

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Messiah Lutheran Church
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<https://www.facebook.com/MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert>

Monday – Office Closed
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Íris Kristjansdóttir

Iriskrist71@gmail.com Cell #306-980-9598

Donna Deobald

Administrative Assistant

Office #: 306-763-7374 Fax#306-763-6284

2018 Council

EXECUTIVE

Chairperson: Cheryl Bauer Hyde

Vice Chairperson: Merv Bender

Secretary: Jean Meyers

MESSIAH MINISTRY TEAM:

Caring Ministry & Community Services:

Lois Manchur

Jean Meyers

Education Ministry:

Merv Bender

Jean Meyers

Worship Ministry

Colleen Bowen

Donna Silver

Property Management Ministry

Dick Honch

Darren Sundbo



A Father's Day Prayer

Let us pray for those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. Let us pray for those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.

Let us pray for those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support. Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.

Let us pray for those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives. Let us pray for those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.

Let us pray for those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step children's love and respect. Let us pray for those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.

Let us pray for those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

Let us pray for those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

Let us pray for those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And let us pray for those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.

Adapted from Kirk Loadm

Father's Day – June 17th - 11:00 a.m.

No service at Messiah.

We worship at Kinasao.



WORSHIP SERVICE @ CAMP KINASAO

Lunch following Worship.

Service. BBQ Hamburger, Hot Dog can be purchased.

Need a ride? Call the church to arrange it

Home

by Íris Kristjánsdóttir

On May 28, 2018, I became a Permanent Resident in Canada. Since I moved to Canada in 2012, I have been a visitor in this country, with a Temporary Residence permit, and I've had to renew it two times. I've been in the application process of becoming a Permanent resident for about 4 years now. Long time. Long wait. It's very difficult for me to describe the feeling of finally receiving the long awaited stamp of approval on my residency documents. It brought me a sense of relief, calm and joy. A sense of belonging. A sense of home.



What gives you a sense of home? Thoughts of the past, your childhood, or thoughts of your current situation? Home is where the heart is, they say. There's no place like home, they say. But what is a home? What does it mean for you to have a home? What makes a home for you? To many, it means shelter, comfort, privacy, the building. And all this is important. But then there are so many more elements that make a home a home. Home maybe could be best summarized as the place we feel we belong, the place we are embraced by others, the place we are accepted, the place we feel safe, like in a mighty fortress.

We often talk about having a church home. As church, as the body of Christ, as followers of God, we not only find a home in a community of Christ, it is also our task to create and build a home for others. A place where people feel they belong. A place where people of all backgrounds and walks of life feel they belong – because God doesn't make distinctions between us but invites and embraces all.

The beginning of the 14th chapter of John is about home. Jesus speaks words of grace and comfort to the disciples into the midst of their confusion and grief. As the disciples fear the loss of Jesus, the breaking apart of their faith family, of their home, Jesus promises that they will never be without a family, and homeless. God will provide a house, a family. Jesus says, *"In my Father's household, there are many different dwelling places."* To me, this speaks of a variety of gifts, and diversity. There is room for all. *"Our hearts need not be troubled,"* because we are beloved children of God, part of God's household and family, and Jesus will lead all of us home, to our loving parent in heaven.

Now of course we often think of entering our Father's house as something that will be happening in the future. Something we have to wait for. It isn't. Unlike me, who waited for years for a paper to verify my status in Canada, we don't have to wait for Jesus' promise to be validated. God's household is right here and now. Jesus doesn't just promise his disciples a home in heaven after they die, but also reminds them that he has prepared a family for them here on earth by calling people into the fellowship of God.

I feel blessed to have found a home in Canada. It doesn't mean that I don't consider Iceland to be my home anymore. Not at all. I find pleasure in recognizing many places as home. Most of all I'm grateful for the opportunity to sense the welcoming spirit in various places on my journey through life. I'm grateful that there has been room for one more in these places.

In God's household there is room for all. God has provided a vast house, a huge household, with a multitude of dwelling places. God has prepared a home for all. A home that will shelter us, like a fortress, when we feel threatened or lost. A home that provides a sense of belonging and security. A home that requires no waiting period. A welcoming home in God's household.

