

St. Luke's News

August 2026

Vol. 9 #8



ANGLICAN CHURCH

of

ST. LUKE

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The month of August was originally Sextilis, or the 6th month of the year in the Roman calendar. It became the 8th month when January and February were added, perhaps in 700 BC. It was renamed August in 8 BC to honour Augustus Caesar, the first Roman Emperor after Julius Caesar's Republic. It has 31 days as Augustus wanted his month to have the same number as July, named after Julius Caesar.

It is also the month that we honour Augustine (November 13th, 354-August 28th, 430). His commemoration is on August 28th. Augustine was born in Numidia, which is in what is now Algeria. His mother was Christian, and his father was pagan, although it is reported that he became Christian on his death bed. He moved to Carthage for his education, and stated living with a young woman, who bore his son, who remained important to him all his life. In searching for meaning, he initially fell under the influence of some pagan religions. In 383 he went to Rome, where he met St. Ambrose, and as a result of this friendship, he was baptized, along with his son, in 387. He returned to Africa and formed a type of monastic community. In 391 he was ordained a priest and 5 years later was chosen bishop of Hippo, also in present day Algeria. With the exception perhaps of St. Paul, no one has affected Christian tradition and as profoundly as Augustine. He wrote a number of works, *On the Trinity*, *On the City of God*, and what is perhaps the first autobiography, *Confessions*. (Sources: *The Penguin Dictionary of Saints*, Donald Attwater, Penguin Books, 1965; *Calendar of Saints*, David Veale, Forward Movement 1972) 1

(Items for the September Newsletter should be submitted by August 27th)

Incumbent Priest/Pastor:

The Ven. Noel Wygiera

vicar@oldchurchrd.com

Vocational Deacon:

The Rev. Deacon Tracey Stagg

deacon@oldchurchrd.com

Incumbent's Warden:

Suzanne Blackwell

incumbentswarden@oldchurchrd.com

People's Warden:

Br. Michael McAuliffe

peopleswarden@oldchurchrd.com

Pianists:

Judy Miller

Terri Radke

Organist:

Jo Wygiera

Service Schedule

See Upcoming Events in this Newsletter or go to the church website, www.oldchurchrd.com

WEBSITE

www.oldchurchrd.com

Visit it often to check for news and upcoming events. If anyone has an item they feel might be appropriate for inclusion on the website please send it to website@oldchurchrd.com. **If you go to the website now you can see Season 1: Episode 2, of ‘*The Crossing (How Red Deer Shaped Alberta’s History)*’** This episode features St. Luke’s church. There is also a link to the whole series on YouTube.

If you change contact information, eg. address, phone number or email address, make sure that you notify the office at: office@oldchurchrd.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

WORSHIP SERVICES

For full details of upcoming services, including the readings, go to <https://www.oldchurchrd.com/events>

Sunday Morning Services: 10:00 am

Sunday online Service: 1:00 pm

Compline (Evening Prayer) online: Paused for the summer. Will resume in September

If you wish to attend the online services and do not receive an email with the link contact vicar@oldchurchrd.com

Thursday said Eucharist: 2:00 pm.

OTHER EVENTS

Bible Study: Will resume in September.

Men’s and Ladies’ Group Breakfasts: Will resume in September.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Alongside Hope: Venezuela Earthquake Response:

On June 24, powerful back-to-back earthquakes shook Venezuela, with magnitudes beyond what have been seen in more than a century. Alongside Hope is joining the Humanitarian Coalition (HC) appeal (until July 13) which includes Canadian Foodgrains Bank. The Foodgrains Bank response will focus on providing food relief.

Please pray for the people of Venezuela. You can donate by going to alongsidehope.org/give-today, calling 1-866-308-7973 or mailing a cheque to Alongside Hope 80 Hayden Street 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2. Please indicate "Venezuela" in the memo field.

Finances:

A further Financial Update will be in the October Newsletter.

Heat the Church: Just as it is important to continue giving our regular donations to the church, those who wish to contribute to this fund can do so by putting an envelope marked Heat the Church in the offering plate on Sunday or by e-transfer at offerings@oldchurchrd.com. The suggested donation is \$25 for a day.

