



The Vine

September 2022

Ministry Team

Pastor

Pastor Greg Smith
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pastorgreg@oursaviourchurch.ca



Youth & Family Ministries Director

Mariette Jessup
403-560-2039 cell/text
youth@oursaviourchurch.ca

Office Administrator

Judy McDonald
825-438-7632 cell/text
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Church Media Director

Mike Mihaichuk
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Our Mission:

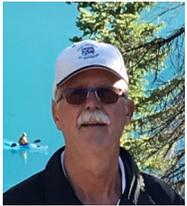
We are an inviting and growing Christian presence, with a passion for living and sharing Jesus Christ.

Our Vision:

To be a Christ-centered community that Equips Disciples to Make Disciples.

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am—noon

Brent



Lois



Alfred



Kathy



Beverly



Dale



Iain



Debra



Church Board 2022-2023

- Brent Anderson (Secretary)
- Carolyn Anderson
- Lois Beutenmiller
- Alfred Forbrich (Vice-Chair)
- Kathy Gibson
- Beverly Marshall
- Dale Mass
- Iain McKay
- Nick Perchthaler (Chair)
- Brian Prunkle
- Debra Starratt

Brian



Nick



Carolyn





Long Termism

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

...that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God. Psalm 78:1, 6-7

Optimism is a strategy for making a better future. Because unless you believe that the future can be better, you are unlikely to step up and take responsibility for making it so. -Noam Chomsky

I believe the children are our future. -Whitney Houston

Last week, Elon Musk shared on his Twitter account a book that closely matches his overall philosophy of life. The book is, *What We Owe the Future*, by William MacAskill. While I have not read the book, it supposedly is about a philosophy that many billionaires, including Musk, embrace. The philosophy is called Long Termism. In a nutshell, here are the many points of this way of thinking.

- 1) Be grounded in optimism.
- 2) Prioritize the future.
- 3) Invest as if time is infinite.

Pastor's Message (continued)

As I flesh out these concepts, I am struck by how these can align with how we envision the future of the church and the mission that God has given us in Jesus Christ.

1) Be grounded in optimism.

Optimism is a hope in a future that will be better than the present. If the Gospel of Jesus Christ is anything, it is a message of hope. And hope is always looking forward, no matter what the present situation might be. Or as Oscar Wilde once said, "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

Things have not been easy since COVID hit. The church has been knocked on its heels. The landscape has changed. People's habits have changed. Church does not seem to be a priority. The demographics and statistics of church attendance, and more importantly, involvement have taken a steep decline. You could say, like Wilde, they are in the gutter. The numbers are bleak. This is where faith-based optimism steps in and says, "BUT GOD!" Though it looks bad, God is a God of the impossible and His power is made manifest when we are weak; knocked on our heels. We, followers of Jesus, are to be the most optimistic people in the world!

2) Prioritize the future

This is a call to make decisions that are in the best interest of future generations. The Apostle Paul says in Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others." It is part of our nature to glorify the past and simply focus on our present reality. Instant results and instant gratification can blind us to thinking about what our decisions mean for the future and those who come after us. It challenges us to be creative and innovative now to provide the best environment for others; those who will come after us.

3) Invest as if time is infinite

For an organization to be around for decades, Long termism says it has to build and invest its resources with the future as its priority. Sometimes this means starting projects that can not be finished in our lifetimes. This means letting go of our desire to see the end results, or enjoying the fruits of our labor. And, instead, we are to receive satisfaction in knowing what we are doing now will be for the benefit of those who come after us. After Paul tells the Corinthian church about Jesus' resurrection as the assurance of our resurrection, he concludes chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians by saying these words to the people of God.

