

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2022 NEWS

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MINISTERS: YOU THE PEOPLE OF GOD www.GSLCC.ca



Making Friends

I read a quote recently from Carolyn Hughes who is described as an innovative church leader who has been involved in several ministries. She said, "We need to be friends with people who are different from us more than they need to be our friends."

That grabbed me as a nice way of summing up the current thinking on what it means to be in mission. The second half of her sentence is what we have traditionally believed mission is about. It's about helping people to be friends with us. Helping people to like us and want to join us. We do that by making ourselves attractive, impressive, and hospitable to others. And there's certainly nothing wrong with being attractive, hospitable and welcoming to others and inviting them into the life of our church.

But in recent decades many Christians and church leaders have been re-thinking where we should be focusing our energy. That's where the first part of her sentence comes in. It reverses the direction of mission. From attracting others in to become our friends, to going out and befriending others where they are. That leads to different behaviours, like being curious about the lives of others, listening to others, looking for how God might be at work in their lives. Maybe even listening to what God has to teach us through the lives of others.

This summer we're going to try another experiment in living out that sense of mission. On Saturday, July 9th we've invited an environmental artist Sylvie Roussel-Janssens to lead a workshop on creating colourful tree wraps for the trees on our property. There will be music and snacks. And we'll invite the neighbourhood. Not to try and convince them to be our friends. But to be friends with them. To get to know them and to make some connections while doing something beautiful for our neighbourhood. That, and celebrating creation together.

It's not an easy shift, I know. It's kind of counter-intuitive. It changes the way we've thought for a long time. Maybe it feels a little like Peter must have felt when Jesus called him to come and fish for people. But something made Peter follow. Maybe he glimpsed the promise of a new way of being faithful.

And if it's just too hard a shift for you to make, think about this: Are you more likely to want to be friends with someone who tries to impress you, or with someone who listens and shows interest in you? So maybe going out and being friends with people who are different from us has more blessings than we realize.

Congregational News



Vacation Bible School is ON!

We are planning to run a lighter version of VBS this summer from August 16th to 18th. We are doing this in partnership with our friends at St. Laurence Anglican Church, but the VBS will take place in our building.

Our theme will be **TO MARS AND BEYOND**. We invite all children ages 4-11 to join us as we return to this fun tradition.

We are looking for volunteers who can help in any way with the program. There are several opportunities to do so. There will be a meeting on June 9th at 7 pm at Good Shepherd for all those interested in helping out. If you'd like more information please contact Pastor Eric

Community Tree Wrapping Party

On July 9th from 1 to 3 pm. We will be hosting a neighbourhood event on our property. We have invited an Environmental Artist, Sylvie Roussel-Janssens, to host a workshop at which we will be creating colourful tree wraps to decorate our trees. All the materials used will be recyclable and will not add to landfill waste.



We will be inviting our neighbourhood to join us and there will be music, snacks and an opportunity for some creative fun and to meet some of our neighbours. All are welcome to join us and we hope you will come by to help with this exciting missional project.

See the Poster on 13 for more details, and bring your friends and your neighbours!

Church Picnic

Our worship and fellowship teams are working on a plan to hold an outdoor service and church picnic lunch on Sunday, July 10th on our grounds. Details are being worked out and further information will follow when we know more about our plans. For the time being, save the date on your calendar.

Visioning Process Continued...

At our last visioning meeting we did some reflecting on the current context of our congregation and ministry. We will continue to explore this topic through our Tree Wrapping Party on July 9. Aside from enjoying a fun day we are also hoping to connect with our neighbours and listen for what we can learn about what God is up to in our neighbourhood. There will opportunity for us to gather after and reflect on what we heard and learned and continue our journey of discernment.

For Our Prayer

For specific requests for prayer, please contact Kate Wright at kfwright@hotmail.com or Claire Thompson at 604-939-3086. Your prayer request will quickly be passed to our congregational prayer chain.

The family and friends of Bernice Kirk who passed away on May 5th. We mourn with Jim and Karen and Merv and their family, and give thanks for Bernice's fruitful life. Merv and Bernice and Karen were Charter members of our congregation and we will celebrate Bernice at a memorial service on June 24th at 1 pm.