CAN YOU HELP? Choose a date:

Coffee Roster: While our after-service coffee time might be a little challenging during this time in which the hall is being renovated, anyone who feels like they can make it happen are welcome to do so. Please sign up on the roster which is located on the bulletin board near the church hall entrance.

Outreach-Mustard Seed:

Mustard Seed Dinner Service: Thank-you to everyone who has taken part in volunteering for dinner service at the Mustard Seed the first Friday of each month. The response from our parish has been wonderful and we have had a full roster of volunteers each month to date. Sign-up sheets are now on the bulletin board as you enter the hall. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak with Michael McAuliffe or Doug Ewart. Volunteer duties include serving the meal, preparing carrots for school lunches and helping in the 'dish pit'.

AROUND THE PARISH:**Congratulations:**

Our congratulations go to Heather Ensley who recently successfully defended her doctoral dissertation for her Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Oklahoma. She does not have to do any revisions! Her topic is *"Integrating Applied Music Theory into the Violin Lesson: A Pedagogic Approach Linking Analysis with Technique and Musicality"*.

Poppy Rejuvenation

The work on the Remembrance Day poppy display is on hiatus now until the completion of the Church Hall renovation. The mesh repairs have been completed, and we have been working on flattening and tacking the knitted/crocheted poppies down. So far, we have finished 3/4 of the first of 4 panels, with 12 parishioners coming out to help with this project, together we have worked in excess of 85 person hours. Many thanks to those who have worked on this: Deb Mann, Bob Dixon, Terri Radke, Joan Williams, Sandra Ballum, Lee Splett, Elaine Coumont, Elizabeth Thain, Donna McKinley, Bob Martin and Marilyn Martin. I am tentatively planning to restart our Wednesday afternoon work sessions on September 2. Submitted by Carolyn Dixon

Mustard Seed Donations:

At the June Ladies Breakfast, we talked about making a donation to a local charity and it was brought to our attention that the Mustard Seed needs donations of cutlery very urgently. We decided that we would look into finding cutlery to donate but to also gather donations for other items that the Mustard Seed might need. Over the course of the summer (July and August) we will be collecting items for donation to the Mustard Seed in a bin at the back of the church. The Mustard Seed is in need of the following items according to their website:

Shaving products/creams:

- Razors
- Toilet Paper
- Deodorant
- Body Spray
- Sunscreen
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Travel-size Shampoo & Conditioner
- Hygiene travel kits

Spring/Summer Items:

- Men's and Women's underwear – S, M, L Sizes
- Adult Socks
- Pants with Elastic or String Waists
- Ball caps
- Running Shoes and Rain Boots
- T-Shirts & Shorts
- Hoodies
- Rain Jackets
- Lightweight Sweaters

Other

- Backpacks/Duffle Bags
- Blankets
- Bus Tickets or Transit Passes
- Water Bottles
- Sleeping Bags

The Mustard Seed loves celebrating shelter guests moving out of the shelter and regaining housing. They would love our help providing them with a move-out

hamper filled with items to set them up for success during their first few weeks. We can include items such as a laundry basket, towels, blankets, a pillow, hygiene items, cooking utensils, pots and pans, food containers for leftovers, and a grocery store gift card. All other household items can include the following:

- Comfort Items – Cozy throws, reusable water bottles, neck pillows, or heated rice bags
- Gift Cards – Small-value gift cards (\$5-\$10) for Tim Horton's, Dollarama, Walmart, or Shoppers Drug Mart
- Non-Perishable Snacks – Granola bars, instant noodles, oatmeal packets, hot chocolate, tea bags, etc.
- Canned Meats and Fish
- Laundry Supplies – Small packs of detergent pods, dryer sheets, and laundry bags

Your help in providing any of these items would be greatly appreciated.

Flower Calendar:

The Flower Calendar is at the back of the church on the north wall. There you can choose to donate flowers on a particular Sunday. The suggested donation for the two bouquets is \$60.00. You will be contacted by the office the week prior to the Sunday you have chosen and you have the opportunity to have a dedication in the Sunday Leaflet if you so wish. **There are still some Sundays available.**

Choir:

There will be no choir at Sunday Services until September. A notice will be sent out when practices resume.

