

TRAVELERS AND TOURISTS

I've lived long enough to know that summer isn't really all that less busy than any other season. It's just busy in a different way. And that seems to hold true both for kids and adults these days.

But still I hope you find some time to get away and step out of your usual routine this summer. Maybe that's to a cabin at a favourite lake. Or maybe it's just a staycation in your own backyard. Or maybe you have plans to travel and be a tourist in some unexplored destination.

One of my favourite Lutheran preachers is Peter Marty. He talks about the difference between tourists and travelers. He writes, "The word *Travel* comes from the same word as *travail*, meaning trouble, work, or even torment. A traveler takes risks, plunges into diverse cultures, and seeks to learn local customs. Unplanned experiences are the traveler's norm, sometimes involving challenging exploits. Travelers eat whatever food is placed before them. They aim to learn as much of the language as possible. Shopping for souvenirs plays no role in their ventures."

"A tourist sacrifices less. The word *tour*, from the Latin *tornus*—a tool for making circles—literally means "one who goes in circles." A tourist is a pleasure seeker who passes through different exotic experiences only to return to a comfortable bed at night. Insulated from the noise, the smells, and the local people, a tourist's circle is complete once back home unpacking mementos and sharing photos."

I've been both a traveler and a tourist and each has their pros and cons. But Marty goes on to wonder whether those terms can be applied to our faith journey as well. He continues, "Travelers would be those who come (to church) to immerse their lives and refocus their values. They want to breathe the language of faith and know the way of Christ, even if travail may be part of the bargain. The tourists show up for a more passive experience, happy to drop in when they are in the mood. They spectate and consume, glad that the donuts taste fresh."

However you find your physical R&R this year it might be fruitful for all of us to reflect on how we are journeying spiritually on the road of faith these days. If you tend to be more of a tourist, taking a safer approach to faith, maybe it's time to challenge ourselves to be more of a traveler, risking a journey rich in mystery, and new experience. What might that look like for you? Reading a book you might not otherwise? Praying in a different way? Talking to a trusted friend about faith like you never have before? Your adventure awaits!

Congregational News

JUNE 10TH - FAMILY NIGHT

Saturday Evening at St. Laurence from 4 pm to 6 pm

We will gather for one more family night event before breaking for the summer. These have been enjoyable opportunities for families to gather for some informal and relaxed time to play, eat and worship together. Please see the article on page 5 for further details.

FOLK FIESTA

Friday, June 16th from 6 pm to 8 pm

We are hosting a very special fundraiser, to help send our youth to the CLAY gathering in Waterloo, Ontario later this year. An El Salvadoran couple from St. Laurence will be preparing a traditional Latin American dish called pupusas for the dinner, and we are responsible for providing the side dishes. **Please sign up to bring rice or a rice dish, a salad, or a dessert.** As we will be joined by friends from St. Laurence, please keep that in mind when judging your quantities. We are suggesting a donation of \$15 for adults and \$10 for children, which includes delicious food and a concert by Jason Wood and his band. If the weather cooperates this will be an outdoor event, so be prepared to bring along a lawn chair with you. See poster on page 7 for all the details.

SPECIAL CELEBRATION SERVICE ON JUNE 11TH - SHANHUI LIU'S BAPTISM

The adult baptism of Shanhui Liu takes place on June 11th. Come join us as we welcome another brother in Christ, to the family of God.

After the service, John and Jo-Anne Hanlon will be bringing in cake to celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary. Although they moved to Chilliwack many years ago now, because they were long-time members here when they lived in Coquitlam they still think of our church as home. They would love it if you could come out and join them in celebrating this marriage milestone with them.

June 11th will certainly be a day of celebration -and thanks be to God for that!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's not too late to enroll your 4-11 year old kids/grandkids in this year's VBS program ***"Babylon - Daniel's Courage in Captivity"***. It's running from 9 am to noon, **Monday, July 10th to Friday, July 14th.**

You can register at the following link: www.gslcc.ca. It is again going to be a shared Children's Ministry with St. Laurence Anglican Church and we still require volunteers. Please check out the article on page 6 and consider signing up for one of the tasks as you are able.