The family and friends of Deloris MacRae who passed away May 19th. We mourn Deloris's passing even as we celebrate her long life, and her time with us here as a charter member of our congregation. We will remember and commend both Earl and Deloris during our Sunday morning service on June 12th.

The family and friends of Denise Elliott, Dale Wald's sister who passed away on May 20th. May God comfort all who knew and loved Denise.

The family and friends of Theresa Gold, Elaine Sturhahn's daughter who passed away on April 28th. May God surround all who knew and loved Theresa with comfort.

Carol Erickson as she has now moved into her new home at Nicola Lodge. Pray will settle into her new home well.

Vera Beech as she continues to recover from her recent hospitalization and adjusts to being cared for at home.

Jessie Werner who has now moved into care at the Dufferin Care Centre. Pray that she will settle in well.

The people of Ukraine and the Leaders of the World especially those who have been forced to flee their homes and those still living in threatened areas, that they may be protected and provided for, and a peaceful resolution for the conflict may be found.

Thanksgiving! Please join us as we thank God:



Dorothy Durand's cancer surgery was successful, and she is gaining strength.

that we were able to hold a successful garage sale once again.

For the baptism of Steven Odin Stickler who was received into God's family on June 5th.



Milestones Dates to Celebrate

Our special wishes are extended to:

- Donna and Keith Harris who will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 15th, and to
- Elsie Johnson who turns 85 on July 17th

Birthday Greetings

We extend birthday greetings to the following members also celebrating summer birthdays:

Linda Berry **Bob Knudson** Elinor Knudson Margaret Bjork Marjun Blishen Sarah Knudson Caitlin Catterall Vivian Kroeker Michelle Chan Lauren LeRoux Dean Cornelson Carole Lentz Alex Darts **Brad Newton Evan Darts** Sue Power

Nicole Denison Ruth Roberts
Dorothy Durand Shayan Saed
Carol Erickson Ashley Savage
Lois Forss Eric Schuler
Nikolaj Hansen Lily Seidel
Karen Harris Elaine Sinton

Beverly Poznachuk

Keith Harris Jack Sinton

Margaret Hartley Diana Sturhahn

Gordon Hunt Gail Tremain
Betty Jones Lil Vigurs

Bonnie Karhukangas Linda Walters

Kate Wright



Doris Deiter

With Blessings to all from your Good Shepherd Family

Farewell dear sister

We mourn the loss of our sister in Christ & friend

Theresa Gold

who passed away April 28, 2022.

We join Theresa's entire family, including her mother Marilyn Sturhahn and her sister Diana in mourning Theresa's passing, even as we keep them all in our prayers.

Farewell dear sister

We mourn the loss of one of our congregation's Charter Members, our sister in Christ & friend

Bernice Kirk

who passed away May 5, 2022.

We join Bernice's entire family, including Merv and Karen and Jim Matthews in mourning Bernice's passing, and will gather for a Memorial Service on June 24th at 1 pm.

Farewell dear sister

We mourn the loss of one of our congregation's Charter Members, our sister in Christ & friend

Deloris MacRae

who passed away peacefully in her sleep at Cartier Care Home on **May 19, 2022.**

We join Deloris's family in mourning her loss. We plan to have a commemoration for both Earl and Deloris during our service on **June 12**th.

Farewell dear sister

We join the family of Jan and Dale Wald, as they mourn the loss of Dale's sister

Denise Elliott

a sister in Christ, who passed away May 20, 2022.

We join the Wald family as they mourn the loss of their sister, sister-in-law, aunt and friend, even as we keep them all in our prayers.

Pray for all whose hearts are broken by these losses. May God console them in their grief, hold them in his unbreakable embrace of mercy, and reassure them with the hope of the promise of the resurrection to eternal life.

Pastor Eric

Welcome to the Family of God

We join parents Dawn and Darryl Stickler in welcoming their son

Steven Odin Stickler

into the family of God through baptism On June 5, 2022.



Directory Update

Carol Erickson's new address is:

Nicola Lodge Care Community 2240 Hawkins Street Room 3310 Port Coquitlam BC V3B 0M2

Her telephone number remains the same 604-931-6869

accordingly.

Please update your copy of the directory

SPECIAL SUMMER SERVICES TO NOTE

As our lectionary moves us into the beginning of Ordinary Time in the Church year through the summer and into the fall, there will only be two special services that we will be celebrating. These are highlighted separately below.

