



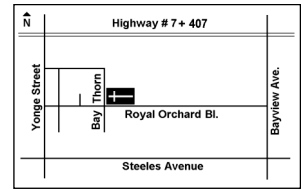
CHRIST THE KING - DIETRICH BONHOEFFER LUTHERAN CHURCH

149 Bay Thorn Drive, Thornhill L3T 3V2, Ontario, (905) 889-0873

Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

24 Orlon Crescent, Richmond Hill L4C 6S5, Ontario, (905) 881-9154

www.lutheran-church-thornhill.org



Dear Congregation,

"God proclaims: as a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you."

Isaiah 66:13

The biblical watchword for 2016 is a wonderful verse from the Book of Isaiah to accompany us this year. As I write these words, fears of the Zika virus are escalating, the Canadian economy is spiralling downward, and our congregation is dealing with the effects of four consecutive years of deficits. If we listen to the news too much, it seems some days as if we just might never want to crawl out of bed in the morning, because there are too much frightening things going on outside.

Yet, this verse reminds us that God is a God who cares about us, a God who loves us just as a loving father or mother would. Who among us has not had the experience of a parent, relative or guardian comfort us when we were frightened as children? Whether it was fear of the dark, monsters under the bed, or of real threats, such as bombs, poverty or danger?

God is like such a loving parent or guardian, although sometimes God seem distant, or speaks with a very small voice we can hardly make out. The more time we spend with God each day, the more attuned we can be to her motherly comfort in times of distress. May this season of Lent and Easter be a time where you can sense God's comfort in new and invigorating ways!

*Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer*

Liebe Gemeinde,

"Gott spricht: Ich will euch trösten, wie einen seine Mutter tröstet."

Jesaja 66,13

Die Jahreslosung für das Jahr 2016 ist ein wunderbarer Vers, der uns in diesem Jahr begleiten wird. Während ich diese Worte schreibe, steigt die Angst vor dem Zikavirus; die kanadische Wirtschaft ist schwächer geworden; und unsere Gemeinde ist mit den Auswirkungen der letzten vier Defizitjahre beschäftigt. . . . Wenn wir zu viel von diesen täglichen Nachrichten hören, scheint es manchmal als ob wir am Morgen einfach im Bett bleiben sollten um vielen schrecklichen Dingen in der Welt zu entfliehen.

Dennoch erinnert uns dieser Vers daran, dass Gott ein Gott ist der sich um uns sorgt, so wie ein liebender Vater oder eine liebende Mutter es tun. Ich glaube dass die meisten von uns irgendwann in unserem Leben von nahestehenden Menschen Trost empfangen haben. Vielleicht, weil wir Angst hatten vor der Dunkelheit, vor Ungeheuern unter dem Bett. Oder aber es bestand eine echte Gefahr wie Bomben, Hungersnot oder andere Schrecken.

Gott ist so wie ein liebevoller Vater oder eine liebevolle Mutter, auch wenn er manchmal fern zu sein scheint. Manchmal spricht Er mit einer sehr kleinen Stimme, so dass wir ihn kaum hören können. Aber je mehr Zeit wir täglich mit Gott verbringen, desto mehr können wir in Zeiten der Not Trost finden. Möge diese Passions- und Osterzeit dazu beitragen, dass wir Gottes Trost in neuer und belebender Art und Weise wahrnehmen können!

*Herzlichst, im Dienst Christi,
Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer*

From the Pastor's Desk



The Minion Meadows-Helmerts (hats courtesy of Rene Samulewitsch)

Important Parental Leave Information

From March 28- June 26, I will be on parental leave.

–**Pastor Rick Kwiatkowski** (see below) will be interim pastor and will take care of pastoral duties during the week (including emergencies, preparing bulletins, etc.) You can reach him at (416) 451-4607, r.kwiatkowski@rogers.com. He will continue to have office hours on Tuesdays, 11-2, but will not be in on Saturdays.

–**Pastor Edmund Hanssmann** will lead worship on Sundays. Although Pastor Hanssmann is a United Church minister, Bishop Pryse has granted him, because the situation is an “allowable anomaly”, the ability to preside at communion during my parental leave.

If you have any questions, contact a Council Member. Thank you for your support during this time; I’m really looking forward to spending more time with my family!

Pastor Sebastian

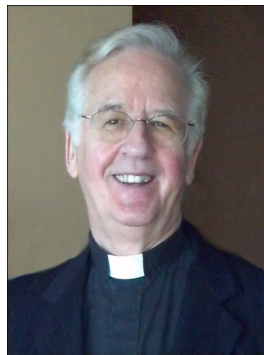
The Rev. Richard A. Kwiatkowski is a native of Western New York and a rostered pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Since December 2014, Pastor Kwiatkowski has been serving as Interim Pastor of First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Toronto.



