

The Echoes

a Publication of



June 2021

Hope Against Hope

*Devotional Submitted by
Pastor Adam Driscoll
Cornerstone Christian School
Moose Jaw, SK*

I'm struck at all the times in the Bible when we thought the story was over. We could think of Noah and the flood, Joseph in prison, Israel on the beaches of the Red Sea, the walls of Jericho, Gideon in the winepress, Daniel in the lion's den, Jonah in the fish . . . this list can go on.

We have the luxury of knowing the rest of the story but the people in these moments didn't have that! David had five smooth stones and faith. Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego faced a fiery furnace and said, "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

In many ways, individuals God used often found themselves in impossible situations. They faced moments that required more than just positive thinking. It feels like sometimes we chalk faith up to having the best plan or the wisest strategy. That's like Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego praying, "Lord, show me the right way to enter this fire that will leave me unburned!" As if there is anyway that could happen!

I think one of the reasons we experience so much stress and anxiety in our world is that we are asking God to show us how to do something that only He can do. It reminds me of the disciples when they were trying to heal the boy with the spirit while Peter, James, John, and Jesus were upon the mountain (Mark 9). I can envision the disciples trying all the different strategies and techniques of healing that Jesus had done before. I can see their frustration and disappointment when nothing they're doing seems to be working.

We don't learn how to walk on water. We have faith in the one who holds us up.

Perhaps you're facing something that feels completely overwhelming or even impossible. You have tried all the different strategies and asked for all the

wisdom. Perhaps, like Peter, you've been fishing all night and have nothing to show for it. It is in these moments that we must remember Jesus' compassionate reminder, "I am the vine and you are the branches . . . apart from me you can do nothing."

In case after case of the events that we see in scripture, it was God who parted the seas, knocked down the walls, knocked down the walls, and killed the giant. The people of God acknowledged that if God didn't act - there was no other way.

Romans says of Abraham, "In hope he believed against hope . . ." It went against all logic, all optimism, all possibilities. This wasn't about finding some special way that he hadn't thought of before - it is about God making a way when there is no way.

That is our hope. When we think it is the end, when we think it is impossible, when we think the story is over - God makes a way when there is no way. It is why we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus." Because His intervention is our hope against hope.



Pastor Adam Driscoll

Camp Clean Up

There is LOTS of work to do before camp can open! Please make plans to help clean up our camp on June 4th & 5th for as much or little time as you can spare. Extra hands are needed this year as camp clean up was missed last year.

Call Grant Lee at (306) 222-2776 for more information.

Thank you so much!



BIBLE CAMP IS HAPPENING!

- † The camp has every intention of operating under the current COVID Public Health Measures as outlined by the Government of Saskatchewan.
- † There is a slightly shorter schedule for camp this year. Camp will start on Sunday, July 4th, with a 7:00 p.m. informal campfire time, sharing and snacks. No supper will be served that evening. Camp will end at Noon on Friday, July 9th.
- † **Due to current health restrictions, please pre-register for camp by June 21st if you plan on coming for the week, Evening service drop-ins are still welcome. Please pre-register by sending Lisa Peterman an email at “booster@sasktel.net”.**
- † **If you require a cabin, please book this by June 21st with Lisa Peterman. Email her at “booster@sasktel.net”.**
- † There will be no dorms for teens this year, because we don't have ministry teams on site. Teens will need to stay with their family or an adult guardian. Trailers and tents are encouraged as per usual.
- † Our evening speaker, adult Bible Study leader, and Youth Speaker are yet to be determined. We all love surprises, right? 😊

- † We plan on having the same format, adult and VBS classes, sports, etc. and meals will be served. Any questions, please contact Shannon Hundebly (306-867-4065), Lisa Peterman (306-867-4036), or Janell Hundebly (306-867-7602).

Thank you!





We VERY much appreciate all the campers, and are so thankful for everyone's help! If YOU are willing to help in any way this year, please contact **Shannon Hundebly**:

Phone: (306) 867-4065 or (306) 854-2007
Email: kshundebly@sasktel.net

Here are some areas where we need **YOUR** help:



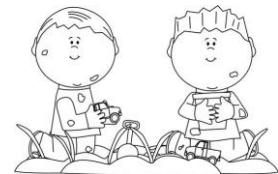
Our kitchen volunteers work so hard – and we're so thankful for them! When the supper meal is over, we'd like their day to be over, too. We need volunteers to be in charge of planning and serving cocoa / snacks in the evenings this year. Would **you** be willing to coordinate this – individually, or as part of a team?

We do not have any extra ministry teams to assist us with the **VBS classes** this year... so we need LOTS of help! Would you be willing to teach (or help assist) the kids in their morning sessions? This is such an important ministry!



Would you be willing to help coordinate **Special Music** for the evening worship services during the week?

Are you more of a “hands on” person? How about helping **preschoolers** with their sandbox and craft time? (This would be for **one** session per morning.)



