

July & August 2020

Redeeming Words

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Summer Calendar

July 5	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
July 8	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
July 12	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
July 15	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
July 19	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
July 22	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
July 26	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
July 29	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
August 2	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
August 5	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
August 9	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
August 12	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
August 16	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	
August 19	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
August 23	Montreal Lutheran Worship	11:00 am
	St. Paul's, Ville St. Laurent	
August 25	Zoom Congregational Council	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID TBA	
August 26	Zoom Lessons' Study	7:00 pm
	Meeting ID 879 1570 3753	
August 30	Zoom Worship	9:30/10:00 am
	Meeting ID 879 6252 4151	

Zoom

Beginning in July, Zoom will require us to use a Waiting Room. Be patient as hosts welcome you.

Congregational Vote

Upon the recommendation of the Stewardship Committee a questionnaire regarding two major gifts we have received in recent months (Eric Johnson succession and sale of parsonage) was distributed in the spring. More recently a two-vote ballot was sent to 132 voting members in 77 households.

The Congregational Council received the results of this vote at a special meeting on June 23. Seventy-two ballots were returned. This is a considerably higher participation rate than in-person meetings.



The first question had to do with \$100,000 in capital spending. In 2020 it was proposed that we repave the parking lot, install lights, and repair the pipe organ. And in 2021 we hope to make improvements to the washrooms and kitchen.

This question received a unanimous vote of support (72 of 72).

So Council and the Property Committee will proceed with soil testing, quotes, paving, lighting and organ repairs this summer and fall.

The second question proposed that up to \$5000 in matching grants for offerings in support of local Outreach and Lutheran ministries (other than regular benevolence) be offered in 2020.

This received a 95.5% approval rate (69 of 72).

This means that as you have made and will make offerings to Lutheran ministries like Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Martin Lutheran University College or Camp Lutherlyn, or local programs like Chez Doris, Dans La Rue and Welcome Hall Mission, your gifts will be matched up to an annual total of \$5000.

When the investment markets stabilise in another year or two it is hoped that 50% of annual earnings be directed to such ministries, decided at our annual meetings.

Congregational Council

The Council of CTR met twice in the last month.

The regular meeting was held via Zoom on June 16. In addition to reports from the pastor and committees, members discussed banking safeguards, the mail-in ballot counting process, a renovation grant for Youth Stars from Desjardins, and a Black Lives Matter rally on June 27.

On June 23 discussion focussed on the ballot results, and the next steps in regards to re-paving the parking lot, installing lights, and repairing the pipe organ. We also considered requests regarding the use of our building and property as the quarantine is slowly lifted in the community.

The next regular meeting will be held August 25 at 7:00, on Zoom.

E-Transfers

CTR is now able to accept e-transfers as offerings. A dedicated e-mail address, managed by the treasurer, has been created.



E-transfers can be completed through your online bank account. Follow these steps:

1. Log in to your online banking portal using your computer, tablet or smartphone.
2. Select E-transfer.
3. Identify ctrofferings@videotron.ca as the recipient.
4. Enter the amount you wish to send.
5. Some banks will require you to create a security question and answer, but our account has been set-up to receive offerings automatically.
6. If the offering is for a specific appeal you may add a note to this effect. Otherwise your gift will be applied to the Current Account.
7. Confirm the transfer.
8. Expect to receive a message later on, confirming that your gift has been received by CTR.

Andrew Saabas would be pleased to answer questions about this new option for giving.

Montreal Lutheran Worship

Lutherans in Montreal hope to gather for an outdoor service on August 23 at 11:00 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ville-St. Laurent. Up to fifty people can attend, maintaining social distancing. No lunch. No Games. No CLWR raffle. Registration will be required. Details to follow.

Purity

In ancient Israel elaborate rituals were developed regarding spiritual purity. Physically washing was connected to spiritual cleansing. This was believed to make one fit for a meal, worship, battle or other important event.

