

# SUMMER 2026



## ONLINE SERVICE DETAILS

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Connection Details for SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10:00 a.m.

**ALL SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL**  
which can be found through Hope Lutheran's website: <https://www.hopelutheran.ca/>

Connecting by phone:

1. Dial 587-328-1099
2. Then press 487-603-306 #
3. Press # again.

### Zoom

To watch our service on Zoom, click the button on our home page  
([www.hopelutheran.ca](http://www.hopelutheran.ca)).

*ZOOM is ONLY active when the service is in progress.*

### Hope Lutheran Church

3527 Boulton Road NW, Calgary, AB T2L 1M5

Office: 403-282-6033 [church@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:church@hopelutheran.ca)

Pastor Greg: 587-433-5704 [pastor.greg@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:pastor.greg@hopelutheran.ca)

Deborah: [manager@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:manager@hopelutheran.ca)

Zena: [coordinator@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:coordinator@hopelutheran.ca)



### **Faith in a Synthetic Future: Why the Church is Exactly What the World Needs**

Whenever we look toward a future dominated by artificial intelligence, digital screens, and deepfakes, it's easy to feel a little anxious. As a Lutheran community, we might wonder how our ancient traditions, physical sacraments, and face-to-face fellowships fit into a rapidly shifting, "synthetic" world.

But if we look at the history of the Church, we see a beautiful pattern: whenever the cultural ecosystem changes, the Church adapts. When the Roman Empire collapsed, monastic communities preserved literacy and community. When the printing press was invented, Lutherans were on the cutting edge of the new technology, using it to put grace into the everyday language of ordinary people.

Today, the environment is shifting again. But here is the good news: our congregation is sitting on the exact antidote the culture is looking for. In a world where everything can be faked, automated, and simulated, un-synthesized human presence becomes a priceless gift. AI can spit out fast answers, but it cannot sit with someone in the messy, gray paradoxes of life. The metaverse can offer digital connections, but it cannot offer the physical warmth of shared bread, wine, water, and neighborly love.

As we step into tomorrow, our pivot isn't about beating Silicon Valley at its own game. It's about doubling down on our deeply Lutheran, incarnational DNA. We are called to be a living sanctuary of:

**Radical Presence:** Prioritizing tactile, real-world connections over superficial performance.

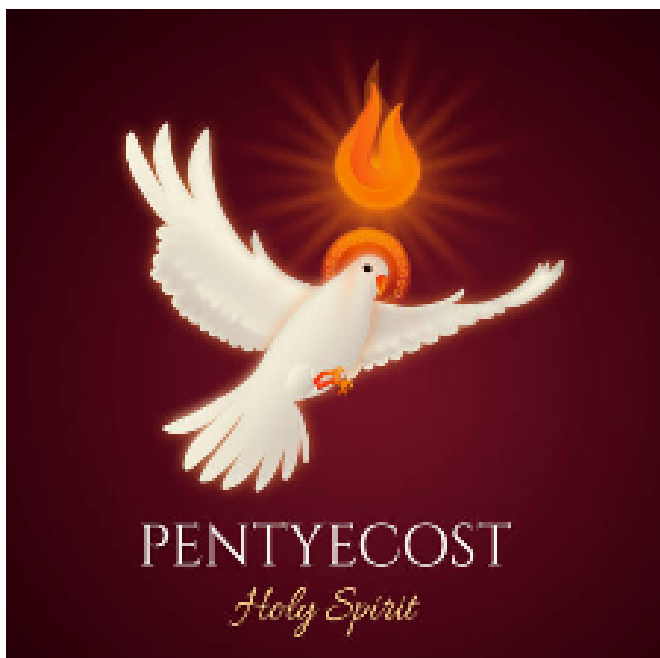
**Safe Space:** Welcoming doubt, nuance, and questions over algorithmic certainty. Perhaps a good slogan could be, ***"We don't have all the answers, but we will love you through the questions!"***

**Sacred Value:** Reminding our neighbors that their worth is rooted in being a beloved child of God, not in their economic productivity or digital branding.

As the prophet Isaiah reminds us, **"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Isaiah 43:19).**

The future doesn't belong to the forces of anxiety; it belongs to the God of resurrection. Let's open our eyes to the rivers starting to flow right here in our neighborhood, and step into tomorrow together with hope.

Pastor Greg



## **Pentecost Season Summer Series**

*“From Resurrection to Renewal”*

*The Pentecost journey will focus on how the Holy Spirit renews hearts, churches, communities, and the world.*

*July 5 “Renewed through Rest”*

*July 12 “Renewed for Growth”*

*July 19 “Renewed in Patience”*

*July 26 “Renewed by the Treasure of Grace”*

*August 2 “Renewed by God’s Abundance”*

*August 9 “Renewed Amid the Storm”*

*August 16 “Renewed Beyond Boundaries”*

*August 23 “Renewed by Mercy”*

*August 30 “Renewed Through the Cross”*

*“The Spirit is still moving.*

*Christ is still renewing.*

*God is still calling us forward.”*

***Notice the green in the sanctuary? It is a reminder that this season in the church year focuses on our spiritual growth. It is a reminder that Jesus continues his ministry through us. The colours are changed by our Altar Guild. It is an important ministry of sharing the gospel through visual arts. We are always looking for more participants for this service. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Greg.***

# Discover HOPE

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

— HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH —

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.

*Romans 15:13*



*Welcome*

Discovering God's Hope Together

Discover Hope is an opportunity to learn who we are as a church family, explore our Lutheran faith, meet others, and discover ways God may be calling you to participate in the life and mission of Hope.

1



### WELCOME TO HOPE

- Our story: Who is Hope Lutheran Church?
- Our mission and vision
- What makes Hope unique?
- Meeting one another: faith stories and journeys



**Discussion:**  
"What brought you to Hope?"

2



### DISCOVERING OUR FAITH

- Who is Jesus?
- What does it mean to be saved by grace?
- The Bible as God's Word
- Lutheran foundations:
  - Grace alone
  - Faith alone
  - Scripture alone



**Key Scripture:**  
"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith."  
– Ephesians 2:8

3



### LIVING LUTHERAN

- Worship and the church year
- Baptism and Holy Communion
- Prayer and spiritual growth
- What happens on Sunday morning and why?



**Activity:**  
A walk through worship:  
"Why do we do what we do?"

4



### GROWING TOGETHER

- Faith is not lived alone
- Small groups, Bible studies, fellowship
- Children, youth, and family ministry
- Caring ministries and outreach



**Key Scripture:**  
"We are members of one another."  
– Romans 12:5

5



### SERVING GOD'S MISSION

- Discovering your gifts
- Sharing God's love in our community
- How Hope serves others
- Moving from being a visitor to being part of the family



**Question:**  
"Where is God inviting me to make a difference?"

6



### WELCOME HOME

- Questions and conversation
- Membership commitment
- Blessing and prayer
- Celebration with the congregation



**Closing Thought:**  
Hope is more than a place we attend—it is a family where we grow, serve, forgive, and share the love of Jesus together.



### YOU ARE INVITED!

Whether you are new to faith, returning to church, transferring from another congregation, or simply exploring, Discover Hope is a place to ask questions, build relationships, and find your place in God's story.

*Belong. Grow. Serve.*  
*Discover Hope. ♥*

## Discover Hope: New Members Class

Are you looking to plant deeper roots at Hope Lutheran Church? Whether you've been worshipping with us for weeks or months, we invite you to take the next step in your faith journey by joining our upcoming New Members Class.

Offered three times a year—every September, January, and April—this class is a relaxed, welcoming environment designed to help you get plugged into our community.

## Mark Your Calendar

**Next Class Date:** Sunday, September 27, 2026

**Time:** Immediately following the morning worship service

**New Member Welcome:** Sunday, October 4, 2026 (during the worship service)

## What to Expect

**Lutheran Basics:** Explore the core foundations of Lutheran Christianity and learn more about the specific vision and ministry of Hope Lutheran.

**Community & Connection:** Enjoy a dedicated time to meet other newcomers, share stories, and build meaningful relationships. A meal will be provided.

