

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

8831 Fairmount Drive Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2H 0Z4

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

Our vision is to be a Christ-centered Community that Equips Disciples to Make Disciples!

Service is at 10:00 am each Sunday. We would love to welcome you!



Director, Youth & Family Ministry Mariette Jessup 403-560-2039 youth@oursaviourchurch,ca



Parish Administrator
Judy McDonald
825-438-7632
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Media Director Mike Mihaichuk Icos.yyc.media@gmail.com



Brian

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Brian Prunkle (Secretary)
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Board Report

As the leaves begin to turn and we move closer to another winter, many of you are wondering what the future of our community will hold and what we, as a congregation might look like. I have heard from some members that are anxious about the strength of our collective bond amid 'choppy waters'. Some are worried about our future and some have decided to leave for another community. As I ponder how to address this, the question is 'what can I write to provide some comfort for you'? For the answer, I to turn to my Bible...

As Christ followers, we don't need to look far to see anxiety and turmoil present in the lives of those Jesus interacted with in His short ministry and thirty-three years on the planet. From the confusion Joseph felt when he found his love pregnant (and he wasn't the father) to the pain felt by Mary - weeping at the cross that held her son, turmoil and anxiety have always been part of the story.

In Eugene Peterson's paraphrase of the New Testament, "The Message" Jesus is preparing His disciples for the upcoming crucifixion. In John, Chapter 15, Paul, quoting Jesus, writes

"I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home with you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who He is – when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples". The Message; John Ch.15

Similarly, I encourage you to pray, read God's Word, grow in your knowledge of our faith and commit to one of our Bible studies. As you learn more about what faith in Christ means, you will find the comfort you seek and... a 'peace that passes understanding'. As you discover the incredible wisdom the Bible offers, you will find as you learn to 'trust in Him to provide for us', He will... in His time.

The early Church was no different than what we are experiencing today. They felt doubt, anxiety and... conflict. The apostle Paul was highly aware of this and travelled extensively to encourage Christians to stay focused on the words and mission commanded by Jesus. He admonished them to not get embroiled with in-fighting and, when it happens, to forgive each other. In his message to the Church in Phillipi, Paul writes...

"I urge Euodia and Syntyche to iron out their differences and make up.

God doesn't want his children to hold grudges..."

Paul goes on to advise the Philippian Church to stay focused on their main objectives and not allow themselves to become discouraged...

"Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life". The Message; Phillipians 4:4-6.

Board Report continued

Some of you will remember the incredible growth we have experienced as a congregation. In my view, this was largely due to our 'small groups' – long before covid. These groups spawned life-long friendships and the group members 'did life together'! The Board wants to encourage each of you to find a spot in a small (engagement) group, commit to study and to growing closer to the other members of your group. I promise, there is a place for you...but we can't do it for you. We encourage you to take a risk, experiment with different groups and when you find what could be a home for you, dive in with both feet, invest your time and energy in getting to know the others and allow them to get to know you. In our view, this is the fertile path we need to embrace once more. We are confident you will be glad that you did.

In conclusion, I encourage everyone to continue praying for our community and to ask God to continue providing the strength and wisdom your leadership needs to make the best decisions for our community. Between the many issues the Board deals with every month and the ongoing search process your Call Committee continues to work through, all of us are volunteers, doing our best to represent our entire community. We covet your prayers and support. If you have questions about the ongoing discussions with the Bishop about what the ELCIC believes or efforts to access pastoral candidates, feel free to email or call me at any time,

In His Service

Bob Montgomery
Chair – LCOS Board of Directors

Encouragement Cards

Were there occasions in your life when a few uplifting words from a friend might have brightened your day?

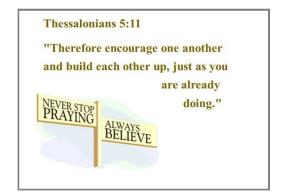
Have you ever considered that someone at church would welcome a kind word during challenging times?

Do you remember seeing a sad face in your travels and wished you had let them know they were not alone?

