the other and by the mutual witness of faith.

Catholics and Lutherans should again commit themselves to seek visible unity, to elaborate together what this means in concrete steps, and to strive repeatedly toward this goal.

Lutherans and Catholics should jointly rediscover the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ for our time.

Catholics and Lutherans should witness together to the mercy of God in proclamation and service to the world.



As the door opens wider, let rejoice at what God is doing in our midst; helping us “to stop walking into our future backwards and turn around and look at where we want to go—not where we’ve been (Senator Murray Sinclair).

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

Pastor Lee

Youth & Children's Ministry—Upcoming Activities

Wow! What an exciting month September has been! From our Young Explorer's launch party to our first Youth and Tween events, it's been a busy, yet extremely fun first few weeks of our 2016/2017 programming. I'm already looking ahead to the next few months, and the amazing opportunities for the children and youth of our congregation. Take a look below to see what October holds in store!

Over the first few events of youth/tween ministry, I've really been stressing the importance of fellowship. Especially within youth and tween groups, building relationships makes or breaks the ministry. Not only bonds within the groups, but stronger bonds with families, and stronger bonds with the actual church as well. This is a two way street however. I would like to encourage the parents and congregation members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour to really make an effort to take an active role in a child or youth's life. Ask them what they've been learning in Sunday school; ask them about the fun events they've been attending. Ask them about school, about their hobbies; take an interest in their lives. Youth and Children ministry isn't solely on the shoulders of the leaders and teachers, it comes down to the whole congregation.

Thanksgiving Young Explorers

Sunday October 9th at 10 am

A special Young Explorer event due to Thanksgiving! During the regular class times at 10 am, all ages will be joining together to watch a VeggieTales Thanksgiving special, and take part in a turkey-licious craft! The Experiment Student Ministries will also be taking a break from their regular class and will be having a fun Thanksgiving event of their own at 10 am.



TWEEN NIGHT
OCTOBER 15TH @ 7PM

• for outdoor games
in the church parking lot

Tween Night – Outdoor Games

Saturday October 15th at 7pm

Come on out to our first Tweens only event, starting at 7pm. We'll be outdoors playing lots of fun games, including capture the flag, road hockey, manhunt and much more. Afterwards, we'll come inside the church for some hot chocolate, and Bible study time, before heading back out into the dark. Please dress accordingly, and bring a flashlight!

Youth & Children's Ministry—Upcoming Activities

THE EXPERIMENT PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT FRIDAY OCTOBER 21ST AT 7PM

The Experiment – Harvest Party
Friday October 28th at 7pm

The perfect event to bring your friends to! Our Harvest party will include games like bobbing for apples, candy corn re-lays, pumpkin bowling, deadly wink and vampire tag; as well as treats like candy apples, pies, chocolate, and much more! Throughout the night, a murder mystery will be taking place. Come on out, and don't forget your costume!

The Experiment – Photo Scavenger Hunt
Friday October 21st at 7pm

Time to be a tourist! Join your team in a race around the city, searching for certain photo opportunities with people, places, and things. Make sure you bring a camera! There's a prize for the first team finished!

THE EXPERIMENT HARVEST PARTY

FRI OCT 28th at 7pm
TREATS, GAMES
& MORE



BRING A FRIEND AND
DON'T FORGET YOUR COSTUME!



Coming in November.....

YOUTH EVENT BUILD-A-BOX

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

PACKING PARTY AT LCOS NOV. 19th



time TBA

The Experiment Youth Event



CALGARY HITMEN

FRI NOV. 25th
| 6pm

Puck drops at 7pm



\$12/ticket Must sign up by Nov. 13th

Blessing of the Animals Worship Service—Oct 7th

October each year marks a day of celebration for St. Francis of Assisi.

As Catholic author Jon M. Sweeney [wrote in HuffPost](#), St. Francis is the among the most popular Catholic saints. Sweeney writes:

He is the one who preached to the birds; blessed fish that had been caught, releasing them back into the water; communicated with wolves, brokering an agreement between one famous ferocious wolf and the citizens of a town that were terrified of it and used real animals when he created the very first, live, Christmas nativity scene. As a result of these, Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment.

The present Pope selected the name Francis in honour of St. Francis of Assisi and his love of creation.

Join us at 7 pm on October 7th for a brief Service of Celebration as we thank God for the gifts of companionship and beauty which animals and pets bring to our lives and homes, and ask God's blessing on them.

Bring Your Pet



Small Groups—For Our Younger Members



The Experiment – If you are in Grade 7-12, then we have the perfect opportunity for you! Join our Experiment Student Ministries group on Sunday mornings at 10 am as we study the Bible to see what Jesus commands from us, or on our various Friday night events for some hours of fun and fellowship. Check out our schedule every month for new event information!

Tween Experiences – Introducing Tween Experiences! Once a month on Saturday night, come join us at the church for an event full of challenges, games, snacks, and much more! Together we'll study exactly who Jesus is, and why that's important, while having a night full of fun! Check out our schedule every month for new event information.



Young Explorers – Every Sunday morning at 10 am, join us as we study the Bible using art, drama, games, science, and much more! We have three separate groups, ages 3-5, Grades 1-3 or Grades 4-6, all with separate teachers helping you understand exactly what the Bible says about love. For more information, please call Jesse Ramson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at 403-253-1453 or emailing youth@oursaviourchurch.ca.

