

The Echoes



Adult Devotional:



“The Power of Words”

Ole is the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church, and Pastor Sven is the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road. One day they are seen pounding a sign into the ground which said, “DA END ISS NEAR! TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW BAFOR IT ISS TOO LATE!”

As a car speeds past them the driver leans out his window and yells, “Leave people alone, you Skandihoovian religious nuts!”

From the curve they hear screeching tires and a big splash. Shaking his head Rev. Ole says, “Dat’s da terd one dis mornin’.”

“Yaa,” Pastor Sven agrees, then asks, “Do ya tink maybe da sign should yust say, ‘Bridge out?’”

Aren’t words important? Not only are they essential in written, spoken or signed form for communication

purposes but they contain the power to affect our emotions and actions. This has been well demonstrated in science. For example, scientists have found that just hearing sentences about elderly people led research subjects to walk more slowly. In other research, individuals reading words of 'loving kindness' showed increases in self-compassion, improved mood, and reduced anxiety. As I ponder the power of words to incite and divide, to calm and connect, or to create and effect change, I am ever more cautious in what I say, what I listen to, and *how* I listen to the words around me.

Hebrews 4:12 says that “God’s word is living and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as the place where soul and spirit meet...” Though written thousands of years ago---“men spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21)---and passed through many generations, the words that we find in the Bible are still alive today with the power to change lives.

ELBC has been a faithful source over the years for proclaiming those powerful words of life. The preachers and teachers have encouraged us to understand the importance of God’s Word as a mirror, as water, and as food. In the letter of James, the Bible is spoken of as a mirror in which we see ourselves (Ja. 1:23-24). If we do not open the Book, we cannot be sure of our spiritual appearance. In the letter to the Ephesians the Word is compared to water (Eph. 5:26). As water is to the body,

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so is the Word of God to the soul. It cleanses. If we do not practice cleansing we cannot be clean. God's Word is also spoken of as food (Mt. 4:4). If we eat God's Word we are strong; but if we do not, we become weak in the face of temptation and deception.

So what is the most important word ever spoken? I believe the New Testament reveals it: out of the Word arises The Word — Jesus Christ — the Word which became flesh (John 1:14). As E. Stanley Jones writes: "Out of the Gospels arises the Gospel. Jesus is the Gospel — the Gospel lies in His Person. He did not come to bring the Good News — He **was** the Good News."

I pray that ELBC will forever be known as the place where the most important word, Jesus, is taught and we will find, as did Paul, that the Word will powerfully change lives for eternity. "Meditate on Jesus, the Messiah, who was raised from the dead and is a descendant of David. This is the gospel I tell others. Because of it I am experiencing trouble, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. *However*, the Word of God cannot be chained" (2 Tim. 2:8-9). May we allow God's Word to be powerful in us today!

- Donna Hundebly
Elbow, SK

Children's Devotional:

"Shining Like the Moon"
Daily Devotional for March 26, 2013



<http://www.cbhministries.org/ForKids/KeysforKids>

Deuteronomy 8:10-18

"There! My homework's done," said Jasmine, closing her math book. "You finished with yours, Em?"

Emily nodded. "Yep," she said. "Let's go outside--it's so nice out tonight."

After getting permission from Mom, the girls went out to the porch. Twinkling stars in the sky glistened like distant diamonds. The full moon seemed to shine brighter than usual. As Emily gazed at it, she thought about the things she wanted to do and to have some day. After a few minutes, she turned to her sister. "What do you want to do when you're older, Jasmine?"

"Oh, let's see . . ." Jasmine grinned. "I dream of . . . of becoming a rich and famous singer or author," she said. "You know--the kind of person people wait in line to see."

"I'd rather win a gold medal in the Olympics," replied Emily. "That should make me rich and famous, too."

"Heard you," said Dad as he came up the steps. "Well, whatever you achieve, don't forget who deserves the credit," he added.

Emily grinned at her dad. "You figure you should be in on it because you'd pay for my education, right?" she asked. "Well, okay, I'll share with you, but if I work hard to win a medal and get lots of money, I think I should get most of the credit." She pointed toward the sky. "I'd shine like that moon up there."

Dad smiled. "It's okay for you to shine like the moon," he said, "because even though that moon might seem to shine very brightly, you have to remember something. It really can't take the credit for its brilliance."

"Why not?" asked Emily, looking surprised.

"I know," said Jasmine. "Our science book says the moon has no light of its own. It shines because it reflects the light of the sun."

Dad nodded. "So when we shine like the moon," he said, "we reflect a light that is not our own. It's God's. He made you and gave you any abilities you have. Remember to give the glory to God for anything you ever accomplish."

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HOW ABOUT YOU?