NATIONAL CONVENTION June 29th to July 2nd

A special National Convention of our ELCIC will be held in Calgary this summer. Mogens Hansen from our congregation will be attending as one of our Synod Delegates. We invite you to keep Mogens and all our delegates in your prayers, together with the work of the whole convention.

Here's Something to **Celebrate**

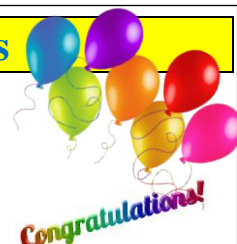
Summer Birthday Greetings

To these members celebrating birthdays in the summer months, **Happy Birthday** from your Good Shepherd Family!

Dave Berry	Elinor Knudson
Linda Berry	Sara Knudson
Margaret Bjork	Vivian Kroeker
Marjun Blishen	Lauren Le Roux
Caitlin Catterall	Carole Lentz
Michelle Chan	Brad Newton
Alex Darts	Sue Power
Evan Darts	Beverly Poznachuk
Doris Deiter	Kurt Pregler
Nicole Denison	Ruth Roberts
Dorothy Durand	Shayan Saed
Mavis Elliott	Ashley Savage
Carol Erickson	Walter Schadek
Lois Forss	Erick Schuler
Amelia H.	Lily Seidel
Nikolaj Hansen	Elaine Sinton
Karen Harris	Jack Sinton
Keith Harris	Dianna Sturhahn
Margaret Hartley	Gail Tremain
Gordon Hunt	Lillian Vigurs
Elsie Johnson	Michael Vigurs
Betty Jones	Ryan Wald
Bob Knudson	Linda Walters
	Kate Wright



Marriage Milestones



Bob & Linda Berry will celebrate
55 years of marriage on June 8th

John & Jo-Anne Hanlon will celebrate
65 years of marriage on July 12th

Congratulations Graduates!

We extend our warmest congratulation to the following members who have achieved an Educational milestone this year:



Zack Schuler and **Darya Saed** have both graduated high school.

Sam Cornelson has just completed his Bachelor of Physical Education and Coaching (BPEC) from Douglas College and his graduation ceremony is June 16 2023. He is entering the PDP program at SFU in the fall to finish off the teaching program in the spring of 2024.

Christian Krushel is graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

~ Jeremiah 29:11

Welcome, Shanhui!

Congratulations, and welcome to the Family of God, Shanhui!

Shanhui Liu will be baptized on June 11th with his newly arrived family from China in attendance. We are thankful, Shanhui, that you have found Good Shepherd as a place of worship for you, and collectively we welcome you into the family of God!

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.

Elmer Krushel, Pastor Eric's father who is struggling with independent living at home and is in the process of exploring future housing options.

Tammy McDonald whose mom Verna who continues in palliative care in Port Alberni

Bob Berry as he continue to recover from his recent knee surgery.

Rob Karhukangas as he continues to recover from this recent wrist injury and surgery.

Fikre Tsehai & Senait and their family (CLWR) as they mourn the death of Fikre's mother. May God's peace and presence surround them, and may love, memory and stories uplift them. Our church has worked closely with both Fikre and Senait through CLWR's "Family Link" Refugee program.

All graduates that they may be encouraged by their achievements, and that you open doors for them that they may continue to walk in the path you have chosen.

All who are travelling this summer for vacation, recreation that their journies be safe and that their homecomings be joyful.



Thanksgiving! Please join us as we thank God:

- ❖ that Elmer Krushels' broken ribs have healed.
- ❖ that our Garage Sale was again a blessing and a success.
- ❖ for fathers everywhere, on June 18th. Thank you that you created them to be compassionate and loving servants, and good role models of love for family.