Discipleship—A two year program for students in Grades 7 & 8 run by Pastor Lee. The group will be meeting twice per month on Sunday evenings from Fall until Spring. They will explore the Bible, the Creeds, the life of Jesus, what it means to be Lutheran, and many tough questions along the way. If your youth or friends from outside the congregation are interested in this opportunity, please see Pastor Lee.

We meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm Sunday evenings. Our tentative schedule for the year is:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| October 16th | February 12th |
| October 30th | February 26th |
| November 6th | March 19th |
| November 20th | April 9th |
| December 11th | April 23rd |
| January 8th | May 7th |
| January 22nd | |



March 3rd to 5th the youth will be participating in a *Discipleship Retreat* at Camp Kuriakos with Pastor Lee.

Snack



Sign Up

On Sunday mornings we like to provide a snack to our Young Explorers and Youth at 10:00 am. A snack sign-up sheet can be found by the kitchen and by September 9th online. Thank you!



Movie Lovers
OCTOBER 14th
7pm

Caged No More

Inspired by real events, it is the story of Aggie Prejean, a grandmother on a desperate search to find her two granddaughters, Skye and Elle, who have been taken overseas to be sold into slavery.

Reality check: 27 million people are enslaved around the world today with an estimated 1.2 million of them Children.



Human Beings –
Not for Sale



Small Groups— New!

The Running Group—Starts Oct 5th

Meet Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Locations: Rotating —Glenmore Reservoir, Fish CreekPark

This is group is for all levels of runners. Whether you're working toward your first 5 k or are a seasoned marathoner, you are welcome to run with us! We will do our best to maintain a pace that works for the group, and a few can always run on ahead if they have the need for speed. If there is interest, we could also register for a local race or fun run together.



Organizer: Leah Thormoset,

Role Playing/Playtest Group

Meet on a Friday or Saturday once or twice a month—to be determined by the group

Location: The actual location is probably up to the group, but it really only requires enough space for comfort, a table to play around, and good lighting.

This group will meet and play roleplaying games (RPGs) where the player are typically the “stars” of the story, and the Game Master controls all the antagonists, support characters, weather, animals and other forces of nature. Games can be set in many genres like superheroes, fantasy, science fiction, mysteries, espionage, literary horror, cartoon/slapstick, etc. This group can also playtest new games and products being developed for publication (as a reward for play testing, players would be mentioned in the final published product and may be eligible for other awards). Players should be mature teens or adults and have a good imagination and the ability to problem solve.

Group Size: Typically 1 Game Master / Referee / Organizer and 4 to 6 players. If more players were interested, then multiple groups could be created. It's also possible to have teams scored and placed in competition with one another. Example: Team 1 plays Adventure X and they manage to gain 19 points when the adventure is complete. Can Team 2 score more points on Adventure X when they try the same adventure?

Resources: Each player typically needs paper, pencil/pen, and will want snacks. Each player needs a dice set (\$7) although these can be shared. Rulebooks can also be shared (for new games), or players can choose to invest in their own copy. The GM will always need their own copy of the rules, pen/pencil, figurines/counters, maps and dice.

Organizer: Darren Tenor

Editor's Note:

Darren has published several gaming books for Fantasy Games Unlimited and is in the process of publishing a variety of other books for additional gaming companies.



Pie Social

Bring a pie!
Share a pie!
OCT 16th after 11am service



Please bring your pie pre-cut and ready to serve

Welcome to the Church Family

OCTOBER 23rd



October 16th Special Events:

Join us as we listen to special guest speaker Margaret Propp, Lutheran Campus Minister at the U of C at both Services.

Following the 11 am Service we are inviting everyone to enjoy a Pie Social. Bring a pie! Share a pie!

October 23rd Special Events:

If you would like to officially transfer your membership to Lutheran Church of Our Saviour please contact Pastor Lee by October 16th to participate in our "Welcome to the Church Family" event on October 23rd.

At 7:00 pm on October 23rd you are welcome to join us for a brief Service of Healing



Campus Ministry
"DRIVE FOR FIVE"

Service of healing

Sunday, Oct 23rd 7pm



Small Groups— New!

The Wittenberg Castle Crew

(Just think about what we could do!)

Number of participants: 6 to 10

Meeting: Weekly or Bi-weekly, evenings
Day of week to be determined by the group

Location: LCOS or convenient coffee shop



This group will get together, to share fun, crazy ideas.

Many ideas will be rejected as unworkable. Ideas that are fun, safe, memorable and educational events will be taken to the rest of the congregation.

Titles for each group member could include:

- Ideas generator (bizarre sense of humour is welcome)
- Strategists (persons responsible for finding ways to make the silly ideas work)
- Recruiters (persons capable of rounding up participants)
- Safety officer (folks that can recognize potential risks and mitigation strategies)
- Bean counter (person capable of compiling a cost estimate for feasible events)
- News maker (in charge of gathering photos and video clips)
- Producer (capable of creating slide shows and videos for sharing with the congregation)

Costs to sustain the small group's activities should be negligible. Participants will pay for their own refreshments when we meet at a coffee shop. We might want to make a pot of coffee when we meet at the church. Since the meetings consist of a bunch of folks sitting around chatting, there should be no special cleaning requirements.

Costs for events would be covered by participants. Part of the planning will focus on cost minimization to help ensure that anyone can join the fun.