Pastor Kwiatkowski graduated from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in May 2001 with a M.Div. In June 2002, Pastor Kwiatkowski received a call to serve as Pastor of Good Shepherd, Lutheran Church in North Boston, New York. He served this congregation until November 2014. For a couple of years, while serving as the pastor of Good Shepherd, he also served as the part-time Chaplain for the Niagara Lutheran Health System in Western New York.

He received his Master of Theology (ThM) degree in May 2015 from Trinity College (University of Toronto). While in Toronto for his studies, he met his partner, Charles, in October 2010. Pastor Kwiatkowski and Charles were married in October 2015.

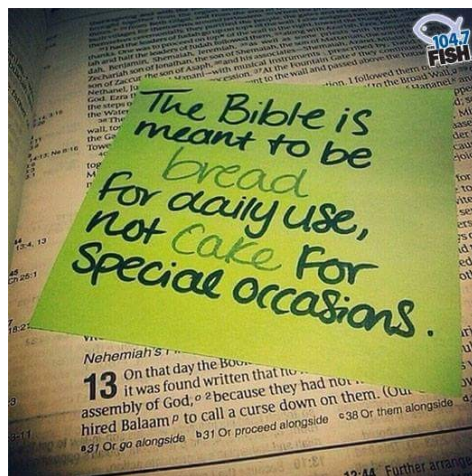
Pastor Kwiatkowski and his husband Charles have been foster parents since December 2011. They currently live in the Scarborough area of Toronto, along with Pastor Kwiatkowski's 17 year old Tonkinese cat, Emily. They also are planning on starting a family of their own very soon, through adoption.



The Rev. Edmund Hanssmann will be leading worship from March 28–June 26.

Here he introduces himself:

"I was born in Germany and emigrated in 1971 to Canada. I was pastor for 23 years, until my retirement, at the German United Church, Toronto. I live on the 18th floor of a high-rise in North York."



New Pastor

After almost 6 years of interim ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran, Richmond Hill, **Rev. Mark Kalvaitis** was called as full-time pastor and began his duties in September 2015.

He introduces himself here:

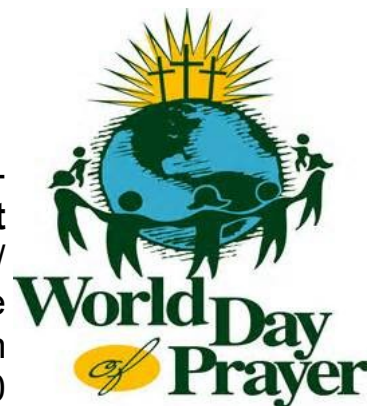
"I was born in Kitchener Ontario on the 24th day of March 1983 just in time for breakfast. I am currently the pastor of St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Richmond Hill. I also serve as a logistics officer with the 31 Signal Regiment in Hamilton Ontario. Personally, I love to play piano and wind down by eating a big meal or a ton of candy and listening to some jazz. I am a slow reader, so a good podcast goes a long way for me. When I am not sleeping in on Saturdays, I love to break a sweat playing sports including cross-fit, ultimate frisbee and squash."



The current newsletter, you may have noticed, covers 6 months, March-August. This is due to my parental leave. The next issue will cover September-November, and then we will return to the regular newsletter spacing.

World Day of Prayer 2016

This year we are again hosting the World Day of Prayer service. It will be held **at our church on Friday, March 4th at 1.30 p.m.** The country of focus is Cuba, and the speaker/preacher will be the **Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer**. "The World Day of Prayer is an international **ecumenical** Christian laywomen's initiative. It is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March, since 1887...Through the World Day of Prayer, women are encouraged to become aware of the other countries and cultures and no longer live in isolation. They are also encouraged take up the burdens of other people, to sympathize with the problems of other countries and cultures and pray with and for them. They are further encouraged to become aware of their talents and use them in the service of society. The World Day of Prayer aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world."





The Thornhill Lenten Series 2016 continues into March, with a service on March 6th at Thornhill United (25 Elgin St.) and a final service on March 13th at St. Luke's Catholic (39 Green Lane). Both services are at 4 p.m.. Proceeds go to the Yellow Brick House, Out of the Cold, and Evergreen Hospice.

IN SUPPORT OF

SickKids®

On December 17, the Confirmands organized a **"Confirmands' Christmas"** evening with a Christmas scavenger hunt, music and food. \$180 were raised for SickKids!



