

# CHURCH Matters



Glory Lutheran Church Newsletter - 06.22 Edition



Hastings Lake Bible Camp presents...

**DAY CAMP!**

**AUGUST 15-19**



**GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SHERWOOD PARK, AB**

Monday - Friday  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Grades 1 - 6  
**FREE!**

Enjoy all the fun of Hastings Lake Bible Camp in your own community!  
We are partnering with local churches to bring you camp-style activities, skits, songs, Bible studies, silly games, and all the wacky excitement you expect from Summer Camp!

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**WWW.HASTINGSLAKE.COM**

# Message from Pastor Markus

June 2022

Dear people of Glory Lutheran Church,

A big thank you for the opportunity to have an extended period of rest from my duties this summer! It means a lot to me! My sabbatical will start on July 1st and end on September 30th. With the exception of July 7th and 8th, when I will conduct a wedding, and the occasional time I will water my garden plot, you will not see me during this time. On Sundays you will instead be served by a number of different people from within our congregation and our Synod. Rita Spain, Mark and Pat Becker, and Neil and Eunice Querengesser will conduct one service each. Pastor Tim Posyluzny will conduct five of the communion Sundays, Deacon Faith Nostbakken will preach and lead worship on four occasions, and Bishop Larry Kochendorfer will conduct one communion service! With such a line up of leadership, I think you'll not want to miss any one Sunday! It will be an excellent opportunity to experience the variety of gifts God has given to the church.

For me this summer will also be a chance to explore the wider community of God's people as I worship here and there, as I read and reflect on my own, and as I make a pilgrimage. In early September the World Council of Churches gathers for its 11th general assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany. If all the travel arrangements work out, I will participate as a visitor in the most diverse convention of Christians from all around the world.

"The WCC Assembly is the highest governing body of the World Council of Churches (WCC), and normally meets every eight years. It is the only time when the entire fellowship of member churches comes together in one place for prayer and celebration." (WCC website) I will be able to stay with my brother-in law-in Karlsruhe, visit my mother-in-law nearby, and hopefully take part in a 50 year class reunion in my hometown of Bülzig.

Another part of my sabbatical will be dedicated to training Otto, our Poodle-Labrador cross, whom many of you have met. Animals have much to teach us, even as we teach them. I hope that both me and my "intern" will become a ministry team and a blessing to others. Puppy classes start tonight.

Speaking of interns, my wife Andrea is going to start her pastoral

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internship with the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Red Deer and Grace Lutheran Church in Bentley starting September 1st. She will have one more academic year afterwards until she can be ordained. Please keep her in your prayers.

Confirmation class this year went to the dogs. We wrapped up our program for the year with a “dog-fest” at the church on June 2nd. Our three confirmands brought parents, siblings, a grandparent, and their dogs to a hot dog roast. We ate homemade Tomato Soup Cake and Nanaimo Bars, home made salads and other good things. We played and talked and prayed. We gave thanks for a good year of transition from no class, to masked in person, to mask-free. One of our families will be moving back to Ontario this summer. We are sad and happy at the same time about that. We will try to stay together via ZOOM for the second year.

Speaking of ZOOM, our Sunday Night Glory Hour for inquirers and new and old members is winding down and will wrap up with an in-person gathering as well. Time and place to be announced.

This has been a year of transition, of awakening and re-emerging from a pandemic, an event like none of us experienced before. There is much to give thankful for that has happened in the last 8 months. Much that will be happening in the coming weeks and months, including social gatherings, community gardening and the groundbreaking for the memorial garden project. First of all, however, we should simply give thanks that we have come through this time of worldwide crisis alive. We are alive! Two years ago, we weren't sure about that. We worried, mostly about each other. Other crises were added to the pandemic: racism, political insurrection, extreme weather events, war. But we are still here: a community of believers that trust the God who loves the world, who loves each of us, and who calls us to model our lives according to the pattern of Jesus.

