

CHURCH *Matters*



Glory Lutheran Church Newsletter - 07.22 Edition



Council Highlights

July 2022

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual picnic on June 26, 2022 and to all of you who brought salads, side dishes, and desserts to share. Thanks go out in particular to those who helped to make the day such an enjoyable one, including:

- Pat and Mark for doing the shopping;
- Pat, Lynnette, Sherry, Katrina, and Rose for set-up;
- Pat for overseeing things in the kitchen, including food service and clean-up, with the help of Maggie, Kwai Lan, Sherry, Lynn, Rhonda, and Rose;
- Sherry and Miles for barbecuing the burgers and hot dogs;
- Lynnette and Rhonda for overseeing the games for the kids (and the kids-at-heart);
- Graham, Darren, Lynn, Brett, and everyone else who helped with clearing up and taking down tables etc.

My apologies to anyone whose name I've missed, but please know that your help was very much appreciated!

We finally had the opportunity to have a rain-free Fireside evening, although it was on the Thursday before Canada Day, rather than Wednesday. It was a small group but the food and fellowship was enjoyable nonetheless. **Thanks to Eula, Gerry, and Marjorie** for helping with setup and clean up, and **thanks to Dave and Steven** for keeping the fire going. It really was a beautiful evening and (we hope) the first of many such evenings this summer!

Just a reminder that Vacation Bible School will be taking place August 15 to 19, 2022. We will have four leaders from Hastings Lake Bible Camp running the programme this year and we are looking for people who are willing to billet one of the camp workers in their home for the week. We will also need volunteers to help out with the children and in the kitchen with drinks and snacks. Please contact Susan Ronsko if you are able to lend a hand.

This will be a quieter month for Council as we will not meet again until August. However, 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.

Rose Schlegl
Council Chair

Pastoral Care - Schedule & Contact Info

During Pastor Markus' sabbatical, pastoral care will be provided by Gary Nickel, Orlow Lund and Laird Borst. We are very thankful for the help and support that will be provided by these individuals over the next few months! Please refer to the below schedule for the dates and contact numbers of each pastor available for pastoral care or visitations during July, August, and September.

July

Pastor Gary Nickel: July 1-3; 24-31

Phone number: (780) 998-3963 email: nickel3@telus.net

Pastor Orlow Lund: July 4-23

Phone number: (587) 990-4691 email: orlow.lund@p2c.com

August

Pastor Gary Nickel: August 1-14

Pastor Orlow Lund: August 15-31

September

Pastor Laird Borst: evenings and weekends

Cell number: (780) 913-2976 Home: (780) 485-1660

email: lborst@gss.org

*Pastor Gary is available if daytime hours during Monday-Friday are required.

Worship Leaders Schedule

July

July 3rd – Lay leader Rita Spain

July 10th – Pastor Tim Posyluzny

July 17th – Deacon Faith Nostbakken

July 24th – Pastor Tim Posyluzny

July 31st – Lay leaders Pat and Mark Becker

August

August 7th – Lay leaders Eunice and Neil Querengesser

August 14th – Bishop Larry and Pastor Prema

August 21st – Deacon Faith Nostbakken

August 28th – Pastor Tim Posyluzny

September

Sept. 4th – Deacon Faith Nostbakken

Sept. 11th – Pastor Tim Posyluzny

Sept. 18th – Deacon Faith Nostbakken

Sept. 25th – Pastor Tim Posyluzny

Thank
you



*Thank you to all who have kept me in prayer through my leg fracture and subsequent surgery to my right hip. Cards, emails and phone calls have been appreciated as well. I am fortunate to be part of such a wonderful church family. Blessings to all!
~Minna Peever*



STEP LADDER NEEDED:

Needed: a two or three step ladder

If anyone has a two or three-step ladder they would like to part ways with, the community garden group would gratefully accept this.

It is needed to change move the water hoses to the different tanks.

