



OUR SAVIOUR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Newsletter May and June 2018

We are moving along like many churches: Things are stable and if we forget about our dependence on rental income (including from the day care), we can be pretty happy. We are a healthy community that treats one another with respect and love, we value worship, good theology, pastoral care, and Christian education, and we are loyal in our relationships with Synod, National Church, and ecumenical friends. Our dependence raises questions not only about income but about how we envision the future. Can we imagine a future without such dependence? And if so, what would such a future look like and how would we get there?

The quick answer is more members. And that answer is as true as it is false. New members can contribute to our income (though it may take a while for people to build a deep commitment), but the reason to invite people cannot be that we want them to help us pay our bills. It would not be fair to them. It would also not be fair to us.

Why would it not be fair to us? Because it would not make us think about why we are here, why it is good for us to be the church, why we need God and need to follow Jesus, what it means to be Christ's church. It would not make us ask what our mission is or ought to be. I imagine that to some, our mission is very clear, but it may not be the same vision for mission that our neighbour has, or the person in the pew in front of us, which is why we need to talk about it. Besides, times have changed, our community has changed, and shouldn't our mission be a mission to this time and to this place? To have a mission, means to be sent. Jesus is the one who sends us. The Gospel of Matthew ends with the sending of the disciples. The book of Acts begins with the equipping of the disciples. There is no doubt that the church has lost influence and has lost its place at the centre of society.

(continued on page 2)

Coming Events:

May 24-27

Synod Convention

June 5, the last
Reformation Learning
Event at St. Joseph
the Worker

June 10 Sunday
School Windup/
Church Picnic/BBQ

(continued from page 1)

It's no one's fault and it may not be bad, after all, Jesus and the disciples also ministered from the margins, but that shift has made us wonder about our identity and about our mission. Some in the broader church want to be more liberal as a way to be more relevant, forgetting perhaps that trying to be relevant may simply be another way of attempting to reclaim the centre. Some want to circle the wagons to create stability in a sea of change, forgetting that God has called us

into the world and that our only stability is the presence of Jesus who has promised to be with us always.

Dorothy got back to Kansas but we can't go back to the past, all we have is God's future. This is the time to imagine it.

Yours,



From the Refugee Committee..

Our Church along with our sister Church in Vancouver, Spirit of Life Lutheran, continue to support our refugee family. Aung Mya, Aye Chit and 3 year old Tin Win arrived on December 21st last year from a refugee camp in Thailand. Their homeland is Myanmar which is the former Burma.

The family has been attending English training school 4 days a week. Tin Win is in child care during the lessons. In addition, volunteers from both churches work with the family on a regular basis to assist in their integration into Canadian society. The volunteers meet with the family often to supplement their lessons with conversational English. Good English will assist in their future employment.

The two Churches, through donations, also provide financial assistance to the family with each Church covering half the costs. This supplements government funding that has been secured. At this time the family is operating within the budget that we prepared for them including our sponsorship costs. They are also starting to repay the government travel loan that brought them to Canada.

Our sponsorship responsibility ends after one year.

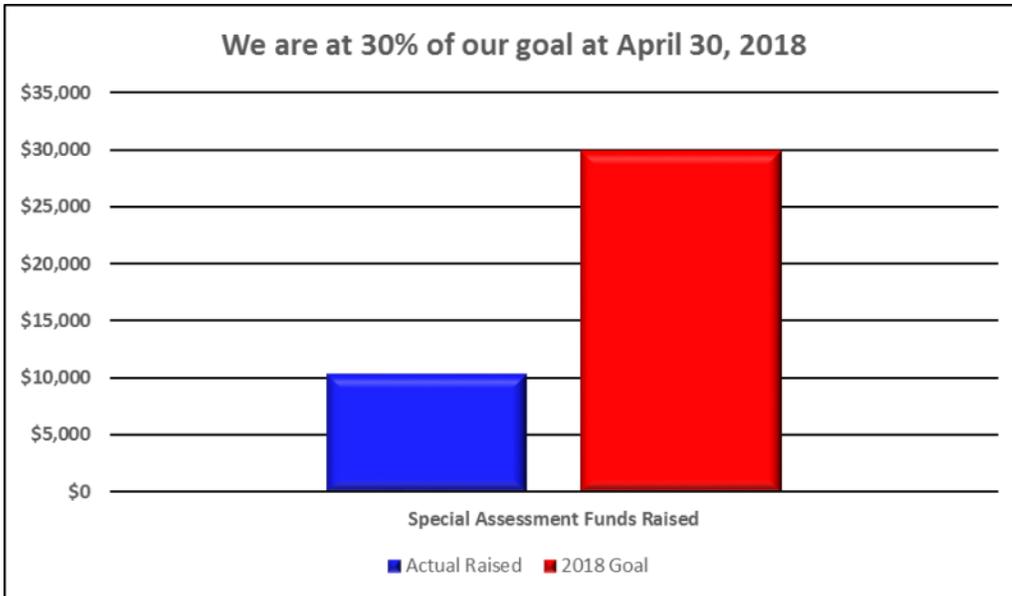
The family has been attending church regularly. Greet them when you have a chance and have them practice their English.

From the Property Committee..

We have arranged for the north side walkway, along the church from the street to the daycare fencing is scheduled to have a professional pruning company cut back the overhanging branches and clear the shrubs from alongside the walkway. In addition, the southwest corner of the church property that shares this section with the City of Richmond is scheduled to be cut all the way back so that a more significant view of OSLC and its signage is available to drivers travelling north along No. 4 Road. Completed works: the leveling of the sidewalks around the church.