[A portion of the boxes collected for Attawapiskat in our youth room]

The November **"Attawapiskat Blessing"** food and clothing drive sent 166 boxes (over 4,000 lbs) to the remote northern First Nations town of Attawapiskat, Ontario (near James Bay). Our church joined this drive last year and collected items and provided space to store the donations during November. Numerous other churches and organizations participated.

Prisca Kenel's daughter Christine and husband James have been organizing this for four years. The boxes were then driven up by truck to Timmins, and flown, free of charge by Air Creebec, to Attawapiskat, where the donations were sorted and handled by Pastor Stephen of the local Pentecostal church.

Here is the transcript of the thank-you email:

Dear Pastor Sebastian and to your congregation:

We thank you for your generous donation of time and items for the Attawapiskat Blessing 2015. It was truly a blessing for us as well, as we delivered donations to the homes who received. Yes, it takes many helping hands to make something like this work, and we are just a part of it. Attawapiskat is thankful also for the help as we are all aware of the high cost of living here. [...] God bless abundantly and keep you all.

Pastor Stephen and Cathy

Attention, Attention!

Given the passing of the motion to have one English-only Sunday a month, every Sunday now has a different worship schedule! Please look at your calendars, check the website, or phone the office (the voicemail is always updated) every week!

We really keep each other on our toes in our church now with our variety of worship options! The idea is that we are in a period of transition, moving from two Sunday services every Sunday (like 10 years ago), to eventually just one.



Worship Schedule



On Friday, November 27th, I attended the 18th annual **Markham Prayer Breakfast** for the second time. Almost 700 people were in attendance, with representatives from municipal, provincial and federal government, police, fire, paramedics, business, community, and church, both lay and clergy. Central to the breakfast was the "Prayer for Leadership", where many local leaders were prayed for by name. Juno-winning soul and gospel singer Jackie Richardson pro-

vided wonderful music, and the speaker was Cardinal Thomas Collins, who spoke on how themes of Advent (urgency, vision and hope) should impact our lives for a world in need of light.

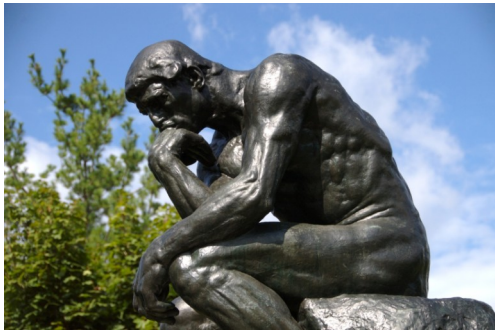
I think the breakfast is an amazing opportunity for Christians and leaders in Markham to come together once a year, and pray and praise God together. Next year's speaker is Mark Cullen (gardening show host) and the musician is St. Luke's Catholic Thornhill musician extraordinaire, Greg Benoit. Consider attending with me next year on Friday, November 25!

On Sunday, November 29th, I attended the **MOSAIC Interfaith annual Peace Meal**. It was held at Har Zion Synagogue and the keynote Speaker was Kim Wheeton. She spoke about Indigenous issues and the follow-up to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Her challenge to the participants was to follow Justice Sinclair's advice: Read the Commission's report (at trc.ca) and take one single recommendation and act on it. Ms. Wheeton's talk was followed up by responses from representatives of

5 religions, talking about how their faith informed their reaction to the Commission's report. Following the presentations there was time for informal discussion over a potluck vegan meal. It was an enlightening and interesting afternoon and I encourage everyone to consider attending next year's Meal. It usually occurs on the last Sunday afternoon in November.

Pastor Sebastian





“Life is the only school
where the tests come first,
and then the lessons.”

“The Christian should be able
to preach, pray or die
at a moment's notice.”

Thank you!

-To Fred Neitzert and donors for the new entrance-way display backing and hanging system. The new system will accommodate various types of painting sizes and weights, and the backdrop looks clean and professional.

-To Tony Streisslberger for the new cry room speaker hookup and system!

-To Deborah Tobin who has served for 6 years on the Worship and the Arts Committee (for much of the time as Chair) and stepped down in November.

-To Gary Schaefer who stepped down as usher after serving faithfully for over four decades.

-To Deborah Tobin and Gisela Neitzert for again putting together a professional annual report.



Are you looking to start a **new investment or purchase a new insurance**? Consider FaithLife Financial! They are a Christian not-for-profit organization (they used to be called Lutheran Life) that does a lot of good across Canada. If you become their client, you can join our Church Chapter and **help support our church**! FaithLife currently provides matching grants to our congregations for fundraisers. Speak with Ruth Boothby for more details.