Encouragement cards are available in a basket in the Place of Welcome for anyone who wishes to let someone know you are thinking of them.

Please help yourself.

Feel free to forward anonymously or write a personal note on the back of the card and drop it in a church mailbox.





This verse emphasizes the importance of mutual encouragement and support within our community of believers.

Call Committee Report

The updated Congregational Profile was approved by the LCOS Board and was submitted to Bishop Trish on August 11th which the Bishop acknowledge receipt of same on the same day.

The Call Committee continued its due diligence evaluation of the candidate which Bishop Trish had provided during August. This included reviewing sermons that were provided . There were also detailed investigations into the candidate and his references. One complexity was the candidate is from an international country which made these investigations more complicated. The Call Committee reviewed this information and met on August 27th and, after prayerful consideration, unanimously determined the Call Committee would will not pursue this candidate further. The main concern was his English may not be easily understood by the congregation which would make messages less effective. Bishop Trish will be informed of the Call Committee decision so the candidate will be free to apply to other congregations.

So what now?

Bishop Trish informed the Call Committee during our questions on the candidate that was provided that there were no other candidates available at this time.

The Call Committee had a good discussion at the August meeting of alternatives and constraints the ELCIC call process requires. One of these constraints is all candidates must apply through the Bishop. Further, if a candidate is from outside of the AB Synod, Bishop Trish must get approval from the candidate's Bishop before any communication can occur between Bishop Trish and the candidate to determine if there is interest in a call.

The Call Committee has reviewed every active pastor in the Synods of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in 2024 and put forth the names of those we felt were good potential candidates. None of those candidates were interested. We also reviewed 5 candidates in the ELCA (US Synods) but again found no interest from these candidates.

With this in mind, the Call Committee discussed whether the US may still hold good candidates worthy of consideration. The state that has generated some candidates for LCOS and the AB ELCIC Synod in the past has been Minnesota. Minnesota has 980 active congregations in the ELCA and the Call Committee resolved that a list of the congregations would be generated and every member of the Call Committee would be given a list to research. Once the research is completed the short list of potential candidates will be provided to Bishop Trish for her review with the appropriate Synod Bishop(s) to determine what candidates we can review.

With such a number of congregations and with the prayers of the congregation for the Call Committee and their deliberations we are very hopeful that God will provide a group of potential candidates for LCOS.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at church or by phone at 403-975-0081 or email at gmihaichuk@me.com or any of the Call Committee members.

Thanks for all of your prayers and

Yours in Christ

Garry Mihaichuk

Financial Secretary Report



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 22.

Please contact the Financial Secretary Cliff Blumhagen (403-936-0419

or financialsecretary@oursaviourchurch.ca) 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.

**NOTE: to give via debit card, the card must have a CVV code (on the back of the card). This is like the code on the back of a credit card. **

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

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

**NOTE: to give via debit card, the card must have a CVV code (on the back of the card). This is like the code on the back of a credit card. **

Giving via online and text will go to General giving.

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

Shares from Investments:

Shares from investments are made by transferring them from your investment account to the church investment account.

Legacy Giving:

Donations are made from your estate by gifting to the church by remembering the church in your will.

The following methods and percentages of giving for July 2025 were:

· Cash: 18%- 11 givers

· Cheques: 10.3% - 16 givers

· Interac E-transfer: 37.5% - 24 givers

· Loose Cash: 1 %

Online via Realm: 0.2 % - 2 givers

Pre-Authorized Remittance Program: 10.9% - 17 givers

<u> Year To Date Financial Status – June 30, 2025:</u>

· Revenue (offering, rentals): \$185,846.38

· Expenses: \$199,440.72 · For a deficit of \$13,594.34 Have you ever wondered why there is little offering in the offering plate at church Services? It's because loose cash, cash and some cheques are given via the offering plate, and these methods of giving represent a small percentage of total giving.

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour is looking to fill the position of Financial Secretary commencing January 2026.