And as a recap of our current covid protocols, when we gather together for in-person worship, all are welcome. We do continue to encourage mask wearing and social distancing as each of you feel comfortable. We have resumed our practice of fellowship over coffee and tea in the hall after service has concluded, and many are staying to enjoy that bit of catch up and fellowship time.

DAY OF PENTECOST JUNE 5, 2022



We will be celebrating the day of Pentecost on June 5th – the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the apostles and they were gifted with preaching in languages not their own, and over 3,000 believers were added as believers in Jesus Christ. Wear red, or the colours of a flame to help commemorate this remembrance.

THE HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

JUNE 12, 2022



Enjoy the special music of the day, where we celebrate God, the Holy Trinity. We will also be remembering, celebrating and commemorating Deloris and Earl MacRae during this service.

One God, equal, omnipotent, omnipresent: FATHER SON HOLY SPIRIT

CHURCH PICNIC SUNDAY

JULY 10, 2022



We are hoping to hold an outdoor service and picnic lunch on this day, if all goes well. Please stay posted for further details and plans, to be announced.

Summer Hymn Sing

Starting June 19th you are invited to show up early for church on Sunday mornings to sing some favorite hymns. We will be taking two requests each Sunday before the service begins at 10:30 am, from those who are present.

Come early and warm up your voices and sing all your favorite hymns.

New Paraments

With thanks to memorial gifts from Agnes Mattson and the family of Evelyn Morrison we have commissioned some new paraments for the season of Ordinary Time. We will be displaying them and dedicating them on June 19th during our regular morning service. They will be dedicated to the memory of Pastor Ed and Ella Rode. We thank Agnes and Evelyn's family for making this possible and look forward to enjoying these new altar furnishings for years to come.

Summer photo challenge

We are once again inviting you to submit photos, pictures or other art work for display during our Sunday morning services. This time we're asking you to submit pictures that represent for you people, places or things we are called to love and to care for. You can submit your contributions to the church office. We look forward to your creative offerings.



Concern for Ukraine

In response to the crisis in Ukraine, our BC Synod and National Church continue to offer the following, reminding us that God remains with us even in these times of concern and worry.

Vigil for Peace - Prayers for Ukraine and the World



We are invited to join Bishop Kathy Martin as she continues to host a Prayer Vigil for Peace on an ongoing basis on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm (for approximately 15 minutes). The actual leadership of these Friday prayer sessions will be shared. Come as you are, bring a candle to light, and gather with people from BC and beyond.

"We know this is a time of anxiety and deep uncertainty. We invite you to pause and join us for a short a short vigil service, as we gather to light candles as a symbol of peace and pray for all those impacted by the invasion of Ukraine as well as all those suffering as a result of war and political oppression."

Join by Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643051883?pwd=MDk4ZEZjZzhBMnh0WnhGUXhJWDZtQT09

Meeting ID: 826 4305 1883

Passcode: **750008**

One tap mobile: +17789072071,,82643051883#,,,,*750008# Canada

Dial by your location: +1 778 907 2071 Canada

Statement from the ELCIC's National Church Council

The ELCIC's National Church Council met virtually from March 4-6, 2022. As part of their work, they issued the following statement calling for an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine and global solidarity with the people of Ukraine. To read the full statement please click here.

WCC to Moscow: "raise up your voice so that the war can be stopped"

The <u>World Council of Churches</u> Acting General Secretary Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca asked the patriarch of Moscow to mediate so that the war between Russia and Ukraine can be stopped. To read the full letter please <u>click here.</u>

LWF Statement: Welcome All Affected by the War in Ukraine

<u>The Lutheran World Federation</u> calls on government officials, particularly in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, as well as the European Union and its member states to ensure the protection of all fleeing the war. LWF General Secretary Anne Burghardt wrote the <u>statement</u> on behalf of the global communion.

CLWR Ukraine Emergency Appeal

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada through its partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) calls on its members to respond through prayer and financial support to the urgent humanitarian needs in Ukraine. The ELCIC and CLWR join with their partners, and people around the world, in calling for an immediate end to violence. As fighting intensifies, millions are expected to be rapidly displaced creating a widespread humanitarian crisis. Partners in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries are closely monitoring the situation and preparing to respond with immediate humanitarian needs including food, shelter, emergency supplies and trauma support. Individuals and organizations wishing to support relief efforts can donate as follows:

- Make a designated offering donation for "Ukraine Appeal" through any ELCIC congregation.
- Call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597 to donate by credit card or online at https://www.clwr.org/product/E-104/ukraine-crisis.
- Send a cheque to CLWR: 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R#B 0W5. marked "Ukraine Appeal."