The community of the church is ever changing, always has and always will, because it must. “The church must always reform” was a refrain of the protestant reformation of the 16th century. We are named Lutheran because our founders believed this. In a world of constant change and transition it cannot be otherwise. The Holy Spirit poured out on the apostles on Pentecost, caused them to change how they talked. They began to speak in other languages. They spoke in ways that touched

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other people's hearts. They spoke in their mother tongues. They spoke the language of love. We can hear God speak this way to us personally as well, through the various preachers and worship leaders on Sundays, through the faithful conversations we have with each other, and through the acts of service and kindness we experience. Filled with the Holy Spirit, each of us becomes enabled to participate in this work of God. May it be so! May this summer, this season of Pentecost, be for us all a time of renewal and growth in the Spirit of Jesus, and may we learn to speak more clearly the language of God's undying love.

Wishing you peace and gratitude in Christ!

Pastor Markus

## **FIRESIDE WEDNESDAYS**

Start the middle of June (weather permitting)



**This is an ALL AGES, ALL SUMMER event!** It is a great way to enjoy our summer evenings and get to know our church family in an informal, relaxed way! Guests are welcome! We hope you will plan to attend! It will be bring your own BBQ item and beverage, plates etc. and a side dish to share.

\*\*\*Looking for individuals to oversee the gathering. David will look after the fire.



# Outdoor Coffee Hour

after Sunday worship at  
Glory Lutheran Church

Starting June 5  
(Weather permitting)

*Looking for individuals to oversee the set up/clean up of this time together each week. Sign up to help on your preferred week(s) in the Narthex. If there is no social leader for that Sunday we will simply forgo the coffee time until the next week.*

This is an update on our family from the Ukraine that we (Don & Grace Morgan) are waiting to host. They are currently in Warsaw in temporary shelter, they have been there for a number of weeks. They are very grateful to be safe however the stress, loss and uncertainty is definitely very hard on them all.

We are just waiting for the finish of the needed paperwork to arrive, then they will proceed to get tickets to Edmonton and start their new life in Sherwood Park. They are very much looking forward to it.

They Originally came from Donetsk and were presently living in Kyiv , before the active bombing drove them to a bomb shelter in Feb. They are very thankful to be safe. However the loss of everything, uncertainty and stress is showing as I have daily contact with Kateryna. They will be our guests for the first while as they sort out their needs to function in Canada. They will need to acquire essential paperwork, schools, jobs, etc.

Their family unit consists of Grandmother, **Tateanna** 65 (retired pharmacist) Daughter, **Kateryna** 37 (Child psychologist, medical representative, singer and trained in dance) lastly we have **Zhenya** age 7, active little boy who likes soccer and swimming and we are looking at getting him into the bilingual Ukrainian/ English school here in the park.

We have gratefully received donations of a TV, toys, bike, clothes for Zhenya, a computer, iPad and are waiting for used cell phones and some other specifics. We would gratefully accept gift cards to enable them when they arrive to buy some of their basic needs at Walmart, Superstore, etc., and gas cards as I know we will see a fair amount of driving to get things accomplished. At some future time grocery gift cards will also be of help. We have stepped out in faith to help our fellow man who needed our help, and any donations will be very appreciated.

What does the Bible say about not helping someone in need?

***"Those who are gracious to the poor lend to the Lord,  
and the Lord will fully repay them."***

The Good News: In many ways, the mere act of being charitable is its own reward. But as this verse notes, being compassionate to people who are less fortunate is also something that God will reward.

Thank you,

# Welcome to Canada



## **Please Help a Refugee Family**

On behalf of Glory Lutheran Church's refugee sponsorship committee, we invite your help to reunite a Syrian refugee family currently in Jordan with the rest of their family in Edmonton. Most family members were able to emigrate to Canada several years ago as refugees. More recently, Pastor Markus's wife Andrea and her group were able to bring another sister over to Edmonton as well.

We are currently working with Canadian Lutheran World Relief to bring some of the remaining family members to Canada: the eldest son, his wife, and their two young sons. Although we now have all of the necessary documentation on file with CLWR, we still need to raise another \$9 000 in relocation and living expenses before CLWR can apply to the Canadian Government for approval in the final stages of the process.

As it is important to have the money in place before the end of September, we invite your prayerful consideration to donate in the coming weeks to Glory Lutheran Church, indicating that the money is for GLC's refugee fund. Whether or not you are able to donate at this time, your prayers are also very much appreciated. We may soon be announcing further fundraising opportunities.

Later there will be other ways you can help. If the application is successful, we will need volunteers to help the family relocate in Edmonton and to supply them with the essentials for living, working, and schooling.