Pastor's Message (continued)

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

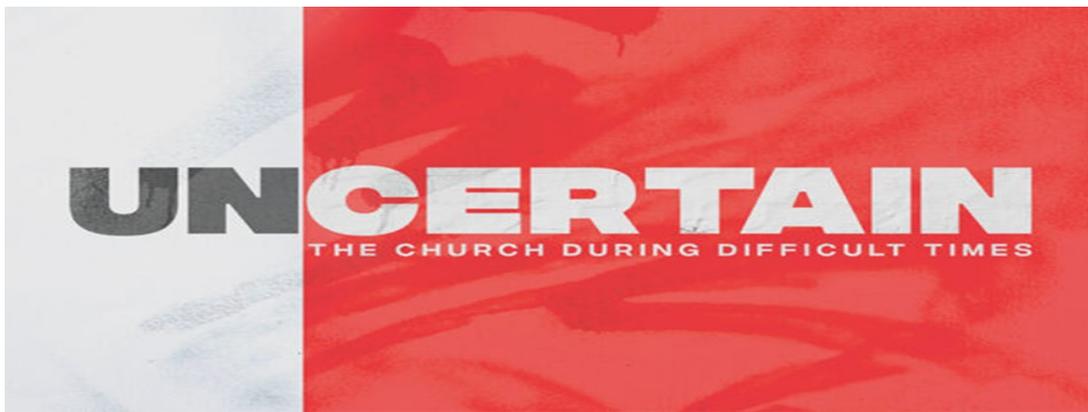
Of all the enterprises in this world, the mission and work of Jesus through his people in the church is never a waste of time. The seeds of the Gospel we plant today will accomplish God's will in the world, even if we don't see immediate results.

So, LCOS. We move forward with optimism and hope. Employing our time, gifts and resources so that:

...the next generation might know God's teachings, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God.

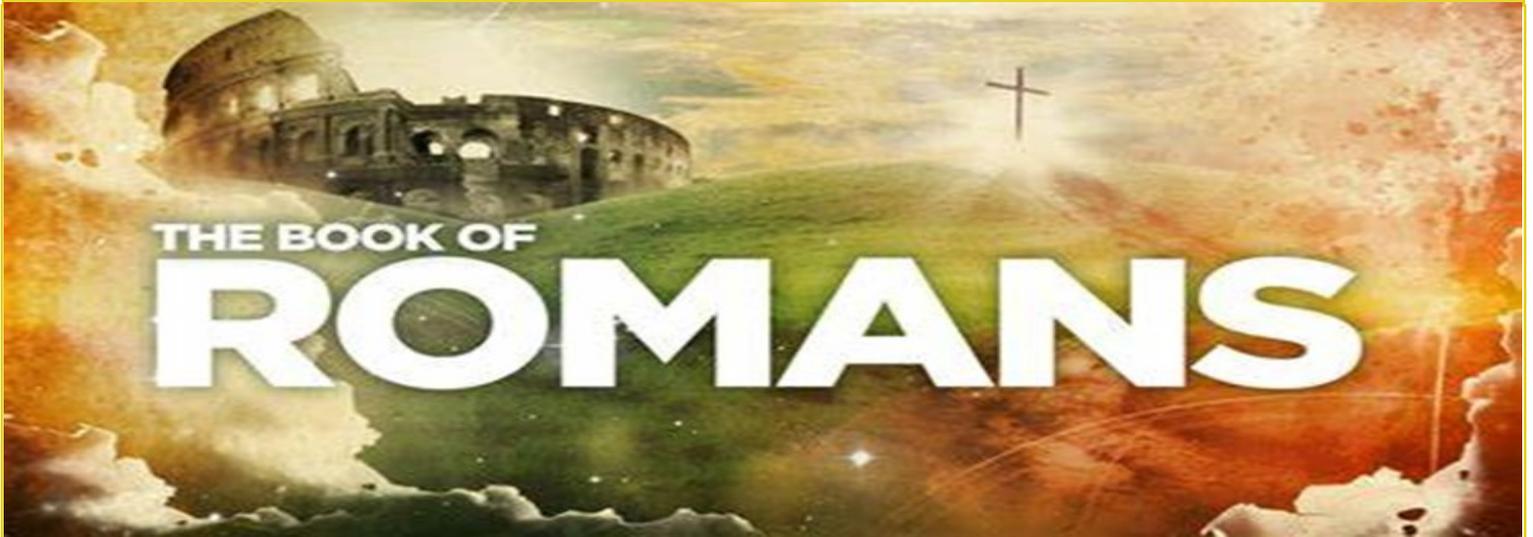
Seeking God's Long term Vision together with you!

