

# St. Luke's News

July 2022

Vol. 5 #7



## ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

ST. LUKE

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Since we returned to in person services, we have not yet reached the number of people attending that we had pre-Covid. There are probably a number of reasons for this, including persisting Covid concerns or just getting out of the habit. This is not unique to our congregation or our denomination as it has been noted in a number of churches. Now with summer coming we traditionally see a drop in attendance as people go on holidays. This is to be expected. Noel is taking some well-deserved holidays over the next couple of months. A link to the summer service schedule is given in the Upcoming Events section of this Newsletter. There is also a note about summer 'giving' in the financial report. I quote something from the Newsletter two years ago:

*"I want to encourage you to do two things over the summer. First, when you travel, visit a local church. These can be wonderful opportunities to receive hospitality and to worship in ways that will be both familiar and strange.... You'll certainly be nourished by the riches of God's word and sacraments. Second, keep praying over the summer. God doesn't take a vacation from us, so let's not take a vacation from God."* Scott Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement (used with permission)

Also remember to greet visitors we may have in our church over the summer. You can use [www.findachurch.ca](http://www.findachurch.ca) to locate an Anglican and/or Lutheran church when travelling.

Having said this, it is hoped that everyone has a restful summer after the tensions of the last two years.

Submit items for the August Newsletter by July 27th to [mthain@telusplanet.net](mailto:mthain@telusplanet.net)

### Clergy

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

Vocational Deacon:

The Rev. Deacon Tracey Stagg

Incumbent's Warden:

Eric Nyrose

People's Warden:

Deb Mann 403-350-4798

Pianists:

Judy Miller

David Blackwell

Dorothy Comfort

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

### Summer Service Schedule

Please visit our website calendar at [oldchurchrd.com/events/calendar](http://oldchurchrd.com/events/calendar) for the summer and early September service and activity schedule.

[www.oldchurchrd.com](http://www.oldchurchrd.com)

**WEBSITE**  
**[www.oldchurchrd.com](http://www.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](mailto:website@oldchurchrd.com).

**if you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, make sure that you notify the office at: [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com)**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Worship Services:** Please see the Events/Calendar page of our website ([www.oldchurchrd.com/events/calendar](http://www.oldchurchrd.com/events/calendar)) for the summer schedule of services and activities. This will include the online service options and Thursday Eucharists.

**Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am: Memorial Service for Tom Medicott.**

We will be celebrating the Holy Eucharist and remembering the life and witness of Tom. Lunch will follow the service.

**Information regarding in person worship:**

With the changes in the Provincial guidelines, all restrictions are now lifted for places of worship. If you are uncomfortable with the 'coffee hour' do not feel that you need to attend. If you prefer to continue to wear a mask in church, that is also fine.

If you wish to attend one of the on line services, when they are offered, and do not receive an email invitation, contact [vicar@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:vicar@oldchurchrd.com).

**Vacation Bible School:**

Vacation bible School will be held at Good Shepard Lutheran Church, 40 Holmes Street, from July 4-8 for children 5-10. Children will attend from 9:00 am to noon. They will have fun, learning time, singing, skits, Bible stories, crafts, science and sports. There will be a snack in the middle so please notify the staff of any allergies. The cost is \$5.00 for the week. The child must be registered each day at the registration desk and be picked up by a person authorized on the registration form.

**Secret Prayer Sisters:**

The 2022 match is arranged and because summer is just around the corner the matches will be mailed out. This year there are 15 ladies participating and I'm sure all of us look forward to making a new connection. If there are several ladies who were late in submitting their forms please let me know and I may be able to make arrangements to include you. Thanks to those who signed up.

Elizabeth Thain [ethain@telus.net](mailto:ethain@telus.net)

**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 by putting an envelope marked Heat the Church in the offering plate on Sunday, under the donate button on the website or by e-transfer as outlined below. Thank you to all who continue to support this. The suggested donation is \$25 for a day.