Thank you very much for this consideration, call or text Tim if you have such a ladder.

Tim Kihn: 780-717-5058



Thank you to *all those who work hard* to maintain and add beauty to our property! Thank you *Tim Kihn and Marjorie Zelent* for the wonderful job coordinating the Community Garden. Thank you Tim, for the hard work trenching and setting up the water line to the community garden (see photos on page 14).

A PRAYER ...

O Loving God, in Holy Baptism we are assured of God's presence with us throughout our lives. Help us to trust in your power to make all things whole and new, our gracious Lord. Amen

Memorial Garden Update



Construction of the Luther Rose Garden has begun!

On Monday, June 13th, the area for phase one of the Memorial Garden started to be cleared and leveled and then the skies turned grey and much needed rain caused the project to screech to a temporary halt. However, once the rain stopped and the ground dried out a bit, work commenced again.

A simple plastic tape barrier has been put up in front of the construction area. For safety reasons, please do not cross this barrier into the work area.

To reduce costs, it was suggested that planting of shrubs and spreading of mulch be done by our congregation members. We do not have a date set for these tasks but if you are able to help, please keep them in mind as more information will be provided as it becomes available.

Rita Spain, On Behalf of the Memorial Garden Committee



When You Celebrate Your 90th...



Glory 50 Plus representatives ignored the dark clouds to sing Happy Birthday to John Hykawy on his 90th birthday. Still practicing COVID precautions, we stood on the doorstep, admired their flower garden, and passed out nutritious muffins.

Congratulations John!

Fireside

Wednesday



A small but energetic crew gathered for the First Fireside Wednesday which was postponed till Thursday. The weather cooperated and the group looks forward to seeing more folks come out on Wednesdays during the rest of the summer. The fire will be ready, and the barbecue will be lit for the food items you may need to cook. Bring your wieners/meat and a side dish to share.



A PRAYER ...

O Lord, you continue to invite us to your table, though we are sinners and unworthy of grace. In sincere humility, we bring the concerns of our lives and our church to your care, as we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

GLORY 50 PLUS



Coffee's On More than 30 folks gathered for the first time in almost two years to visit and enjoy a pancake breakfast. Thanks to Group Two for hosting the event. Following a brief devotion and prayer, everyone dug into the pancakes. In our eager-ness, we neglected to take any photos of our breakfast buffet. Gerry made sure there was plenty of coffee and tea to sip while we got caught up on our visiting. Those attending were invited to offer ideas for future gatherings of Glory 50 Plus. The group leaders from past years will gather prior to September to explore these ideas and make plans for the 2022-2023 season. Graham Laughton demonstrates that volunteering can be dangerous work! Ouch!



Our *Spiritual* Journey

A Message from Pastor Nickel

Summer -- for many that time we slow down and take a break/vacation. That focus on **PEACE** is also what **OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY** needs. Peace -- as Jesus says, relating to, "It is **my own peace** that I give you" [in John]. **Peace** that is maybe **different** than we expect or want.

I've always enjoyed Jack Benny at work -- said to be one of the best comedians *ever* for his sense of "timing" while doing humor. He was one of radio and tv's earliest and most popular comedians. His trademark -- his tightness with money.

In a memorable episode, a robber puts a gun to his head and said, "your money or your life." Jack didn't answer right away. The robber then shouted, "I said, "Your money or your life"." [another pause] Jack then shouted back, "Give me time! I'm still thinking it over."

But there's more to Jack Benny. In real life Jack had a generous, loving heart. The day after he died, his widow, Mary, received a beautiful red rose. No card. The next day another long-stemmed red rose arrived. No card. After about a week, Mary phoned the florist and asked, "My curiosity is getting the best of me. To whom do I give thanks for these beautiful gifts?"

The florist said, "They're from Jack. He arranged for me to send a long-stemmed red rose to you every day for the rest of your life." Mary was moved to tears. It was the kind of thing that she had grown to expect from the generous, loving heart of Jack, and also helped bring her peace.

