St. Ansgar Lutheran Church

The Rev. Brian Wilker-Frey 1498 Avenue Road, Toronto M5N 2J1 pastor@stansgar.ca Phone: 416-783-3570

Reformation and the Holocaust

"Reformation," like the two poles of a magnet, contains two ideas in a kind of tension: something has gone wrong, and something has to change to make it right again. By the 16th century, the Christian Church had become encrusted with practices that obscured the Gospel, and Martin Luther and other reformers risked danger and dedicated their lives in an effort to make it right again. We call that The Reformation.

Just as magnetism is not a single event, but a process that never ends, so reformation is ongoing. A saying, revived in recent years, is traced back to St Augustine in the 5th century: "ekklesia semper reformanda est" ("the church is always reforming"). This, I suppose, is a bit like saying human individuals are always in need of forgiveness.

Holocaust Education Week here in Toronto is approaching, and St. Ansgar will participate this year, hosting a choral concert by March of the Living Children's Choir on Saturday, November 5. On the previous Sunday, Reformation Sunday, we will try to connect our history as a reforming church to the Holocaust with a very different worship experience - a kind of meditation on "something gone wrong" in the church in its relationship to Jews and the ongoing effort to keep making it right.

Glen Nelson



Next Council Meeting will be October?? 2016 6:30 p.m.

The next issue of Family Doings will be the November issue. Deadline October ??, 5:00 p.m.

Church Council

The last Church Council meeting was on Thursday, September 22.

In October our busy fall and winter schedule continues.

The Rota Schedule continues to be a challenge. I have decided to plan ahead in smaller time frames as there are so many changes made to the each schedule. A blank Rota Schedule for October and November is in the narthex. Just fill in as you know your availability. If you have not participated in a worship role and would like to try one. Go ahead and fill your name in whenever you want. Call the office to arrange for job description to be emailed to you or to book a training class. I would appreciate any other suggestions you may have to smooth out the Rota Schedule. Time and Talent forms will soon be available for Stewardship month.

If you enjoy the friendly community time of Coffee House, please consider helping out on occasion. We are always happy to add volunteers to the list. We do keep a supply of cookies in the pantry. Sometimes we just need someone to put on a pot /urn of Coffee. The job description will be hanging inside the cupboard nearest to the pantry. It is not necessary to follow the instructions exactly as printed—IMPROVISE!

If you note that the position of Coffee House Host is empty in the bulletin check if there is a pot of coffee on and if not go ahead and put it on. There are paper and Styrofoam cups for coffee. If there are just cookies, try napkins instead of plates.

Anna McRae Church Administrator admin@stansgar.ca

Our Church

Worship: Every Sunday, 10:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. followed by coffee and refreshments. We have a wheelchair accessible building.

Baptism & Marriage: Pastor Brian will be happy to meet with you to discuss weddings and baptism (for yourself or your child). To make an appointment, speak with Pastor Brian after service, or call the Church Office 416-783-3570.

Hospital Visitation: If you or a family member end up in the hospital, <u>please</u> take a moment to inform the church office. We will be pleased to provide pastoral visitation/prayer support for you.

Funeral Planning: We grieve the loss of your loved one with you. Please contact the Pastor at your earliest convenience for pastoral support and preparation of arrangements.

Camp Edgewood Workday & Weekend

October 23: Worship & Sharing Conversation

At St. Ansgar we have been trying different styles of worship and emphasizing varied liturgical practices since February this year. Now that we are eight months into this experiment and with an exciting year coming up the worship committee wants to get feedback from the congregation and share some of our plans for the future.

On October 23, which for the past eight months has been our education focused Sunday, we are going to combine our worship service with a sharing conversation time. We will be seeking out feedback on what have been your favourite worship experiences since February and also what new forms of the church service people aren't quite comfortable with yet. During the service on the 23rd there will also be information shared about how we as a congregation are going to me marking and commemorating the 500th anniversary of the reformation. For the next year there are going to be multiple church, synod, and national events marking this anniversary along with fundraising for and education about the ELCIC's Reformation Challenge.

Look for an email to go out in early October with a survey that will help you think about our worship practices before we gather later in the month. There will also be paper copies available in the narthex. The worship committee hopes to get as many responses as possible. There is a lot to share this October, we hope you can join us on October 23rd on Sunday morning to be part of the conversation.

Multifaith Action Against Poverty

Monday, October 17, 7 pm, at Noor Cultural Centre

A <u>Multifaith Action Against Poverty</u> event is being planned for the evening of <u>Monday</u>, <u>October 17</u> (the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty).

The event will be hosted at the Noor Cultural Centre, 123 Wynford Drive, Don Mills. The program time is 7-9 p.m.

