



MESSIAH MESSENGER

October 2021

Volume 42 Issue 9



Worship Schedule Sunday 10:30 am

*In-person worship:
masking and physical distancing
are mandatory at this time.*

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
call the office at 780 672 3444
or email office@messiahcamrose.ca

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9:00 am to Noon

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

(Closed for lunch from 12:00–1:00 pm)

Church Foyer

Will be open during the noon hour
and offerings can be placed
through the mail slot on the
inside office door.

Minister's Message

WE GIVE THANKS



As Thanksgiving approaches we turn our minds to those things we are thankful for. Sometimes the struggles in life take over and we find it hard to be in a place of giving thanks. It is much easier to think about all the things that are not going right.

The truth is, life is not always easy.

It is important that we remember that we have a choice about where we put our focus. Its just that sometimes that is easier said than done. I find that sometimes I tend to look at all the things that are not going right when there is so much that I have to be thankful for. The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Philippians speaks to us about this. I find this passage to be one of the most helpful to me in scripture.

Philippians 4:8-9 Says this:

“Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things....

And it concludes...”and the God of peace with be with you.”

This passage reminds us to choose to look for that which is good. This is a healthy practise because it brings us peace in the midst of our storms. I have to admit that some days are so much easier to turn my mind on the things positive while other days I cannot seem to do it, no matter what I do. And yet, when I give thanks in the middle of what I am living, my heart is changed and sometimes even my mood is transformed.

We do have much to be thankful for. And we do have a choice as to where we put our thoughts and that can make all the difference in the world.

This is a harder thing to do when we are hurting or grieving or depressed or in pain. Sometimes our struggle is just too overwhelming and it takes a lot of time before we can choose where we put our thoughts. I have been there many times in my life. This too is a real part of the journey. These are those moments where we look to God and just weep. And we are held.

This also applies to how we look at one another. It is so easy to be critical of each other instead of looking for the gifts in each other. Strangely I find that when I look for that which is good in another human being, I feel so much more love toward that person.

As we enter into this thanksgiving season, let us choose to turn our eyes towards the one that we can trust and who is with us in all things. Even this is a part of what this verse calls us to do. And for this we can always give thanks! I think we are called to make every day a day of giving thanks.

I wish you a very Blessed Thanksgiving Season.

May you find the peace in your soul that God would want you to have each day.

Peace be with you.

Pastor Bev

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



120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF MESSIAH



**THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2021
10:30 AM**

**IN PRAISE AND
THANKSGIVING FOR
GOD'S FAITHFUL
LOVE AND GENEROSITY
TO OUR CONGREGATION!**



**SYNOD OF
ALBERTA
AND THE
TERRITORIES**

Incorporated as Alberta Synod

The Office of the Bishop

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***Spirit-Led
Leadership***

***Hope-Filled
Discipleship***

***Innovative
Tradition***

***Collaborative
Partnerships***

September 16, 2021

Beloved in Christ:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Yesterday, September 15, Premier Kenney once again declared a state of Public Health Emergency which includes mandatory restrictions.

Beginning immediately, these restrictions include no indoor social gatherings for those who are vaccine-eligible but unvaccinated, and limited gatherings indoors for those who are vaccinated. Outdoor gatherings are restricted in number and physical distancing must be maintained. As of September 20, funerals and weddings also have mandated restrictions, whether held indoors or outdoors, seated or not. No receptions are permitted. Restrictions are available on the alberta.ca website .

For worship, restrictions taking effect immediately include a maximum of 1/3 fire code occupancy and masking is mandatory. Physical distancing between households or cohorts must be 2 metres.

With the state of Public Health Emergency in mind, **I caution councils and lay and rostered leaders to prayerfully consider all plans for in-person worship and meetings, and, if in-person activities go ahead, to carefully review safety measures to protect the most vulnerable in the congregation and community.**

This is a time for us again, as a faith community, to show leadership. Our baptism calls us to care for our neighbour; right now, that means, in part, encouraging one another to be vaccinated, limiting how many people we come in contact with, even for worship, and ascertaining that contact is conducted in the safest manner possible.

I encourage you to make use of the many ways that rostered and lay leaders continue to provide worship and devotional materials for those who cannot gather or choose not to gather. Many of these resources have been highlighted in recent editions of Wednesday's Word and continue to be available on the Synod website.