Glory Lutheran Church has a strong record in refugee sponsorship, and we trust that this request will be met with the same enthusiasm and lovingkindness that our congregation has previously demonstrated.

Please feel free to contact Neil and Eunice Querengesser at [neilq@telusplanet.net](mailto:neilq@telusplanet.net) if you are interested in helping out with this worthwhile endeavour. All donations should be sent direct to Glory Lutheran Church.

# Council Highlights

June 2022

It's been a very busy time for Council as we plan for the next few months and continue to open up to more activities at Glory.

Discussions and planning for the **youth worker** initiative with Mt. Olivet are ongoing. We have heard from some of the younger members of our congregation and thank them for their input to date! Thank you also to Rhonda Berg for getting the conversations started. We're hoping to have a pizza night soon to expand further on this initiative.

As you know, Pastor Markus' **sabbatical leave** will begin on July 1, 2022. Thanks go out to Lynnette Woodrow for all the work done in arranging for coverage while Pastor is away. Pastor Tim Posyluzny and Deacon Faith Nostbakken will be leading a number of services. There will also be several services led by lay leaders from within our congregation, with the help of the ELCIC Summer Sermon Series. We look forward to having Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and Pastor Prema Samuel presiding over our service on August 14, 2022! Arrangements have also been made for the provision of pastoral care by retired and current chaplains, Orlow Lund and Laird Borst, while Pr. Markus is away.

You may have seen the posters advertising our **Vacation Bible School on August 15 to 19, 2022**, which will be run by Hastings Lake Bible Camp. We are still ironing out details, so there will be further announcements soon, including a call for volunteers to help out during the week and to consider billeting one of the camp leaders during their week with us. We're very excited at the prospect of having more children on our grounds soon! Thank you to Susan Ronsko for all the work done on this so far.

You will also have seen the announcements about the resumption of **Sunday coffee hours and Fireside Wednesdays** in June. We look forward to gathering together again for more social activities and thank all of those who have volunteered or will volunteer to help out with overseeing these events. Council is hoping to have our church picnic at the end of June before Pastor leaves for his sabbatical, so watch for more news on that!

Council members and members of several other committees, such as Stewardship, Community Outreach, and Music and Worship Planning, also recently met for a day of reflection, worship, introspection, discussion, and planning at our **Retreat** on May 28, 2022. A theme of the day was "One Body, Many Members" and, as we broke into smaller groups to discuss "Reaching Up, Reaching Out, and Reaching In", the recurring motif was the interconnectedness of our endeavours here at Glory. Thank you to all who attended and helped with organization, set-up, and clean-up. Even more importantly, thank you for contributing to the life of our church with your time, talents, thoughtfulness and creativity. A special thanks also to Pastor Markus for his leadership and to Neil Querengesser for planning and facilitating the discussion throughout the day.

If there are matters of interest or concern that you would like Council to consider, please feel free to email me at [council.chair@glorylutheran.ca](mailto:council.chair@glorylutheran.ca).



## Pastor Tim Posyluzny

Dear Members and Friends of Glory Lutheran,

Grace to you and peace--

The following is a brief bio/introduction:

I am Rev. Timothy Posyluzny, STM but prefer to be called Tim or Pastor Tim. My ministry was solely congregational-serving.

Good Shepherd, High River (4 years),  
Augustana, Saskatoon (9 years),  
Holy Spirit, Edmonton (19 years),  
Trinity, Edmonton (16 months as interim),  
and Mt. Zion, Edmonton (6 years).

My synod service included two terms as Dean followed by two terms as Chairperson of Synod. I am deeply committed to inclusion--God loves all God's children and so our church must reflect this.

In terms of education, I have a BA from UBC, Vancouver, a M. Divinity and an STM both from LTS, Saskatoon. My special area of interest is counseling.

Carollyne is my wife of over fifty years. We have two adult children and four exceptional grandchildren, all who live nearby.

What I appreciate most about being a Lutheran is our focus on grace--the assurance that there is nothing so good we could do that God would love us more or so bad that God would love us less.

I look forward to our times of worship together during Pastor Markus' much deserved sabbatical.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Tim



## Pastor Orlow Lund

My name is Orlow Lund

Born in Shelby Montana and stayed there through High School

Attended Eastern Montana College and graduated in Sociology from Montana State University; active in Lutheran Student ministries while there.