That story makes a good introduction to **peace that comes out of love**. Remember Jesus, briefing his disciples on their first missionary trip, saying, "Whenever you go into a house, first say, "Peace be with this house..." Or, during the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples, Jesus says: "Peace is what I leave with you; it is **my own peace** that I give you." [John 14:27]

Here, we should note that the Bible speaks of **several kinds of peace**.

- + There's peace in a military sense -- the absence of war between nations. We seldom have it in the world and not now because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- + There's peace in a personal sense -- a kind of feeling of well-being, peace with ourselves. That doesn't always happen when we are anxious about that major dental appointment, or starting a new job.
- + There's the peace in a religious sense -- indicating a right relationship with God, as in being at

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peace with God. That doesn't always happen when we let our worries and/or fears bog us down and make it hard to feel God's presence.

- + And there's peace as Jesus uses it, to be lovingly at peace with God, neighbor, and oneself; this -- sometimes called, the **"Peace of Christ"**.

This is the peace --- that comes from our Confession of Sins, and knowing of God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ's gift of love for us on the Cross.

This is the peace --- that we hear Jesus promising us, offering us, giving us.

This is the peace --- that we speak to one another in worship when we "Exchange The Peace".

This is the peace --- that promises us the peace and unity of God's kingdom where you live forever and ever.

This is a peace --- that is unlike any other peace -- it's more than we can totally understand.

This is a peace --- that **comes out of love, God's love for us through the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ**, who gave us a way to become a part of His Family.

This is a peace --- that can help move us to do things in love that we might not imagine or consider possible.

This is a peace --- that the **Holy Spirit, in love for us**, helps us with. You are not alone, I am not alone, in trying to figure out and realize this peace.

Yes, this is a **peace that originates in love from God for us**; a **peace** that is **different from and greater than** any other peace; a **peace** that helps us do stuff that we might never consider doing -- that's **beyond any other peace**.

And Jesus spoke of: "...my own peace that I give you" -- a gift from God for us! St. Augustine talked about a state of calm with God and then with one another: "Our hearts were made for you, O God, & they will not rest until they rest in you."

Consider looking beyond our normal relationships with one another. Let your mind and soul and spirit reach out -- in new ways -- to a **state of peace**, an interior calm, a **feeling of love of God for us**. Like, your beloved person has just sent you an unexpected gift, perhaps a long-stemmed red rose.

May the Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace, Gary Nickel



We haven't seen this in our lifetimes.

A historic crisis, years in the making, is threatening 50 million with famine.

After years of progress toward global food security, the last few years have had devastating effect.

Drought, Covid-19, conflict and shifting climates have devastated farming across the region, and now the Ukraine crisis has severely disrupted supply chains.

Across sub-Saharan Africa, the risk of starvation has become very real — it's estimated that one person is dying of hunger every 48 seconds in East Africa.

Nearly half of those at risk are children.

CLWR and our partners are already responding — providing emergency relief and supporting small-scale farmers in places like Ethiopia and Burundi.

But the need is so great. And our partners on the ground are ready to do more.

Now, for a limited time, any gift you make will be doubled thanks to a matching fund just announced by the Government of Canada.

We're coordinating rapidly with the other members of the Humanitarian Coalition to make sure we can save as many lives as possible, and that's why the Government of Canada is matching gifts to members of the Coalition, including CLWR—but only until July 17.

Your gift will mean our partners can provide emergency support to even more families who are making impossible decisions about how to survive. And if you act quickly, your gift will have double the impact thanks to this matching fund.

You can donate now at clwr.org/hungercrisis or by calling **1-800-661-2597**.

This crisis is getting worse, but we have the opportunity to do something, together.

Will you join other Canadians in responding now?

Please join me in praying that the world will respond with urgency and love, and please give today if you're able.

