



CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 ChristEvangelicalLutheranChurchKelowna

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September 18, 2020

Dear Siblings in Christ!

Six months and counting – or not, as we see this Covid time as stretching out indefinitely. Each of us has no doubt found new patterns and routines to go about our day to day responsibilities. It is our hope that you were able to enjoy most of the summer; perhaps some of you were able to get together with family and friends in small groups and visits.

We are thankful for another year of bountiful harvest. There were some challenges with the season, both in terms of weather and work force, but throughout Kelowna, whether at the grocery store, farmers' market, fruit stands or farm gate – there have been plenty of local fruits and vegetables to enjoy. We are also thankful that Covid-19 hospitalizations in the Interior have been low; our hearts and prayers go to those people and places where that is not the case.

Here at Christ Lutheran, we were able to enjoy some outdoor, as well as on-line services. We continue to thank those who provide the technical support to allow both of these to happen. With the cooler weather, we will transition to limited in-house worship, under the guidance of our Covid-19 Committee (Jim Gustafson, David Peter, Donna Kneller, Norma Frick). They have been very diligent at learning and implementing health regulations to ensure that the church building provides a safe work and worship space – Thank You!

Finally, “Thank you!” to all of YOU for your faithful support of Christ Lutheran. Please let us know if/how our on-line and mailed out resources are helping you, and let us know if you need any further assistance to access worship and devotional resources. We close with the words of St. Paul, who spent so much of his ministry encouraging far-flung, isolated, struggling congregations:

¹²...we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, ...¹³esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴...we urge you to... encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient... always seek to do good. ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit.... ²¹ test everything; hold fast to what is good...²⁵ Beloved, pray for us. ²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. (*1 Thess. 5*)

Rev. Patricia Giannelia,
Pastor

Gary Gustafson,
Chairperson