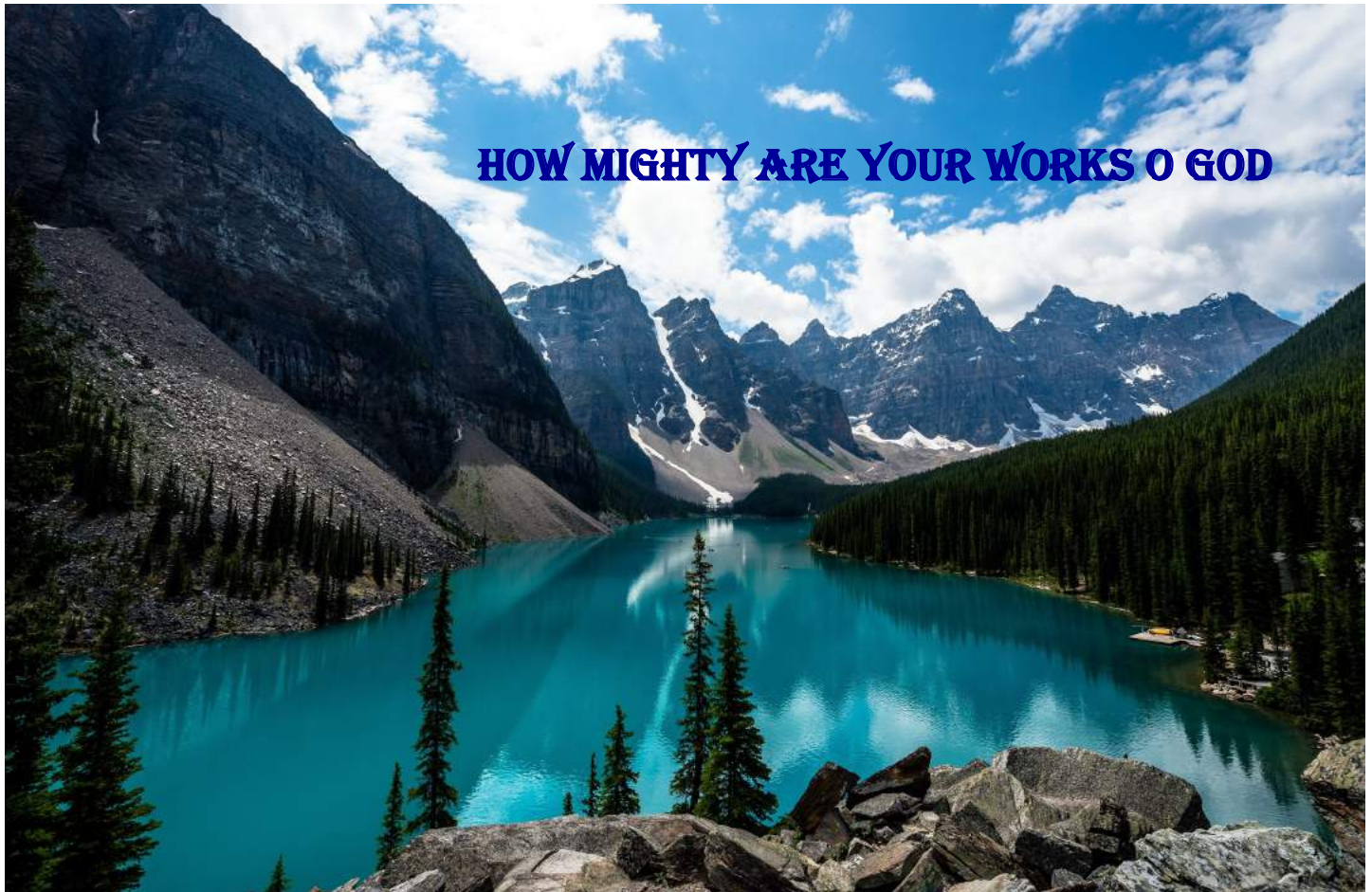


MESSIAH MESSENGER

July/August 2021

Volume 42 Issue 7



HOW MIGHTY ARE YOUR WORKS O GOD

Worship Schedule
Sunday 10:30 am

Great News!!