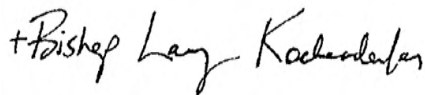
The Synod Office will be closed to the public.

Please pray for those who will find these restrictions difficult, for all who are isolated or lonely, for our congregations, rostered leaders, the vulnerable in our midst, for those suffering from COVID-19, for provincial leaders, and for emergency workers, doctors, nurses, and essential workers who continue to bear the burden of this pandemic.

Beloved of God, as people of faith, continue to be humble and gentle with one another. Honour each other. Make space for lament. Welcome moments of joy. Help each other live into hope. Learn from this journey in the coronavirus wilderness and let the learning lead us forward. Trust that God is at work in this time and look for the new things God is doing even now.

"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).

In Christ Jesus – Shalom,



+ Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop
Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

CONFIRMATION CONNECTION BEGINS SOON

Hello all Confirmation students and families!

We are going to begin our confirmation classes on Thursday Oct 14 at 6:45 pm. If you are interested in joining our confirmation class this fall please call the office and get your name and email on our list.

Parents if you have a youth that is in grade 6 and up, we welcome them to join in confirmation.

Please call Pastor Bev Swanson if you have any questions at all.

We look forward to seeing all soon!!

Pastor Bev (780-678-7830)



MLW HIGHLIGHTS

Discussion was held about the future of MLW. The consensus was for the circles to continue to meet with Bible Study when we are allowed to do so (because of Covid rules).

This will mean arranging the time, perhaps deciding on their own Bible studies. If they want to meet at Messiah they will arrange with the office for availability. No lunches at this time; however, you may bring your own cup with coffee.

There will be 6 circles (one on zoom) in the morning or afternoon and one circle in the evening.

We will do a listing of all circles to be given to their members.

We hope to be able to have a General Meeting in December, which would include a Christmas program. We would then decide if we need an executive or just a coordinator. Circles will carry out their own money projects. This will allow our charities to give direct receipts and to be able to identify their donors.

It was decided that we no longer will be serving funeral lunches at the church.

It was also decided that we will give Canadian Lutheran World Relief \$1,000.00.

MLW Executive



Pastoral Acts
(up to September
24, 2021)

Funerals

Jens Jensen
Sherlyn McKay
Grant Skippen



Gifts Received

Memorials

Jens Jensen
Grant Skippen

Sunday School

Sunday School will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

This month it will be

October 3 and 17



Food Bank Sunday - October 10

Food Bank donations **are still needed** and can be left in the grocery cart **in the Church foyer during the week** or **at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings** 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.





Welcome!

Greeters



Communion Servers



USHERS

Volunteers Needed

As we have returned to a regularly scheduled worship service, Loretta Foshaug is preparing a schedule of volunteers to greet, usher, read the lessons and prepare for and serve communion. Thanks Loretta!

If you would like to volunteer 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).



LECTORS

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



Sacramental Preparation

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



SNOW SHOVELERS NEEDED



It's almost that time again!

If you are able to take a turn this winter please
give us a call at the office.

780 672 3444

Council Highlights

As we learn from Genesis, God makes space for life and creation, for order, and new beginnings. We can hope in this as together we move once again into many changes and unknowns.

In the wake of Pastor Calvin's departure, Council has been reviewing and adjusting the roles and responsibilities of our Council, Committees, and Staff. We have developed a six month interim plan which will give time to reassess and look ahead.

Pastor Bev has taken on the role of Acting Senior Pastor. She will be responsible for Pastoral leadership and the supervision of all staff except Lori Mokry. A supply pastor will be engaged one Sunday per month.

Lori Mokry has taken on the new position of Administrative Coordinator. She will have responsibility and authority for some of the administrative tasks previously assigned to Pastor Calvin and will report to Council through a Council member who will meet regularly with her. This is a new, full-time position; however, Lori will continue to work four days a week with assistance from Shirley. These changes will be re-assessed in six months.

As we all know, we live in a technological age including one in which our broadcast ministry has become increasingly important. In recognition of the time and expertise this requires, there will be a Worship Technologies Task Force of five people formed, responsible to the Support Committee.

Lael Olson has tendered her resignation from Council and liaison to Worship Committee. She was thanked for her service and will be missed. Dena Grue has been confirmed as member-at-large relating to the Worship Committee, completing Lael's term.

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 17 at 7 pm on Zoom to deal with proposed changes to our Endowment Funds. The Treasurer will prepare a background document about the proposed changes which will be sent to members in early October. In addition, there will be a report on the state of affairs at Messiah and an opportunity for discussion.