In April 2011, **José Figueroa**, a Canadian born in El Salvador threatened with deportation, came to our church on a cross-Canada tour to raise the profile of his plight and of others similar to him. On December 23rd, 2015, he stepped out of the Lutheran church in Langley, BC, where he had sought sanctuary for 2 years, as his deportation orders had finally been stayed.

More info at <https://wearejose.wordpress.com>



Do you have a **passion or an expertise** you would like to share with others? Whether it's a hobby, a skill, a vacation or whatever, would you like to take 10-20 minutes after a service during coffee hour and do a little presentation or demonstration? I think there are so many wonderful things we could share and learn from each other that could enrich our common life together. Please talk to me if you're interested.

Pastor Sebastian



Over at Fortitude Holiness Tabernacle, Dexter Rice, the Sunday School teacher, was telling his class the story of the Prodigal Son. Wishing to emphasize the resentful attitude of the elder brother, he laid stress on this part of the parable.

After describing the rejoicing of the household over the return of the wayward son, Dexter spoke of one who, in the midst of the festivities, failed to share in the jubilant spirit of the occasion. "Can anybody in the class," he asked, "tell me who this was?"

Nine year old Olivia Crombie had been listening sympathetically to the story. She waved her hand in the air. "I know!" she said beamingly. "It was the fatted calf."

Where are we going as a congregation?

Here are our **Congregational goals** for 2016:

- *Establish feasibility for an affordable retirement facility on our property, by Feb 2016,*
- *Increase number of active households to 100, and average weekly worship attendance to 90, by Feb 2017*
- *Balance our budget*
- *Name change with new sign*
- *Increase/activate 10 members and hold an area workshop on the topic of "why aren't people coming to church?"*
- *Search out new forms of income, e.g.: solar power, rental, website/online*



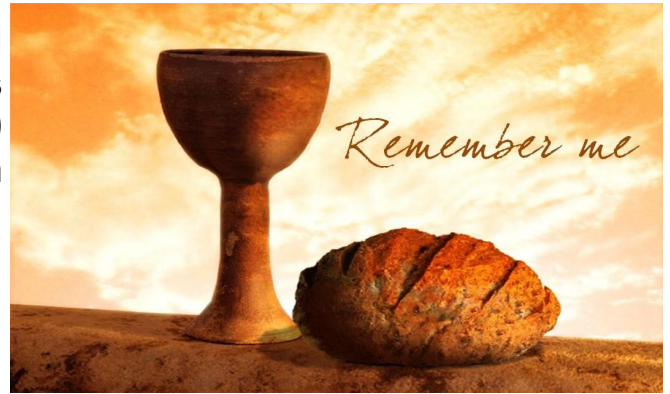
For more on our goals, see our annual report.

Two questions to ponder:

What was the best time (the best years?) for you at CKTDB?

What can we do again or adapt to the present situation?

On **Maundy Thursday**, March 24th, we will be holding **our service at St. Paul's Lutheran, 10131 Bayview Avenue at 6.30 p.m.** St. Paul's joined us for our Ash Wednesday service in February. Please note there will be no service on Maundy Thursday in our church building.



On Sunday, August 7th, we will be holding **our service at St. Paul's Lutheran, 10131 Bayview Avenue at 10.30 a.m.** St. Paul's will join us for a service in July. Please note there will be no service on August 7th in our church building. *Please bring your church envelopes...all CTKDB church envelopes will be directed towards our own church.*

Annual Meeting update

At our annual congregational meeting on February 7th, all reports were accepted and the budget passed as presented. Prisca Kenel was elected as new Council Member. Ed Stahlberg was elected as Eastern Synod Assembly delegate.

The following two names were selected for further consideration for a name change:

Rejoice Lutheran Church and Thornhill Lutheran Church. A motion was passed calling for **one Sunday a month** to have only an English Service at 9.30 a.m.



Here are the list of the Council members for 2016-17:

Rene Samulewitsch
Marika Samulewitsch
Deborah Tobin
Edith Schiller
Ann Bender
Prisca Kenel
Doris Lottermoser

Newest member on Council:
Prisca Kenel



Church Name Change

On Sunday, **April 10th** after the Joint Service, there will be a special congregational meeting to select a new church name. The two names on the ballot will be *Rejoice Lutheran Church* and *Thornhill Lutheran Church*. On Sunday, **May 8th**, after the Mother's Day Hymn Sing Service, a second meeting to confirm the decision will be held (requiring a 2/3 majority vote). **All members are invited to attend these important meetings!**

Special Easter Offering

The Easter Offering this year is again designated for **Waterloo** Lutheran Seminary. Please use the special envelope included with your regular set. Should you wish to direct your Easter Offering to another cause, please mark this envelope accordingly.