*In-person worship is now permitted with 120 people
in attendance. See page 10 for more information.*

Services are broadcast on YouTube, search for
MessiahCamrose or find a link on our website
messiahcamrose.ca.

We also broadcast on Eastlink TV channels
10, 310 and 610 on Sunday at 10:30 am

Please call if you have any questions or concerns 780 672 3444
or email office@messiahcamrose.ca

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Please note that for the
months of June, July and
August the Church office will
have new hours:

Monday 8:00 am - Noon &
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Tuesday 8:00 am - Noon &
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 8:00 am - Noon &
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am - Noon



Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Bishop's Message For Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders



Dear Beloved of God -

CLWR was there. You were there.

When I think of the ministry of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) over its 75 years, my mind often journeys to the international relief and development work taking place alongside many partners. At this moment, when I hear "CLWR," my thoughts go to their local collaboration and partnerships, such as the response in Alberta to flooding in High River in 2013 and to the wildfires in Fort McMurray in 2016.

Never will I forget the overwhelming, immediate support, nor the outpouring of compassion and generosity the moment word of these disasters hit the news. In my first journey to Fort McMurray following the fires, it looked like a battle zone, with entire neighbourhoods completely destroyed and laid waste; vinyl siding melted and twisted; families and neighbours arm in arm, staring silently, slowly shaking their heads in disbelief and despair.

But I visited again Fort McMurray approximately one year later, together with CLWR staff and Rev. Dr. Glenn Schaeffer, then-president of the Alberta-British Columbia District of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC). We heard story after story of relief, support, and gratitude amid the devastation and ongoing effects of trauma.

CLWR was there, you were there, partnering with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and LCC to help meet the physical and psychosocial (emotional and mental) needs of community members.

CLWR partnered to provide new homes for those who had lost everything in the fire. Energy efficient homes were built in Hague, SK, by teams of Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS) volunteers and transported to Fort McMurray where other volunteers had poured foundations and

basements. CLWR had previously partnered with MDS, experts in domestic disaster assistance, to respond to the flooding in High River.

"I just can't believe it," one individual shared with us, standing in their new home. "I'm sure nobody realizes how all those little bits of love add up to something meaningful. It took a lot of people to get this together. This house will remind me of that every single day. It seems that thank you is not enough, but thank you from the bottom of my heart."

CLWR also partnered with a Fort McMurray organization to help alleviate the physical and psychosocial pain of those affected by the fires. Funds were provided to enhance the reach of the organization's outreach services in Fort McMurray and the surrounding communities. With increased staffing, expanded and more frequent visits to the rural communities were made possible, enabling greater access for children and adults to counseling and support, especially for those people who could not always travel to Fort McMurray. In addition, domestic violence services included an emergency women and children's shelter, second stage housing, and community outreach, which included support groups, risk assessments, education, and training.

Yes, I think of international efforts, but I also think of collaboration and partnerships to meet national needs.

CLWR was there, you were there.

I have seen CLWR's strategic compass designed to be visionary and dynamic, emphasizing innovation and collaboration, sustainability, and transformation. CLWR maintains a commitment to building resilience, using rights-based and adaptive approaches.

When God lays the needs of people facing natural disaster and dislocation on the hearts of God's people, the response is immediate, filled with compassion and generosity.

CLWR is there. You are there. *(continued)*

Blessings to you, CLWR, in these next 75 years as you seek to faithfully live your mission: *Inspired by God's love for the world, CLWR challenges and responds to the injustice which causes human suffering and poverty. We are committed to working alongside our partners to build resilience through a continual shared learning approach.*

As an international relief and development agency of the Lutheran communities, CLWR provides opportunities for Canadians to respond to national and international needs.

Our National Church Council approved the designation of September 26, 2021 as CLWR Sunday to celebrate their 75th anniversary. Watch for further information and resources.