Jesus washed lepers back to health, cleansed the eyes of the blind, and called on the disciples to Baptise believers.

And John Wesley (an 18th century preacher) said in a sermon "Cleanliness is next to godliness."

The novel coronavirus has revived these beliefs and practices. If I run a few errands I am asked to wash my hands as I enter (and in some cases depart from) various businesses. I wear a mask for good measure. And am careful what I touch.

We will soon install a "purity station" at CTR: disinfectant, masks, and a visitors' log.

Physical and spiritual hygiene meet. But it's important for us to distinguish between the two. It's good, for the sake of public health, to be clean. But we cannot wash away our sin. That is a gift from God.

Those with dirty hands are as much God's children as are we. Our righteousness is not based on avoiding germs or grime. Sometimes serving God means getting close to those who are unclean, in more ways than one.

So resist the temptation to regard others as impure or unfit for God's love or your courtesy. We're all in this together.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Jim

Worship Power Points

We are looking for one or two volunteers from the congregation to assist with the weekly preparation of PowerPoint slides for Sunday worship. Corinne had initially volunteered to do this every week, when we thought that Zoom worship would only be with us for a couple of months. But now that it appears that it will be part of our worship for some time to come, we'd like to have a few people on a roster.

It takes about two hours of effort per week, and you can do it on your own time throughout the week, as long as you finish and submit it to Pastor Jim by Thursday or Friday so he can do his final edits and additions. A basic knowledge and comfort level with PowerPoint is required. The slide backgrounds and all the text (including readings and words to the hymns) are downloadable from a website called Sundays and Seasons. Corinne will spend time with the volunteers showing them the steps. Thanks for your willingness to assist the congregation in this way!



Eastern Synod Staff

On April 23 the Eastern Synod Council issued calls to the Rev. Christie Morrow and the Rev. Adam Snook to serve as Assistants to the Bishop of the Eastern Synod. Pastor Morrow will be serving the synod on a 50% basis with primary responsibilities in the areas of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Stewardship (Generosity) and Public Policy and Service Ministries. The latter two of these portfolios had been staffed by Mr. Jeff Pym and the Rev. Katherine Gohm, who had each announced their intention to conclude their service earlier this year.

Pastor Snook will provide leadership in the synod's Missional Leadership initiative while providing oversight in the Communication portfolio. With Bishop Pryse and the Rev. Doug Reble, he will also share the vital and ongoing work of providing support to congregations and rostered leaders.

Bishop Pryse says, "I am absolutely delighted that Pastor Christie and Pastor Adam will be taking on these new responsibilities in the life of our synod. They are each very gifted spiritual leaders who will bring much needed new perspectives and gifts to our work. Please join me in praying for them as they take on these new responsibilities. May God grant them joy in their service!

The full article, including detailed biographies and photos of the new assistants, is available at <https://easternsynod.org/story/april-29-2020-eastern-synod-council-calls-new-assistants-bishop>

Bishop Pryse: Worship Opening

Early last week the Anglican House of Bishops in the Province of Ontario decided that their churches will not re-open for in person worship until September 2020 at the earliest, regardless of where the Government of Ontario is with its reopening plan. This decision was made in consultation with public health experts, with the well-being and safety of parishioners and the communities they serve uppermost in their hearts and minds. I have also clearly heard that our pastors and deacons would welcome a directive of this kind. As such, it is my strong recommendation that our synod's congregations not contemplate initiating in-person worship experiences within our church buildings until the beginning of September at the earliest.

The bishop's full letter is available at <https://easternsynod.org/blog/june-08-2020-letter-bishop-pryse-regarding-reopening-our-congregations>



Bishop Johnson on Racism

Each of us, as bishops, recognises our inherent white privilege. We have been afforded opportunities and experiences not available to all people. We recognise that we are unable to fully appreciate the anger and desperate calls to action that we are witnessing.