Graduated from Lutheran Theological Seminary with an internship at St Paul's Lutheran in Yorkton.

First Parish in Nazareth Lutheran Standard and Christ Lutheran Gleichen for six years.

Second for two years in St. Peters Lutheran Millet.

Spent one year serving with Lutheran Life Insurance

Eight great years serving the Lutheran community at Lutheran Institutional Ministry Edmonton training volunteers and supporting them to visit Lutherans in hospitals and long-term care centers.

Twenty-four years serving as a Chaplain with the Good Samaritan Society in Edmonton at the Dr. Gerald Zetter Care Centre, Millwoods Care Centre and Good Shepherd Care Centre in Wetaskiwin.

Retired in 2020 and had back surgery

Started working with Power to Change Connecting Streams as National lead to ministry with Seniors and Long-Term Care

My passion in ministry is serving God in the lives of people, bringing through the Scriptures the goodness and glory of God to people who need His care, love and power to live here in peace and joy and to look forward to being glorified with Him in Heaven

Married to Carrielynn. Father to five daughters; one with Jesus our Lord.

Fun facts: grew up with horses and spent summers on racetracks in Montana.

I have treasured many dogs and cats in my life; but don't have one now (living in a no pet condo.)

I love to laugh.



## Pastor Laird Borst

Here is my short bio

I was born and raised in Edmonton

I am married to Sharlene (Millang) Borst in 1983,

We have three married children and 6 grandchildren

I graduated from Concordia College in the spring of 1992 with a B.A. in Music and Sociology, and in the fall of 1992 we move to Saskatoon so I could attend Lutheran Theological Seminary

I graduated in 1996 and received a call to serve Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hanna Alberta where we served until 2001 when I received a call to serve Hope Lutheran Church in Edmonton.

While serving at Hope I interviewed for the call to serve Glory before you called Pastor Markus.

We continued to serve Hope until 2018 when I received the call to serve with the Good Samaritan Society as the Chaplain at Wedman House and Village, and the 2 CHOICE Programs in Edmonton.

When not at work, I love spending time with my family, cheering for the Oilers and Elks, riding my motorcycle on long trips, and playing the bagpipes with the RCMP Pipeband.

Laird Borst MDiv.

### A PRAYER ...

God of compassion, as the soldiers mocked Jesus on the Cross, so we confess that we often deride others with humiliating mockery. Free us, we pray, from the desire to belittle those whom we do not understand. We pray in Jesus' Name...

# Our *Spiritual* Journey

A Message from Pastor Nickel

**HOW DO WE KNOW?** How do you "know" something?  
How do we know what directions to take on Our Spiritual Journey?  
Ask God? Focus on His Path, His Direction for us?

In North American society **today, when we want to know** who did what, the saying is to "**follow the money**" -- know who is paying to influence those who are in power or "position". Do you remember some news reporters in the 1970s who found and exposed corruption at the very highest levels because they listened to advice and "followed the money" to the top?

Baby formula is in the news: it is reported that company money was used elsewhere rather than to fix equipment to keep the product safe and to lobby for less rules and regulations for themselves. Or, a while ago, a dietetic association published nutritional "fact sheets" that gave sugar a clean bill of health -- but it was done in connection with a sugar company institute's grants to the association, and out of this came one of the strongest defenders of "healthy sugar" and more grants of money.

Some objective-sounding food research groups are funded by big food companies, nutrition investigators tell us. But also, some people make it their work to expose conflicts of interest so that we can really **know** what is fair and honest, and safe, like Consumer Reports.

Do we consider "ethics" when we think about **knowing** what is our best choice when buying? Are we careful what we hear and believe -- there's a big industry out there to persuade us, not to mention those who are paid by someone to influence our *way of thinking*.

**TODAY**, one of the things that we need to **know**, that **we have a challenge** facing us: What is the actual **faith system** that guides my life?

**How can we know?** Is it basically faith in - myself? Is it in the American way of life that social media beams across the border? Is it focused in power or money? Is it -- in **Jesus Christ**?

