CHURCH Matters

Glory Lutheran Church Newsletter - 07.19 Edition

Confirmation Sunday

June 9, 2019

Katrina Stropel

Owen McKinnon

Message from Pastor Markus

"Our Home and Native Land"

As Canadians celebrate Canada Day, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) is also preparing for our national convention. It will take place in Regina July 11-13. National conventions are much smaller now than only a few years ago, with a total of 150 delegates attending. This reduces costs to congregations while also limiting the congregations' direct involvement. We at Glory are blessed that one of our members, Faith Nostbakken, will be attending as a delegate for the Synod of Alberta and the Territories (ABT Synod).

The theme of the convention is "Called to Journey Together: The Ministry of Reconciliation", which delegates will explore through various lenses. Presentations will include topics such as reconciliation with indigenous peoples, with creation, and with people of other faiths (particularly the Muslim community). Delegates will review our ongoing full-communion relationship with the Anglican Church of Canada, the policy on assistance in dying, and discuss a resolution on respect for LGBTQ persons. The convention will bring people of the ELCIC together from across our nation, as well as representatives of the church around the world.

The word "together" is a wonderful word. We are never alone in this world, or in the church. God has placed us in relationship in countless ways. And yet there is much loneliness, division, misunderstanding, and conflict in the world, and in the church. This makes the convention theme so timely. Together and reconciliation are aspirational words, things we are called to strive for. As the apostle Paul wrote, "God has reconciled us to himself and given us the ministry of reconciliation." To gather together, to re-concile, is to over come the loneliness, division and conflict we experience through the power of God's love for the world in Jesus Christ.

As we celebrate Canada Day, and the togetherness in our diversity across this land, I leave you with the words to my favorite "national song", that expresses the vision of living together and reconciled even beyond the boundaries of our home and native land. Number 887 in the ELCIC's official hymnal (ELW), it is sung to the tune of "Finlandia".

This Is My Song

by Lloyd Stone and Georgia Harkness

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine;
this is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms.
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
myself I give you; let your will be done.*

*Third stanza by Georgia Harkness.
St. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Co.
Sts, 1, 2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Co.

thank you

A big thank you to **Kuhlmann's Greenhouse Market Garden** for their generous gift of 16 tomato plants now located in the garden box behind the church. Included are three varieties - Manitoba, Yellow Pear, and Bush tomatoes.

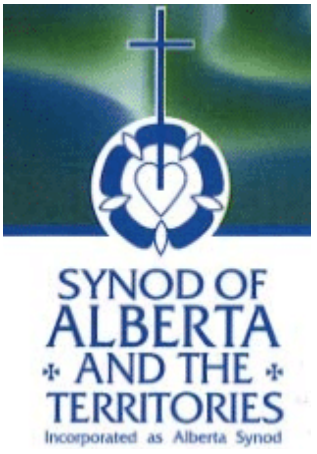
If you are one of our regular gardeners, please visit the garden box when you are weeding and watering your own garden. If you see quack grass growing among our sturdy tomatoes, please take time to dig it out. Tim says, despite his best efforts, the box is filled with quack grass. With a team effort we may be able to discourage the grass and give our community tomatoes a better chance to flourish.

Thanks to **Tim, David, and Marjorie** for digging, delivering, and planting the tomato plants.

Thank you

to **Rita and Lynn Spain** for initially renovating the baby room when we moved into our new church home, and then for maintaining it so that it is a safe and welcoming space for the youngest members of our congregation. Thank you as well to **Sandy Heinsen** for taking over this responsibility.

Thank you
to all those who take home from church, for waste collection, recyclable materials (in blue bags), compost (in compostable bags), and garbage.



Message from the Bishop's Office

By: The Rev. Prema Samuel, Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life

Grace and Peace to you from God, our Parent, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, and the Holy Spirit our Guide and Counselor.

