

# CROSSBEAMS

Lutheran Church of the Cross



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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Beloved of God,

Near the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gives his disciples an enormous task and then closes with a promise easy to miss: "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Behold — pay attention, don't skip this part. The promise is: I am not going anywhere. Not in the way that matters.

That promise threads through every gospel text this month. We begin in John's farewell discourse, where Philip asks Jesus to "show us the Father." Jesus's answer is startling: "Have I been with you all this time, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father." The God they hoped to glimpse from a distance has already been walking with them all along.

But Jesus is still leaving — and so he makes another promise: "I will not leave you orphaned." The Spirit's coming is not a consolation prize for his absence. It is his own continued coming, in a new mode. Then, days before his death, he prays for his disciples while they are still in the room — within earshot. "Those whom you gave me," he says, returning to the phrase again and again. They are held. Named. Carried. And through the tradition that passes this prayer to us, so are we.

# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

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On Pentecost Sunday, John gives us not wind and fire but something quieter: a locked room, frightened people, and the risen Christ appearing among them. He breathes on them. It is such a physical word — the Spirit given not from a great height but up close, face to face, the way one person gives something to another. The same Greek word appears in Genesis 2, when God breathes life into the first human creature. Creation and new creation, both accomplished by breath.

One week later, Holy Trinity Sunday sends that same community out into the world — and the passage ends not with a strategy but with the promise we began with: “I am with you always.” Being filled and being sent are not two separate things. They are two moments in the same movement of God refusing to stay away.

I don't know what May holds for you — transition, difficulty, waiting, or ordinary grace. But the texts we will hear together this month keep insisting: you are not navigating it alone. The Spirit is, as best I can describe it, God's way of staying close.

In Christ, *Pastor Lindsey*

Pastor Lindsey and family wish to thank the congregation for your care, support, and help with our move last month!

We are slowly getting things unpacked and our new house is beginning to feel like a home. We look forward to inviting the congregation for an open house this summer once we are settled.

We are blessed to be a part of this community of faith!  
Pastor Lindsey, Danika, Georgia, & Elliot the dog



## COUNCIL UPDATE

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Over a series of Sundays in April and May council has continued to share with fellow congregants details of the stakeholder groups that emerged as priorities for the coming year during council's annual road mapping retreat. In addition to these short introductions, council member Lisa R. designed a visual representation of this work which is on display in the narthex. Once each stakeholder group has been introduced, there will be time at the May 24 coffee with council to receive feedback from the congregation. We look forward to these opportunities to share perspectives on this important piece of our intentions for the year ahead.

# **COUNCIL UPDATE**

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Council is also moving forward with a plan to establish a series of committees to fulfill the needs and aspirations of our church with the help of the congregation. With the Property Administration Committee well-established, Council approved a decision to move forward with two new committees – the Worship and Music Committee and the Communications Committee. Other committees which will come later include: Community Connections; Life-Long Learning, and Stewardship. If you are interested in being part of one of these committees, please speak to someone on council or email Pastor Lindsey.

As we start the second quarter of the year, Council continues to focus on ways to strengthen our financial situation.

Increasing rental of church property is a key element of how we hope to address our financial challenges, and Council is grateful for the work being done by the rental committee toward this end. The rental committee, represented by Sasha C., Lilian K., and Hanna J. joined the April council meeting to present a summary of the work they have been doing. With strong administrative foundations, such as updated rental rates, short-term rental agreements, and communication to current tenants, a path has been laid to welcome others to share in the use of our facility.

Council also received an update on the furnace replacement project from the property administration committee. Thanks to generous support, fundraising is close to reaching the matching amount needed to access the Community Facility Enhancement Program grant from the provincial government. Under the terms of the grants we have 18 months to complete this project, however council expressed a strong desire for the work to be completed in 2026 so our building continues to be a safe, welcoming place for all. With our new emphasis on attracting tenants, it is important that we are able to guarantee a positive use experience.

Council continues to carefully monitor church finances. So far this year, expenses are higher than income. This is due, in part, to seasonal giving patterns being low in the early part of the year which is also when insurance payments are due. Furthermore, comparisons to last year are affected by a one-time gift received in March 2025.

## **An invitation to our congregation:**

You are warmly invited to be part of this shared work. Please hold council and church leadership in your prayers as we seek wisdom and care for the resources entrusted to us. If you feel called to support the furnace project, spread the word about church rental opportunities, or explore new ways to share your time and gifts, we would love to hear from you. Together, we continue to grow, serve, and live Christ's love in our community.

