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FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Faith in Action



From Pastor's Desk

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Allow me to share with you the Easter Sermon of John Chrysostom (344-407) Bishop of Constantinople. He is regarded as one of the best preachers. His name literally means "golden mouth." Enjoy!

Is there anyone who is a devout lover of God?
Let us enjoy this beautiful bright festival!
Is there anyone who is a grateful servant?
Let us rejoice and enter into the joy of our Lord!

Are there any weary with fasting?
Let us now receive our due!
If any have toiled from the first hour,
let them receive their due reward;
If any have come after the third hour,
let them with gratitude join in the Feast!
And those that arrived after the sixth hour,
Let them not doubt; for they too shall sustain no loss.

And if any delayed until the ninth hour,
Let them not hesitate; but let them come too.
And they who arrived only at the eleventh hour,
Let them not be afraid by reason of their delay.

For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first.

He gives rest to those that come at the eleventh hour,
as well as to those that toiled from the first.
To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows.

He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor.

The deed He honors and the intention He commends.

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord!
First and last alike receive your reward;
Rich and poor, rejoice together!
Sober and slothful, celebrate the day!
You that have kept the fast, and you that have not,

Rejoice today for the Table is richly laden!
Feast royally on it, the calf is a fatted one.
Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith.

Enjoy all the riches of His goodness!
Let no one grieve at his poverty,
for the universal kingdom has been revealed.
Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again;

for forgiveness has risen from the grave.
Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free.

He has destroyed it by enduring it.
He destroyed Hades when He descended into it.

He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh.

Isaiah foretold this when he said,
"You, O Hell, have been troubled by encountering Him below."

Hell was in an uproar because it was done away with.

It was in an uproar because it is mocked.
It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed.
It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated.
It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive.
Hell took a body, and discovered God.
It took earth, and encountered Heaven.
It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.

Christ is Risen, O death, where is thy sting?
Christ is Risen, O Hades, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, o death, are annihilated!

Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!

Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead;

for Christ having risen from the dead,
is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

Worship Times

Sunday
Worship
Services:



Sunday School ----- 9:30 AM
Chinese ----- 9:45 AM
Bible Study ----- 10:00 AM
Hispanic ----- 10:00 AM
English ----- 11:00 AM
Korean ----- 1:00 PM
Oromo ----- 3:00 PM

Commissioned to Serve as DPS



Tingyu Wilch was commissioned on March 12, 2023, as the Director of Parish Services (DPS) to serve Faith church at large.

A Brief Bio of Tingyu:

Tingyu was born and raised in Beijing, China. She obtained a Bachelor

of Economics from Capital University of Economics and Business. Then she worked as a university instructor for five years. After witnessing the June 4th, 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, she decided to leave China and to pursue freedom in Canada.

While studying Business Administration & Accounting at Mohawk College in Hamilton, ON she started to attend an ESL Bible Study connected to Philpot Memorial Church in Hamilton. There God spoke to her and she was baptized in 1994. There she also found her future husband, Rev. Gerhard Wilch and they were married in 1996, and called to Toronto.

Seeking a deeper and more solid foundation for her newfound faith, Tingyu completed a Master of Theological Studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Catharines, ON and a Director of Parish Services from Concordia University College of Alberta.

“As we are blessed, we are called to be a blessing to others. -Tingyu”

Tingyu served with Rev. Wilch with Philoxenia/Hospitality Ministry, welcoming hundreds of Canadian newcomers into their

home, hosting a weekly ESL Bible Study for 5 years with an average of 30 guests of both children & adults. Frequent guests and gatherings provided Tingyu the opportunity to cook and serve a lot of meals, with roasted turkey becoming a favourite. Many of her guests came to the Lord, some currently serving as pastors and church workers.

When her husband began to serve at Trinity Lutheran Church in Toronto, besides volunteering there, Tingyu was also commissioned to serve as a DPS at the Church of St. Luke—Lutheran in North York to develop community outreach via ESL Bible Study, Conversation Partners, Art Programs & Gospel Camps.