A few years ago, I was called and ordained to serve among the wonderful people in a Long-Term Care Centre, where I learnt the beauty and the miracle of being present with someone, ranging from sharing coffee with conversation through to their time approaching death. Being a part of that Holy Moment, to just be present, and witness God at work – **what a Blessing.**

During my time as Chaplain, along with staff and people in care, we have worked side by side, continually exploring our faith. We've gathered in large groups and small to discuss our ideas about God and Jesus. We've sought to discover what it means to be a Christian and where God is, in our present day and situation. We've worshipped, worked and celebrated together. We have seen God working in our midst – **what a Blessing.**

Alongside of my time as Chaplain, I have also come together with many of you as Preacher and Congregation; as Pastor and Parishioner: individuals in relationship with each other. I thank God for the many times I have been invited into lives; sharing with me the highs and lows; in times of joy and anguish, thanksgiving and suffering, introductions and goodbyes, during life-changing moments – **what a Blessing!**

And now, God's call has extended to serve the Synod of Alberta & The Territories – What an honor to be asking the very question along with each of you, 'Where is God calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God Leading us?' **What a Blessing** to witness and journey together with you to where God is calling us.

Having celebrated Pentecost Sunday recently, we ask these familiar questions, 'Where is God Calling us? Where is God meeting us? Where is God Leading us?' We don't truly know; but one thing is certain: the future lies together, in community, following God as a community, the body of Christ. Together we can bravely face the future in trust and hope. My experience of this church shows me that we are strongest when we stand together. I hope to bring a continued sense of community and relationship in my ministry as Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life within the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

I always thank God for all of you in my prayers. Brothers and sisters, I ask that you pray for me as I walk alongside of you in this journey. May the peace of God be with us in all that we do. May the grace of our Lord Jesus, God's anointed, be with us all.

In the Name of +Christ.

Prema Samuel Assistant to the Bishop

Glory Lutheran church picnic

& Graduation Sunday

June 23, 2019

↑ Our Graduates Noah McKinnon & Anikah Woodrow.

Thank you Linda Schmidt, Doug Sime & Tammy Kihn for the photos!

View IN FULL COLOUR online!

Classifieds

There always seems to be endless odd jobs to do and our church is no different. Things like chair cleaning, cleaning windows/light fixtures, fixing things...even week to week garbage removal. If you have some extra time please consider helping out in any of these areas. It would be greatly appreciated!
Contact Susan Ronsko or Henry Zilm or the office for more information.

WANTED:
An individual or a crew to put up the basketball net. Please contact Pat Becker if you are interested.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed

VBS 2019 - July 15-19

There are many ways to serve in VBS. not everyone is equipped to teach, and that is okay. We will also need kitchen/snack coordinators, decorators, registration helpers, greeters, games/activity coordinators, the list goes on! Everyone has a way to use their gifts during VBS! To volunteer, please email glorylc.VBS@hotmail.com

We ❤ Volunteers!

GLORY YOUTH

Recent events with Seth Perry included an evening of Theology on the Town, a pizza and games night, and a fireside evening. Check the website or Glory's Facebook page for details of upcoming events.

GLORY MEMBERS in the Spotlight

... a place to celebrate the lives and good works of Glory People.

Kurtis & Chelsea Ashton

Children Lt. to Rt.: Randall, Warner, Paige, Blake

Pajama clad Warner is stretched out on the living room floor, chin propped in his hands as he watches me greet his mother – perhaps curious about this visitor arriving just when it is his bedtime. I am surprised at the quiet household, knowing four children, aged six and under, live here.

Blake, the eldest, is six years old, having completed Grade One at Wye School. He enjoys playing and watching sports – hockey, baseball, and basketball. Warner, age four, enjoys pre-school two days a week. Besides watching sports with his brother, he can often be found playing hockey on the driveway. Randall, age two, will attend a County program, "Building Blocks," in the fall. He likes to do whatever his big brothers are doing. Meanwhile, baby Paige, now three months, does what babies do, while her big brothers dote on their happy, new sister.

Growing up with ease in the "tech" world, the boys can follow the latest sports scores by entering the kitchen and saying to their Google Assist, "Hey Google! - - - Boston win last night?" (Remembering the older boys are six and four years old, I am impressed!)

Chelsea, a busy Mom, is content to be at home on their acreage, caring for her family. Born in Kindersley, Saskatchewan, Chelsea was raised on the farm, the fourth child of a family of five girls and one boy. She attended the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon where she earned a Commerce degree. In 2006, when attending the CA School of Business in Edmonton, she met Kurtis. After their marriage in 2010, Chelsea worked as a CPA (Certified Professional Accountant) until Blake was born. In her spare moments, Chelsea volunteers as Financial Secretary at Glory, and volunteers at her boys' school and pre-school. She often takes the children to visit their grandparents in Kindersley, where they love to play on the farm.

