

CROSSBEAMS

Lutheran Church of the Cross



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Beloved of God,

November 1 is All Saints' Day - the day we celebrate the saint in our lives and in the world who have helped form us in life and faith. It goes without saying - but I'll write it anyway - we will sing several stanzas from the hymn, "For All the Saints." to help us mark and celebrate this occasion. That's a hymn that has been going through my head this week. People, events, and significant moments accompany the words and music of that familiar hymn. "For all the saints, who from their labors rest, all who by faith before the world confessed, your name, O Jesus...."

This November, I invite you to take a few moments to remember those "saints" who have accompanied you within your life. Who has been a foundational figure in your upbringing? Who has made a difference for your faith journey? Who has been an influence on your life in Christ? Give thanks to God for those people and share about them with those you love.

The apostle Paul frequently remembered those who helped him in his missionary work. Throughout his letters, he thanked various individuals and congregations for their support. Paul gave thanks for the people who had heard the gospel of God through his own words and actions. He urged them to become "witnesses" to everyone they interacted with and encountered - sharing God's message of love.

As saints of God alive and in this community of faith - how are you being called to share your faith with others? How can you encourage others to live out their faith? Consider how God is calling you to be a saint to someone you know! Perhaps this might be our prayer as we remember the saints in our lives this month: Guiding God, may we listen with our ears, follow with our feet, and open our hands in service, as we continue our earthly pilgrimage. Help us by your Spirit to trust your promise that you will be with each of us, your "saints," yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

Pastor Lindsey

All Saints 2025

On All Saints we celebrate those have been born in the last year.

This year we celebrate:

Louisa Kozak - September 22, 2024
Emily Mayo - December 20, 2024
Anders Lentz - March 6, 2025,
Alfred Overland - March 18, 2025
Elijah Haidar - March 18, 2025
Miles Gorrill Kozak - May 11, 2025
Margot Macdonald - May 13, 2025
Daniel Gray - May 18, 2025
Kaira Krueger Kozak - July 26, 2025
Evander Panico - September 12, 2025
Josephine Gunn - October 17, 2025

Great Grandchild of Dennis & Lillian Kozak
Great niece of Cynthia Peko
Great nephew of Laverne & Lisa Rude
Great nephew of Laverne & Lisa Rude
Great Grandchild of Doug and Georgina
Great Grandchild of Dennis & Lillian Kozak
Great niece of Judy Shore Isford
Grandchild of Hilary Gray
Great Grandchild of Dennis & Lillian Kozak
Great Grandchild of Doug and Georgina
Grandchild of Friend, Cynthia Peko

On All Saints we remember those who have died in the last year.

This year we remember:

Patrick King Sr. - September 22, 2024
Wallace Warren - October 12, 2024
Clarence Dubreuil - October 31, 2024
Les Donaldson - October 31, 2024
Don Murray - November 4, 2024
Greg Nemish - December 20, 2024
Stu Harman - January 2025
Ron Forrest - January 17, 2025
Lois Choksy - February 2, 2025
Janice Leonhardt - February 4, 2025
Carol Bell - 08 February 2025
Royden Hawley - February 23, 2025
Barbara Schneider - March 3, 2025
Rita Nemish - March 12, 2025
Ralph Steeves - March 17, 2025
Georgina Revells - April 22, 2025
David Kjolberg - May 29, 2025
Calvin Westwood - June 1, 2025
Harold Jackle - June 20, 2025
Elsie Kintop - July 9, 2025
Cryton Philemona - July 24 2025
Stephen Hoskin - July 29, 2025
Jennifer Wiegert - August 7, 2025
Irene Kneller-Andrew - August 8, 2025
Donalyn Price - August 9, 2025
Serge Leshchuk - August 20, 2025
John HM Snedden - September 9, 2025
Frank Kaplan - September 11, 2025
Ken Hopkin - September 16, 2025
Eileen Goad - September 21, 2025
Glen Sisk - September 25, 2025
Bill Andrew - October 12, 2025
Leona Dufresne - October 17, 2025
Lou Teichroeb - October 18, 2025
Lyla Jean Butz - October 23, 2025
Paul Grindlay - October 26, 2025
Maureen Bird - October 27, 2025

