



# The Echoes



## Be Born In Us Today

**“O Holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today.”**

We are told in Luke 1:26, that God sent the angel Gabriel “to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David.”

Her name was Mary. That’s all we know about her. God’s messenger came to one who was in herself insignificant and unremarkable. He announced His gracious purpose to her.

“You have found favor with God,” he said, “The Messiah will be born through you. He will occupy the throne of David forever. You are to give Him the name Jesus.”

Her response was one of honest puzzlement. “How can this be? There must be some mistake! You see, I don’t even have a husband. There is no way I can conceive a child.”

The angel answered, “That’s right, Mary. There is no way you can conceive this new life. BUT – the Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High God will overshadow you. The Holy One to be born in you will be called the Son of God.”

God comes to us, who are in ourselves insignificant and unremarkable. Through His Word, He announces His gracious purpose to us.

As redeemed children of God by faith, we are to carry the good news of the saving life of Christ into a dark world.

Often our response is the same as Mary. “How can this be, Lord? I don’t have the strength and resources to live the life of fullness and fruitfulness. I’ve tried, but I have failed.”

He replies, “Of course you have. I never intended for you to live the Christian life in your own strength. BUT – the Holy Spirit has come upon you, the power of the Most High God has overshadowed you. The life that is in you is that of the Son of God.”

Just as Christ came clothed in human form, conceived by the Holy Spirit, He is supernaturally born in us by the same Spirit. As Paul says in Colossians; Christ in us in all His divine nature is our only hope of glory.

Are you facing impossible situations?

- Family crises or broken relationships?
- Difficult circumstances or devastating loss?
- Disappointments, failure or fear of the future?

As the angel said to Mary, “Nothing is impossible with God.”

How much can Jesus do through you and through me? He is limited only by our availability to Him. Ours is simply the response of faith that says with Mary, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be done to me according to Your Word.”

I ask You, Lord Jesus Christ, to live Your life of righteousness and grace through me.

Speak through my lips.  
Work with my hands.  
Be for me what I am not.  
Do through me what I cannot.  
Your will be done.

**“O Holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today.”**

Pastor Larry Olson

**Bethel - Elbow**

**“I rest on a threefold pillow, namely, God's boundless love, His wisdom, and His power” - Pearson.**

God is too loving to be unkind, too wise to be mistaken, too powerful to be rendered helpless. Praise the Lord! Let's never forget that, regardless of our situation, God loves us and He is wisely in control.

October: On the 5<sup>th</sup> there was a potluck dinner at noon in honor of Don & Bonnie Joel who have recently moved to Saskatoon. They used to farm east of Elbow, raised four daughters here and have been active at Bethel and the Bible Camp over the years. They will be missed!

Carla (Akre) Roy spoke to the Sunday school the morning of Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> and also gave an evening presentation on her trip to Nicaragua with Operation Christmas Child.

Choir practice was called on the 29<sup>th</sup> to work on a special number for Bethel's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary service on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The song “We Have Come This Far by Faith” was also performed by the choir at the Dedication Service following the move into our new church building in 1997 and again at Bethel's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so it has become a bit of a tradition.



November: “Glory Bound”, a musical group from Swift Current, helped kick off our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> with an evening concert. The felowship hall was decorated with memorabilia, Norwegian knick-

knacks and “Did You Know?” posters; while a classroom was filled with pictures that took everyone down memory lane. A huge thank you to the Anniversary committee (Marcel Savidan, Marie Wankel, Joan Soggie, Jill Norrish and Ron Hundebly) for all their work and planning to make this such a memorable weekend.

A wonderful time of music and the Word was enjoyed by a full church during our regular Sunday worship time on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. How fun to see so many “sons and daughters” of the congregation return to give thanks to God for the rich heritage we've been blessed with at Bethel. There was a special presentaion to Ellen Joel from the WMF (Women's Missionary Federation) for her many years of active service in the congregation. Ellen will be moving to Saskatoon for the winter and will be greatly missed! A bountiful potluck dinner and social time followed the service. Thanks to all who joined us to gratefully remember the past, look into the future and partake in the festivities with us.

On Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> the men's fellowship breakfast resumed following the summer iatus and will continue every other Saturday throughout the winter months.

Several from the congregation motered to Neepawa, MB for the wedding of Jason Martens and Jennifer Baskerville. We pray God's blessings on this young couple and welcome Jennifer to Elbow and to Bethel!

