

St. Luke's News

January 2021

Vol. 4 #1



ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

ST. LUKE

4929 54th Street
Red Deer, Alberta
T4N 2G7

403-346-3402

email:

office@oldchurchrd.com

website

oldchurchrd.com

The Christmas that some said was going to be “cancelled” was not cancelled, and indeed we continue to celebrate the Christmas season until January 6th, when we observe ‘The Epiphany of the Lord’, the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles in the person of the Magi. The song ‘The Twelve Days of Christmas’ was a secular poem published in England in 1780 but recognized that Christmas was and is a twelve-day celebration. Our observance has obviously been very different this year but thanks to Noel, the Archbishop and others in the Diocese we had a rich observance starting with our own Christmas Eve Carol Service, followed by the Archbishop celebrating the Christmas Eve Eucharist from his home, and then the Diocesan Christmas Day Service. We give thanks for all involved in these services. We give thanks for the technology that allowed this to happen. Our physical presence together was greatly missed, as was receiving our Christmas communion in person, but we were able to have our Spiritual Communion. Just as our personal Christmas Day celebrations were, for many, very different, we look forward to the day when we can be together in person again.

As I did last year, I think it appropriate to welcome the New Year and Epiphany with a sonnet by Malcolm Guite. You will find it further in this Newsletter in place of the usual ‘Around the Church’.

Wishing everyone a safe, and blessed New Year

Submit items for the February Newsletter by January 26th.
mthain@telusplanet.net

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

Incumbent's Warden:

Eric Nyrose

People's Warden:

Deb Mann 403-350-4798

Pianists:

Dorothy Comfort

Judy Miller

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

Service Schedule

Sunday 10:00 am

[Check website for on line
Services and other meeting
opportunities](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)

www.oldchurchrd.com

WEBSITE
OLDCHURCHRD.COM

Visit it often to check for news and upcoming events. If anyone has an item they feel might be appropriate for inclusion on the website please send it to website@oldchurchrd.com.

PLEASE NOTE SOME OF THIS MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES WITH COVID-19. UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE AND BY EMAIL

During this time when we are not meeting face to face it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT if you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, that you notify the office at: office@oldchurchrd.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

WATCH THE WEBSITE AND YOUR EMAILS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ON LINE WORSHIP AND OTHER MEETING OPPORTUNITIES

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

DEADLINE FOR COMMITTEE/GROUP REPORTS IS JANUARY 11TH

Send to the office@oldchurchrd.com

Sunday Worship: 10:00 – Watch the Website and emails for further information
Ladies' Group Meetings: Watch the Website and emails for further dates
Men's Group Meetings: January 2, 9:30 Watch the Website and emails for further dates
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00 See website regarding access

GrammaLink Fundraiser

GL is holding a bottle drive on Saturday, January 9, 2021, at the Sunnybrook United Church parking lot from 9 am to 3 pm. Please support this cause if you can. Full COVID19 precautions will be in place. (Elizabeth Thain)

Forward Day by Day: The February, March, April edition is now available. If you wish to have it delivered, notify the office at office@oldchurchrd.com. Delivery will take place at some time in January.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners: Watch your email and the website for further information

SEE THE WEBSITE (UNDER NEWS) FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ON LINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

This information is also included in this Newsletter under Financial Statement

Finances:

Heat the Church--updated:

Just as it is important to continue giving our regular donations to the church, those who wish to contribute to this fund can do so under the donate button on the website or by Direct e transfer as outlined below. To the end of October, we have had 62 days covered. Thank you to all who have continued to support this. This programme will continue in 2021.

Financial Statement:

	Actual Nov 2020	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Income	26,044.03	153,953.58	174,721.25	20,767.67
Expenses	14,164.51	150,584.64	174,721.25	24,136.61
Net	11,879.52	3,368.94	0	3,368.04

Thanks to very generous giving in November, and continued less expenses for maintenance and utilities, we now have a positive balance. It should be noted, however, that our income is still below budget. For regular giving, those who do not have a preauthorized plan it may be difficult to get your offering to the church. These are some suggestions:

1. **Drop Off Days** – on Tuesdays and Thursdays, if you are out and about, offering envelopes can be deposited in the Church mail slot to the right of the hall doors. The mailbox will be checked at the end of the day and offerings will be retrieved for safe keeping. Please do not put cash in the mailbox.
2. **By Mail** – cheques can be mailed to the Church. The address is 4929 – 54 St. Red Deer T4N 2G7. Please do not mail cash.
3. **Helping Hands** – we have several people willing to run errands for anyone who is house-bound during this time. We can arrange for your offering to be picked up at your home. Please email Noel at vicar@oldchurchrd.com if you would like to arrange this.
4. **Online Donation** – you can donate through the Church website by clicking on “Donation” in the menu at the top of the main page. This takes you to our Canada Helps page. Canada Helps is a charitable organization that facilitates online donations for other charities. This option requires the use of a credit card.
5. **Interac E-Transfer Direct Deposit** - Using your online banking service, you can do Interac e-transfers and electronically send your offering to St. Luke's. We are registered to receive e-transfers as direct deposits so no passwords are required. It is helpful if you put your name, and if not on our parish list, your address, in the message portion of the transfer. You can also designate if it is a contribution to 'Heat the Church' or any other special fund. When setting up St. Luke's as an e-transfer recipient, use offerings@oldchurchrd.com as the recipient email address.
6. **Pre-Authorized Withdrawal** – many of our regular donors use this option. You can set up a monthly withdrawal from your chequing account for whatever amount you choose. This method is not only convenient, from the Church’s perspective it is consistent and dependable. Should