The event will include a vegetarian dinner, followed by a panel discussion featuring economic/policy, legal, and service provision and user perspectives - to provide a holistic view of the conditions of poverty in our society, and the feasible remedies. The goal is to provide us with good knowledge for optimising our advocacy efforts. *Panelists' names will be shared shortly.*

Tickets will be \$15 (to cover the cost of the food). Registration is through eventbrite at https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/multifaith-action-against-poverty-tickets-27666477178

There are options for free tickets for the unwaged, and for donations to cover such tickets.

Please note: The ticket purchase deadline is Friday October 14.

Thoughts on Young at Heart

The Young at Heart session for September 2016 had the smallest attendance ever, only one member was seen to arrive. A greater effort is needed if this club is to survive.

It couldn't be called a meeting, more like a solitude.

There were some thoughts keeping minutes but it was hard to get in the mood. Will our friendship club go by way of the dodo, or rise like a Phoenix and flourish, only time will tell. But brooding there in the stillness, there was a keen sense of ominous unheard knell.

Which of the metaphors will prevail, the outcome is ours to choose?

With some work and planning it can be the Phoenix; Young at Heart is too special to lose.

Hopefully October will rekindle the spirit of those friendship hours shared. Just a wee bit of effort by one and all will ensure Young at Heart won't end up "clubless", and show we all really care.

by Old Eric

Chronicles of Promise

Lord Jesus listen to our groanings

O Lord Jesus, I feel a great desire to please you.

To make rough places smooth

But at the same time you have set your thrown in heaven

Where great things do happen

Things that we cannot reach

Without a new life, please call us to a higher level

Help to lift us to higher grounds

To explore new worlds and new ideas

Where the sunshine is coming through every cloud

It is in our stillness that we save and transform the world...

And yet through it all we shall sour high-

If you O Lord Jesus only listen to our groanings.

by Barbel Hauer

About Reconciliation ...

In the September newsletter I posted a summary of a recognition by the Central Ontario Ministry region of the treaties that involved the Indigenous People and the settlers of Southern Ontario. There was an important reference to something called "The Dish With one Spoon". Here is a further explanation of this concept taken from the Ryerson University website.

"Toronto is in the Dish With One Spoon Territory. The "Dish" is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect."

"To hereby be the "Dish" or sometimes it is called the "Bowl" represents what is now Southern Ontario (from the Great Lake to Quebec and Lake Simcoe to the U.S. border). We all eat out of the "Dish"- all of us unique people- but there is only one spoon. That means we have to share and that we have a responsibility to make sure the "Dish" is never empty. Importantly there are no knives at the table. We must keep the peace."

I hope this beautiful, idealistic concept explained might help focus thoughts of how to approach the task of finding ways to be a part of the reconciliation process in either large or small ways. I will continue to place articles under this heading each month in the newsletter.

Sandra Kaufman

Halloween Themed Friday Event

Friday, October 28, 2016



On the last Friday of October, we will be holding a Halloween themed evening. On this night, dress up in your Halloween costume and come on out for an evening of fun. Food will be provided along with fun and games. Kids are definitely welcomed to come out in costume, but so is everyone else. The fun starts at 7pm at the fellowship hall of the church. See you all there.

The Reformation Challenge

- Sponsor 500 refugees to Canada
- Provide 500 scholarships for ELCIC schools
- Give \$500,000 to the Lutheran World Federation
 - Endowment Fund
 - Plant 500,000 trees

The recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 will ask for all of the above from Lutheran churches all over the world. It is an anniversary that will be acknowledged by all of the mainstream churches. St. Ansgar will participate in this commemoration and hopes for everyone to join in the fun.

The trees in the narthex and the sanctuary are to help begin thinking about the year ahead and to inspire thoughts about how to meet the tree planting goal. All ideas are welcome!

The Commemoration Committee

Seniors Exercise Class at St. Ansgar

The day and time of the exercise classes at St. Ansgar have changed to Monday at 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the narthex.

The Monday class will focus on cardio, strength and endurance. The Wednesday class will focus on yoga which includes flexibility, balance and relaxation.

All are welcome!

Both members and friends of St. Ansgar are invited but also members of the neighbouring community. If you know anyone that could benefit from these classes please tell them about it. The classes are provided by Baycrest Health Sciences at no cost to attendees.

Mark your calendars —Special events

Our own Anthony D'Amore has the title role in Curtain Call Players' musical production of Oliver!

Here are the details:

Curtain Call Players presents

Oliver!