Good Shepherd Women

Good Shepherd Women are eagerly anticipating a return to fellowship and Bible Study in September. We are tentatively planning for a General Meeting, date, time and place to be announced at a later date. We are asking members to give prayerful consideration to volunteering/accepting nomination for the position of President in light of Donata Startin's resignation after around 30 years of serving in this capacity. Thank you Donata for your faithful service over the years. Nominations/volunteers will also be accepted for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary.

In the meantime, those who would like to contribute to enable us to carry on with our charitable work can still do so. Simply contribute through your envelope offering with the designation GSW or by cheque either mailed or left in Flora Pregler's mailbox at church.

Let all that you do be done in love.

- 1 Corinthians 16:14

Prayer Group

Weekly prayer gatherings on Wednesday afternoons at 1 pm are accessible by going to the main page of our website (gslcc.ca) and scrolling halfway down to Weekly Meetings. Click on the Prayer Group button which will provide you with an embedded link to join the prayer group via Zoom. On alternating weeks we gather to pray in the style of Lectio Divina (where biblical texts are studied and meditated upon, with communal prayer finishing out our time together) and Prayers of the People (where we gather simply to lift up the concerns and thanksgivings of our lives in prayer). All are welcome.

For the June, July and August our prayer-worthy focus words are 'ENDURANCE', 'JOURNEYING' and 'INSPIRATION', and you are invited to lift up these focus words within your own daily prayer practices, in whatever way each word expresses itself to you throughout the summer months.



You are invited to join us at our next book club on

Sunday, June 12 at 2:00 pm at the home of Mogens and Lily Hansen. We will be discussing the book

Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes By Randolph Richards and Branden O'Brian

What was clear to the original readers of Scripture is not always clear to us. O'Brien and Richards show how better self-awareness and understanding of cultural differences in language, time, and social mores allow us to see the Bible in fresh and unexpected ways. Getting beyond our own cultural assumptions is increasingly important for being Christians in our interconnected and globalized world.

Looking ahead to our September book club meeting
Date and time TBA
We will be reading and discussing the book

Native

Identity, Belonging and Rediscovering God By Kaitlin B. Curtice

Native is about identity, soul-searching, and the never-ending journey of finding ourselves and finding God. As both a citizen of the Potawatomi Nation and a Christian, Kaitlin Curtice offers a unique perspective on these topics. In this book, she shows how reconnecting with her Potawatomi identity both informs and challenges her faith. As Curtice shares what it means to experience her faith through the lens of her Indigenous heritage, she reveals that a vibrant spirituality has its origins in identity, belonging, and a sense of place.



From Our Treasurer

The following is an update on our financial YTD Status as of May 30, 2022:

YTD Total Income \$ 90,828.18 YTD Total Expenses \$ 96,370.11 Deficit \$ (5,541.93)

Project Contingency Fund \$87,386.31

Thank you for your continued generosity

Garage Sale Haul

We shout out a big THANK YOU to all who helped out in any capacity at our Church Yard/Garage Sale this year, including donors, deliverers, those helping with set up, pricing, customer service, clean-up, and our final haulers. You know who you are! We could not do this without your help!

And a special thank you to Claire and David who organized and headed up this event on behalf of the church.

Once again we consider it a success, as we expect the three charities identified as beneficiaries of all the proceeds (Aunt Leah's Place, Good Samaritan Spring Appeal 2022, and LAMP [Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots]) will be well pleased with the donation amounts they receive.

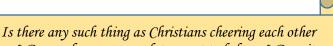
At the time of newsletter printing not all proceeds have been received so a final accurate tally cannot yet be given. We can, however, let you know that we anticipate having raised over \$1,500 for these worthwhile causes through our yard sale efforts.



Youth Group Recycling Bin Discontinued

Please note that the youth group is no longer managing the bin that we have been using to collect recycling bottles and cans. We request that you DO NOT BRING your recycling to the church from now on. However, you may still help our youth by donating the proceeds of your household recyclables to the youth group. Please just designate the youth group on your cheque or etransfer.