Friends Father-in-law, Cynthia Peko
Friends Father, Cynthia Peko
Mothers Cousin, Cynthia Peko
Cousin of Maureen Leonhardt
Friend of Doug and Georgina
Husband of Randa Nemish
Brother-in-law of Dennis Kozak
Fire Captain with Dan Leonhardt
Professor of Catherine GC
Sister-in-law of Maureen & Dan Leonhardt
Sister-in-law of Judy Shore Isford
Friends brother of Cynthia Peko
Climie Family friend
Mother-in-Law of Randa Nemish
Friend of Doug and Georgina
Friend of Cynthia Peko
Son of Ellen Kjolberg
Husband of Val Westwood
Cousin of Catherine GC
Aunt of Lillian Kozak
Friend of Stephen Maunula
Cousin-in-law of Janis & Bill Ogilvie
Daughter of Bill & Maryanne, wife, Kelly Cummine
Doris Urquhart
Cousin of Nadine Sisk
Climie family friend
Climie family friend
Professor of Alex Schmidt
Brother-in-law of Doug and Georgina
Aunt of Stan Climie
Brother-in-law of Nadine Sisk
Doris Urquhart
Friend Mother-in-law Cynthia Peko
Cousin-in-law of Janis & Bill Ogilvie
Mother-in-law of Pearl Butz
Friend of Climie Family & Oksana Yaremchuk
Friend of Pat Neuman & Harold Weir

The Sufis have a saying that “each man opines in accordance with his own hidden prejudices,” and this seems to be true in my case. I have some Engineering training, and all my notes seem to start with physical infrastructure. On that note, I'm a little concerned that we seem to have some experimentation going on with the sound and lighting systems in the church. No damage has been done, but we've had a few things that cause consternation on Sunday mornings: one of the buttons on the Preset Ten had its programming cleared, and part of our normal setup sequence - all lights on full - just turned off all the lights in the Sanctuary; this past Sunday, someone swapped circuits on the microphones for the cantor and the piano, causing a brief flurry of activity during sound checks; and we recently found that the piano had been moved after being carefully positioned to accommodate the choir. As I said, no damage has occurred so far, but these tweaks cause quite a bit of pressure for Catherine and the Tech Team who only have a limited time to prepare for Service.

By now, everyone has seen that we did get the TV mounted by the south entrance to the Sanctuary, and are using it as an electronic bulletin board, to rebroadcast the Sunday morning announcements, And, although it's less noticeable, you may have noticed the blinds that Hilary Gray and Glen Schultz have installed in the Fellowship Hall to help with Trudy Hooge's monthly Movie Night.

Everyone will also have noticed from the wall thermometer that the Furnace Replacement Fund continues to increase. We still have all the usual expenses: personnel costs, utilities, grounds maintenance, office supplies and so on to address so we are asking that you consider directing your gifts to the end of the year to our general budget. It's important we avoid a deficit in 2026. With this in mind, council held a meeting on October 25th to start planning the 2026 budget. Please come join us as we share about our budget planning process and council's hopes for 2026 following service on November 9, 2025.

With that, we're still looking ahead to the Annual General Meeting. Once again, we encourage all members of the congregation to ask themselves whether they feel the call to serve on Council. I remember one time when a stranger came to the church to see the gingerbread model we had of the Hallsgrímkirkja in Iceland. As we were chatting, she casually asked me “So are you one of the Elders of the Church?” I was about to correct her (we call them the Council, not the Elders), when I realized with a slight shock that that phrase described me quite accurately.. Time had snuck up on me, and indeed I had become one of the elders. So will you all some day, and if Council needs the wisdom and knowledge of its elders, it also needs the strength and courage of those still in their prime. So think of joining the Council now - before you become an actual Elder - and know that you would be received with joy and gratitude. Thanks as always to Pastor Lindsey, the Council and all the members of the congregation who are contributing their time and talents to making the church a place where all are welcome

Council Co-Chairs,
Bill Ogilvie & Paddy Colfer

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Sunday November 9, 2025
11:30 am in the sanctuary

Fall updates:

- Financial position 2025
- Budget process for 2026
- Return of stewardship committee
- Open time for questions





All are welcome to join us following worship on November 9th for a time of discussion with council. We will share updates with the congregation on our financial position, the budget process for 2026, and our hopes to meet our financial obligations in 2026 through increased rental of our building. There will be time for question or concerns you may have for our council following the updates.