November 4-6 November 10-12 (evening & matinee performances available)

Fairview Library Theatre
Tickets \$28; Groups of 10+ \$24 each



Box office 416-703-6181 or online: www.curtaincalltoronto.com

Stewardship Dinner—November 25th

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP DINNER FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2016
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Join us for good fun, fellowship and food.

Call Elizabeth Nairain 416-286-7318 or Anna McRae

416-783-3570 to be on the planning committee.

HELP is always needed!

Outreach & Evangelism

Lost and found

In September, I went on my bike ride for MS. I'll just say thank you once more for all the support that I received for the ride, and I really hope that one day a cure will be found for this disease. But something happened after my ride, where I was resting and having lunch at the finish line. When I decided to leave, I noticed that I no longer had my keys. These are the keys to my car, house and a bunch of other miscellaneous locks that I have access to.

In retracing my steps, I realized that I had only lost my keys within the last 15 minutes, as I could recall exactly when and where I know for certain I had them last. It is quite ironic that just the week before, the gospel passage was about the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin, and here I am LIVING the parable of the lost keys.

In the following hour before Elsie would get to the park to give me the second set of car keys, I was walking around furiously looking for the lost set of keys. They are not small, my key chain is significant in size, yet they seemingly disappeared. I retraced my steps over and over again. I asked the people around the tables that I had stopped by to see if they saw a set of keys. I even went through the garbage bin overflowing with half eaten hot dogs, pizza crusts, pop, Gatorade, coffee and whatever food people did not want to finish. I was disappointed with the results, especially after my dumpster dive.

I was obviously looking to get to the good place that I was at before...a feeling that everything is OK and that I could just get into my car and drive home. I kept looking and looking on my own. Finally, one person seeing me for the Nth time said, "Why don't you ask the DJ booth to announce it?" It never occurred to me that there was anyone else willing to help me, but I took that person's advice and went to the DJ booth to ask them if they could make an announcement for me and hope that someone will bring the keys to the booth.

Up until that point, it was just me...beating myself up for being so foolish. It was just me in my own world thinking about all the bad things that can happen, now that someone has my keys. I kept looking over at my car to see if it was still there, or if someone is opening its doors at that moment. I thought about locks that I would have to change for my front door and even my mailbox. I thought about having to buy another key from the car dealership to replace the two car keys I had lost. Once I told the DJ booth what had happened to me, they were all concerned about this as well. In fact, other than the DJ who had to keep the musing going, the others walked the grounds for me to see if they can lend another set of eyes. They said reassuring things to me and were very supportive.

Eventually, Elsie arrived at the park, and I had resolved that the keys were lost and that I would have to start the process of handling all the bad things that I had thought about. As I started to load my bike into my car, the DJ called out over the speakers to announce to the world "What was once lost is now found". My precious keys have been found!

In that moment, the joy of finding my keys was very overwhelming. I mean that, it is not an exaggeration just for this article. I was so happy! As I went over to pick up my keys from the DJ, I could see that everyone there was also happy for me and sharing in my joy of recovering what I had lost.

It is one thing to hear the gospel on Sunday, but it is an entirely different thing to live it. In this

case, it was a literal living through the parable of the lost "keys". When I look back during the whole time, I realize that I was dwelling a lot on the negative aspects. I had a lot of worries about the bad things that "could" happen. I was going through all of this by myself at the beginning. I was beating myself up for being so clumsy. At no point did I try to see any chance for healing in the midst of all of this.

That is the part of the gospel lesson that I obviously did not listen to...and that is the part that is probably the hardest part to actually do well. Next time I will try and remember to seek the good and the healing.



Alexander Mak

Holocaust Education Week

November 2 – 9, 2016

Seventy years after liberation, Holocaust memorialization and education enters a new era. Over the course of three generations, a massive field of testimony, documentation and interpretation has grown around the Shoah, and the question is now being asked, "How will it be remembered in the future?" Holocaust Education Week 2016 addresses this challenge with the theme: the Future of Memory.

Neuberger HEW 2016 will feature testimony, academic and cultural programs that explore the future of Holocaust memory. Whether through dialogue, film, literature, art or new historical and contextual analysis, understanding how the Holocaust is remembered in popular culture, artistic practice and the academic sphere will be of increasing relevance to the future of Holocaust studies and remembrance. http://holocaustcentre.com/HEW/The-Future-of-Memory

It is with great pride that St. Ansgar Lutheran Church will be hosting one of the HEW 2016 events. On November 5th at 7:30pm, the March of the Living choir will be performing at our church. They are a choir of Jewish youth who have undergone a physically and emotionally intense experience about the Jewish community that once flourished in Europe, the tragedy of the Holocaust and the establishment and survival of the State of Israel. On this evening, they will present songs and share their stories about all that they have learned and experienced. Please find time to come out on this evening to be a part of this HEW event. Programs for the week are in the narthex.