Our youth thank you for your support through this valuable fundraising effort.



up? Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all? Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose.

Philippians 2:1-2a TLB

Numbered Church Envelopes



During this time of Covid, many of us have embraced the ease and immediacy of electronic donations directly to the church through e-interact transfers. As a result, many members are no longer using their numbered church envelopes. As our reordering period is fast approaching, in an effort to be good stewards we would like to determine which of our members no longer require the numbered church envelopes.

If you feel you no longer need your numbered box of envelopes, please contact the church office (<u>link here</u>). Do not fret if you change your mind later... we always order a few extra boxes just in case. One can always be provided to you in the event you regret your initial decision and choose to opt out.

Thanking you in advance for helping us figure this out!

Refugee Sponsorship Update

We recently received notice that one of the two refugees which we cosponsored with family member Ruta Kifle will be arriving in Canada on June 16th. We celebrate with Ruta and her family as they look forward to this long-awaited reunion. Ruta has completed all the requirements for Solomon's arrival and will be tending to all his needs and requirements. She will be bringing him to church so that we have a chance to meet him and celebrate his arrival. We are still awaiting word about the travel arrangements for Ruta's other nephew Tesfay and pray that his journey can commence soon. Please pray for Solomon, Ruta and their family as they help him settle in his new home.



I realize that I really don't even need to mention this to you, about helping God's people. For I know how eager you are to do it, and ... [i]n fact, it was this enthusiasm of yours that stirred up many of them to begin helping.

2 Corinthians 9:1-2a-2c TLB



Service Opportunities with ELCIC's Ecumenical Justice

The <u>Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada</u> (ELCIC) reviews appointments after every convention. Individuals appointed are normally members of the ELCIC. Currently we are aware of several opportunities to serve with the following ecumenical partners engaged in work for compassionate justice:

Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network (CEARN)

Commission on Justice and Peace

Addressing Human Trafficking in Canada

KAIROS Ecological Justice Circle

KAIROS Indigenous Rights Circle

KAIROS Partnership and Rights Circle

Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada

Project Ploughshares

If you are interested in serving as our ELCIC representative with one or more of our partners, please <u>complete this form.</u> For more information, please <u>send an email</u> to Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop for Justice and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.



Property Matters

Throughout the last few months, the Property Team has been busy both outside and out. Our flower beds are looking wonderful thanks to 40 hours of work applied directly to our eastern landscape, and over the last several weeks pulling 65 gallons of dandelions and other weeds out of our lawns and flower beds. Branches, cones and other debris have been racked up and then hauled away or otherwise disposed of. The parking area continues to require debris monitoring during these past rainy days in order to be proactive to prevent backing up our drainage pumps.

On May 19th a large, tall truck must have come through out parking lot knocking out our telephone and internet lines requiring emergency repair. Thanks to our property people for handling the telephone calls to Telus and ensuring our repairs were prioritized. As a result of his efforts, our service was restored by Saturday and we were back to the business of live-streaming our worship service, with most people remaining unaware of the possible interruption that was avoided. Work still outstanding as a result of this event...pole restraightening.

Thank you Property Team members and other volunteers for doing this maintenance work on our behalf, that keeps our yard and building in good shape and in good repair. If you would like to add your name to a roster of possible 'volunteers' that could help out from time to time with this maintenance work when it is conducive to your schedule, please contact David or the office.

Looking ahead, the Property Team continues to search for a suitable replacement dishwasher and consider building security systems.





Elina Singh's Convocation

On Friday May 6th our former Intern Elina took the next step in her journey towards Ordained Ministry. On that evening she convocated from Lutheran Theological Seminary in a ceremony held at St. Johns Cathedral in Saskatoon Saskachewan. Our congregation was represented that evening by Bob and Elinor Knudson who were in Saskatoon at the time and attended the ceremony with their daughter Sarah. They also were able to present Elina with a beautiful hand-crafted congratulations card made by Lois Forss which included a \$1,000 financial gift to celebrate this milestone. We are proud of Elina and her accomplishment and look forward to hearing of many great things to come from her ministry.