Please contact Cliff Blumhagen for more information at 403-936-0419 or

financialsecretary@oursaviourchurch.ca

We thank Cliff for 24 years of service in this role!

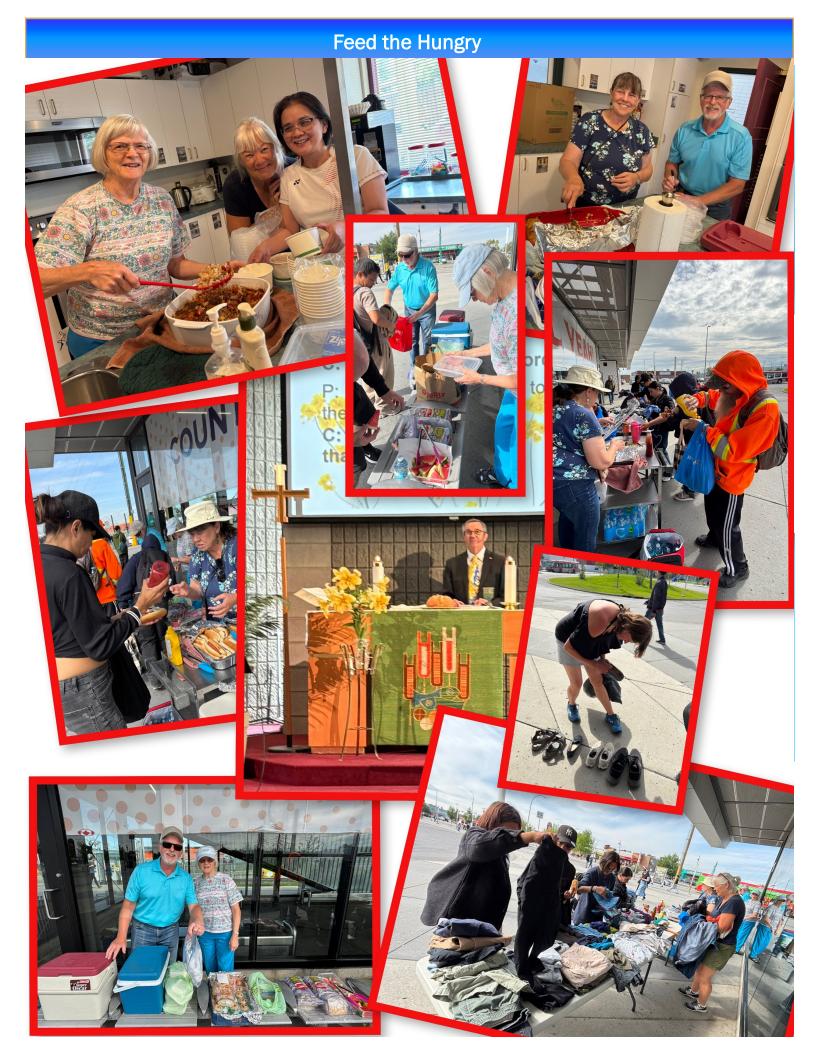
The role of the Financial Secretary (FS) is integral to church operations. The FS assists by forecasting, recording and analyzing the expected revenue of the Church each year and works closely with the Treasurer. In addition, this role oversees upkeep and maintenance of our "Realm" software and oversees deposit of all revenue into our bank account. The FS oversees all forms of deposit items to our bank and generates the annual CRA 'tax receipt of giving' to all donors. For all of these reasons, a major requirement is the need for strict confidentiality. Over the last 40 years the individual occupying this role has only changed once. This is testament to the integrity and acumen of both people that have filled this function. Our current FS is Cliff Blumhagen and he is retiring after nearly 30 years of service to LCOS. We are looking for the right person to take over this important position.

Is this for you? If you are considering it, please speak directly with Cliff at your earliest opportunity. We would like to begin the transfer as soon as possible. Cliff is willing to assist in training the 'right' candidate.

Thank you for considering this service for LCOS.