*Die Osterspende ist wieder für **Waterloo** Lutheran Seminary bestimmt. Bitte benutzen Sie dafür den Sonderumschlag, den Sie in dem Kästchen mit den anderen Umschlägen finden. Sollten Sie Ihre Osterspende einem anderen Zweck zukommen lassen wollen, vermerken Sie dies bitte auf dem Umschlag.*

Canada Lutheran Subscriptions



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada**
In Mission for Others

We wish to remind all recipients of this publication that subscriptions were renewed in January, and would ask you to submit the price of \$18.50 for the year 2015 as soon as possible. You may place a special envelope with your name and envelope number in the donation plate, hand in the money at the office, or give it directly to our treasurer Edith Schiller. Thank you.

Looking back –

Set the time machine to Nov. 2015, - the day before the 1. Advent Sunday:

Our Advent Bazaar



What did we have? Excited volunteers, good weather, a welcoming hall, loaded bake tables, crafts of all shapes and colours, irresistible knick-knacks, and best of all: Delicious food and beautiful cakes!

As in previous years, our church hall was a happy place. It is nice to see people come back to us; we are grateful for their loyalty.

At the end of the day, the proceeds of \$ 3,701.25 were directed to the Building Fund.

A BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL!

Leni Schwartzel



Martin Pymm's Story:

It seems to be quite easy being asked the hypothetical question **“Would you give up your organ to save another person's life?”** and most often people simply say yes, and then the thought goes away.

When I was asked by the doctors and my family to help save my mother's life, how could I say no? My mother suffered from Primary Sclerosing Colangitis, a rare and slowly progressing autoimmune liver disease that attacks the bile ducts inside and outside. After living with the disease for 10 years, she was finally accepted into the transplant program as a last resort to save her life.

I always knew my mother was sick from a young age, I always assumed that life would get better, death was never on my mind, but when I turned 18, the jaundice set in and I saw the true face of end stage liver disease. I always thought this scenario was for TV shows like “House” or “Grey's Anatomy”, I never thought of our family going through its own soap opera. Of course my brother Phillip and I immediately signed up to donate, my brother was the first to get the call from the hospital to begin tests as a possible match. I did not get one. I'll admit, I was very jealous of him to get this experience and to be able to save a life. I was jealous of the noble deed and felt I had no purpose to help. After a few weeks when mom got sicker, I forgot the jealousy, my attitude changed, sibling rivalry went away, because there was no need for it. It was about family and trying to help our mother, the person that gave us life. The person that taught us how to walk and someone we both truly loved. Our hopes were dealt a blow when the transplant team discovered that Phillip was not a match as the transplant team feared his life would be put in jeopardy later on due to a health issue. I assumed it was genetic and that I had the same problem and completely lost hope. But hope was restored when I received a call being asked if I would be willing to do the testing. 3 weeks later, after numerous blood tests and consultations with a psychiatrist, surgeons, and nurses to see if I could physically and mentally handle the stress of the surgery I was on the operating table. One of the surgeons Dr. Paul Greig drew a sketch of what the probability of death was. He told me that my mom had a 25% chance of death, where I had 5%. He also described possible scenarios of a situation in which if my mom died and I survived, he would be the one to tell me. This haunted me for weeks, whether I would be able to handle that.

I was scared on the morning of surgery, not for me, but for my mom, I remember saying one of the most emotional goodbyes to my father in pre op and then fell asleep. The next thing I knew I was awake crying with tubes everywhere and my dad and brother beside me. All I wanted to know was if mom was alive, I didn't care for anything else. Thankfully the surgery was a success and I would spend the next week in Hospital. I was in the ICU for the first 2 days on a liquid diet with a pump of

hydro-morphine that I did abuse in fear of being in pain. The overuse of the morphine pump resulted in some unwanted side effects, which to this day still baffles me. I remember being told on the second day to try and walk around, but I didn't believe the doctors when they said "it will be like learning to walk again" and it was! A simple ONE-minute lap around the ICU was too much for me.

I was then moved down to a new level out of the ICU to the transplant ward where my perspective on life and the idea of pain changed. I found myself incredibly depressed with thoughts of regret, but I know it was the medication that was doing it. I was just very sad. Thanks to the extended hospital hours, friends could walk through the door anytime and I would sometimes clench their hand or cry uncontrollably. It helped but I just wanted to go home. There was a young man my age next to me in my room, who needed a lung transplant. At first I was jealous of him because he could at least sleep on his side without pain, but soon while talking to him from time to time, I came to the realization that I would be able to go home and lead a normal life soon. Leaving the hospital and seeing home was incredibly overwhelming to me, words cannot express what it felt like. Being home brought another boost to my recovery and day-by-day the pain subsided and I began to walk more my age. When I look back at what happened and the size of my scar I would still do it all over again in heartbeat if I were asked.