In Christ Jesus –

Shalom,

Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

Minister's Message

"I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up"

Psalm 30:1a



Summer is here and it seems that things are going to be opened wide up and may return to some kind of "normal". Many of us may be feeling just like the psalmist in psalm 30 - being restored after a significant

difficult time. The psalmist talks about: enemies threatening to take over; hints at loss of health (so much so that they felt dead or close to death); God's wrath; and weeping all night. I suspect that there are a number of points of connection to this psalmist with how each of us has felt in these last many months.

It seems a long time ago now, but there was a time not really so long ago that we felt very secure in our ability to gather together safely. It was something that was simply taken for granted. There are times in these situations where we begin to forget that we rely so completely on God and instead feel that **we** are to be congratulated for the good things that happen. We can begin to feel that we hardly need God at all. Then, suddenly, something happens to cause us to realize that we have very little control over what happens to us in the world. We need God to turn to in difficult times and so need to practice this by turning to God in good times also.

In the difficult times, we may find ourselves bargaining with God like the psalmist does. "What good is it to you if I die, God?" and "If I die,

who will give you praise?"... I'm not sure that these kinds of things sway God all that much. God continues to love us through thick and thin, in good times and difficult times, and in spite of our attitude towards God. Sometimes it takes a difficulty for us to notice God.

But now our closed up world is opening up again. We are lifted. We are restored to health and life. We find joy in the morning. I know I am looking forward to a summer where we can gather and visit and be with each other in ways we have not been able to for far too long. There may be some residual concern over opening up too soon, but we are heading in a direction that we all are looking so forward to: being together safely.

May your summer be filled with rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation so that you may be ready to serve, praise, thank and follow God into whatever is to come. We need this for our process of discernment for the will of God for Messiah Lutheran Church.

God's peace be with you always.

Pastor Calvin

O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

Psalm 30:12b

Call me at 780-672-3444 (Church office).

Text or call me at 780-679-5976

Email me at: calvinskriver@gmail.com

Minister's Message



LEARNING TO LISTEN TO THE HEART OF GOD

The summer is starting off in a lovely way as the weather has been so nice and the sun has been out and things greened up a bit with the spring rains. I am enjoying the sounds of the birds and the rustling of the wind in the trees. I am sitting out on my step just a little more with my morning coffee and not rushing into the day quite as much. I am enjoying walking around the lake and seeing so many of you on my journey. I also have enjoyed visiting with some of you as you walk past our home. These are such treasured moments. I have also so enjoyed the connections we have been having on zoom.

In a way this time of Covid has offered us also a bit of this quiet reprieve. People have had the chance to stop and take stock of our lives and perhaps live with a bit more intention. I for one have appreciated the way that has allowed us to breathe a bit. Of course it has come with some incredible grief and isolation as well. But there have been many gifts that have come out of this time.

And so as the summer flowers open a bit more... it seems things in our lands are opening up a little too. I would like to encourage us all to not just jump into the saddle and take off at a breakneck speed. I would like to encourage each of us to take moments to sit on the step and the patio, ponder, take a walk, read a bit of scripture, drink an extra cup of coffee and spend some moments talking with God. We certainly have so much to talk with God about these days don't we? I am encouraging you us all to also open our hearts to God's ways. Perhaps now God has a new way to open to God's love? What a perfect time to discover this individually and as a church.

And so in this season of "being", I would like to invite you into a time of intentionally learning to listen to God's Spirit and to God's heart.

I would like us to begin the process of discernment by stilling our hearts and practising listening to the voice of our loving God. This is the beginning of discernment. As we learn to listen closely we hear God's heart for the people. We hear what is below the surface where the voice of God is best heard. We hear that gentle holy whisper of the one who loves us so dearly. Perhaps your prayer can be this, "Open my heart Lord in a new way and help me to recognize your voice."

We just finished confirming our confirmation students. As we did, we were all reminded that our relationship with our Lord is ever with us... and that God never leaves us. God wants to converse with us and us with God. We were also reminded that it is the Lord who would like to guide our boat. When we move into discernment we are basically asking our Lord to do just that... "to guide our journey".

We are letting go of what we think things should look like and opening to perhaps some new ways that God might want to be lead us forward as a beloved people of God.

