
THE MESSENGER OF HOPE



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2174 Departure Bay Road Nanaimo, BC V9S 3V6

Phone: (250) 758-1232 ~ Email: hope2174@shaw.ca

Website: www.hopelutherannanaimo.com/



Pentecost 17 to Reformation Sunday



October 2025

Remembering the Children Prayer

*God of our Ancestors, who holds the
spirits of our grandmothers and
grandfathers and the spirits of our
grandchildren,*

*Remembering the Children, we now
pledge ourselves to speak the Truth, and
with our hearts and our souls to act upon
the Truth we have heard,
of the injustices lived,
of the sufferings inflicted,
of the tears cried, of the misguided intentions imposed,
and of the power of prejudice and racism
which were allowed to smother the sounds and laughter
of the forgotten children.*

*Hear our cries of lament for what was allowed to happen,
and for what will never be.*

*In speaking and hearing and acting upon the Truth
may we as individuals and as a nation meet the hope of a new beginning.*

Great Creator God

who desires that all creation live in harmony and peace,

Remembering the Children

we dare to dream of a Path of Reconciliation

where apology from the heart leads to healing of the heart

and the chance of restoring the circle,

where justice walks with all,

where respect leads to true partnership,

where the power to change comes from each heart.

Hear our prayer of hope,

and guide this country of Canada on a new and different path. Amen.



COUNCIL REPORT

Submitted by Jan Nilsson, Co-chair

HEADS UP FOR AGM 2025

We are inviting you to consider standing for council in 2026. **It is unusual that 5 council member's 3-year terms expire at the same time.**

We currently have 10 members on council. Time commitment is not onerous. It involves 1 council meeting a month with July off. Currently we meet on ZOOM. In addition to council meetings, we do work on projects benefitting our congregation as well. Being on council gives you insight into how your church functions. It also connects you with a bunch of great people. So please consider volunteering.



The purpose of our AGMs is to:

1. share what we as the congregation of Hope Lutheran did during the year.
2. approve our new budget
3. to elect council members
4. and thank all volunteers who helped run our church

Please let my know if you have been thinking about serving on council. We need you.

Jan Nilsson, Council co-chair

250-933-3038 or jan-nilsson@shaw.ca

WORSHIP NOTES

Submitted by Carolyn Iles

September was a time for celebrating creation. We sang All Things Bright and Beautiful each week, and enjoyed flowers and fruits from our gardens. We also learned about the new CLWR focus, **Friends of Creation.**

The Season of Pentecost, part 2 continues. We've heard many of the parables of Jesus, and in October there are more parables to ponder. *"The lessons for October guide us to explore how the proclamation of Christ leads us to obedience, humility and persistence – qualities quite countercultural to today's world."* (Sundays and Seasons)

- **On October 5th** we celebrate Canada's Truth and Reconciliation. We will be welcoming a First Nations Lutheran seminary student, Lauren Aldred. Thanks to Tim Stime for his efforts to bring this about.
- **October 12th** we celebrate Thanksgiving. If you have some flowers or fruits/vegetables to help decorate our sanctuary, please bring them to the church **before noon on Friday the 10th.**
- **October 28th** we celebrate Reformation. As Martin Luther said, Lutherans are to be "Always Reforming!"

We are so fortunate to have retired pastors in our congregation, who have so faithfully stepped up to provide worship services for us. We also thank the lay people who have provided Service of the Word Sundays, without communion. What a blessing all these people are!

Here is the October Preachers/Presiders Schedule

October 5 th	Lauren Aldred, Sermon; Gerry Owen, Presiding	Service of the Word
October 12 th	Pastor Marvin Svingen & Rev. Deborah Van der Goes	Thanksgiviing
October 19 th	Doug Roszmann, Presiding and Sermon	Service of the Word
October 26 th	Pastor Bill Fehr	Reformation

As we look forward to November, please note we have an adult baptism planned for All Saints Day, Nov. 2nd. Fei will be baptised by Rev. Deborah van der goes. Everyone is encouraged to celebrate this important event with Fei Xu. Cards of celebration are always welcome!

"In worship we have our neighbours to right and left, before and behind, yet the Eternal Presence is over all and beneath all. Worship does not consist in achieving a mental state of concentrated isolation from one's fellows. But in depth of common worship it is as if we found our separate lives were all one life, within whom we live and move and have our being."
Thomas Raymond Kely, Quaker educator and mystic

CLWR SUNDAY UPDATE – "CLOSE TO HOME/CLOSE TO HOPE"

Submitted by Carolyn Iles

Three interesting notes re CLWR. A few members said they donate directly to **CLWR**, either by phone or mail. Those funds were not in the amounts Hope as a group sent to **CLWR**. It isn't important that Hope knows exactly how much has been donated by Hope members. Sometimes it is just easier and it is quicker to send in donations as directly as possible. So, continue to donate to this humanitarian group, however you wish.

