



NOVEMBER 2023
NEWSLETTER OF
LAKELAND LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Rev's Words:

November Again

November 2016 here at our church, I shared a story on the closest Sunday sermon to Remembrance Day.

To me this entire November month we consider what we remember - those who lost their lives and families who always consider war and peace wrapped in heartfelt memories. We also give thanksgiving to all who have served and continue to do so.

Our world this year we again reflect that even now war and peace are still our world's concerns. Lord have mercy.

This story - is fitting again this year:

A young woman can still remember one particular Remembrance Day when her words and actions did nothing more than offend someone she loved very much. It was the one and only argument she ever had with her grandmother and it happened over Remembrance Day. At the time, she was living in London England. She remembers thinking that Londoners take Remembrance Day very seriously. More so, she thought, than in her country Canada. She wondered if the blitz had something to do with it.

While most of the poppies people wore were red, she began to see white poppies appear on the lapels of more than just a few people. She read in the newspaper that those who were committed to peace and believe that for the most part Remembrance Day only serves to glorify war were donning white poppies. You could pretty well draw a dividing line between the generations using the colours of the poppies as your guide. Young people, who had never experienced war, tended to wear white poppies, while those who were older and who had memories of war, tended to

wear red poppies. It was beginning to seem that in many homes in and of themselves were starting wars.

The idealistic young woman was twenty and her commitment to peace determined her choice.

She was wearing a white poppy the day she travelled up to the Midlands to visit her grandmother. It was the day before Remembrance Day when she arrived on her grandmother's doorstep. She'd forgotten all about the white poppy she wore. She couldn't help thinking that there was something odd about the reception she received from her grandmother. It wasn't exactly what she would call warm. Her grandmother was upset about something. The young woman couldn't quite figure out what, because her grandmother appeared to be giving her the silent treatment. She just served dinner and listened quietly as the young woman chatted on about her week in London. After dinner, the young woman suggested that they pop down to the pub for a chat with her grandmother's neighbours. Usually her grandmother would have jumped at the chance to show her granddaughter off to her friends. But she seemed more than a little reluctant on this occasion. She so rarely refused her granddaughter anything, but it still took a great deal of convincing before the young woman managed to talk her grandmother into venturing out into the world. As they were putting on their coats to leave, the grandmother asked her granddaughter to remove the white poppy from her lapel.

The young woman looked at her grandmother's red poppy and refused. She began to lecture in that pompous way that sometimes young people will – who don't know any better yet speak about the horrors of war and that they must stand up for peace. Her grandmother insisted that she could stand up anywhere that she wanted to for peace but not in her local pub, not in front of her friends, not tonight. And then their battle began in earnest. They started calmly, but firmly arguing over ...poppies. Before long, they were shouting and eventually the grandmother, stormed out of the house and went to the pub without her granddaughter.

The young woman went to bed before her grandmother came home. Each woman slept fitfully, bemoaning the fact that they had declared their own kind of war.

Early the next morning the young woman rose quietly, hoping to dash off to London before her grandmother awoke. She was just about to make a clean get away when her grandmother came into the living room. She was carrying a uniform. A uniform the young woman had never seen before; a uniform that stopped the young woman cold.

Over breakfast the old woman explained that during the Second World War, she had joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. The men were all off fighting so the government consented to let women do their bit. Her job in the WAAF was carried out on the home front. Every evening after the fed her kids supper, she would send them off to the air-raid shelter with a neighbour, then she would put on her uniform and head off to the hills over Birmingham, where she would "man" an anti-aircraft gun.

After telling the young woman stories, that she had rarely told anyone before, the old woman invited her granddaughter to come with her to the British Legion later that morning. Awed by all

that she had been told, the young woman changed her plans and agreed to meet her grandmother down at the Legion Hall in about an hour.

On her way to the Legion hall, the young woman bought a red poppy and timidly pinned it to her lapel. When she finally caught up with her grandmother, the old woman couldn't help but smile when she saw the red poppy pinned to her beloved granddaughter's lapel.

The young woman couldn't manage a smile. Rather she cried. The young woman was overcome by the sight of the white poppy that was pinned to her grandmother's lapel.

The two women fell into one another's arms and for a moment, just a moment, the two held one another in the presence of a peace beyond words; a peace which surpasses all our understanding. The peace that only love can achieve. The peace that the world is dying to experience.

As the last post was trumpeted on that cold November 11th, separated by generations, perspectives, opinions, and commitments, two women stood united in love and remembered. Together they stood hoping against hope for peace

Pastor AnnE





November 2023 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God –

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling (Ephesians 4:4).

We will gather June 6-8, 2024, at the University of Alberta – Augustana Campus in Camrose for the 19th Convention of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories under the theme: One Body, One Spirit, One Hope. This convention marks the end of my current term as Bishop.

I am writing to let you know that following nearly one and one-half years of intentional prayer and conversation with Cathy, my spiritual director, my counselor, my Mutual Ministry Team, and trusted friends and colleagues, my discernment is complete. Dear friends, I have decided to conclude my service as Synod Bishop.

I cannot express the profound gratitude I feel for the sacred honour and privilege I have had in serving as your bishop. I began at the synod office as Assistant to the Bishop in the fall of 2010 and upon Bishop Mayan's retirement was elected Bishop in October 2012 and ordained on January 26, 2013. Subsequently I was elected in 2014 and 2018 to additional terms. Upon completion of this current six-year term I will have served in the synod office for nearly fourteen years.

God is again doing a new thing in my life and in the life of our Synod.

Although I am concluding my term as Bishop, I will not be retiring. I am open to the Spirit's leading and to the Spirit's call and am looking forward to new ministry opportunities and possibilities either within Canada or globally, following our Synod Convention and a time of transition with the bishop-elect.