In our "Connecting through Creation" study we were reminded that we are created with such

value and are God's beloved children. God loves, values, honours, calls us precious and calls us.

It is from this place that we can stop and be with the one who loves us the most of all.

It is from this place that we can listen to that still small voice that wants to guide us as people of God and as a church.

And it is from this place we know without a doubt that we are so deeply loved.

It is from this place that we know that God is and will be with us always no matter where our journey takes us.

I want to leave you with these words from St. Patrick that we learned at the Confirmation Service.

GOD BEFORE ME

GOD ABOVE ME

GOD BESIDE ME

GOD BEHIND ME

GOD BENEATH ME

GOD WITHIN ME



As you step aside this summer to listen to the gentle voice of the Spirit remember the beautiful security of knowing that your God is within you through the Spirit and loves you.

Have a really wonderful time this summer of listening to the Spirit of God and sharing with God what is on your heart.

Open to the heart of God and God will gently speak into your heart.

I will join you in this time of stillness. I will join you in this time of living with an open and loving heart.



JOHN 10:27

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me"

In the love of the ONE who loves you most...

Pastor Bev

(Contact me at 780-678-7830 cell or email bev@breatheopenlove.com)



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY was JUNE 20, 2021



Pastoral Acts
Graveside Service
 Judith Brown
Confirmation
 Emily Brosius
 Rhys Didriksen
 Shelby Hasselbohm
 Caleb Hawkins
 Joseph Soanes
 Zachary Stolee



New Member:

David Rogers

Welcome Back:

Patricia Rogers

Gifts Received Memorials

Don Anderson
Norma Branes
Marion Burnstad
Douglas Hawkins
Virginia Olson

Expressions of Faith by Confirmation Students

For more complete information you may watch their video on YouTube at this link:

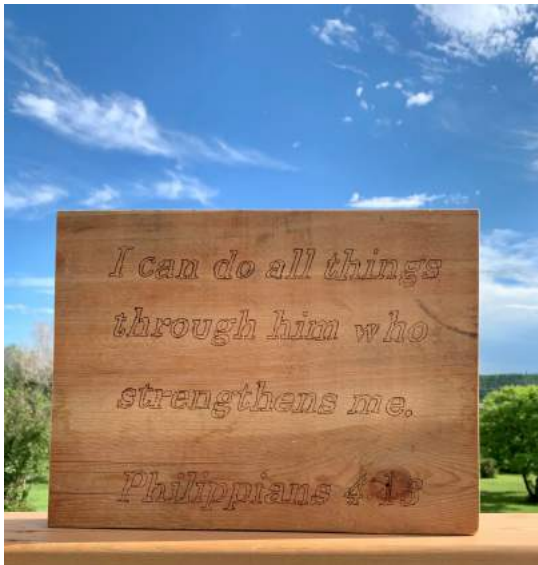
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwPNVn-r_JY



Joseph Soanes - Baseball Analogy



Emily Brosius - Confirmation Collage



Rys Didriksen - Bible Verse Plaque



Shelby Hasselbohm - Confirmation Blanket



Zachary Stolee - Sheep Carving



Caleb Hawkins - Faith Painting

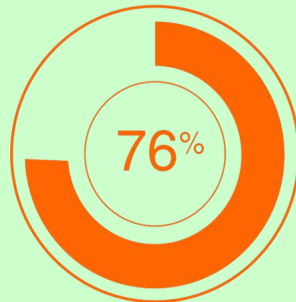
ROOF FUND UPDATE:

The revised goal is \$92,341

Received as of

June 20:

\$70,334



We are able to accept E-transfers set up from your online banking, that deposit directly, at the following email address:
offering@messiahcamrose.ca