One idea might include:

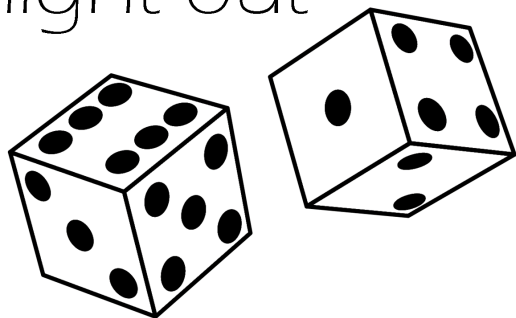
Holy Rollers Pushcart Race: Families will be supplied with wheels, axles, and steering systems on loan from Doug Gerbrandt. Kids and parents are encouraged to work together, building the body of their racer in any fashion that they desire (e.g. soap-box-derby style). The car can be painted in any fun colour scheme; with the name of a favorite disciple and some of their scripture clearly displayed on each external surface. Cost of the paint and wood for the body would be provided by participants. A safe location for the race would be the section of Lynnview Road SE that is closed to vehicle traffic.

Organizer: Doug Gerbrandt

couples
night out

BUNCO

at Kelly & Jennifer Sisson's House



SAT OCT 29th at 7:30pm

RSVP by Fri. Oct. 21st to 403-540-9910

BUNCO PLAYERS WANTED

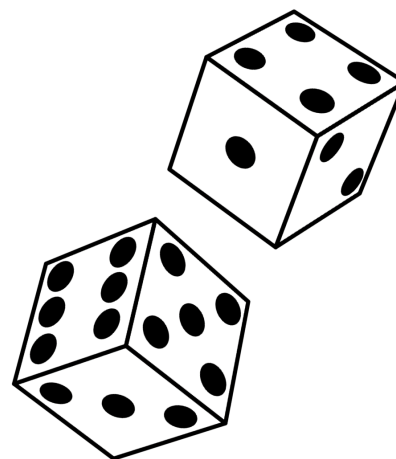
Must know how to roll dice

Must know how to add to twenty-eight

Must be able to recognize three of a kind

Must be willing to have a good time

Knowing how to have a good laugh is required



Costumes Recommended **\$5.00/person BYOB**
Bring your own beverages

Small Groups
let's do life together

Small Groups— New!

Women, Equality & Scripture Study Group:

Meet one evening a week to be determined by the group either weekly or bi-weekly.

Location: LCOS or member's home

This small group will be lead by David Yates. David has spent the last 5 years studying the status and treatment of women in preparation for writing a book. The book originally was to be focused on women in the ancient world but David soon realized that there was very little written about women at that time due to their very low status. This lead David on a journey to discover how things have changed from ancient to modern times and how scripture has influenced these developments. Join David as he discusses ancient times, Greek and Roman influences on the Jewish traditions and finally the emergence of the New Testament influences on the search for equality. If you are interested in joining this group please contact the office as soon as possible. The class will be held weekly or bi-weekly on a mutually agreed upon evening determined by the



College and Careers

Dates and times to be determined by the group.

Are you 18 to 29? Looking to connect with other people around the same age as you? This new young adult small group will be geared around having fun, sharing in fellowship, and learning more about God's Word together. If you are interested, please contact Jesse Ramson, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at 403-253-1453 or emailing youth@oursaviourchurch.ca. The times, dates and activities will be determined by the group.. The first meeting will be at the Church on Saturday, October 8th at 7 pm.



Sunday Lunch Bunch

Regularly after the 11 am Service.

This is an informal group that naturally and accidentally formed a number of years ago. This group meets regularly after the 11 am Service at South Centre in the food court to chat over a coffee and snacks. Please speak to Pastor Lee to arrange to join the group.



MOPS CHRISTMAS MARKET

and Fundraising Event



Nov 5th

10 am to 2 pm

Get a head-start on your Christmas Shopping!

- **12 Home-based businesses represented**, including Stella & Dot, Epicure, Discovery Toys, Scentsy, Arbonne, Steeped Tea and more!
- **Silent auction** in support of LCOS MOPS.
- **Bake sale items** available for your Christmas celebrations
- **Refreshments available** while you shop.

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
8831 Fairmount Drive SE
www.oursaviourchurch.ca

For More Info: 403-702-0460
Learn more about MOPS at www.mops.org

Small Groups— Shared Interests & Activities

Choir—practices Wednesday nights

Do you have a song in your heart? Do you enjoy music and like to laugh? If the answer is “Yes”, then do we have a place for you. The LCOS Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm, only for one hour. You’ll share your time with like-minded folk, and come away feeling better for the songs and the fun. Questions? Contact Terry Lee or Alex McKay.



Couples Night—One Saturday a month

Join other couples for an evening of conversation and activities. The activities will be determined by the group with different couples taking a turn planning the monthly event.

October 29th: Join us for an evening of Bunco. Players must know how to roll dice. Players must be able to count to 28. Cost per player is \$5.00. Please bring your own beverage. Costumes recommended but not necessary. RSVP by October 21st to Jennifer Sissions.



