



Good Shepherd
LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2026 NEWS

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



RECONCILING: FAITHFUL AND CARING

At its fall retreat in 2025 our church council enjoyed a presentation from Pastor Aneeta Saroop. Pastor Aneeta leads Spirit of Life Lutheran Church in Vancouver. She also serves our BC Synod as Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

She shared with us her congregation's journey towards becoming a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. "RIC" is a specific designation given to Lutheran congregations by an organization called ReconcilingWorks, which advocates for the acceptance, full participation, and liberation of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions within the Lutheran Church.

ReconcilingWorks has a very structured and deliberate process by which congregations can explore their commitment to publicly identify themselves as welcoming to the LGBTQ+ community. A congregation that completes the process will end up with a Welcome Statement that articulates such a commitment clearly and publicly.

Pastor Aneeta shared with us that the journey of her congregation was a slow one, but a very fruitful one. It involved a conversation with every single member of the congregation exploring their thoughts and feelings around the goal. Everyone was given a chance to express themselves and were listened to. And the final decision to seek the designation was made by the whole congregation.

What particularly stood out for us in her story was the way the process respected that not everyone is in the same place on a journey like this. No one was belittled for their concerns or questions. And time was taken to talk things through well. The end result was a unanimous decision to pursue a welcome statement. And even though some people still had hesitancy the process generated enough goodwill that everyone felt they could come on board and celebrate a significant moment in the congregation's faith life.

That got us thinking about what such a journey might look like for our congregation. In fact several of our sister congregations as well as our synod have received RIC designations. So council has struck a team to explore what the process might look like. No decisions have been made and we will keep everyone informed of what we learn. And I encourage you to stay in touch with myself and our council around your questions.

Wherever our exploration leads our council believes that every voice matters to us on a matter like this. And so we seek both to be faithful to God's call and to care for everyone who calls Good Shepherd home. May it be so.



PROPOSED GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Listening to God and to each other, we commit to live out our life and ministry as Good Shepherd Lutheran Church guided by the following principles:



Radical Lutheran Identity

We trust that, as sinners, our only hope in life is in God who loves and forgives us unconditionally and who is always forming and reforming us by the Holy Spirit into a church unafraid to deny itself, take up its cross, follow Jesus, and embrace change.



Discipling Worship

We gather for worship that is rooted in scripture, speaks to our everyday lives, renews our relationship with God, and challenges us to live out our faith.



Fearless Caring

We love all people - those like us and unlike us - even when that is risky, inconvenient, uncomfortable, or makes us vulnerable.



Missional Stewardship

We trust that God's generosity is bottomless, and that God calls us to manage all we've been given in a way that doesn't just serve our advantage, but creatively seeks the welfare of our community, our world, and creation.



Intentional Inclusivity

We value people in all their uniqueness and diversity, as God does, and welcome friendship with everyone we encounter even when that challenges our comfort.



Joyful Fellowship

We celebrate friendships and relationships between and beyond us by gathering formally and informally for enjoyment and community.



Transformative Witness

We pay attention to the world around us and seek opportunities to bravely love our neighbours, care for creation, do justice, and live out the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ in the world.



Congregational News

World Food Day

October 16th is designated as World Food Day. We will be marking this important emphasis on Sunday, October 11th with special prayers. You are invited to mark this day by reflecting on the issues around food insecurity in our community, and in the world at large. You can access some resources to mark the day by visiting [Until All Are Fed](#) | [World Food Day](#) | [Canadian Foodgrains Bank](#)

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our Thanksgiving Food Drive continues, and a bin is in the Narthex ready to receive your donations. Thank you for your ongoing support of our efforts to restock the SHARE Foodbank shelves. We plan to take whatever we have accumulated down to SHARE the week after Thanksgiving.

Free Poetry Event at the Church

The Troupe de Poetry will once again grace our doors with a free poetry show including gift draws and refreshments on November 26th from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Come for the fun and to hear their new poetry in their "Winter Show". See the posters on page 19 for all the details. All are welcome.

New Projector and Screen

Church council recently voted to install a new projector and screen in our fellowship hall. This new equipment will serve us in many ways: by simplifying presentations for AGM meetings, giving us ability to display slide shows at funeral receptions, and other uses. The equipment should be installed soon.

Special Note

We have noticed that at times individuals are removed from our church email service. Sometimes this is intentional on the part of the member, but sometimes it may be inadvertent. If you have not been receiving weekly emails from the church and would like to be subscribed to our email list, please contact Sherry in the office.

Here's Something to

Celebrate!



Milestone Birthday

With joy we extend congratulations and best wishes

to **Mo Patz** who turns 92 on November 14th

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to you!