To stay silent enables racism and injustice to continue. We affirm the statement issued by the Racial Justice Advisory Committee of the Eastern Synod. The Committee calls us to account with the following:

Furthermore, when we fail to speak out against acts of racism, we become silent perpetrators of injustice. In short, if we do not condemn racism, then we are guilty of it. It is our work, particularly as a community of faith, to speak out against acts of racism. It is our work to say loudly and clearly that we do not accept this reality. We must call out racism as sinful and deadly. That is only the beginning, for once we speak out against it, we must do the work of dismantling the systems that oppress.

We need to repent — kneel — in prayer, in faithfulness, and in compassion. And we need to commit to changing our ways of thinking and our actions that demean and hurt. We need to listen, learn, hear the stories, stand alongside of, speak up, speak out, and stand up against injustice.

Follow this link to the read the full letter:

<https://elcic.ca/news.cfm?article=570>



Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Eglise Evangelique Luthérienne au Canada

Youth Stars

Youth Stars is soon expected to sign a contract for the use of meeting and program space here at CTR. They have been offered a renovation grant from Desjardins, which will allow them to make improvements to the rooms they will use.

This may include the installation of a solid wall between their office and our Sunday School room, about 23 new LED ceiling lights, two new folding doors in the Gathering Room, a dozen new folding tables and two dozen chairs, and a security system in their office.

Lessons' Study

Pastor Jim invites you to log onto Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 for a one-hour conversation about the texts assigned for the following Sunday. We'll read, learn, and discuss the major themes, and would like to have you join us. Use Zoom Meeting ID 879 1570 3753.



Lessons

Lectionary 14 July 5

Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11;16-19, 25-30,
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-249, 58-67

Lectionary 15 July 12

Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23,
Genesis 25:19-34

Lectionary 16 July 19

Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43,
Genesis 28:10-19a

Lectionary 17 July 26

Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52,
Genesis 29:15-28

Lectionary 18 August 2

Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21,
Genesis 32:22-31

Lectionary 19 August 9

Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33,
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Lectionary 20 August 16

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:21-28
Genesis 45:1-15

Lectionary 21 August 23

Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20,
Exodus 1:8 – 2:10

Lectionary 22 August 30

Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28,
Exodus 3:1-15

In Loving Memory

Anne Badke, wife of Don, died peacefully at home after a lengthy illness, on June 15. Funeral plans have not yet been finalised.

Lois Wolfram, aunt of Greg Gust, died at the age of 95 in Pembroke ON June 19

July & August Birthdays

Genevieve Hildebrant-Mailhot	July 1
Preetha Christie	July 14
Bjarne Hansen	July 16
Julianne Read	July 17
Benjamin Skira	July 21
Heather Green	July 23
Holly Haarer	July 23
Andrea Feese	July 27
Elizabeth Manroop	July 27
Maureen (Chandra) Budhu)	July 29
Greg Gust	July 31



Bibi Manroop	August 1
Victoria Puusa	August 1
Donald Badke	August 2
Florence Adamako	August 6
Elizabeth Ferriera	August 7
Horace Adamako	August 9
Paige Kubecki	August 11
Wayne Mastine	August 13
Paul Rossi	August 14
Bruce Thicke	August 15
Mildred Rice	August 16
Eva Adamako	August 18
Mary Gunpat	August 19
Kirsten Crandall	August 23
Sarah Pachal	August 23
Erika Schmidt	August 29
Nancy Lapp	August 30
Patricia Languay	August 31

House to House Bible Quiz

Match the Houses or Households to the Bible verses

My Father's	Now the LORD said to____, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <i>Gen. 12:1</i>
Simon & Andrew	...the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of ____ <i>Deut 8:14</i>
Judas	So ____ built the house, and finished it. <i>1 Kings 6:14</i>
On Rock	As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of ____ <i>Mark 1:29</i>
Solomon	Stop making ____ house a marketplace! <i>John 2:16</i>
Slavery	...go to a street called Straight, and at the house of ____ look for a man of Tarsus... <i>Acts 9:11</i>
Abram	"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on ____" <i>Matt 7:24</i>