What have you accomplished? Or what do you hope to accomplish some day? Do you think success in anything is from your hard work alone? You should work hard toward your goals, but never forget that the ability you have to accomplish anything is a gift from God, your Maker. Any success or wealth you acquire on earth is a reflection of the goodness of God shining upon you.

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: [Psalm 29:2 \(KJV\)](#)

Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name.

**Verse displayed is NKJV*

“God’s Children” A Reflection

As a child of 5 years old, give or take, my mom started taking me to “Bible School” at Grace Lutheran Church in Regina. While my memory of those days is certainly not clear I do remember that there were lots of other children and that it was a happy place. I don’t remember when those visits to Grace Lutheran stopped either. But it did. It was the place that I first remember hearing the name of Jesus Christ.

I am blessed with parents who would also take me and my siblings to the annual Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp. For as long as I can remember it was one of my favourite places to be. We spent time getting taught about Jesus and we enjoyed recreational activities. My favourite ones were the baseball games and the tossing of horse shoes. I remember the nervous joy of being old enough to be in the cabins where we lived during the week. I spent many years of those week long retreats having fun, seeing friends, cousins, and as I got older, those people who I used to avoid, called girls. Bible Camp was where I accepted Jesus into my life as my Savior and Lord. I remember it very clearly other than the person who helped me find Jesus. I think it might have been Pastor Hesje. Whoever it was, he told me

that I should get involved with my home church in Regina and I did. I went through the confirmation process and when I finished it all, I was an Altar Boy at Grace Lutheran for a while. I read scripture and handed out the body of Christ during Communion. At some point I stopped doing that. I think it was sports and high school that was a major factor.

At the risk of turning this into a novel about my life I will fast forward to where I am now. The church I go to, Northview Community Church (NCC), is a big one here in Abbotsford BC where I live (just so you know, I have always considered Elbow as my home town and always will). At NCC the children’s ministry is called Kids Town. All children, Kindergarten to grade five, meet in the Kids Town Square and I am the Security Guy (SG) for the Saturday night Kids Town Bible study. As the SG I ensure that the children are kept safe during their time in Kids Town. I get to interact with them and I have gotten to know the parents a bit, as well as the Bible study volunteers. I also volunteer for a local outreach ministry we call Village Kids on Thursday after school. I do this because of the children. Children are so very precious. I am so happy that the church I attend, like the Bible classes I went to at Regina Grace Lutheran, and the summer Elbow Bible Camp I went to in my childhood, has God’s children as one of their main focuses.

May God bless them all.

- Ken Vallevand
Abbotsford, B.C.

News from the Local Congregations:

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***Representatives of other churches represented at Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp are welcome to contribute to this column. We'd love to hear your news! Please see submission deadlines at the end of the newsletter.**

Bethel – Elbow

Colleen Spelliscy is unable to submit a report for this edition of "The Echoes", however she has shared the following wonderful news:

Elbow Bethel Lutheran church has a new pastor who arrived Wednesday, March 20th! Pastor Doug Lutz and his wife, Kaycee, moved to Elbow from Sandpoint, Idaho. Pastor Doug is busy getting set up and taking care of his new flock.

"The Echoes" will have more information to share about God's new appointment to the church in Elbow in the June edition. Welcome and God bless you, Pastor Doug and Kaycee, in your new roles.

Bethlehem, Outlook

Prepared by: June Haug

In January, Sherryl Olson and daughter Kirsten spent a week in Haiti Children's Home. They worked with children 9 months to 16 years. They were able to provide formula for babies malnourished, undernourished or abandoned children. They enjoyed working at the orphanage.

A musical Variety evening was held January 13th. It was arranged by Helen Salte and various numbers were enjoyed. A good program was followed by coffee fellowship.

Maureen Weiterman resigned as administrative Assistant the end of January and an appreciation supper and program was held Feb 24th for all her years of dedication. Delwyn and Shelley Luedtke lead us

through the program which was well attended and enjoyed by all. We welcome Shelley Luedtke as our new administrative Assistant.

Lenten services were held every Wednesday at noon, followed by soup and sandwiches. The churches in town took a turn at having the services. Proceeds went to the Food Bank.

We helped deliver Meals on Wheels for 2 weeks.

A mission weekend Feb 9 & 10 was held. Several World Mission Prayer League missionaries were in attendance giving information telling where they were serving. Rob Lewis told about China – he spoke on WMPL at the Sunday morning service. Saturday evening everyone enjoyed an Afghan/Pakistani meal with ethnic music.

March 13 – Rawling Brothers Concert (Doug & Bruce) presented a Lenten service, followed by coffee and fellowship.