Birthday Greetings

We extend birthday greetings to members who will be celebrating birthdays in October & November:



Bob Berry

Gene Blishen

Sam Cornelson

Tony Gamboa

Lydia Inoue-Zwicker

Ethan Le Roux

Asta Marquess

Liana McGreevy

Emily Myers

Melody Nejati

Kiyan Saed

Radyn Saed

Zach Schuler

Christopher Seidel

Terry Shular

Steven Stickler

Doug Tremain

Ruth von Hertzberg

David Wills

Bevelyn Yen

David Yen

Dave Sommerfeld



With Birthday Blessings to all from your Good Shepherd Family!

Installation Ceremony of Dr. Sarah Knudson as Dean of St. Thomas Moore College



Dr. Sarah Knudson's investiture ceremony as the Dean of St. Thomas More College at the 2026 St. Thomas More College (STM) Academic Mass, was attended by proud parents Bob and Elinor Knudson who had travelled there for the occasion. To read more, and view the slide show, please click [here](#).

We extend our prayers and blessings for Sarah's future work as Dean of STM.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

For Our Prayers

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

Pastor Kristen Steele, as she returns to work after her lengthy period of medical leave and resumes normal life.

Kate Wright: who continues to recover from surgery on her foot and looks forward to returning to church.

Kevin Mathiasen, nephew of Kris, and young husband and father, who recently underwent surgery for esophageal cancer. May God guide his treatments towards a full remission and hold the whole family in grace and mercy.

Larrissa Chenosky, as she continues to struggle with long-term health issues.

Sandra McKoen, Elaine Sinton's daughter, who has returned home after recovering in hospital from a broken hip.

Doug Tremain, who has been in and out of hospital recently for various issues. Please also pray for Gail as she continues to be Doug's main care-giver.

Michelle Chan, who suffered a concussion at work recently, and is recovering at home.

Claire Thompson, who suffered a heart attack, but thanks to quick medical attention received good help and continues to recover at home.

Betty Jones, who is waiting to receive radiation therapy for a tumour on her lung.

For our planet and all it's inhabitants, that we as humans may learn to be better caretakers of our earthly home.

For all children returning to school and families resuming fall activities, that their transitions may be smooth and schedules manageable.

Thanksgiving!

Please join us as we thank God for:



THANK
YOU
GOD!

- For the wonderful celebration we enjoyed at our music festival in September, for the new neighbours we met, and for all who helped to plan and carry out the event.
- For our Rally Day celebration and our worship service under our trees.
- For our ignYte Youth group and for Darya Saed and Rachel Genge who will be leading the group as we search for a new full-time leader.



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.

OCTOBER MEEING AND BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, October 13 at 1:00 pm

Bible Study – We will continue to use the Voices from Scripture in the Canada Lutheran as the basis for our Bible Study. This month we will talk about “Peace of Mind” from the September 2025 issue.

Study Leader – Donna Harris

Refreshments – Pat and Caroline

NOVEMBER MEETING AND AGM

Tuesday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m.

Note – the General Meeting has moved from October to November. Please give consideration to volunteering for one of the positions on the executive.

Guest Speaker - Hope for Freedom

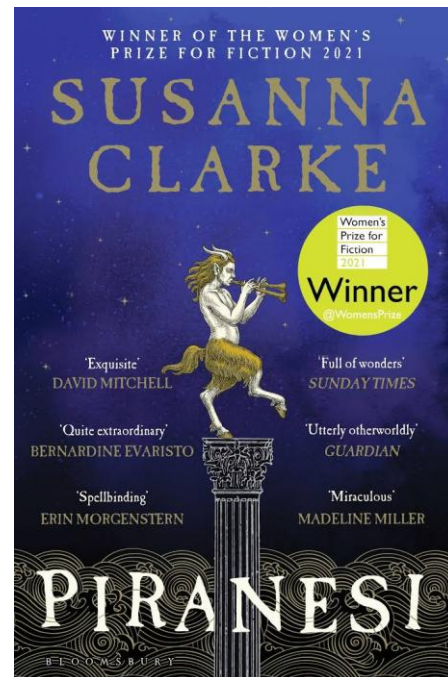
Refreshments – Flora, and Sherry

All Are Welcome



All are invited to join us at our next book club (Date TBD) at 7:15 pm at the home of Mogens and Lily Hansen. We will be reading and discussing the book:

“Piranesi” by Susanna Clarke.



Piranesi is a fantasy mystery novel written as a journal from within a seemingly infinite, world-encompassing megastructure called the House. It won the 2021 Women's Prize for Fiction.

Keep your eyes open for further details about the date as they develop.

