

# CHRIST CALLING

May 2019

## CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

445 Anndale Road, Waterloo, ON N2K 2E3

Phone: (519) 885-4050

Website: [www.christwaterloo.ca](http://www.christwaterloo.ca)

**“Christ Lutheran Church is a Christian community worshipping together and working with others, locally and globally, to serve those in need, to care for the earth, and to work for justice.”**

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### From Pastor David

Friends,

This past Good Friday, an ecumenical group of about 15 walked through downtown Kitchener for a “Stations of the Cross.” Read the article below; it was published in the Anglican Diocese of Huron news page. Among other things, this walk was a very public demonstration of faith, not something we reserved Canadian Lutherans are accustomed to. But still, this is what our faith is all about: a public faith, finding expression in visible, tangible action. This whole experience for me called to mind the popular saying: “If you were accused of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?” In our daily lives, as well as in our public, civic involvements, are we reflecting the love and compassionate justice of Jesus, in whose name we pray, and whom we claim to follow?

Peace to you this Easter season,  
Pastor David

WHY@Breakfast presents



at  
**Our Lady Of Lourdes RC Church**  
173 Lourdes Street, Waterloo  
**May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 9 AM to Noon**



### Art, Beauty, and Dialogue

**Rev. Denis Grecco, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Theology, St. Peter's Seminary

**SAT MAY 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 9:30 AM to 11 AM Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church**

*How may art and beauty assist us to face the issues of our contemporary world?*

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\*Two volumes, *Pentateuch* and *Gospel & Acts*, will be on display.



# Stations of the Cross in downtown Kitchener



The theme for the stations was, Against the Forces of Death; Embracing the Faces of Poverty: Kitchener, Good Friday 2019

## By Rev. Marty Levesque

At vestries this past year Bishop Linda Nicholls challenged congregations throughout the Diocese of Huron to Stand in Solidarity with those living in poverty. This Good Friday, All Saints Anglican Church Waterloo joined with Christ Lutheran Church to participate in the Stations of the Cross in downtown Kitchener.

The theme for the stations was, Against the Forces of Death; Embracing the Faces of Poverty. The two churches embraced the opportunity to draw attention to the unjust structures of society and to be a visible presence in the community. Stations included banks, the courthouse and jail, regional government headquarters, the statue of the begging Jesus, Money Mart, luxury condos, war memorial, Mary's place and the Working Center.

The two communities made their way from station to station carrying the cross, reading scriptures and praying at each location. Discussions unfolded at each station.



At Regional Government Headquarters, Steven Izma noted “the choices politicians make surrounding transit are far too often for the privileged, the high tech sector and to get the rich too and from shopping quickly. Transit to factories or poor neighbours is just neglected.” When reflecting on the predatory lending practices of Money Mart and other payday lenders, Sharon Summerville noted that “we have lost any sense of community morality allowing these places to exist.”

Oz Cole-Arnal, professor emeritus from Martin Luther University College reflected upon the gentrification of the downtown core, stating, “It isn’t urban renewal, its urban removal of the poor.”



Pastor Marty Levesque of All Saints Anglican Church noted that gap in social housing versus the abundance of student housing is an indication of a class divide. “We readily build student housing for middle and upper-middle-class folks who can afford to send kids to university, but we refuse to build the most basic social housing, seeing no profit it.”

The Stations of the Cross concluded at the Working Center, world-renowned outreach ministries, which provide a myriad of services throughout Kitchener/Waterloo. Margaret Nally remarked that the Working Centers mission is “to help return dignity, reliance and humanity to each person who walks through the doors.”



While the rain held off for the two communities to finish the stations, each participant couldn't help reflect that when it rains, or snows, many of the invisible population in the cities of Kitchener and Waterloo simply must endure. To date this year, as presented at the mayors' dinner for St John's Soup Kitchen, there have been over 25 deaths in the region to the population that calls the streets, jails, and The Working Center home. In 2018, the number of deaths for the entire year for this specific population was 35.



*Photo: Davor Milicevic*

# Meditation Group

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month @ 12:15 pm ~ 1:00 pm

10 minutes of teaching, followed by 20 minutes silent meditation  
in the Christian tradition.

Beginners and Experienced Meditators Welcome!

*“The Holy One of Israel says: In return and rest you will be saved;  
quietness and trust will be your strength...” (Isaiah 30:15)*

## “Welcome to Canada” Potluck

Following worship on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Bring your favourite food to share to help welcome our Refugee Family  
Azieb and her nephews, who are settling into the Waterloo Region!

## Meet the Bishop!

Our Eastern Synod Bishop Michael Pryse is coming to worship at Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, and to our Two Rivers Ministry Area on Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>, where you can join him and other lay people from our 11 parishes in the Two Rivers Ministry Area for a Sausage-on-Bun Dinner,

**6:00 pm** and open conversation about future directions, transitions and mission, **7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Heidelberg**

**FOOD TRUCKS  
ARE  
COMING!!**



Watch for the details but the Food Trucks are booked for  
**June 18, July 9, July 23 and August 20.**

There will be sign up sheets for volunteers.

Let someone else do the cooking and the dishes!

## **From the Treasurer.....**

*Submitted by Karen McRae*

In the weekly bulletin the approved budget need and the income from offerings for the previous week is presented. The income for the previous week includes the weekly amount received by the church through the pre-authorized givings. The pre-authorized givings are received monthly and then divided by the number of weeks in the month for bulletin reporting purposes. The weekly amounts required to meet our 2019 budget are as follows:

Operating budget - \$12,240 per month or \$2,825 per week  
 Eastern Synod/Benevolence - \$1,333 per month or \$308 per week  
 Building/Capital Fund - \$1520 per month or \$351 per week.

As of the end of March 2019 here are the first quarter results:

### **Operating:**

#### **Income**

Offerings - \$32,549;  
 Fund Raising - \$782;  
 External Revenue - \$10,058  
 Total Income: \$43,389.

#### **Expenses**

Total expenses were 3% below budget or \$41,364  
 For the first quarter (January-March 2019) there was a surplus in Operating of \$2,422.

### **Eastern Synod/Wider Church:**

Offerings for the Eastern Synod/Wider Church were \$3272. This 18% lower than approved in the 2019 budget. These donations have been remitted as designated.

### **Building/Capital Fund:**

Offerings - \$2906  
 Expenses - \$2910.

This income allowed the mortgage payments to be made but does not cover the anticipated capital costs of the new vacuum, the front door opener and the heating unit.

If you have any questions or suggestions as to the reporting, I would appreciate your input. Thank you for your continued support of Christ Church.

## May 2019 Transition Team Update

*Submitted by Henriette Thompson (team lead) on behalf of Jim, Barbara and Ross.*

By the time you read this, a congregational meeting will have happened after Sunday service on April 28. The purpose of that meeting is to share a wide range of findings that will help the congregation move forward in a process of renewal and change. There will be no decisions made at this meeting.

If you would like to receive a copy of the presentation by email or a print copy in your mailbox at church, please let any of us know.

We plan to hold Question & Answer opportunities for further discussion and sharing on Wednesday, May 8 at 2pm and 7pm, and on Sunday, May 19 after the service.

The Transition Team

Henriette Thompson, Jim Diehl and Ross Wagner

[Henriette.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:Henriette.thompson@gmail.com)

647 701 7812 or please place a message in any of our mailboxes at church



## June Newsletter Issue

Submissions deadline is May 20<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month). Please submit your items as a **Word Document, Times New Roman, size 12** to Pastor David at [pastordavid@christwaterloo.ca](mailto:pastordavid@christwaterloo.ca)