**Q&A:** Bring your questions! This is a casual, low-pressure space to get to know our church family better.

## How to Sign Up

If you are interested in attending the September class, please let us know so we can prepare a spot for you! You can RSVP by: speaking directly with Pastor Greg or by contacting the church office.

**We can't wait to walk alongside you in faith and officially welcome you into the Hope Lutheran family!**



## **New Morning Prayer Service Beginning This September**

Looking for a quiet, reflective start to your Sunday? Beginning September 27 at 9:00 AM, we are introducing a new **Morning Prayer Service** meeting in the Matthew classroom.

This service will gather on the 4th Sunday of every month and offers a traditional, contemplative alternative to our contemporary service that meets at 10:00 AM. Whether you are looking to deepen your prayer life or simply prefer an earlier, quieter worship experience, all are welcome to join us.

**When:** 4th Sunday of the month, starting September 27 at 9:00 AM

**Where:** The Matthew Classroom

**What:** A peaceful, liturgical Morning Prayer alternative led by Pastor Greg



### **Digging Deeper: Growing Roots in the Word**

We will be taking a break this summer during the months of July and August. Digging Deeper will resume on Wednesday, September 16 at 10:00 AM.

**save the dates!**

**JULY 26TH, 2026**

**AUGUST 30TH, 2026**

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Kids will enjoy skits, worship, crafts, games, fellowship & lunch.

Youth are encouraged to attend! Come and enjoy the company of your peers with board game fun.



To register, please visit <http://adventlutheran.ca/camp-sunday>


**Camp Sundays are a collaboration between Advent and Hope Lutheran churches.**




Children, youth, adults, and families are invited to join us for **Splash Week** at Advent, July 13th - 17th, 2026!

Splash Week is a church-wide summer experience of faith, fun, service, and community centered on the theme "**God's Living Water Gives Us New Life!**" Throughout the week, participants will explore five stories of water and discover how God cares for us, claims us, speaks to us, teaches us, and sends us into the world.

 **Children ages 5 - 12** are invited to participate in **Little Streams**, a five-day program featuring Bible stories, music, drama, crafts, games & snacks. The program will run from 9:00 AM–1:00 PM daily.

 **Youth ages 12 - 20** will have opportunities to connect through **Deep Waters**, a special camp-inspired evening gathering on **Thursday, July 16th**, featuring food, games, friendship, and meaningful conversations about life and faith. More details to come!

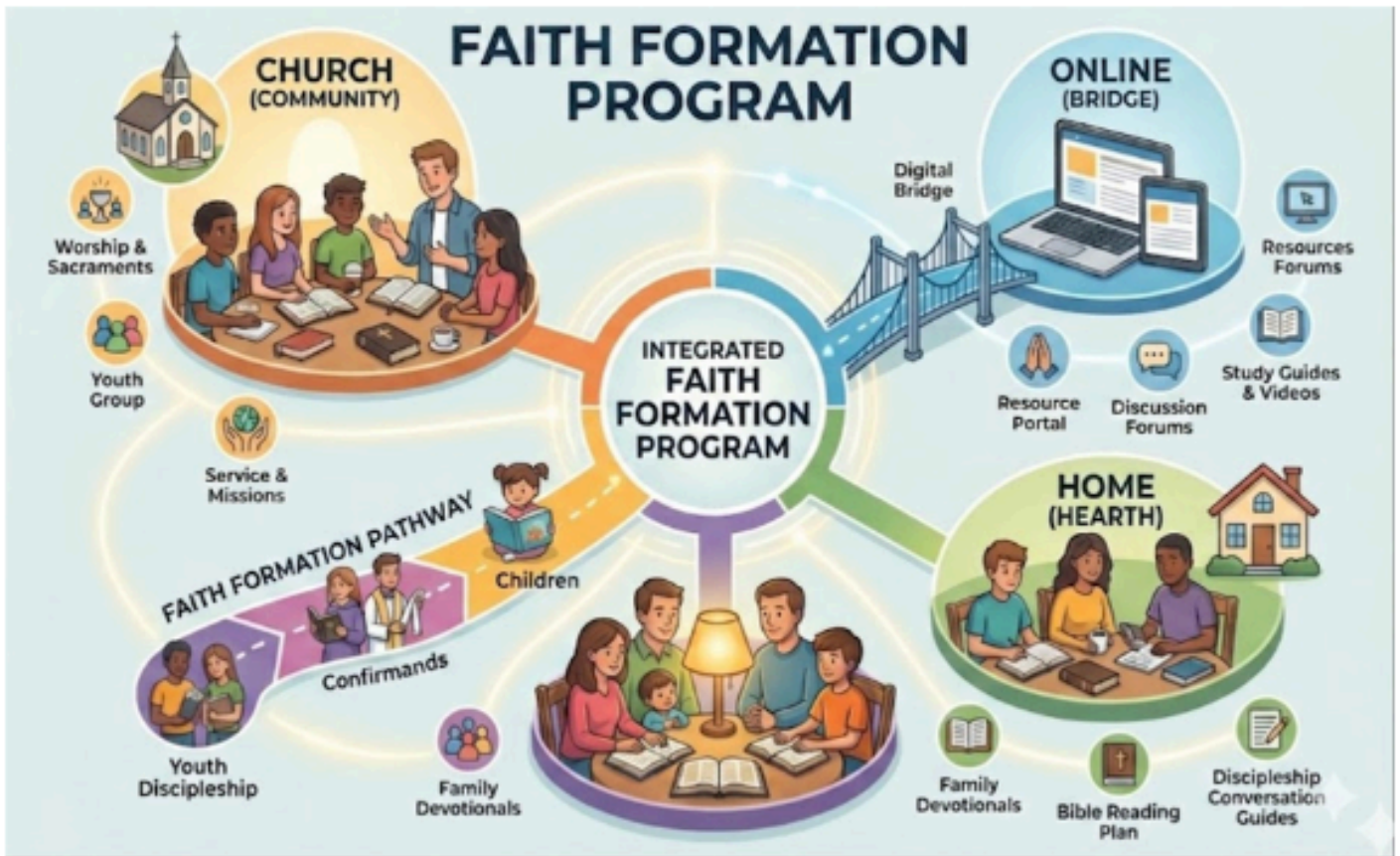
 **Adults** are also invited to participate through intergenerational storytelling, faith-sharing, and community connection opportunities throughout the week.

More information and registration information will be available soon at [adventlutheran.ca/splash](https://adventlutheran.ca/splash).

**This program is a collaboration between Advent and Hope Lutheran churches.**

# FAITH FORMATION

## A New Confirmation Experience



### ***Introducing: Faith Formation for the 21st Century!***

Raising grounded, faithful kids in today's fast-paced world can feel like a daunting task. That's why we are thrilled to share our renewed vision for Faith Formation—a holistic, lifelong approach to discipleship designed for real 21st-century lives.

Our curriculum isn't just about Sunday mornings; it's built on **four core Lutheran truths** that anchor us: **Grace Alone** (relieving the pressure of perfectionism), **Word & Sacrament**, acknowledging we are uniquely **Saint & Sinner**, and putting our **Faith Active in Love** out in our neighborhoods.

## ***The 3-Tier Delivery Approach: Meeting Families Where They Are***

We know life is busy, so we are delivering this ministry through three distinct spaces:

**The Community (In the Classroom):** High-relational, face-to-face learning on Sundays with small-group discussion tables and trusted adult mentors.

**The Bridge (Online Component):** Missed a Sunday due to sports or travel? A dedicated online hub will host a quick 5-minute video recap and reflection prompt to keep your student connected.

**The Hearth (Parent Resources):** We will partner with parents without overwhelming you. Look forward to The Weekly Text (one Bible verse and one dinner table conversation starter) and the simple Faith 5 daily home ritual.

## ***A Lifelong Journey: The Scope & Sequence***

**Foundations of Faith (Ages 3–10):** Children will explore “The Narrative Arc”—the grand, chronological stories of the Bible, the life of Jesus, and the rhythms of the church year through storytelling and music.