Please note that Zoom attendance is possible. Just let Mogens know of your request, and it will be set up. You'll miss out on the goodies, though, but you'll still be part of the excellent conversation and discussion that ensues.

FALL SPECIAL SERVICES TO NOTE

Season of Creation Prayer Walk Around Como Lake – October 4th

We conclude the 2026 Season of Creation with communal Prayer Walk around Como Lake on Sunday, October 4th after the service. Please Save the Date, and plan on joining us on this meditative journey as your able. Further details will be shared closer to the event, so stay tuned.

Thanksgiving Sunday – October 11th

We will gather to give thanks to God for the blessings in our lives and lift up World Food Day. Last chance to contribute to our food drive!

Reformation - October 25th

We will celebrate our identity as reforming people in the spirit of Martin Luther's reformation movement.

Healing Service – November 15th

We are planning a healing service for November 15th. There will be a time of general prayer for healing during the service and Pastor Eric will be available for a time of individual prayer after the service, should you choose to avail yourself to it.

All Saints Sunday – November 1st

On November 1 we will remember those members of the family of God who we have known and loved and now rest in God's eternal care, with a service of candle-lighting and thanksgiving. You are invited to record the name of your loved ones in the book of remembrance which will be available on October 4,. This year we will be asking you to bring in a picture of your loved ones (in a frame or stand), if you so choose, to be placed together in the chancel area of the Sanctuary for the entirety of the service. We hope this to be meaningful, as we remember the saints who have passed on, and worship together on that day.

NOVEMBER 29TH

Advent begins!



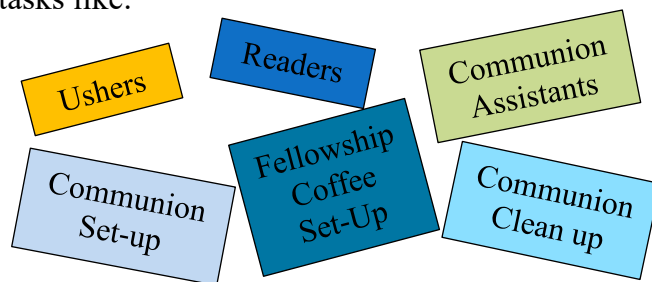


Sunday School is back!

Sunday School is in full swing, and meets every second Sunday downstairs during the Sunday morning service, for a half hour of bible learning, crafts and activities. Consult the church calendar online for dates. We are thankful for Dawn Nieman who continues as our Sunday School Coordinator, and also for our other dedicated Sunday School helpers. If you have an interest in helping out, or have any questions about our program, please contact the office. Join us in praying for another fruitful year of learning and fun!

Who needs a job?

As you know, our church requires many volunteer servants to keep it functioning. Among them are tasks like:



We have a few people who have been filling these roles faithfully for many months, but we would love to give them some company. We could use many others to help share the weekly load.

So if you have a little time to spare, and think you can help in any of these areas, please see Sherry or Pastor Eric.

The pay is not great, but the experience is rewarding!



Calling all **Movie Lovers!**

If you enjoy movies - watching them, discussing them, reviewing them – we have the group for you. We gather from time to time in the home of Peter and Zoe Schuler on a Sunday afternoon, to watch a movie curated by Peter, that's followed by a potluck dinner and discussion. The movies chosen all have some faith element to them. All are welcome. Please speak to Peter directly, and he will keep you informed.



This has become a popular gathering for many members. Once a month, on the last Wednesday of the month, we get together at a member's home over a favorite beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and then settle into a good conversation around a faith topic raised by the group or suggested by a leader. Watch for announcements about where each month's gathering will be held. If you have an interest in hosting sometime, please see Pastor Eric. Nothing is expected of the host except opening your home for the evening.

Season of Creation 2026

The Season of Creation is an annual global movement celebrated for 5 consecutive Sundays from September 1st (World Day of Prayer for Creation) to October 4th (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). Christians worldwide unite for a time to recognize, act, and pray for the common goal to protect our common home. Once again, we celebrated the season this past September with many activities and another beautiful sculpture for our sanctuary made by the members of our wood working and crafters group.



*Immersion
in
Living
Water*

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

This year's theme, "**Living Water**", explored Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation. The symbol depicts water flowing from the Temple of God - at first a tiny stream that grows deeper, and deeper and as it does so, it brings life to dead areas and restores fertility to damaged or barren ecosystems. Through living water comes healing; but in order to experience new life, we too are invited to step into the water and also become part of God's river of life, becoming sources of life for all creation, allowing God's love through us to effect changes necessary for the healing of all creation. God will become in us "a spring of water welling up to eternal life", as Jesus promised (John 4:14).