Kurtis, after completing his CPA studies, worked for six and a half years in the Finance Department for Clean Harbors, an industrial maintenance business serving the oilfield industry. Today, he is Senior Vice-President of Finance for SCM Insurance. For four years, Kurtis volunteered as Treasurer for the Special Olympics. He served on the Registration Committee for CPA Alberta for six years. During that time, all CA groups were amalgamated. The Committee's work included applications, professional education, exemptions, and orientation for new persons in the organization.

Besides currently playing recreational hockey, Kurtis has played baseball and slow pitch since he was five years old. He also coached soccer and hockey when Blake was on a team. Not hard to tell where the boys get their interest in sports…

~ written by Marjorie Zelent

John & Joyce Hykawy

Monty, a curious 14 year old cat, greets me at the door, and eventually curls up on my lap while we visit.

John and Joyce have now become a little less active due to health challenges, yet still participate in Glory 50 Plus, and visit the local Icelandic Club. John sings in the choir and plans to return in September. Prior to moving to Sherwood Park, they lived in Devon where they were very active at Peace Lutheran, Leduc and at Victory Lutheran, Devon. John served on Council, Joyce took part in Altar Guild, the Dorcas Society, and through their Outreach Committee - Meals on Wheels and visits to the Bissell Centre. For 11 years they spent winters in Mesa keeping active at (another) Victory Lutheran Church.

John's career began as a teacher in rural Manitoba where grades 1-8 students were crammed into one classroom. He later joined the Department of National Defense in administration serving in Public Service under the leadership of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent till he took early retirement (due to illness) in 1988 when Brian Mulroney was Prime Minister. As Secretary of State, while responsible for 27 citizenship judges, John "swore in" Sheila Copps' mother as a Citizenship Judge. In 1990, John took up painting while wintering in Arizona. Today, their home is filled with oil paintings by John and watercolors by Joyce.

When Joyce was still in high school, she was infected with tuberculosis (from drinking milk from a farmer's tuberculous cattle) necessitating a four year confinement to the Ninette Sanatorium where she completed Grade 12. Joyce had TB in both lungs and in the nodes of her neck. Treatment for her bilateral pneumothorax (collapse of portions of her lungs) included bed rest, fresh air, and medication that resulted in kidney damage which presents a health challenge today.

John and Joyce met while attending high school in Teulon, Manitoba. John demonstrated his loyalty with regular letters and visits during Joyce's four year hospitalization. With the physician's permission, they were married in 1953. After raising two girls and a boy, and the death of their daughter, Joyce became a registered nurse through Second Chance Adult Education - Quo Vadis Nursing School. She later worked in surgical, medical, and isolation units. When John retired, their children encouraged them to move to Alberta. In addition to painting, and Joyce's passion for knitting and crocheting, they enjoy spending time with their family, including three adult granddaughters.

Both with a positive outlook, Joyce says, "We depend very much on the power of prayer and do not hesitate to call upon our friends in Canada and Arizona when needed."

Manitoba Crocus
Oil painting by John

Pansies
Watercolor by Joyce

Buzz Report

The last nine months have been humbling for your intrepid beekeeper in many ways. Events happen that are disappointing, confusing and shake oneself out of that comfortable place in life. At the time these small or large events seem a little unfair or unjust. But after the initial shock and with the help of wonderful friends, another perspective emerges. Life and events are not in our control, circumstances can change suddenly, so enjoy the beauty and small joys in one's life and the surrounding world. Do not take things for granted. Realize that you cannot control everything and after a setback, recalibrate and move forward.

So with this rather cryptic introduction, I will update the bee situation on the Glory LC back 40. Simply put, the bees had a very difficult winter of 2018-19. Eight hives are gone from the original 11 although thankfully Stephanie and Emily's hive survived. There were a number of reasons for these losses including extreme cold, mice, ants and more that I cannot as yet fathom. The bees are still a mystery to me. Simply put, Mother Nature took charge and was not kind to the bees in the last eight months in spite of my best efforts.