We so appreciate your continued care and support of this congregation through your time, gifts, and prayers. We look forward to sharing this time with you.

— ELCOC Church Council

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Church of the Cross Financials through September 30, 2025				
	2025 Budget	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	September
Income	\$299,700.00	\$224,775.00	\$216,128.49	\$22,552.87
Expenses	\$331,036.00	\$248,277.00	\$263,823.79	\$25,683.32
Balance	(\$31,336.00)	(\$23,502.00)	(\$47,695.30)	(\$3,130.45)
General Fund Balance	\$2,650.74			
Furnace Fund	\$42,094.00			
Building Maintenance Fund	\$45,458.33			
Other Designated/Passthrough Funds	\$46,713.54			

There are many ways to give your offering at Church of the Cross:

- Safely donate online with your credit card using our church website: www.churchofthecross.ca
- You can e-transfer through your online banking to churchofthecross@shaw.ca at any time.
- Set up monthly recurring donations with a cheque or bank account through Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR).
- Give by offering envelopes in service, mailing in cheques, or by dropping your offering off in person: Monday - Thursday 9am-1pm

Furnace Fund Update

As of October 2025

We've raised \$46,594 of our \$80,000 goal!

58%

We give thanks to one of our families who has generously stepped forward to kick off our giving campaign for the furnace.

Council invites you to consider a special gift towards this project this summer. Donations can be made by e-transfer, cheque, or cash with the line: "Building Maintenance - Furnace Fund"



WELCOMING ALL TO OUR COMMUNITY IS A GIFT



No church is automatically friendly - especially to those visiting for the first time. It can feel like a huge risk to put yourself out there and attend a new church. Most studies show today that people usually visit a church because of a personal invite, close proximity, viewing an online service, or aligning values / theology. However, when they choose to stay it's because they've made meaningful connections there.

Genuine friendships are so pivotal with in a community of faith - but we don't develop relationships without being intentional about it. If we want people to feel at home and welcomed within our congregation, we need to intentionally focus on connecting with them as they come to visit us.

One of the simple ways a church can become more intentional about welcoming is through the GIFT Model: Greeting, Introducing, Following-up, and Thanking. We know how to do all these so well at Church of the Cross - but when we intentionally put these steps together it can make all the difference in forming a foundational connections with those we have just met.

Four Steps of GIFT:

1. Greet someone you've never met before: Get out of your comfort zone. Find someone whose name you don't know and learn it. Welcome them if they're new or offer to sit with them if they come to church alone. Share how you came to this congregation and what keeps you coming back. Ask them what brought them to church today? Or how they found out about Church of the Cross. Discover something about them. Get to know them if they've been around for a while, but you just haven't met them yet.

2. Introduce people to each other: After meeting someone, make sure they meet others, too. Connect people who have something in common. Introduce a first-time guest to someone with a shared interest. If you are able, ask the visitor to sign our guest book so that Pastor Lindsey can connect with them.

3. Follow up on someone you met recently: Find that person you met a week or two ago and say "hi" again. Call them by name. Engage in further conversation. Invite them to an upcoming church event, small group, or community gathering (*hint: check the newsletter or Thursdays Thoughts for the latest events*).

4. Thank someone who did something you appreciate: Every church has people who volunteer their time and efforts with very little, if any appreciation shown to them. Sometimes it's a simple "thank you" to our ushers, tech team, or worship leaders. If some one has done something to inspire you or help you in your journey of faith let them know. Encouragement costs nothing, but it's worth a great deal.

Our congregation is already such a friendly and welcoming place - but imagine if wre each tried to greet, introduce, followed up, or thank someone every week. It would truly be a gift to our guests and our church family.

Looking Back

Season of Creation: 7 Sacred Teachings



This year we celebrated the season of Creation through an exploration of the Seven Sacred Teachings. The teachings originate from the Seven Grandfather Teachings from the Anishinaabe people and have been adopted by many (but not all) First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Each week we explored a teachings and its themes. The Seven sacred teachings include love, respect, honesty, courage, wisdom, humility, and truth - with each teaching represented by an animal. Thank you to our Minister of Music Catherine for her leadership in teaching us each week and for introducing the congregation to the song 7 by William Prince.