March 19 CLBI presented their Annual Spring Ministry with drama, choir singing, etc. The youth from LCBI served supper (various people brought food), helped clean up – which was all very nice. CLBI students were billeted out and left for the next stop in the morning. The evening was well attended followed by coffee and fellowship.

March 24- Outlook Community Choir presented their Easter Cantata which had narration and choir telling the Easter message in word and song, followed by coffee, goodies and fellowship.

Easter Sunday is on March 31 – we pray you will have a Blessed Easter.

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Bethlehem, Hawarden

Prepared by: Linda Follick

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” John 3;14-15

It was good to see the moving truck unloading at Pastor Al and Dorothy Pinno's on Friday, February 1st. I'm sure they were happy to see the truck arrive after camping in the house for a couple of days prior. Pastor Al and Dorothy have 4 children - Rachel works for Central Alberta Refugee Effort – helping immigrant teenagers, Luke is a carpenter, and Matt works in construction. They all live in Red Deer. Their other daughter Heidi is at Caronport in her third year of Teaching English Speakers Other Languages (TESOL).

Pastor Al Pinno had his first Sunday as our new Pastor on Sunday, February 3. He spoke on “Living in God's Presence.” His wife Dorothy and his daughter Heidi were also in attendance. It was Communion Sunday as well. Our numbers were small as many of our members were attending the annual Fellowship of Christian Cowboy weekend at Cedar Lodge at Black Strap. It started Friday evening with a service. The guest speaker was Pastor Greg Rustalka from Prince Albert – they had a singer from Prince Albert as well. There were various events on Saturday-devotionals, visiting, outdoor activities, entertainment for the kids, the annual meeting of the FCC, and a banquet. On Sunday, there was a brunch followed by a service with communion.

Linda Follick hosted the February 7th LCW meeting with 7 ladies and Pastor Al Pinno in attendance. Katie Haaland led our Bible study on “A Wise Woman Builds Her House” –Lesson 2 –‘Building Our House.’

Several attended the Mission Weekend at the Lutheran Church in Outlook. It started on Saturday afternoon,

Feb 9 with several displays to look at. Pastor Al Pinno also had a display about his work as director of Ends of the Earth Courier for Christ (EECC) – a ministry dedicated to sharing the grace and truth of Christ in word and deed in Canada, Russia, India, Burundi and other ends of the earth where God leads. An Afghan/Pakistani meal was served with ethnic music played by Tim Olson. Several representatives from World Mission Prayer League spoke on their work-Rob and Pat Lewis, Arlin, Ruth and Ben Olson, Darcy and Laura Elbers.

Darwin Taylor is back from Grandmother's Bay again after spending some time there working with the youth of the community. While he was there he was the editor of a newsletter for the community KITHA-ACHIMOWINAW “Our Story” of the Lac La Ronge Cree First Nation on the north shore of the mighty Churchill River. It highlighted the events in the community, a note from the Chief of the band, some activities and awards from the school, as well as wedding and birth announcements. Darwin was also able to include a page of “faith and hope” with encouraging words and scripture verses. Darwin is going up to Stanley Mission on Wednesday, February 20, to begin teaching a six week Drivers Education program (which will be every other week for the next twelve weeks). While up there he will be conducting a Bible Study based youth group one and a half hours away at Grandmother's Bay on Wednesday evenings. He is getting about 10 youth coming out for this.

Lenten services began on Wednesday, February 13 and will continue for the next six weeks. Pastor Al is speaking on Psalm 22.

After the morning worship service on February 17, a delicious pot-blessing meal was served. The Installation Service for Pastor Al and Dorothy Pinno was held in the afternoon. Pastor Gene Sundby led the service until the

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installation was over. Pastor Al spoke on "Ministry in Jesus" from Matt 9 and 10. Coffee and fellowship followed.

The Fellowship of Christian Cowboys put on a church service at the Equine Expo at Prairieland in Saskatoon on Sunday, February 17. Chad Haaland gave the message at that service. The Expo ran from Friday through until Sunday.

The annual seniors dinner was held on Tuesday, February 19th, despite postponing it once for stormy weather in January, and being -23 with a wind chill and drifting snow. Forty-eight brave people showed up for our roast beef dinner and we all had a great time. Per Vinding was our guest singer who kept us entertained while the road conditions continued to improve.

Sunday evening, Feb 24 was our Country Gospel Evening featuring Ken Olson and friends. It was a wonderful evening of music and fellowship.

Pastor Al and Dorothy hosted an Open House/Home Dedication Dinner following the service at their new home in Outlook on Sunday, Mar 3. The weather was blustery but all enjoyed the meal and fellowship following.

