

Christ Moravian Church
Pastoral Letter for the weekend of July 26th, 2020
A Weekend of Holiday Surprises!

Greetings Dear Friends in Christ:

The Moravian Daily Text watchwords for this upcoming Sunday offer a special invitation and insight into our faith.

First, the watchword for the week: “God, turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.” Psalm 119:132

Secondly, the Old Testament watchword for the day: “Whoever is kind to the needy, honours God.” Proverbs 14:31

Lastly, the New Testament watchword for Sunday: “Jesus said, ‘Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me’.” Matthew 25:40

Three special reflections to guide us in our faith as we are knitted into the fabric of a loving community which Jesus molds and shapes as the living church.

This pastoral letter will include various attachments and information for the life of the community. Please do phone the church office should you have any pastoral needs or questions. At this time the Executive Board and Fellowship of Elders are continuing to navigate our congregation’s community life amidst this time of concern. We are continuing with the Video Worship Experience into the future, as the risk of public gatherings indoors for worship or fellowship remains a safety concern for us all.

We sent out a note earlier in the week announcing the death of James Callander, the father of Gary Callander. We do invite your continued prayer support for the family as God brings comfort and love and support to Gary and his family. The Funeral Service is set for 2:00pm, Friday, July 24 at the Fish Creek Chapel of McInnis and Holloway.

On Wednesday, July 22 CMC hosted its first small public fellowship gathering, outside on the lawn. Twelve of us gathered for a pleasant conversation and time of devotion and prayer with a safe distance between us all. A second time of “Lawn Fellowship” will be planned for August with a size limit of around 12-15.

CMC has been involved in special Mission Projects from its earliest years of ministry, and the Acadia Food Pantry service continues to be a very important mission service to the members of Christ’s family. The food pantry volunteers could always use additional support, so if you feel called to assist in this way, speak to Donna Gordon 403-251-4024 to lend your assistance.

Additionally, a special need has developed with clothing our neighbours who are assisted at the Alpha House, a recovery centre and support home for those affected by addiction. Please see the info attached as a special clothing drive will be held on Saturday, August 8, from 11am-2pm at the CMC parking lot. Since much of our normal mission activities of the summer have been suspended, let’s assist these friends with clothing, prayer and love.

We invite our children and youth to be involved in the virtual Vacation Bible School at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour. There is an attachment guiding you to register and take part in these faith activities with our Lutheran friends.

Lastly, the worship team has created a very special time of worship this weekend. There is such a loving spirit found in the life of CMC at this special time of the year. Ho, Ho, Ho! Steve Blackwell will make this available for your worship time over the weekend!

God’s loving kindness be yours,

Pastor Steve Gohdes

Worship & Event Links for July 26th, 2020

Topic: CMC Bible Buddies

CMC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

This week's lesson is on the Spirit of Life. Brian McLaren deals with the issue of death. He says "To be liberated from the fear of death – think of how that would change your values, perspectives and actions. To believe that no good thing is lost, but that all goodness will be taken up and consumed in God – think of how that frees you to do good without reservation"

Scripture lessons are:

Psalm 90

Luke 20: 27-38

Philippians 1: 20-30

One of the questions he asks us to consider is: How do you respond to the idea that people are enslaved by the fear of death?

Join Zoom Meeting: - call the church office or refer to the church email for the link.

Links to Online Worship:

Christ Moravian

<https://www.christmoravian.com>

Good Shepherd

<https://www.goodshepherdmoravian.org>

Rio Terrace

<https://www.rioterracechurch.org/live>

Moravian Church Northern Province

<https://www.moravian.org>

for details of events happening within the wider Moravian Church



CONTACTLESS

CLOTHING DRIVE

for Alpha House

supporting marginalized men and women
struggling with homelessness and addiction

Accepting the following items:

Gently used

- Walking shoes
- Casual shirts and tops
- Slacks and pants
- Light jackets

New socks and underwear

Saturday, August 8, 11 am – 2 pm

Christ Moravian Church Parking Lot

600 Acadia Drive SE

Alpha House provides emergency shelter and care for adults under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, and offers residential care for clients to safely withdraw from drugs in a medically supportive environment. They also provide supports to help clients safely move to permanent housing or long-term drug treatment facilities. Alpha House reduces the impact of street level intoxication and homelessness on the broader community and public systems through their mobile outreach teams. For more information on Alpha House, visit their website at www.alphahousecalgary.com.

**JOIN US FOR
VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

August 17 - 21



Call: 403-464-8254

REGISTER BY AUGUST 10TH!