The **Reformation learning events** of Our Saviour Lutheran, St Anne's Anglican, St. Joseph the Worker Catholic, Gilmore Park United and South Arm United continue. The last two sessions of our study will be May 1st and June 5 at 7:00pm at St Joseph the Worker School (4451 Williams Road, Richmond) and will focus on how we can realize more of the unity God has granted us.

From the Treasurer....



Progress report on Special Assessment/Appeal as passed at AGM on 25 February 2018.

**Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Income Statement
For the month ending April 30, 2018**

	Year-to-date			2018 Budget
	Actual (\$)	Budget (\$)	Variance (\$)	
REVENUE				
General Offering	35,897	41,060	(5,163)	119,000
Daycare Facility Fee	-	-	-	36,000
Loose Offering	706	520	186	1,250
Rent (RGBC)	6,400	7,200	(800)	20,000
Rent (Russian School)	3,200	1,600	1,600	4,000
Facility Rentals	-	-	-	300
Interest	3	-	3	-
Special Assessment	12,572	-	12,572	-
Total Revenue	58,777	50,380	8,397	180,550
EXPENSE				
Personnel	50,411	52,966	2,555	156,506
General & Administrative	26,932	39,183	12,252	68,044
Total Expenses	77,343	92,149	14,806	224,550
Net Income (Loss)	(18,565)	(41,769)	23,204	(44,000)

Please remember the ongoing needs of the church throughout the summer. Thank you!

A note from Jennifer and Martin Cuthbertson:

“Jennifer and I are seeking to increase her support base, both in prayer and financially. Jennifer’s salary for her work with Langham Partnership USA is based on the giving of friends and relatives to her ministry through that organization ...”

Please find their letter and an endorsement letter from the Program Director of Langham Preaching

From the Worship Committee..

On Sunday morning, May 13th, you will be given an opportunity to sign up to be a Worship Assistant (ie. usher, reader, greeter). So many choices-- in fact there are eleven! Who knew it took that many people to bring our worship together? And that's not even mentioning our Pastor, the musicians, choir and organists.

A note from the office...

This is our second publication of the newsletter, and as you can see it is coming along slowly. Please bear with us as we learn how to use this publishing program and also what content to add. If you have something you would like to see please let us know, or maybe you have something you would like to put in here, that would be great too.

We do plan on including the Gifts of Service schedule however for this newsletter, time constraints have decided “not this time”.

We are planning our Church/ Sunday School picnic for Sunday, June 10th after worship service. We will be holding it at the big grassy part of the back of the property. We want everyone to bring blankets or lawn chairs and if you have a couple extra lawn chairs could you bring them for those that do not have lawn chairs they can bring.

We will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers and asking everyone to sign up to bring either a side dish, salad, or perhaps dessert. There will be a sign-up sheet put up on June 3rd after church. Signing up is not imperative but it will give us a good idea of who may be coming as it will also ensure that 25 people don't bring chocolate cake (not that there is a problem with 25 chocolate cakes, but sometimes you want a carrot).

Google Reviews:

One of the downsides of the internet is the ability to quickly leave a review about anything (truthful or not) and never have to revisit it. One of the upsides of the internet is that you can take the writing of a review seriously and that your review will be noticed. It would be wonderful if some of us could write and post a positive review of OSLC and post it to Google. Don't make stuff up, don't exaggerate, just think of the reason(s) you are here, and think of it as an invitation. Just google “Our Saviour Lutheran” or find us on Google Maps in order to do so. Thank you!



Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering – CLAY

Lutheran and Anglican youth 14 to 19 years of age will gather in Thunderbay, ON from August 15 – 19, 2018. The keynote speaker will be Steve Green who at previous gatherings has led Slam Poetry.

Steve introduces himself: I was born and raised in Montreal, Quebec, by a single mother. I was blessed that she worked diligently as a mother and as a registered nurse that it left an indelible mark. Her words (hindsight is a crazy thing!), her

stories and her life challenged me to be faithful in everything I do. My family is from Barbados, so the West Indian culture and Scriptural importance of the Bible were fixtures in my upbringing. From high school to my first stint at university (dark days!), I was taught that I must always give my best. Michael, my older brother and I are the first-born Canadians of our family and we hold deeply and dearly the roots, the sacrifices and the struggles which our mother and extended family have encountered for us to enjoy our way of life. To get a glimpse into my world, I enjoy: sports (i.e. football) and weightlifting, all things related to comics, reading and baked goods!!!

I am honoured to be the husband of a wonderful wife and the father of five!! Tracy and I are blessed to have Divine, Zachary, Autumn, Trinity and Joshua in our lives to keep us active and attentive. We are also foster parents for infants. The beauty of being the father of five and a foster father to many, enables me to learn and grow.



More information at
<http://claygathering.ca/>

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Readers 9:30	3	4	5
6 Bell Practice 9:30 Choir 9:20 Sunday School 9:45	7	8	9	10 Choir 7:30	11	12
13 Confirmation 8:30 Choir 9:20 Sunday School 9:45 Worship Service 10:00	14	15	16 Readers 9:30	17	18	19
20 Choir 9:20 Celebration Sunday Worship Service 10:00	21 Church office closed	22	23	24 BC Synod Convention	25 Convention	26 Convention
27 Convention Choir 9:20 Worship Service 10:00	28	29	30	31		

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Men's and Ladies breakfast
3 Bell Practice 9:30 Choir 9:20 Worship Service 10:00	4	5	6 Readers 9:30	7	8	9
10 Choir 9:30 Worship Service 10:00 Church/ Sunday School Picnic	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Choir 9:30 Worship Service 10:00 Celebration Sunday	18	19	20 Readers 9:30	21	22	23
24 Choir 9:30 Worship Service 10:00	25	26	27	28	29	30

Please note: information on this page is what we knew as of May 11th. Please check your weekly bulletin for any updates.