Thank you to all faithful supporters of Messiah. Regular giving is holding close to previous year levels.

In the face of escalating Covid cases, a motion was passed that Messiah adopt the Restrictions Exemption Program for all gatherings, except regular worship services which are covered under other regulations. This will remain in effect until the restrictions are lifted by the Province. This policy is in line with the decisions made by the City and many local businesses.

Effective September 27, the Restrictions Exemption Program will apply to all staff and volunteers engaged in in-person events in the church.

Discussions will continue with Bethesda, New Norway and the Bashaw congregation about ways in which we may collaborate in our ministries.

Truth and Reconciliation

Each Sunday we recognize that we are meeting on Treaty Six territory. On Thursday, Sept. 30, Truth and Reconciliation Day, we invite you to set time aside to consider more deeply what this acknowledgment means and begin learning more about the Indigenous people of this land.

News from the World Mission Scene

September 5, 2021

Greetings from the Watts family in Kigali, Rwanda!!

Hi, just a quick note to let you know we are one week into our new life in Kigali.

We had a great last few weeks in Kibuye, enjoying everything we could, and saying a lot of hard good-byes.

As can be expected in these times, we did have a few hiccups on the way. Before we could even leave Burundi we had 2 false-positive COVID test results which caused our family to be stuck in Bujumbura for a week. We tried to treat it as a family holiday, and we all ended up where we needed to be just in time.



The Watts Family

Matea and Micah had to fly directly to Kenya, arriving the day before classes started (having to spend one night in the quarantine dorm since they were exposed to a 'positive' case in our family). Susan, Alma and I arrived in Kigali Sunday afternoon, were out of quarantine on Monday, got a rental car, moved into our temporary house, and Alma started school Tuesday morning.

Plus - Susan and I got VACCINATED! This was a HUGE deal for us. Having spent the majority of the pandemic in a country with zero vaccines, and with supplies to places like East Africa being hampered, we never imagined it would happen for us here.

I start my new role at Karisimbi tomorrow, so we were able to spend the week getting bank accounts, phones, internet, etc sorted out, figuring out grocery shopping and trying to get some familiarity with the city. We are thankful to have a temporary house and car while we're trying to sort out what we'll do long term.

We now have one week under our belts, and are excited for what God has in store for our family here in Kigali.

Well, that's it - just wanted to let you know we did make it - and are starting to settle in.

Prayer Requests:

- For Jonah as he moves into dorms this weekend, and starts classes on Tuesday. Even though this is his second year at King's University in Edmonton - last year was all remote/online - so it's like he's starting a whole new school (again)
- For Matea & Micah as they readjust to school in Kenya - and protection for their school as they struggle to keep kids safe in a country that still has very limited access to vaccines
- For us to have grace for ourselves, each other, and others as we hit the inevitable frustrations of trying to adjust to a new place/country/culture/etc

Thank you SO MUCH for your continued support, concern, and prayers for our family.

Everything we are involved with here in East Africa is an extension of the kindness, generosity and love you have shown.

George & Susan
Jonah, Matea, Micah & Alma

Submitted by Ray Blacklock on behalf of the World Mission Group

NEWS BRIEFS



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

WE JOINED IN CELEBRATING CLWR'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY ON

CLWR SUNDAY 2021 – SEPTEMBER 26

CLWR was founded on March 14, 1946, to provide food and clothing to occupied zones of Germany and Austria, but as early as 1947 realized that there was a need to facilitate resettling ethnic Germans in Canada. CLWR joined with other faith-based agencies which by 1961 had brought 41,000 refugees to Canada. Over 33,000 came on the steamship, MS Beaverbrae, which Canada had received as war compensation.

Through the years, much of CLWR's work has still been directed towards helping refugees, bringing many to Canada or helping to provide necessities of life wherever people have been forced to flee.

Much support has also been directed towards areas affected by natural disasters. The most recent one is the earthquake in Haiti which caused great loss of life and destruction.

CLWR NEEDS OUR ON-GOING SUPPORT. Donations can be made on-line at clwr.org, by credit card phoning 1-800-661-2597 or mailing a cheque to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5. Donations can also be given through Messiah, but those cheques should be made out to Messiah, designated for CLWR.

Men's Bible Study Has Started Again



When? Saturdays, from 9:00 to 10:15 am

Where? Via ZOOM (call the church office for the link.)