**Covenant & Catechism (Ages 11–14):** Our middle schoolers will dive into scripture and Luther’s Small Catechism, moving from “hearing stories” to asking what they mean for real life. We are excited to collaborate again with Advent and Lutheran Church of the Cross for this pastor-led tier! Stay tuned for more details on the 2026-2027 schedule and new tweaks to the program.

**Living Vocation (Ages 15–18):** High schoolers will gather in discussion-based cohorts to apply faith to daily pressures—stress, ethics, mental health, and future choices.

## ***Youth in Action: Post-Confirmation Leadership***

Confirmation isn’t graduation! Our high school youth will step into active leadership as Peer Mentors for middle school confirmation tables, lead local service cohorts, and take on vital liturgical roles on Sunday mornings as assisting ministers, musicians, and tech crew members.

## ***How You Can Partner With Us***

A vision this rich takes a whole village. We are looking for adult mentors, storytellers, tech-savvy helpers, and prayer partners. Whether you are a parent, a grandparent, or a supportive member of the congregation, there is a place for you to help shape the next generation of disciples.

Keep an eye out for upcoming information sessions and launch dates this Fall!

**HOPE**  
Lutheran  
Church

**LISTENING LOUNGE**

*Coffee & Conversations  
with Pastor Greg*

A warm, welcoming space for neighbours and community members to talk, share, ask questions, or simply be heard—over a comforting cup of coffee.

**WALK-IN HOURS**  
Mondays • 10am–12noon  
Thursdays • 10am–12noon

**VIRTUAL LISTENING LOUNGE**  
First Monday • **8–10pm** of each month.  
Email the church office to receive the Zoom link.  
[church@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:church@hopelutheran.ca)

**LOCATION**  
Hope Lutheran Church Calgary  
3527 Boulton Rd NW  
Calgary, AB T2L 1M5

403.282.6033  
[church@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:church@hopelutheran.ca)

† *An Act of Grace, Listening, and Care*

...but please note Pastor Greg's summer absences below!

## Pastor Greg's Summer Break Schedule

We will be taking a break this summer during the months of July and August.

**July 22-29:** Pastor Zoey will be the pastor on July 26.

**August 5-12:** Pastor Margaret Koizumi will be the pastor on August 9 and she will have some students joining her from Lutheran Campus Ministries.

*For pastoral emergencies during these weeks, please contact the office.*

# MESSAGE FROM MANAGER OF PARISH OPERATIONS

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## Growing Together in Community and Purpose

June has been a month of connection, collaboration, and steady progress across Hope's ministries. As we move through the summer, our team continues to strengthen both our internal systems and our shared life together.

We ended June with our first Hope Happy Workplace Hub lunch gathering, where staff shared cultural dishes, stories, and celebrated Zena and Megan's birthdays. This joyful time together reminded us that nurturing a healthy workplace culture is part of nurturing a healthy church. We look forward to our next potluck in July.

Our office team has begun planning the September 2026–June 2027 ministry year, laying early foundations for a smooth and coordinated fall season. In July, we also launch Pastor Greg's weekly Listening Lounge pastoral care sessions, offering a dedicated space for spiritual support and compassionate listening.

June brought meaningful community moments as well. The Ladies Night Line Dancing event welcomed 19 participants for an evening of fun and connection — many thanks to Zena and her family for organizing. Our Children and Youth Ministry continue to grow, with a proposed new name — Faith Formation Ministry — and recruitment for the Children & Youth Coordinator beginning in August.

Hope is also expanding its partnerships. Through the Calgary Lutheran Youth Ministry initiative, we are collaborating with other Lutheran churches to co-organize monthly youth activities. Our Chinese Ministry continues steadily, and we are exploring future collaboration with Hosanna Chinese Lutheran Church following a positive first meeting in June.

Operationally, June marked the full handover of facility rental responsibilities, supported by the revised Hope Facility Use and Rental Policy and updated rental documents, strengthening our stewardship of Hope's physical building through organized rentals and facility use.

In June, the Strategic Planning Retreat affirmed a multicultural ministry focus for the next 3–5 years, supported by the preretreat survey analysis submitted to council on June 18. Our team also joined the 2026 Synod Area Gathering, where we received helpful learning and inspiration from our wider Lutheran community.

Finally, we celebrate a small but meaningful improvement to our shared space: the arrival of the new kitchen fridge on June 16. Thank you to Mark for coordinating this upgrade.

As we continue through the summer, I am grateful for the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and ministry partners. Each step we take — in planning, organizing, and building relationships — strengthens Hope's mission to be a place of welcome, care, and purpose for all who enter.

With gratitude,

**Deborah Leung**  
Manager of Parish Operations

# MESSAGE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

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## A Message from Your Council Chair

Dear siblings in Christ,

As the calendar turns and the days stretch out, we find ourselves entering a beautiful, distinct season. Summer invites us to step out of our "regular season" routines and step into a holy rhythm of **reflection, connection, and renewal**. Looking back, it is incredible to think about where we have been and where we are going. A lot has happened since last summer, when we officially called Pastor Greg as our permanent pastor! This past year has been a beautiful whirlwind of growth and transition. Thank you for your incredible contributions, your deep discernment, your trust, and your patience. We are a stronger, more vibrant church family because of each of you.

### Embracing God's Summer Rhythms

For many of us, summer means connection outside of our usual schedules. Whether you are heading off to Family Camp at Kuriakos, welcoming visiting family, traveling across the country, or simply escaping to the peace of lakes and forests, I pray you find God in those spaces. This is a time for renewal. A time for intentional rest, slowing down, and allowing ourselves to be part of the natural, restorative rhythms of God's creation.

### How Council is Reflecting, Connecting, and Renewing

Your Church Council is embracing these exact same elements over the summer months, blending essential business with intentional pauses. Here is a look at what we're up to:

- **Reflection (Our Strategic Direction):** We are looking ahead to our next chapter. You are warmly invited to be part of the discussion surrounding our new 3-5 year strategic plan, **"Growing in Hope: One Body, Many Stories."** This plan incorporates a vital new multicultural lens. *Please see the accompanying article in this newsletter for more details on the plan and how you can help shape it.*
- **Connection (The Chinese Ministry Team):** We are thrilled to be formalizing our new Chinese Ministry Team! This inaugural group will steward the beautiful relationships, resources, and opportunities that have emerged as former Unity Mission members have joined our Hope family. **If you would like to be part of this foundational team, please let Pastor Greg or Anne know.**
- **Renewal (Slowing Down to Prepare):** To give our council members a chance to rest and recharge, we will not be holding a meeting in July. Instead, we are using this quieter season to focus our energy behind the scenes by re-forecasting the budget and finalizing the strategic plan so we are fully ready for the exciting season ahead this fall.

Wherever your paths lead you over the coming weeks, please know that you go with the prayers of your church leadership. May your summer be filled with laughter, deep rest, and sacred connection.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy, and blessed summer season!

In gratitude and peace,  
Anne

# Growing in Hope: One Body, Many Stories

## A New Focus for a New Strategic Plan

Following the consensus of our council and staff at our recent strategic planning retreat, Hope Lutheran Church is intentionally adopting a **multicultural lens** to guide our community life over the next three to five years.



### ***What does it mean to “take a multicultural lens”?***

To “take a **multicultural lens**” means that multicultural ministry is not a new program, a separate initiative, or a specific group that meets at 2PM on Thursdays. It is a **way of seeing** — a pair of glasses we intentionally put on whenever we look at our ministries, our operations, our people, and our resources.

We will continue to have our governance committees (*Council, Finance, Personnel, and Facilities*); our core ministries of *Worship & Music, Community Care* (including care for seniors and those in transition), *Faith Formation* (formerly Children & Youth), and the emerging *Chinese Ministry*; and key programs, groups, and events like *Wednesday Bible Study, Stitching for Hope, Men’s Breakfast, Mid-week Lenten Services, the Gathering Table, Fall Fair*, and of course the *Stampede Breakfast*. What changes is not *what* we do, but **how** we approach everything we do.