Pastor Greg



Our world seems to be in a constant state of change and turmoil. How do we “do” church during such chaotic and uncertain times? This series will point us back to the Scriptures, specifically 1 Corinthians, in order to find guidance and wisdom to be the church during such a time as this.

September 4	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Thank God
September 11	1 Corinthians 2:1-13	Trust God
September 18	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Seek Unity
September 25	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Pursue Love



Roaming Thru Romans:

The Key that Unlocks the Scriptures

“I felt that I had been born anew and that the gates of heaven had been opened. The whole of Scripture gained a new meaning. And from that point on the phrase, 'the justice of God' no longer filled me with hatred, but rather became unspeakably sweet by virtue of a great love.” - Martin Luther (Commenting on the Book of Romans)

Starting Thursday, September 8 @ 10:00 am we will begin a journey through the book of Romans. This powerful book of grace has inspired many through the years. No doubt, it will inspire you as well. The study will be lead by Pastor Greg.

Come and join us in the Fireside room or by Zoom each Wednesday at 10:00 am. If that time does not work for you, we will be posting the study on YouTube as well.



Spiritual Director Kathy Katrick will be offering Spiritual Direction in group and/or individual settings at LCOS. She will be sharing what she offers at our God Sighting on September 11. Stay tuned for information on how you might benefit from Spiritual Direction at LCOS.

Board Report by Nick Perchthaler

What an exciting August we had. The big news was obviously that Mariette Jessop was hired as our Youth and Family Minister. We are certainly looking forward to starting the process of getting Youth involved again after the pandemic. Welcome Mariette and we are certainly looking forward to seeing all the exciting events and activities that you will be doing. This will include the start of Kid's church (Sunday School) and a Fall festival. Stay tuned everyone!

The other major event in August was that we held VBS (Vacation Bible School) in person again. It was attended by 25-30 youth every day. A big Thank You goes out to Jocelyn, Mariette and the many volunteers who helped set up and host the many activities over the weeklong event. What stood out this year was the diversity of the youth that was involved. The group was very creative as Pat Farn even used a translator App to help someone to understand things in Chinese. What a blessing!

The Board continues to be very active in the three key focal areas of Youth Ministry, Outreach and Technology. Hiring the Youth and Family Minister and VBS certainly stand out as major events in August. Outreach continues in the Community as well as we continue to communicate with our neighbours in Acadia. The Technology team continues to work on preparing a recommendation to the Board for September on how we should update our system. They have been talking to other churches to get an idea as to what others have been doing. Another issue on Technology is that we could use a few more volunteers who are interested in running the system when Mike and Garry are away. This will require some in depth training. Let us know if you are interested.

On the Financial side, we are continuing to grow our deficit. At the end of July our year-to-date deficit increased to \$13,297 and we anticipate that this deficit will grow slightly in August. Starting in September we will also have the added costs of the Youth and Family Ministry position. This deficit was forecast and budgeted for, but it remains a concern for the Board. That is why we continue to monitor this very closely every month.

The Board continues to work on behalf of the Congregation to ensure that LCOS is a safe place where we can grow according to our Mission "We are an inviting and growing Christian presence, with a passion for living and sharing Jesus Christ" and our Vision "To be a Christ-centered community that equips disciples to make disciples". If you have any questions or comments regarding Board activities, please feel free to contact Nick Perchthaler at nperchthaler@shaw.ca or via phone at 587-437-8511.

And now it is almost Back to School time!

Nick Perchthaler
Board Chair

Youth and Family Ministries by Mariette Jessup



It feels like spring to me, because spring is a time of new beginnings with much excitement!

As I step into the role of Director of Youth and Family Ministries, I'd like to share a bit about myself. I am a Child of God. I love Jesus! I depend on Him. He is my Protector, Provider and Saviour. He is also my best friend, helping me in the details of my life. My life is joyful and full as mom to one of my greatest blessings, my 15 year old son, Jaden. We are active and you can find us out enjoying nature all year round. LCOS has been our church family since Jaden was 3 years old. I volunteered for many years teaching Young Explorers and with VBS. I have also worked as Children's Ministry Coordinator and Jaden and I love serving as Communion helpers.