What? To study the lessons which will be highlighted at the next day's worship service.

Reading Material? Copies of the lessons are provided ahead of time.

Leaders? Some men take turns as leaders, others join in as they wish.

All Men Are Welcome!!

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.



**Wednesday Coffee Fellowship
Has been suspended until
further notice**



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,
fall 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.**

Notice of Congregational Meeting

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting by ZOOM on Sunday, October 17 at 7:00 pm to receive recommendations from Church Council on a new endowment policy. There will also be a report on the state of affairs at Messiah and an opportunity for discussion. Voting members of Messiah will receive an information package by email, or sent by Canada Post if we do not have an email address on file, on Friday, October 1. It will have full details and the link to connect by Zoom or the phone number to call. Please contact the office for more details.

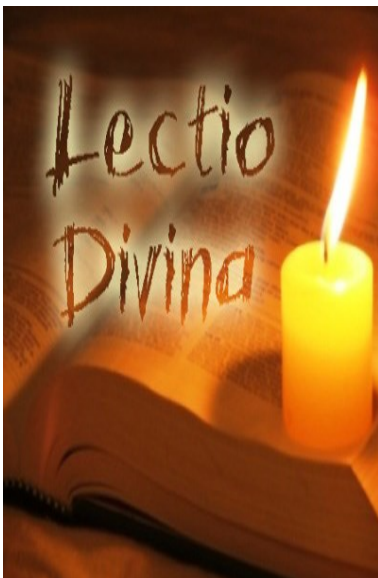


President David Dahle

Lindholm Memorial Update

Celebration of Life for **Verna Margaret Lindholm** who passed away peacefully March 12, 2021 at her home in Calgary at the age of 87. Her family is laying her ashes to rest and celebrating her life on October 2, 2021 in Bittern Lake, Alberta.

11:30 am - Interment and prayers at the Bittern Lake (Rosenroll) Cemetery, friends and family are welcome. Please note that fellowship that was to follow at the Bittern Lake Hall has been cancelled due to the latest restrictions.



Lectio...Journeying Through Prayer

Has resumed on Monday mornings.

This group is for those of you who love to sit together in silence and hear the Word, sharing together how this word reaches into your hearts and souls.

Gather with us in the Nursery every Monday morning at 10:30 am.

This is not a closed group.

You may come and go as your schedule allows.

All are welcome. Masking and physical distancing are required.

For more information call Jane at 780-672-7982.

What Gives You Joy?

Here are your comments from the bulletin board posted in the link. Thank you so much to all who participated and shared your joy. Noticed that most of us receive our joy from God's beautiful creation. No one suggested man-made electronic devices!!!!

Birds singing joyfully around Mirror Lake

Deep profound gratitude

Wonderful to have family

Reminder we are not alone



Cooking for friends

Woke by a wren song

Taking dog for a walk

Seeing joy in others

Beautiful music

Spontaneously spending time with my siblings

Hearing people have had their second Covid shot

Seeing peoples smiling faces

Being able to see my friends again

Camping in the mountains

Playing games with family & friends



Watching people choose adventure,
risk taking to live life to fullest

Watching garden grow

Granddaughters Quinn & Sophie

Bo, aka "Blippi"



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

Acting Senior Pastor: Bev Swanson
Administrative Coordinator: 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

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>
Dena Grue	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: November
Material due: October 19
Delivery date: October 29

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Sept 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation	1	2 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom  3:00 Smith/Pinno Wedding
3 Pentecost 19 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Service  7:00 Rosealta Service	4 10:30 Lectio  2:00 World Mission Group by Zoom 	5 11:00 Service Committee by Zoom 	6	7 11:45 Staff Meeting 	8	9 NO Men's Bible Study by Zoom
10 Thanksgiving Sunday Food Bank Sunday  NO Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	11 Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED 	12	13	14 11:45 Staff Meeting  5:30 Witnessing Committee by Zoom 6:45 Confirmation by Zoom	15	16 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom 
17 Pentecost 21 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Service  7:00 Special Congregational Meeting by Zoom	18 10:30 Lectio 	19 <div>Messenger Articles Due</div>	20	21 11:45 Staff Meeting 	22	23 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom 
24 Pentecost 22 NO Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 	25 10:30 Lectio 	26	27	28 11:45 Staff Meeting 	29 <div>Messenger Delivery</div>	30 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom 
31 Reformation Sunday  NO Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service						