

We Worship, We Grow, We Serve,
We reach out in love sharing God's
message of hope through Jesus Christ.

May 2022
Volume 10, Issue 5

Inside this Issue

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Pastor's Message |
| 2 | Worship
COVID-19 Task Force |
| 3 | Community Connections |
| 4 | Financial Information
Transition/ Worship Team
This Quarter's Events |

With constant changes in public health protocols, check the church website for updates on in-building worship and gatherings.

E-mail: mzoffice@shaw.ca or prmarlys@shaw.ca

Phone: (604) 521-0120 (office)

Mount Zion Lutheran Church
930 Cumberland Street
New Westminster BC V3L 3H4

Website: www.mtzionlutheran.ca

We recognize and acknowledge the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on whose traditional and unceded territories we gather.

mount zion LUTHERAN Message

2022 Pentecost Newsletter

Pentecost Power



"On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world." (*Sundays & Seasons*, p. 192. Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress.)

On that first Pentecost, after the rushing of the mighty wind, after tongues of fire on people's heads, after people could hear and understand God's Word proclaimed in each of their languages, Peter stood in the midst of the crowd gathered in Jerusalem, and reminded them of these words: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." (Acts 2:

And from there the believers moved out from Jerusalem and boldly declared the good news of Jesus Christ. They ended up in jail cells for their boldness. They continued to share the good news that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ, a gift that is available to all. They healed the sick, they pronounced forgiveness of sin, they spoke words of truth in love. They had visions, they had dreams, and they watched as God's Spirit was poured out upon others and there was more change: there was growth, there was reconciliation and restoration, there was unity.

God's Spirit continues to move throughout the world, awakening, motivating – and, yes, even agitating God's people to share the good news of God's grace, love and freedom. In the midst of a world filled with fear, turmoil, violence and desperation what an incredible gift we have to share as the Holy Spirit empowers and propels us. Only God knows what will happen. Come, be blown away by the Spirit!

-Pastor Marlys

Pentecost Sunday, June 5

You are invited to wear something red as we celebrate the birthday of the Church on Pentecost Sunday.. Pastor Marlys is looking for people to read John 3:16 in other languages during the service. Please let her know if you are able to do so. A special offering will be received that day to support Padang Relief Society.



We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday at 10:00am

Sunday In-Person Worship Services with Holy Communion at 10:00am

The services will be recorded and posted to Mount Zion's YouTube channel.

In order to maintain good health, out of love for one another and for the sake of those who are not vaccinated, such as children, we recommend everyone wear a mask indoors, sanitize hands, as we continue to require physical distancing. Please also note:

- ☆ We will meet upstairs in the sanctuary.
- ☆ Offering box will be in the foyer at the end of the service
- ☆ We will serve refreshments in the Lower Hall.

Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Please DO NOT COME if: you have any of the following symptoms:

- ☆ Fever
- ☆ Chills
- ☆ New or worsening cough
- ☆ Shortness of breath
- ☆ New muscle aches or headaches
- ☆ You are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19



Mount Zion's Online Presence

Online worship services can be found on our YouTube channel, Mount Zion Lutheran Church, New Westminster BC.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxctwh0wAVAJqBzV3B3eApw>

If you would like to video the Bible readings, please contact Pastor Marlys at 604-521-0120.

Wednesday evening Bible Study and Reflections continue on Zoom at 7:00pm. Contact mountzion930@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

COVID-19 Task Force Update

Even though Public Health Orders have removed restrictions, the COVID-19 Task Force continues to be concerned with the health and safety of all. This is what you can expect:

- wearing of masks is RECOMMENDED
- physical distancing is REQUIRED
- windows and doors will be opened for ventilation
- signs on doors remain in place reminding people to stay at home if they have symptoms of COVID-19
- capacity limits for employee offices remain in place
- renters given permission to decide on restrictions for their own group while adhering to existing PHO's
- submitted by COVID-19 Task Force:
Pastor Marlys, Vivienne Welters, Norma Houde,
Monica Deng, Lyna Kiviste



We anticipate repairs beginning some time in May or June. Thank you for your patience!



Mount Zion is a scent-free zone. Please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne. Please choose scent-free soaps, shampoos, sunscreen, hairspray, etc. Thank you!



Connections

Garage Sale & Heart Garden

The sun shone on Saturday, May 7 as Mount Zion participated in the Massey/Victory Heights Residents' Association Neighbourhood Garage Sale. Early bird shoppers arrived before 7:30am and a steady stream of people ambled through the parking lot until 1:30pm. Thank you to the many volunteers who participated in various ways: donating goods and cookies, setting up and tearing down tables and displays, selling goods and interacting with shoppers.



Included in the garage sale was a table advertising the upcoming Heart Garden. We handed out information and about 50 sticks and paper hearts in preparation for creating a Heart Garden on June 4. (**Please note:** We are having three learning and creating sessions after church on May 15, 22 and 29.)