In the ceremonial booklet for this event, each graduate was invited to offer some brief words. Elina wrote the following:

"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes." John 3:8

Life if full of unexpected turns. While I was searching for direction, the Spirit blew in the sails and my boat landed on LTS's shores. It's been quite a ride since - smooth sailing in fair winds, but also unsettling waves and rocky shores, more questions than answers. This passage is now complete; it's time to head towards other open waters and let the Spirit fill the sails again. My thanks to Jason for keeping the house in order when I was away, either in Saskatoon or Borneo - or at home, lost among the books and papers... Also, my thanks to Jacob for cuddles, laughs, curious questions and pulling me away from work to come and play. I love you both!



Summer Youth Update

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, Jason and I wanted to take a moment and let you know what the plans are for the next few months and say thank you to everyone who has supported, encouraged, and prayed for ignYte this year. We feel the love and appreciate you all.

In June, we will kick things off with a trip to either Castle Fun Park (if they have rebuilt after the flood) or WildPlay on Friday,



June 3rd. On Sunday, June 5th we will host a fundraiser for CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) and the work they are doing around the globe. This will likely be a car wash at Good Shepherd! And on Friday, June 10th we will have our year end party and we hope family and friends will join us for a meal, games, and a celebration.

Then we will take a break and come back together sometime in August. We will put a calendar together for September and look forward to reconnecting with everyone when school resumes.

While we won't be meeting formerly over the summer months there will be opportunities for youth to get together. The DYM (Diocesan Youth Movement) is hosting a retreat at Camp Artaban on the last weekend of August, the 26th to 28th. The theme is Ashes and Embers, the same as next year's CLAY. Other events may also pop up. So be sure to keep an eye on your emails.

We wish everyone a happy, healthy and joy filled summer.

With peace and blessings,

Rachel Genge and Jason Wood rachel.genge@outlook.com and stlyouthandfam@gmail.com

If you have any questions about ignYte (a joint ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran & Saint Laurence Anglican, open to youth grades 7-12 from across the Tri-Cities and North Burnaby region) please do not hesitate to reach out. New faces are always welcome.

YOUTH PRAYER REQUESTS

- God's leading and guidance in the lives of those graduating into the next grade, or the next phase of their life.
- God's discernment and inspiration for our youth planning their next steps over the summer and into the fall.

• Rest, Restoration and Safety during the summer months for ALL our Youth Leaders, young adults, youth, and their families and friends.



Congratulations Abbey Macey on finishing up your PDP through UBC this year!





TREE WRAPPING PARTY

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Invites you to join

Guest Artist **Sylvie Roussel-Janssens**on July 9th, from 1 pm to 3 pm
as together we create colourful woven coats

for our trees.

- © Snacks ©
- © Creative fun for all ages ©





On July 9th, from 1 pm to 3 pm, all community members are invited to join Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in celebrating creation through a collaborative, fun art project. Guest Artist Sylvie Roussel-Janssens, an environmental artist, will lead us in a tree coat-weaving event on the treed area of our property on 1504 Sprice Avenue, Coquitlam BC.

There will be music, light snacks and all the necessary art supplies required to make these colourful cedar coats.

Sylvie will be demonstrating the technique we will be using, weaving a section of snow fence with ribbon material. Our church is committed to reducing our environmental impact, so this event will use only recycled snow fence and ribbons cut out of fabric remnants redirected from the landfill.

This will be the latest installation of this art project named **GRATITUDE** by Sylvie. Join us as we weave coats of colour in celebration and gratitude for these remnant trees on our church grounds.

The coats we create together will stay on site for at least the month of July.

Come for some fun and bring a friend!

Contributed by Claire Thompson & David Stroud ~ energizing the renewing Gospel for all creation around the world: in the healing hands of a church seeking social, economic & climate justice.

Gifts?

Throughout the year, we receive "gifts" that come with appeals from various organizations. These often include mailing labels, cards, stickers and of course, plastic pens inside a plastic sleeve. We now have more than a lifetime supply of these items although some are easier to dispose of than others.

What to do with these pens, including those that have run out of ink? For us, throwing them in the garbage is not environmentally friendly. After doing some research I found that Staples is partnering with a recycling company called Terracycle. All plastic covered writing instruments can be dropped off for free at Staples even if you did not purchase them there. his includes pens, felt pens, sharpies, highlighters, dry erase markers and mechanical pencils, but not wood pencils or pencil crayons. At Terracycle these instruments are cleaned, separated by material type, and recycled into raw formats that can be reused.