I know there is a light at the end of the tunnel, things do get better when you think everything is falling apart, and I live by that experience everyday through all the struggles that come my way that the idea hope and progress is just over the hill.



Martin Pymm and Annette Hinrichs-Pymm

Invitations - Einladungen

Friday, March 4

1:30 p.m.

World Day of Prayer / Weltgebetstag
at CTKDB
The country this year is Cuba.



Sunday, March 6

9:30 a.m.

Englisch Service (Installation of newly elected
Council Members) followed by Potluck Coffee Hour
*Englischer Gottesdienst (Einführung der neugewählten
Gemeinderatsmitglieder), gefolgt von Kaffee und Kuchen*



March 29 - April 5

Holy Week (see next page)
Karwoche (siehe nächste Seite)



Monday, April 4

First Day of Spring Cleaning



Saturday, April 23

Last Day of Spring Cleaning

March 28 - June 26

Pastor Sebastian on Parental Leave





HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 20

10.00 p.m.

Palm Sunday

Joint Family Service

followed by Potluck Coffee Hour

Gemeinsamer Familiengottesdienst,

gefolgt von Kaffee und Kuchen



Wednesday, March 23

6:30 p.m.

Messy Easter



Thursday, March 24

6.30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

10131 Bayview Street, Richmond Hill



Friday, March 25

9.30 a.m.

Karfreitagsgottesdienst mit Abendmahl

11.00 a.m.

Good Friday Service



Sunday, March 27

9.30 a.m.

Ostergottesdienst mit Abendmahl

11.00 a.m.

Easter Holy Communion



Invitations - Einladungen

Tuesday, April 5

7:30 p.m.

Annual Altar Guild Meeting



Sunday, April 10

10:00 a.m.

Joint Dietrich Bonhoeffer Sunday Service followed by
Potluck Coffee Hour and Congregational Meeting

Gemeinsamer Gottesdienst

gefolgt von Kaffee und Kuchen und Gemeindeversammlung

Wednesday, April 27

6:30 p.m.

Messy Church



Saturday, May 7

Cooking Mother's Day Luncheon



Sunday, May 8

10:00 a.m.

Joint Mothers' Day Hymn Sing Service
followed by luncheon and Congregational Meeting

Gemeinsamer Gesangsgottesdienst

*zum Muttertag mit anschliessendem Mittagessen und
Gemeindeversammlung*



Saturday, May 2

6:00 p.m.

Springfest Dinner / Fundraising Event
Frühlingsfest mit Abendessen

SPRINGFEST

Sunday, May 15

10:00 a.m.

Joint Family Pentecost Service
followed by Potluck Coffee Hour and Town Hall Meeting
*Gemeinsamer Familiengottesdienst gefolgt von Kaffee
und Kuchen und Mitgliederversammlung*



Wednesday, May 25

6:30 p.m.

Messy Church



Invitations - Einladungen

Sunday, June 12

10.30 a.m.

Joint Family Spring Service with Potluck BBQ

Gemeinsamer Freiluftsgottesdienst mit Potluck BBQ

Location: Church Property /

Gemeindegrundstück



As usual and starting July 3, there will only be one service each Sunday starting at 9.30 a.m. alternating between English and German – **see details below and on the calendar pages.**

Wie in jedem Sommer, findet ab 3. Juli nur ein Gottesdienst am Sonntag um 9.30 Uhr statt, abwechselnd in englischer und deutscher Sprache – **Genauere Angaben finden Sie weiter unten und auf den Kalenderblättern.**

July 3, 17, 31, Aug. 14, 28,

9.30 a.m.

Services in German

July 10, 24, Aug. 21

9.30 a.m.

Services in English



August 7

10.30 a.m.

Service in English

at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

at 10131 Bayview Street, Richmond Hill

No service in Thornhill!

Sunday September 11

10.00 a.m.

Joint Family Fall Service followed by annual Potluck BBQ

Gemeinsamer Familiengottesdienst mit

anschliessendem Potluck BBQ



Congregational News – Aus dem Gemeindeleben

Birthdays



Ilse Klingeman will be 93 years old on March 11.

Mary Pavlik will be 93 years old on March 12.

In May **Wilma Dreger** will be 96 years old (May 6).

Stefan Lojowsky will celebrate his 91st birthday on May 9 and

Helga Kosubek has her 93rd birthday on May 30.

David Dunn has his 90th birthday on July 2.

Mary Suter will be 94 years on August 10.

Both **Luise Weckesser** (September 6) and **Anneliese Guenther** (September 21)
turn 92 years old this year!

