

The “AGAPE” #31

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH, CALGARY AB

October 20, 2021 Anno Domini

Proclaiming the love of Jesus Christ in Bridgeland for 108 years!

A “BLOG-LIKE” NEWSLETTER FROM PASTOR ZEUCH

Hello dear SMLC Family!

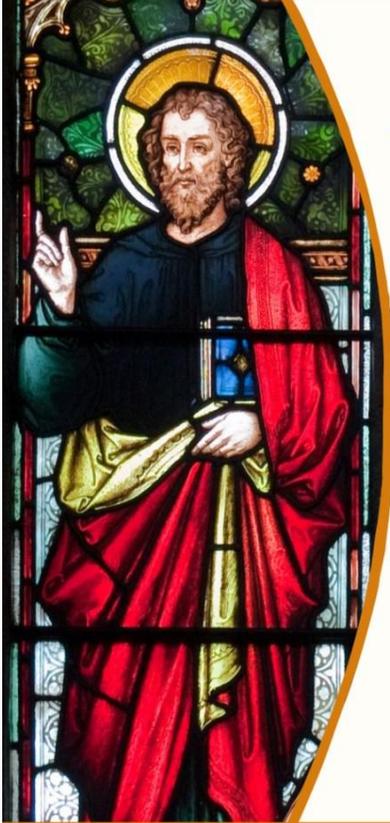
I trust you are doing well with God’s grace!



This year we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the “Diet of Worms”. No, it wasn’t a trendy diet in the Middle Ages in which people would eat worms! The “Diet” was an imperial assembly in which important matters were discussed and decided in the Holy Roman Empire, normally in the presence of the emperor. On April 17, 1521, Martin Luther defended publicly his faith and his writings and was banned from the empire. That was one of the days the world could have chosen to

declare the start of the Reformation (instead of the traditional October 31st). Do you want to learn more about this event? Please join us in a presentation on Saturday, October 30th. You may read more about it in this edition of the Agape.

Speaking of commemoration, on our last edition we mentioned St. Matthew (Sept 21) and today we thank God for St. Luke (Oct 18). We will be reading the Gospel according to Luke in the next church year, starting in Advent. The lectionary for worship services will be based on it. We thank God for Luke and his writings inspired by the Holy Spirit (both his gospel and the book of Acts) and we also thank God for Luther, for his boldness in defending the truth and standing up against the errors, heresies, and corruption within the church of his time. Come celebrate Reformation with us on Sunday, October 31st (Reformation Sunday). On next page, you will find the “commemoration card” for this special apostle and evangelist. These Commemoration Cards were created by Julia Flor, LCC Communications Intern 2021. These cards are designed to highlight notable events in the faith life of the saints, to help us remember the people of God from centuries past, that we might imitate their faith and good works according to our calling.



St. Luke
October 18

Time Period 1st century AD

Who was he?
An Evangelist, a physician, and a companion of the apostle Paul.

Did you know?

- The Gospel of Luke contains the Virgin Mary's account of the events surrounding Christ's birth and several unique parables.
- In the Book of Acts, he recounts the spread of the Gospel, showing how our Lord Jesus Christ continued to work through His disciples.
- Luke proved himself to be a faithful companion throughout St. Paul's missionary journeys, through many trials and crosses.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 – SUNDAY IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES:

Social distance and face masks are mandatory. If you choose not to come for in-person worship, you can still be with us online with our live streaming of services on Zoom. The third option is to watch the whole service later at our website. So there's many ways to stay connected with us and in fellowship with the Lord. However, you cannot take communion online!

Communion practices remain the same for both services: you bring your cup and plate to church. You remain seated in your place. Pastor and assistant will come to you in the pews to serve you with bread and wine. You hold on to these elements until pastor returns to the altar and then invites all to take the sacrament together, as a family. Communion services are on the first and the third Sundays. There is still no offering plate passing around: you are invited to bring your offering and place it in the back of the church as you walk out. Or you can send an e-transfer as well. Just call the office and ask Andrea. I will love to see you at church!