**“Know that the Lord is God! It is He that made us, and we are His... His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness continues to all generations” Psalm 100:3,5**

*Donna Hundebly*



**Bethlehem, Outlook**

**“By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God” - Ephesians 2:8**

Fall has seen activities up in full swing. We have adult Bible study at the same time as Sunday School. A group meets regularly on Monday evenings and another group meets Friday afternoons. It is good to gather together and study God's word.

Caroline Haug celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, by having coffee and cake for all, following morning the services on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. God bless you.

Our church took part in delivering meals-on-wheels on Sept. 29 and Oct. 1, 3, 6, 8 and 10<sup>th</sup>. Many volunteered to support this very worthwhile project. Thanks to all who participated – it was very much appreciated. Thank you also to coordinator Catherine Rott.

On Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> we held our Thankoffering Program. We were fortunate to have our B.C. Mission Boat volunteers to tell us of their experience. This was followed with a time of fellowship over coffee and pie.

The ladies got together one day in Sept. to sew layette items. Many willing hands came out to assist. Then on Oct. 20 – 24 we held our sewing days for LWR. We made and tied 150 quilts. It was a great time of working together. Thanks to all who came.

Many of our members participated in Homecoming at LCBI. It was a good time to meet again with former classmates and have time to connect again. God willing we will be back again next year.

Two funerals were held at Bethlehem – David Perry on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> and Roland Reynolds on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. May God comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones. We'd like to express our sympathy to Lindsay and Delphine Bell and girls on the passing of Lindsay's father, Eldon Bell, whose funeral was held Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> at the United Church.

Gideons International in Canada presented a Festival of Praise on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> at the church. Many people participated in word and song. To God Be the Glory. Fellowship with coffee and refreshments followed the service.

On Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> Krista Ulven and her helpers held a Halloween Alternative at the church. There was supper, games and a campfire all under the theme “Shine 4 Jesus”. These words were carved on pumpkins and a light shone from the inside. I'm sure those who attended enjoyed the family gathering.

**May your Christmas celebrations be centered on the birthday of our Savior. Merry Christmas to one and all!**

*June Haug*



The Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp is looking for an assistant caretaker to assist in the day to day operation and maintenance of the camp from June 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> for \$1500/month. Accommodations will be provided and food will be provided when there is a camp in session.

For more information or to apply please contact:  
Rod Vollmer Box 161 Loreburn , SK S0H 2S0

Do you have pictures from Bible Camp that you would like to share? Send them to [elbc\\_echoes@yahoo.ca](mailto:elbc_echoes@yahoo.ca) to get them posted on the website.



## Skudesnes

July brought change to Skudesnes Church. Pastor Margaret Propp left us to join her husband in Edmonton. She plans to stay at home with Elijah while big brother, Joshua, goes to school. We were very blessed to have Pastor Margaret with us. We ask for nothing but good health and happiness to the Propp family.

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Arthur and Gaylene Vollmer. Family and friends gathered at the Loreburn Senior Centre to celebrate with a program, good food and fellowship. May God bless you both in the years to come. Your love and faithfulness to one another is an inspiration to us all.

In August we were visited by guest pastor, Dr. Roger Uitti. On August 3<sup>rd</sup> there was an old fashioned church picnic held at Harley & Karrie Starnes' farm. The day was filled with dinner, an auction, fish pond for the kids, music and games.



In Sept. we were joined by Vice/Interim Pastor Bob Langdon and his wife Marlene. Pastor Bob is a retired farmer, so is a perfect fit in our little country church.

## Bethlehem, Howarden

Oct 23-LCW visited Golden Acres with program and lunch.

Oct 26-Country Gospel Evening with Curtis & Bonnie Szakacs.

Nov 2-Praise Offering Program Pastor Daryl Olson was the speaker sharing about his trip to Israel with a slideshow. The offering went to The BC Mission Boat and the produce went to the Outlook Food Bank.

Nov 6-LCW met at Ruth and George Cooper's home, Ruth led the bible study.

Nov 13-LCW presented a program at the Pioneer Home in Outlook.

Sharing the message has been Pastor Bernie Belau, Ted Lehn, Marcel Vermette and Pastor Lawrence Hahn.

Contratulations to Mark & Leanne Langager who were married Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> in Saskatoon. Mark is the eldest son of Les & Judy Langager.