Games Group—meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 1:00 pm all year

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



Hand Chimes Choir—practice 6 Sunday evenings leading to Christmas

“Come on ring those bells, light the Christmas tree!!!!”. We would like to fill the sanctuary with the sweet sounds of our hand chimes for the Christmas season in December. Some music reading abilities are a must. If you are Grade 7 on up to adults of all ages, you are welcome to join us to ring for the Dec 11th & 18th services. We need 12 people to make this special music happen. Please call Jennifer Sissions if you would like to join at 403-540-9910. Practice will be on Sundays (Sept 25th, Oct 16th and 30, Nov 6th and 20th and Dec 4th) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.



Movie Lovers—typically the 3rd Friday each month at 7:00 pm

Do you love movies? If you do then this is the group for you. Once a month we gather to watch new releases and a few older quality movies and then participate in a brief discussion afterwards. The group is open to everyone on a drop in basis. Next Movie Lovers will be October 14th. We will be watching “Caged No More”. This is based on a true story about modern day slavery. In November we will be watching “Lincoln” on Thursday November 10th at 7 pm.

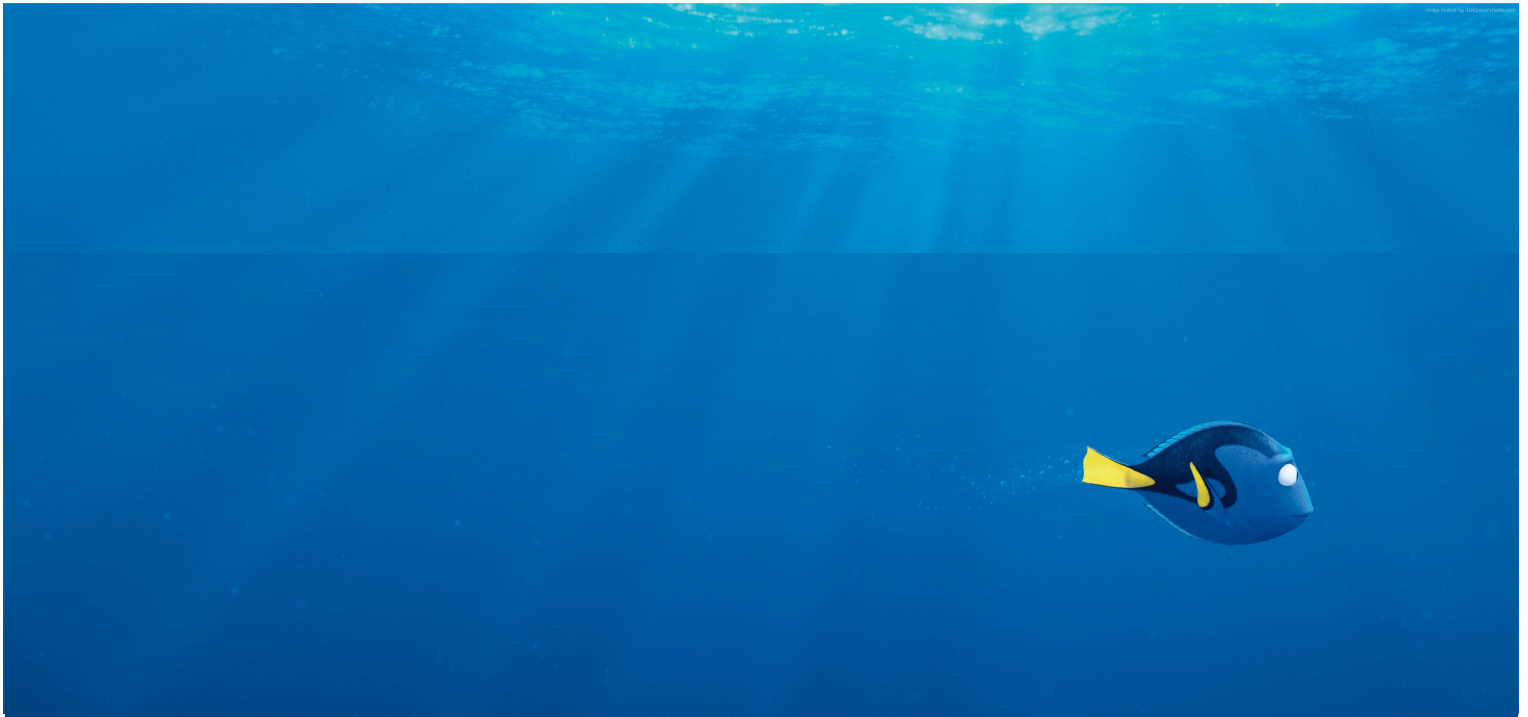


Do you have an interest not represented here? Running? Pokémon Go? Book Club? Gardening? Would you like to begin a small group in your neighbourhood, school or work?



NOVEMBER 19th

at 6:30pm



Operation Eyesight

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

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

Please go to www.operationeyesight.com to see all the work this wonderful organization does. You can be a part by donating on line or by phone 1-800-585-8265 or by mail to Operation Eyesight Canada Suit 200, 4 Parkdale Crescent N.W. Calgary, AB T2N 3T8.



For All The World To See

Veteran's Food Bank

Please bring a food donation

from Nov 4th to Nov 13th



MOPS—Supporting Families

MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) and MOPSnex (Mothers of School Age Children) is an international organization that is geared toward supplying support for Moms. MOPS creates a time-out for Moms filled with fun, food, learning, fellowship, and faith while their kids are having fun in MOPPETS; the childcare program.