Since our gracious God called Rev. G. Wilch to serve at Faith Lutheran Church in 2010, Tingyu was privileged to serve in teaching Sunday school, volunteering at the preschool, organizing the youth group and co-leading mission teams and to be part of many other blessed ministries.

**“To Make Christ Known through My Being!”
- Tingyu**

In His perfect timing, by God’s Grace, Tingyu has been commissioned to serve Him as a DPS at Faith, to give leadership to our Sunday school, preschool, youth, and outreach ministries, and to mobilize our members in serving one another and reaching out with God’s love; To be a blessing to our community and to bring the lost into God’s kingdom!

To God be the Glory!



Hispanic Fellowship Update -by Carmen Rodriguez

The Hispanic fellowship started live streaming Sunday worship services on March 15th in 2020. 3 years later, we continue streaming to our local members and to 7 different countries, including El Salvador, Spain, Italy and other Latin American countries. Over the course of the last few years, we have introduced daily devotionals that go live at 3 am PST so that everyone wakes up to a daily reading.

Being a private Facebook group allows us to connect on a more personal level with everyone that is a part of Servicio Domincal. We have utilized Facebook and Facebook Live to reach across the world to spread the word of God to our fellow friends, family and new believers.

Happy Easter from the Hispanic Fellowship!

Chinese Women's Friday Bible Study -by Bowie Chiu

A Chinese women's Bible study has been held every Friday morning, 9:30-11:00, in the church since February 24th. It is coordinated by sister Chen and led by sister Bowie who was a minister in Hong Kong, temporarily staying in Canada for further studies. The Bible study group is studying women of the Scriptures and about 6 sisters regularly attend the group. We enjoy the time to have fellowship, studying and sharing the Word of God.



Korean Fellowship Update

-by Pastor Kim

"We had a Sunday worship at James Lee's house.

We had about 23 people and had fellowship after the service.

We decided to meet at his place once a month; the last Sunday of the month."



Oromo Fellowship Update -by Firehiwot Teklegiorgis

A small group of Oromo* speaking Lutherans started meeting for prayer and Bible study in one of their member's residence in 2019. In 2021 prayer & Bible study continued via zoom. In 2021 our ministry received recognition from LCC and Faith Lutheran Church welcomed us as one of their Fellowships, providing a place to worship and ministry support. Our members met for an in-person service for the first time on Sept 12/2021.



Our Mission: Following the Footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ; live the Gospel by example, & teach the Word of God to both those who physically attend our church and lived in our Oromo community and others making them disciples.



**The Oromo form the largest ethnic group in Ethiopia.*

Services we provide to our members:

We teach discipleship to our members, helping them strengthen their faith in the Lord. The Pastor and Elders pay visits to members in their residences to encourage them and to meet their emotional, spiritual, psychological, and physical needs as required. These include praying and providing counseling to those in need. Our members meet for prayers & fellowship. Our pastor prepares & teaches Bible study to our members. We are grateful for the partnership in the Gospel we share with Faith Lutheran Church and the ministry support they provide.



Lutheran Women's Missionary League Canada – Faith Society (LWML)

by Jo-Anne MacAdam

Amazing Fact: Our society at Faith has been in existence for 59 years!

Our Society is part of the Fraser Valley Zone, made up of 6 active societies. The Zone Planning Committee meets two or three times a year to plan Spring and Fall events for all women, including Vancouver Zone. The next event coming up is the Spring Renewal at Trinity Abbotsford on April 29. Rev. Leonardo Neitzel is our pastoral advisor and has suggested the topic “Light” for this event. Everyone welcome!

We have 12 members and 4 supportive members. We meet once a month on Zoom and enjoy Bible study together as well as discussing the current business.