We are also urged to dive into the "tears" of creation (Romans 8:22-23) by allowing our hearts to be touched by the suffering of our siblings in our ecumenical family. Indeed, the Season of Creation is also an appropriate time for fraternal closeness and solidarity with the vulnerable and the poor, chiefly those who suffer from environmental degradation. We can learn from their stories, from their resilience, from their commitment and together keep hope alive. [Excerpted from **Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2026** found [here](#)]. The Season of Creation comes to a close on October 4th, 2026.



**Excerpt from Rev. Dr. Anne Burghardt's Introduction to the
Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2026:**

Ezekiel's vision of 'Living Water' invites us to see God's life-giving grace and sacramental presence flowing into places of desolation, renewing both creation and human community. In a world facing a severe ecological crisis, this river becomes a call to repent from systems that exploit land, water, and vulnerable peoples. Creation is not a commodity but a communion of interdependent life entrusted to our care.

**Rev. Dr. Anne Burghardt,
General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation**

WORLD FOOD DAY



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) created World Food Day on October 16, 1945. World Food Day events are organized in over 150 countries across the world, making it one of the most celebrated days of the UN calendar. These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and help strengthen the link between agriculture and food security.

We will be lifting up World Food Day on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 12. Our service will include liturgical texts crafted for the day. And after the service we will have a display table set up with more information pertaining to this important occasion.

There are also other ways you can make the call of World Food Day a part of your daily discipleship, such as:

- Learn more about how problems in global food systems prevents people from having regular access to enough nutritious food to lead active and healthy lives by visiting <https://untilallarefed.ca/>
- Donate to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a partnership of 15 church and church-based agencies (including CLWR) working together to end global hunger at the following link: <https://foodgrainsbank.ca/give>
- Advocate for Canada to increase support to help small-scale food producers adapt to climate change and build more resilient food systems by building your own personalized letter to your member of Parliament today at foodgrainsbank.ca/online-letter.
- Sign up to attend an on-line service from Glenlea Mennonite Church on Sunday, October 19 at 9 am to learn and pray with other Christians about world hunger at <https://untilallarefed.ca/>

As we give thanks this year for the blessing of a safe and plentiful food supply in our country, let us put our gratitude to work for those who lack such security.

Fall Clean up

THANK YOU

A huge **Thank You** is extended to all who came out and helped 'shine up the church' on September 26th, both inside the church building and outside in the parking lot and yard. So many of the semi-annual tasks were completed by their efforts, but there still remains a few yet to

be done. So for those remaining tasks, if anyone has some time to spare and a willingness to lend a hand, please speak to David Stroud. Outside the crew of helpers contributed 325 kg (715 lbs) of green waste that Jerry took to the recycling depot.

2026 Church Directory Email Updates

Please take note of the following changes to contact information...

1) ignYte Youth Group (on interior cover)
To contact our current youth leaders (Rachel / Darya)
please email them at ignyte.coquitlam@gmail.com

2) ALMA TRENT
Belvedere Seniors Care Centre
Room 259 – 739 Alderson Avenue
Coquitlam, BC V3K 7B3

...and update your 2026 Church Directories accordingly.

Thank you 😊



From Our Treasurer

The following is an update on our financial YTD Status as at September 30, 2026:

YTD Total Income	\$ 215,745.66
YTD Total Expenses	<u>\$ 212,101.04</u>
Deficit	<u>\$ 3,644.62</u>

Property Fund Balance \$ 4,451.8

Special Initiatives Fund \$ 23,053.13

Thank you all for your faithful generosity.

OUTREACH NEWS

Summer Food Drive donations were delivered to the SHARE Foodbank. Thank you to all who donated Cereal items for the Foodbank this September, too.

We will be collecting donations of food items for Thanksgiving... because

- there's an increased need for donations, one reason being due to job losses especially in the Trades Industry.
- more two income families are needing to turn to the Foodbank for help.
- one in three users are children.

Food Items to consider

- canned meat or fish
- canned fruits or vegetables
- pasta, noodles
- lentils, chickpeas (canned or dry)
- tomato sauce or canned tomatoes
- cooking oil *not large, heavy containers
- baby formula, baby foods
- tea bags
- canned/bottled juices
- pudding cups
- granola bars

Other

- toilet paper
- baby wipes
- dish soap

With Gratitude for your consideration 😊
from Your Outreach Team

October-November Youth Update

Well, our school routines have been ongoing for almost a month now, and our fall schedules (personal, extra-curricular and ignYte) are coming into focus. We've already enjoyed a fall-themed re-TREAT...with the emphasis on treats! We thoroughly our first get-together and enjoyed munching on a bunch of fall-themed baking, relaxing in our PJ's, chilling out and getting to know one another better.

And as always, friends were welcome.