### **Culture - A Society’s Personality**

Culture is, in many ways, a society’s personality, or **the way of life** for an entire community. It is the sum total of learned beliefs, values, customs, communication styles, and behaviours that shape how people think, relate, and make decisions. Culture is learned, shared, and passed on. It influences how people worship, learn, communicate, and belong.

When we speak of **multicultural** ministry, we are not referring only to geography, race, or ethnicity. Culture is also reflected in our mindsets, socio-economic backgrounds, ages, occupations, genders, and life stages. Every one of these shapes how people experience church. Every one of these is part of culture.

## How a Multicultural Lens Shapes Ministry

Taking a multicultural lens means that the **approach, attitude, and execution** of every committee, ministry, program, group, and event will be shaped by this broader understanding of culture. It invites us to ask:

- Who is already here?
- Who is not here yet?
- Whose stories, needs, and gifts are we not seeing?
- How do we design, communicate, and welcome in ways that honour the diversity God has already placed among us?

Over the next three to five years, this will also shape how we connect with people online through our digital presence and how we steward our physical building through rentals and facility use.

## Rooted in Lutheran Theology

This commitment to multiculturalism is deeply rooted in our Lutheran theology and history. As a church tradition grounded in grace and the belief that the Holy Spirit is continuously reforming us, we look to the New Testament truth that the body of Christ is made up of many unique, indispensable parts. A multicultural lens simply helps us see those parts more clearly.

## Balancing Outreach and “In-reach”

Having a multicultural lens is not just about outreach to cultural groups who are not currently reflected in our pews. Just as importantly, it is about looking inward. It is about **cultural sharing**:

- deepening our own understanding of each other,
- exploring where we come from,
- hearing each others’ stories,
- and celebrating the diverse heritages that already shape us as unique members of this faith community.

By seeing through this lens, we ensure that our promise of belonging is **real**, rooted in faith, and felt by everyone.

## Mission, Vision, Values

**Mission:** Our Hope is to worship God, celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ our Saviour, share in Christ's community, and witness Jesus' love to the world.

**Vision:** To be a vibrant, joyful, dynamic, and creative community. A spiritual home built on faith and grace as the foundation, where belonging is the promise and compassion is our way of life.

**Values:** Belonging. Grace. Faithfulness. Compassion.

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to be intentional about *how* we intend to live out our values and *what* work we will undertake that moves us toward our shared vision. The timeframe for this Strategic Plan is from 2026 (September) through to 2031 and is based on the information we have today (summer 2026). Council will

review the Strategic Plan annually to evaluate outcomes, affirm learnings, and make adjustments as appropriate.

## Strategic Plan At A Glance

<b>Phase &amp; Timeline</b>	<b>Strategic Focus (what we will prioritize)</b>	<b>Vision Statement Emphasis (How the vision anchors this phase)</b>
<b>Phase 1:</b> Foundation & Learning  Sept 2026 – Dec 2027	<b>Listening, Learning, and Structural Assessment</b>  Focusing internal efforts on shifting mindsets, building cross-cultural trust, learning from community experts, and auditing our digital platforms and aligning our facility use toward cultural sharing and vibrancy.	<i>"...built on faith and grace as the foundation, where belonging is the promise..."</i>  Focusing on humility, open ears, and ensuring our foundational structures—both online and in our building—are accessible to all.
<b>Phase 2:</b> Connection & Engagement  Jan 2028 – Aug 2029	<b>Cultivation, Connection, and Active Alignment</b>  Focusing efforts outward and inward by creating spaces for cultural sharing, launching a broader multicultural digital strategy, strengthening programs that cultivate connection, and serving alongside cultural communities.	<i>"To be a vibrant, joyful, dynamic, and creative community..."</i>  Focusing on active, visible, and creative expressions of our shared life online, in our neighborhood, and within our walls.
<b>Phase 3:</b> Alignment & Evaluation  Sept 2029 – Aug 2031	<b>Reflection, Assessment, and Vision Discernment</b>  Focusing on checking in with the congregation, measuring the health of our relational, financial, digital, and physical spaces against our vision, and deciding future long-term directions.	<i>"...where compassion is our way of life."</i>  Focusing on deep listening, caring for the health of the community, and discerning how well we are keeping our promises.

## Help Shape Our Next Steps

This strategic direction is the culmination of years of engagement through discussion, surveys, meetings, and discernment among our church family and leadership. While Council and staff are in agreement that taking a multicultural lens is where God is calling us to explore and serve over the coming years, we are keen to continue walking this path alongside everyone in the Hope community.

Thank you for taking the time to read about where we're heading. If you have questions, ideas, concerns, or excitement to share, please know that Council wants to hear it all and is committed to incorporating your feedback to the greatest extent possible. Throughout the month of July and into August, please reach out and share your thoughts with any member of Council or staff.

Specifically, please plan to join us in the fireside room after worship on July 19th for some focused conversation. We'll share more examples about what we have in mind for the next 18 months and beyond, and welcome your questions and suggestions to strengthen the approach.



## HOPE FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

### END OF MAY 2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Looking at the monthly data for May, we note that expenses out pace revenues by \$751.00. This can be explained due to an error in not reporting all the May offerings and rental monies in the month of May. These amounts were input on June 1 and will be reflected in June's month end numbers. I take full responsibility for this reporting error.

		2026			2025		2026 v 2025
		Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>Revenues</b>	Offerings	23,980	27,904	-3,924	26,939	27,600	-2,959
	Committee & Activities	650	100	550	50	116	600
	Administration & Property	8,888	11,989	-3,101	7,980	5,517	908
<b>Revenues Total</b>		<b>33,518</b>	<b>39,993</b>	<b>-6,475</b>	<b>34,969</b>	<b>33,233</b>	<b>-1,451</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	Wages & Benefits	22,603	23,769	1,166	20,207	20,089	-2,396
	Committee & Activities	606	1,910	1,304	771	3,577	165
	Administration & Property	8,727	7,808	-919	5,617	8,942	-3,110
	Synod & Ministry	2,333	1,666	-667	0	1,500	-2,333
<b>Expenses Total</b>		<b>34,269</b>	<b>35,153</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>26,595</b>	<b>34,108</b>	<b>-7,674</b>
<b>Extended Mini Synod &amp; Ministry</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Extended Ministry Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<b>-751</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>-5,591</b>	<b>8,374</b>	<b>-876</b>	<b>-9,126</b>

As of the end of May, year-to-date revenue exceeds expenses by \$14,394. Offerings are ahead of both the 2026 budget by \$1,359 and the 2025 actual amount by \$6,272. Expenses are also below both the 2026 budget by \$17,999 and the 2025 actual amount by \$11,274.

We will have a couple of unexpected expenses coming due shortly. A new fridge for the kitchen is required. We did have some graffiti vandalism on the west wall of the church in April. We brought in a graffiti removal firm to rectify the issue. The cost of these two expenses should be between \$2000 and \$2500.

Our directed giving year to date total is \$5,832 and includes funds directed to Lutheran Campus Ministry. ELCIC benevolence is \$8,333.

		2026			2025		2026 v	
		Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	2025	
								Variance
<b>Revenues</b>	Offerings	133,984	132,625	1,359	127,712	138,000	6,272	
	Committee & Activities	1,300	500	800	-125	580	1,425	
	Administration & Property	33,715	38,984	-5,269	32,675	27,583	1,040	
	<b>Revenues Total</b>	<b>168,999</b>	<b>172,109</b>	<b>-3,110</b>	<b>160,263</b>	<b>166,163</b>	<b>8,736</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>	Wages & Benefits	88,563	103,356	14,793	101,035	100,446	12,472	
	Committee & Activities	6,054	7,660	1,606	10,358	16,962	4,304	
	Administration & Property	51,655	53,259	1,604	48,486	52,633	-3,169	
	Synod & Ministry	8,333	8,330	-3	6,000	7,500	-2,333	
	<b>Expenses Total</b>	<b>154,606</b>	<b>172,604</b>	<b>17,999</b>	<b>165,879</b>	<b>177,541</b>	<b>11,274</b>	
	Extended Mini Synod & Ministry	0	0	0	-100	0	-100	
	<b>Extended Ministry Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100</b>	
	<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>14,394</b>	<b>-495</b>	<b>14,889</b>	<b>-5,717</b>	<b>-11,378</b>	<b>20,110</b>	

Thanks to all for your continued financial support for our congregation.