2 – THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR: Who may take Holy Communion at our church? We are very careful about the sacraments. Please read below:



By celebrating Holy Communion, I declare publicly that I am a baptized Christian (preferably confirmed in the Lutheran church that is in fellowship with us). I understand and accept what this congregation teaches about the Lord's Supper. I give witness that I believe that Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I have examined my life in the light of God's Word and have confessed my sinfulness to God. I believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in, with and under the bread and wine. I believe that in this sacrament God gives me the forgiveness of my sins. I believe that God the Holy Spirit strengthens my faith and renews my life and I resolve, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful ways. **Before communing here for the first time**, please introduce yourself to the pastor or to an usher first. If you do not meet these requirements, we ask you to refrain from taking the communion. Thank you for examining yourself as is proper to do (1 Corinthians 11:28). God bless your preparation!

3– BIBLE STUDY: Online Bible studies take place **every Wednesday** on Zoom, except when there is a fifth Wednesday. We have started a series of studies on **the Augsburg Confession**. Please join us and be blessed!

4 – ONLINE YOUTH BIBLE STUDY Are offered BI-WEEKLY (every other Tuesday) at 7:30 p.m. Elizabeth will send out the invites for the login.

5 – WE NEED HELP! OPEN POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE: In case you wonder what the needs of your congregation are and how you could use your talents to serve better, here are the open positions we have currently:

- a) Vice-Chairman;
 - b) Elder;
 - c) Head elder;
 - d) Ushers
 - e) Counters
 - f) Readers
 - g) Christian Stewardship;
 - h) Ambassador for the Lutheran Hour/LLL;
 - i) Helping out with the board of evangelism
 - j) Someone to help with technology: posting services online etc.
 - k) Helping with the phone call ministry
- Open positions coming up soon: a) Treasurer b) PPC Secretary



Please consider prayerfully if you can commit to one of these noble tasks of serving the Lord!

6 - "DIET OF WORMS": We will offer a one-hour presentation on the 500th anniversary of the "Diet of Worms" - the imperial assembly in which Martin Luther was asked to renounce his writings in front of the emperor Charles V. What does this event mean to you? Well, come check it out! Please join us on Zoom on Saturday, October 30th, 2021. Time: 7pm. Here is the login information:

Topic: Diet of Worms Presentation

Time: Oct 30, 2021 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86102621060?pwd=bURrZGs5RVZxWFJpUmk2VTd2QlZpZz09>

Meeting ID: 861 0262 1060

Passcode: 262519

Dial by your location +1 587 328 1099 Canada

7 – A NEW CD WITH CHRISTIAN HYMNS (a work in progress): Your pastor is involved in a beautiful project that will hopefully bring joy, comfort, and blessing to many hearts. Deaconess Monica Schultz, member of Foothills Lutheran Church is recording a CD singing hymns in both German and English with her beautiful voice that God gave her. I am honoured to accompany her on the guitar. So far, we have two recorded hymns on YouTube. Recorded by Patrick Zelinski @ Active Light Records. If you read this newsletter on your electronic device (computer, laptop, smartphone, tablet etc.) you may click on the link to listen to those songs firsthand. In the video, you will also see photos of our church! Take a listen, click on the titles: [WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER](#) [THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD](#)

8 – PASTOR'S CONTINUED EDUCATION: The Board of Elders has approved this pastor's request to take an online "refresher course" in Theology (exegesis, hermeneutics, and homiletics) through Concordia Seminary in Brazil. The program takes two hours a week and runs for five weeks. There are no costs involved for the congregation. My professor will be Dr. Vilson Scholz, a scholar in Greek New Testament who used to be my professor at the seminary back in the 80's. He is one of the contributors and consultants listed in The Lutheran Study Bible (check out his name on page vii under "consultants" if you have that Bible).