Sugar and spice and everything nice,
Rachel and Darya



ignYte is a joint ministry of St. Laurence Anglican and Good Shepherd Lutheran, open to youth grades 7-12 from across the Tri-Cities and North Burnaby region.

We desire to create a bravely welcoming community where youth can bring their full selves, create lasting friendships, kindle a joyful faith, and be energized to spread Christ's love in every part of their lives.

Upcoming Events (& things to note):

Fri, Oct 2nd - 7-9pm @GSL

Fri, Oct 9th - Thanksgiving Long Weekend, silly... so **no IgnYte**.

Job Opportunity

ignYte is looking to hire a new leader. As a shared ministry of St. Laurence Anglican and Good Shepherd Lutheran, ignYte strives to create a bravely welcoming community where youth can bring their full selves, create lasting friendships, kindle a joyful faith, and be energized to spread Christ's love in every part of their lives. It's a compelling vision, and I've been blessed to see it unfold in remarkable ways over the last years, as God continues to change and grow our community of youth and the people who love them. This is a role for someone who loves working with young people, thrives on genuine relationships, and is ready to build something meaningful in partnership with a community poised for growth. To see more details, please click [here](#).

CLAY 2027 will be happening August 19 - 22, 2027!

ignYte plans on attending next year's event, and will gather at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo, BC - on the traditional lands of the the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, Quw'utsun and Tla'amin peoples. The theme is **Safe Harbour**.

ignYte had a great time at CLAY 2025 - *Rooted and Rising* - in Saskatoon, and are looking forward to registering a Home Team to travel to Nanaimo.

Save the dates, feel free to invite friends, and share your favorite fundraising ideas! 😊

To learn more visit claygathering.ca Home Page - CLAY Gatherings or chat with Darya or Rachel!



What is CLAY?

The Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering (CLAY) brings together youth (ages 14-19) from across Canada for a shared Anglican-Lutheran multi-day gathering of worship, fellowship, learning and faith formation. Hosted jointly by the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, CLAY offers an opportunity for young people to deepen their faith, build community and explore Christian discipleship in an ecumenical context.

Held every two years, CLAY gathers participants from across the country for worship,

**Clay is coming to Nanaimo in 2027!
AND YOU CAN HELP GET THEM THERE!!**



Helping to support our youth travelling to CLAY is now as simple as returning your empty bottles with our ignYte Return it Express Account!

How Express works:

1. Put your empty beverage containers into clear or transparent plastic bags that are up to 90 liters in capacity, no sorting needed!
2. Visit return-it.ca/locations to find an Express location near you.
3. At the Express location, use phone number **778-836-8762** to log into the ignYte account at the Express kiosk and print your bag labels. Remember to label each of your bags.
4. Scan your bag labels with a scan gun located below the drop-off window. The screen on the kiosk will confirm if you successfully scanned your bag label.
5. Drop your bags off at the designated Express drop off area.
6. Proceeds are e-transferred, designated directly to ignYte Youth.



WIDER CHURCH NEWS

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) NATIONAL CHURCH NEWS

National Church Council (NCC) Meeting Highlights are Now Available



Attendees at the ELCIC NCC September 10-12.

The ELCIC NCC recently held its meeting in Winnipeg, Man. from September 10 to 12. Highlights from the significant work done are now available for viewing.

These highlights are provided so you may become aware of some of the work and decisions that the NCC has been occupied with.

[Read more about it here.](#)

Reaffirming the Commitment to Living as Treaty People

National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer joined other Christian faith leaders at The Forks in Winnipeg, Man. for a recommitment ceremony as part of the **We Are All Treaty People Celebration 2026** on Sunday, September 20. Representatives from the Roman Catholic, Anglican, United, Mennonite, and Quaker communities were also present.

[Read more about it here.](#)



Photo Credit: Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

Giving Thanks for 25 Years of Full Communion



The ELCIC and Anglican Church of Canada are marking 25 years of full communion and giving thanks for a relationship rooted in shared witness, ministry and a commitment to serving together. Following a gathering of Lutheran and Anglican church leaders in Niagara Falls, Ont., leaders reflect on the past 25 years and look toward the continued importance of cooperation and shared ministry. [Read the joint statement here.](#)

Luther: Installation of New Principal-Dean Rev. Dr. Daranne Harris



Photo provided by Bishop Larry Kochendorfer.

The installation service for Rev. Dr. Daranne Harris as the new Principal-Dean of Martin Luther University College (Luther) took place on Sunday, September 27, 2026, at Trillium Lutheran Church in Waterloo, Ont. ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer was among the guests and shared a message of hope with the newly installed Principal-Dean.