Steve Medhurst  
 Hope Council-Financial Liaison



As part of our commitment to supporting families in our neighbourhood, we are pleased to share this community resource offering early-learning opportunities that help children grow physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally. They have one location inside Hope Lutheran Church!



**Full & Half Day  
Child Care Programs**

**Early literacy based Pre-Kindergarten and  
Kinder Care classes for children ages 3 - 6**

Our program provides an opportunity for children to grow physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally while in a safe and stimulating environment.

**Registration Now Open for the  
2026 - 2027 school year**

**[Register@PreKindergartenEd.com](mailto:Register@PreKindergartenEd.com)**

## **Our First Multicultural Story: The Chinese Ministry at Hope** A Story of Migration, Ministry, and God's Faithfulness

By KC Lo, Ada Lo, & Deborah Leung

### **1. The First Wave: Hong Kong Immigration in the 1980s–1990s**

The story of Chinese ministry in Calgary begins with the first major wave of Hong Kong immigration in the 1980s and 1990s. After the 1984 SinoBritish Joint Declaration confirmed that Hong Kong would return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, many families faced deep uncertainty about the future. Canada became a place of hope and stability.

Newcomers arrived with limited English, few relatives, and little familiarity with Canadian systems and culture. Many rebuilt their lives from the ground up, relying on resilience and the desire to create a secure future for their children. During this time, churches became essential places of welcome. They offered friendship, cultural guidance, and practical support at a moment when many newcomers felt isolated. For countless Hong Kong families, the church was the first community that helped them feel at home.

## **2. Churches as Places of Community and Support**

One of the most meaningful ways churches supported newcomers was through ESL—English as a Second Language—programs. Learning English was essential for daily life and employment. In Calgary, an English-speaking congregation recognized this need and encouraged a leader to establish what became the Agape Language Centre.

The ministry began with only two Chinese students. Yet the founders trusted God’s calling, and the program grew quickly—first to 30 students, then 50, and eventually 70 within a year and a half. As the student body expanded, the ministry developed into a full learning centre offering language instruction, cultural orientation, and practical skills for life in Canada. Students were introduced to hymn singing and invited into the worship life of the church. An alumni community formed and became active in congregational life, even helping raise funds for a youth ministry building. Today, the Agape Language Centre continues to serve newcomers from many backgrounds, a testament to how God grows ministry from small beginnings.

## **3. The Formation of Hosanna Chinese Lutheran Church**

As more Cantonese-speaking newcomers arrived in Calgary, the need for worship and ministry in Cantonese became increasingly evident. With support from the ELCIC, the first Chinese Lutheran Mission congregation in Calgary was officially founded on December 3, 1989. Rev. K. Wong was called to lead this emerging ministry. Over the next seven years, the congregation grew steadily, eventually welcoming more than seventy worshippers. With the encouragement and blessing of the Alberta Synod’s Canadian Missions program, the community reached an important milestone: on October 6, 1996, Hosanna Chinese Lutheran Church was officially constituted as a church. A service of thanksgiving and celebration marked this significant moment in the life of the congregation—the first Cantonese-speaking Lutheran congregation in Calgary.

In the years that followed, the congregation experienced a period of human-resource restructuring. During this time, a group of members, together with a pastor, discerned a call toward a renewed direction and a fresh start. This group eventually left Hosanna and formed a new congregation known as Abundant Life Lutheran Church.

## **4. The Abundant Life Lutheran Community**

Abundant Life Lutheran Church carried forward the desire to serve Cantonese-speaking families, offering renewed stability, community, and shared mission. It became a spiritual home for many families navigating the challenges of immigration and settlement.

Several years later, national decisions within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) regarding LGBTQ inclusion created theological tension within Abundant Life. The congregation eventually divided into two groups—those who supported the ELCIC’s direction and those who did not. The pastor led the group that supported the ELCIC’s position into a new ministry direction, which eventually developed into Lutheran Care Ministry (LCM) and Calgary Lutheran Unity Mission (Unity).

## **5. The Second Wave: Renewed Hong Kong Immigration (2019–Present)**

A second wave of Hong Kong immigration began around 2019, driven by renewed political and social upheaval. Many residents—especially young adults, students, and families—again sought stability

abroad. Alberta became increasingly attractive because of its affordability, educational opportunities, and growing Hong Kong diaspora. This new wave created fresh ministry opportunities for Lutheran communities in Calgary.

## **6. The Formation of LCM**

In response to the increasing number of newcomers from Hong Kong, Lutheran Care Ministry (LCM) was formed under Synod funding, with Rev. Peter Chau serving as a key leader. LCM focused specifically on supporting Hong Kong immigrants—students, families, and individuals arriving in Calgary with little preparation or support. Its purpose was to embody Christ’s compassion through practical care, community connection, and spiritual support.

LCM’s work centred on outreach: welcoming newcomers, helping them navigate life in Canada, and building bridges of care and community. Through workshops, gatherings, and pastoral support, LCM became a vital point of contact for many Hong Kong families seeking stability and belonging in a new country.

## **7. The Birth and Closure of Calgary Lutheran Unity Mission (2022–2026)**

Alongside LCM’s outreach ministry, a worshipping community began to take shape. This group, known as the Chinese Lutheran Fellowship (CLF), gathered regularly for God’s gospel and fellowship. CLF was the spiritual heart of the Cantonese-speaking community, rooted in the needs and experiences of Hong Kong newcomers and shaped by their desire for a faith community in their own language.

Building on the worshipping life of CLF, Calgary Lutheran Unity Mission (Unity) was formally established in September 2022. Unity met at Hope and sought to develop a church-based ministry with regular worship, pastoral care, and congregational structure. While LCM continued as an outreach ministry, Unity became the formal congregational expression of the Cantonese-speaking community.

Unity grew for a time but eventually faced significant challenges. Attendance declined, Synod funding was scheduled to end, and the ministry faced internal leadership challenges that made long-term sustainability difficult. The ministry was formally dissolved in March 2026.

## **8. Where We Are Today: Hope’s Ongoing Partnership and Opportunity**

After Unity dissolved, Hope Lutheran Church discerned a call to care for the remaining Unity members who wished to continue worshipping and serving together. With generosity and openness, Hope welcomed this group into its congregational life, ensuring continuity of pastoral care, community, and spiritual support. This transition marked the beginning of a new chapter: a Chinese ministry rooted directly within Hope, shaped by God’s calling and Hope’s commitment to hospitality.

The needs of Hong Kong newcomers remain significant, and Hope is uniquely positioned to offer stability, belonging, and a spiritual home. The story of Hong Kong immigration—past and present—reminds us that God continues to bring people into our midst seeking safety, community, and faith. Hope Lutheran Church has the privilege of walking alongside them, trusting that God will continue to guide this ministry into the future.

## WORSHIP NEWS

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Our Cantonese community joins us in the sanctuary for service. They will leave to gather for a Cantonese service (currently in the Mark classroom). Then they will return to the sanctuary for communion and the remainder of the service.

**Ushers** are needed over the summer months - please contact Zena.

**Coffee after Sunday Worship** – This is a never-ending ask, but we drink a lot of coffee around here! So please consider signing up one Sunday to set up and clean up the coffee. Ask for a helping hand. If you have questions, please contact Zena.



We are thankful to have gained some more Home Visitation volunteers! The first Sunday of each month, home communion kits will be blessed and given to our volunteers who will then visit our homebound members. Would you like Home Communion, a visit or phone call? Please contact Zena at [coordinator@hopelutheran.ca](mailto:coordinator@hopelutheran.ca)

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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### BIBLE STUDY

We will take a break from bible study over the summer. Bible study will resume Wednesdays at 10:00am on September 16, 2026.