Submitted by: Nadine S. on behalf of Church Council

# FINANCIAL UPDATE

Church of the Cross Financials through March 31, 2026				
	2026 Budget	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	March
Income	\$273,600.00	\$68,400.00	\$57,971.81	\$18,845.62
Expenses	\$296,201.00	\$74,050.25	\$90,111.98	\$29,806.53
Balance	(\$22,601.00)	(\$5,650.25)	(\$32,140.17)	(\$10,960.91)
General Fund Balance			\$16,154.98	
Furnace Fund			\$62,664.18	
Building Maintenance Fund			\$52,571.83	
Other Designated/Passthrough Funds			\$9,827.37	

*Thank you for your continued care and support of our congregation through your donations!*

## 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](http://www.churchofthecross.ca)
- You can e-transfer through your online banking to [churchofthecross@shaw.ca](mailto: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-3pm



We have an opportunity this year to share our vegetable garden with the community!

If you are interested in planting one of the beds (in whole or part) please sign-up at the church on the shelf by the mailboxes.

Reach out to Judy if you have any questions at 403 999 3873



## RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE

### Existing Facilities:

- Accessible building near transit
- Music & Performing Arts Facility
- Meeting Rooms
- Full Kitchen
- Hall for larger gatherings or receptions
- Parking on site

### BOOK NOW

- 📞 (403) 255-4792
- 📍 10620 Elbow Dr. SW
- ✉️ [Churchofthecross@shaw.ca](mailto:Churchofthecross@shaw.ca)

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS




**WE'RE HIRING**

**Summer Students**

**Church Worker:**

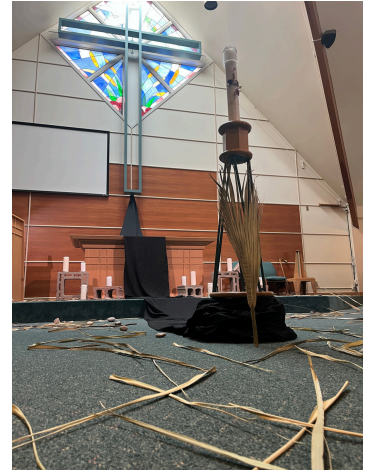
- 15.00 hourly / 30 hours per week
- Start date June 1, 2026
- Canada Summer Jobs #5264885

**Requirements:**

- Age 15 - 30 with valid social insurance number
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or a person who has been granted refugee status.

Send your resume to: [churchofthecross@shaw.ca](mailto:churchofthecross@shaw.ca)  
by May 18, 2026 to apply

# Remembering Holy Week :



# Celebrating Holy Humour Sunday:



# Upcoming Events :

## **Quilt Blessing: May 3**

We give thanks for our quilting ministry at ELCOC with a blessing of the groups labors before they are shared in our community. We pray these quilts be a sign of hope, that they wrap our neighbors in unending love, and that they are signs of dignity and healing to those in need. 30 quilts were made over the last 5 months by this dedicated crew!

## **Movie Night: May 8**

Join us for our community movie night. The movie will be held Friday May 8, 2026 in the Fellowship Hall of the Lutheran Church of the Cross (please use East entrance). Everyone is welcome! Free event and no registration required! There will be popcorn and juice available during the movie.

## **Young at Heart Senior Lunch: May 12**

Join us for Young at Heart Seniors Lunch this May - all are welcome to attend! The meal will include Chilli and Corn Salad Email or call the church office to request a ride.

## **Confirmation Sunday: May 17**

Join us May 17<sup>th</sup> for worship as we uplift Maddy J. as she affirms her Baptism. We will have the honor of holding space in the service as she shares about her journey of faith. Plan to stay for a time of celebration following service as cake is served.

## **Spring Clean-up: May 30**

Join us at Church of the Cross on May 30<sup>th</sup> between 9am-1pm for our annual spring clean-up. We will have a list of tasks we would like to like to attend to inside and outside the building. Come for an hour or stay for the morning! Either way we invite you to take a break with us at 11am for snacks and refreshments. Bring some work gloves, your go to tools, or your favorite cleaning supplies for a morning of connection and building care.

## **Blast Kids Bible Camp: May 30**


Once a month we gather with our young people from 2pm-4pm for a time of singing, learning, games, and a Bible story. We welcome kids and families who wish to learn and grow with God in an inclusive, affirming, and encouraging environmen. We welcome kids from grade 1-6 and children 5 and under with adult supervision.

## **Blessing of Seeds & Soil: May 31**

Join us for a blessing of seed and soil. We welcome you to bring seeds or soil from your garden to be blessed during the service.




# JOIN A SMALL GROUP



Join us on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm for a time of scrabble, connection, and conversation in the north meeting room. All are welcome!

Next session: March 4, 2026




*Mens Breakfast*  
ALL ARE WELCOME

May 9 & 23  
LCOC - North Meeting Room



CONNECTION  
COMMUNITY  
& BIBLE STUDY

8:00AM - 10:00AM




**SENIORS LUNCH**  
MAY 12  
11:30 AM


Join us for Young at Heart Seniors Lunch this May - all are welcome to attend!