Reverse offering



Thank you to everyone who participated in our first reverse offering this year! Our Church pantry has been well stocked for the needs of this upcoming season. We are so grateful for your generosity. We are so glad to meet the needs of our neighbours through this initiative. Social ministry is also seeking donations for our “families In need” fund. If you would like to contribute a financial gift to help us support families through the Christmas season you can do so through your offering or a special gift. - Social Ministry Team

Rostered Leaders Gathering



It was a blessing to gather with area rostered leaders at the St. Francis Retreat Centre in Cochrane this October. The Southern Area leaders choose to spend time intentionally with one another each fall, sharing about their lives, ministries, and how we might work together to share God’s love. This years question to share on was, “where were you ten years ago - and where has God brought you now?” From the wealth of experience in the room we had a wonderful conversation about God’s continued care for us all, our sense of call, and the ways God’s people have shaped us within each of the contexts we have served. I am so thankful to serve with such a supportive and diverse group of rostered leaders and give thanks for the congregations support of me attending this retreat each fall. - Pastor Lindsey



Ministry Opportunities:

Join the Stewardship Committee



Sunday November 9th the Stewardship team will hold their first meeting. Come to share your gifts, ideas, and support on this important committee. In 2026 they will begin their work with organizing a pledge drive to focus our giving to meet the needs of our congregational budget. The committee will also assist the treasurer and financial secretary with quarterly mail-outs to all who give financial gifts to the congregation, as well as planning stewardship Sundays, and congregational learning opportunities.

Join the Administration Committee



This November council will also be launching our new Administration committee. This committee will start by focusing their efforts on our congregations rental renewal, assessing our fair market value, and about ability to meet financial needs through hosting various performing arts groups. This committee will also look after general congregational contracts, building maintenance needs, and planning for larger scale projects - like our furnace replacement in 2026. If this is an area of passion for you or you have a keen eye for our congregations administration needs contact the office or for more information.

Kids Saturday Bible Camp

Do you have a passion for young people?
Do you like to sing or share musical gifts?
Do you like to plan crafts or games?
Do we have a ministry for you!



This December we will be launching our Kids Saturday Bible Camp! Once a month we will gather our young people from 2pm-4pm for a time of singing, learning, games, snacks, and crafts on a central bible story. It is our hope to welcome kids from our congregation, neighbor, or other church communities who wish to share in building a space where they can learn and grow with God in an inclusive and encouraging environment. We look forward to welcoming kids in grade 1-6, and ages 5 and under with adult supervision. Thanks to the generous support of the ELCOC endowment committee there is no cost associated with this program but registration will be required to attend.

We are seeking teachers, volunteers, readers, crafters, and caring faces to help us launch this ministry. If you are interested connect with pastor Lindsey to share how you would like to be involved.

PASTOR LINDSEY AWAY



Pastor Lindsey will be enjoying some time away with family this month from November 16 - 22, 2025. If you are in need of pastoral care while they are away you call or email the office or reach out to our Co-chairs Bill O. or Paddy C. at ELCOCcouncil@shaw.ca. They will connect you with Pastoral care as soon as possible.

JOIN A SMALL GROUP



UKULELE GROUP



Wednesdays from 11:30am-1pm
All skill levels are welcome to join us!

If you need further details, please contact
Jean at jeandacko7@gmail.com



QUILTING GROUP

We have begun our work this fall! All are welcome to come join us as we make quilts for those in need. We meet each Thursday from 9:30 am-11:30 am and always share in a coffee break and connection.








 **ELQC Choir**

THURSDAYS 6PM -7:15 PM.

ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO COME AND SING.