“My prayer is that you will rejoice in hope as you intentionally seek to listen to the melody of the future; that you will courageously dance to its rhythm, and that you will stubbornly commit to love, to Living Out God’s Grace & Unconditional Love,” Kochendorfer said.

The ELCIC National Office congratulates Principal-Dean Daranne Harris on her installation.

Update and Continued Prayers for Natalie Abudayyeh

The ELCIC continues to stand in solidarity with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) and Natalie Abudayyeh, an ELCJHL youth and Birzeit University student

who has been held under “administrative detention.” Over the years, Israel has used “administrative detention” to place thousands of Palestinians behind bars for several months to several years without telling them what they are accused of and without disclosing the alleged evidence to them or their lawyers.

Following another court appearance, a decision regarding Abudayyeh’s release has been postponed until October 20. The ELCIC joins the ELCJHL in continuing to pray for Natalie, her family and the church and calling for her immediate release.

[Read the latest update.](#)

Update from Pastor Kristen Steele

Two and a half years ago I began medical leave from Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (Langley). Throughout these last 2 and a half years my congregation, my family and I have been held in prayer by individuals and congregations across the synod. Those prayers meant so much to all of us. It has been a very long and complicated journey with thyroid cancer that spread to other parts of my body. I am now gradually returning to serve as pastor at Shepherd of the Valley once again. I want to thank each and every one of you who held me, my congregation and my family in prayer while we were on this journey. The surgeon who performed my second surgery had a plaque in his office that said “Doctors put bandages on, God heals”. Thank you for your love, support and encouragement and most importantly your prayers throughout this journey.

- Pastor Kristen Steele

National Worship service to Celebrate the ELCIC’s 40th Anniversary

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada celebrates 40 years in 2026, members and congregations from across the church are invited to come together for a special National Worship Service on Sunday, October 25. Led by National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, the service will be livestreamed from Camp Kinasao at Christopher Lake, Saskatchewan, where youth from across the Saskatchewan Synod will gather for a weekend retreat. To read the full news article, please click [here](#).



ELCIC Mission Fund Grant Applications

As in the past, the ELCIC is inviting applications for grants to fund neighbourhood and community experiments and learning opportunities that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a) explore what God is doing in your neighbourhood
- b) seek to develop relationships with others in your community

- c) encourage participation in God's mission in the local community
- d) encourage action and reflection learning

Through these experiments, we will continue to learn from and with each other as we share our stories, experiences, and our learning with the rest of our synod and the wider church. Experiments need not be large-scale or require the commitment of large dollar amounts. Successful applications are inspired by imagination and a curiosity about what God is up to in our midst.

Grants are funded by the ELCIC through the ELCIC Mission Fund and are given on a one-time basis and are not intended to subsidize ongoing funding needs of regular church programming. Grant recipients will be invited to submit the "faith story" of their missional experiments, which will be shared with the synod and the communities and be asked to give an accounting of how the grant money is spent, and to return any unused funds.

So, your Church Council is asking you.... If you have any ideas that you think Council should consider that meets the above criteria, please speak to any one of your council members so we might be able to consider it before the deadline passes.

The application deadline is October 15, 2026.

Wider Church news

World Council of Churches

WCC Faith and Science Working Group: Rethinking What It Means To Be Human



The World Council of Church's Faith and Science Working Group is currently working on evaluating modern technological and scientific advancements through theological and ethical lenses, focusing on human dignity, digital justice, and existential risks. To read the full article, please [click here](#).

Photo credit: Albin Hillert/WCC website)

Other Items of Interest

Free Movie

Como Lake United Church is showing the film "The Road Forward" on Thursday, October 15 at 7:30 pm. It is described as a powerful, musical documentary tracing the history of First Nations Activism and the ongoing struggle for Indigenous Rights. All are welcome.



THE ROAD FORWARD

A film by Marie Clements
2017 • 101 min

A powerful musical documentary tracing the history of First Nations activism and the ongoing struggle for Indigenous rights.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 • 7:30 PM

 **COMO LAKE UNITED CHURCH**
535 Marmont Street, Coquitlam

FREE ADMISSION • EVERYONE WELCOME
Free parking available

Langley Christmas Choir



If you or someone you know loves to sing in choirs and is looking for an opportunity to sing in a short-term choir, why not consider singing in the Langley Christmas Choir? Now in its 4th year, Gail Suderman started the choir when she began working at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Langley, BC as part-time music director in 2023. Each year, almost 50 singers join, rehearse from mid-October to the beginning of December, and then sing one concert performance on the first Sunday of December. We are excited to welcome gospel/R&B singer Crystal Hicks and classical baritone, Stephen Duncan as our guest soloists.