Volunteers Needed

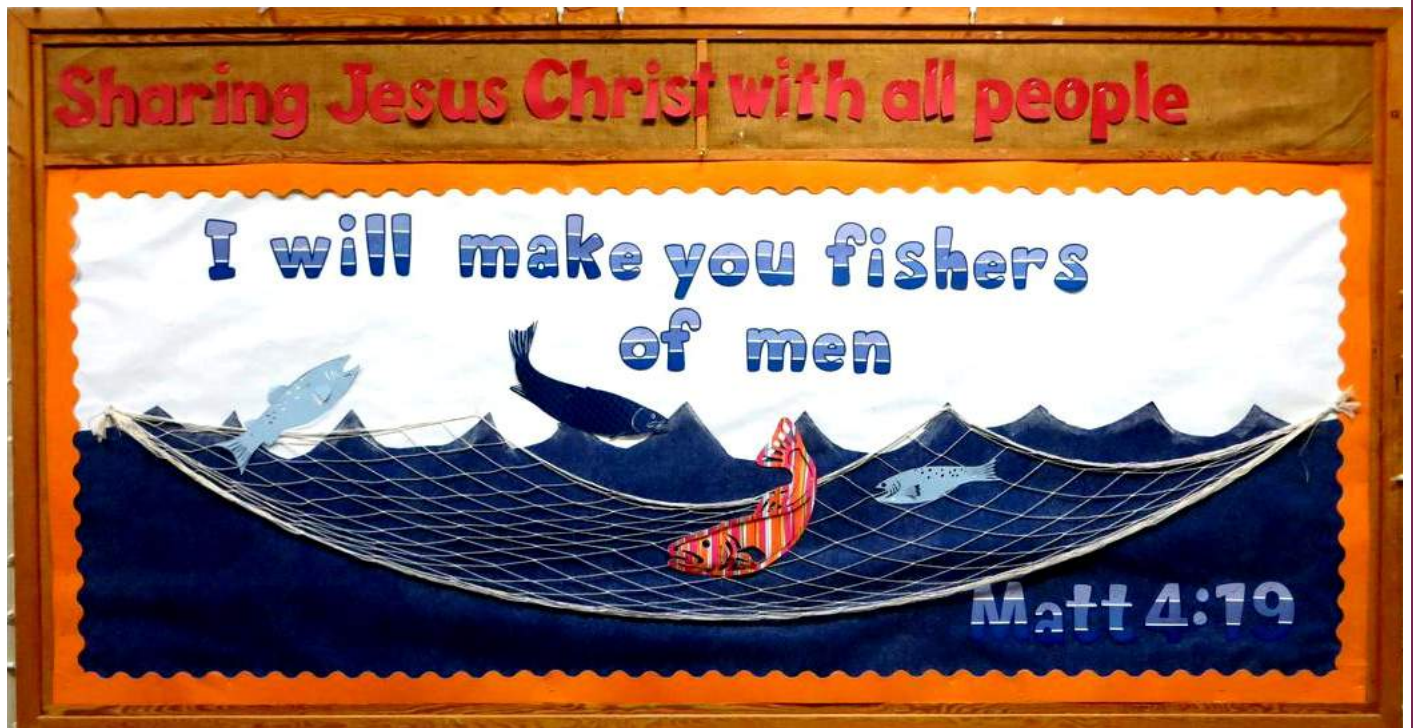
As we look forward to returning to a regularly scheduled worship service, Loretta Foshaug will be preparing a schedule of volunteers to greet, usher, prepare for and serve communion. Thanks Loretta!

If you are able to continue volunteering for one of these roles, please phone or email the office (780-672-3444; office@messiahcamrose.ca). If you want to learn more about a particular volunteer opportunity, contact Loretta directly at (780-672-6852).

Another opportunity to serve is taking Holy Communion to the residents at Seasons Retirement Community. Prior to the pandemic this happened following the first communion service of each month. For more information call Pastor Bev Swanson.

Thank you.
Darlene Dahle
Worship Committee Chair





MAKE SURE YOU LOOK AT THE LOVELY BULLETIN BOARD IN THE LINK (THANKS SIGNE!) AND HAVE A GREAT SUMMER EVERYONE!!

Food Bank Sundays - July 11 & August 8

Food Bank donations **are still needed** and can be left in the grocery cart **in the Church foyer** or dropped off **directly** to the Neighbor Aid Food Bank located at

4524 54 Street in Camrose,

Monday to Friday from 9:00 am - Noon &

Tuesday to Thursday 1:00-4:00 pm.

