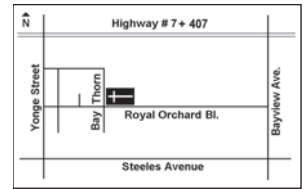




Thornhill Lutheran Church

149 Bay Thorn Drive, Thornhill, ON, L3T 3V2
905-889-0873, office@thornhill-lutheran.org
www.thornhill-lutheran.org
Interim Pastor Christian Ceconi
(416) 567 2487



Dear Congregation,

Summer time has begun. Garden chairs and canopies have long since wandered from the garage to the balcony or the patio. Maybe you have already enjoyed your first holiday in the sun.

For this a sun umbrella comes in handy so that the sun does not sting and the UV rays do not burn your skin. It's bearable in the shade and under an umbrella.

When the Bible mentions God, he is described several times as an umbrella. Indeed he seems to work like a colourful shade-maker in our lives: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. (Ps 121:5)

Also in an figurative sense: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. (Ps 32:7)

Or in the words of Johann Franck from the ELW hymn book (775:2 Jesus, priceless treasure): In thine arm I rest me; / foes who would molest me / cannot reach me here. / Though the earth be shaking, / every heart be quaking, / Jesus calms my fear.

God's protective presence is a shield that preserves body and soul: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." (Ps 91:1-2)

Remember one of these verses in the summer time on your way to the garden or the lake. In these moments you will find that more than an umbrella protects you, because God has long ago opened his umbrella over you. We can take a seat underneath it. And there is goodness there.

Wishing that you are protected and covered this summer,
Your Christian Ceconi

Liebe Gemeinde,

Die Sommerzeit hat begonnen. Längst sind Gartenstühle und Sonnenschirm aus der Garage auf den Balkon oder die Terrasse gewandert. Vielleicht haben Sie auch schon den ersten Urlaub in der Sonne genossen.

Da ist ein Schirm praktisch. Dass einen die Sonne nicht sticht und die Strahlung die Haut nicht verbrennt. Im Halbschatten und unter dem Schirm lässt es sich aushalten.

Wenn die Bibel von Gott erzählt, beschreibt sie ihn mehrfach als Schirm. Und tatsächlich scheint er zu wirken wie einer unserer bunten Schattenspenden: Der Herr behütet dich; der Herr ist dein Schatten über deiner rechten Hand, dass dich des Tages die Sonne nicht steche (Ps 121,5).

Gott ist auch Schirm im übertragenen Sinn, indem er vor inneren Schlechtwetterlagen bewahrt: Du bist mein Schirm; du wirst mich vor Angst behüten. (Ps 32,7) Oder mit Johann Francks Worten aus dem Gesangbuch (Nr. 396): Unter deinem Schirmen / bin ich vor den Stürmen / aller Feinde frei. / Lass den Satan wettern, / lass die Welt erzittern, / mir steht Jesus bei.

Gottes beschirmende Gegenwart ist ein Schutz, der Leib und Seele bewahrt und: Wer unter dem Schirm des Höchsten sitzt und unter dem Schatten des Allmächtigen bleibt, der spricht zu dem Herrn: Meine Zuversicht und meine Burg, mein Gott auf den ich hoffe (Ps 91,1).

Nehmen Sie doch in der Sommerzeit einen dieser Verse mit auf den Weg in den Garten oder an den See. Dann werden Sie feststellen, dass mehr als ein Schirm sie beschützt, weil Gott längst seinen Schirm aufgespannt hat. Wir dürfen darunter Platz nehmen. Und da ist Gutsein.

Eine beschirmte und behütete Sommerzeit wünscht Ihnen
Ihr Christian Ceconi

News from Council Chair

Dear Fellow Congregants!

As you all know, 2018 is a very big year for us with many changes. We are currently in a Call process and we have sold the parsonage and now need to be great stewards of the money that we have received and invest wisely.

We all realize that change makes most people uncomfortable but change also allows us to rethink and rebuild our approach and plans for our Church life here at Thornhill Lutheran Church. And with that in mind, Council, Finance and the Call Committee are all working diligently to further the well being of our Church.

During the latter half of May and for the month of June, you will be receiving updates via Town Halls, or via emails. Please come to the Town Hall meetings and read all emails that are sent out. It is imperative that everyone voice any questions and suggestions that they may have to the Deborah Tobin (Call Committee Chair), Edith Schiller (Treasurer), or myself, Petra Georges (Chair). Open dialogue is encouraged! The more input we have, the better we ALL will be able to find a pastor who fits the current and future needs of our congregation. A pastor who will help train and challenge us to revive and renew our congregation.