AROUND THE CHURCH/HALL:

Church Hall Refresh Update: The renovations are underway and what a great first day we had! On July 20th fourteen members of our parish took part in the hall “demolition” and did a fantastic job. The walls have been cleared of pictures, bulletin boards, curtains and curtain rods. The chair rail is down, the baseboards pulled up, the wall light fixtures taken down and two closets removed. Thank you to David Stagg, our leader, who kept all the parts moving and ensured that all the work was getting done in a timely manner. By the time we finished, a little after noon, the hall was stripped down and a huge pile of material was awaiting the trailer to come and take it away. It was a productive day with good news:

- we did not find any surprises
- the demolition work was done cleanly so there are no big patches that need to be repaired
- the areas that were of a concern - chair railing and tiles on the ceiling came

down fairly easily

-we found a new home for the piano - the Upper Room Church will be taking it
The electrical work is underway and the switches have been moved for the lights
in the hall and the fan switches have been moved out of the cupboard as well.

The new light fixtures for the ceiling were to be installed on July 28th.

In addition to the electrical work being finished, work is underway this week and
into the following week with some framing, dry walling, sanding and casing
installation. The work is off to a great start and we hope and pray that the work
will continue to be done in a timely manner. Submitted by Judy Ewart.

If you have questions about the Church Hall Refresh Project and its progress,
feel free to get in touch with Michael McAuliffe, Judy Ewart, or David Stagg.

Michael can be reached at peopleswarden@oldchurchrd.com.



Do you remember?



A glimpse of the old
floor tile and the old
ceiling colour.

PRAYERS

A Collect for St. Luke's (crafted by Brother Michael)

Holy Spirit, You have led your people with a pillar of cloud and fire, and you have spoken to your people with a still small voice. Now as we come to seek where you are leading us to serve this world you dearly love, will you make us attentive to the sounds of your voice, and will you soften our hearts so that we may respond to your leading with joy and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever. Amen.

This blessing is a poem/prayer composed by Benedictine Sister Ruth Fox* in 1985

"May God bless you with discomfort:
at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that you may live deep within your hearts.

May God bless you with anger:
at injustice, oppression, and exploitation,
so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with tears:
to shed for those who suffer,
so that you may reach out your hands to comfort them, to see their pain turn into joy.

And may God bless you with foolishness:
to believe that you can make a difference in the world,
so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God the Supreme Majesty and our Creator, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word who is our brother and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with you and remain with you, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**
(Submitted by the Rev. Deacon Tracey Stagg)

*January 24, 1936-September 13, 2023

Prayer/Poem from St. Teresa of Avila - attributed (Spanish Nun of the 16th C) Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassionately on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands.
Yours are the feet.
Yours are the eyes.
You are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassionately on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours. **Amen**

A Prayer for the Middle East

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all. We pray that attempts to each a peaceful solution to the conflict are successful. **Amen**

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
We pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for those who fear for tomorrow,
That your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
For wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
That you would hold and protect them.
We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**
(from Archbishop Justin Welby and Archbishop Stephen Cottrell)

A Prayer For All Victims of War

Merciful Father, your Son taught us to call the stranger “neighbor”. Our fallen are many—names we will never know, voices we have never heard, in lands we may never visit, yet brothers and sisters all. And so we pray for all victims of war, both past and present, caught in the crossfires of conflicts we could not quell; for soldiers and civilians, adults and children; we pray for those refugees seeking asylum from war, who died in a land that was not their home. For emergencies and calamities everywhere, and those who died amid chaos and confusion.
In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen** (Adapted from Catholic Relief Services)

A Prayer for the People of the United States

O God, author and giver of peace,
in whose image and likeness each of us has been created
with a human dignity worthy of respect on earth and destined for eternal glory,
we pray today for the people of the United States
and all others who are affected by the current political situation
with all the conflict, uncertainty and fear that has been created on so many levels.
To all world leaders grant the wisdom

to see beyond the boundaries of race, religion and nation
to that common humanity that makes us all your children
and brothers and sisters to one another.
Grant the grace of conversion to a path of peaceful dialogue
and constructive collaboration. Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen. (Adapted from Jesuitresource.org)