With extra health protocols in place this year as well as no ministry teams helping out, we need people who are willing to “jump in” and help if need be! Would you consider adding your name to the list? All “go-phers” appreciated! ☺



Congregational Submissions



Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp (ELBC) is supported by local Christian churches, numerous members and volunteers. Throughout this newsletter, you will find summaries from three of these churches regarding their parish activities since the last edition of *The Echoes* was sent out, in March 2021.

Bethel Lutheran Church, Elbow, SK

Submitted by Ashley Stamnes, Administrative Assistant

*From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.
Psalm 113:3*

Greetings from Bethel! Here we are heading into another summer in Saskatchewan and we are looking forward with anticipation to what God has in store. Although we may not know what is ahead, we can trust Him and His plan!

There has not been an abundance of activity at the church but we are making the most of the time we have together to worship God and bring Him honour and thanks. Our "Odd Job Squad" is still in operation and always looking for people that may need a hand! Our WMF (Women's' Mission Fellowship) ladies organized a time to drop off plants to several people in the community. These were much appreciated and hopefully brought cheer to the receivers!

March:

- 14th Ron and Donna Hundebly led a Hymn Sing in the evening with an opportunity to share. This has been a blessing to those who enjoy hearing and singing old favourites as well as a time to hear God's Word if they have been unable to attend regular service that morning.
- 25th The WMF ladies held a regular meeting.

April:

- 2nd Although we were unable to have our annual Good Friday Community Pancake Breakfast and Service at the Civic Centre, we were very thankful to be able to have a service here at Bethel. It was especially meaningful after missing last year.
- 11th Ron and Donna led another Hymn Sing!

May:

- The ladies were busy organizing some deep cleaning at the church.

- 23rd Pastor Dave and Debbie were away and we were blessed to have Adam Driscoll bring us God's Word!
- 30th Confirmation Sunday!
In the evening, Creation Ministries International had a speaker at Bethel and it was a very informative time followed by a question and answer session.

We are thankful for all the answered prayer and continue to seek God as we pray for those who are hurting and struggling. May He bring healing, comfort and peace.

We pray that each of you reading this would be drawn closer to God this summer and throughout the year. God bless you!



Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp is looking for a

CARETAKER

July and August, 2021

Duties include (but are not limited to) janitorial tasks, garbage removal, grass mowing, basic maintenance, and painting as required.

Salary: \$2,500 per Month
Contract Work - No Deductions
Call Grant Lee at (306) 222-2776

God Bless
Your
Retirement

Sunday, May 9th, 2021 marked the last worship service led by

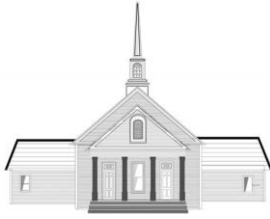
Pastor Kelly Henning

at Faith Free Lutheran Church at Lake Alma, SK.

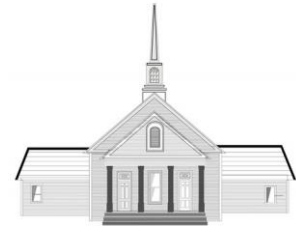


Thank you for your faithful service in the ministry these many years! We wish you many blessings in your retirement!

As Pastor Kelly so eloquently put it (on his Facebook™ page), "In these times of trials and changes and uncertainty, remember God's promises. He is our Good Shepherd and HE watches over us HIS sheep. Trust HIM for each day. Rest in HIS mercy!!!"



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Outlook, SK



Submitted by Shelley Luedtke

Hello from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Outlook.

He is risen! He is risen indeed!! What a glorious declaration that has been throughout this season.

We were thrilled to be part of “Experience Easter,” a drive-thru event we launched in conjunction with LCBI (Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute), Outlook Alliance Church, and Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church. Close to 120 vehicles drove through eight scenes as the people listened to narration and music telling the story of Jesus. More than 80 people were involved as costumed characters, ushers and helpers and they did a great job sharing the Gospel in a creative and safe way. A freewill donation basket collected money for the Outlook and District Food Bank and \$1725.35 was given for that purpose. To God be the glory for this amazing event!



FOOD BANKS OF
Saskatchewan

Our congregation sent a team of volunteers to Southend, Saskatchewan a couple of summers ago to be part of a LAMP Vacation Bible School program in the community. (“LAMP” stands for “Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots. See their website at www.lampministry.org.) Unfortunately we weren’t able to return last summer due to COVID and we have been informed we will be unable to go this summer as well. We are working hard to continue building relationships with the community from a distance. Two of the women on the team from our church created bags for the ladies in Southend containing devotional books, tea, lotions and more. We pray these gift bags will bring some joy and encouragement to the ladies in the community.

On April 17th, a small group of family gathered in the church while a large congregation joined online for the funeral of Harry Johnson. A few months ago (in October 2020), members of our church gathered under his balcony to sing for him on his 100th birthday. Blessed be his memory. He is home.