The meal will include Chilli and Corn Salad

Email or call the church office to request a ride.



*Bible*  
**STUDY**  
All are Welcome!



May 13 & 27  
10:00 am - 11:00 am

**We can't wait  
for you to  
join us!**



*Caring Connections*



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

NEXT GATHERING:  
MAY 19, 2026




**THEOLOGY ON TAP**  
With Pastor Lindsey

Join us May 27<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm at bitter sisters pub for our last theology on tap before our summer break! RSVP with Pastor Lindsey to save your spot!




**ELQC Choir**

THURSDAYS 6PM - 7:15 PM.

ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO COME AND SING.

CONTACT CATHERINE FOR MORE INFORMATION.




**UKULELE GROUP**

We are on break till the fall! All skill levels are welcome to join us in Sept.

If you need further details, please contact Jean at [jeandacko7@gmail.com](mailto:jeandacko7@gmail.com)





# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## GOD GIVES GROWTH

### PLANT THE SEED

Stephen Ministry is our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. God works through Stephen Ministers to plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and forlorn because of some crisis or tragedy.



### WATER THE SEED

Stephen Ministry training will equip you, and our congregation will support you, so that you can show God's mercy, care, and compassion to another who is hurting. You will walk beside your care receiver, pray for him or her, and help him or her work through life's difficulties.



### GOD WILL MAKE IT GROW

Through this ministry God will bring forth new life and renewed faith in both your care receiver and in you as a Stephen Minister.

Is God calling you to serve in this way?



*I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.*  
*(1 Corinthians 3:6-9 NRSV)*

*Caring nurtures the seed of God's love—in the care receiver's heart and in yours.*



**CONFUSED ABOUT WHERE YOU'RE GOING IN LIFE**


***Follow your spiritual gifts!***

***Discovering God's Vision for Your Life:  
You and Your Spiritual Gifts***

***See the brochure on the Stephen Ministry Board***

***Talk to Hilary G or Pastor Lindsey***

# SOUTHWOOD CONNECTS:



**MONDAY MORNING MEETUPS**

Every Second Monday  
**May 11 & May 25**  
 10am-12pm  
 Southwood Community Hall - Pioneer Room  
 (11 Sackville Dr)

Drop in for a coffee and snacks  
 and meet your neighbours!

For more info contact Sarah  
 sarah.thomas@calgary.ca 368-889-5168

Calgary P&A



Free Community Art Night

## Makers Night

Join us once a month for Makers Night - a relaxed, social evening where you can work on your projects, share supplies, and connect with others.  
 All crafts and skill levels welcome!  
 We supply the snacks, basic supplies, you bring your projects!  
 No registration needed—just drop in!

**TUESDAY MAY 12**  
 7:00 - 9:00PM

Southwood Community Hall  
 11 Sackville Drive SW

Calgary P&A

## Tai Chi in Southwood

Free community series for all ages and abilities.

Connect with your body, build balance, and enjoy gentle movement with neighbours this winter!

Tai Chi is a gentle, mindful flowing practice of slow movements and deep breathing that supports overall well-being.



### What to Expect

- Resident led series.
- A welcoming, beginner-friendly class.
- Slow, gentle movements focused on balance and grounding.
- Drop in style! No registration required!
- No equipment required—just comfortable clothing and a water bottle.



### Upcoming Dates:

- Sunday, May 3 @ 3-4pm
- Sunday, May 10 @ 3-4pm
- Sunday, May 24 @ 3-4pm
- Sunday, May 31 @ 3-4pm

### Location:

Southwood Community Association  
 Pioneer Room (Lower Level)  
 11 Sackville Drive SW.

Calgary P&A Any questions? Contact Michael at michaelianderson03@live.com



Friday, May 8, 2026  
 at 6:30 PM  
**Movie: Shrek**

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

**FREE**  
 Family Friendly Film

Lutheran Church of the Cross Calgary P&A



FUNDRAISER

## SOUTHWOOD COMMUNITY GARDEN

### PLANT SALE

MAY 23 1-3PM  
 11 SACKVILLE DR DW

Please contact Sarah if you have any questions about these upcoming community events!  
 sarah.thomas@calgary.ca  
 or via phone at 368-889-5168



Southwood Community  
 Calgary's Cooking

## Cooking Group

Planning Meeting  
 First Thursday of the Month, 10 AM -1 PM

Cook  
 Second Thursday of the Month, 10 AM-3 PM

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
 10620 Elbow Dr. SW Calgary



SOUTHWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Rhubarb Festival

MUSIC • FOOD • BEER GARDEN • KIDS ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY  
 JUNE 20  
 1-5PM

SOUTHWOOD COMMUNITY HALL  
 11 SACKVILLE DR SW

For more information and to register contact Teresa:  
 nfo@southwoodcc.ca or apply at  
 www.cpkpcalgary.ca/calgarys-cooking





May 2026

Dear friends, “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” Is this a blueprint for building something bigger? No, they are a promise about what already is!