For the past 9 years I have spent my days with children and teens working as an Educational Assistant with the Catholic School District. I am also a professional photographer and a Marketing and Communications specialist.

I am eager to help kids build a relationship with Jesus - so that help and comfort and faith will be with them as this world pulls and rocks them.

For children in pre-kindergarten through grade 7, Kids Church will happen at 11:00 am following 10:00 am Service. This will be a time of bible teaching, crafts and of course, snacks!

For the youth, grade 8 through 12, we are embarking on The Search. We will use a video series to guide us as we ask the big questions of life and faith. Youth group will meet for faith formation twice a month starting in October. This will leave us time for our fun events and to serve. On the last Sunday of each month, the youth will lead the Worship Service at 10:00 am beginning October 30th!

Youth and Family Ministries (continued)

The popular Family Movie (& popcorn!) Nights we be starting up again ... what will our first movie be?! We are kicking everything off with a Fall Carnival after Service on September 25th! Hotdogs and popcorn, games and prizes, face painting, a clown and even a chance to 'Pie the Pastor!'

I love God and I love our church! As I begin my work as Director of Youth and Family Ministries, I want to assure you that I will work joyfully and prayerfully and be a faithful steward of all you are entrusting to me. Please always feel free to come to me with your ideas, suggestions and concerns.

I am excited to work alongside all of you as we spread the unconditional, comforting Love of Our Father to those we have known for decades and to those we have yet to meet!

Mariette Jessup
Director of Youth and Family Ministries
403-560-2039
youth@oursaviourchurch.ca



Vacaton Bible School



HE wiLL NeveR LEAve You
Deuteronomy 31: 6

Dear friends,

From its inception last year when Greg and I hoped to do a Fall weekend VBS, to this August's week-long VBS, "Fall for Jesus; He will Never Leave You", there were *countless* hours of planning, creating, training, and praying.

I could never have imagined how well this VBS was received by our sweet families, new guests of LCOS, or how much fun our children AND faithful volunteers would have because of their willingness to serve with their love and gentleness poured out.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who followed through on their commitment to serve before, during, and after VBS. All of your contributions made this such a wonderful, hopefully unforgettable, life-changing success! Each of you brought such joy to our building and our kiddos. You are amazing!

Thank you to Ruth Peterson and The Peterson Foundation for so generously funding our amazing VBS. While I missed having you lead a team, your spirit was with us, and I believe Andrew would be so proud!

I'm now handing the VBS torch from "Joce the Science Boss" and "Ms. Maple J." to our more than competent and passionate Youth Director, Mariette. I did promise to help her next year, though. Also, get ready for our Fall Festival, folks!

With love,
Ms. Maple J.
Jocelyn

Prayer List

The names on our prayer list, with the exception of those in our confidential prayer chain ministry, will be removed this fall, as we plan to start fresh as of September 1. If you would like your name or the name of a loved one to continue on the prayer list please email office2@oursaviourchurch.ca or call Judy at 825-438-7632 and we will be happy to include your request on our updated prayer list.



Submitted by Cliff Blumhagen, Financial Secretary

If you wish to contribute to the church, the following are options for giving:

Interac e-transfer:

Donations are made to email address: donate@oursaviourchurch.ca.

PAR Program Giving:

The Pre-Authorized Remittance program (PAR) gives the option to give monthly directly from a bank or credit union account.

If you sign up by September 01, your monthly donation would begin September 20. Please contact the Financial Secretary Cliff Blumhagen (403-936-0419 or blumhagencg@gmail.com) to get a PAR sign up form and with any questions.

Cheque:

You can mail, bring to a church service, or drop off a cheque at the church.

Online Giving (via credit or debit card **):

Donations are made via the following secure link: <https://onrealm.org/LutheranChurchofOurSaviour/give/now>.

Text Giving (via credit or debit card):**

Donations are made by texting LCOSGive to 73256 followed by the donation amount.

NOTE:

Giving via online and text will go to General giving.

General giving and Designated giving can be done via Interac E-transfer and cheque.

Thanks to those of you who have already given a summer offering! This helps the church finances greatly as the church expenses continue during summer vacation time.

Please consider a special summer offering this year.