**Financial Statement:**

	May 2022 Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Income	11,149.03	56,545.50	67,791.67	<b>11,246.17</b>
Expenses	16,311.03	80,704.34	80,332.09	<b>372.25</b>
Net	<b>5,162.00</b>	<b>24,158.84</b>	<b>12,540.42</b>	<b>11,618.42</b>

You will note that we have fallen further behind at this point. As a comparison we are \$3,371 below our income at this point last year. We had budgeted for less income this year so our 'Variance' from budget to actual income is at this point essentially the same as last year. The big difference this year is that our expenses are about \$8,000 higher than they were at this time last year. Not knowing what was going to happen to utility rates we had only budgeted for about a \$1000 increase in our utilities to this point in the year. At this time last year our expenses were \$4,600 less than we had budgeted for. It is particularly important that over the summer, even if you are away and cannot be in church, that your regular giving continue.

Have you considered being set up for your donations to be made by automatic Monthly Bank Withdrawals? If you are in a position to do so, please give some thought to this method of giving as it would provide St. Luke's with a more consistent and predictable monthly income to offset our expenses. If you are interested in changing to pre-authorized giving, please contact Barb at the church office and she will provide you with the necessary form. We are also continuing to pick up donations weekly from our mailbox at the church and a number of parishioners are making donations via Interac e-transfer. If you would like to use this method, you can do so by using your online banking; please enter [offerings@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:offerings@oldchurchrd.com) as the recipient email address. If you are usually an envelope user, you can enter your envelope number in the comments section or if it is for a specific use, such as Heat the Church or Flowers mark that in the comments section.

**Once again we give thanks for all who, in whatever way possible, contribute to the help cover the expenses of keeping the church building and all its programmes meet their expenses.**

### **Flower Calendar and Memorial Dedications:**

There is a 'Flower Calendar' up at the back of the church where you can sign up for donations for flowers. The suggested donation is \$50.00. These donations can be accompanied by a specific dedication if you wish. Arrangements can be made by contacting the church office at [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:office@oldchurchrd.com).

Apart from flower donations you can remember people and events as a **Special Dedication** on any 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. If you wish to make a donation, either for flowers or as a special dedication, e-transfers can be sent to [offerings@oldchurchrd.com](mailto:offerings@oldchurchrd.com). If you are going to send a cheque, please email the office at [office@oldchurchrd.com](mailto: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 if it is a Special Dedication, apart from a flower donation, the fund to which you would like the money designated. Special Dedications, for flowers or otherwise will appear in the announcements on the designated Sunday.

### **Reflections on Provincial Synod:**

As promised last month, Noel has provided us with information about his election at Provincial Synod to the Provincial Court.

### **What does it mean to be elected to the Provincial Court of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land?**

One of the functions of a Provincial Synod is to elect people to various positions so that the affairs of the ecclesiastical province can proceed unhindered and that the work of the many dioceses that make up the province can be properly supported. I noted in last month's newsletter that at the Provincial Synod in Prince Albert Saskatchewan (April 28 to May 1), Archbishop Greg had been re-elected and will serve a second term as Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land. I also noted that Hannah Vander Roest (Wygiera) had been appointed to the Executive Council of the Province. Lastly, I noted that I had been elected to the Provincial Court. On this last note, the question that arises most is "what does that mean?"

The Provincial Court of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land exists to rule on matters where actions of the Church, or members of the Church, might be disputed or challenged on doctrinal or canonical (church law) grounds. The panel is comprised of lay and clergy members, and one of the lay members must be a lawyer. The reality of the Provincial Court is that it is an entity that must be in place in case it is ever needed, but that it is rarely ever called upon.

The last time that the Provincial Court was called to rule on a dispute was sometime in the 1980's. The specific case involved objections to the consecration of a newly ordained bishop. The objectors believed that the consecration was invalid because it

had been done according to rites in the then new Book of Alternative Services. They charged that only a consecration performed according to the Book of Common Prayer could be considered valid. The objection was overruled.