For our sisters now in care homes

Dear Lord, we lift up to you those that we love who are now living in care homes ~ that they may be surrounded by compassionate care-givers and friends in those places. We remember Dorothy Durand, Carol Erickson, Vivian Kroeker, and Christine Stanley. Lord, keep them safe, happy and in your tender-loving care.

Amen

for displaced people and the homeless

Dear Lord, we lift up in prayer all refugees (including Tesfay), migrants, asylum claimants and displaced persons seeking a safe places to live ~ that they may find new homes, kindness, compassion and welcome in all the places to which they flee. Be with those helping them in any way (including CLWR workers Senait, Fikre and others in the Family Link Refugee Program.)

And Lord, help all those struggling with homelessness, or home inadequacy ~ that they may also find a safe place to call home. And help those health and social workers that are advocates for them, that they may be encouraged in their walk alongside those that they serve.

Amen

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

~ Philippians 4:6

in thankfulness of creation

Creator God, you gave us a world to love and care for. Forgive us when we neglect to consider your created world in our thoughts or our actions. Give us eyes to see your vision of love that you had for the world in the Garden of Eden. Give us hearts that care for your created world, and those who inhabit it.

Amen.



Church Picnic

The Church Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, July 16th**. We are anticipating that we will be joined by our friends from St. Laurence, and if weather permits we will hold everything in the treed yard that day.

Further details will follow, but we anticipate our usual practice of worshipping outdoors followed by potluck lunch. Please remember to bring a lawn chair for yourself and an extra one for someone else.

All are welcome!

Family Night

In partnership in Family Ministry with St. Laurence Anglican Church, we will once again be offering another intergenerational Family Night on **Sunday, June 10th from 4 pm to 6 pm**.

We will meet at St. Laurence and enjoy some ice-breaker games, some singing, crafting and prayer stations and we will celebrate eucharist and enjoy dinner together.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Eric.

Help spread the word!

Directory Changes

Youth Workers Jason Wood's and Rachel Genge's email addresses should be updated to: stlyouthandfam@gmail.com



Dennis Friesen's work and home email addresses should be corrected to:

dfriesen@phsa.ca (Dennis work)

zigabob86@outlook.com (Dennis home)

Please update your church directory booklet accordingly.

Thank you!

Food Bank Drive

The church is having a **Christmas in July! Food & Cash Drive** for the Tri-Cities Food Bank.

Items can be dropped off at the church every Saturday in July from 10 am to noon (and every July Sunday when you come to church 😊)

Please help those in need, while helping our Outreach Team's brainstorm event be successful!

Win/Win!

Crazy Ideas Board

We want to thank everybody who has contributed ideas so far to our *Crazy Ideas* board. We received a bounty of creative suggestions which church council started reflecting on at their last meeting. The conversation was lively and council was impressed by the range of suggestions. All of these ideas are helping council to look forward and plan for future missional activities.

Keep in mind that this board is intended as an ongoing project. That means you are welcome and invited to add your thoughts and ideas as they occur to you over the weeks and months ahead. Maybe your idea is something you wondered about for awhile. Maybe it's something you've seen another church do. Maybe it's something you've read about in the newspaper or magazine, or online. Maybe it's something that occurred to you while in conversation with a friend or a stranger. However the inspiration hit you, all your ideas are welcome. And you never know how an idea might get put to use in the future.

So keep your ideas coming. Keep them crazy. And keep your eyes open for missional projects to come.



VBS - July 10th to July 14th

Building on our successful collaboration in VBS with St. Laurence Anglican last year, we are planning to offer another VBS program this summer.

This year's theme: *Babylon! Daniel's Courage in Captivity*. For five mornings from 9 am to noon from July 10-14, kids aged 4-11 will be invited to journey back in time, experience a taste of the ancient world, and join with the Biblical character of Daniel as he lived out a courageous faith.