So here we are in early July. After a start-over, there are now nine hives that are thriving, all bees are working extremely hard to collect nectar from the hay field and surrounding flowers. It is still such a joy to see the small, tireless workers clumsily bringing their heavy loads into the hive. When they are enter the hives you can almost hear a thump as they strike the landing board in front of the hive. It always amazes me that they find their way home after foraging and selecting the correct hive out of nine options. Imagine the internal GPS that allows them to do this!

In summary, my sweet journey and discovery of God's amazing little creatures continues. Many thanks to all at Glory LC who continue ask about the bees' welfare and also thank you to good buddy and mentor Erich who lends his sage advice to the project.

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The Glory Bee project was honoured with a visit from the University of Alberta's iGEM research team on June 26 to gauge the health of the bees and look for any signs of a devastating bee disease called nosema. Thankfully team members Talia and Brittany did not see signs of this disease. For more information on this team's work visit http://2018.igem.org/Team:UAlberta

Beekeeper Tim

Fireside Wednesdays Start JULY 3rd

Fireside Wednesdays begin in July and go until the last Wednesday in August.

Join in on the food, fellowship and fun!

The fire pit will be there to roast the perfect wiener or marshmallow. A hot BBQ will also be available for those with a taste for burgers and/or steaks! Many choose to add a salad or side dish to a sharing table and there are always tasty surprises! Bring your own meat, buns, munchies and drinks. Condiments are provided.

Remember, the only food you NEED to bring is what you plan to eat!

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!

Hope to see you there!

Keep your lawn chairs in the trunk of your vehicle and supply of hot dogs in your freezer.

FACILITY BOOKING

Our church is a busy place with activities from within and without of our congregation. It is important to **book space and time** so there are no conflicts. Check the website (glorylutheran.ca) on the drop down menu under Contact Us. Click on Facility Rental and fill out the ONLINE APPLICATION to book your space and time. Or call the church office and speak with Heidi. If you want to confirm that a space is free, call the church office or check the *Calendar* on the website on the drop down menu.

Creation Care Support Team

The Creation Care Support Team is very proud of our church family for all your amazing efforts regarding composting and recycling! Together, we are making it possible for Glory Lutheran to divert a greater % of our waste from the landfill.

In regards to composting, if you have an item that you're not sure about, just ask yourself: Is the item made from a material that was once living? If the answer is "yes" then it can go into the green compost bins ☺

Some "yes" items:

☑ All food

☑ Soiled paper (napkins, pizza boxes, muffin papers)

☑ Wooden stir sticks

☑ Coffee grounds and filters

Some "no" items:

☒ 'To go' coffee cups (because of the plastic interior)

☒ Gum (it's made of plastic… what? True fact!)

☒ Saran wrap, tinfoil, or other non-organic matter

Last month, our team encouraged you to try a summer of plastic reducing. Here's a reminder on some of the ideas we shared to help you get started:

- Instead of using plastic grocery bags, bring reusable bags with you. Keep them stored in your vehicle for quick and easy use.
- Replace veggie produce bags with reusable bags. These are available at Save-On Foods (on sale for $2.19) in Produce section or Earth's General Store
- Side step the non-recyclable, throwaway drink containers by bringing a reusable coffee mug, or cold beverage cup with you. You'll enjoy a 10% discount at some of the coffee chains!
- Instead of buying water in single use plastic bottles, fill a reusable water bottle from home. Saves you money, and is healthier for you and the environment!
- Some grocery stores do carry paper bags, upon request. Save-On Foods has these available at the tills.
- Instead of single use straws, paper straws or metal straws can be purchased.

KIDS CHURCH NEWS

Another year of school has been completed and the teachers and helpers from Kids Church wish you all a safe and blessed summer vacation!

Please remember that VBS is scheduled for July 15th-19th
At "Giddy Up Junction" we will learn how God's love is
strong, ***unlimited***, ***personal***, ***unfailing*** and God's love ***saves!***
Our week will also be full of great games, crafts, fun music and yummy snacks.

We hope to see you there!

Kids Church will resume September 8th, 2019. ☺

Community Outreach Committee

All of our Community Garden spaces have been taken and most of them have been planted.

With all this rain the gardens (and weeds) are growing well.

A special thanks goes out to Tim Kihn and all the other helpers that work so hard to make our garden such a success. Also, thank you, Marjorie Zelent for collecting the fees and doing the administrative work.

