

# The (new)AGAPE NEWS (5)

A WEEKLY "BLOG-LIKE" NEWSLETTER FROM PASTOR ZEUCH

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH - CALGARY AB – October 13, 2020**

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**Hello dear SMLC Family and friends!**

I sincerely hope you had a blessed and restful Thanksgiving long weekend. We had a pretty good attendance in the English service, but not that great in the German Thanksgiving service. We also thank Lorraine for the beautiful "cornucopia" she put together.

I had someone asking me why I stopped including the bible trivia and the "clean joke" in the newsletter. Here goes the explanation: those two items are now in the EMAIL contend I send to all members and friends on that list. And they also get this newsletter attached. If you are reading only this newsletter from the website and wish to be included in that email list, please let me know. I will be glad to include you. My email address is [pastorzeuch@gmail.com](mailto:pastorzeuch@gmail.com).

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**A SMALL DOSE OF GOD'S WORD FOR YOU TODAY:**

(From this upcoming Sunday's chosen psalter)

"Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!" Psalm 96:1

In German:

„Singt dem HERRN ein neues Lied, singt dem HERRN, alle Welt!“ Psalm 96, 1

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# NEWS FROM SMLC.

We repeat some of them every week for those who haven't read it before.

**1 - WE ARE OPEN FOR WORSHIP!** If you plan to come for worship this Sunday and you haven't come since we re-opened our doors, please don't forget to sign up with Andrea. Remember to call our office BEFORE it closes for the week by Thursday at 3 pm. If you are already coming regularly, you are automatically on the list and you don't need to call the office anymore. IF you are on the list and are NOT coming, we encourage you to call the office and let Andrea know. We will continue to follow all health and safety protocols. See you hopefully on Sunday!

**2 - FACE MASKS ARE MANDATORY!** Please bring your own mask on Sunday services. We also remind everyone that the congregation is NOT supposed to sing along with the soloist(s) for the time being, unfortunately!

**3 - HOLY COMMUNION:** After careful and prayerful consideration, we have now decided to start offering communion following some special health and safety protocols. Please read our new procedures for communion in our website. We highly recommend that families use a common plate or tray for the bread and even a common cup for the whole family. Next communion service is this coming Sunday, **October 18.**

**4 - PRIVATE COMMUNION:** If you wish to have a private communion because you still don't feel safe coming to church on Sundays, please call our office and make an appointment with Andrea. You will meet me in the church sanctuary, and we will follow all health and safety protocols. Please bring a plate and a cup of your own.

**5 – SMLC FOOD CUPBOARD:** We will again be collecting non-perishable items for our Food Cupboard, if you are able to donate please put items in the marked box located in the Parish Hall. We have had several requests for food hampers, over

the past months, should you or someone you know be in need please contact Pastor Zeuch. All requests will be kept confidential. **In an effort to manage our food cupboard we have sorted and put out items in the basement that expired in 2019, please feel free to help yourself.**

**6 - RENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE:** Presently, St. Matthew Lutheran Church rents the parsonage, the sanctuary and basement and parking lot spots. To review and implement current rental policies and oversee renters, we are seeking volunteers to join the committee. The service provided by the committee is vital to our congregation, since it directly supports our mission and ministry. If you are interested in using your knowledge and abilities, please contact Siegrid Robak at 403-503-9973.

**7 – BIBLE STUDY:** We have started our online bible studies! They are offered over “zoom” program, every Wednesday, at 7 p.m., except when there is a fifth Wednesday (that one will be free). Elizabeth Schieman will lead the study called “Life and Tomes of Jesus Christ” every first and third Wednesday. I will lead the study called: “Who are we, Lutherans”? every second and fourth Wednesday. We will send out the password to log in to zoom meeting on those days. The bible study is meant for all members, please feel free to join us!

**8 – SOLOISTS:** we know that we are NOT supposed to sing along in church, so we use soloists, members who volunteer to sing the hymns during service. If you think you may help us out by singing as well, let us know. We are searching for “hidden talents” out there!

**9 - BIG THANK YOU!** Since we are in the Thanksgiving month, I want to thank those who use their talents, time and treasures to keep our congregation going. This week I thank **Elizabeth Schieman**. She has been a big support in the Christian Education since she joined our congregation back in 2015. Liz started volunteering to work with our choirs for special dates. Then she took on our Youth Ministry and has been our youth leader since then. Liz has introduced the special service involving the youth: the Tenebrae for Holy Week and the Lessons & Carols for Advent. She is also one of our soloists on Sundays and she now leads bi-weekly bible studies since last week. Thank you, Liz, for your faithful service.

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy". Philippians 1: 3 & 4

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**BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK**

None that we know of this week,

**NEW BIRTH (BAPTISM) ANNIVERSARIES:**

Oct 18 – Erwin Dreifke

Oct 18 – Karin Schmidt

If any name is missing, please let me know. We pray for you! God bless you all!

**FEASTS, FESTIVALS and COMMEMORATIONS IN THE CHURCH YEAR THIS WEEK:**

Oct 17 – Ignatius of Antioch, Pastor and Martyr

Oct 18 – St. Luke, Evangelist

You may look them up on the internet to find out more about those faithful women and men!

Name of the upcoming Sunday, Oct 18: Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

**OUR CALENDAR THIS WEEK**

- a) Online Bible Study on Wednesday, Oct 14 at 7 pm over zoom. Please log in by 6:45 pm to make sure all is working, so we can start at 7 pm sharp. The bible study should be about 45 minutes. We will send out a link to log in. Please join us!

- b) PPC meeting on Thursday, Oct 15 at 7 pm (zoom)

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**PRAYER REQUESTS:****Special requests:**

Pray that God will bless our budget planning for 2021 as we plan our Mission and Ministry for next year.

Include your own intercessions...

**Special thanksgiving:**

Thank God for ALL the blessings He has generously given to you and your family.  
Count your blessings!

...(Include your own reasons to thank God)

Lord' in your mercy, Hear our prayer!

Please send me your prayer request if you have one, be it a special petition or a reason to thank the Lord. So I can share it here and we may pray together.

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**DIE DEUTSCHE ECKE!** Gottes Word aus „Die Losungen“ (losungen.de)

Dienstag, 13. Oktober 2020:

*David sprach zu Salomo:* Gott der HERR wird die Hand nicht abziehen und dich nicht verlassen, bis du jedes Werk für den Dienst im Hause des HERRN vollendet hast.

1. Chronik 28,20

Dafür halte uns jedermann: für Diener Christi und Haushalter über Gottes Geheimnisse.

1. Korinther 4,1

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Thank you for taking your time to read our newsletter. “Talk to you” next week again, God willing.

God bless you all. Stay safe everybody.

In His service,

Rev. Markus Zeuch, on Oct 13, 2020 Anno Domini