After the service Jean Roszmann mentioned she had been confirmed in 1945, and joined in her congregation's Luther League (youth group). Jean said she has been hearing about CLWR ever since she was confirmed and she continues to support them.



Frieda Kalack shared the story of her parents and many of her brothers and sisters coming to Canada – thanks to Canadian Lutheran Churches, and German Churches who provided funds for the passage. (The family spent some time picking beets to repay their passage – a very hard job!)

Whether this was through CLWR, or some private connection between churches, is uncertain, but Lutheran churches were involved. Frieda has great respect for her family who, after moving once due to WW2, took a leap of faith, moving to an unknown country, leaving family and friends behind a second time! (Ask Frieda what she was doing during this time.

(Our members have such interesting stories!) Thanks to both Jean and Frieda for sharing with us.

Give Thanks for your Blessings by Blessing Others with Food.

Note: Carolyn Iles, here. On Tuesdays I volunteer at a food bank depot held in St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Recently there has been less food and more people. There is a good supply of vegetables, fruits and breads, thanks to the many grocery stores who support the food bank. However, there are fewer boxes of staples, like beans, soup, peanut butter, crackers, tuna fish. So, rather than wait until Christmas to highlight one of the organizations Hope supports, with the Mission Committee's support I am asking if you could make a donation this Thanksgiving to help feed our neighbours!

It is easy to donate money, either online, at the Food Bank office on Farquhar Street, or through your church envelope. If you would rather donate food, you can drop that off at most grocery stores, in the Food Bank Bin, or in the small bin here at church. So... as Thanksgiving approaches, please consider supporting the Nanaimo Loaves and Fishes food drive! Thank you! Here is some information about L&F.

- Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank is committed to serving as many people as possible. Currently over 15,000 people in more than 44 communities, including 15 Indigenous communities, across Vancouver Island benefit from the food Loaves & Fishes provides, free of charge.
- 100% of donations from this campaign go directly to Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank on Vancouver Island.
- Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank uses a food recovery model - ensuring that good quality food reaches those who need it, rather than being wasted. With this approach, the food bank can provide more than \$5 in good quality food for every \$1 of donated funds.



WITNESS AND MISSION REPORT

CLWR REPORT

Submitted by Cathy Lund

This week, Canada formally recognized the state of Palestine. At Canadian Lutheran World Relief, we welcome this important step toward peace, dignity and security for both Palestinians and Israelis.

For decades, CLWR and its partners have upheld human rights and created opportunities for Palestinians. Most recently, through the six-year GRIT project, we've worked alongside the Government of Canada and nine institutes of higher learning in the West Bank to empower thousands of women and girls with education and skills that open doors to independence, careers and dignity. Thank you for being part of this ongoing journey toward justice and peace.

Blessings,

Rev. Michael J. Pryse

[Read the full statement](#)

[GRIT impact infographic](#)

mustard seeds



(Alaa' Imteir, GRIT Culinary Graduate in Sweets and Pastries, Episcopal Technical and Vocational Training Center (ETVTC). Photo courtesy of Nadin Bayadi.)



UPDATE ON THE HUSSEIN FAMILY

Submitted by Susan Collett

The Hussein family are Syrian newcomers that were sponsored by a group of thirteen people made up of individuals from Hope Lutheran Church, Brechin United Church, Unity Church and four others from the community of Nanaimo. The Hussein family has three boys aged nine, eleven and sixteen and they live in a townhouse in the south end of Nanaimo. After the first year of sponsorship, Hope Lutheran continued to offer prayer and some financial support to the family over the years.

It is with great sadness that I must tell you that Ahmad, the father, passed away on August 7, 2025 at the age of forty. He had experienced several serious health problems resulting from issues here and from his life in Syria. His passing was a shock to his wife, Duaa, and three boys. Duaa now has the challenge of raising three boys on her own. The Syrian community has been wonderful in their support of the family, and they lavish their care on them daily.