We wish all of them a Happy Birthday and God's Blessings.

Funerals



Anne-Margit Otto, June 2015

Karl Heinz Staroste, August 29, 2015

Erna Humphries, January 2, 2016

Hans John Glaesser, January 31, 2016

Volker Kirstein, February 5, 2016



Best Wishes

As always, we are also thinking of those members of the congregation who are sick, in hospital or at home, and about their family members and/or caregivers. We sincerely hope that they do not have to suffer too much, and wish them a speedy recovery, so that they once again can join us in Church.

Attention!

Church-House-Cleaning coming up in April -

Dear All,
we will have to do it again! Our Church-House is a much used building, just the way it should be.

It is always good to be five steps ahead of the Health Inspector, isn't it?

Some detailed lists will be posted on our information board. We have a chance to use-up our surplus energies in as many ways as we won't: Inside, outside, in front of our building – the Sanctuary -, in the back – the "Great Hall" – the kitchen with all the cupboards. Every nook and granny will get a critical spot-check. When we are through with our work and efforts, we can truly welcome Spring again.

Please sign-up and "Rejoice"!



Please sign up for the tasks you would like to take on, at a time convenient to you. When completed, please sign off on the same sheet (to be found on the board in the hallway) We need volunteers of all ages and both genders for these important tasks.

Am Anschlagbrett im Flur befindet sich eine Liste aller zu verrichtenden Aufgaben. Bitte tragen Sie sich dort ein und zeichnen sie ab, wenn die gewählte Aufgabe beendet ist.

Leni Schwartzel

Dear congregation and friends,

over the past five years Pastor Sebastian Meadows-Helmer has lead us forwards, challenging us to become better stewards and a stronger community of Lutherans. In that time we have had some obstacles to overcome as church and have spent much of our time focusing on taking those on. We have neglected to take the time to further help our Pastor grow and develop. On **Sunday May 15th after the Joint Service**, we wanted to take time out of our church discussions and hold a **town hall** to evaluate and help set goals for our Pastor's growth; What is Pastor Sebastian doing well? What would you like to see him continue to do? What can he improve on? What are some specific examples he can work towards achieving? Are there any specific goals you would like to see him achieve?



I encourage as many of you as possible to attend and reflect on the above questions, writing out your answers. It's important to provide feedback so we create an environment of growth and development that ultimately helps our congregation flourish.

I thank you in advance, Rene Samulewitsch, Council Chair

Please join us for our



Saturday May 14, 2016
Doors open @ 6:00pm

Ticket Price: \$ 30.00

Tickets are available at the church, or by phoning fellowship committee members.

Petra Boehringer.....	(905) 477-4322
Ruth Moskowitz	(905) 787-8713
Marika Samulewitsch ...	(905) 882-8447
Annette Hinrichs-Pymm	(905) 884-0292



**We need your
HELP!**

**Raffle donations
and volunteers are
needed!**

Council Highlights

November 2015:

- Motion carried: **That our Church becomes a member of the Moll Berczy Foundation starting in 2016.**
A \$ 25 membership fee will be paid



December 2015:

- Council Meeting held at the parsonage, with a short social following the business. (Enjoyed lovely Cheesecake and goodies)

January 2016:

- Parental leave priorities discussed at council, with a suggestion to invite participants in routine meetings to comment (e.g. Bible Study..) if these meetings should continue or be on hiatus during Pastor's parental leave.
- Discussed preparations for Annual meeting

Annual meeting:

- Denise Jack will join Endowment Committee.
- Prisca Kenel elected as new member of Church Council (first term)
- Petra Georges stepped down from Council. We thank her for her support this past year.
- Ed Stahlberg (delegate) and Erika Lottermoser (alternate) to attend Synod Assembly in June.
- Church Name Change - Choices were reduced (following ballot vote) from seven to two:

Rejoice Lutheran Church

Thornhill Lutheran Church

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Tobin

March 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>28</div> <div>Lent 3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service ■ 4:00 PM Lenten 	<div>29</div>	<div>1</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM ■ 2:00 PM Frauen-gruppe 	<div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Bibel-stunde 	<div>3</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1:30 PM World Day of Prayer 	<div>5</div>
<div>6</div> <div>Lent 4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM English Service ■ 4:00 PM Lenten 	<div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7:30 PM Mutual Ministry 	<div>8</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>12</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
<div>13</div> <div>Lent 5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM Engage! ■ 4:00 PM Lenten Se-ries 	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>16</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8:00 PM Council 	<div>17</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>19</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM ■ 2:00 PM Frohe Runde
<div>20</div> <div>Palm Sunday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Joint Family Service 	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>23</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Messy Church 	<div>24</div> <div>Maundy Thursday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Meal and Service at St. Paul's, 10131 Bayview 	<div>25</div> <div>Good Friday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>26</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
<div>27</div> <div>Easter Sunday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Pastor Se-bastian off until June 26 	<div>29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>2</div>