Tim Kihn has as advised us that the new waterline is connected to the two church roof pipes that the underground system is working "brilliantly"; during the big rain, the water was gushing from the two outlets just past the treeline.

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~ Submitted by Barb Anderson

Council Highlights

During the spring, the youth and young adults (college and career ages) have had the opportunity to participate in several events with Seth Perry. These included an evening of Theology on the Town, a pizza and games night, and a fireside evening. Check the website or Glory's Facebook page for details of upcoming events.

The Memorial Garden committee continues to meet on a regular basis and is in the process of developing an overall landscape plan. To this end, they are revisiting the information provided by Ron Berezan at the April workshop, are gathering data on items that have arisen at their meetings and are spending time becoming more familiar with the property. Once the overall plan is developed and, specifically, the location of the Memorial Garden is established, the plan will be presented to church council. Because the Memorial Garden committee is developing a cohesive plan for the entire property that is thought out regarding placement of structures, trees and shrubs, and other such things, we would ask that no changes or additions on church property be made without prior consent of church council and in consultation with the Memorial Garden committee.

As you know, the agreement with the national church regarding the back piece of land comes to an end in 2020. Discussions between Glory church council and the national church have begun. There will be more information to follow.

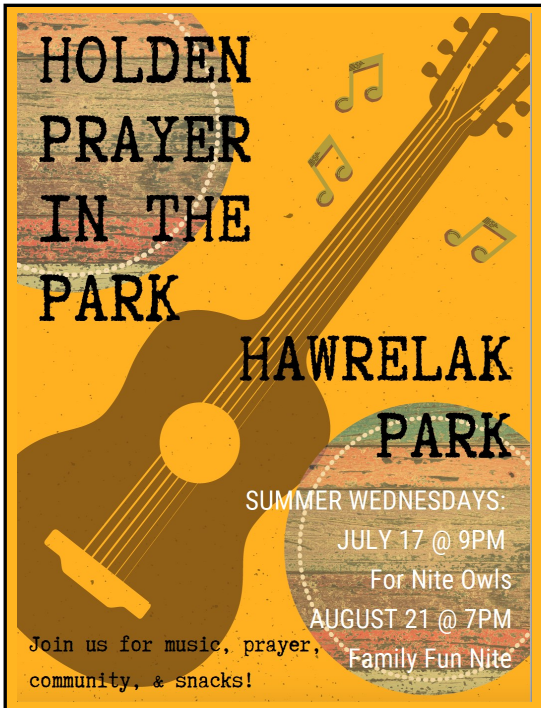
What's Happening

GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH

DATES TO REMEMBER

July/Aug Fireside Wednesday - 6:00PM weekly until last Wednesday in August

July 15-19 Vacation Bible School 9AM-4PM – registration is available online



Campfire and Holden Evening Prayer

- On **July 17 at 9PM** we gather for a **Holden Evening Prayer for Nite Owls**, and make **smores afterwards.**

- On **August 21 at 7PM** we meet for **Holden Evening Prayer geared towards families.** Those who would like to share a meal prior to the service are invited to come at **6PM BYOP** (Bring Your Own Picnic) and enjoy a relaxing family outing.

The focus in our Synod is moving towards intentional collaboration between churches in Edmonton.

All are invited to join Lutherans from across the greater Edmonton area in sharing a monthly city-wide midweek service on the **third Wednesday** of the months of **July and August** at **Hawrelak Park** (follow the signs!). We will be using the beautiful liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer, booklets will be provided.

In general, please bring a chair, a hat, a water bottle, and join us - the congregations of **Ascension, Holy Spirit, Our Saviour, and Trinity** who are hosting these events.

In the case of unfavorable weather the services will be held at Holy Spirit, 11223 51 Avenue.

If you have any questions, please contact
Pastor Barbara Groote at Ascension. 780 469 2421

Our Confirmands:
Owen McKinnon and Katrina Stropel

Credit for Confirmation Photos: Linda Schmidt, Linda's Lenswork

This Newsletter is available IN FULL COLOUR online!

Tuesday - Friday, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.
Mondays - CLOSED
Please note that the door to the church will usually be locked and you'll need to ring the doorbell by the front door.

OFFICE HOURS

GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Check out our Website: **www.glorylutheran.ca**