Over the next months leading up to and including the Synod Convention, we will again listen deeply to the Holy Spirit, to each other, and to the world around us to discern together where God is leading and calling us, including through the role of the bishop.

Transitions in leadership can be challenging; however, they also hold rich potential for unlocking and liberating new gifts, opportunities, hopes, and dreams. Over the next few months as a Synod, we will be working to discern the gifts needed in our next bishop, and I anticipate that Synod Council will be sharing a discernment process for use within congregations, councils, and specialized ministries, very soon.

We do not know the future, but we have what we need. Jesus is feeding us. The Spirit is guiding us. We have the Scriptures. We have water. We have bread and wine. We have each other. Jesus is with us.

Beloved of God, as people of faith, continue to be humble and gentle with one another. Honour each other. Make space for the lament that always accompanies change. Welcome moments of joy. Help each other to live into hope. Trust that God is with us in this time and look for the new things God is doing even now.

Thank you for continued prayers for Cathy and me, for our family, and for the synod staff and council.

By God's grace, we still have several months to walk together in this work. I look forward to journeying with you and trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead, sustain, and guide us all.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

In Christ Jesus –
Shalom,
+Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop
Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada



Worship Service Lessons for November

Sunday Nov 5 – Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday Nov 12 – Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday Nov 19 – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8, 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11;
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday Nov 26 – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23;
Matthew 25:31-46

WORSHIP INFORMATION – NOVEMBER

Nov 5th – 10am Worship Service with Communion ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Nov 12th – 10am Worship Service with Communion; Baptism of Lily Evangeline Maurer and Sophie Elizabeth Maurer

Nov 19th – 10am Service of the Word; lay led by Anne Tucker

Nov 26th – 10am Worship Service with Communion; CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

The prayer families for November are: [Bantilan](#), [Benoit & Chernesky](#)

Are You Available?

Are you available to go with Pastor AnnE to her Long-Term Care Services?? (See church monthly calendar for Service schedule). Anyone willing to help with the singing (as part of the congregation not solo), play the piano, assist members of the congregation in following the service? Please let Pastor AnnE know, any help would be greatly appreciated.



Worship Committee – WE NEED YOU

As you all know by now, Helen Flaming has stepped down as a member of the Worship committee, so we are looking for volunteers to join us. If you are interested or would like to know more about the duties of the Worship Committee, please contact Cheryl Benoit.



We are also looking for anyone who is happy to lead the singing of the Psalm during our worship services (as we used to do). If you would like to volunteer, please contact Linda Klinger, or Cheryl Benoit.

Church Safety

Now that we are finally back in our building there are a few safety instructions we all need to follow when leaving the church. If you are the last person to leave the building, please do the following:

- Check all blinds are lowered so that rooms are not visible from the outside
- Make sure all internal doors are closed
- Set the alarm using your code
- Lock the external door on leaving

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy in the office and she will be happy to run you through any of these procedures.

J.A.M – Just About Music

Let's sing together.... The next J.A.M session will be November 15, 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Hope you can join us!



A thought and invitation for support sharing together

Everyone is welcome to a time of sharing - an opportunity to talk, be together as we remember those who we love and have passed away and/or relationships broken through, our siblings, friends, spouse, or family members. This may be what you have experienced recently in loss of a relationship or loss in the far distant past. Just listening and being together may be what you desire.

Our next sessions in November are: Thursday 2nd at 2pm; Wednesday 8th at 2pm; Thursday 16th at 2pm; Wednesday 22nd at 2pm and Thursday 30th at 2pm.

Pastor AnnE

Information from our Service & Care Committee



Service and Care would like to invite you to help us Celebrate the Children after their Christmas program on December 17th. We will have our "Christmas Potluck" so bring your favourite dishes to share !!

CHECK OUT THE NOVEMBER CALENDAR FOR ALL ACTIVITIES

Are we missing anything from our newsletter? Is there something you wish to have in our newsletter on an ongoing basis?

Please make sure that any inclusions for the December/January Newsletter reach the church office by November 24th If you would like to ask Pastor to include anything in the newsletter or her Rev's Words' she will need to receive it a week before this date.

BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| JoAnn Primeau | Grey Wickstrand | Clay Shipclark |
| Marlene Walchuk | Roric Singleton | Thekla Radke |
| Chantel McMillan | Dave Unraw | Helen Flaming |



ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER



Jessica & Chris VanHappen

Make the Thursdays in Black Pledge

*I commit to Thursdays in Black. In solidarity, In protest, In mourning, For awareness and In hope
By supporting Thursdays in Black I stand:*

- *In solidarity with 1 in 3 women worldwide who face violence in their lives,*
- *In protest against systems and societies that encourage violence in any form,*
- *In mourning for men, women and children who are harmed and killed in sexual violence,*
- *For awareness and knowledge about the challenges of sexual and gender-based violence,*
- *In the hope that a different reality is possible.*

Congratulations





Gifts from the Heart is now available!



Share opportunity!

Your gift can give a family hope for tomorrow with the chance to earn an income and grow their own food!



Matched gifts

Make your gift go farther with a gift that's matched! Give more when you choose a gift that's multiplied up to 4x by our partners.

SHOP NOW

SHOP NOW

Our ***Gifts from the Heart*** catalogue is full of thoughtful and creative gifts that will make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. Bring joy to your loved ones and change the lives of people around the world this Christmas!



Give clean water

You can share the precious gift of clean water with a family, a neighbourhood, or a whole community.

SHOP NOW



New this year!

Sneak a peek at our new gift options this year, like school meals for students in Nicaragua!

SHOP NOW

Thank you for your dedication to creating a world where people live in peace, justice and dignity. We are grateful that so many of you choose to make **Gifts from the Heart** part of your Christmas each year.

With blessings from all of us at CLWR!