Sunday School started on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Seven young children attend our 1 room Sunday School. Each child is excited and eager to learn God's Word through memory verses, Bible Stories, crafts and singing. The Sunday School invites you all to the Christmas Concert "Our Tiny Christmas" on Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

The ELW led the Praise Offering Service in Oct. with the theme "Remembering the Homeless". Thank you to all the ladies who took part in planning and leading the service.

Confirmation began this month. We pray for God's blessings upon Gillian Wankel and Stuart Ector who are in the junior class.

We say goodbye to our snowbirds for the winter and ask that God watch over them and hold them safe in his arms over the winter.

The Sunday School's memory verse for this week is: **"For I have learned to be content with whatever I have."- Philippians 4:11.** What a good lesson for all of us!

*Carrie Langager*

Special music has been Ted and Sharon Lehn, The Sunday School, Wednesday Night Singers and Gloria, Tim and Isaac Martens.

Our prayers and well wishes to Ken Lee on his recovery. He is at Parkridge Centre in Saskatoon.

Our deepest sympathy to Betty Hunter and family on the passing of Alan.

There was a surprise 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday party for Peter and Pam Gonnet arranged by their daughter Becky.

*Hazel Evans*

**Memorials**

Donations

Al & Gloria Martens  
 Ken Lee  
 Myrtle Omnes  
 Victor & Linda Lee  
 Greg & Tammy Lemcke  
 Stephen & Gloria Fligg  
 Gilbert & Dorothea Trithardt  
 Henry & Agnes Martens  
 Norman Langager

In Memory of Oscar Akre, In Honor of Helen Langager's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Owen & Marilyn Akre

In Honor of Art & Gayleen Vollmer's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Rodger & Myrna Gregg  
 Norma Knutson  
 Owen & Marilyn Akre

In Memory of David Perry

Doug & Marie Wankel

In Memory of Clarence & Ethel Holmgren

Gordon & Catherine Rott

In Honor of Marilyn Akre's Birthday

Leone Tastad  
 Bev Berntson

In Memory of Alan Hunter

George & Ruth Cooper  
 Darrel & Lynn Kerr  
 Jeanne Barton & family  
 Jim Hunter & Lorna Hunter  
 Valborg  
 Donelda Gregor  
 Glen & Elaine Vollmer  
 E.L. Charman  
 Robert & Carol Larson  
 Arnold & Phyllis Schellenberg  
 Allan Bryenton  
 George Moir  
 Roy & Joyce Olson  
 Leone Bohrsen  
 David & Annette Hundebly  
 Robert Hundebly  
 Philip & Kim Johnson  
 Gene & Sylvia Sundby  
 Mabel Eliason  
 Doreen Carlson  
 Carolie Haug  
 Owen & Marilyn Akre  
 Harry & Viola Johnson  
 Ross & Gerri Vollmer  
 Alice Schwanbeck  
 Neil & Katie Haaland  
 Jack & Neeta Haroldson  
 Gerald & Linda Follick  
 Ken & Lois Weisbrod  
 Ken & Frieda Finnestad  
 Gordon & Catherine Rott  
 Walter & Stella Jess  
 Ron & Heather Haaland  
 Frank & Lois Buhler



In Memory of Alan Hunter Con't

James & Ruth Wankel  
 Dennis & Muriel Hunter  
 Lloyd & Carolyn Olson  
 Lloyd & Cheryl Onishenko  
 Muriel Akre  
 Lillian Christensen

In Memory of Bill Ronning

Gladys Ronning

In Memory of Marg Webster, Signe Vallevand, Sylvia Langager & In Honor of Doris Akre's Birthday

Owen & Marilyn Akre

In Honor of Bethel Lutheran's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Family & Friends

Jeanne Barton & Family

In Memory of Henry Imthorn

Lillian Christensen

**Donations to the camp can be sent to:  
 Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp  
 C/O: Linda Follick  
 Box 1587  
 Outlook, SK S0L 2N0**