Previous experience singing in a choir and reading choral music is recommended. For more information and a link to a registration form, check out <https://www.svlc.ca/featured-event/langley-christmas-choir/>

Rehearsals are at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, [20097 72nd Avenue](#) in Langley on **Wednesday evenings from 7:45 - 9:30 pm, beginning Wednesday, October 14th**. Choral arrangements from traditional SATB to popular music and gospel will be included - something for everyone to enjoy singing.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Gail. Her email address can be found by clicking the link above. And if you know of anyone who might enjoy singing in the choir, please feel free to pass this message along.

Poetry on the Hill

The Winter Show 2026!!

When: Thursday, November 26, 2026
Where: Good Shepherd Church
1504 Spruce Ave, Coquitlam, Phone: (604) 936-2939
Time: 6-7pm



Free Admission!!!

Enjoy some Fresh, New, Original Winter Poetry!!



Why Should Christians Care about Palestine and Israel

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church together with Lynn Valley United Church is hosting a Panel Discussion on **November 14 at 3:00pm** - "Why Should Christians Care about Palestine and Israel?"

For more information, and to register, please click [here](#).



Why Should Christians Care about Palestine and Israel?

November 14, 3:00pm



Rabbi Laura Duhan-Kaplan



Shadia Qubti



Ron Dart

Join Lynn Valley United Church and Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for a truly eye-opening panel exploring the complex intersection of faith, politics, history, justice, and peace. Hosted at Lynn Valley United Church, this event will prompt attendees to ask, in a time of deep polarization, how can Christians move beyond slogans and engage in the realities of Palestine and Israel with humility, compassion, and courage?

Learn more and register now:

3201 Mountain Highway, North Vancouver
www.lynnvalleychurch.com



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.

Light Shows vs Fireworks

Many cities around the world, including Hong Kong, have moved to laser light or drone shows instead of fireworks. There are many benefits to using laser lights or drones. They can create complex and fluid animations and precise 3D logos and words. The tech equipment is electric and reusable. Drones can be flown repeatedly rather than exploded once. Depending on circumstances, such as humidity, fog, or clouds laser beams can be visible for several kilometers.

Environmental and safety issues:

No accidental sparks that may ignite dry bush or grass.

There is zero debris such as cardboard, plastic, or chemical ash shells left behind in nature or local waterways.

They do not produce heavy smoke, sulfur, or toxic particular exhaust, leaving the air cleaner.

Wildlife and community comfort:

Drone and lasers operate quietly which protects dogs, cats, farm animals and local wildlife from panic caused by loud BOOMS.

They reduce sensory overload which is safer for veterans or individuals with sensory sensitivities or PTSD triggered by explosions.

Fire works are by definition controlled explosions that send burning debris into the air and can ignite fires including dry bush and grass, and unfortunately sometimes houses and other buildings. According to the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, spanning across 2022- 2025, Fire Departments across Canada responded to roughly 400-700 total incidents per year. And there are the injuries. Historically, fireworks related injuries are mostly burns to hands and fingers, and head and eye traumas, but there have also been deaths.

Many cities in Canada have now banned fireworks and you need to check the regulations for the city you live in to avoid being fined. Fire crackers are illegal in Canada, due to severe safety risks and high rates of accidental injuries.

As communities look for safer and more environmentally responsible ways to celebrate, drone and laser light shows offer an exciting alternative to traditional fireworks.

Respectfully Yours,

Claire Thompson

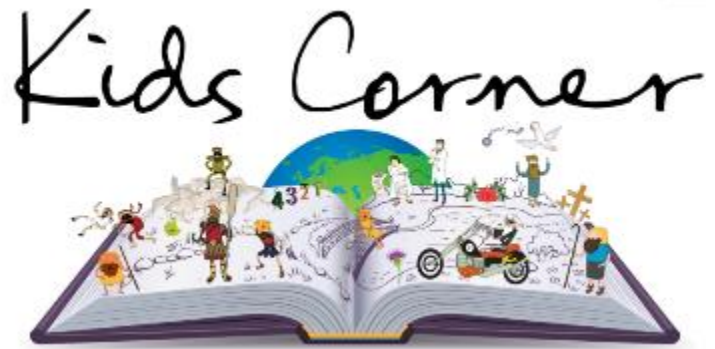
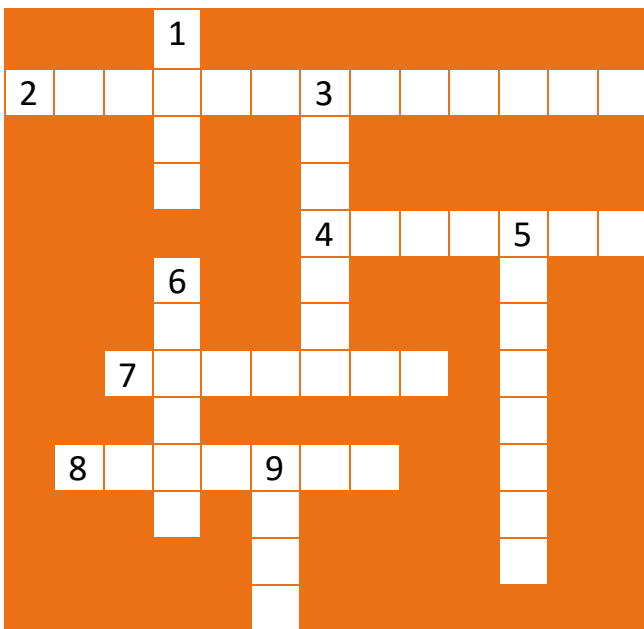


