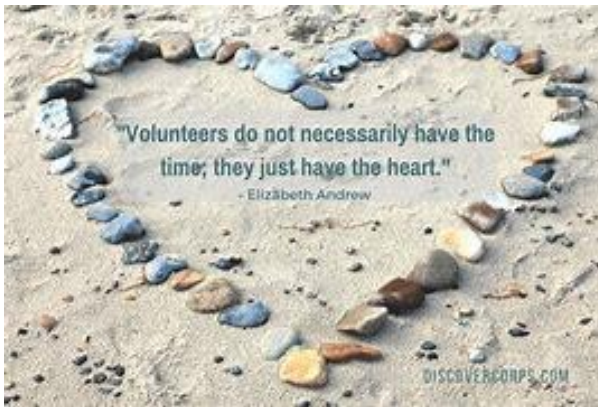




## ***Fall 2021 Newsletter***



**Isaiah 12:2** Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense ; he has become my salvation.

### **Our Vision Statement**

To envision and expand Lutheran Hospital Ministries- Southern Alberta Society as a serving, Christ-centred ministry, which is integral to spiritual, emotional and physical healing. Trained volunteer visitors give support through compassionate listening, prayer and Scripture.

### **Walk for Love**

May 1, 2021

We thank all walkers for their support in this year's Walk for Love. The funds you raised enabled us to continue this very important Ministry. **Next year's Walk is scheduled for April 30, 2022.** Please mark it in your calendars.



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### **VISITOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON**

**Guest Speaker:** Pastor Mark Rekken

November 6, 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

66 – 7 Street NE

Calgary, AB T2E 4B7

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**Visitor Fall Training:** tbd

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## **Message from the Director of Pastoral Care**

### **A Time of Transition!**

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus!

This time of year is often a time of transition for many of us. For students, teachers, and those with children it marks the return to school and the familiar routines involved with the school year. In the Church, this is often the time our Bible Studies, Sunday School, and other programs start up again. During this time of year we can also see the transition from Summer to Autumn. It is a season of transition. And that's true for us at LHM-SAS as well! Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted and we are in the time of transitioning back into our active ministry of visiting the sick and providing Jesus' care to them and their families.

If you're like me you might find these times of transition very exciting, yet also a bit messy. I remember being in school and at the beginning of a new year there was the excitement of finding out who would be in my class, what friends I would make, and what the year would look like. Yet, there was also the messiness of having to find my classroom, find my desk, fill

out forms, figure out my bus schedule etc. This time of transition is no different.

It is exciting to consider returning to regular visitation, connecting with others in the LHM-SAS community, starting up training sessions again, and all the other pieces that seem to have been put on hold during this pandemic. However, it's also messy... Some of our sites are welcoming back volunteers and asking for our services, yet others are still not allowing our visitors in. Some places are asking for refresher orientations, and some are not. It's an exciting time, yet it is a messy time.

I am reminded of the book of Ezra. After 70 years of Exile in Babylon, God decided it was time for His people to transition back to life in the Promised Land. So God moved the Persian King Cyrus to declare that the Jewish exiles would return and that God's Temple would be rebuilt. It was an exciting time! They were going back home! God's house was going to be rebuilt! Yet, it was also a messy time. There was a lot of work to be done and there was plenty of opposition that frustrated the process. However, they were doing God's work and so, as messy as it was, with God's help they

succeeded and rebuilt their city and God's Temple.

I hope you're excited in this season of transition. I hope you're excited that our ministry can begin to return to full-force operation. And I also hope you know that like God's people in Ezra's day, we are God's people doing God's work now. As messy as this transition might be, He will help us and He will be with us!

May God bless us and help us through this time of transition!

Pastor Mark Rekken

### **What Can I Do During this Time of Transition?**

1. If you are already a visitor with LHM-SAS contact the sites you serve at and ask about when and how you might be able return to visitation.
2. If you are not a visitor but would like to be, contact Pastor Mark Rekken ([pastor@princeofpeace.ca](mailto:pastor@princeofpeace.ca)) to ask about our Fall training course.
3. If you are in the process of becoming a visitor focus on completing any application forms you have remaining, and contact Pastor Rekken about what the next steps are.
4. If you support our ministry financially, please receive our tremendous gratitude for your help;

and consider continuing your support. This is a time we need your support more than ever!

5. If you support our ministry through prayer we ask you to keep up the great work! Our ministry can accomplish nothing without the prayers of God's people!

If you have any questions about what you can do as a part of our community during this time of transition please contact our Director of Pastoral Care Pastor Mark Rekken.

Email: [pastor@princeofpeace.ca](mailto:pastor@princeofpeace.ca)  
Phone: 780-718-4472

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### **Our Mission Statement**

Bringing Jesus' Healing and Promise of Salvation to Lutherans who are in care facilities or hospitals, and their families.

If you are interested in becoming a visitor, please call Rev. Mark Rekken at (780) 718-4472 or the office at (403) 264-4045.

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### **Confession**

Secretary: "I type by the biblical system."

Deacon: "What is that?"

Secretary: "The 'seek and ye shall find' system."

**Disclaimer:** Views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the policy of LHM-SAS.

**Editors:** Rev. Mark Rekken and  
Margrit Owen

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Has your life or the life of a loved one been touched by the work of Lutheran Hospital Ministries? If so, we invite you to support our work in one or more of the following ways:

**Sponsor a participant** in the Walk for Love (April 30, 2022)

**Canada Helps:** giving made simple through a secure, quick and easy online method. Canada Helps does all the administration and issues tax receipts. Go to

<http://www.canadahelps.org> and enter Lutheran Hospital Ministries Southern Alberta **Go Donate now.**

**Donate** to LHM-SAS by cheque or online.

Donations of \$20 or more will receive tax receipts.

Charitable Registration # BN:

734919079RR0001

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We appreciate all that everyone has done for LHM-SAS. We invite your participation. There is still much to be done. Board members are elected for 2-year terms at our Annual Meeting every spring. Board meetings are held 5 times/year, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January, March, May, September and November. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please contact us.

### **Board of Directors:**

Chairman: Floyd Schneider

Vice-Chair: Rita Thurn

Director of

Pastoral Care: Pastor Mark Rekken

Secretary-

Treasurer: Pastor Mark Lobitz

Director: Judith McLeay

Director: Kelvin Schindel

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### **"Time to Sign-Out"**

LHMSA has a library! And in it are quite a number of valuable and informative books on various topics of pastoral and spiritual care.

"How can I access these books?" you ask? Phone our LHM-SAS office at 403-264-4045 or e-mail

[lhmsac@gmail.com](mailto:lhmsac@gmail.com) and ask our Office Administrator Margrit Owen for more information and a listing of books in our LHMSA Library.