Throughout the year we will have various guest speakers on a broad range of topics as well as a time for fun activities to learn and grow together. More information, including registration forms and pricing, is available from the LCOS website <http://www.oursaviourchurch.ca/connect/mops-mopsnext>

We can't wait to see you there and please bring a friend.

Our meetings for 2016 are:

Oct 12th 9:30-11:30 am

Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Folding Party.

Oct 26th 9:30-11:30 am

Let's Make Soup! We will make dry soup in a jar to take home.

Nov 5th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

MOPS Fundraiser at LCOS!

Nov 9th 9:30 -11:30 am

MOPS International Video Presentation.

Nov 23rd 9:30-11:30 am

Heidi Piovoso – Registered Dietitian with Alberta Health Service.

Dec 14th 9:30-11:30 am

Christmas Party!



CALGARY AGING IN PLACE CO-OPERATIVE CONCEPT

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

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

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

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

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

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

Website: www.calgaryaginginplace.ca (under development)



A simple gift.

Our 6th Annual Work Bee Nov 19th

We will be packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child

Prior to November 19th

Go Shopping!

School Supplies - Items such as pencils, pens, pencil crayons, note pads, and picture books. Please no crayons. We have lots!

Toys & Other Gifts- Items such as stuffed animals, small musical instruments, hair clips, toy jewelry, t-shirts, socks, skipping ropes, and balls.

Soap, toothbrushes & facecloths are the most needed items. Please place soap in a sealable bag.

Save your stickers:

Please save sticker sheets from Easter Seals and The Red Cross or from your child's unused supplies.

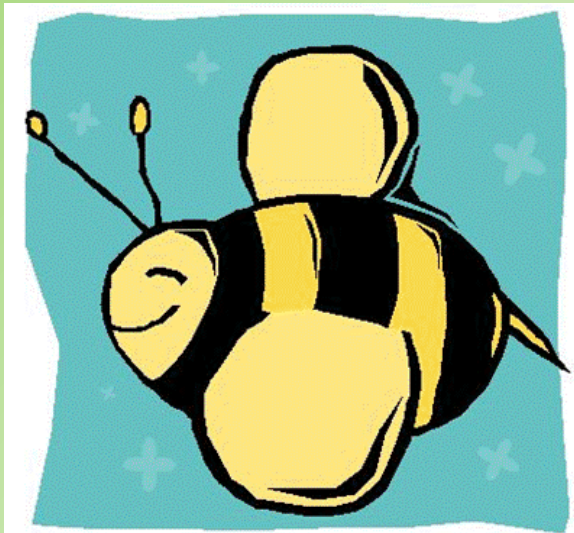
Prepare a personal Note - Include a personal note and/or a photo in your shoe box (not inside the donation envelope). To read two short thank you notes we recently received please see the Children's Ministry page.

Don't like to shop? Consider donating \$7.00 per box to help with shipping.

If you would prefer to fill your own shoebox at home, please have the boxes dropped off no later than Sunday December 6th. Earlier is better.

Community Drop-off location

LCOS supports the ministry of Operation Christmas Child every year, and this year we will be serving as a community 'drop-off' location, so prepare for plenty of shoeboxes to come our way!!!



Please do not include:

Toothpaste (due to customs regulations), food or candy, used items (due to customs regulations), playing cards (other card games such as UNO are allowed), any type of war toys (many boxes find their way to war-torn countries), toys with decorative skulls (cultural sensitivity), liquids or items that could leak, melt, freeze, or break - shampoo, creams, lip balm, bath gels, mirrors, or glass, etc. (these can damage other items in the shoe box).

*Any items that we have left over from the work bee will be taken to the OCC warehouse to top off any boxes that need a bit of extra love.

Small Groups— Study & Conversation

The Divine Drama “Our Narrative” study —meets every Monday

Starting October 17th at 7 pm.

The Divine Drama is a total 30 week program. If you have taken the first 16 week series at anytime in the past you are welcome to sign-up to take the second part in the series . The second 14 units, "Our Narrative," explore the basic teachings that emerge from the Scriptures—e.g., the person and mission of Jesus the Messiah, prayer, discipleship, life in God's family—and examine how they apply to Christians today. If you have taken part 2 and would like to repeat the class you are also welcome. Questions? Please contact Jens Kaack.



Sunday Morning Drop-In Bible Study—10 am Sunday mornings

This weekly drop-in class is held between the services on Sunday mornings. Beginning September 18th this drop-in Bible Study will be spending several months working through Galatians and Thessalonians with Jens Kaack. Contact the office for more details.



Experiencing God—meets every Wednesday at 9:30 am at LCOS

This group of "mature" women always has an extra chair open to talk about faith, life, and God's Word over coffee. For more information, please contact the church office.



Fireside Group—meets twice a month on Mondays at 7:00 pm.

This small group enjoys meeting to study, converse, celebrate and have something to nibble on. They look at a variety of topics, books, and videos to deepen their faith together. You're welcome to attend! For more information, please contact the church office.



Morning Glories—meets on 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at 10:00 am

This group of "mature" women always has an extra chair open to talk about faith, life, and God's Word over coffee. For more information, please contact the church office.



Today's Pilgrims— meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

Today's Pilgrims are starting on September 13th and will meet September 27th as well. We meet in the fireside room at 7:00 pm. We will continue studying the "Love to Pray" book. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch with the church office for details.