Messiah Council May Meeting update and looking forward:

Donna Silver was welcomed to Council. We give thanks for Donna's willingness to serve. She has joined Colleen Bowen on the Worship Ministry Team.

Our organ, which was not serviced for many years, had a few problems recently. A very competent repair person fixed the problem and provided other necessary services so it's back in fine playing order

Lois Manchur and Jean Meyers are going to work on an action plan for Caring Ministry and Community Service Ministry Team. Sunday School and Youth activities have concluded for the Summer. However, several youth and team leaders will be travelling to Thunder Bay for the CLAY gathering in August.

A walking tour of the outside grounds was led by Dick Honch and Darren Sundbo. A recent undertaking was the removal of many of the spruce trees. This increases visibility throughout the property and clears up much of the underbrush and garbage that has accumulated along the Rotary Trail.

Thanks to Jerry Jarvis for two photo sessions for people who want to have their photos included or updated in the member directory in **the hallway. We'll set up additional sessions in September and update the directory frames at that time.**

Upcoming events include

- SK Synod Convention in Regina on June 8/9. Wayne Hyde and Pastor Iris will attend as Messiah's delegates. Others attending from Messiah may include ordained members; Pastor Dennis, Assistant to the Bishop; and Synod Council members Merv Bender and myself.
- Kinasao Sunday on June 17 @ 11am, Christopher Lake – no service at Messiah that Sunday (contact the Office if you need a ride).
- CLAY (Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth) gathering in Thunder Bay from August 15 – 19.

Of course, the big news is that Pastor Iris achieved her Canadian permanent residency status, after a trip to the Regway Customs Station (south of Regina on the US border). Not really what she had planned for a day off, but the opportunity to finalize the process was worth the trip. This is wonderful news after a long, long journey which involved many prayers and much paper work. God is good.

Whether you travel during the next few months or stay home this summer, may the Living Lord go with you; behind you, to encourage you, beside you, to befriend you, above you, to watch over you, beneath you, to lift you from your sorrows, within you, to give you the gifts of faith, hope, and love, and always before you, to show you the way.

**On behalf of Council,
Cheryl Bauer Hyde**

“This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

FAITH STATEMENTS FROM THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018



Karissa-Lyn Elizabeth Alford

Throughout the past three years of confirmation I have learned many unforgettable lessons. I have learned that there are many people supporting you at all times. The group of people that attend these gatherings have formed a tight community. The people that have been confirmed in the past years had done a great job at welcoming the young ones to the class. This year it was our job to welcome others. While being a part of confirmation I have gotten to go to different places and retreats.

One of the most exciting part of this year will be going to Thunder Bay, Ontario for the CLAY event. CLAY is a gathering of youth from all across Canada. In the future I am looking to continue my relationship with God by teaching others and helping them on their faith journey. I am also looking forward to go to different events with the youth group.

My faith gives me a place to escape to, if I need some time alone I have God to turn to. When times are busy God gives me peace. My faith in God has given me trust to have a friend when I feel lonely. Jesus is a great role model. He has many different qualities that are spread around to all different people. Each person has certain qualities from him and they are there for a reason.

Ever since I was little I have been brought up in a faith filled house. When I was 4 my family moved up to Camp Kinasao. Living there has provided me with an influencing environment to learn in. Every summer I spend numerous weeks at camp whether it be as a camper or volunteer or just to hang out.

Joshua 1:9: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” One of the biggest pieces of advice I have for anyone who is new or looking to strengthen their relationship with God would be to stay with it. God will always be there for you. It may seem that God isn't listening but he is. God always has time for you.

God, please give your guidance to those who are seeking help, please help all of the past, present and future confirmands to continue their faith journey. I ask that all of your work through me is good.

Chelsea Sarah Bellerose

What have I learned in my 3 years of confirmation? I have learnt that God is real and that if you are in need, you can pray to him and he will guide you through your hard times. Jesus is my Savior and I am confident that he will continue to help in the future. God helped me through one of the toughest times in my life which was when my Grandpa had open heart surgery. I prayed with everything I had and he answered my prayers. He let me keep the most important man in my life and I will forever be grateful.

My favorite verse is: “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but have eternal life.”

Leah Mary Bratvold

In my confirmation classes we packed as much learning we possibly could in three years. Whether it be learning about the Bible, about Jesus's journey or how to win at zombie tag, we learned a lot!