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The Church Year's PENTECOST **helps me with that question of knowing.**

1. **PENTECOST** focuses on God's giving of his Holy Spirit to his people, the Church, as Jesus promised before returning to the Father. The Early Christians told us about it -- they **knew** the Holy Spirit came and was present there with them. [see Acts 2 ff]
2. They RECEIVED THE POWER AND GUIDANCE of the Holy Spirit and it did change the lives of many, many people. They **knew**, felt, experienced, lived, and were willing to die for what they came to know -- God loving so much that the Father sent his Son **IN LOVE** for us, and **IN LOVE God sent the Holy Spirit.**

So, as Christians believing in one God working in the world in 3 ways, as Father, Son - Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, when we pray to God for help or guidance -- in Jesus' name, we can know that:

3. God - the Holy Spirit answers our prayer and helps us with discernment. That's what God's Spirit does -- in love for us.

**FOLLOW THE LOVE** - ask in prayer, then you can really **know** what's best...

Yours, Together in Christ,  
Gary Nickel

Also, since you asked: Differences in beliefs as Christians -- I've found it interesting that in Bible times there were Greeks and Romans -- Greek civilization was considered the best, while the Romans had the military might and created the governments and laws. Anyway, from their backgrounds, Roman Christians preferred to focus on the coming of Jesus for us while Greeks preferred to focus on the Trinity. Romans focused more on Christmas while Greeks focused more on Easter, the Day of Resurrection.

We all have our influences which help us focus on some aspects of our Christianity, and yet when we come to the Foot of the Cross of Christ, there we find we have the most in common.



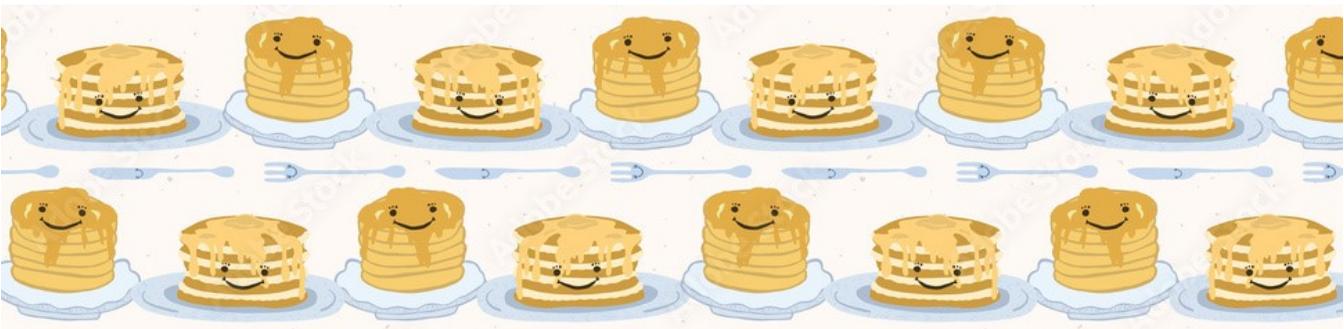
# Pancake Breakfast

**Glory 50 Plus  
Pancake Breakfast  
Outdoors at Glory Lutheran Church  
11:00 am Friday, June 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2022  
All who are 50 plus are invited!**

Group Two will be hosting this event. Please bring an outdoor chair, warm clothing, and an insulated mug (if you have one).

Group Two will provide the food, beverages, and coffee. In the event of inclement weather, we will arrange to meet indoors - socially distanced. This will be strictly a **social event** so we can visit and get to know some of the new folks who have indicated an interest in being part of Glory 50 Plus. We will be inviting everyone to share their ideas for how we plan the next year. **Please come with ideas for activities, speakers, entertainers, and outings that you think may be appropriate for this group.** This information will be used by the Executive and Group leaders as plans for the 2022-2023 season are developed.

**Please RSVP if you plan to attend the Pancake Breakfast by signing the list at the church or contacting Marjorie at [marjoriezelent@gmail.com](mailto:marjoriezelent@gmail.com) or 780-467-5363.**



## Memorial Garden Update

The scope for the Luther Rose Garden has been finalized and we have enlisted the services of Three Seasons Landscaping! Construction of the Luther Rose Garden will begin sometime in June. No definitive date has been set at this time but when it is known an update will be provided in the weekly e-news.

If you happen to walk down to the Memorial Garden area, you will see that most of the Community Garden items have been relocated to the new garden location. The compost bins are still in their original location but will soon be moved to the new Community Garden. Stakes have been placed in the area of the Memorial Garden to show important points of the Luther Rose Garden. Please do NOT remove any stakes or markers in the Memorial Garden area.