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be made online at

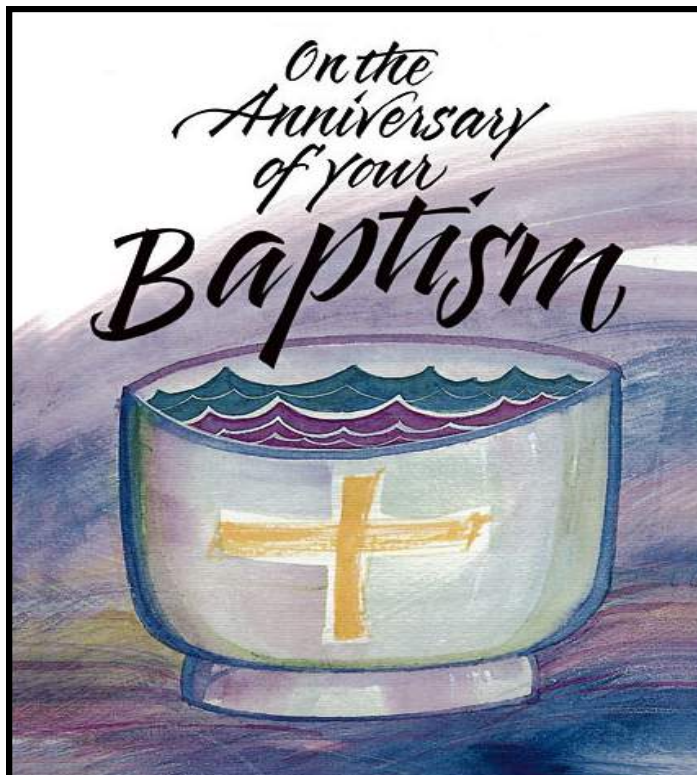
atbcares.com

by entering

CAMROSE NEIGHBOR AID CENTER INC.

in the Find A Cause search area.





We recognize the monthly
Baptismal Anniversaries
of the children
in the *Splash* program:

July:

Simon Gjesdal
Carson Skriver

August

Lukas Brewer
Logan Brewer
Maliah Foshaug
Thomas Ofrim

*Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Worship Committee Announcement

Beginning this Sunday, June 27, we are lifting our request to pre-register your intent to attend an in-person worship service.

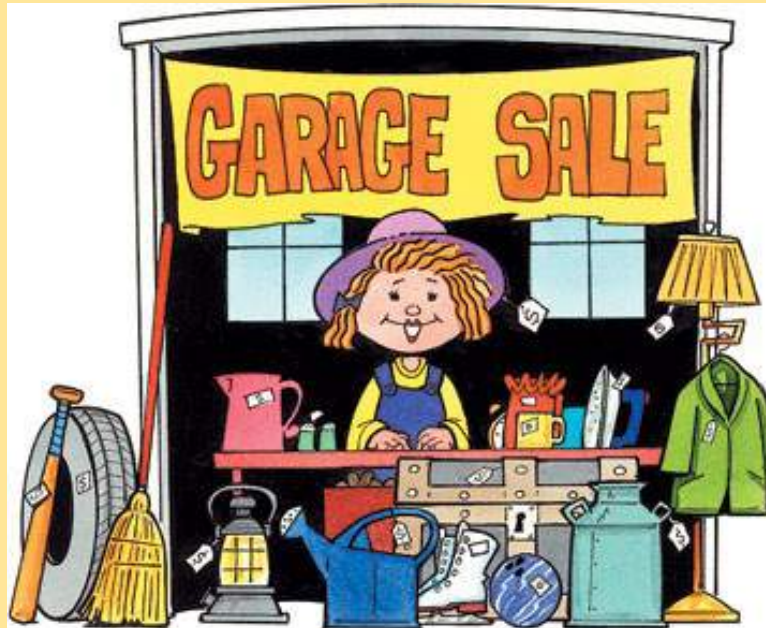
The Worship Committee is meeting on July 6 to prepare a recommendation to Council regarding our in-person worship moving forward. Please watch for an announcement of Council's decision.