May God bless you deeply,

Karin Achtelstetter

GLORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOUTH



Spikeball™

EVENT

**SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2022
NOON TO 4PM.**

This event is for confirmation aged youth to young adults; feel free to bring a friend! Pizza will be provided.

Please RSVP to
it.youth@glorylutheran.ca
(and include any dietary requirements) so we know how much pizza to order.



Community Garden - July 3, 2022 - Photo by Tim Kihn

The water line to the community garden is trenched and buried. It was a fun job, I finished just as the fog rolled in and the coyotes were almost nipping at my heels. The line collects rainwater from the church building and fills cube containers at the garden.
~ Tim Kihn, Facebook





STRATHCONA IN BLOOM: OUTDOOR SPACES RECOGNITION

We are excited to announce that Glory Lutheran Church has again been nominated for creating a beautiful outdoor space!

(You can visit [Strathcona.ca/bloom](https://strathcona.ca/bloom) to learn more.)



Congratulations

YOUR ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN NOMINATED



Dear Members of Glory Lutheran Church,

'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Matthew 25:40

As you are aware, these days there are many refugees throughout the world in need of help and support. The United Nations High Commission on Refugees estimates that there are more than one hundred million displaced persons worldwide, a number that seems positively overwhelming. But while none of us can help all of them, Glory Lutheran Church currently has a wonderful opportunity to make a real difference for the better in the lives of four of them.

Odai Hasan and his wife Doaa Shehadeh, along with their two young sons Mohammad and Ahmad, are Syrian refugees currently residing in Jordan. Although Odai's parents, brothers, and sister, also refugees, were resettled in Edmonton about six years ago, he and Doaa were not able to join them at that time. They and their two sons are still waiting to be reunited with their family in Edmonton. Odai's mother and father particularly long to see their grandsons face-to-face for the first time.

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Glory Lutheran Church hopes to bring these refugee claimants here by sponsoring them through Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). Although we have supplied all of the necessary documentation, CLWR requires funding to be in place to support them through their first year in Canada, should their application be successful. We have most of the funding available for CLWR but are still in need of about \$7000.

We ask that you please pray for the Hasan family and for Glory's refugee committee. And if you are able, would you please prayerfully consider making a donation to Glory's refugee fund this summer to help Odai, Doaa, Mohammad, and Ahmad join their family in Canada? A reply slip has been enclosed for your convenience, detailing your contribution options. We plan to have all funds to Canadian Lutheran World Relief by the middle of September so they can begin the refugee application process through the Canadian Government; thus, **we are hoping that you can help us meet our goal by ensuring your contributions reach the church by 15 August 2022.**

We can meet this goal of \$7000 in various ways:

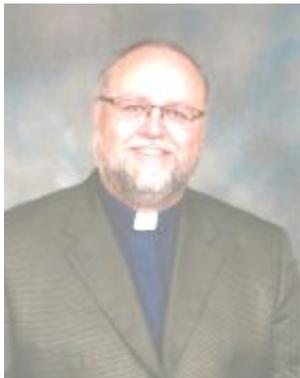
If just seven people contributed \$1000:	$7 \times \$1000 = \$7000.$
If fourteen people contributed \$500:	$14 \times \$500 = \$7000.$
If seventy people contributed \$100:	$70 \times \$100 = \$7000.$
If 140 people contributed \$50:	$140 \times \$50 = \$7000.$

But please feel free to contribute any amount you wish.

Thank you very much for considering this request. You have the opportunity to make a lasting difference for the better in the lives of this family. Please ensure your donation reaches Glory Lutheran Church by **15 August 2022**. Should we exceed our goal, the remaining funds will help to support future refugee resettlement initiatives.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Neil or Eunice Querengesser at neilq@telusplanet.net or (780) 449-4687.

'Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.' Hebrews 13:2



Bishop's Message - July/August 2022



Dear Beloved of God -

“Faith is the ability to listen to the melody of the future and hope is the courage to dance to its rhythm now” (adapted from Brazilian theologian Rubem Alves).