you be interested in this, the required form is on the last page of this Newsletter and may be mailed to the church: St. Luke's Church, 4929-54th Street, Red Deer, AB, T4N 2G7. This arrangement can be cancelled or changed at any time.

As always, we would like to thank you and commend you for your financial support of St. Luke's. Thank you also for your willingness to be flexible as we find our way in these strange times.

Flower Calendar and Memorial Dedications:

While flowers on the altar are on hold during this time of isolation, the opportunity still exists to remember loved ones and special dates as we do when sponsoring flowers. For now, the Flower Calendar is suspended. You are not responsible for sponsoring dates for which you may already signed up. If you have prepaid a flower donation, you will be contacted so that you can let us know how to proceed.

In the absence of the Flower Calendar. Please let us know of people and events that you might like remembered as a **Special Dedication** on a particular Sunday. If you so choose, you can make a donation to accompany your memorial and these can be designated to the Memorial Fund, General Fund, or any other Special Fund of your choosing. Special Dedications will appear in the announcements on the designated Sunday. **If you wish to make a donation**, please refer to the information above regarding donations. If you are going to send a cheque, please email the office at office@oldchurchrd.com to let them know about your dedication and the Sunday you would like it to appear. If doing an e-transfer, put in the message section your dedication, the date you would like it to appear and the fund to which you would like the money designated.

St. Luke's Advent Outreach Program Report:

This programme was a great success and thanks go out to Vandy, for organizing it, and to all who participated. The two families were very pleased and Vandy received this email from Catholic Social Services:

"I wanted to extend the 2 family's gratitude for the wonderful gifts that your Church has collected for them Thank you so much for the wonderful collaboration and partnership and for including the CSS clients in your generous donations.

Please also give a big thank you to the family that donated the 2 bicycles."

Around the Parish:

In response to our Primate's request that church bells be rung at noon on Christmas Day, Bob Dixon went to the church and did the honours.

Flood update:

The restoration is going well. The drywalling, painting and ceiling replacement have all been done. Next will be the flooring, which is in progress, the electrical work and refinishing the washrooms. As stated last month, the Men's Group is going to finance putting lino in by the Altar Guild area and carpet upstairs. This had not been damaged and therefore was not covered by the insurance.

The magi

It might have been just someone else's story;
Some chosen people get a special king,
We leave them to their own peculiar glory,
We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,
A pilgrim's eyes that sees beyond the stars.
They did not know his name but still they sought him,
They came from elsewhere but still they found;
In palaces, found those who sold and bought him,
But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice
To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

Malcolm Guite-used with permission

Prayer during a Pandemic

This is from St. Paul's Church in Lexington, Kentucky and was provided by the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, to PWRDF, who posted it on their website.

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors,
Remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their own health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those who have no safe place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country
Let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbour.
Amen



Pre-Authorized Donations Authorization for Bank Withdrawal



Please check one:

- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to start withdrawing the amount indicated below from my bank account and transfer it to my congregation (which is registered with the Diocese to use this service) on or about the 16th day of each month beginning with the month shown below until I cancel or change my instructions in writing.
- I hereby authorize The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada (the "Diocese") to change the monthly withdrawal from my bank account in accordance with the information provided below.
- I hereby cancel my authorization for The Synod of the Diocese of Calgary, Anglican Church of Canada to withdraw a monthly amount from my bank account on behalf of my congregation.

Please return the completed form (signed and dated) and any subsequent instructions to the parish official that is administering this program (usually the Envelope Secretary or Parish Treasurer).

Donor Information:

Name	E-mail Address	
Address	Telephone Number	
City	Province	Postal Code

Bank Information:

Name	Address	
City	Province	Postal Code
Account No.	Branch No.	Institution No.

For verification, please attach a blank cheque, marked "VOID", to the completed Authorization. Thank you.

Withdrawal Information:

Monthly Amount	Starting Month	Starting Year
Parish	Location	

Authorized Signature(s) of Account Holder	Date
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NOTE: 30 days' notice required for changes to the Pre-Authorized Donation service.

For Parish Use:			
Donor Code:			

Revised: 08/05