Liana McGreevy will serve as a co-coordinator with Heather Esposito of St. Laurence, and collectively they are still looking for volunteers to help in different areas:

- ❖ -Games in the Palace Playground
- ❖ -Bible stories in Daniel's Adventures
- ❖ -Lead crafts as part of the Marketplace
- ❖ -Leaders for small groups, called tribes
- ❖ -Snack preparation + serving
- ❖ -Welcome/registration

Could you please let either Liana or Pastor Eric know if you are interested in lending a hand this year? And if you know others who you think might like to help, please spread the word! And if you know of any families who would like their kids to participate, please let them know that online registration is now open on the first page of our website at gslcc.ca!



Looking forward to a remarkable adventure!





HELP IGNYTE YOUTH GO TO WATERLOO
AND JOIN US AT THE...

FOLK

Fiesta

JUNE 16, 2023

FOOD  **MUSIC**  **FUNDRAISE**



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1504 Spruce Ave, Coquitlam
6-8pm Suggested: \$15/adult, \$10/kid

RSVP at
stlyouthandfam@gmail.com

Good Shepherd Women's Group

All women are invited to join us for an afternoon of fellowship and Bible Study at our monthly meetings held at the church on the second Tuesday of the month. at 1:00 p.m.

June Meeting

June 13 at 1:00 pm

Study: The Shunammite Woman

(Study Leader – Sherry Russell)

Snacks – Ruth Roberts and Linda Berry)

All are Welcome!

Good Shepherd Women will **NOT** be meeting during the summer months of July and August. Have a blessed summer and we look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall.

Prayer Group

The Prayer Group consists of a few members who meet Wednesday afternoons at 1 pm over Zoom for a time of prayer. We alternate weekly praying 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 daily lives in prayer).

Access is easy through the GSLC website (<https://www.gslcc.ca>) by scrolling halfway down the screen to “Weekly Meetings”, clicking on the Prayer Group button, and you’ll find the imbedded Zoom access link there.

All are welcome!

Please note: We will not be meeting on June 28th



You are invited to join us at our next book club on June 8th at 7:15 pm at the home of Mogens and Lily when we will be reading and discussing the book

By What Authority

Written by Dr. George E. Sears

(We are looking forward to having the author, Dr. Sears join us at the meeting)

If you own a Bible, this book will give you a deeper appreciation for its significance as a message of God's revelation to humankind. The book will help readers to reflect on their faith journey in light of a fuller understanding of the place of the Bible within human history.

All are Welcome!

For your summer reading and future discussion at our September meeting (date and time TBA) we will be looking at

The Name of The Rose

By Umberto Eco

Other suggestions for your consideration for reading over the summer months are:

State of Fear

by Michael Crichton

Disarming Scripture

by Derek Booth

Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with him, reminding him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere.

~ Ephesians 6:18



From Our Treasurer

The following is an update on our financial
YTD Status as of April 30, 2023:

YTD Total Income	\$ 75,823.20
YTD Total Expenses	\$ 79,343.29
Surplus	\$ <u>(3,520.09)</u>

Project Contingency Fund \$3,929.82

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Church Garage / Yard Sale



The Garage Sale numbers are in! Our sponsored charities: Aunt Leah's Place, LAMP and Good Samaritan.org will split close to \$1200. **Thank you** to everyone who donated items for the sale and helped out in any way to prepare for, assist at, and clean up after the event. We could not have done it without you, nor been as successful as we were without all of your help.

Ministry Moment...

You know, there is always one thing – one special moment worth cherishing - that every year comes out of our annual garage sale. And it's not just the smiling faces of returning "friends" – those recognizable people who return year after year with a smile on their face - knowing our event supports charities and just wanting to help us do that by making a purchase or two of their own. Those "friends" are cherished, but there is always something more.

This year was no different. This year, I was told a little girl come up to Pastor Eric to have a conversation with him. She explained that she'd never been in a church before, and she was curious and wanted to see the "inside of the church". After getting the nod of approval from her grandmother, Pastor Eric took the little girl into the Sanctuary. He showed her around the front of the church, explaining what we did at each of the areas: at the altar, the lectionary, the pews where people sit, and he even showed her the hymnals!