The garage sale raised \$795 which will be donated to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society. Many people made a donation, even though they did not purchase anything. We were so heartened by people's interest in reconciliation and participating in some way with a Heart Garden.

A Heart Garden is created in memory of children lost to the residential school system, to honour residential school survivors and their families, and to support the legacy of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The act of planting represents our commitment to reconciliation. Hearts can be made by anyone of all ages and backgrounds.

We recognize that truth and reconciliation are not a one-time event but an ongoing commitment to continuous learning and change. Please join us as we create a **Heart Garden on Saturday, June 4 at 3:00pm on the front lawn at Mount Zion**. Ms. Stacey Ferguson from Qayqayt First Nation, will be in attendance. We appreciate her support and guidance as we continue to learn and commit ourselves to reconciliation. She is encouraged by the steps we are taking so that the event is more than just making a pretty paper heart and sticking it in the ground.

We are also very appreciative of the resources we have received from First Nations Child & Family Caring Society, Iron Dog Books, as well as a grant from the Missions Committee of the BC Synod.

We look forward to your participation too!

- Pastor Marlys on behalf of
Community Connections Team

Please note: Pastor Marlys is on holidays from May 26 to June 1. For emergency pastoral care please contact Pastor Eric Krushel at 604-936-2939 (church) or 604-220-5450 (cellular).



Devotional Booklets

The April-June edition of **Eternity for Today** is still available. Copies of the large-print devotional booklet, **Christ in Our Home**, are also available. Please contact Margaret Leech if you would like to receive the large-print devotional.

Important Financial Information

Some highlights for April 2022
(vs March 2022)

- Revenues: Increase on envelope donation \$2,000, rental - SDA Creekside \$1,000, and parking revenue \$8,800
- Expenses : insurance payment \$24,366 (\$3,504 over budget)
- Deficit: (\$13,452) mainly due to the insurance cost

Non Designated	ACTUALS 2022		BUDGET 2022		
	APR	JAN to APR	ANNUAL	VARIANCE	
Donation	\$ 9,462	\$ 25,112	\$ 102,290	\$ 77,178	75%
Rent	\$ 13,246	\$ 22,024	\$ 34,754	\$ 12,730	37%
Subsidy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Other Income	\$ -	\$ 79	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,921	99%
Expenses	\$ (36,160)	\$ (73,659)	\$ (207,878)	\$ (134,219)	65%
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	\$ (13,452)	\$ (26,444)	\$ (61,834)	\$ (35,390)	

Transition and Worship Team Updates

The path towards transition has brought back our Worship Team to be engaged in the planning of Sunday Services. While this has long been one of Pastor's many jobs to tackle on her own, the Worship Team will be getting back in the habit of meeting to plan service details, which will include several lay services through the summer. This will get us accustomed to worship planning as we move closer to the end of November when we will be saying farewell to Pastor Marlys.

There are a few key dates coming up to keep in mind, and some ongoing activities that you may consider getting involved with:

- **Sunday, May 29:** Lay Service – Pastor will be on holiday, and instead of seeking a supply Pastor, we will have a Lay led Sunday. This will include volunteers throughout the service. If you would like to participate, whether that is reading a lesson, leading the prayers, or simply giving a greeting, all are welcome. Please let Katie Nieman know if you'd like to be included.
- Other lay services coming up: **July 17 and August 14**
- **Sunday, July 10:** We will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Pastor Marlys's Ordination!
- **Sunday , August 28:** We will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Pastor Marlys's Installation at Mount Zion! These are just two of the many reasons to celebrate throughout this year, and we're going to make a big deal about it!

Please let Katie know if you can contribute to the planning for these events.

The end goal of the Transition Team is to have a playbook in place to continue the day-to-day work of the church and Sunday services in the time to come after Pastor's retirement. If you would like to be involved in that overall effort, or the Worship Team, just let Katie, or anyone on council know.

-submitted by Katie Nieman



Pray for Peace in Ukraine

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) is accepting donations online at clwr.org/Ukraine or by designating CLWR-Ukraine on your offering envelope.

This Quarter's Events

Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Mount Zion Reflections

Sunday May 22

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Worship with Communion
11:30 a.m., Lower Hall
Coffee Time & Finding Your Place in Reconciliation
1:00 p.m., via Zoom
Church Council Meeting

Sunday May 29

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Lay-Led Worship Service
11:30 a.m., Lower Hall
Coffee Time & Finding Your Place in Reconciliation

Saturday June 4

3:00 p.m., Front Lawn
Creating a Heart Garden

Sunday June 5

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Pentecost Worship with Communion
11:30 a.m., Lower Hall
Coffee Time with Cake!

Sunday June 19

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Worship with Communion
11:30 a.m., Lower Hall
Congregational Picnic

Important Dates to Note:

July 10 – 20th Anniversary of Ordination of Pastor Marlys
July 17 & August 14
Lay-Led Worship
August 28 – 20th Anniversary of Ministry of Pastor Marlys with Mount Zion