Hey kids!

Pastor Eric has been talking a lot about Living Water. He said we can be like living water to others by being a friend who is kind, loving, and inclusive. And I thought...are there others ways too that God wants us to behave? So that we can become like living water?

Ephesians 5:1 says "Imitate God... in everything you do, because you are his dear children." Wow!

Then I thought...how do I do that? And I found some answers of what to do and what NOT to do in two verses from the bible. If we can do what Pastor Eric has said, and these things also, then I think we'd be off to a really good start! 😊



Across

- 2. From Ephesians - **Be Like This!**
- 4. From Philippians - **Don't Be Like This!**
- 7. From Philippians - **Don't Be Like This!**
- 8. From Ephesians - **Be Like This!**

ANSWER KEY

- ☺ abusive ☺ encouragement ☺
- ☺ foul ☺ good ☺ helpful ☺
- ☺ humble ☺ impress ☺
- ☺ interest ☺ selfish ☺

Down

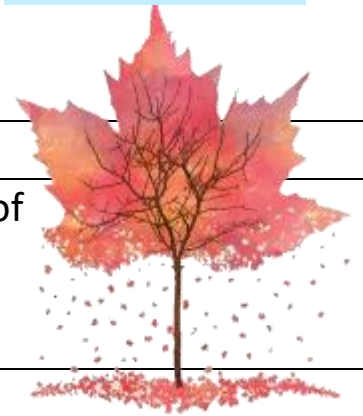
- 1. From Ephesians - **Don't Be Like This!**
- 3. From Ephesians - **Be Like This!**
- 5. From Philippians - **Be Like This!**
- 6. From Ephesians - **Be Like This!**
- 9. From Ephesians - **Don't Be Like This!**

Philippians 2:3-4 NLT

Don't be **selfish**; don't try to **impress** others. Be **humble**, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an **interest** in others, too.

Ephesians 4:29 NLT

Don't use **foul** or **abusive** language. Let everything you say be **good** and **helpful**, so that your words will be an **encouragement** to those who hear them.



Regular Church Events

We have a number of opportunities available for you to consider, to gather with us for fellowship, worship and learning. **All are invited to join** in any or all of these in-person or Zoom events. The links to join these events can be found on our website at gslcc.ca or by clicking [here](#). All are welcome!

Sunday morning Bible Study - HYBRID

We gather **every Sunday morning at 9:30 am** for a 45-minute Bible study and conversation on the gospel text for the day. This study is offered both in-person or by Zoom.

Sunday Morning Worship - HYBRID

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

Tuesday morning: Woodworking & Crafters Group – IN-PERSON

This group meets weekly on Tuesday morning from **10 am to 11:30 am**. in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday afternoon: Good Shepherd Women's Group – IN-PERSON

This group of women meets **monthly** every **2nd Tuesday at 1 pm** in the Fellowship Hall, for a bible study, refreshment and fellowship.

Wednesday afternoon: Prayer Gathering – OVER ZOOM

A small group of dedicated 'Pray-ers' meet weekly at 1:30 pm on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays** practicing free style '*Prayers of the People*', offering up our thanks, praise & concerns with those present. On the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** they pray in the style of *Lectio Divina*, delving into the Bible and then closing in communal prayer. A **5th Wednesday** is always a special prayer gathering with a changing format.

Sip with the Spirit – IN-PERSON

On the last Wednesday of the month, we get together at a member's home over a favorite beverage (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and then settle into a good conversation around a faith topic raised by the group or suggested by a leader. Watch for announcements about where each month's gathering will be held.

Thursday: Happy Hour – OVER ZOOM

On the 4th Thursdays of each month at 4 pm, a small group gathers for fellowship. It's always a fun time of social interaction & lively conversation, about what's going on in our lives & in our world.