

Summer 2019

Redeeming Words

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Summer Calendar

Join us for Coffee and Conversation each Sunday at 11:15 following the service.

- July 21** Worship 10:00 am
- July 28** Worship - Baptism 10:00 am
- August 3** Funeral – Camilla Provost, Knowlton
- August 4** Worship 10:00 am
- August 5-9** Pastor's Vacation
- August 11** Worship 10:00 am
- August 13** Retreat Planning 7:30 pm
- August 18** Worship 10:00 am
- August 25** Lutheran Picnic, Hudson with worship at 11:00 am
- August 27** Mutual Ministry Committee 7:30 pm

Lutherlyn Golden Retreat

July Children's camps at our facility in Golden Lake ON will eventually give way to family camps and congregational rentals in August. The annual Golden Retreat (for those 50+) will be held September 16-20.

For more information, registration forms, and directions to the camp call (613) 625-2994 or visit <http://www.lutherlyncamp.ca/>



Fall Retreat

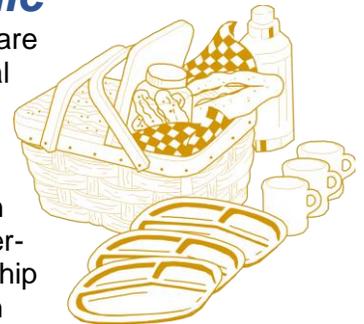
Join us at the JB Ski Club in Mont Tremblant September 20-22. We'll worship, study, laugh, eat and play together from Friday night until Sunday afternoon. Sessions will focus on faith: where it comes from, how it is tested, and what can be done to keep it fresh and alive.

The 2019 fees: Adults \$95, teens \$50, children \$30, and families \$240. These cover meals and accommodations.

Registration forms will be available later this summer. Your friends, as well as members of St. Barnabas Anglican Church and other Lutherans in the city, are also invited.

Lutheran Picnic

Lutherans in Montreal are invited to the annual picnic. This year we will return to St. James Anglican Church in Hudson (642 Main St) on August 25. Weather-permitting we will worship outdoors at 11:00. Then stay for a picnic lunch, and fun and games for all ages. A raffle to raise funds for CLWR will draw our day to a close at about 3:00. (Please remember to bring unwrapped prizes.)



So bring your lunch, lawn chair and sun hat. Maps will be distributed in August.

Defibrillator

The congregation purchased a heart defibrillator, and will soon mount it in the main hallway. Several members have been trained to use the device, which is to be used to "reset" hearts in distress until paramedics can arrive on the scene.

Summer Birthdays

Take time to extend greetings to:

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

Bulletin Photos

Please submit photos for the Sunday worship bulletin:

August 4	Farm, Tractor, Barn, Unity
August 11	Alarm Clock, Treasure Chest
August 18	Conflict, Fire, Cloud, Throne
September 1	Banquet, Waiter, Love
September 8	Cross, Discipleship, Land
September 15	Sheep, Crozier, Laying on Hands
September 22	Jail, Cashier, Money, Prayer
September 29	Street Person, Thirst, Waiter

Send jpg files to Pastor Jim.



Home and Away

I've spent a fair amount of time this spring and summer packing and moving.

For a while our congregation has been gathering used furniture for a refugee family. Their application to come to Canada was rejected, so LARAM has found another new family in NDG who would appreciate the beds and bedroom furniture, table and chairs, desks, sofa and lamps, and other items that you generously donated. As I write this column I'm in the process of gathering a moving team.

After a year in supportive housing in Dartmouth NS my daughter Lindsay and her three children moved across the harbour to Halifax. While we waited for a crew of volunteer movers to help with the furniture I did my part taking more than a dozen full carloads of books, toys, clothing and other household goods over the Macdonald Bridge, and setting them up in her new apartment.

And after more than 30 years in Mississauga my sister Barbara and her husband



Carlos bought a new home in Charleston NS. So when I was not visiting with my daughters and grandchildren I spent time with my sisters cleaning and unpacking.

It got me thinking of the tension between our desire to settle down and have roots, and the nomadic nature of our lives as God's people. Life has a way of moving us around.

Family ties, education, employment and a variety of other factors have caused many of us to leave one place and settle in another. Perhaps even from the land of our birth, to a new country or province.

Along the way we learn that "home" is not so much a fixed place, but wherever we feel loved and known.

I'm also reminded of several songs and hymns which express the thought that the earth is not our home, in an eternal or spiritual sense. The writers are in a hurry to get to the pearly gates. They've got the future covered, but seem restless and even dismissive of the lives and homes we make here, along the way.

I seek a balance between the art of making the places where I live my home, and following the lead of God's Spirit to "ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown."

I trust you will find your balance – your roots and wings – too.

In Christ,

Pastor Jim Slack



CALLED TO JOURNEY TOGETHER: The Ministry of Reconciliation

ELCIC Convention 2019

Pastor Jim was one of 60 clergy delegates, 87 lay delegates, 11 official guests, and more than 20 visitors who attended the 17th convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The event was held on the campus of the University of Regina, July 11-13.

Worship is always a highlight of the conventions. At the opening service the Rev. Dr. Martin Junge, general secretary of Lutheran World Federation, preached on the themes of unity and reconciliation. Morning and evening devotions included an indigenous smudging ceremony adapted for a Christian congregation. (See note posted on Pastor Jim's bulletin board.) Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, delivered a sermon on the Beatitudes as we closed.