Quarter 2 giving statements were distributed in mid-July. They have been sent via an email link for quarter 2 givers who have an email address. Quarter 2 givers without an email address had their statements sent to their home address via Canada Post.

Please contact Cliff if you expected to receive a statement and did not receive one.

Please contact Cliff if you would like a set of offering envelopes for 2023.



Special Birthdays We'd Like to Celebrate



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Karen Nordgaard

Eleanor Wilson

Orville Biberdorf

Walli Haase

Annabel Glanville

Margaret Biberdorf

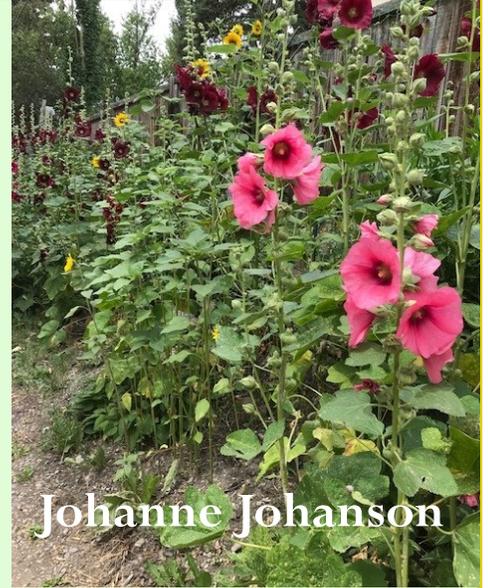
Pat Halvorsen

Ruth Peterson

Recognizing the Many Gardeners Among Us



Pat Farn



Johanne Johanson



Darleen Langridge



Judy McDonald



Janice Hawkings

Joseph Manengelea (196x – 2022)



Child of God, husband of Matilda, father of five, grandfather; Doku language and culture advocate, Bible translator, colleague, and friend.

It is with much sadness and shock that we let you know that Joseph Manengelea has passed away. We got the news a few days ago, while we were on the road to visit family, and have been trying to process it since.

We have worked with Joseph for 20 years. He was at the first ‘translation awareness’ meeting that we held in 2002, and was eager to do what he could to create a Bible that his people would be able to understand.

Joseph drafted 48.5% of the Doku Bible—15,111 verses—by hand. His work includes: Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy (13-34), 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Hosea, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Malachi, Mark, Acts, James, and Revelation. In addition, he reviewed every other book

of the Bible that others drafted, and gave valuable suggestions and critical corrections that served to make the translation more meaningful. His contribution ‘here and now’ was immense; his eternal impact is incalculable.

Joseph had a strong faith in the God who saves, which was reflected in his prayers. He was generally quiet, and brought a peaceful presence to a room. That does not mean he couldn’t be a goofball at times! He rejoiced with those who rejoiced, and wept with those who wept. He had a tender conscience and a soft heart. He was willing to learn—and he learned a lot, always graciously and gratefully; he was able to teach, easy to work with, and highly commended by his church. He loved his family, and worked hard to provide for them, despite encountering numerous hardships along the way. Nonetheless, he remained faithful and determined and never lost hope. He was a good friend.

As you may recall, the first draft of the Doku Bible was recently completed. To celebrate this, and to share their joy with the wider Doku community, Joseph and Jimmy (the two main translators) had



Unger Update (continued)

planned to visit a number of villages over the next few weeks. Obviously, this never happened... But we are thankful that Joseph had the opportunity to see and hold a printed copy of what he had been working on for much of his life!

Below is a Doku song that I have heard Joseph and his family sing to people who visited his village. It seems fitting to include here:

<i>U rongonia na tavuli a God;</i>	I hear God's conch shell (= 'trumpet');
<i>Te matangi thivo mai i teghea.</i>	It calls down from above (= heaven).
<i>Kako ghua ba, kako talu pitua</i>	If we hear it, we wait for
<i>Na tabe lime na Maneka.</i>	The Lord's hand shake (= congratulations).

<i>Oti ngasia na thairo a dini</i>	Hold strong to these tasks
<i>Mo ghuania ke sule me pile;</i>	Whether they be big or small;
<i>Mo doku kako taigha ghali</i>	No good we don't do
<i>Na thairo te nea athe a God.</i>	The work God has given.