The committee is now looking into memorial plaques and signage for the garden, and are continuing the development of a Plan of Operations for the Memorial Garden.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or any member of the Memorial Garden committee.

Rita Spain

*Fellowship, food & fun*  
**CHURCH**  
*Picnic*



We are hoping to have at the end of June  
*details will be forthcoming.*

\*\*\*Looking for individuals to help oversee the gathering.

# New Community Garden 2022



Soil prepared and enriched with manure is now ready for the 2022 gardening season. Thanks to Mark Becker for repeated tilling of the soil to get it ready for Tim Kihn, our Community Garden Coordinator, who created 44 garden spaces plus an enormous potato patch. Pictured at the Work Bee are Tim, Anita Maloney, Judy Moore, and Pastor Markus. Tim cuts cardboard to put down before the mulch is shoveled onto the pathways between the garden spaces. Even Otto, Pastor Markus' puppy, gets involved! Is that a big bone Markus is using to hammer his stake? No wonder Otto is interested... With two water tanks now filled, the gardeners are happy to tend their gardens and watch them germinate.



Lynn & Rita Spain pause after shoveling mulch to create pathways between the garden spaces. Days later they return with Stephanie, Kane and Connor (holding his garden pail) to plant their gardens.

Below: Grace & Don Morgan spread mulch while Bonnie Adams and Soula plant their seeds.



# Time to Get Planting!

Last week, I decided it was time to get planting! So, I gathered my gardening tools, gloves, watering can and seed packets, and headed to the church.

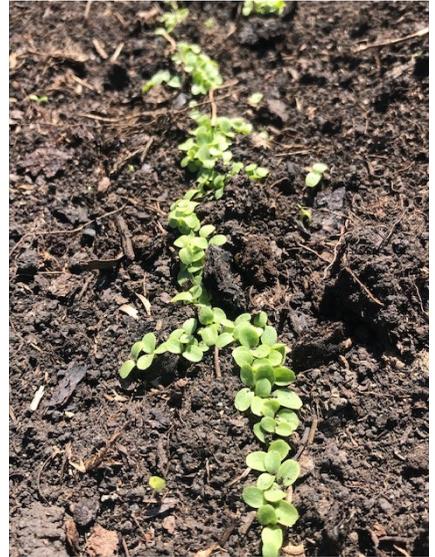
As I drove into the parking lot, I was pleased to see clear signage directing me onto a path that would lead me to the new garden space. Previous garden trekkers had blazed a trail for me to follow, so I proceeded to venture my way on the grassy tracks nestled between the fence and tree grove.

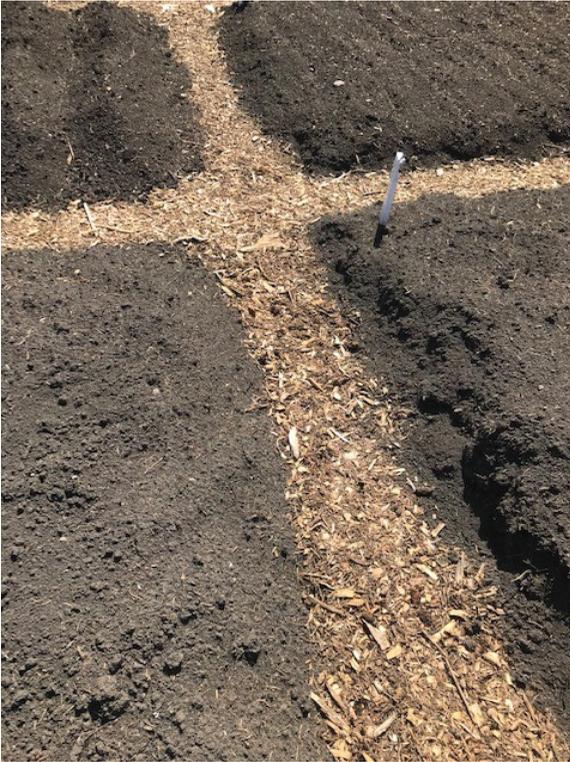
The natural trail kept my car speed at a modest rate, and the slower pace gave wonderful opportunity to catch a close-up glimpse of some of my favorite things – birds! The striking blue feathered tree swallows darted busily across my path, and I also witnessed a few peeking their heads out of the bird houses attached to the fence posts. A little further up the trail and near the tree grove sat a speckled flicker feasting in the grass. A tree branch held two additional birds I didn't recognize, and they were singing to their hearts content. So much awesomeness, and I hadn't even made it to the fabulous garden yet!