CONTACT CATHERINE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Mens Breakfast

ALL ARE WELCOME

November 1 & 15
LCOC - North Meeting Room



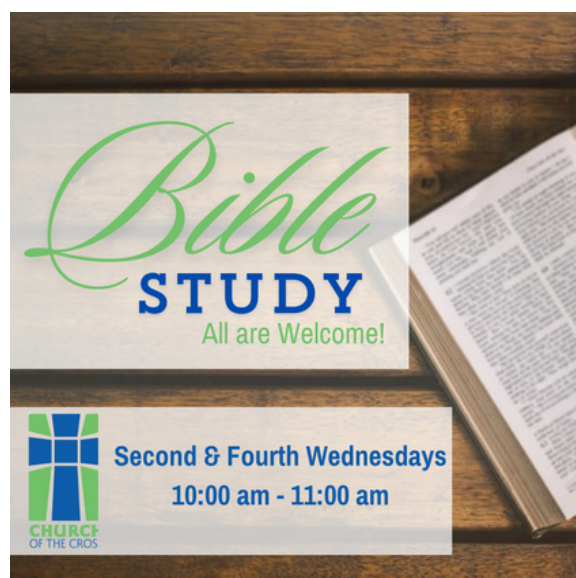
 CONNECTION COMMUNITY & BIBLE STUDY **8:00AM - 10:00AM**



Caring Connections



CAREGIVER PEER SUPPORT GROUP
Third Tuesday of the Month
Church of the Cross at 1pm
Connect with Pastor Lindsey to RSVP



Bible STUDY
All are Welcome!

 **Second & Fourth Wednesdays**
10:00 am - 11:00 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

ELCOC Confirmation



November 2 @ Cross Lutheran
November 16 @ Hope Lutheran
November 23 @ Advent Lutheran
 Lunch provided 🍌 Noon – 1:30pm



SENIORS LUNCH

TURKEY DINNER WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

NOVEMBER 4 @ 11:30 AM

Join us for the return of the Seniors Lunch.

Pastor Lindsey and council members will be present to share in a conversation about our ministry together might look like this year.

Please call Sandi at 403-228-0463 or email saxleggs@telus.net to confirm your attendance.

All are welcome to join.

November 21, 2025 - 7pm

Movie TBD

Lutheran Church of the Cross Fellowship Hall
10620 Elbow Drive SW

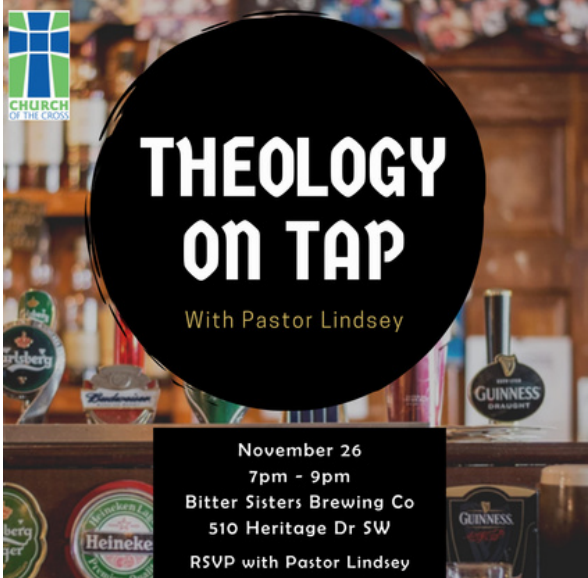
All are welcome
Those under 13 must be accompanied by an adult
Popcorn and refreshments will be provided
This is a free community event

Community MOVIE NIGHT

FREE

Family Friendly Film





THEOLOGY ON TAP

With Pastor Lindsey

November 26
 7pm - 9pm
 Bitter Sisters Brewing Co
 510 Heritage Dr SW
 RSVP with Pastor Lindsey

1945 EIGHTY YEARS LATER

FREE CONCERT-"For The Fallen" Series
Presented with support from Veterans Affairs Canada

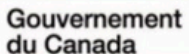
cantaré CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Catherine Glasser-Clinie | Founder/Artistic Director

CATHEDRAL CHURCH of the REDEEMER
Tom Woodford, Director of Music Ministry

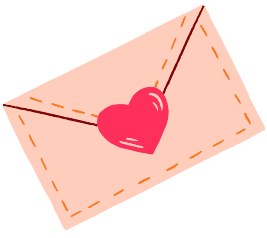
Co-Produced with the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer Cathedral Choir

November 8, 2025 | 7:30 PM
Cathedral Church of the Redeemer

Songs of peacetime


 Government of Canada
 
 Gouvernement du Canada

SOCIAL COMMITTEE UPDATES:



The social ministry committee is entrusted with stewarding the use of ELCOC's "families in need" fund. These funds go to support food security within our community and beyond, meeting emergency needs of families within the congregation with the pastors advocacy, and providing for our adopt-a-family each Christmas. As we have come through a season of high need our funds have been drastically reduced. We are asking for the congregations support to build up our funds once more. Consider taking an envelop from our fundraising bulletin board this month. Return the envelope with the dollar amount listed during the offering. When all the envelops are taken and returned our funding need will be met!