Your continued prayers for this family would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, *Susan*

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KRISTEN STEELE

I would like to say thank you to each of you who have included my family, my congregation and me in your prayers over the past 18 months since I went on medical leave. This week marks the one and a half year anniversary since the doctors found a large tumor in my sinus cavity which was found to be cancerous - thyroid cancer that metastasized to the sinus. I have had five surgeries (as well as one round of two different treatments) to both remove cancer and to address side effects from cancer treatment. I am currently recovering from the fifth surgery and waiting for more test results in the next couple of months. At this point the most recent surgery was successful and the surgeon was very happy with what they were able to accomplish. I have received excellent medical care from a large team of specialists and for that I am very grateful. I am also very grateful for family and friends who have walked with me through this challenging journey which I look forward to having behind me soon. Thank you again for your prayers, they have meant more to me than you know.



UPDATE ON RELOCATION PLANNING
For Pastor Derek Solberg & Family
Submitted by John Musgreave, Vice chairperson



On behalf of Church Council, I would like to provide you with a brief update on Pastor Derek & his family as they begin the herculean task of moving across the border from Bethesda, Maryland to our beautiful Island.

Well, they've been very busy packing & preparing for the move. Thankfully, Pastor Derek now has his visa to work in

Canada! The family has also been actively searching for a home on the Island. I am delighted to report they have purchased a beautiful home in Chemainus.

Movers have been booked for mid-October and it will take 2 – 4 weeks to make it to the Island, and to their new home! Although there are still many uncertainties surrounding the move, Pastor Derek is hoping to start at Hope the week of Nov. 16th.

Planning for Pastor Derek's Installation Service and celebration is underway. Stay tuned for more details and further updates! **And please continue to keep Pastor Derek & family and Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Bethesda in your prayers.**

Temporary PET SITTER Required for Pastor Derek's Family Pets!

Our Furry and Flighted Family:

Luke the dog (looking dapper)
and Theo the bird (sitting on my head)



Are you able to assist? Pastor Derek will be bringing his 2 family pets with him on his next trip to the Island in late October to close on his home and coordinate with movers. He's looking for someone to foster his pets when he flies to meet his family for the last legs of the trip and cross the border. Luke is a very affectionate 45 lb. poodle who will be glued to your side, and Theo the Budgie is a pretty low maintenance pet.

If you would like to watch Pastor Derek's pets for a week or two, or would like some more information, please contact John Musgreave by email: john.musgreave@gmail.com or by phone: 250-585-1085.

Many thanks, *John*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You and your congregation are invited to the **Service of Installation of National Bishop-elect Larry Kochendorfer at 4:00 p.m. (CDT) on Saturday, September 27 at Faith Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, MB.** The service will also be **livestreamed** (link will be posted via elcic.ca). Congregations and individuals are encouraged to gather together for the online service. *Those participating in the sacrament at their locations may wish to have bread and wine/grape juice near them to receive the elements at the appropriate point in the service.*

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR ORANGE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH!

In recognition of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, commonly referred to as “Orange Shirt Day”, you are encouraged to wear Orange to our Worship Service on Sunday, September 28th.

This day, recognized each year on Sept. 30th, has become a poignant occasion across Canada, inviting reflection, education, and action in the ongoing journey toward truth and reconciliation. Schools, public service organizations, and faith communities—including Hope—wear orange shirts to recognize the history of Indigenous children who were forced to attend government residential schools away from their families beginning at ages 5 or 6, and to acknowledge the principle that “every child matters.”

Orange T-shirts are now available at Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) Shell station and Market on the Island Highway, at Walmart (Woodgrove), and at Thrifty Foods and London Drugs.

We Celebrate Birthdays

For the month of **October 2025:**

October 2 Andrea Roszmann

October 9 Jennifer Borzel

October 10 Howard Collier

October 21 Cynthia Cantelon

October 26 Steven Musgreave

October 30 Victoria Pallard

October 8 Sharon Hart

October 9 Bernie Hansen

October 11 Rick Maher

October 21 Chloe Swabey

October 26 Dexter Vosper

October 8 Kristin Karr

October 10 Terry Owen

October 12 Erna Hansen

October 24 Shyla Saunders

October 30 Katrina Canelon



Special Prayer Requests:

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. We pray for *Spirit of Life in Vancouver – Rev. Aneeta Saroop; and for North Thompson Ecumenical Shared Ministry in Barriere and Clearwater.* God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**



We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for people in any need *especially... Anne Marie E; Rebecca G; Trisha G; Pat & Judy H; Dennis K; Rev. Jukka Joensuu; Steven M; Marilyn*

N; Glynis; Linley & Petrinia; Nathan; Wyatt; the family of Gary G; the family of Garry H; the family of Ahmad Hussain. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. *May we remember the needs of Loaves and Fishes and the Food Bank and offer our support as they serve our neighbours and community.* Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

Brechin United Church is again hosting Kathi Camilleri's meaningful Reconciliation workshop series to be held at Brechin United Church, [2020 Estevan Rd](#) in Nanaimo on Saturdays. ***Building Bridges Through Understanding the Village*** workshop will be Oct. 18th, followed by ***Paddling Together for Community*** on Nov. 8th. Workshops are free. Donations are encouraged.