Whether worshipping in-person or virtually from home
we gather as one in the Spirit to worship and praise our Lord.

Thanks be to God!



**Donations will be accepted on
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
June 28, 29 and 30
From 8 am to 4 pm**



**Garage Sale takes place on
Thursday, July 1, 9 am to 5 pm
Friday, July 2, 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday, July 3, 9 am to 12 noon**

Remember to check out the craft area and vintage items in the specialty area!!



**Please enter by the office
and exit through the link doors**



Proceeds to Messiah Projects

NEWS BRIEFS



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

WORLD REFUGEE DAY JUNE 20, 2021



The announced special date has passed, but the staggering needs of millions of displaced refugees never ends.

CLWR maintains an active role in responding to the needs of refugees around the world by:

- ~ Helping refugees resettle and find new homes and community in Canada through partnership between CLWR and church sponsors.
- ~ Providing emergency food and shelter for people displaced by conflicts or disasters.
- ~ Advocating with the Canadian government to designate refugee travel as an essential undertaking, especially during the current worldwide pandemic.

What can we do? Support our local refugee committee in their efforts and/or donate on-line at clwr.org/refugees.

Remember – love your neighbour as yourself ... we can make a difference!



Eastlink Wednesday Rebroadcast Change for July and August

We will not be rebroadcasting the services on Eastlink on Wednesday evenings in the months of July and August.
This will be re-evaluated in fall.

If you participate in worship on Wednesday evening at the rebroadcast let us know! It will help us in deciding if we will continue this in the fall.

Thanks so much to Chris Hohm and Dale Swanson
for keeping this going over the last months!



Since Rev. Dr. Brian Rude has announced his retirement from paid ministry in El Salvador, we thought we would let you know the plan to forward any Designated offerings from Messiah.

Any support designated for In Mission with El Salvador or Brian Rude ministry that is received by Messiah prior to July 31 will be forwarded to the Synod office in time to be forwarded to the mission in El Salvador before it officially ends.

Any support received after July 31, including any received on August 1, will be considered as Designated to Support the Synod's Global Mission ministry going forward, which is currently IELCO, or the Columbia ministry. There are currently three projects there, though Messiah has been focused on promoting the one for Lutheran Student Scholarships.

Sheila Becker - Bookkeeper



*A reminder that the Hymn Sing's, recorded last year,
can still be found at these links:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXt4tnCMo1I>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmTjWRkP4Ok>



RETIREMENT EVENT

Who's retiring?
Rev. Brian Rude!

When?
August 31

How and where
do we thank him?
via ZOOM of course!

2 - 4 p.m.

ZOOM link to be made available
on the Synod web-site.

Pre-recorded messages are preferred,
and are to be sent to the Synod Office by August 1.

For more details, contact Ray Blacklock

MESSIAH'S AUDIO-VISUAL TEAM NEEDS HELPERS

We need help - please consider joining Messiah's Audio-Visual Team!

1) Screen Operators

Skills needed: concentration, mouse and keyboard operation.

2) Camera Operators

Skills needed: multi-window use, attention to visual detail, mouse and keyboard operation.

3) Sound Board Operators

Skills needed: attention for aural detail.

If you don't have the skills listed, really the main thing we need is someone with a strong desire to learn and serve. We will provide training.

Please contact Rosanna if you are interested or have any questions: rosannas@telus.net.

CAN WE HELP?

There is a group of people at Messiah who are available at NO cost to help with or do tasks for you...

changing light bulbs,



spring clean up outside,

or giving rides!



If there is small job that you would like help with or would like done, please phone

Messiah Lutheran Church at 780-672-3444

and leave a message with the receptionist.

You will receive a call back to set up a time to get together & make a plan.





Eternity for Today

Devotional booklets for July to September are available for pickup from the church office entry for a suggested donation of \$2.00.

Thank you Sheila Becker for contributing to the August devotions.