WINTER Coat Drive

Help families in need by dropping off new or lightly used winter wear to Church of the Cross.

This years donations will be shared with *The Mustard Seed*.



Donation Deadline:

Sunday December 30th noon



Drop Of Location:

Lutheran Church of the Cross
10620 Elbow Drive SW
Monday - Friday 9am-1pm



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE CROSS



COMMUNITY PHOTO VOICE PROJECT

This project invites you to share your stories, memories, and experiences of Southwood through photos and words. Participants take photos in response to guiding questions, then write or share short reflections about what the photos mean to them. We will be collecting photos and reflections until December 15, 2025, so there is lots of time to take part.

Guiding Questions:

- 1) What has shaped you, in small or big ways, in your neighbourhood?
- 2) What do you love about our neighbourhood?
- 3) What do you want to care for or change in Southwood?

How to take part: Take 1-2 photos for each of the above guiding questions. Write a short reflection for each photos. Send your photos + reflections to sarah.thomas@calgary.ca

November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Morning Meet up 10am	4 Makers Craft Night 7pm	5	6 Cooking Plan 10am-1pm	7	8
9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13 Cook 10am-3pm	14	15
16	17 Morning Meet up 10am	18 SCA Board Meeting 7pm	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Seniors BBQ 11am-2pm	27	28 SCA Youth Night 5pm	29
30	  		SCA= Southwood Community Association SCG= Southwood Community Garden For more info see www.southwoodcc.ca			

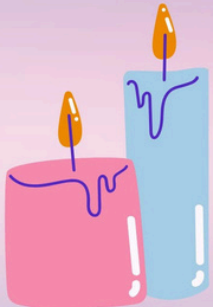
Trans Day of Remembrance

On November 20, you are invited to a service of remembrance online. The service will be pre-recorded, but we will have a time after the service for anyone who wishes to talk. The service is a time to remember the 331 people who died by violence or by their own hands. People who died for trying to be themselves in a world of hatred.

Hosted by Affirm United

Register for this online event at
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/iVGAIrRFR4GwF8tdZxhhSw#/registration>

Online
Transgender Day of Remembrance
Service



Thursday November 20, 2025

12pm PT
1pm MT
3pm ET



Affirm/S'affirmer
UNITED/ENSEMBLE



Affirm/S'affirmer
UNITED/ENSEMBLE

ABT SYNOD UPDATES



November 2025

We are called!

Churches will be decked out in red at the end of October as we celebrate our Reformation roots and then in white as we remember the saints, the beloved family of God that has come before us and continues today through us!

As I have travelled to visit congregations across our Synod – I see you! I see the diverse and faithful ways you are being hope in this world. Tiny Sunday School classes, clothing and nutritious meals for people in need, people caring for one another, lay leaders providing word and worship, so much diversity and creativity is your gift! This work, this ministry, is so important – you are living your call!

Rev Kevin Vandiver of Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington, D.C. in his recent sermon at the installation of the new ELCA Presiding Bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry, preached into this time of the world. From Luke 4:16-30 he led us joyfully to understand Jesus' "mission statement" (*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...*), but then Vandiver pointed out that the response to this great news was the people driving Jesus out to a cliff! That edge of the cliff, the precipice, Vandiver explained, is the crisis all Christians face as we meet the world with the too-good news of Jesus. The life of God's people is not easy.

Reformation too, reminds us of the pain and trials of change, of lives lost in proclaiming the gospel. All Saints illuminates the heritage of faithful people on whose shoulders we lean and it calls us to stay the course for those who will follow.

And so, the call remains – to each of us to continue in our baptismal covenant (or to anticipate our baptism!) sharing God's purpose in a world that seems to be edging closer to the precipice. Remember, God is persistent and faithful to all the promises given. We need not be afraid. We need to simply continue as best we can.

Blessings as you gather, worship, pray, resist, get up again, share joy, enact justice – as you continue in transformative ministry and upholding the family of God. You are not alone and you are much appreciated in this church.