Today's Pilgrims

Our Small Groups are happy to accept new members throughout the year and you are welcome to drop in and try them out.

Volunteer to be part of a distribution team!

Each year, volunteers across Canada help to collect and prepare hundreds of thousands of Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes, which are then shipped around the world. Every country that receives shoe boxes has a team of national leaders who determine the areas of greatest need and ensure the safe transportation and distribution of the shoe boxes within their countries.

While the majority of OCC shoe boxes are distributed by these valuable national leaders and churches, there are occasional opportunities for Canadian volunteers to participate in distribution teams. Individuals can apply to be part of a team that travels to a shoe box recipient country and experience first-hand the joy of giving a shoe box to a child. These short term trips give volunteers the chance to share a message of hope, joy, and God's unconditional love with children in desperate situations.

We are excited to announce the locations and dates for the 2017 Operation Christmas Child Teams!

- **NEW! [El Salvador Water Projects and OCC Team](#) - March 12-21**
- [Costa Rica OCC Team](#) - April 19-26
- [Senegal OCC Team](#) - May 4-15
- [El Salvador OCC Team](#) - June 15-22



Please visit www.samaritanspurse.ca/teams/join-a-team for more information or speak to Leah Thormoset. The application deadline for all OCC teams is **October 28, 2016**. After that date, we will be reviewing all applications and accepting those people that have been selected to join us.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at teams@samaritan.ca.

Christian Book Sale

Used Book Treasures

will be selling used and new Christian and family friendly children, teen & adult books.

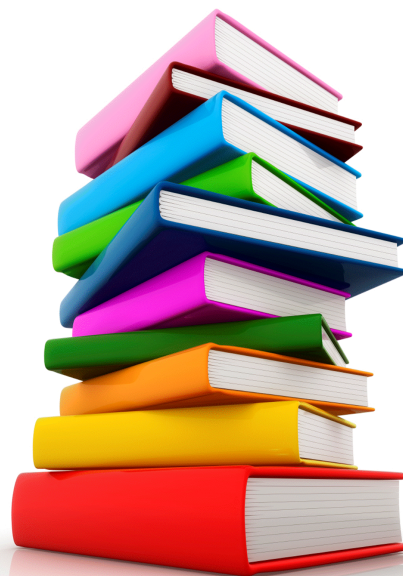
Hours:

10 am to 9 pm Thursday and Friday

9 am to 4 pm on Saturday

Cash or Cheque only please.

Nov 24th to 26th
at LCOS



Small Groups— Support & Caring

Flock Care: Meets Once a Month

Thirteen years ago a small group, FLOCK CARE was formed for the purpose of enhancing and maintaining intentional caring supportive connections within the church family for those who were ill, homebound, in residential care, grieving loss or facing other difficult life issues.

The mission statement is: to facilitate, encourage and ensure caring connections within the church family of LCOS and within the wider community as the need arises.

Small Groups are an ideal setting for people to get to know each other and provide a supportive caring place. But many worshippers at LCOS are not members of small groups and that is when Flock Care, if made aware, will visit, provide some basic service, information regarding services, or in some way facilitate an ongoing relationship with the church family.

Is this ministry for you? We meet on the third Thursday of each month except December and July.

Expectations are comfortable (people participate as they are able), and mentoring is provided. We have a devotional study time to enhance our skills and feed us spiritually.

If you would like more information or discuss the possibilities please call Janice Hawkings or Pastor Lee.



Breakfast at the Seed 6 am one Saturday a month.

If you are sixteen years of age and older, and have some time on a Saturday morning, why not come out to help prep and serve breakfast for approximately 325 – 375 residents of the Mustard Seed at the Foothills Industrial Park Shelter? 6 to 8 volunteers are needed.

We meet to cook and serve a hearty breakfast (typically eggs, sausages, hash browns, toast and coffee) to those in our community who are less fortunate. Although it is an early Saturday morning, we receive great fellowship and a strong feeling of accomplishment. Questions? Contact Ken Farn.

For November we will be preparing Breakfast on November 5th and in December on the 3rd.



Small Group—Community & Social Justice Leadership

Guiding Mission: Meets as projects dictate

This small group is always looking for additional members. Our members are interested in working in the community on various projects and supporting the development of leaders in LCOS and the greater community.

In the past we have worked on a Wee Reads program at Acadia School, the Art and Garden mural project, the Little Library project, and other experiments that encourage us to re-think how we interact and support our local community.

Our members are interested in senior, children and youth issues within LCOS and the broader community.

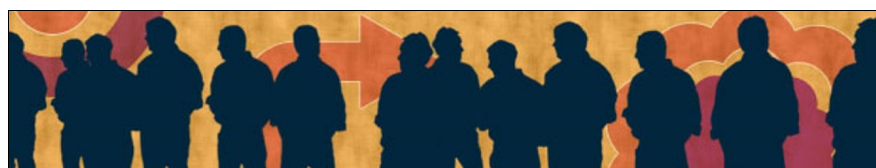
We are concerned with poverty, homelessness, education and other wide ranging social justice issues.

You may come with your own particular passions or may choose to embrace one of the projects we are currently working on. There is no need to commit to a particular project. This group is interested in developing and supporting leaders in their personal areas of interest.