You can contact Cliff at: 403-936-0419 or at: financialsecretary@oursaviourchurch.ca.

Bob Montgomery
Chair – LCOS Board of Directors



VBS DECORATING DAY



















VBS



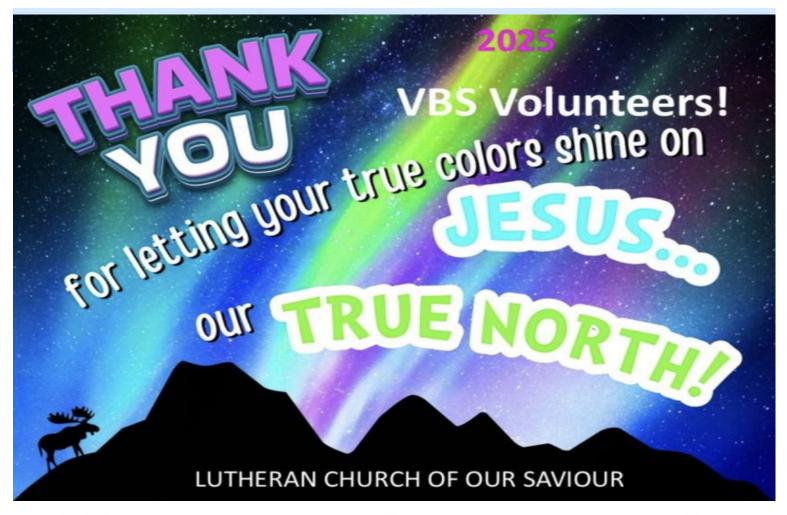














Clown! Lutheran Church of Our Saviour 8831 Fairmount Drive SE Everyone Welcome!

Games!





The "Grand Old Lady" of Church of Our Saviour

I have a feeling that I am the oldest continuously-attending member of LCOS (for 61 years) and have been the organist for 52 years. Does that make me an antique? Maybe so, but not as much of an antique as the Grand Old Lady of the church – our pipe organ.

It has quite a storied past, although some parts of its history (frustratingly!) are missing.

The organ was built in 1890, in Toronto, Ontario by Edward Lye Organs. This makes it the oldest Canadian-made organ in all of Western Canada. Mr. Lye had a reputation for making sturdy organs, often using whatever materials were available. (Kind of the spit and binder twine guy who could make "anything"!)

The organ was made for a small, rural Roman Catholic congregation in South-

ern Ontario. After some years, it was sold and relocated to a Masonic Temple, also in Southern Ontario. When it was moved, it had some changes made to it, replacing some of the more "churchy" pipe sets with some that would suit its new home.

At some point (part of the missing story), the organ was decommissioned and put into storage at Geissler Organworks in Milton, Ontario.

Now to the Calgary part of the story – a local, Lutheran organist, D, Stuart Kennedy, was on a musical mission of sorts. Because of the Lutheran Church's history of music, especially during the early centuries of Lutheranism, Stuart encouraged Lutheran churches in Southern Alberta to consider using pipe organs instead of electronic organs. A long -serving couple at Our Saviour's, Richard and Mabel Hirtle passed away without any children to pass on their estate, and left it to the congregation.

Our Saviour Church had just built a new sanctuary, the worship space we use now. The old sanctuary is what is now the fellowship hall. The bequeathment from the Hirtles was used to acquire the sanctuary furnishings in the new space, but Mrs. Hirtle had also indicated a desire for the church to have a pipe organ. She had strong and happy memories of the pipe organ in her original Lutheran congregation in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

Working with Stuart, the Organ Committee at LCOS began looking at options. It became clear that we could get "more organ for the money" by getting a refurbished pipe organ than by commissioning an organ builder to design and build one from the ground up. This is where Our Saviour Church and Dieter Geissler got connected. Mr. Geissler felt he had the perfect instrument for the congregation – the Lye Organ that was in storage.