We know God's work is being done when we welcome his children into His house. This time it was with a little girl who was brave and curious. Next time, it may be another encounter, just a smile maybe, with someone who hasn't seen one in a while. Maybe it will just be a cheery welcome said to a stranger who hasn't heard that in a while. God calls each of his own to Himself. We all are only responsible for welcoming his children and nurturing them when we are able as they come alongside each of our journeys.

Christian hospitality is something we at Good Shepherd know about. It is in our blood. In fact it is one of the core values that we identified as being important to us when we were doing our Visioning exercise last year. These random connections with our neighbours may seem only random, even "un-special" on the surface to some. But to us, they are ministry. They are connection. They are the possibility of a holy moment.

And they have such potential to become tangible blessings from God to both parties, too. We in the church just need to have an open mind and an open heart to a new adventure that we're being called to. And know deeply that God walks with us, too. And that, my friends, makes us brave, too.

- written by Sherry Russell & Claire Thompson, joint co-conspirators.

Service Opportunities



We are looking to add to our weekly roster of volunteers that provide worship service assistance. None of the duties required are onerous, all are easily learned, and we do provide training for each of these volunteer tasks. Please prayerfully consider how you can help out in the following areas:

- ❖ Ushers
- ❖ Readers
- ❖ Communion Assistants
- ❖ Communion Clean up
- ❖ Fellowship Coffee Set-Up
- ❖ Fellowship Coffee Clean-up
- ❖ Inside Plant Waterer

...and then sign up on the Volunteer Sign-Up sheet on the table on Sunday morning. Please feel free to call the office or talk to any of the current volunteers that you see who are presently involved with any of these tasks, if you have any questions.

Any time you can help out is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Mutual Ministry Team

The Mutual Ministry team is a team of 3 lay people who support the Congregation, the Pastor and the Staff. This year the team is: Flora Pregler, Bill Zwicker and Rob Karhukangas.

We listen to concerns from the Congregation, Pastor and staff and then discuss and try to resolve any conflicts. If necessary, we will bring issues to Church Leadership. We are committed to confidentiality, being proactive in understanding each issue and display Christian love in all we say or do.

In essence we are a confidential liaison between the members of the Congregation and Church Leadership. We meet quarterly. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Flora, Bill or Rob.

Respectfully submitted,

From Rob Karhukangas, Executive Member & Council Member

Baptism Clothes Embroiderer

Claire has volunteered to be our new Baptism Cloths Embroiderer. Thank you for your willingness to use your God-given talents for the benefit of the church.

Communion Coordination Team

There are three tasks necessary to host weekly Holy Communion. First there is communion set-up, then there's assisting with/at communion itself, and finally there's communion clean up once the serve is done. And all three of these tasks require coordination.

Operating independently to bring communion to fruition is a handful of bakers who bring freshly prepared bread, weekly, to offer at the communion rail. We thank the following bakers for their steadfast, yummy contributions: Donna Harris, Lily Yen, Marilyn James.

If any of the above tasks piques your interest, feel free to speak further about it with Pastor Eric.

June-August Youth Update

Big thanks to all of the youth who joined in for the youth-led Pentecost service, leading the prayers and the readings. It was a blessing to share that time together, and I think Good Shepherd was blessed too!

With only a month left until summer, all are invited to pray for our youth who are studying for tests and final exams, and for their families, too, as they make summer plans for work, vacation and recreation, and even for next-chapter fall semesters ahead.



Youth Events Coming Up:

Friday, June 9: **ignYte 7pm @ St. Laurence**

Friday, June 16: **Folk Fiesta fundraiser**

Help ignYte youth go to CLAY and join us Friday, June 16th for a festive evening of Latin American food and live music! We'll eat pupusas, I will debut some of my original songs as [The Forest Archive](#), and all proceeds will go toward our trip to CLAY this summer. Suggested donation \$15/adult, \$10/kid invite your friends, family, neighbours...everyone is welcome! You can RSVP at stlyouthandfam@gmail.com

Friday, June 23: **Year-end celebration (families invited!)**

July 1: **Youth BBQ @ St. Mark's Ocean Park**

St. Mark's Ocean Park is hosting a youth BBQ in the afternoon on Canada Day, July 1st! A relaxed chance to hang out, eat, and connect with other youth in the Lower Mainland. See some old friends, or make some new ones! More details to come.