IT'S FREE AND FUN!



Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

8831 Fairmount Drive SE

Calgary, AB T2H 0Z4

Quick Picks: Activities for Kids and Stretched Parents

July 25-31, 2020

All the buzz ... IN FULL BLOOM

We're in full summer and the wonder of FLOWERS AND BEES!

The shape of flowers: 2-adult This is the best time for flowers in our province. Take a walk through a garden, park or alley and notice all the different shapes of flowers: some are like bells; others like flat disks; some like shaggy hair cuts... Take pictures. Artists, make sketches of them. You might want to sketch or photograph the insects that land on them.

A collage of flowers: 3-7 <https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/abstract-art-for-kids-easy-flower-shapes-collage> With craft sticks, decorated paper (wrapping paper?) scissors and a glue stick, your child can create a garden of flowers using circles. Change it up by adding other interesting flower shapes, perhaps the ones you noticed on your walk. (I keep thinking of Bleeding Hearts).
9-adult: How about making them 3-dimensional?

What's with flying things and flowers?: 5-11 Here is a simple explanation of pollination for our little ones: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy3r1zIC_IU And for the older kids, **7-11** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AuVm1jpKEA>

Be like a bee: 3-11 Some of these activities are school-like (after all teachers developed them for a unit on pollination). Several are just plain fun. All would interest at least some children. Not sure about the Cheetos activity, but I bet it ends with a snack.
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/569ec99b841abaccb7c7e74c/t/5c420d7f0e2e72f2a34e0c59/1547832723435/Bee+and+Pollinator+Activities+for+Kids.pdf>

Pollination Scavenger Hunt: 5-9 Do you know that even a rock can help pollination? How so? https://www.vaughan.ca/cityhall/environmental_sustainability/General%20Documents/Pollinator%20Resources/Pollination%20Scavenger%20Hunt%20-%20Vaughan.pdf

Make a bee hotel: 3-9; 9-adult Honeybees are wonderful. Settlers brought them with them from Europe as a source of honey and wax.

But did you know that there are many more bees in our gardens and wild spaces that are native to North America? Some are almost invisible; some iridescent; some live in dirt or crevices. Most are solitary. They don't make honey or wax, but they are very important pollinators.

The *Mason bee*, a native, is particularly important to fruit trees. You can help these bees and your fruit crop by making a bee hotel for them. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0re9o1ZqX8>

Tips: 1: the size of the tubes is important. Our youngest children are going to have trouble making them by wrapping paper around a pencil. Try milkshake-sized straws or large-space corrugated cardboard instead. 2: You can place the hotel about 1-2m high. Hang them in a sunny spot, particularly where they will get morning light. Here's more information and a set of

sturdier designs for older kids and grown-ups: <https://beekeepclub.com/best-mason-bee-house/>
Hey! Why are they called mason bees? Want to know more?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8vAQ1B5Zj4>

Track down our bumble bees: 5-adult Bumble bees are gentle souls who won't sting unless you really bother them. Even then, their sting is very mild unless you are allergic.

Do you know that there are many different species of bumble bees that live in our city? You can recognize them by the colour on their bands and the markings on their head and thorax
<https://www.albertanativebeecouncil.ca/> See if you can find them all. Explore other information at the Bee Council site. You can even become a bee sleuth for the Bee Council (see *Our Work* at the website).

Bee Readalongs: 3-7 *Buzz said the bee:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JFp73FeGzk> This is an accumulative tale that will likely have children chiming in as they recognize the pattern. *Bee and Me* has a delightful expanded vocabulary and also rhymes:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9oM6x37VLm8> How about this beautifully illustrated wordless book *Bee and Me* which describes a friendship between a little girl and a VERY large bee?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DO215UAI4i4> This one, *Are you a bee?* for 5-8 year olds, presents, simply, the science of the honey bee <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kePv4tviABo>

A Bee Singalong: 3-adult

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWUgZm_AE64&list=PLKibrWIkV7bqG_103driLWQ-uM0qEBhJ&index=157 As dangerous an earworm as *The Wheels on the Bus*. I dare you to learn this and then go on a car trip.

The Flight of the Bumblebee 5-adult: Listen to how well a classical composer can conjure a garden of bees <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QV1RGMLUKE>

The Beauty of Pollination, a video 3-adult <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQiszdkOwuU> This video brings me joy. The bat pollinating the cactus flower is amazing!

And last, a honey bee waggle dance flashmob 2-adult

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhcAgs-9q8Q> Too much fun.