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS – JULY & AUGUST 2026

**Wednesday, July 01:** Psalm 47; Isaiah 51:1-3; Matthew 11:20-24

**Thursday, July 02:** Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 25:19-27; Romans 7:1-6

**Friday, July 03:** Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 27:1-17; Romans 7:7-20

**Saturday, July 04:** Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 27:18-29; Luke 10:21-24

**Sunday, July 05:** Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

**Monday, July 06:** Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 27:30-46; Romans 1:18-25

**Tuesday, July 07:** Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:1-14; Romans 3:1-8

**Wednesday, July 08:** Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:31-35; John 13:1-17

**Thursday, July 09:** Psalm 119:105-112; Exodus 3:1-6; Romans 2:12-16

**Friday, July 10:** Psalm 119:105-112; Deuteronomy 32:1-10; Romans 15:14-21

**Saturday, July 11:** Psalm 119:105-112; Isaiah 2:1-4; John 12:44-50

**Sunday, July 12:** Genesis 25:19-34

**Monday, July 13:** Psalm 142; Micah 1:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8  
**Tuesday, July 14:** Psalm 142; Jeremiah 49:7-11; Ephesians 4:17-5:2  
**Wednesday, July 15:** Psalm 142; Obadiah 15-21; Matthew 13:10-17  
**Thursday, July 16:** Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 2:1-9  
**Friday, July 17:** Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Ezekiel 39:21-29; Hebrews 6:13-20  
**Saturday, July 18:** Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Exodus 14:9-25; Matthew 7:15-20  
**Sunday, July 19:** Genesis 28:10-19a  
**Monday, July 20:** Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 32:3-21; Revelation 14:12-20  
**Tuesday, July 21:** Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 33:1-17; Galatians 4:21-5:1  
**Wednesday, July 22:** Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 35:16-29; Matthew 12:15-21  
**Thursday, July 23:** Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:1-8; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20  
**Friday, July 24:** Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:9-14; Acts 7:44-53  
**Saturday, July 25:** Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:31-30:24; Matthew 12:38-42  
**Sunday, July 26:** Genesis 29:15-28  
**Monday, July 27:** Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:25-36; James 3:13-18  
**Tuesday, July 28:** Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:37-43; Ephesians 6:10-18  
**Wednesday, July 29:** Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 46:2-47:12; Mark 4:30-34  
**Thursday, July 30:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 14:1-2; Philippians 4:10-15  
**Friday, July 31:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 41:8-10; Romans 9:6-13

**Saturday, August 01:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 31:1-21; Matthew 7:7-11  
**Sunday, August 02:** Genesis 32:22-31  
**Monday, August 03:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 31:22-42; Romans 1:8-15  
**Tuesday, August 04:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 32:3-21; Acts 2:37-47  
**Wednesday, August 05:** Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 43:1-7; Matthew 15:32-39  
**Thursday, August 06:** Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Genesis 35:22b-29; Acts 17:10-15  
**Friday, August 07:** Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Genesis 36:1-8; Acts 18:24-28  
**Saturday, August 08:** Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Genesis 37:5-11; Matthew 16:1-4  
**Sunday, August 09:** Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
**Monday, August 10:** Psalm 28; Genesis 37:29-36; 2 Peter 2:4-10  
**Tuesday, August 11:** Psalm 28; Genesis 39:1-23; Romans 9:14-29  
**Wednesday, August 12:** Psalm 28; Genesis 40:1-23; Matthew 8:23-27  
**Thursday, August 13:** Psalm 133; Genesis 41:14-36; Revelation 15:1-4  
**Friday, August 14:** Psalm 133; Genesis 41:37-57; Acts 14:19-28  
**Saturday, August 15:** Psalm 133; Genesis 42:1-28; Matthew 14:34-36  
**Sunday, August 16:** Genesis 45:1-15  
**Monday, August 17:** Psalm 130; Genesis 43:1-34; Acts 15:1-21  
**Tuesday, August 18:** Psalm 130; Genesis 44:1-34; Romans 11:13-29  
**Wednesday, August 19:** Psalm 130; Genesis 45:16-28; Matthew 8:1-13  
**Thursday, August 20:** Psalm 124; Genesis 49:1-33; 1 Corinthians 6:1-11  
**Friday, August 21:** Psalm 124; Genesis 49:29-50:14; 2 Corinthians 10:12-18  
**Saturday, August 22:** Psalm 124; Genesis 50:15-26; Matthew 16:5-12  
**Sunday, August 23:** Exodus 1:8-2:10  
**Monday, August 24:** Psalm 8; Exodus 1:1-7; Romans 2:1-11  
**Tuesday, August 25:** Psalm 8; Exodus 2:11-15a; Romans 11:33-36  
**Wednesday, August 26:** Psalm 8; Exodus 2:15b-22; Matthew 26:6-13

**Thursday, August 27:** Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Exodus 2:23-24; Ephesians 5:1-6

**Friday, August 28:** Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Exodus 3:16-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

**Saturday, August 29:** Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Exodus 4:1-9; Matthew 8:14-17

**Sunday, August 30:** Exodus 3:1-15

**Monday, August 31:** Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18; Exodus 4:10-31; Revelation 3:1-6

## FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

### *The June Ladies Night Country Line Dance lessons were a boot-scootin' success!*

*25 people attended this toe-tapping great time! Thank you to all of the ladies who joined us. We have had several requests for this event to return so we'll try to make that happen, and maybe consider some other styles of dance, too. And many thanks to Maegan for teaching us, and to our volunteers for providing great drinks and snacks!*



## MEN'S BREAKFAST



The first Saturday of each month, the group meets at 8:30am at Cora's in Brentwood. Please contact Robert: [robert.hiebert@gmail.com](mailto:robert.hiebert@gmail.com) for more details. Upcoming dates: **July 4, August 1**

## WORK OF ART

This group will take a break over the summer but they look forward to resuming in September!

## DIM SUM SUNDAYS!

Everyone is welcome to join our Chinese members for Dim Sum lunch Sundays after worship. This group leaves the church at 11:30am and meets at Bobby Chao's Restaurant – 34 Edgedale Dr. NW #18. The cost each week is split by those attending.

# Hope's Annual Stampede Breakfast

## Sunday, July 12

The music starts at 8:00am.

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 - 9:30am.

Please join us for worship at 10:00am.



## AMICUS SINGERS

**Interested in a musical challenge? Consider joining the Amicus Singers this fall!**

The Amicus Singers are a self-directed choral group dedicated to the singing of sacred and secular works in churches and community settings. We practice alternate Sundays, 7 pm, here at Hope, from September to June. We also enjoy casual summer evenings singing madrigals and Christmas carolling in season. At least quarterly, we lend our voices to Hope's worship experience.

Amicus is Latin for "Friend." We always welcome more members / friends! **Rehearsals will resume September 13, Sunday, at 7 pm, in the Fireside Room! Text Gretchen at (403) 918-0480 for more information.**

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Hope Lutheran Christmas Craft Fair - November 28, 2026**

Summer may have just begun, but it is already time to start planning for Christmas!

We invite you to consider how you might contribute to this year's craft fair.

Tables will be available to rent; pricing is TBD.

If you enjoy canning, making jam or chocolate sauce, baking, knitting, crafting, or creating handmade items, we would love your help and contributions.

Please begin thinking about your ideas now—November will be here before we know it.

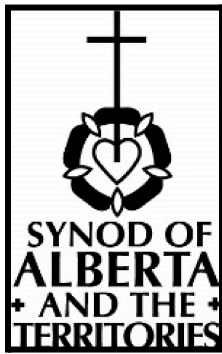
## BIRTHDAYS

Birthday blessings to those who are celebrating birthdays in July and August!

 <p><b>Happy Birthday Prayer</b></p> <p>Wishing you a birthday filled with God's abundant grace. May His love and blessings overflow in your life. Happy birthday!</p> <p>As you celebrate another year, may God renew your strength and fill your heart with joy. Happy birthday, and may His peace be with you.</p> <p>On your birthday, may God guide your steps and protect you throughout the coming year. Happy birthday, and may His grace be with you.</p>	July 3	Mark Kuziej	August 3	Gordon Mah
	July 4	Joyce McKenny	August 3	Dorothy Schumaker
	July 6	Louise Benson	August 10	Nathan Gingrich
	July 7	Debbie Krenz	August 20	Priscilla Cornelius
	July 11	Debbie Watson	August 23	Lois Hansen
	July 13	Mark Scholz	August 24	Caron Campbell
	July 21	Erika Kreutzenstein	August 25	Jan Geggie
	July 21	Maria Schroeder	August 25	Fay Martin
	July 23	Chris Svoboda	August 26	Sophia Weleschuk
	July 26	Mark Kaminski	August 31	Valerie Blomquist
	July 30	Glenn Kirkaldy		

## FROM THE WIDER CHURCH

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### Summer 2026

Grace and peace to you in this summer season.