Did You Know? continued

He would make some changes to some of the pipes to make it sound more like a church organ, and would transport



the organ pieces (thousands of them!) by rail from Ontario to Calgary, where he would reassemble the organ on-site n the LCOS sanctuary.

This took place over several months in 1982, and the completion was celebrated with a dedication concert on the organ, featuring Stuart Kennedy. The organ has had a prominent place in worship at Our Saviour Church ever since.

Any piece of equipment requires maintenance, especially one with hundreds of moving parts. Unlike fine wines, age is not the friend of pipe organs.

In 2011, some work needed to be done after a Christmas Eve weather disaster.

Just before Christmas 2010, there was a heavy snowfall, and on Christmas Eve one of Alberta's famous chinooks blew in which melted most of the snow away in short order. This was more drainage than the church's roof was designed to carry, with the resulting meltwater coming down in the back of the sanctuary, running through the organ. With the helpful handyman assistance of Ken Rude, we flew in an organ technician from Ontario to do the necessary repairs.

The Great Flood of 2013 showed that Nature is a force to be reckoned with, and again the organ became a wetspot. A local (at least from Southern Alberta) technician was able to make things workable. Still, pipe organs and water aren't a good mixture and time and the elements have taken a toll on the organ's inner workings. The mechanical levers are made of wood and leather and many of the leather pieces have turned brittle. So a major refurbishment is in order – something that will come with a price tag of about \$20,000. Right now that isn't something that sits well with the church's current financial situation. However, if anyone should come across a stash of cash, we could put it to good use!

One thing I have been trying to do is to get the organ recognized as an historic resource; once that were to happen, LCOS may be able to tap into some government funding to help with ongoing maintenance and repairs of the instrument. Right now the biggest hurdle in getting recognition is that the Royal Canadian Guild of Organists requires an "opus" number for the organ, basically proof of exactly which year/date and which specific number of the Lye organs it sits in the production sequence. Mr. Lye didn't carve this information into the organ, and both the Lye organ company and Dieter Geissler, who supplied it to LCOS, are no longer around. So far, my searches and efforts with the local organist society haven't borne fruit.

However, hope still abounds. With prayer, effort, and some good fortune I'm hopeful that we will be able to bring Our Saviour Church's "Grand Old Lady" to full voice for another 135 years!

Written by

Alex Mckay



RSVP: lcm.yyc@gmail.com



SOUP MAKING

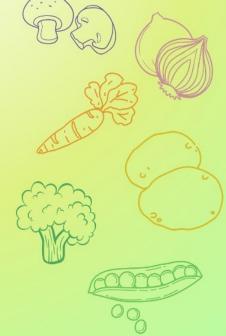
for Simple Supper on Campus



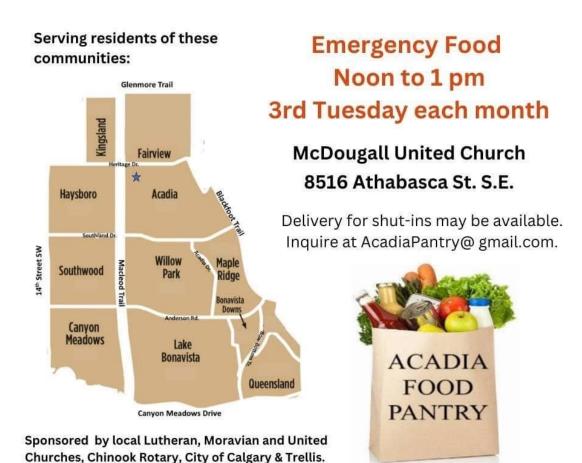
Friday, Sept. 5 @ 3 pm Saturday, Sept. 6 @ 10 am



Hope Lutheran Church (3527 Boulton Rd. NW)



Even if you can't help, donations would be greatly appreciated, too.