Grief Support Group

Description

This education and support group is designed for those who are dealing with the death of a loved one. Taking a faith-based perspective, we will explore various aspects of grief, how grief affects one's emotions, behaviours, body, mind and spirit. We will look at tasks one can do and adjustments one can make to move through grief, and help find ways to reinvest in one's life in meaningful ways.

The content of the course will be based on the materials of Dr. Bill Webster, Centre for the Grief Journey.

North Toronto Sponsoring Churches

Blythwood Rd. Baptist
Eglinton St. George's United
Fairlawn United Church
Glenview Presbyterian
St. Ansgar Lutheran

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Hart Minister of Deer Park United Church, who has been facilitating grief support groups for 25 years.

Leadership

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Location: Glenview Presbyterian Church,

1 Glenview Ave. Toronto, M4R 1P5

Dates: 5 Mondays, Nov. 7- Dec. 5, 2016

and 1 month follow-up Jan. 9, 2017

Time: 7:00 - 8:45 p.m.

Cost: \$20 per participant for the course

materials

Contact: Penny Wilkins

416 482-9389

penny.wilkins@rogers.com

Voluntees Corner

Volunteer's Corner is new regular feature of Family Doings. We will list items here showing small jobs that can be done to help others in our congregation. The name may change as it evolves but it's chief purpose is to let you know where needs exist.

Ernie Nielsen is now living in a group homes where his needs are being well met. He misses coming to church on Sunday. We are in the process of investigating Wheel Trans and other transportation providers to find a ride for him to and from church on Sundays. This ride could be temporary just until one of the service providers come through. If you are interested please call Anna in the office.

October & November Rota Schedule

	Greeter	Worship Assistant	Reader	Commun- ion Assistant	Ushers	Altar Guild	Coffee House	Counters
Oct 2 Traditional Eucharest		Alexander Mak	David Veights	Elsie Ma	Barbara Johnson	Connie Weldon		Phyllis Epp & Jan Woelfle
Oct 9 Traditional Eucharest								
Oct 16 Creative Eucharest					Barbara Johnson			
Oct 23 Education & Eucharest						Barbara Johnson		
Oct 30 Worship Lab							Elisabeth Lunder & Sandra Kaufman	
Nov 6 Traditional Eucharest				Elsie Ma			Diann Carpenter	
Nov 13 Morning Prayer				N/A		N/A		
Nov 20 Creative Eucharest						Barbara Johnson		
Nov 27 Education & Eucharest							Barbara Johnson	

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please trade with another person on the list and inform the office so that the correct person is listed in the bulletin.

Thanks for your help!

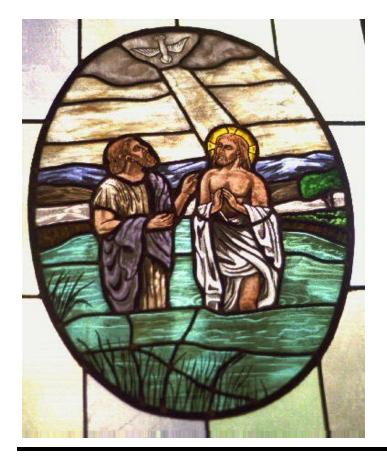
If you would like to participate in any worship roles in October and November, please fill in the Narthex Rota Schedule. If you have never participated in a worship role, training is available. Please call Anna in the office to book your training or for a job description.

Thanks for your help in filling in the Rota Schedule!

October Birthdates

October 1 Angela McDonald Louise Hiltunen October 2 Karen Horber-Morton October 2 Patricia Matemba October 2 Keira Weldon October 4 Keegan Lutek October 7 Mary Lutek October 8 Shelly Lowe October 12 Neil Clunas October 13 Benjamin Bestvater October 14 Elizabeth Narain October 14 Elisabeth Lunder October 15 Tamara-Louise Fuerst October 17 October 17 Jayne Wagner Leif Vaage October 23 Marquerite Bunbury October 30 Sandra Kaufman October 30





Baptismal Anniversaries

Patricia Matemba	October 2		
Andrew Lowe	October 5		
June Weind	October 6		
Sabine Friedrich	October 9		
Nicholas Lowe	October 9		
Heather Turner	October 9		
Andrew Fuerst	October 10		
Kristen Weind Matthews	October 12		
Helmut Fuerst	October 13		
Verne Edquist	October 18		
Vanessa Lau	October 24		
Stella Propp	October 26		
Neil Ferguson	October 27		
David Weind	October 27		
David Veights	October 28		
Mark Weind	October 31		