Our congregation marked its 110th anniversary during the worship service on May 16th. Pictures and video presentations reminded us of God's faithfulness over these many decades.

We celebrated the affirmation of baptism for three of our young people. Ethan Reddekopp was confirmed on April 25th, and Sophia Haugen and Elisa Woudwijk celebrated their confirmation on May 23rd. We will continue to uphold these young people in prayer.



We are excited to be putting plans in place for VBS which will be held August 16th – 20th. Our organizers have several different scenarios in the works depending on what the restrictions might be at that time. Last year we held Backyard VBS events. Our pastors travelled to a few different yards where families invited children in their social bubbles to join for a time of teaching and games. We look forward to the excitement of having children gather in the church this summer.

Our mission committee selects an organization or ministry to highlight each month. In May, our Mission of the Month was Bible Camp ministries. We were privileged to lift Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp in prayer.



From the Editor

We want to hear from YOU! If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, or submissions for future issues of *The Echoes*, please email them to Dena (Hundeby) Michaelis at:

jeffdena@xplornet.com

Thank you!

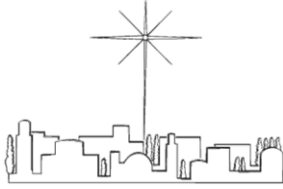
CHECK THIS OUT!



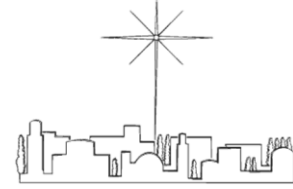
The Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp has a website:

<http://elbowlutheranbiblecamp.com>

Please visit often to learn more about the camp and see updates for 2021!



**Bethlehem Lutheran
Church
Hawarden, SK**



Submitted by Linda Follick

*Then Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore to send out workers into his harvest field."
Matthew 9:37-38*

Seeding of the crops is progressing well. We are praying for rain so that our crops can grow. May we be spreading the seed of God's Word to those around us and God will bring about His harvest. We must be willing workers for Him.

During Adult Sunday School time we are watching a video series from Ray Vander Laan entitled, "That the World May Know" (Website: www.thatttheworldmayknow.com). We have been so blessed to have Pastor Daryl Olson and Pastor Adam Driscoll bring God's Word to us each Sunday. Our Lutheran Church Women's (LCW) group continues to meet monthly. We have recently completed Linda Korhonen's Bible Study named, "Don't Follow Your Feelings." The final chapters were, "Becoming a Slave to Fear," "The Infection of Bitterness," and "Knowing God's Will."

Ruth Cooper attended her great granddaughter Jaylene's baptism in Saskatoon on February 13th. Jaylene is the daughter of Trevor and Vanessa Giles of Saskatoon. Trevor and Vanessa have since moved to Kelowna, British Columbia where Vanessa is working as a dental hygienist and Trevor is able to work from home.

Many took in the "Experience Easter" drive through put on by The Outlook Ministerial starting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Outlook and winding through to the Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI) on Wednesday, April 6th. The Haaland and Follick families had some grandchildren in the play which was of special interest to them. The presentation consisted of eight scenes telling the Easter story. All those involved went to a lot of work in preparing this and it was appreciated by all who saw it.

On Easter Sunday the LCW led the morning worship service entitled, "Preparing for Easter." A special focus was placed on Jesus' seven last words from the cross.

We offer our sympathies to the Johnson families on the passing of Harry on April 12th at the age of 100. He was an active community / church member when he and Viola lived on the farm and again when they moved into their new home in

Outlook. He will be greatly missed but he was so ready to go to his heavenly home. Blessed be his memory to us all.

It was wonderful to have Pastor Al and Dorothy Pinno with us the first weekend in May! On Friday evening Pastor Al had his annual meeting for EECC (Ends of the Earth Couriers for Christ: eecchrist.com). We saw some videos about their work in India. On Sunday, May 2nd Pastor Al led our service. He spoke on Revelations 6.

Darwin Taylor left for LaRonge, SK on Sunday afternoon to minister to some of the youth there and bring supplies and treats to them.

The Bible Camp Board met at the camp on Sunday, May 16th to check things out and talk about the realities of having a camp. There is lots of tree removal and cleaning to be done.

Prayer concerns: The Archibald family, the people of the LaRonge area that Darwin witnessed to, those who are mourning the loss of loved ones, the lonely and the shut-ins, and the planning of our camp for this July.

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Linda Follick

Since the last *Echoes* publication, donations have been given in memory of Harry Johnson.

Blessed be his memory!

A sincere, "Thank you!" is extended to all who are able to faithfully donate to our Bible Camp. We appreciate every donation, large or small!

Our Bible Camp has always run on free will donations. Donations are gratefully accepted in two ways:

By mail, to:

Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp
c/o Linda Follick
Box 776
Outlook, SK
S0L 2N0

Through the Bible Camp website:

Click on "Support" --> *then*

Click on the blue, "Donate Now through Canada Helps.org:" button and follow the prompts.