The last chapter of the book of Nehemiah is punctuated with prayers as he recounts some of the things he did to encourage spiritual reform among his people. Nehemiah's prayers seem appropriate as we consider the 'chapters' of Joseph's life:

Remember me for this, my God, and do not wipe out my loyal deeds which I have performed for the house of my God and its services... remember me, my God, and have compassion on me according to the greatness of Your mercy. Remember me, my God, for good (Neh. 13:14,22,31).



Elder Friendly Communities Acadia



Weekly Programming – Continuing this Fall/Winter Session

Book Club: Monday at 1pm

Book: Memory Man, David Baldacci

August 22nd, 2022 – September 19th, 2022

Craft and Chat: Tuesday at 11am (Working with wool – making birds)

Programming at the Acadia Recreation Complex 240 – 90th Ave SE.

Please email sandras@caryacalgary.ca and or call 403-651-5868 to register.

New participants always welcome!!

Weekly Programming – Closing for Fall/Winter Session

Come help us finish off the season. Learning about the harvest to enjoy some fall walks.

Garden Club – Wednesday 11am to Noon

Walking Club – Wednesday 1pm to 3pm

Programming at the Acadia Community Garden 332 94th Avenue SE.

Please email sandras@caryacalgary.ca and or call 403-651-5868 to register.

New participants always welcome!!

Upcoming Events

Kindness Club

Next Meeting: Thursday September 15th **NEW DATE Noon – 2pm**

We will learn about community development and identify, plan, and initiate ways to give back to the Acadia and surroundings communities. Please JOIN US! We are looking to run a simple food drive in October and be involved with a giveaway for Christmas.

New participants always welcome!!

Please email sandras@caryacalgary.ca and or call 403-651-5868 to register.

Acadia Recreation Complex 240 – 90th Ave SE.

Monthly Meal - Thursday September 29th **NEW DATE Noon - 2pm**

Share in a sit down meal and enjoy an activity to identify and celebrate the values that make our community great.

New participants always welcome!!

Please email sandras@caryacalgary.ca and or call 403-651-5868 to register.

Acadia Recreation Complex 240 – 90th Ave SE.



Your donation matters

It matters to every patient across Canada.
Because it's something we can do today to help
others wake up healthier tomorrow.

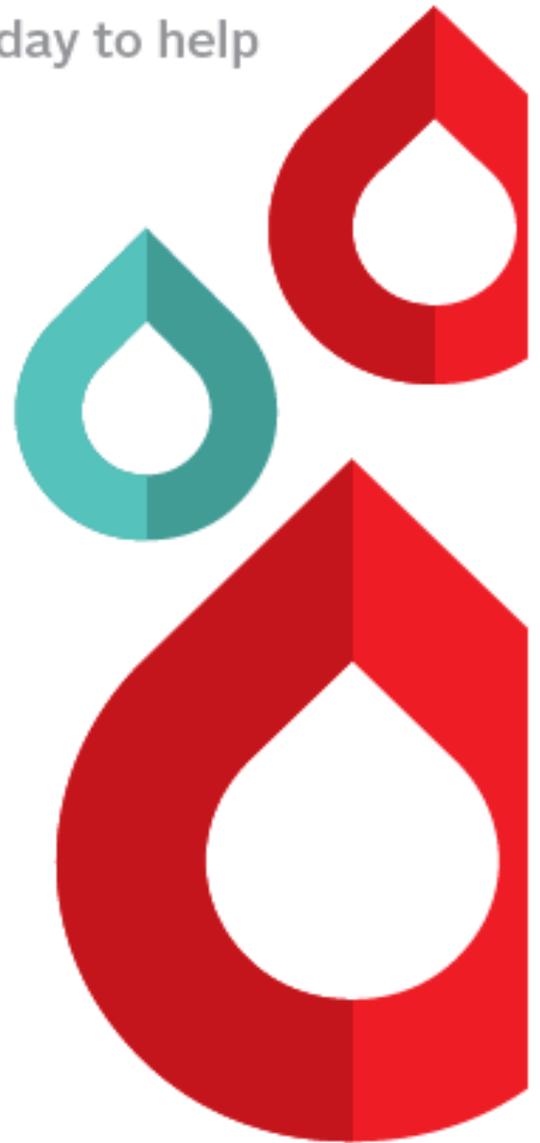
Donate blood

Delta Calgary South

135 Southland Dr SE
Bonavista Room - Tower Building

Thursday, September 1
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Donor Event - 100 Donors Needed
Appointments are required during Covid-19



Join **Canada's Lifeline**
Visit blood.ca to learn more.