July 10-14: **Babylon VBS (volunteers needed!)**

August 10-13: **CLAY National Gathering !!!**

We hope you consider joining us in as many events as you are able.

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. 😊

Have a safe and restful summer, however you choose to spend it!



News from the Greater Church Body...

ELCIC & CLWR...

ELCIC and CLWR have Moved!

Their Winnipeg office has just completed a move to a new location and they're excited to share with you their updated contact information. **Their new address is:**

**400-185 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 3J1**



**Canadian Lutheran
World Relief®**

BC Synod...

We welcome St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Vancouver to the BC Synod!

It is with jubilation that we rejoice in welcoming St. Mark's, Vancouver as a new member congregation of the BC Synod. They have been an independent Lutheran church for many years and are located at 1573 East 18th Avenue, Vancouver. Rev. Ingrid Cramer-Doerschel faithfully serves the congregation. Please hold Pastor Ingrid and our newest congregation, St Mark's in your prayers.



Service of Confession and Reconciliation to Apologize to Rev. William (Bill) Fehr

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Hope Lutheran Church, Nanaimo hosted a special in-person and on-line service of confession and reconciliation, to publicly apologize to Rev. William (Bill) Fehr, and his family and friends.

Over 33 years ago, Rev. Fehr was serving as a pastor, when our church decided that it was inappropriate for gay persons to serve as ordained clergy. As Pastor Bill says, "Our integrity was called into question. A small group of us spoke at length about our futures and our concerns and had to make very personal decisions. One of my friends told his congregation and was immediately fired. I chose to resign. Another chose silence. Whatever we chose there have been years of pain and loss for all of us and for those in the church who felt they were no longer welcome."

Pastor Terry Richardson and the people of Hope Lutheran, Nanaimo hosted the special service that was based in part on a rite created by and for Ralph Carl Wuschke (that was dedicated to those who died without seeing the promise). Retired National Bishop Raymond Schultz preached, Bishop Jason Zinko (MNO Synod) and Bishop Kathy offered Pastor Bill and his family and friends public apologies, and Pastor Bill Fehr, now reinstated to the roster, presided at Holy Communion. To view the recorded service of Confession and Reconciliation click [here](#).



Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS), Saskatoon...

Appointment of Dr. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero as Grace Professor of Leadership

Statement from the Rev. Dr. William Harrison, President, LTS:

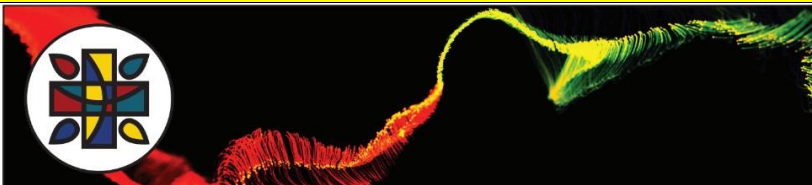
“As President of LTS, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero as Grace Professor of Leadership. Dr. Schiefelbein-Guerrero brings an abiding interest in issues of leadership and an impressive history of teaching in Lutheran schools in the USA, where he is an active member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Dr. Schiefelbein-Guerrero has a strong history of publication in several fields: liturgy, digital education and church, and leadership. He led a workshop in our 2022 summer conference on Religious Community in a Digital World. He recently edited a book titled, *Church After the Corona Pandemic: Consequences for Worship and Theology*, and serves as co-editor of the academic journal, *Teaching Religion & Theology*. We believe that Dr. Schiefelbein-Guerrero will provide important direction as the Professor of Leadership role takes shape, incorporating theological reflection on the nature of leadership in the changing church as part of the seminary's life and imparting necessary practical skills to our students.”