Participants at the May 9-13, 2022, Leadership Conference of the Americas at Santiago, Chile

– of member churches of the Lutheran World Federation in Latin America, the Caribbean and North America – gathered, were encouraged and guided by the theme, “I breathe upon you the breath of life,” based on Ezekiel 37, the story of dry bones.

Ezekiel’s text is charged with this image of movement. The blowing, breath, spirit (ruach) of God has been present since the beginning. YHWH’s ruach moved over the waters. That same spirit falls on the dry bones causing the revitalization of that which had died.

“The bones have dried and are making noise,” shared keynote presenter, Rev. Dr. Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director of Global Mission, ELCA, “and our churches are in crisis.” Yes, in this time of pandemic, but even prior to this with our mission context marked by the great “isms” (patriarchism, racism and populism), and like the dry bones of Ezekiel they are making noise. 3

These three “isms” are present, unfortunately, in the life of our faith communities. “It is they who have dried the bones...and now the bones are making noise. It is these “isms”, said Padilla, “that cause the great abyss between the church and life project of Jesus.” These “isms” seek to hoard and maintain power while the life project of Jesus sought to empower, to serve, to embrace all in grace and love even to the point of death.

So, where do we go? The Brazilian, Vitor Westhelle, gives us a clue: “The theology of the cross is neither a discourse nor a doctrine. It is a way of life that we live out. It is a practice that involves a risk. It is a story that if truly told, courts danger but moves also into hopeful solidarity, the solidarity of those who are moved by the pain of God in the midst of the world, or by the pain of the world in the midst of God” (quoted by Padilla, “Martin Luther for the Life of the Church,” in *The Forgotten Luther III: Reclaiming a Vision of Global Community*, Conrad A. Braaten & Ryan P. Cumming, eds. [Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2021], 92.).

The Spirit, the ruach of God, pushes us to translate the good news of God into concrete actions

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for life in community. The Spirit pushes us towards God's mission; to restore community which occurs through reconciliation.

The Indian-Spanish theologian, Raimundo Panikkar, says it this way: "The great challenge today is to convert the sacred bread into real bread, the liturgical peace into political peace, the worship of the creator into reverence for the creation, the Christian praying community into an authentic human fellowship. It is risky to celebrate the Eucharist. We may have to leave it unfinished, going first to give back to the poor what belongs to them" (Raimundo Panikkar, "Many as a Ritual Being," Chicago Studies, 16[1977]: 27.).

The bones will continue to rattle if we stay where we have always been. For this journey we carry our backpack, and in it we carry the tools for the work: faith, hope, and love. "Faith, the ability to hear the melody of the future; hope, the courage to dance to its rhythm here and now; and love, a stubborn and unwavering commitment" (Douglas R.A. Hare, Matthew: Interpretation, A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching [Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009], 260.).

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



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e-news

To receive the most current updates, subscribe to our weekly email newsletter! Send an email with your request to glory.office@glorylutheran.ca

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STEWARDSHIP

Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) Program

Many people use the PAR program at Glory for their offering, finding it a convenient option to take care of their financial contributions to our church each month. Participation in PAR ensures our congregation has consistent and predictable cash flows to meet our financial obligations, and also helps the environment by eliminating the use of repetitive paper cheques and envelopes. If you aren't on PAR today, please consider signing up by contacting our financial secretary, Chelsea Ashton, at kurtisandchelsea@gmail.com or filling out the form in the Narthex or on our website.

For those who are already on PAR, thank you! Our request is to please consider reviewing your offering given the significant inflation we have experienced recently on our operating costs, such as utilities and insurance. If you would like to change the amount of your offering, please contact Chelsea Ashton.

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, thank you for making a positive difference to Glory's financial well-being.



Update for January 1 to June 30, 2022:

Actual Offering*:	\$151,823
Budget Offering Goal*:	\$142,375
Over by	\$ 9,448

*(General Fund & Capital Building Fund)

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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