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,

Matthew 25:35

Sign-up to supply food and/or serve on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Feed the Hungry



To our 80 + Friends! Eleanor Wilson Orville Biberdorf Walli Haase Ruth Peterson Annabel Glanville Pat Halvorsen



Alice's Time Capsule



Andrew Davison 1886-1963 was acclaimed as Calgary's 24th mayor after serving seven years as an alderman in the 1920's. He holds the record for the longest tenure as mayor, serving 16 continuous years from January 1930 to the end of December 1945 before retiring due to health issues.

Andrew and his family moved from Ireland to Strathcona (south Edmonton) in 1895. He was counted at home age 20 in 1906 census. Listed in the 1909 Edmonton directory working for the News Publishing Co. and lived at 1 Ave S. in Strathcona. The 1911 Calgary directory listed Davison, A -- lino opr, "News Telegram" boards 632-7 Ave West. Andrew married Effie Huggins in 1912 in Calgary. She was a cashier in a cigar store and lived with her family at the time of the 1911 census.

Andrew also worked for the Albertan newspaper before WWI, set type for Bob Edwards Eyeopener newspaper and then worked for the Calgary Herald after the war. During the war he served overseas as a pay sergeant with the Canadian Army Pay Corps. Andrew's two younger brothers died in 1917. During WWII he was a Pay Master for the Calgary Highlanders as well as mayor and MLA.

Calgary had a lot of water problems over the years. George King, former member of the mounted police and post-master from 1885 was elected mayor in October 1886. A big fire broke out on Sunday November 7, 1886 and destroyed 18 buildings. Council was undecided about private or public ownership of a waterworks utility that would cost at least \$75,000 in 1887.

A private pumping system was installed in 1891. It became a publicly-owned utility at the end of a ten-year agreement. A fire on Christmas Day 1900 destroyed the Clarence and Norman blocks on Stephen Avenue (8th Ave) owned by Senator James Lougheed. Calgary grew from 3 sections of land (3 square miles) to more than 40 sections with a population over 50,000 people around 1910. Bow River water was contaminated by garbage dumped west of Calgary. There was a serious typhoid outbreak in 1906. The gravity water system of 1907 often needed repairs. Downtown Calgary still has some 1910 pipes that need to be replaced in 2025.

Both the Bow and Elbow Rivers flooded in the spring of 1929. Engineering consultants recommended an Elbow River Dam with a reservoir and adjacent water purification plant. The civic election was held in November 1929, just a few weeks after the Wall Street stock market crashed in the US.

Mayor Davison turned the first sod for the Glenmore Dam July 26, 1930. Calgary was heavily in debt for Glenmore Dam and other capital projects so payments had to be shifted to future years. Welfare payments were sometimes higher than a million dollars a year in the "Dirty Thirties" with 3500 families on relief in a city of 85,000 people. Glenmore Dam also became a work relief project.

Andrew and his wife moved to a home in North Vancouver in 1945. He finished his second four-year term as the Calgary Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta in August 1948.

Andrew Davison School opened in the fall of 1963 at 9603 – 5 Street SE in Acadia. His name was moved in September 2000 to the former Acadia School building at 8710 Ancourt Road SE where LCOS held services beginning October 1961 before construction of the church. The 13 storey Andrew Davison Building at 133 – 6 Ave SE was also named after him. It was the former location the Police Service headquarters before the move to the Westwinds location in NE Calgary.





English Practice for Immigrant Women

New Friends and Neighbourhood Groups

FREE weekly groups for immigrant women.

Join any time in-person from September to

June or online

- Practice speaking English
- Make new friends
- · Learn about life in Calgary
- Free childminding for children (6 months-6 years) of registered participants (limited spots)

Meetings begin on March 27, 2024.

The meeting is inside the Co-op supermarket, in the Community Meeting Room. Ask any Co-op employee to direct you.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:





FUNDED BY:



* Available locations may change without notice





LOCATION:
Macleod Trail Calgary Co-op
8818 Macleod Trail SE



DATES: Wednesdays 1pm - 3 pm



CONTACTS: Tafadzwa Bamhare (403) 263-4414 ext. 156 Tafadzwab@ciwa-online.com



FOLLOW US:





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

Acadia Recreation Complex

240- 90th Ave SE Rose Hall

Saturday, September 13 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Donor Event - Donors Needed

Join Canada's Lifeline

Visit **blood.ca** to learn more.