Throughout the convention several presentations were made on the theme of reconciliation. On Thursday scientists from the university described the accelerated pace of warming affecting the Canadian prairies, and challenged us to distill social and theological wisdom from scientific knowledge. On Friday Jenna Tickell told us of the search for her indigenous roots, beginning in a First Nations cemetery. And on Saturday a four-member panel told delegates about their experiences in interfaith dialogue.

Several elections took place in Regina. Bishop Susan Johnson was given a fourth mandate. Linda Granger was re-elected our secretary, and Gene Blishen became our treasurer after Ken Day's retirement. Half of the members of the National Church Council were elected, along with members of the Court of Appeal.



More than 20 motions were adopted. Our full-communication relationship with the Anglican Church of Canada was affirmed after we received a report from the Joint Commission.

A letter from Muslim leaders around the world, *A Common Word Between Us and You*, led to delegates to support further dialogue with our Muslim neighbours.

We endorsed *Reimagining Our Church – Public Ministry in the ELCIC*, which included provision for the ordination of deacons, pastors, and bishop, as well as statements lifting up the ministry of laity.

After more than two years of study the *Task Force on Decisions at the End of Life* submitted a final report and recommendations. Clergy and lay pastoral care givers are encouraged to accompany those who approaching the end of their lives, including those who seek palliative care and medical assistance in dying (MAID).

Several motions regarding our care for the earth were adopted, including our church's efforts to reduce the use of plastics, and our reliance on fossil fuels. Congregations were reminded of the previous initiative *Greening the Church*.



Referrals to Reference and Council (a convention committee mandated to help us deal efficiently with motions from the delegates) led us to support a motion designed to support the LGBTQ2SIA+ community (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, intersex, and asexual romantic persons +)

We also expressed our solidarity with the ELCA, as it cares for those seeking asylum in the United States, and opposes presidential policy and rhetoric south of the border.

A motion calling for the return of religious instruction and practices in public schools was lost.

Of course, the voting delegates also waded through amendments to the national church constitution, financial reports, and budgets for 2020-2022.

Sessions at the convention were videotaped (and live-streamed). Daily highlights, reports and a full list of motions is available at the ELCICB website: <http://elcic.ca/In-Convention/2019-Regina/default.cfm>

Pastor Jim would be happy to discuss details of the convention with all who express an interest.

Lessons

July 21

Genesis 18:1-10a, Psalm 15,
Colossians 1:15-28, Luke 10:38-42

July 28

Genesis 18:20-32, Ps 145:10-18,
Colossians 2:6-15, Luke 11:1-13

August 4

Ecclesiastes 1;2, 12-14: 2:18-23, Psalm 49:1-12,
Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

August 11

Genesis 15:1-6, Psalm 33:12-22,
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40

August 18

Jeremiah 23:23-29, Psalm 82,
Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2, Luke 12:49-56

August 25

Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8,
Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17

LARAM

The *Lutheran Anglican Refugee Alliance of Montreal* met in June to begin wrapping up its work.

During Holy Week we learned that our application to sponsor a family in Cameroon (originally from Rwanda) had been denied by Canadian officials in Africa. In light of the costs and uncertainty about the outcome we decided not to appeal this decision.

In the mean time we will give our used furniture to a new-to-Canada family in NDG.

At a meeting in September we hope to make a decision about the offerings that are received until the end of 2019, perhaps supporting the work of *Action Réfugiés Montréal* at the Laval Detention Centre and at the US border, and *Le Pont*, a ministry for new Canadians initiated by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Montreal.

See Ingrid Hove Gust or Pastor Jim to express your thoughts.

Pastor's Summer Vacation

Pastor Jim and Natalie will visit Ile d'Orleans and Tadoussac August 5-10.



Outreach

CLWR - BUILD A SHELTER.

Your special offerings in July will help refugees, the elderly and child-headed households find a safe home, through a program established by Canadian Lutheran World Relief. Your gifts will provide the building materials needed to construct shelters, and in doing so they will also employ local youth. Please take a paper house from the outreach table and return it with your gift. Thank-you.

You are also invited to examine the Outreach bulletin board, where letter from Dans La Rue, the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots, and the Native Friendship Centre have been posted.

Mission in Fiji

Holly Haarer has returned from her trip to Fiji, and will show and tell us about her work there after worship on September 29. Holly received a grant from CTR.

Holy Baptism

Alexia Lee Calixte, the daughter of Peter Calixte and Lisa Joseph, will be joined to God and the Church by Water and the Word on July 28.

Peace Pole

The Christian Unity Fellowship (formerly known as the North Shore Ecumenical Committee) is considering a proposal to erect a Peace Pole in our community. The cedar pole declares, "May Peace Prevail on Earth.", in a variety of languages.

Interfaith and civic partners, as well as a site for the pole's location, are being sought.

The project originated in Japan with the World Peace Prayer Society and has become an international program.



New Editor

After several months of service from her home in Winnipeg our editor, Debbie Ristimaki, has asked to be relieved. We offer her our thanks!

So now we're seeking a new editor/ compiler. The task requires several hours of layout, research, writing, proofreading and publishing each month. Contact Pastor Jim for a job description.