At the moment areas of interest include:

- 1) Supporting Youth Leadership development at LCOS
- 2) Development of Mentors/Leaders for the Youth
- 3) Calgary Aging In Place Co-Operative Concept
- 4) Development of the Metro Alliance for the Common Good network (MACG)

For more information contact Darren Tenor, Joe Schulz or Katharine Heimbigner-Tenor.



**Metro Alliance for the Common Good -
MACG**

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

The Metro Alliance for Common Good (MACG) is a broad based organization made up of individuals and organizations committed to bringing together interested Calgarians from business, faith communities, organized labour and the social sector to harness our shared interest and power to address the issues we face in Calgary. We are facing unprecedented challenges as a city. While as individual groups we might have a little bit of power to make our community better, together we can create a chorus that can't be ignored.

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

"As the sunflower turns to the sun, we should turn towards the Sun".

English Conversation Classes begin October 12th

We have hired Lisa Lindgren (a licensed teacher) to prepare and teach a 10 week conversational English class. The classes will begin on October 12th and continue every Wednesday up to and including December 14th. The classes will run from 1:00 to 2:30 pm and we have arranged for childcare.

We are looking for assistants to be in the classroom beginning the end of October. Lisa will provide an orientation prior to the first session. In addition, we are looking for people willing to lead the class starting in January based on the curriculum developed. For those that are interested in leading a class we are encouraging them to consider taking an ESL teacher course which can be partially or fully reimbursed through a grant we received.

If you are interested in exploring this volunteer opportunity please contact Katharine in the office right away. It is hoped that our new refugee family may also be able to participate in these classes!

Let's walk together with newcomers to Canada!



Acadia School Lunch Program For Hungry Kids

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

At present we have a core group of volunteers that come in every Wednesday to prepare the lunches. In addition, we need assistance preparing 2 dozen healthy cookies prior to the assembly day to go in the lunch bags. If you can be of assistance please sign-up for one or more weeks on the sign-up sheet in the kitchen or online via the website.

In addition, we are looking for a donation of snack sized zip lock bags (we have lots of the sandwich size at the present time).

If you can help out with assembly, cookies or providing any supplies please contact the Acadia Lunch coordinator Barb Smith or the office.



Get on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) at LCOS

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

Amounts from PAR can be directed to:

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

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

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

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

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

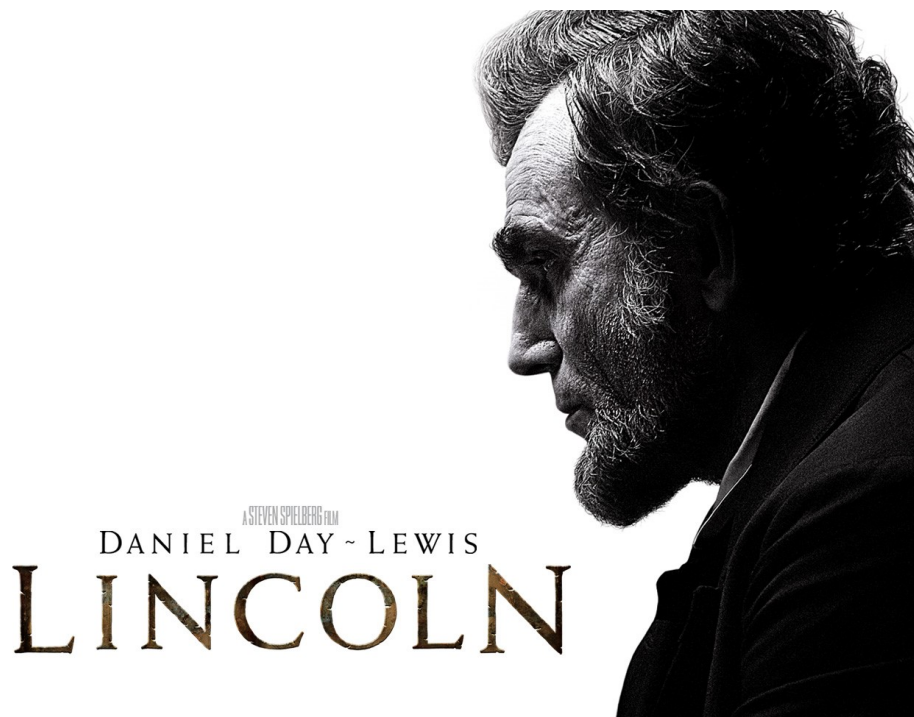
Internet e-transfers are also available!

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

Movie Lovers

Join us Thursday November 10th at 7 pm to watch "Lincoln". A President that brought conflict to his nation and freedom to slaves.

The movie will be followed by discussion and reflection on Remembrance Day.



Our Refugee Family—October Update

The Aldakkak family from Syria is settling into their new life in Canada. Zuheir, Maram, Mohammad and Hamza have had many adventures – at the zoo, at the bank, to dentists and doctors, on C-trains and buses, to schools and libraries. They have been to an Arab festival where Zuheir and some Syrian friends entertained the crowds with traditional song and dance. They have met many people from all of our congregations. They have interacted with Arabic translators and with Arabic speaking folks on the street. They are trying hard to understand our culture and our language, while tending to the needs of their own little family. Three year old Mohammad has come out of his shell and is interacting with all those around him, still cautious about having mom and dad close by as any three year old would be. Already his Arabic chatter has English words sprinkled throughout. Eleven month old Hamza has ready smiles and an avid curiosity that he shares with everyone that looks his way. The boys are busy, confident and healthy, learning quickly about their new surroundings.