We learned lots about faith and what it means to have faith. But when I think about it all, I think of a phrase that has stuck with me since the first time I heard Pastor Iris say it. "Prayer is the breath of faith." At first I didn't exactly understand it, it just seemed like an interesting quote. But for some reason I thought about it a lot and what the phrase meant. It makes sense, breathing is necessary to life just like praying is essential to faith.

For a struggling teenager to hear this, it helped me a bunch. It has taught me when I am feeling distant from God, lonely, anxious, sad, or even happy to think of the quote and pray. Thank him, question him, confess to him or just talk to him and it will help. For those who seek to be closer to God I suggest you do the same and remember: "Prayer is the breath of faith."

Courtney Grace Hansen

Over the three years that I have been in confirmation, studying God's word has helped me gain a better understanding of my faith. I believe that Jesus is my protector, he has a plan for me and loves me just as I am. With Jesus there is hope, love, joy, patience, kindness, and self-control. I believe we are to love as he loved us and forgive as he forgave us. I believe that Jesus is always with me, especially today as I take the next step of faith as a young Christian. When I was baptized, my mom and dad made a promise to fulfill all things needed to grow in Christian faith. Today I am choosing to re-affirm that baptism and make my own promise to be responsible for my own faith. The verse from Proverbs 3:5-6 says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." I am excited to see what Jesus has planned for me and as I continue to grow so will my faith. I know there will be rough spots along the path but having trust in Jesus I will get through them. Thank you to Pastor Iris and Deanna for teaching me so much these past three years in confirmation and thank you to my parents for providing me with what I needed to become a person of faith and thank you to all of you for welcoming me into the church community.

Kade Delmar Lorne Hufnagel

My faith encourages me to practice patience in all aspects of my life. It strengthens my relationship with both my family and friends.

I see Jesus as a role model for how I should love, interact and trust in others. I trust in Jesus to guide me with the vow I have taken today and in my future.

In the future, I hope to grow in my faith and continue to love Jesus, [and I hope that I will] grow into a strong member of my faith community.

My favorite verse from the bible is Hebrews 12:14: *"Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy, without holiness no one will see the Lord."*

My faith and trust in God has helped me in many ways, including interactions with my friends and family. It has helped me to see the positive in all situations that I have encountered.

For others who are seeking God in their life, my advice to them would be to seek out knowledgeable advisors and trust that the Lord is with you.

Nathan Quinn Delaney Remus

In the past three years at this youth group [in confirmation], everyone here would say I have changed. I went from being a kid in the corner hardly talking to anyone to a friendly guy. My faith is the reason that I have learned to connect to others well. Since I had been rather lonesome before, and slightly after joining, I see Jesus in the relationships and friendships I make.

In my life, my connection with God, or a person that doesn't judge, has helped because I used to have anxiety about how others thought of my actions and disposition. Now, I don't have those fears, all because I can talk with a non-judgmental person in God. All that I can really hope for in the future is that my faith will stay strong as it is today.

For those on the fence on seeking God, take that first step. If it can work miracles enough to change me from a shy little kid to who I am today, then you can see where it leads you.

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!



HONORING OUR GRADS - 2018

(If we missed someone that you would like on the list, please email or call the office. They will be included in the next newsletter (September). Thank you to those who emailed the office.

- **Lochlan Kenneth Amoytte** will be graduating from St. Mary's on June 27th. He has been accepted to the U of S into engineering.
Proud parents are Greg & Lori Amyotte and grandparents Corrine & Conrad Amyotte.
- **Dylan MacKenize Remus** will be graduating from St. Mary's High School. He has been granted direct entry into Computer Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan in the fall.
Proud parents are Janet Remus & Glenn Finch.
- **Cameron Alwin Frederick Schmid** will be graduating on **June 15 from Wakaw High School. Future plans are to attend U of R.**
Proud parents are Devin (Cynthia) Schmid and Annette Oleksyn-Wylie and grandparents Nobert & Darlene Schmid.
- **Nolan Haugen** graduated from LCBI on May 13, 2018.
Proud parents are Tim & Patti Haugen and grandparents are Pastor Dan and Bev Haugen.