Once I was past the church building, I could see the freshly tilled black dirt of the garden plots ahead. I parked my vehicle, grabbed my gear, and walked towards the new garden space. As I looked around, I couldn't help but be struck by the incredible beauty of my surroundings. The garden seemed to be almost hugged by the trees bordering it, and the sights and sounds of spring bursting to life filled my senses!

The garden plots had been created with great care, and bright white, neatly printed name stakes made it easy for me to locate my new spot in the community garden. As I started raking and digging through the dirt, I said to myself, "this is good soil!"

Excited to get planting, I prepped my rows, and then with gloves off, I poured little carrot seeds into my hands and carefully dropped them into the rich, moist earth (it had rained!)





I proceeded to cover the seedlings with soil, and as I did this the words and melody from the song, “Lord let my heart be good soil” played through my mind.

While at the garden, I also had a chance to talk to another Glory gardener. During our conversation we talked about which spaces were set aside to grow food for others. How wonderful it is to give to those in our community and share fresh produce!

As I reflect on my time in the garden, I feel that God is busy growing a few things too: our appreciation for creation, our care for others, joy of community, our knowledge of His abundant gifts and provision...

I was grateful for my first day at the garden and I look forward to the months ahead. I am mindful of the many people who have made this new garden space a reality. So, to all of you who have been involved with the re-envisioning, planning, organizing, and the “hands on and make it happen” tasks, I say a huge THANK YOU! The garden is truly a special place.

Sincerely,  
Lynnette Woodrow

# FATHER'S

# love letter

My Child,

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. Psalm 139:1

I know when you sit down and when you rise up. Psalm 139:2

I am familiar with all your ways. Psalm 139:3

Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. Matthew 10:29-31

For you were made in my image. Genesis 1:27

In me you live and move and have your being. Acts 17:28

For you are my offspring. Acts 17:28

I knew you even before you were conceived. Jeremiah 1:4-5

I chose you when I planned creation. Ephesians 1:11-12

You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book.

Psalm 139:15-16

I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live.

Acts 17:26

You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14

I knit you together in your mother's womb. Psalm 139:13

And brought you forth on the day you were born. Psalm 71:6

I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. John 8:41-44

I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love.

1 John 4:16

And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. 1 John 3:1

Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. 1 John 3:1

I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. Matthew 7:11

For I am the perfect father. Matthew 5:48

Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. James 1:17

For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. Matthew 6:31-33

My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Because I love you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3

My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore.

Psalm 139:17-18

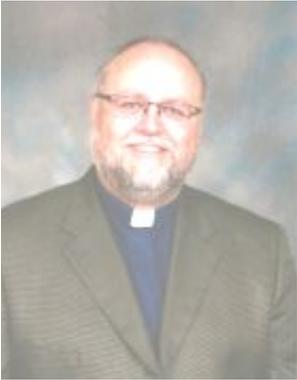
And I rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17

I will never stop doing good to you. Jeremiah 32:40  
For you are my treasured possession. Exodus 19:5  
I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. Jeremiah 32:41  
And I want to show you great and marvelous things. Jeremiah 33:3  
If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. Deuteronomy 4:29  
Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4  
For it is I who gave you those desires. Philippians 2:13  
I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine.  
Ephesians 3:20  
For I am your greatest encourager. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17  
I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles.  
2 Corinthians 1:3-4  
When you are broken-hearted, I am close to you. Psalm 34:18  
As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart.  
Isaiah 40:11  
One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes. Revelation 21:3-4  
And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth.  
Revelation 21:3-4  
I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. John 17:23  
For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. John 17:26  
He is the exact representation of my being. Hebrews 1:3  
He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. Romans 8:31  
And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19  
Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19  
His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. 1 John 4:10  
I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. Romans 8:31-32  
If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. 1 John 2:23  
And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. Romans 8:38-39  
Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. Luke 15:7  
I have always been Father, and will always be Father. Ephesians 3:14-15  
My question is...Will you be my child? John 1:12-13  
I am waiting for you. Luke 15:11-32

Love, Your Dad.