For details, please see the 2 attached posters.





To Register:

Call Colleen at 778-269-0090
or

Email: brechin4action@gmail.com

To Attend:

Saturday, October 18th, 2025.

at Brechin United Church
Unit 100 - 2020 Estevan Rd., Nanaimo.

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.

Start time is 9:30 a.m.

We try to wrap up by 3:30 p.m.

Covid protocol may be in place

Please bring a bagged lunch. Coffee,
tea, water & treat will be available

There is **no charge** to attend, but
donations are appreciated
to assist with expenses.



Building Bridges:

Through Understanding the Village ©

An Experiential Workshop designed to advance our understanding from a merely cognitive level to a deeply emotional level, through exploring our own personal role in supporting the revival of Indigenous values, and collectively, the effects of Residential Schools and Canada's Policy of Assimilation.

This workshop is geared to solutions rather than recrimination, and is a great forum in which to ask questions. It's done from a non-blame and non-shame perspective, and invites all participants to become a

part of the healing that IS already happening.

PLEASE NOTE: This workshop is not mandatory. Participation may trigger unresolved grief and loss issues for some. Support options are highly recommended, and will be offered both during and after the workshop.

"It was a deeply moving experience, and I can see that it is an incredible tool for education and healing." – Workshop Participant



Kathi Camilleri is an Indigenous Cultural Safety Practitioner. Inspired by the teachings of Jann Derrick (*The Circle and The Box*) and of many dear Elders, she has coordinated healing programs in community settings for almost 25 years. Kathi holds certificates in Re-enactment Therapy for Trauma Survivors, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for Trauma, as well as Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (DBT), and has earned a Master of Arts in Leadership. Her thesis, *Returning Home to the Values of the Village*, focused on the revival of culturally-based values in order to increase collaboration among staff within an Aboriginal service-providing agency. She now has her own consulting business, and facilitates Strategic Planning Sessions and Experiential Workshops regarding Canada's Policy of Assimilation.

The healing power and personal impact of this work elicits rave reviews.

Contact Kathi: 250-287-0150 cckc@telus.net www.villageworkshopseries.com



Paddling Together

for Community ©

This Strategic Planning Workshop from the Village Workshop Series© is designed to help Community members create a shared path forward, working more collaboratively and respectfully. It will help awaken and deepen our understanding of traditional ways and values of **being together in a "Village"** - ways of treating one another which affirmed our belief that **everyone is a sacred gift.**

We'll learn how we can make our communities more like a "Village", exploring our personal and community roles in supporting the revival of these values that worked so beautifully for thousands of years.

PLEASE NOTE: Participation is voluntary; it may trigger unresolved grief and loss issues for some. Support options will be offered both during and after the workshop.

To Register:

Call Colleen at **778-269-0090**
Or email: brechin4action@gmail.com

Location:

Brechin United Church: unit 100 - 2020 Estevan Rd., Nanaimo.

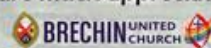
Prerequisite:

Building Bridges Workshop or Kairos Blanket Exercise

To Attend: Saturday, November 8th, 2025.
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Doors open at 9:00 a.m.)

Please bring a bagged lunch.
Coffee, tea, water & treat will be available.
Covid protocols may be observed

No charge to attend, but donations are much appreciated.



"It is easy to learn from Kathi because of her gentle ways, and her respect for all people." - Workshop Participant



Kathi Camilleri

is an Indigenous Cultural Safety Practitioner. Inspired by the teachings of Jann Derrick (*The Circle and The Box*) and of many dear Elders, she has coordinated healing programs in community settings for almost 25 years. Kathi holds certificates in Re-enactment Therapy for Trauma Survivors, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) for Trauma, as well as Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (DBT), and has earned a Master of Arts in Leadership. Her thesis, *Returning Home to the Values of the Village*, focused on the revival of culturally-based values in order to increase collaboration among staff within an Aboriginal service-providing agency. She now has her own consulting business, and facilitates Strategic Planning Sessions and Experiential Workshops regarding Canada's Policy of Assimilation.

The healing power and personal impact of this work elicits rave reviews.

Contact Kathi: 250-287-0150 cckc@telus.net www.villageworkshopseries.com