**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

Your donation matters

It matters to every patient across Canada.
Because it's something we can do today to help
others wake up healthier tomorrow.

Blood donation events

Acadia Recreation Complex

240- 90th Ave SE
Rose Hall

Saturday, September 3

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

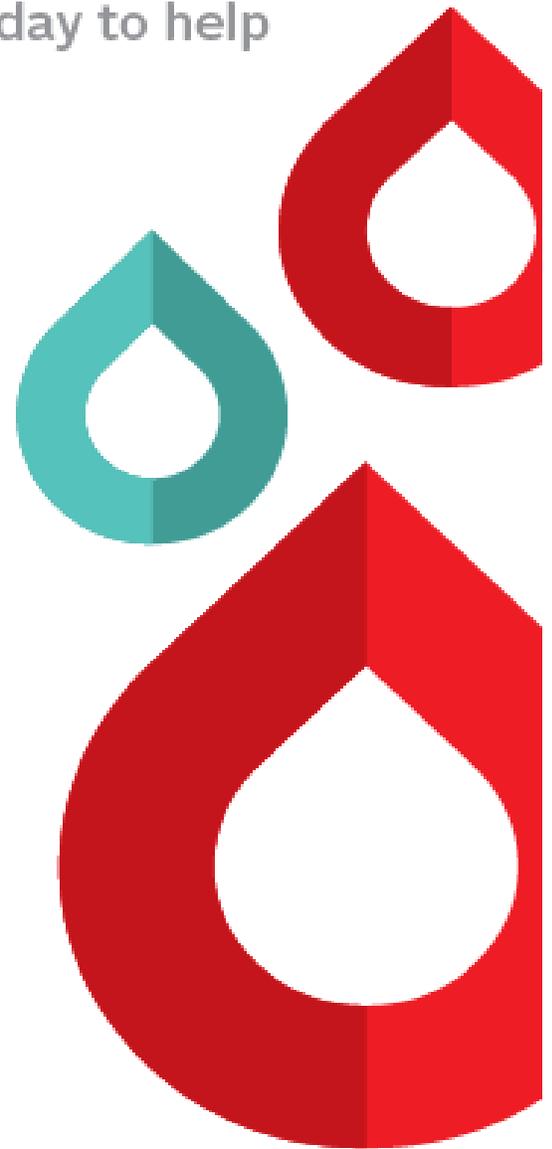
Thursday, September 15

3:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Donor Event - 100 Donors Needed
Appointments are required during Covid-19

Join Canada's Lifeline

Book now at [blood.ca](https://www.blood.ca) or call **1 888 2 DONATE**





**Canadian
Blood
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BLOOD
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STEM CELLS
ORGANS
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Donate blood