Each month we give cash donations to our general fund as well as money and items for the monthly mission project we support. They are Sowing Seeds Preschool, Surrey Food Bank, Downtown East Side, Seminary Food Bank, Lutheran Hour Ministries, Faith Sunday School, Compassion Canada, Lutheran Hour Ministries, Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP), and B.C. Mission Boat Ministries. We also often support activities in the church.

We also contribute our Mites to the National fund that supports the mission projects voted on in the last convention. In the past, we received funding from LWMLC for our Ministry project to Kincolith.

We enjoy gathering together and supporting one another as Sisters in Christ!

Faith's Morning & Afternoon Children's Sunday Schools are

using Sparkhouse Digital's Whirl Lectionary which follows the Bible readings of the Sunday service. We have one Primary class with up to **9 children** and one Intermediate class with **4 children** in the morning, one mixed age **12 children** in the afternoon class. Sunday Schools cover Theme & offering songs, church calendar, Bible verse, Bible story YouTube cartoon & application Videos, Bible lesson, crafts & prayers. Thanks to Volunteers Teachers: Ian & Xing Stewart, Wei Xu, Tingyu Wilch, Frey & Kenna.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

LADIES' WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY *by Jo-Anne MacAdam*

This quarter we are studying "Measured by Grace: How God Defines Success" by Sharla Fritz published by Concordia. The topics include Joseph, Rahab, David, Jerimiah, John the Baptist, The Samaritan Woman, Peter, and Paul. We continue to meet on Zoom and have as many as 20 ladies joining with Val Lowther as our leader. We always start our session at 9:30 a.m. sharing prayers needed and lifting them up to our Heavenly Father. Our online study time goes until 11:00 a.m. so those ladies who are school playground supervisors have time to get to work. We always enjoy the discussion that comes with each study and are especially happy to gather with our Sisters in Christ.

We are hiring!

We are in need of a cleaner for our church facility on Saturday evenings (4-6 hours) and for other odd jobs throughout the week, like managing rentals and taking out the garbage. Please contact Tingyu at 778-628-6122 if you are interested and for more info.

Sowing Seeds Preschool *by Roneeta Kumar, Center Manager*

This term the preschool will be focusing on learning topics like family, trees, flowers and gardening and the renewal of Spring. Our children have come a long way since September and most of them are now preparing to move on to Kindergarten. We are so blessed to have the opportunity to guide and care for the wonderful children and families that we do.

With the Government's plan to make childcare more affordable for families with the 10\$ a day childcare plan, we are looking forward to the new benefits that will become available to all of our families coming in April. Each child will receive up to \$95.00 per month to lower their costs for childcare through the child care fee reduction initiative. With this we are expecting more children and families who will be able to access our services.

The introduction of the Parent Connection workshops are a wonderful addition to the program. Thank you to Maria for volunteering her time to come and offer these parenting sessions for our families and at the same time provide additional support to families with the goal of helping our children to grow to their fullest potential.

The preschool is in need of some volunteers any time throughout the year. Please feel free to contact us if you feel that you may have some talents or skills that you can share with our children.

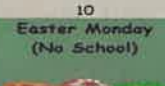

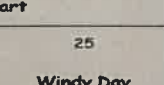
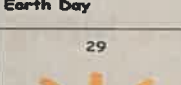
Thank you.

April 2023

info@sowingseeds.ca

Sowing Seeds Preschool

604-594-4098

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Ramadan Mubarak 
2 Easter Letter Rr 	3 Egg Dyeing 	4 Easter Basket 	5 Easter Egg Hunt 	6 Bunny Hop 	7 Good Friday (No School)	8 
9 Music is around us Letter Ss 	10 Easter Monday (No School) 	11 shakers 	12 Tambourines 	13 Music around the world 	14 Happy Vaisakhi 	15 
16 Our Planet Earth Letter Tt 	17 Earth day vocabulary 	18 Recycling Recycled materials art 	19 Blue and green 	20 Helping the environment 	21 Fire Drill 	22 Earth Day 
23 Weather Letter Uu 	24 Rainbows 	25 Windy Day Kites 	26 Cloud Observations 	27 Rain cloud jar Science experiment 	28 Sunny day shadows 	29 
30						