To see the full article on the LTS website, click [here](#).

Four Colleges Summer Conference



***decolonizing our churches,
reweaving our lives:***
experience, reflection, transformation

On Tuesday, June 20th to Thursday, June 22nd, LTS will be hosting its Four Colleges Summer Conference.

It is an in-person gathering built on our desire to converse together while moving towards truth, reconciliation, right relationships, justice, and healing. Elders, Knowledge Keepers, panelists and workshop leaders will share and explore their experiences of decolonization from their various perspectives: Indigenous, global, racialization, and allyship. Using story-telling, tipi

teaching, ritual, lived experience, reflection and conversation, we will work to help each other imagine another possible world.

We warmly invite you to register for this learning event. To register, please click [here](#) and [click here](#) for conference details.



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.

Some hope for the summer

With all the problems happening around the world right now, it is sometimes hard to see the hopeful gains being made. Here are a few things happening in 2023.

Land protection is increasing.

- A new conservancy in the Incoyaleux Valley in B.C. will protect 58,000 hectares of an endangered rainforest, preventing logging, mining, and hydroelectric development.
- 460 acres in Somerset England set aside for a Nature Reserve will be a blueprint for major recovery sites in all 48 counties in England by 2050, covering almost 25,000 acres.

Solar panel use is expanding in many parts of the world.

- Heritage buildings including York Minster Church, Pompeii, and the Vatican are discreetly making solar power.
- In Lebanon, a commercial baker's ovens are powered by solar panels, reducing the use of diesel fuel by 80%.
- Small solar panels are being used in villages where there is no electricity, to power small things such as electric lights, small grain grinders, cell phones, and even small cooking stoves.
- The use of EVs and heat pumps is growing, reducing fossil fuel use, while at the same time, new technologies are developing ways to recycle nickel, cobalt, and lithium from car batteries, and silicon from obsolete solar panels.

Countries are working together on projects.

- An internationally funded water treatment plant is being built which will allow cleaner water to flow into Wadi Gaza's fragile environment, helping to restore vegetation.
- Over 100 countries now have a full or partial ban on single use plastics.

There are many more hopeful projects happening around the world, but here are a few to pack into your suitcase for the summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Thompson

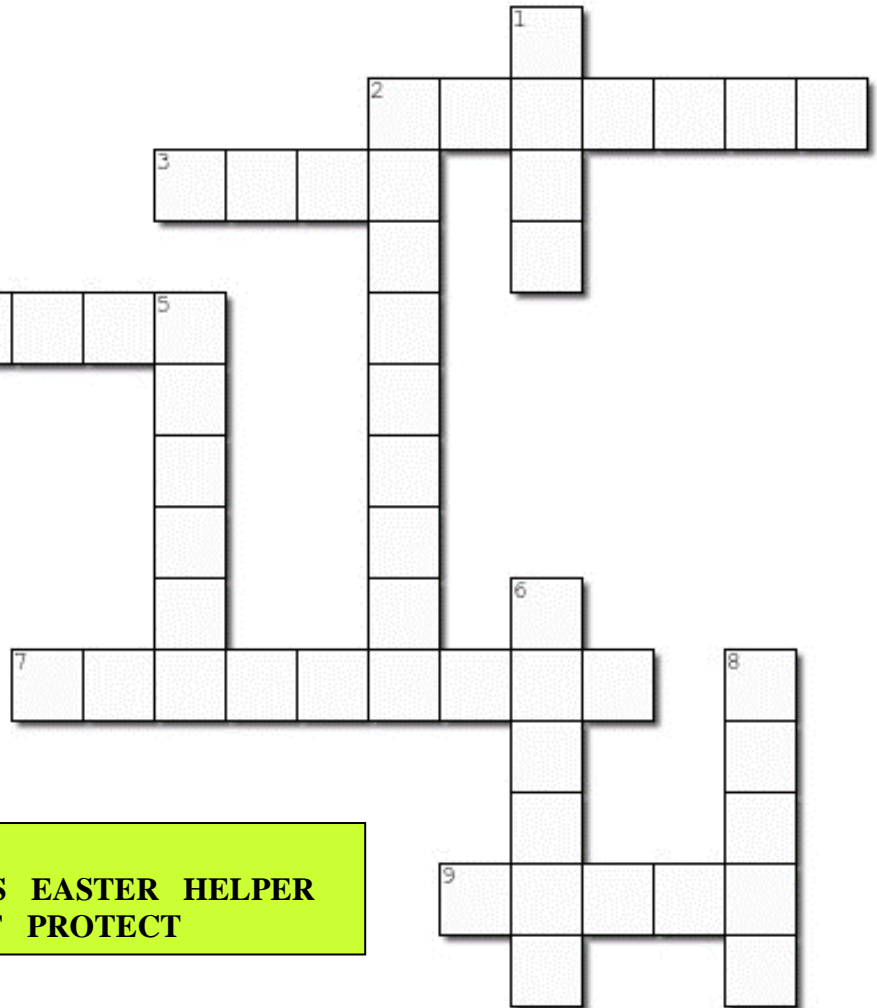
Take a quick quiz...