Messiah Lutheran Women

May 5th, forty-eight ladies (aging from 2 years to 95 years) attended our Annual Mother/Daughter/Sister/Friend Banquet. Thank you to the singers: Susan Slind, Sarah Strautman, Jeannette Tomtene and Lois Tomtene. Thank you to Pastor Iris for leading the hymn sing and the most popular song contest. Fun time had by all!

Naomi and Faith Circles will have their wind-up gatherings in June (check the June calendar) and resume meeting in September.

September will bring our next MLW event in the form of a noon luncheon on Saturday, September 15th. More information to follow in September.

Have a great summer everyone!
Corrine Amyotte
MLW President

Men's Breakfast Group

The Men's Breakfast Group will be taking a break over the summer.



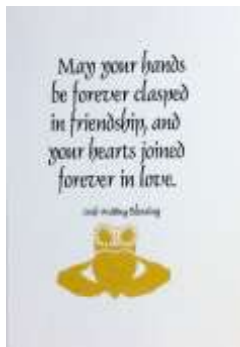
Men, pencil in your calendar for August 30th at 8am at the Travelodge. Contact Merv Bender @ 306-960-8346 or email merv.bender@sasktel.net if you would like further information.

Congregational News:

- **Congratulations to Donna Silver** on the arrival of her first grandson! **Ashton Ben Knecht** was born on **May 2, 2018** weighing **7lbs 3 oz.** Little brother to proud Harper and her parents Nicole & Aaron Knecht.



- **Congratulations to Brendan & Lindsay Tash** on the arrival of **Miss Lacey Leigh Tash** born **May 12** and weighed **7lb 8 oz!** Proud grandparents are Wayne & Marlene Tash.



Congratulations!

Matthew Neudorf & Leah Daum

Who were married on Saturday, May 26, 2018 @ Kinsaso Lutheran Bible Camp.

Matthew is the son to Gisele & Dennis Neudorf and grandson to Maude Neudorf.

- **Congratulations to Justin Bender & Sherri Braun** on their marriage May 19th in Regina, SK. Justin is the son of Merv & Vickie Bender.



- **From Kristi Stolee:** The Tour-de-Kinasao is coming up this Saturday, June 2! This annual walk-run-bike a thon is Kinasao's largest annual fundraiser, and the Stolee family will be participating again this year! Adalynn is ready to see how far she can get on her tricycle before joining Joel in the stroller! We would greatly appreciate your support through financial sponsorship of the event. Donations can be made by visiting <https://tourdekinasao.myevent.com/participant/814225>, or by sending an e-transfer to kristi@kinasao.ca. Thank you for your support!



- **Thank you to the Prince Albert Coop for the donation of fertilizer!**



Open House weekend is your chance to see what LCBI has to offer!



TO REGISTER

On June 8-9, we will be opening our doors to all students interested in checking out LCBI.

Open House is for prospective students and parents to come out to our campus and have a tour of the school. It's a great opportunity to see our sporting facilities, classrooms and dorms, as well as meet with faculty and current students.

The event starts with Spend-A-Day on Friday which is open to students currently in grades 8-11. The day starts at 8:30 am and runs all day. Overnight stay, boys will be paired up and staying in the boys dorm and the girls will be paired up and staying in the girls dorm. Students from out-of-town are welcome to come to the campus on Thursday, June 7 and spend an extra day in the dorm.

Saturday activities start at 10 am and run until approximately 3 pm.

Students in grade 7 can join us Friday afternoon and Saturday for activities.

Space is limited so register early!

LCBI HIGH SCHOOL

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Central Lutheran Church

For those who are unable to be in church for worship on Sundays, there is Central Lutheran Church in Moose Jaw that has a radio broadcast that you can listen to. Check it out.

Radio Service Broadcast

For over 50 years, Central Lutheran Church congregation has broadcasted 15 minute worship services on Sunday mornings at 7:45am on CHAB 800 AM. The serving Pastor does these services in order to reach out to those who cannot attend a worship service on Sundays. These broadcasts are sponsored by local members and from our large listening audience over southwestern Manitoba, Saskatchewan and parts of Alberta. You can also listen to the broadcast on their website [www.htt://centrallutheranmj.com/welcome/](http://centrallutheranmj.com/welcome/)

There is also a radio station in Swift Current that you can tune in to on Sunday mornings. **CKSW 570 Radio**