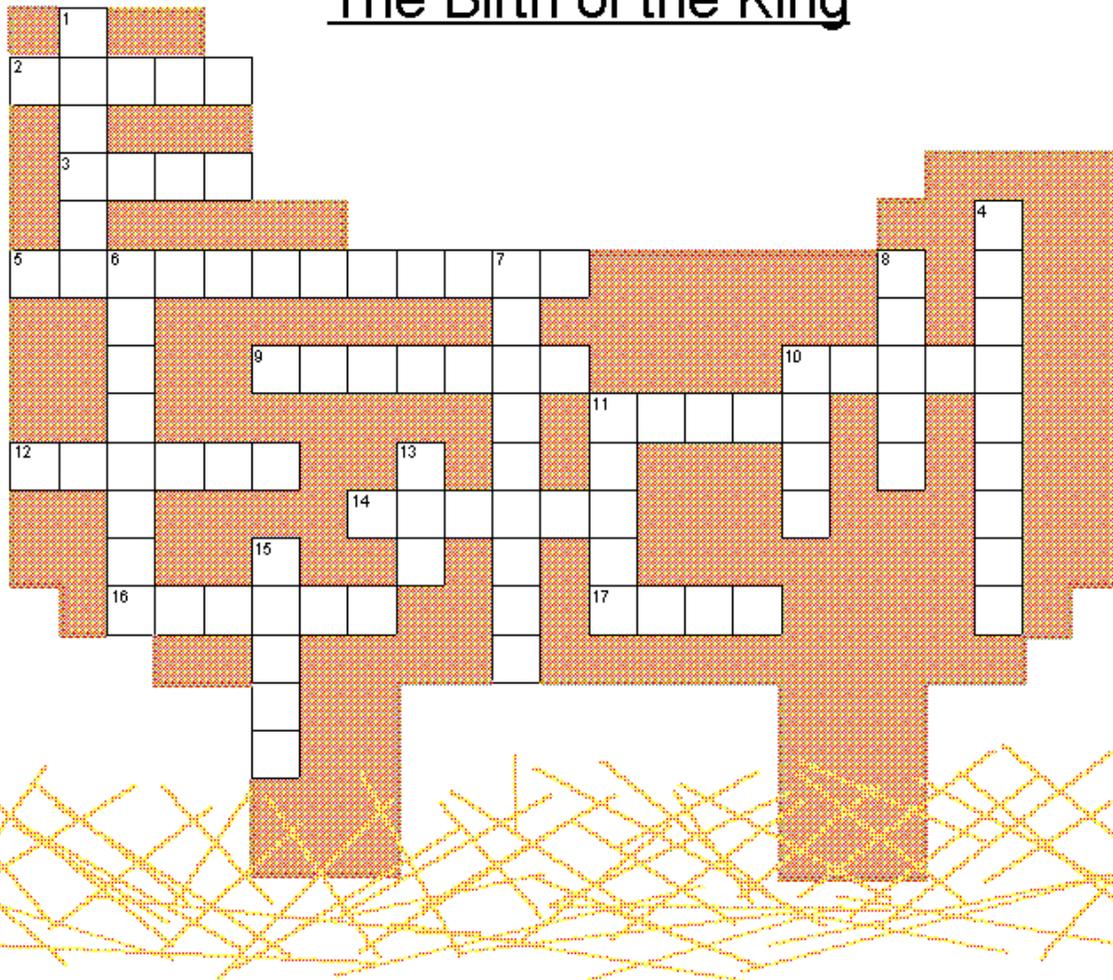
Submissions for the next  
 Echoes are due on:  
 January 15<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to submit a writing or an announcement please sent it to:  
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 or at [elbc\\_echoes@yahoo.com](mailto:elbc_echoes@yahoo.com)

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Take a short break to complete the puzzle below and remember the Christ Child.

## The Birth of the King



**Across**

- 2. Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem to pay these
- 3. A precious metal; one of the gifts from the 3 kings
- 5. A fragrant gum used to make incense; one of the gifts from the wisemen
- 9. The 3 kings from the east
- 10. A pungent tasting herb: A gift from the wisemen
- 11. Bethlehem is here
- 12. Mary's husband
- 14. These appeared to them about the birth of Christ
- 16. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a \_\_\_\_\_, which is Christ the Lord
- 17. This led the wisemen to Jesus

**Down**

- 1. An open box to hold food for livestock: Mary laid Jesus in one
- 4. The city of His birth
- 6. The Roman emperor who taxed everyone
- 7. Angels told these guys about His birth while they were watching their flocks
- 8. The king of Judea when Jesus was born
- 10. His mother
- 11. And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call His name \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. He was born in a stable because there was no room here
- 15. We celebrate His \_\_\_\_\_ at Christmas