Blessings,

Bishop Irish

ABT Synod Congregational Life Event

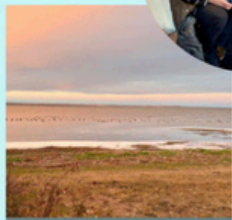
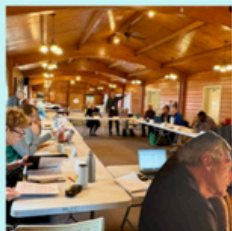
Entitled “May this church be like a tree” this gathering brought together people from across our synod to reflect on a variety of ways we can steward our church buildings.

Katja Brittain, a seasoned consultant specializing in church management, mission realignment, and sustainability was our keynote speaker. She shared her research. Katja also walked us through several guided conversations. Folks were able to share their stories, and, together, contemplate hopeful and grace-filled strategies.

It was a productive day filled with a concrete, and real-world focus on matters affecting our churches today. Thank you to Hanna J., Sasha C., and Kathy Bishop for attending this session on behalf of ELCOC.



Highlights from the Alberta & the Territories Synod Council Meeting, October 2025



Photos: ABTSynod



An introduction to the work of renewal in the ELCIC from the Dreaming for the Future Task Force team with Bishop Greg Mohr, Jane Osler, Rev. Margaret Koizumi and Reis Cooper, leading us through the discussion sessions.

Worship and singing led by our chaplain, Rev Dr Phil Holck.

Reviewing the policies of the Synod.

Passing the 2026 operating budget.

Reinforcing our hopefulness for the future of the church.

Building relationships among our people and ministries.

Special guests: National Bishop Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Tammy Kirkwood (NCC) Rev Matt Lyseng, Rev Tim Wray (Deans.)

Presentation & learning with GSI.

Thank you to Don Wedman and Bernie Hartman for the fine meals, and Mulhurst Camp for their hospitality.

Growing Together

Celebration of Campus Ministry
with

Holden Evening Prayer

Simple Supper

Fundraising Auction



Saturday, November 15, 2025

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Hope Lutheran Church

Online auction opens November 5



You are cordially invited to our annual fundraiser! Claim your FREE ticket at campusministry.ca and join Pastor Lindsey for a wonderful evening together!

Explore our work on campuses, and celebrate how much we are growing together with contemplative music, our signature simple supper, and auction... Can't wait to see y'all at Hope Lutheran Church on Nov. 15th!

Online auctions will also be open on the 5th!

ELCIC UPDATES



Urgent call to prayer as peace nears in Gaza

Dear Beloved Members of God's Family in the ELCIC, Just two days ago, we wrote in commemoration of the second anniversary of the war between Israel and Hamas. Today, our hearts are filled with hope at the news that the beginnings of a peace deal have been reached. We implore you to pray with us now that this fragile window for peace will hold and become the foundation for a lasting, just peace for all Israelis and Palestinians.

Since Hamas' mass killing and kidnapping of Israeli citizens on October 7, 2023, tens of thousands of Palestinians have been killed through imposed starvation and indiscriminate attacks, including on hospitals, schools, shelters and places of worship. Prior to the October 7 attack, decades of violence and oppression have shaped the lives of all Palestinians — who have been denied basic rights, including self-determination — and of all Israelis.

Our prayer today, as it has been for many years, is for all Palestinians and Israelis to experience the fulness of peace, safety and dignity that we believe God desires for them.

Please join us in prayer that peace would take effect immediately, with all captives released, and that humanitarian access would be immediate and unhindered so the mercy of Christ can reach all those in critical need.

Please pray with us:

God of peace, We can barely comprehend the pain and sorrow experienced by so many in Israel and Palestine these last two years. We receive this news of potential peace with broken and hopeful hearts, and we turn to you, source of hope and comfort. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders to make peace and end violence. Comfort all who grieve and answer the prayers of those longing for the sound of bombs to stop. Make straight the way for life-saving aid and healing from trauma to reach all those whose lives have been shattered by this war. Bring compassion and understanding to all, and stir in hearts a commitment to lasting peace. Amen.