Financial support for this family through the SW Conference Refugee Mission continues to be vital. We are committed to supporting the Aldakkak family in many ways, financial security being one, for a full year

There will be opportunities to meet the family in the future. If you would like to offer your services for an outing or have the family for a visit let us know. Welcoming a newcomer into our lives is exactly what Jesus asks.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” Matthew 25:40



Letter from the Board Chair—Refugee “Pledges”

At the 2016 AGM we passed a motion that we felt that the congregation was willing to contribute \$8,000 toward the refugee mission program. On September 8, 2016 our first refugee family arrived in Calgary. They are living in an apartment on Bonaventure Drive just north of the Walmart shopping centre. They are very appreciative of all that we and the other churches have done for them and love the quilts and items you have all donated. On the financial side LCOS has already contributed \$4,975 toward our AGM refugee mission goal. Please provide your funding at this time so that we can support our newly arrived friends.

Garry Mihaichuk
Chair, LCOS Board

Message for Congregations—Sabbatical

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ –

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

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

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

Prologue

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

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

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

The Exodus commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) to "remember" the Sabbath day is grounded in the story of creation. The human pattern of six days of work and one of rest follows God's pattern as creator; God's people are to rest on one day because God did. In both work and rest, human beings are in the image of God. At the same time, they are not God but God's creatures, who must honor God by obeying this commandment.

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

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

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



Unwrapping the Gift

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

Unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave brings with it a deep sense of gratitude and thanksgiving for me. To be serving with and among a community of faith with the means and the will to offer such a gift means more than words can adequately express. Thank-you! This is a gift not only for me, but for Cathy. And on her behalf, I say thank-you! Unwrapping the gift of a Sabbatical leave brings with it questions too! I confess that I am somewhat anxious about not being with you. Today, at this vantage point, I question how I will "leave" well, and how I will "re-enter" well. Know that I will miss you! I will be wondering how God is working in your lives and in the life of each community of faith and each ministry. I will need your prayers for myself, for Cathy and our family. I will be praying for you constantly!

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

Sabbatical Leave

I have named, and Synod Council has supported, The Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow, Assistant to the Bishop for Mission to serve as Commissary while I am away. She will have the same responsibilities and be similarly accountable in this capacity for the three months of Sabbatical leave. In addition, while meeting with the Conference of Deans in September we be reviewing our Synod's Call Process as well as other agenda items given that I will be away. I know that you will keep Julianne and Darla Wildfang, Executive Assistant; and each of our synod staff, in your prayers. I will not be receiving correspondence nor be in communication during these three months.

Goals of the Sabbatical Leave

As our Sabbatical Leave Policy states: "The purpose of the sabbatical leave will be to provide a respite from the demands of work and routine and renewal of self. It is not intended that a course of study be undertaken during this time, although this is not precluded."

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

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

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

Conclusion

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

In Christ –
Shalom,
+Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship Service	3 1:00 Memory Plus	4 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Yoga	5 9:00 Experiencing God 9:30 MOPS Steering 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Running Group 7:30 Choir 8:30 11 AM Praise Team	6	7 7:00 Blessing of The Animals	1 / 8 7 pm College & Careers
9 Sandwich Sunday 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship Service	10 Thanksgiving Office Closed	11 7:00 Today's Pilgrims 7:00 Yoga	12 9:00 Experiencing God 9:30 MOPS 11:00 Acadia Lunch 1:00 ESL Conversation 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Running Group	13 10:00 Morning Glories	14 7:00 Movie Lovers: "Caged No More"	15 7:00 Tween Night—Outdoor Games
16 Drive for 5 Sunday 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship Service Noon—Pie Social 6:30 Discipleship 6:30 Hand chimes	17 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Divine Drama 7:00 Fireside	18 1:00 Games Group 7:00 Yoga	19 9:00 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch 1:00 ESL Conversation 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Running Group 7:30 Choir 8:30 11 AM Praise Team	20 7:15 Flock Care	21 7:00 pm The Experiment—Photo Scavenger Hunt	22 South West Conference Convention—Standard, AB
23 Welcome to the Church Family 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship Service 7:00 Service of Healing	24 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Divine Drama	25 7:00 Yoga 7:00 Today's Pilgrims 7:00 Church Board	26 9:00 Experiencing God 9:30 MOPS 11:00 Acadia Lunch 1:00 ESL Conversation 7:00 Al-anon 7:00 Running Group 7:30 Choir 8:30 11 AM Praise Team	27 10:00 Morning Glories	28 7:00 pm The Experiment Harvest Party	29 7:00 Couples Night—Bunco at the Sissons
30 Reformation Sunday 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 10:00 The Experiment 10:00 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship Service Noon: Hotdog Sunday/Octoberfest 6:30 Discipleship 6:30 Hand chimes	31 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Fireside 7:00 Divine Drama	Nov 5—MOPS Fundraiser Nov 10—Movie Lovers Nov 11—Remembrance Day Nov 19—Shoebox Work bee Nov 19—Family Movie—"Finding Dory" Nov 20—Stewardship Sunday		Nov 24 to 26—Book Sale Nov 25—The Experiment—Hitmen Game Nov 26—Making of Corsages Nov 26—Tween—Fear Factor Nov 27—Advent begins		

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