Plans are underway to begin “Coffee on the Lawn” starting Wednesday, July 7 at 10:00 am pending the easing of restrictions. Bring your own coffee cup!
Stay tuned for more information!



Connecting in the Word

Will not be taking place in July but will resume in August.

Check out our brief recorded inspirational messages twice a week.

One with Pastor Bev and then with Andy the puppet with a message for the kids!

Go to messiahcamrose.ca to find the link called

‘Connecting in the Word’

Join us in this time of making safe connection with one another around God’s word.



Messiah Lutheran Church

Sharing Jesus Christ with All People

4810-50 St. Camrose AB T4V 1P5
Phone: 780-672-3444 Fax: 780-672-3716
Website: messiahcamrose.ca
Email: office@messiahcamrose.ca

Pastoral Ministry Team:

Calvin Skriver
Bev Swanson

Administrative Assistant: Lori Mokry
Part-Time Administrative Assistant: Shirley McFall
Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator: Lowell Dahlman
Bookkeeper: Sheila Becker
Custodians: Carolyn & Lloyd Olson
Music Ministry Coordinator: Tova Olson
Youth & Confirmation Ministry: Bev Swanson

Messiah Church Council

David Dahle, President
Agnes Hoveland, Vice-President
Gail Stolee, Secretary
Dave Stolee, Treasurer

<u>Members at Large:</u>	<u>Liaising With:</u>
Lael Olson	Worship Committee
Donny Loewen	Learning Committee
Dave Larson	Support Committee
Carolyn Andersen	Witnessing Committee
Vacant	Service Committee

If you know someone who does not have access to Eastlink TV or the internet, but they have a DVD player, please contact the office at 780-672-3444 and we can make arrangements to deliver a DVD of any of the services to them!



Sunday morning in-person worship resumed June 20.



We will continue to broadcast on Eastlink channels 10, 310 & 610.

Our services are on YouTube. Search for MessiahCamrose.

There is also a link for on our website messiahcamrose.ca.



Previous Sunday's services may also be found on YouTube or on our website at messiahcamrose.ca and under the Worship Service tab you will find "Worship Services Archived."

Messiah Messenger

Published 11 times a year
September to July

Also available online at: messiahcamrose.ca under the Communications tab.

To request email delivery or to submit articles by email,
Write to: office@messiahcamrose.ca
Messenger Editor: Dena Grue








Members, staff, committees and groups are encouraged to submit articles so that we are aware of what is happening in our congregation.

Next Issue: September
Material due: August 17
Delivery date: August 27

July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Canada Day OFFICE CLOSED  GARAGE SALE OPEN 9:00 am - 5:00 pm 	2 GARAGE SALE OPEN 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	3 GARAGE SALE OPEN 9:00 am - Noon 
4 Pentecost 6 10:30 Worship Service 	5	6	7 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	8 11:45 Staff Meeting	9 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	10
11 Pentecost 7 Food Bank Sunday 10:30 Worship Service 	12	13	14 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	15 11:45 Staff Meeting	16 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	17 
18 Pentecost 8 10:30 Worship Service 	19	20	21 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	22 11:45 Staff Meeting	23 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	24
25 Pentecost 9 10:30 Worship Service 	26	27	28 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	29 11:45 Staff Meeting	30 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	31

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Pentecost 10 10:30 Worship Service 	2 Civic Holiday OFFICE CLOSED	3	4 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	5 11:45 Staff Meeting	6 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	7
8 Pentecost 11 Food Bank Sunday 10:30 Worship Service 	9	10	11 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	12 11:45 Staff Meeting	13 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	14
15 Pentecost 12 10:30 Worship Service 	16	17 <div>Messenger Articles Due</div>	18 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	19 11:45 Staff Meeting	20 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON	21
22 Pentecost 13 10:30 Worship Service 	23	24	25 10:00 Coffee Fellowship on the Lawn Restrictions Permitting OFFICE CLOSED 	26 11:45 Staff Meeting	27 OFFICE CLOSED AFTERNOON <div>Messenger Delivery</div>	28
29 Pentecost 14 10:30 Worship Service 	30	31				