

Struggles with the Pandemic

The emphasis on encouraging a greater home devotional life has been true in churches across the globe—one of the good things to come out of the current pandemic. Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC), for example, encouraged pastors early on to disinfect and distribute hymnals to all members, along with a guide on using the hymnal for personal and family devotions.

The churches of the International Lutheran Council are also providing practical care in the midst of the pandemic. In the Philippines, for example, several congregations of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) have given away face masks, as well as food supplies to families in need. In Ghana, where many people live hand to mouth, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (ELCG) has rolled out a range of activities to support the needy and less privileged in their communities, thanks in part to financial support from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).

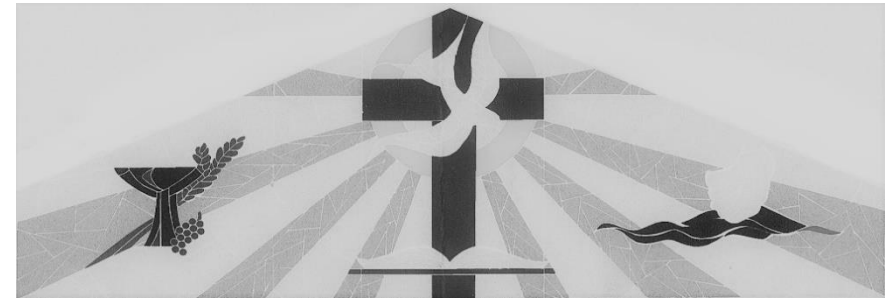
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These are just some of the many ways confessional Lutherans around the world are responding to COVID-19. “This is a time to have faith, and for the Church of Christ to be a light to the world,” said Bishop Dieter Reinstorf of the Free Evangelical Lutheran Synod in South Africa (FELSISA). “This can only happen through the Word of God and His Spirit. We therefore humble ourselves before God, acknowledge our dependency on Him, call for mercy, rejoice in our salvation in Jesus Christ, and pray that God may use even the COVID-19 pandemic to our benefit to the salvation of mankind.”

For more information on how member churches of the ILC have responded to the coronavirus pandemic, visit: <https://ilc-online.org/tag/covid-19/>

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute wanted to know what to play. “Here’s a copy of the service,” he said impatiently. “But you’ll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances.” During the service, the minister paused and said, “Brothers and sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up.” At that moment, the substitute organist played “The NATIONAL ANTHEM.” And that is how the substitute organist became the regular organist!



Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Moose Jaw

A member congregation of Lutheran Church – Canada

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Fourth Sunday after Pentecost June 28, 2020

Lutherans Living Christ

Our Vision: *To be an active group of people serving Moose Jaw and surrounding area with a Lutheran spirituality*

Our Mission: *To engage people in authentic Biblical worship leading to growth in Christian living.*



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Mission Prayers

We remember Lutheran Church-Canada's mission and ministry partners in prayer:

Rev. Pich Chandeth is the pastor of Garuna Lutheran Church in Kampong, Cambodia. He also serves as the education coordinator for Garuna Christian School.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, since Your Son has saved the world through His holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death and sent forth His Church to proclaim the Good News of grace, we pray that You would sustain Rev. Chandeth by Your Spirit and richly bless his labours for the sake of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lutheran Hour

You can listen to The Lutheran Hour streaming audio and podcasts at www.lutheranhour.ca on your phone or computer **July 5 "Unhelmed"** Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler Are you living in the reality of life as it is right now, life as it will be, or somewhere in between? (Matthew 6:1-18)

Readings for the Week:

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Matthew 10:34-42

VIRTUAL VBS!

LCC congregations coordinate, offer virtual VBS options Canada-wide, all summer long!

Families across our country are headed into a summer like no other. Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) congregations across the country have come together to coordinate free Virtual VBS options for families all summer long—no matter where you live! So what does “Virtual VBS” look like in a practical sense? Of course the message of Christ and His promise remain the same and should be taught accordingly. But how does the virtual element change how we organize and deliver God’s Word in a VBS setting? Though labelled as “virtual” children will still create tangible crafts; play games; eat snacks; sing songs; act out Bible stories and pray! The style and format will vary depending on the individual congregation hosting VBS for that week. In general, families that register will be given a list of needed materials well in advance. Children will be able to participate in the Opening and Closing through YouTube Live or pre-recorded videos. Each activity or “station” will correspond to a simple one-page instruction sheet. Parents can pick and choose which activities work for them—the materials can be used at any time of day in any order! All activities are geared towards minimizing screen time and maximizing engaging Christ-focused educational activities for the whole family!

For more information including summer schedule, marketing material and more, visit:

<https://www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/eventscalendar/lcc-virtual-vbs-2020/>

If you have any questions about specific VBS options, please contact the congregation hosting according to the schedule.