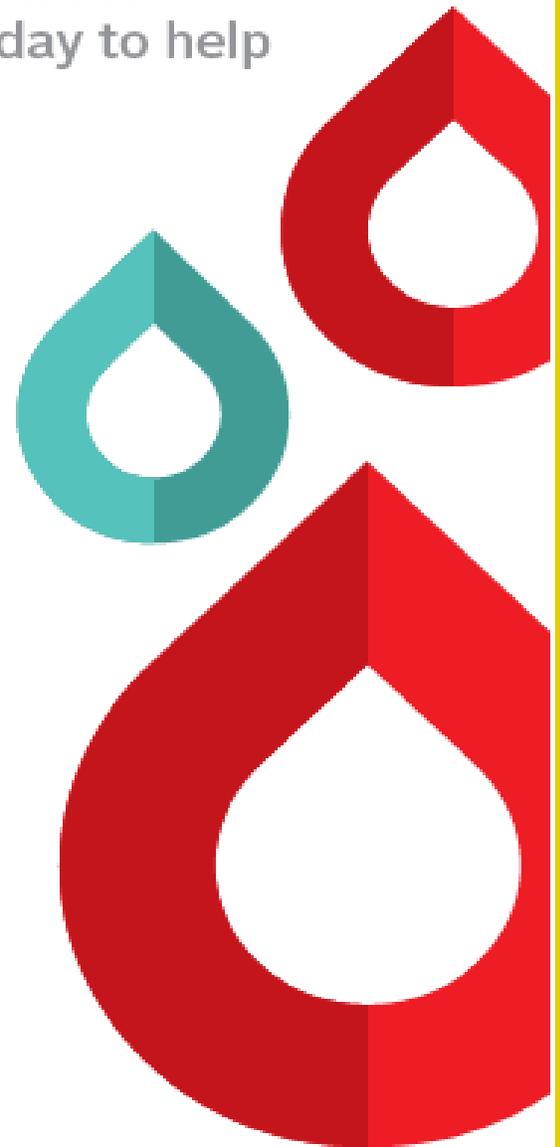
Delta Calgary South

227 Southland Dr SE
Nakiska Room Atrium Building

Saturday, September 17
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Donor Event - 75 Donors Needed
Appointments are required during Covid-19

Join **Canada's Lifeline**
Visit blood.ca to learn more.



Bishop's Message by Bishop Larry Kochendorfer



September 2022 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God -

As September quickly approaches, I encourage all congregations to make use of the global and ecumenical resource, "Season of Creation," in your worship and educational planning from September 1 through October 4. Visit: www.SeasonOfCreation.org to access the materials.

This year's theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation," is an invitation to remember God's call and to pay attention to those being silenced in the public discourse on climate change and on the ethics of Earth conservation, such as:

- the voices of those drawing attention to the ethics of earth-keeping;
- the voices of those who suffer the most impacts from climate change;
- the voices of those who possess ancestral wisdom about living with gratitude within the limits of Earth; and
- the voices of those pointing out plants and animals which are drastically declining in numbers and in diversity.

An additional resource is being prepared by our Synod's Care of Creation Ministry Team. In collaboration with confirmands from across the Synod, a set of brief videos, based on this year's "Season of Creation" theme, is being prepared and will be shared through our Synod Office and available on our Synod's website: www.albertasynod.ca.

I encourage you to share these videos with your congregation in your weekly/monthly newsletter, through social media pages and/or as a prelude/postlude to your worship services between September 1 and October 4. I hope that you will share these brief videos of awe, lament and hope for the future of creation seen through the eyes of our youth.

As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for creation. We are co-creatures, and part of all that God has made. Our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the Earth. We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it.

We listen and raise our voices in prayer this Fall. We act on behalf of this world that God loves. We listen to the voice of Creation.

In Christ Jesus –
Shalom,
+Larry

"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



September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 1:00 pm Joyful Noise	2	3
4 Communion 10:00 am In-Church Worship Drive-In Worship Live Stream Service YouTube Service Kids Church Installation of Mariette Jessup as Director of Youth & Family Ministries	5	6 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 1:00 Games Group	7 7:00 pm Al-Anon	8 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Joyful Noise Music Practice	9	10
11 10:00 am In-Church Worship Drive-In Worship Live Stream Service YouTube Service Kids Church 11:00 am Faith Formation	12	13 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon	14 7:00 pm Al-Anon	15 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Joyful Noise Music Practice 7:00 Flock Care	16	17
18 Communion 10:00 am In-Church Worship Drive-In Worship Live Stream Service YouTube Service Kids Church Baptism	19	20 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 1:00 Games Group 7:00 pm Board Mtg	21 7:00 pm Al-Anon 10:30 am Southwood Care Centre	22 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Joyful Noise Music Practice	23 September Vine Submission Deadline	24
25 10:00 am In-Church Worship Drive-In Worship Live Stream Service YouTube Service 11:00 am Fall Carnival	26	27 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon	28 7:00 pm Al-Anon	29 Office Hours 9:00 am - 12 noon 10:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Joyful Noise Music Practice	30	