9 – WHAT IS PLANNED FOR THE NEXT DAYS?

Oct 20 (Wed): Online Bible Study (pastor) @ 7 p.m.

Oct 21 (Thurs): Parish Planning Council online meeting @ 7 p.m.

Oct 22 (Fri): Social activity for our Youth @ 6:45 p.m.

Oct 24 (Sun): German worship service @ 9:30 a.m./ English worship @ 11 a.m.

Oct 25 (Mon): Online confirmation class for kids

Oct 27 (Wed): Pastor attends the Calgary Circuit "winkel".

Oct 27 (Wed): Online Bible Study: The Augsburg Confession (Siegrid) @ 7 p.m.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November 2021						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
Notes:						
<small>www.jan-dec-calendar.com</small>						

Oct 30 (Sat): Online presentation on the Diet of Worms (pastor) @ 7 p.m.
 Oct 31 (Sun): German Reformation (and All Saints) service @ 9:30 a.m.
 Oct 31 (Sun): English Reformation (and All Saints) service @ 11 a.m.
 Nov 1 (Mon): Online confirmation class for kids
 Nov 3 (Wed): Online Bible Study: The Augsburg Confession (pastor) @ 7 p.m.
 Nov 4 (Thurs): Board of elders' meeting on Zoom @ 7 p.m.
 Nov 7 (Sun): German communion service @ 9:30 a.m.
 Nov 7 (Sun): English communion service @ 11 a.m.
 Nov 8 (Mon): Online confirmation class for kids
 Nov 9 (Tues): Pastor leads worship service @ Bethany Riverview
 Nov 10 (Wed): Pastor leads worship service @ Rocky Ridge Retirement Home
 Nov 10 (Wed): Online Bible Study: The Augsburg Confession (Siegrid) @ 7 p.m.
 Nov 14 (Sun): German worship service @ 9:30 a.m./ English worship @ 11 a.m.

10 - SPECIAL DAYS, CELEBRATIONS, FEASTS & FESTIVALS

Oct 23 – St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus and Martyr
 Oct 24 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Oct 25 – Dorcas (Tabitha), Lydia, and Phoebe, Faithful Women
 Oct 26 – Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt, Hymnwriters
 Oct 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles
 Oct 31 – Reformation Day (All Saints Sunday)
 Nov 1 – All Saints' Day
 Nov 7 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Daylight Saving Time ends)
 Nov 8 – Johannes von Staupitz, Luther's Father and Confessor
 Nov 9 – Martin Chemnitz, Pastor and Confessor
 Nov 10 – Martin Luther, Doctor and Confessor
 Nov 11 – Remembrance Day / Martin de Tours, Pastor
 Nov 14 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (Third Sunday of End Time)
 Nov 14 – Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor of Christ

GEISTLICHE LIEDER AUF DEUTSCH

Jesus heißt uns leuchten

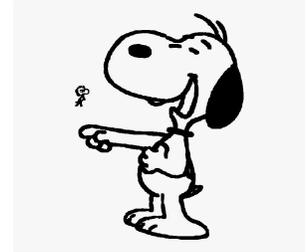
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hISujPtRo>



Ich hoffe Sie geniessen es!



And now, our giggle for the week: jokes and puns



Thank you for taking your time to read my newsletter. May God's peace fill your days ahead. Have a blessed Fall season!

In His service,

Rev. Markus Zeuch

Ph: (403) 837-4600

Visit our website: www.stmatthewlutheranalgary.com

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube!

We offer pastoral care in English, German, Portuguese, and Spanish.

THE STAFF OF ST. MATTHEW

Organist/Pianist: Johnson Philip

Cantor: Dana Salter

Youth Leaders: Elizabeth Schieman & Emilie
Graumann

Secretary: Andrea Sovary (403) 266-1458

Chairman: Peter Graumann (403) 275-2166

Head Elder: vacant

Church Office hours are 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. Monday-Thursday