While being elected to the court might seem impressive, the likelihood of actually ever having to do anything with it is quite slim. That being said, I and the other members of the Provincial Court are ready to act if we are called upon.

Noel+

### **Around the Parish:**

#### Baptism:

On June 26<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Thomas Clarence McKenzie into the body of Christ through the waters of baptism.

#### Congratulations:

Congratulations to Jerry Tennant who received a Mayor's Achievement Award for his work with the Red Deer Games Foundation.

#### Servers:

We are in need of more volunteers to be Servers. We do not usually have Servers over the summer, but if you are interested, please contact Michael at [mthain@telusplanet.net](mailto:mthain@telusplanet.net), and we can plan on placing you on the schedule in the fall. Training is provided.

#### Choir:

Anyone interested in joining the choir please contact [joanwilliams474@gmail.com](mailto:joanwilliams474@gmail.com). Once again, we do not usually have a choir over the summer, but your expression of interest would be appreciated.

**The Poppy Project** is well underway. For information and the patterns go to [www.oldchurchrd.com/news/poppy-project](http://www.oldchurchrd.com/news/poppy-project). There are samples on the wall in the hall. If you have any questions, please contact the coordinators:  
Sandra Ballum 403-346-3045 or [grandma-al@live.ca](mailto:grandma-al@live.ca) or  
Debb Mann 403-350-4798

### **Around the Church:**

#### Tower Conservation:

Shawn is now here and has commenced work on the tower—when the weather permits! He gave an interesting talk at a parish Breakfast on June 16<sup>th</sup> about the history of stone

masonry and what specifically he is doing at our church and why it needs to be done. It was much appreciated by all who could attend.



You will note that the scaffolding does not impede access through the main door, for which we are thankful. There have been questions about how this is being financed. Last year a special meeting of the congregation gave Parish council permission to proceed with this project. As you are aware, part of this work was done last year, specifically aimed at dealing with any issues that could impact safety. The rest of the project is planned to conserve and protect what we have so that there is no further deterioration of the fabric of the church, including the tower.

This year's work on the tower was quoted at \$105,558 excluding GST. Because St. Luke's is a Provincial Historic Site, we are able to apply for a grant through the provincial Heritage Preservation Partnership Program. They offer up to 50% of projects of \$100,000. There is an application process and the application was sent in January. They must be sent prior to the first working day of February. The application must show that we are in a position to pay for 50% of the project. We have sufficient funds held for us in a Diocesan Trust Fund. Usually a decision is made and notification is sent in May but this year we did not receive notification from the Minister of Culture until June 14<sup>th</sup>. We were given a grant of \$44,915 which represents 85% of what we requested and 43% of the total cost. This is actually considerably better than we did last year. We plan to proceed with yearly incremental work on the stonework. Shawn says that this is how most of his projects are done and several he has worked on for a number of years. He expects that our project this year will take up to two months, depending on the weather. If you do not receive the *Red Deer Advocate*, you can go to the advocate website to read the story they printed about the work on the tower.  
<https://www.reddeeradvocate.com/news/red-deers-oldest-church-is-getting-a-facelift/>

### Front Doors:

Last month I said that the original wood finish over the doors would be exposed, but when the person we have looking at this removed at least one layer, he was concerned that the original finish under the last piece of veneer would not be weather proof so he left it on. We are still planning on having work done on the doors and the archway over the door, but access to the archway is now impeded by scaffolding.

### Tower Speakers:

At one time there were speakers on the roof of the tower. These were used to broadcast recordings of various chimes and bell changes. Ron Whittimore's dad, Frank, went to the church a half hour before services and played a record of chimes through the speakers. They could be heard all over the city of Red Deer as it was at the time. On one notable occasion towards the end of the Second World War, someone, suspected to be from the army barracks, broke in to the church in the middle of the night and broadcast a recording of 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B' to wake up the whole town. The speakers were disconnected at some point because of the concern that the vibrations could damage the tower. We have now had Shawn remove the speakers and at present they are in the cloak room of the hall. Shawn thought they were some sort of air raid alert!



## **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