April 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>27</div> <div>Easter Sunday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Pastor Sebastian off until June 26 	<div>29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>2</div>
<div>3</div> <div>Easter 2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>4</div> <div>Spring Cleaning Begins</div>	<div>5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM ■ 2:00 PM Frauen-gruppe ■ 7:30 PM Altar Guild Mtg. 	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>9</div>
<div>10</div> <div>Easter 3</div> <div>Bonhoeffer Sunday</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Joint Family Service ■ 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting 	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>16</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Frohe Runde
<div>17</div> <div>Easter 4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM Engage! 	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>20</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8:00 PM Council 	<div>21</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Spring Cleaning Ends</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Circle of Friends
<div>24</div> <div>Easter 5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM English Service 	<div>25</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7:30 PM Worship and the Arts 	<div>26</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>27</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Messy Church 	<div>28</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>30</div>

May 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>1</div> <div>Easter 6</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM ■ 2:00 PM Frauen-gruppe 	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7:00 PM Kontaktkreis @ Epiphany Lutheran 	<div>6</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM Preparations for Mother's Day luncheon
<div>8</div> <div>Mother's Day</div> <div>Easter 7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Joint Family Service ■ 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting 	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>14</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:00 PM Springfest
<div>15</div> <div>Pentecost</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Joint Service ■ 11:30 AM Town Hall 	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>18</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8:00 PM Council 	<div>19</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>21</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Frohe Runde
<div>22</div> <div>Holy Trinity</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM English Service 	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>25</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6:30 PM Messy Church 	<div>26</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Circle of Friends
<div>29</div> <div>Pentecost 2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM Engage! 	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>4</div>

June 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>29</div> <div>Pentecost 2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM Engage! 	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>4</div>
<div>5</div> <div>Pentecost 3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service ■ 11:00 AM English Service 	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM ■ 2:00 PM Frauen-gruppe 	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>11</div>
<div>12</div> <div>Pentecost 4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Outdoor Family Service ■ 11:30 AM Spring Potluck BBQ 	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>15</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8:00 PM Council 	<div>16</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>18</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Frohe Runde
<div>19</div> <div>Pentecost 5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM German Service ■ 11:00 AM Engage! 	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>25</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2:00 PM Circle of Friends
<div>26</div> <div>Pentecost 6</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:30 AM English Service 	<div>27</div> <div>Pastor Sebastian back</div>	<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM 	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Pastor's Day Off</div>	<div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM

July 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Pentecost 6 ■ 9:30 AM English Service	27 Pastor Sebastian back	28 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	29	30 Pastor's Day Off	1 Pastor's Day Off	2 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
3 Pentecost 7 ■ 9:30 AM German Communion Service	4	5 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	6	7 Pastor's Day Off	8 Pastor's Day Off	9 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
10 Pentecost 8 ■ 9:30 AM English Service	11	12 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	13 ■ 7:30 PM Messy Church Planning	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 Pastor's Day Off	16 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
17 Pentecost 9 ■ 9:30 AM German Service	18	19 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	20	21 Pastor's Day Off	22 Pastor's Day Off	23 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
24 Pentecost 10 ■ 9:30 AM English Service	25	26 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	27	28 Pastor's Day Off	29 Pastor's Day Off	30 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
31 Pentecost 11 ■ 9:30 AM German Service	1 Pastor away on vacation	2 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	3	4	5	6

August 2016

■ Christ the King – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Church Office: 905-889-0873, Pastor: 905-881-9154)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Pentecost 11 ■ 9:30 AM German Service	1 Pastor away on vacation	2 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	3	4	5	6
7 Pastor away on vacation	8	9 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	10	11	12	13
14 Pastor away on vacation	15	16 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	17 ■ 8:00 PM Council	18 Pastor's Day Off	19 Pastor's Day Off	20 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
21 Pentecost 14 ■ 9:30 AM English Service	22	23 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	24 ■ 7:30 PM Christian Education	25 Pastor's Day Off	26 Pastor's Day Off	27 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM
28 Pentecost 15 ■ 9:30 AM German Communion	29 ■ 7:30 PM Worship & Arts	30 ■ 10:30 AM Office Hours – 2 PM	31	1 Pastor's Day Off	2 Pastor's Day Off ■ 9:00 AM German & 11 AM English on Sunday, Sept 4th	3 ■ 10:00 AM Office Hours – 1PM