Down

1. We are told to ____ one another.
2. The day Jesus sent us the Holy Spirit.
5. The Holy Spirit is our _____.
6. We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus (the empty tomb) on which holiday?
8. Jesus died on a wooden _____.

Across

2. When God created the earth, God's vision was that human being were to love, care and _____ all that He had made.
3. We're told to _____ for the widows and orphans.
4. Pentecost is also known as the _____ of the church.
7. We celebrate Jesus birthday on what holiday?
9. He is the son of God, and our Savior.



Answer Key:

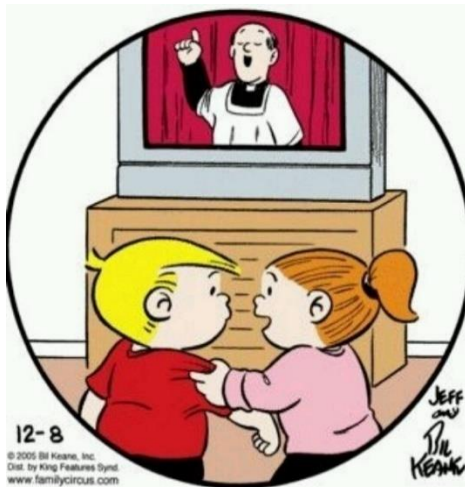
**BIRTH CARE CHRISTMAS CROSS EASTER HELPER
JESUS LOVE PENTECOST PROTECT**



9-4

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"If God is way up there in Heaven, shouldn't I pray a lot louder?"



12-8

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"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."



10-26

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"The two places we know we're always welcome are church and Grandma's house."



Weekly Church Events

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 morning Bible Study

We are now meeting Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for a 45 minute bible study on one of the readings, usually the gospel. All are welcome to join us in person or online by Zoom. We will continue to meet until June 25, when we will break for the summer and resume in September.

Sunday Morning Worship

We gather every Sunday morning at 10:30 for our weekly worship service. This service will continue to be live streamed over our YouTube Channel, and a recording of the service posted shortly after the service ends.

Seniors Bible Study – Wednesday Mornings

Pastor Eric is intending to resume this study in the fall. Please stay posted for further information.

Wednesday afternoon Prayer Gathering at 1 pm over Zoom

Our prayer gatherings continue, alternating between praying Lectio Divina style & free-style 'Prayers of the People'. Praying aloud is not mandatory. All are welcome. Zoom access to our Wednesday prayer gatherings 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 provides an embedded link to join the prayer group.

Second and Fourth Thursdays afternoons at 4 pm – Zoom Happy Hour

All are welcome to join in for an hour of fellowship on the 2nd and 4th and 5th 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. Because of scheduling issues, **for the month of June we are altering the pattern and will meet on the 15th and 22nd**. Our plans for the summer undertermined at this ponit so please keep your ears open for further announcements.