Another option is to inform these organizations you don't want "gifts". This will probably not remove you from their mailing list, unless you want that also, but it should stop the gifts.

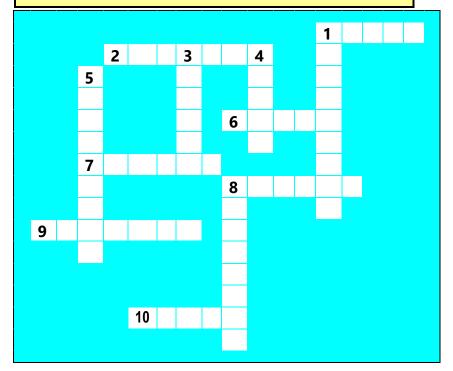
Red Cross Canada is very open to be emailed at WeCare@redcross.ca (include your complete address) to let them know you don't want "gifts". With other organizations, you may have to go to a general contact site.

Whatever you decide, reducing plastic in our landfills by recycling or contacting organizations will help our environment and take some stress off of God's creation.

Respectfully submitted by,

Claire Thompson

KIDS CORNER

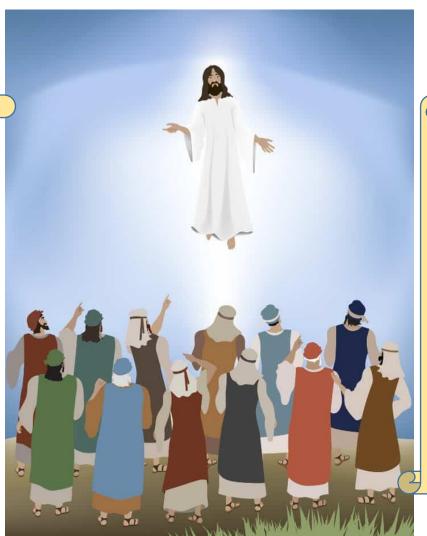


The Ascension of our Lord According to Luke 24:50-53 NRSV

And he [1 ACROSS] led them [his disciples] out as far as Bethany, and 2 ACROSS up his 6 ACROSS, he 9 ACROSS them. And it happened that while he was blessing them, he 8 ACROSS from them and was 11 Across up into heaven. And they 5 Down him and returned to 1 Down with 4 Down joy. And they were continually in the 3 Down courts 8 Down God.

He [Jesus] died for all so that all who live—having received eternal life from him—might live no longer for themselves, to please themselves, but to spend their lives pleasing Christ who died and rose again for them.

~2 Corinthians 5:15 TLB



For God is not unfair. How can he forget your hard work for him, or forget the way you used to show your love for him—and still do—by helping his children?

~Hebrews 6:10 TLB

Weekly Church Events

As we move forward through the summer, we are continuing to Offer a number of opportunities to gather for fellowship, worship and learning. You are invited to join in any one or all of these events in-person or over Zoom. The links to join any of these meetings below can be found on our website gslcc.ca. All are welcome!

Sunday mornings at 9 am -Bible Study over Zoom

We meet Sunday mornings at 9am for a brief bible study. We hope to move to a hybrid format in the fall. More details will be provided. This study will continue until June 26th after which we will take a break over summer and resume again in September. If you have never attended this study please know that all are invited. It does not matter if you are a beginner with the bible or an experienced reader. Everyone's voice is respected and our discussions are always lively. We usually focus our study on the gospel reading for that Sunday morning, but occasionally we look at one of the other appointed texts.

Sunday Morning Worship

We gather every Sunday morning at 10:30 for our weekly worship service. Masks are no longer mandatory but they are encouraged, as well as social distancing. This service will continue to be live streamed over our YouTube Channel, and a recording of the service posted shortly after the service ends.

Wednesday afternoons at 1 pm - Zoom Prayer Gathering

Our prayer gatherings continue, alternating between praying Lectio Divina style & free-style 'Prayers of the People'. Praying aloud is not mandatory. All are welcome.

<u>Second and Fourth Thursdays afternoons at 4 pm – Zoom Happy Hour</u>

All are welcome to join in for an hour of fellowship on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. It's always a fun time of social interaction and engaging in lively conversation about what's going on in our lives and in our world.