Bishop's Message



September 2025

Dear church,

Just a few days ago I returned, tired, from the CLAY Gathering in Saskatoon, where youth from across Canada, from both Lutheran and Anglican congregations, gathered for play and worship.



I say, "tired," because it's a challenge to keep up with the energy and passion of our young people! They were up early and still at play until midnight each day. The CLAY Planning Team did an excellent job of coordinating a wide diversity of activities and faith-filled worship.

More important than being kept busy – our young people are keenly interested in faith. They ask great questions and are yearning for their place in our ministries. Quite honestly, we simply get in the way too often. Sometimes "youth" are the last thing on a budget or on a council's agenda. With the decline in our churches - and the noticeable absence of young people in many cases – we need to prioritize young people. It's time for our communities to work intentionally to support ministry of camps, universities and youth/young adults in our churches; it's time to experiment with varied worship in style and day or time.

At the National Convention this summer in Winnipeg, young adult delegates put forward a motion to form their own council across Canada. This work has already begun. I will be proposing the same idea to our own Synod Council in October. The idea is to be intentional about affirmation and inclusion in this new way that we might all be encouraged.

What could you do differently? Try a good old Google search for ideas! It's ok for young people to experiment, make mistakes and learn along the way. Young people also have excellent skills and ideas on their own – we just need to ask them – and then let them try, even if it's not perfect.

I challenge you to make space for them. Councils and worship committees, quilting groups and property committees. I challenge you to start your September in a new way with open eyes and hearts. I believe in you – that you love these young hearts and want to see them flourish.

September blessings in these acts of faith!

Keep singing,

Rishop Trish

Bishop Trish

Bishop's Message



Synod of Alberta & the Territories at CLAY 2025

Follow our Instagram Page, <u>ABT_FM</u> for youth & young adults "FM" stands for "Follow Me," Jesus' invitation in Matthew 4:19.

Youth and Young Adults Scan to follow!



SEF	TEM	BER
Office Hours	3 Office Hours	1 Office Hours

7 10:00 am Worship (Bob Dunn) Live Stream Service	8 6:30 pm TMS Rehearsal	2 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 1:00 pm Games Group 9 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	3 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am Lighthouse Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting 10 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am Lighthouse Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	4 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 8:45 am WW 10:00 am Knit-Chat 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Cover to Cover Bible Study 11 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 8:45 am WW 10:00 am Knit-Chat 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Cover to Cover Bible Study	5 8:00 am WW 12 8:00 am WW	7:00 am WW 9:00 am Private Ladies Book Study 13 7:00 am WW			
14 10:00 am Worship (Mariette Jessup) Live Stream Service 11:00 am Kids Church	15 6:30 pm TMS Rehearsal	16 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 1:00 pm Games Group 7:00 pm Board Meeting	17 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am Lighthouse Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	18 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 8:45 am WW 10:00 am Knit-Chat 7:00 pm Cover to Cover Bible Study	8:00 am WW 3:00 pm Feed The Hungry	7:00 am WW 9:00 am Board Retreat			
21 10:00 am Worship (Andrew Hubbard) Live Stream Service FALL CARNIVAL	9:00 am Private Board Mtg 10:30 am Flock Care Meeting 6:30 pm TMS Rehearsal	23 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	24 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am Lighthouse Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm Fitness Class 7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting	25 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm 8:45 am WW 10:00 am Knit-Chat 7:00 pm Discovery Bible Study	26 8:00 am WW	27 7:00 am WW			
28 Holy Communion 10:00 am Worship (Pastor Margaret Koizumi Propp) Live Stream Service 11:00 am Kids Church	29 2:00 pm Private Funeral 6:30 pm TMS Rehearsal	30 Office Hours 9:00 am - 2:00 pm							