Doreen Carlson hosted the March 7 LCW meeting with eight ladies in attendance. Ruth Cooper led the Bible Study on "A Wise Woman Builds Her House" Lesson 3 – "My Heart, Christ's Home."

Sunday, March 17 was a stormy day and the roads were not good resulting in the cancellation of the service out at Bethlehem. Pastor Al and Dorothy opened their home and the locals gathered there on Sunday morning for some worship and praise time.

Grant Lee was along with a group of twelve men who drove 30 hours down to a prison at Angola, Louisiana to attend some special meetings being held there. The

warden of that prison became a Christian and as a result a large portion of the inmates made the decision to follow Christ as well. They were gone for just about a week.

The LCW put on a program at Golden Acres on Wednesday afternoon, March 20. That was the day the weather started to turn bad with snow and lots of wind and drifting. We had a small turn-out from our group because of the roads but we had a great afternoon. It was nice to introduce our new Pastor Al and Dorothy Pinno who both took part in our program. Following the program we served lunch and had a good time visiting with the residents there.

There are some impressive snow banks around the country and also in the church yard after the days of snow and blowing snow. Many plans were changed or delayed. Lenten services were cancelled this week.

Our prayers continue for those in our midst who are in need - we especially think of Dorothy Pinno's mother who fell and broke some ribs. Have a blessed Easter!

Letters to the Editor:

What a rich and diverse heritage Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp has! If you, or someone you know, would like to drop a note just to say hello or to share some history of camp, please contact me by e-mail:

echoes@elbowlutheranbiblecamp.com or

by post: Lorna Sewell

14 Hidden Spring Court N.W.

Calgary, AB T3A 5J4

I do appreciate "The Echoes" even though I don't live in Saskatchewan anymore so want to declare my appreciation. Love in Christ. Bethlehem Church is still special of Hawarden.

- Lavera Erickson, Camrose, AB (March 11/13)

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"Praise God from whom all blessings flow...."

"For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever!" Romans 11:36

The donations flowing into Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp are a blessing to the body of believers who benefit from the wonderful teaching each summer. This camp is a blessing to our Lord as he takes pleasure in us, his disciples, coming together to be better equipped to carry out his great commission:

**"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
Matthew 28:19, 20**

GENERAL DONATIONS

Morley & Helen Stamnes Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Hawarden)
Ron & Maracelle Savidan Bethel WMF

NEWSLETTER DONATIONS

Lavera Erickson Helen Stamnes (correction from Feb/13)



IMO Ellen Burk

Bethlehem LCW (Hawarden) Roy & Joyce Olson
Gerald & Linda Follick Gene & Sylvia Sundby

Donations to the camp can be sent to:

Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp
C/O: Linda Follick
Box 776 Outlook, SK S0L 2N0

Please note that this is a NEW Box number

New Camp Projects Underway!

Two major projects will be funded. The first is to upgrade the playground equipment and the second is to begin upgrading the electrical around camp. As funds are collected, upgrades will begin. It was decided that both projects will be started off with seed money from the Bible Camp budget and funds will continue to be collected without end until both projects are complete.

Donations may be made specifically to these projects. Please designate where you would like your donations to be applied. Camp ministry, operations and maintenance continue to be of primary importance and will continue to be a separate fund to which donations may be allocated.

Stay updated regarding these projects and much more by visiting the Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp website at:
www.elbowlutheranbiblecamp.com

Important Upcoming Dates:

June 7-8, 2013 2nd Annual Bible Camp Cleanup

July 6-14, 2013 Family Bible Camp

Family Bible Camp News:

Evening Speaker & Bible teacher: Harold Rust
Bible Teacher: Rob Lewis
Youth Leader: Daniel Spelliscy

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Praise God for the gift of these, His servants, who will share their Spiritual gifts and anointing with the body of Christ at camp this summer!

Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you His precious peace. Amen (Numbers 6:24-26)

Praise God for our Risen Lord!!

March 29 - Good Friday

March 31 - Easter Sunday

Jesus said, "...be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28: 20) What a promise! Appearing to his disciples multiple times after his resurrection, Christ Jesus expressed his desire for his disciples to experience his peace (John 20:19-26). We have been given much reason to celebrate! Happy Easter!!

Call for Submissions!

"The Echoes" will continue to be published 6 times per year. Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

February edition	January 12/13
April edition	March 12/13
June edition	May 12/13
August edition	July 12/13 (or at camp)
October edition	September 12/13
December edition	November 12/13

Please feel free to submit your devotional any time but these are the deadlines for each specific edition of "The Echoes". My prayer is that we would have one adult, one teen, and one child submission (could just be a picture about faith) in each edition.

Submissions may be sent to Echoes Editor:
echoeseditor@elbowlutheranbiblecamp.com.