Our worth is so often measured by size, speed, and shine, making it easy to wonder if what we are doing matters. Some of us gather in full pews, voices strong and echoing. Others meet in seasons of renewal, others in seasons that feel more like winter soil, waiting.

Yet the cornerstone is not laid in numbers or visibility. It is laid in Christ. And this changes everything.

The strength of a building does not depend on how many stones it has, but on whether those stones are anchored to what is true and enduring. We are part of God’s living structure. Prayers whispered over hospital beds, shared meals in fellowship halls, quiet acts of mercy, stubborn hope in uncertain times, all of it is gathered into something holy. We are chosen and precious, because the One who calls us is faithful.

So continue!

Continue in the ministry that has been entrusted to you, whether it feels small or expansive. Continue to tell the story of Jesus, even when the world seems to prefer other narratives. Continue to serve your neighbour, even when the needs feel overwhelming. Continue to gather, sing, pray, bless, and break bread. Such things are the cornerstones of faith and community.

Why not join the upcoming workshops “Brave Changes, Shared Hope?” Rev Dr Bill Harrison will work with us on leadership for these times. May 9 (Grace Lutheran Church, Wetaskiwin) and June 6 (location TBA) Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/260976366160261>

Remember, this promise remains: whoever believes in him will not be put to shame. Not our congregations. Not our ministries. Not our faithful, everyday witness. Take heart. What we are doing matters for us and the world.

Grace and peace be with us all as we continue to live into the calling given, right where we are.

Bishop Trish Schermund  
Synod of Alberta and the Territories, ELCIC

# ELCIC UPDATE



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**

Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love

## Conversations Across the Church

You are invited to join ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer for *Conversations Across the Church* – an hour-long online gathering bringing together members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) from coast to coast.

Three *Conversations Across the Church* remain for 2026:

- May 24, 2026
- September 13, 2026
- November 29, 2026

Registration is required to attend each gathering. To register visit our national website at: <https://elcic.ca/partnerships/conversations-across-the-church/>

## Past Conversations Across the Church events:

- November 30, 2025: ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer hosts the first Conversations Across the Church event on the First Sunday of Advent – An hour of devotion, reflection and conversation. ELCIC National Church Council members also shared reflections within this segment.
- February 22, 2026: ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer hosts the second Conversations Across the Church event on the First Sunday of Lent in an hour of worship and reflection from National Church Council members, as well as conversations with three ELCIC young adults on the future of the church.

To view recordings of past *Conversations Across the Church* visit the ELCIC Youtube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@ELCIC1>

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**  
@ELCIC1 · 522 subscribers · 196 videos  
More about this channel ...more  
[elcic.ca](https://elcic.ca)  
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**For You**

Conversations Across the Church - November 30, 2025  
37 views · 1 month ago

An Easter message from ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer  
194 views · 2 weeks ago

Conversations Across the Church - February 22, 2026  
154 views · 1 month ago



# May

2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
					1	2	
<b>Easter 5</b> Quilt Blessing Worship with Communion 10 AM	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			<b>Scrabble Club</b> 1:30PM	<b>Choir</b> 6:00 PM	<b>Community</b> <b>Movie Night</b> 6:30 pm-8:30pm	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> 8:00 AM	
<b>Easter 6</b> Worship Service of the Word 10 AM	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		<b>Seniors Lunch</b> 11:30AM	<b>Bible Study</b> 10AM-11AM	<b>Choir</b> 6:00 PM			
<b>Confirmation</b> Sunday Worship with Communion 10 AM	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		<b>Caring Connections</b> 1 PM - 2PM	<b>ELCOC Council</b> 7PM-9PM	<b>Choir</b> 6:00 PM		<b>Men's Breakfast</b> 8:00 AM	
<b>Pentecost</b> Worship with Communion 10 AM	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			<b>Bible Study</b> 10AM-11AM <b>Theology On TAP</b> 7PM-9PM	<b>Choir</b> 6:00 PM		<b>Spring Clean-up</b> 9:00 AM - 1:00pm <b>Blast kids camp</b> 2:00PM - 4:00pm	
<b>Holy Trinity</b> Worship with Communion 10 AM <i>Blessing of Seeds and Soil</i>	31						



*"I am thankful that in a troubled world no calamity can prevent the return of spring." –Helen Keller*