Summer arrives and with it a change of pace!

In a culture that often measures our worth by productivity, summer can remind us that God also calls us to rest, delight, and attention. Creation itself teaches this rhythm. Seeds grow without hurry. Rivers keep their steady course. Birds sing without agendas or schedules. Even Jesus stepped away to rest, pray, and be renewed.

Be encouraged this summer to live into a gentler pace. Make room for sabbath moments. Sit on a deck with your morning coffee and notice the breeze moving through the trees. Walk beside a lake or river and pray. Watch children play. Share meals slowly. Read Scripture outdoors. Let wonder interrupt your routines.

As you rest and travel, I also encourage you to remain connected to your faith community in creative ways. Summer schedules can scatter us, but community continues to matter deeply. Our congregations are relationships that sustain us, pray for us, and help shape our life together in Christ.

There are many simple ways to stay connected:

- Attend worship when you are in town, even if your summer routines are different. Remember your offerings through the summer,
- When travelling, visit another congregation to experience something new. Send a postcard to your congregation. Congregations could give space on a bulletin board to share summer experiences. Check in on social media,
- Join an outdoor worship service, Bible study, or campfire gathering,
- Share dog walking or pet sitting. Share favourite summer recipes,
- Connect by offering child care, yard care, home maintenance,
- Spend time at one of our church camps.

Summer does not ask us to abandon our faith practices. It invites us to carry them differently. A little more barefoot. A little more attentive. A little more alive to grace unfolding around us.

May the steadfast love of God accompany you wherever these summer days lead.

In Christ,

**Bishop Trish Schmermund**



Synod of Alberta and the Territories, ELCIC

## SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

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### STITCHING FOR HOPE – Tuesday mornings at 10:00am

A group of stitchers meet at 10 am every Tuesday morning at Hope to work on blankets while enjoying some great fellowship and coffee. Can't stitch? No problem, come for the visit!

### CHARITY OF CHOICE

Our Charity of Choice for July and August is Lutheran Campus Ministries – Calgary.

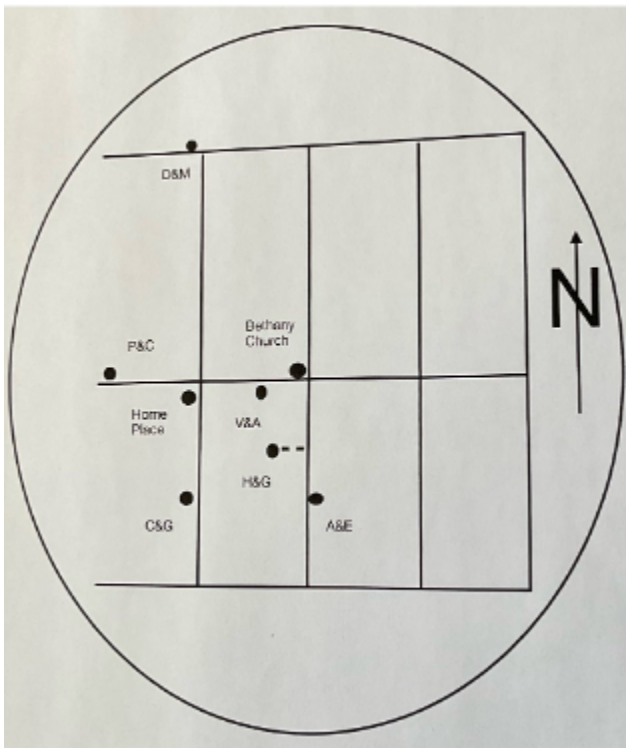
We continue to support the great work of Pastor Margaret and Lutheran Campus Ministries – Calgary. Financial contributions to Campus Ministry can be included with your regular church offerings (please note amount to be designated for this charity).

## REFLECTION & FUN

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### GARDEN TOUR by Kathy Lee

Those of my readers who grew up with an extended family living close by will have similar sentiments to mine, wonderful to recall. In the words of an old gospel song: Precious memories, how they linger... In my years on the farm I was surrounded by relatives on both my father's and my mother's side, living within a three-mile radius. Summers were delightful, with many visits back and forth, visits that always included checking out the vegetable garden and the flowers - especially the flowers- where we could ooh and ahh over their beauty. Come with me on a tour.



First stop: Uncle Arne and Aunt Evelyn. Arne was my dad's brother; Evelyn, my mom's sister, making us kids double cousins. They lived only a half-mile south of us and we spent a lot of time together. Their yard was a thing of beauty which included a weeping birch Uncle Arne planted beside the house. It grew into a graceful specimen that we loved to walk under. Auntie had quite a green thumb (her sweet peas were abundant and spectacular) and she was adventurous in planting seeds of things we'd never heard of or seen before: Maltese crosses, balsam, scabiosa. We were impressed.

(A note of interest: Every farmstead had poplar trees which were given as seedlings to settlers in the 1930s by the E.I.D. - Eastern Irrigation District- to be planted for windbreaks around their buildings. Because they grew fast, the trees were 50 or 60 feet tall in about 6 years.) Second stop, a mile to the west, as the crow flies: Uncle Chris and Aunt Grace. Auntie Grace was

another of Mom's sisters. Every year she had morning glory vines growing beside the back door. The wall was covered right up to the eaves. No one else in the family grew those. You might say it was her

signature. There were Shasta daisies and beautiful oriental poppies on the north side of the lawn. The poppies were definitely outside the box, to our mind, as the only other growers that we knew of in the community were the Slovaks and Hungarians.

Now we head north to the “Home Place” as my dad, Harry, always referred to it, where my widowed grandmother, Trina, and bachelor uncle, Ewald, lived. (My grandfather, Chris, had died in 1937.) Ewald was Dad’s brother. Grandma always had hollyhocks growing outside the dining room window and her petunias planted in a plot beside the walk leading to the back door were simply astonishing in size and colour- a velvety deep purple. Drifts of baby’s breath provided a suitable backdrop. What a welcome! Travelling west from there we reach the farm of Uncle Pete (another of my dad’s brothers) and Aunt Christine, right on the eastern edge of unbroken prairie. Their teeny, tiny house was tucked in behind a stand of caraganas that must have been at least 15 feet high.

There were no flower beds around the house but that was made up for in the vegetable garden. Christine’s specialty was gladioli. There were rows of them in every colour imaginable. They made stunning bouquets with super large blooms which the cultivars sold by florists today simply cannot match. She was so, so proud of them, with good reason.

A garden tour wouldn’t be complete without a stop at the home of my maternal grandparents, David and Marie. The vegetable / fruit garden, including gooseberries and red currants, was immense. Grandma’s Hansa rose bush was laden with fragrant, rosy-pink blooms, and the bees from the hives that Grandpa kept loved them. Every year a row of golden glows bloomed along the trees that bordered the west side of the lawn. None of the other relatives grew those.

Now we turn south again, for a brief visit with my godparents: Uncle Viggo and Aunt Anna ( my dad’s sister.) A big drawing card for the cousins was the raspberry patch at the back of the garden. We kind of pigged out on them while our folks were inside the house visiting. I know there were flowers along the vegetable rows but my mind goes to the north side of the house. It was the site of the septic field where Aunt Anna grew pansies in the soil above it. They were huge. I have never seen any as large since. Back home now, where laurel leaf willows bordered the house on the east and south. And whereas some of the relatives grew common lilacs and/or honeysuckles we had two Villosa lilacs with their pale lavender-pink blooms. The central flower bed in the side yard was a showpiece. The specialty of my mother, Gladys, was portulacas (or moss roses, as she called them) and they bloomed in profusion. The soil of the flowerbeds along the picket fence presented a challenge to many annuals, but calendulas did very well, yielding an abundance of blooms that graced our table throughout the summer. White alyssum planted as a border along the walkway grew as large as frying pans and bloomed faithfully until well past the first frost in the fall. I can still picture them to this day.