In Christ Jesus, The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer
National Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Rev. Dr. Michael Pryse
Interim Executive Director Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Christians must make God's unity and reconciliation visible

The Lutheran World Federation General Secretary Rev. Dr Anne Burghardt said the task of Christians is to make visible God's unity and reconciliation, "taking the risk of being transformed" by our neighbors. Her reflections came at the conclusion of the Sixth World Conference on Faith and Order which has been taking place in Wadi El-Natrun in Egypt.

The Lutheran leader spoke about "shalom, salam, God's all-encompassing peace, that is God's will for the people of God." But she contrasted that peace with conflicts that continue to rage in countries around the world today, from the wars in Gaza, Ukraine and elsewhere, to the socio-ethical questions that continue to deeply divide families and societies. "Politicians too often only fuel these disagreements and increase polarization," she noted. Churches are challenged to offer an alternative reaction, Burghardt said, showing "respect for each other's dignity as for the dignity of God's beloved children." She asked: "Are we able to remain respectful towards each other while disagreeing on a number of issues? Or will we follow the countless examples of digging trenches on opposite sides of the road, when the road between us could lead us forward?"

We cannot create unity ourselves; God is the source of unity.

"From the way we relate to one another, the world should know we are disciples of Christ," Burghardt continued, reflecting on the nature of human relationships with God, with each other and with the whole of creation. The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, which has been a central focus of the conference, offers a perfect example of the three persons of the Trinity "fully existing in relation to one another," she said. "We cannot create unity ourselves; God is the source of unity," she concluded. "Our task is to make this unity, this reconciliation visible [...] taking the risk of being transformed by the other, by our neighbor, who also follows Christ, who is with us on the journey."

The 24 to 28 October gathering was the first World Conference since 1993 organized by the World Council of Churches (WCC) Faith and Order Commission. LWF Assistant General Secretary for Ecumenical Relations, Prof. Dirk Lange also attended the meeting, noting the importance of holding this Faith and Order Conference to mark the 1,700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea. The Council, called by the Roman Emperor Constantine, began the work of drawing up the Creed as a unifying statement of faith, to which all Christians of that era could adhere. "The Council of Nicaea sought to find new language to address misleading theologies," Lange said, "and in so doing confessed the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its day. It set the precedence for the Lutheran Confessional writings.

The Faith and Order conference was hosted by the Coptic Orthodox Church and focused its discussions on the theme 'Where now for visible unity?' It brought together theologians from different parts of the world and marked the first time that such a historic gathering has been held in the global south. Through lectures, panel discussions and small group workshops, participants "worked together to discern a way forward for Christian unity and perhaps begin answering the question: Where now?"



NOVEMBER 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Quilting Group 9:30 AM Choir 6:00 PM		1 Men's Breakfast 8 AM - 10 AM
2 All Saints Worship with Communion 10 AM Confirmation @ Cross	3 Staff Meeting 10:30 AM - 12PM	4	5 Social Ministry 10:30 AM Ukulele Group 11:30AM-1PM	6 Quilting Group 9:30 AM Choir 6:00 PM	7	8
9 Peace Sunday Worship with Communion 10 AM No Confirmation	10 Staff Meeting 10:30 AM - 12PM	11 Remembrance Day Office Closed	12 Bible Study 10 AM Ukulele Group 11:30AM-1PM Council Meeting 7-9PM	13 Quilting Group 9:30 AM Choir 6:00 PM	14	15 Men's Breakfast 8 AM - 10 AM
16 Pentecost 23 Worship with Communion 10 AM Confirmation @ Hope	17 Staff Meeting 10:30 AM - 12PM	18 Planning Meeting Seniors Lunch 10 AM Caring Connections 1 PM - 2PM	19 Ukulele Group 11:30AM-1PM	20 Quilting Group 9:30 AM	21 Community Movie Night 6pm	22
23 Christ the King Worship with Communion 10 AM Confirmation - Advent	24 Staff Meeting 10:30 AM - 12PM	25 Mission Endowment 3PM Recognizing the Stranger 7- 9 PM@Emmanuel	26 Bible Study 10 AM Ukulele Group 11:30AM-1PM Theology on Tap 7- 9 PM	27 Quilting Group 9:30 AM Choir 6:00 PM	28	29
30 Advent 1 Worship with Communion 10 AM						

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"I don't read about the saints in order to imitate them. I read about the saints because they show me something about myself."
— Karen Wright Marsh



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