*Almighty God*

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## Bishop's Message - June 2022

Dear Beloved of God -

While on Sabbatical I experienced the prompting of the Spirit to enter a time of listening across our Synod. I wasn't sure of the shape that this would take, but I was committed to engaging in some sort of listening exercise.



For several days in March and April and 1 day in May I met one-on-one with each active rostered pastor and deacon in our Synod, as well as a handful of retired pastors – nearly 80 conversations.

Each listening exercise lasted 30 minutes and I took copious notes (I typed with fury) as each responded to 3 questions:

Now, following 2+ years of COVID:

- 1) How are you feeling in body? in your mind? in spirit? in your place of ministry?
- 2) What is/what has been life-giving for you...sustaining your hope and resiliency? Both in day-to-day living and in ministry?
- 3) As you consider the near future what is your greatest concern/challenge for yourself? for ministry?

I was privileged – honored – to hear from pastors and deacons. Thank you to each for your time, for your sharing, for your vulnerability, for your frankness.

My next step is to prepare a report for our Synod Council who will meet in September. I anticipate that they will want to share this report, perhaps in an abbreviated format, with our Synod. I also anticipate that as the Synod Council receives and is in conversation regarding this report that they will consider future ministry within our Synod based on the report and shaped by our Synod's mission priorities, including the prioritizing of ministry.

Next, I will be entering a listening exercise with lay members of our Synod. Those who have been a part of our Synod's monthly Zoom conversation with lay members across our Synod will be invited to meet with me for a one-on-one conversation.

Other lay members will be invited to respond to a brief survey which will be made available to all who are subscribed to our Synod's e-newsletter, Wednesday's Word. Please feel free to forward the link to the survey to other lay members of your congregation's council, congregational committee members, etc., all who are in leadership roles in your congregation.

Won't you participate?

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A report will be prepared from this listening exercise (the one-on-one conversations and the survey responses), shared with Synod Council, and, I anticipate, shared in an abbreviated version with our Synod.

As with the report from the listening exercise with rostered pastors and deacons, this report will inform our Synod Council's consideration of future ministry, shaped by our Synod's mission priorities, including the prioritizing of ministry.

Please join me in prayer:

Holy God, we pray for our church as we continue to engage in renewal: that the Spirit would guide us and enlighten us, and that in living into a renewed vision of the church we may all be strengthened for ministry in and for our church, and in and for our world. We give you thanks for the gift of being called through baptism. Bless the church with faithful pastors, deacons and laity. Inspire us all to pattern our lives on our Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to you and in service to others. Grant us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others. Amen. (Adapted from EvLW, pg 74)

In Christ Jesus –

Shalom, +Larry

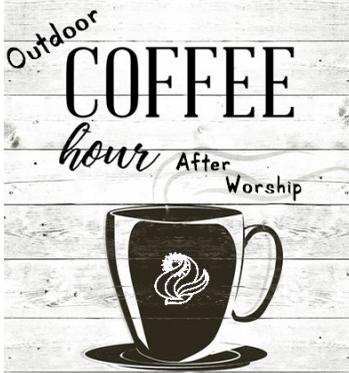
*"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* Romans 15:13



**Did you know we have a Prayer Chain at Glory?**

**The Prayer Chain at Glory is available to anyone wishing to send or receive prayer requests. It is private and confidential. Members with or without e mail are welcome.**

**Please contact Donna Dawson at [dawsondl@shaw.ca](mailto:dawsondl@shaw.ca) for details.**



**Outdoor Coffee Hour**  
**After Sunday Worship**  
starting June 5 (weather permitting)

We are looking for individuals to oversee the set up/clean up of this time together each week. Please sign up to help on your preferred week(s) in the Narthex.

If there is no social leader for that Sunday we will simply forgo the coffee time until the next week.

**Fund Raising - Bottle Drive**

The Church is always collecting bottles so please keep those empty cans, bottles and milk cartons coming in. Thank you, **Doug Sime**, for taking them to the recycle station. All proceeds go towards the church general fund.

Please only include **REFUNDABLE beverage containers.**



**Tuesday - Friday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

Please note that Heidi may be working from home.  
Email and phone calls will continue to be answered during office hours. Please call the office if you would like to visit the church.



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