I hope you enjoyed this little journey into my past. It was my pleasure to be your tour guide. Have a wonderful, colourful summer in God’s beautiful garden! See you in September, God-willing.

## COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Shared from our friends at Brentwood Community Association:

**Biodiversity Bee at Whispering Woods** (5615 Barrett Dr. NW - Dr EW Coffin Elementary School parking lot) Thursday July 9th, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

The tradition continues! The Biodiversity Bee is a recurring community stewardship event organized by the Friends of Dr. E.W. Coffin Society. Volunteers of all ages to help maintain local rough fescue grasslands and pollinator habitats. Why not help weed?

Bring gloves, water and your favourite weed remover. Garbage bags will be provided.

New this year: Après weeding there is a BYOB&F (booze and food) social gathering in the yard of 5423 Barrett Drive. Meet your friends and neighbors and help organize the bees!

### **Men's F3 Fitness (Fitness, Fellowship, Faith)**

Free, peer-led workouts for men. Open to all fitness levels. Held outdoors across Calgary — hot or cold, rain or snow, no excuses. Learn more [here](#)

Tuesday 5:30 – 6:15am

Thursday 5:30 – 6:15am

Saturday 6:30 – 7:30am

Sunday 6:30 – 7:30am

[2019 Chicoutimi Drive NW](#)

### **[Stampede Breakfasts](#) and BBQ's**

[Triwood July 5<sup>th</sup>-9 am to 1pm](#) Volunteers needed – signup [here](#)

### **Bro'kin Yolk Express Northland (303-4820 Northland Dr. NW) - Stampede Breakfast July 3rd**

To kick off Stampede weekend, Bro'kin Yolk is giving away FREE Basic B breakfast sandwiches for the first 200 guests (opening at 9am). Their Basic B is made with their signature house-cured bacon, lettuce, tomato, egg, aged cheddar, paprika aioli, and smashed avocado. Guests can also request a vegetarian version by simply skipping the bacon. **There is no catch and no purchase necessary, just a free breakfast and a great way to start Stampede weekend!**

## 2026 Dalhousie Repair Exchanges

The Repair Exchange is a *free* program where individuals can learn how to repair broken household items alongside the help of a community member. **In 2026 the Dalhousie Community Association is hosting 4 repair exchanges this year. These are open to everyone wanting to give items a second life and you will learn new skills at the same time.**

**Dates:** Saturday, August 15: 1:30pm – 5:30pm    Saturday, September 26: 10:00am – 2:00pm

**Location:** Dalhousie Community Association (5432 Dalhart Road NW).

### Items accepted for repair are:

- bikes (small repairs & maintenance)
- clothing (patching & mending), zipper slider maintenance
- small household appliances (lamps, counter top appliances)
- technology



City of Calgary Parks and Recreation [Free Fun This Summer](#)

<https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/events>

**Park n' Play** Looking for some high-quality activities for your kids? City of Calgary Parks & Rec offers programs that are open to everyone for free. These programs are for children ages 6-12 years and are available in various community locations across Calgary.

**Sport Hub**: Sport Hub gives kids and teens a chance to try new sports, make friends and have fun. These free and low-cost lessons are taught by qualified coaches from sport organizations right in your community. All necessary equipment, such as racquet, bats and balls, is included (free & low fee).

**Youth leadership programs** Earning a LEAD or Nature LEAD Certificate is fun and gives students credibility, recognition and opportunities at school, work and in the community. Developing and practicing leadership skills opens doors to success in the future!

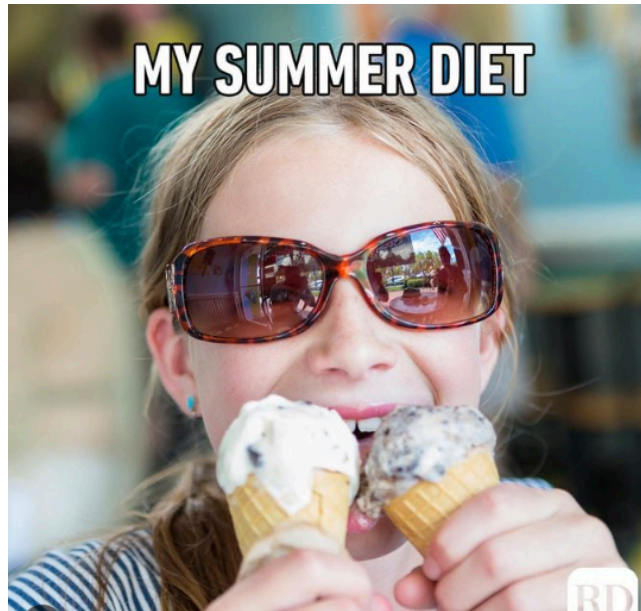
<https://www.calgary.ca/parks-rec-programs/park-n-play.html>

## Nose Hill Library Summer Programs – Just a few of many

**Digitalization and Fraud Prevention July 23, Aug 13** – Join us for a presentation by ATB financial on digital banking, online safety, and fraud prevention. Learn how to recognize common scams, protect personal information, and use digital tools with confidence. Gain practical tips to stay safe, informed, and connected in today’s digital world.

**Career Basics: Interview Skills Aug 12** – Win over your job competition by improving your interview skills. Learn about different types of questions and how to answer them effectively during this program.

**Drop-In English Practice – Sundays 1 - 2:30 p.m.** – Build your English skills in a relaxed, supportive setting. Practice speaking and listening in English while connecting with new people. Friendly volunteers will guide small groups in interesting conversations. Please note this is for language practice, not a formal class.





## Bruschetta Pasta Salad

Yield: 6 to 8 people

Prep Time: 30 minutes mins

Cook Time: 10 minutes mins

This bruschetta pasta salad is a summer staple! Juicy ripe tomatoes, fresh basil, shaved parmesan and the most delicious balsamic dressing. Serve immediately or make ahead of time and it's perfect. Ideal for a party or just great for dinner - a dish that goes with everything!

Recipe from: <https://www.howsweeteats.com/2023/07/bruschetta-pasta-salad/>

### Ingredients

- 1 pound short-cut pasta (such as mafaldini)
- 1 ½ cups of halved cherry or grape tomatoes
- ½ white onion diced
- ½ cup of chiffonade fresh basil
- ⅓ cup shaved parmesan cheese

### Balsamic dressing

- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 1 ½ tablespoons dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon of sugar
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- kosher salt and pepper
- ½ cup extra virgin olive oil

### Instructions

- Cook the pasta in salted water according to the directions.
- Combine the tomatoes with half of the basil, the onion and 3 tablespoons of the dressing. Let this sit until the pasta is done and everything is ready to combine.
- Drain the pasta and place it in a large bowl. Toss with half of the dressing - you want every noodle coated well. Add in the whole tomato basil mixture, tossing well to distribute. Add in the rest of the basil and the parmesan cheese. Add in the rest of the dressing and toss.
- Serve! This stays great in the fridge and gets better as it sits, aside from a few wilted herbs. Feel free to add fresh basil when serving!

### Balsamic dressing

Whisk together the garlic, vinegar, sugar, mustard, oregano and a big pinch of salt and pepper. Whisk in the olive oil until the mixture is thickened and emulsified. This can be made ahead of time and stored in the fridge until ready to use! Just whisk or shake before using.

# Calgary Stampede Word Search

SMQUCTHUKODKKCZGTWOUZMOQD  
ZGIYDRNACHSEOJHFFIGFETFJG  
DNKGI IYSLHBITHNUYXQSQIOZQ  
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CHUCKWAGON

STAMPEDE

BARBECUE

HAT

PANCAKES

CALGARY

COWGIRL

WESTERN

MIDWAY

PARADE

SADDLE

BUCKLE

LARIAT

HORSE

RODEO

RANCH

BOOTS