*Children are precious gifts from God,
to their families, school,
society and the world.*

SOWING SEEDS PARENTS CONNECTION PROJECT
By Maria Neitzel

Purpose: To help parents and family members improve communication skills, to aim for extraordinary relationships by nurturing children with love and social emotional abilities, and to help to develop a healthy emotional life into adulthood.-

We meet with the parents once or twice a month in workshops through which we share information related to parenting skills, providing parents with the opportunity to practice the learning with their children.

Family is meant to be a place for experiencing good and lasting memories, helping children to develop stronger self-esteem in becoming successful adults.

It has been my privilege to meet with staff, parents and children and work with them through *Integral Coaching System Methodology*. The workshops have been interactive and very positive in the educational seedling process.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

by Jo-Anne MacAdam

Several recent projects that have been undertaken:

1. The broken high windows on the north side of the new narthex were replaced.
2. Just before Christmas we were able to completely re-lamp the sanctuary with new LED lighting. It felt good to get all the lights on for Christmas as many were burned out. We also replaced lights in the old narthex, the kitchen cupboard, and the Sunday School corridor.
3. Mr. Rooter was called in to clear a drain up on the roof.
4. The stolen sound board was replaced with a new digital board which is locked in place. We are grateful to Simon Tressel, formerly of St. Luke, who helped us install and set it up and to Amanda and Joshua Cook for running the system on Sundays and special days as well as a few other volunteers.
5. You may have noticed that the cedar hedge trees on the south side of the parking lot have been cut down and we thank Martin and Dave for doing this work.
6. Community of Hope have been helping out with a number of projects including a) replacing the thermostat in the gym, b) bringing in a boom truck to replace the burnt out lights in the parking lot, so now all are on, c) replacing some lights in the office wing, d) cleaning off the stage and disposing of the old pool table, etc.

Ongoing Issues:

1. Repair or replace the front doors.
2. Replace the hot water tank in the kitchen cupboard.
3. Service the super hot.
4. Service the dishwasher
5. Repair the heating pipe leak outside the preschool near the chapel.

I would appreciate it if you would let me know if you see anything else that needs our attention. We want to keep God's House in good condition and repair!

2022 INCOME & EXPENSES

2022 Revenue	
English Fellowship	\$114,499
Chinese Fellowship	\$37,040
Korean Fellowship	\$19,825
Oromo Fellowship	\$13,790
Hispanic Fellowship	\$6,110
Total Offerings	\$191,264
LCC Subsidy	\$23,416
Rentals	\$81,814
Summer worker grant	\$24,776
Other	\$5,766
Ministry Revenue	\$15,393
Preschool	\$83,819
Total Other Revenue	\$234,984
Total Revenue	\$426,248
2023 Expenses	
Synod Missions	\$12,000
Mission Trip & LAMP	\$6,074
Compassion Canada	\$1,476
Other	\$5,377
Preschool	\$90,992
Administration	\$8,576
Payroll	\$218,418
Building	\$83,579
Total Expenses	\$426,505
Net Loss	\$257

Vaisakhi Parade Outreach – Volunteers Needed!

The Surrey Vaisakhi Parade is scheduled for Saturday, April 22. Our church is near the parade route and we are planning to offer the use of our parking lot to parade goers from further away for a suggested donation of \$5. The money collected will go toward our summer mission trip expenses. We are also planning to have an outreach table at our sidewalk, offering snacks, Bibles and Gospel literature to parade goers passing by our property. Starting at 9 am we need volunteers to manage the parking lot and/or to hand out goodies and literature. Please contact Pastor Wilch about joining our team: 604-653-1909; gwilch@yahoo.ca