This is a time for positive changes! Let's make the most of the opportunity that God has given us.

Respectfully submitted,
Petra Georges

positive
changes



We would like to announce a **Town Hall Meeting for June 17**, after the Father's Day service.

Town Hall Meeting



The Call committee believes they will be ready to suggest and bring forward the chosen candidate at that time. The credentials and the reasoning behind the Call Committee's choice will be explained to the congregation at the Town Hall meeting and then the congregation will determine whether or not they support the choice that the Call Committee has made and Council supported. If all goes well, we will then be ready to send out an official offer to the chosen candidate. The candidate will have 30 days to either accept, or not accept, the offer.

Please come and join us in these exiting times.

Petra Georges



On Sunday, June 10 at 10.00 a.m., the people of St. George's Lutheran will be joining us again at our church for our **outdoor service** and BBQ. Please bring a lawn chair and some goodies to share.

During the service we will dedicate our new front lawn sign.

Come enjoy some good food and fellowship!

Our **Father's Day Service** on June 17 at 10:00 a.m. will be followed by **Potluck and the Town Hall Meeting**. Please bring some salads or sweet treats for everyone to share.





Springfest 2018

Springfest a success with lots of fellowship and laughter. The food from the Village Grocer chef and raffle table were received well. A huge thank you goes to the Chef at the Village Grocer as well as Longos, Boehringers, Moulsons, Kunzelmann's, Lisa & Elfriede for their generous table donations.

Many thanks to the kitchen support staff, Diana & Martin Habekost, Iris Habekost and her friend Jennifer, who made everything run smoothly.

The Fellowship Committee, Ruth M., Annette H., Petra B.

The **Worship and Arts Committee** has been working overtime since last fall and we are pleased to welcome Ed Stahlberg to the committee as he brings his passion for worshipping in both languages. Our interim pastor Christian Ceconi has met with and continues to advise the committee. Tony is an integral part of our worship and provides a steady hand at the helm... actually two hands. We express our deep appreciation for his dedication.



Without a resident pastor and church secretary we required someone with computer skills to be able to communicate with our supply pastors. Diana has those skills and we need to thank her for stepping in. Her former experience as our church secretary has been most valuable as she has been able to retrieve former bulletins as a guide in preparing new ones. This she has done as a volunteer.

The altar guild also needs our thanks for preparing weekly communion which is beneficial even more without a called pastor.

As the community of Willowdale has experienced recently, when there is adversity it is amazing how people come together for the good of others. The Worship and Arts Committee has demonstrated their willingness to work together so that our worship continues to bring Word and Sacrament each week.

Ruth Boothby

Invitations - Einladungen

Sunday, June 10

10.00 a.m.

Joint Outdoor Service with Potluck BBQ
With Dedication of the new sign.
Gemeinsamer Freiluftsgottesdienst mit Potluck BBQ
Widmung der neuen Anzeigetafel
Location: Church Property / Gemeindegrundstück



Sunday, June 17

10:00 a.m.

Joint Father's Day Service followed by Potluck and
Town Hall Meeting



As usual and starting July 1, there will only be one service each Sunday starting at 10:00 a.m. alternating between English and German. **Two Sundays are dedicated to a Joint service with Holy Communion due that the German and English Services are lay led. - see details below and on the calendar pages.**

Wie in jedem Sommer, findet ab 1. Juli nur ein Gottesdienst am Sonntag um 10.00 Uhr statt, abwechselnd in englischer und deutscher Sprache, zwei Sonntage sind einem gemeinsamen Abendmahlsgottesdienst vorbehalten, da die deutschen und englischen Gottesdienste ohne Abendmahl sind. – **Genauere Angaben finden Sie weiter unten und auf den Kalenderblättern.**

July 1, 22, Aug. 5, 19

10:00 a.m.

Services in German (lay led)



July 8, 29, Aug. 26,

10:00 a.m.

Services in English (lay led)

July 15, Aug. 12,

10:00 a.m.

Joint Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, September 9

10.00 a.m.

Joint Family Service followed by annual Potluck BBQ
Gemeinsamer Familiengottesdienst mit
anschliessendem Potluck BBQ



Sunday, September 23

10.00 a.m.

Back to Church Sunday



Congregational News – Aus dem Gemeindeleben

Special Birthdays

David Dunn will be 92 years old on July 2nd.

Gunter Halbig will be on August 6 91 years old.

Mary Suter celebrates her 96th birthday on August 10.

Both **Luise Weckesser** (September 6) and **Anneliese Guenther** (September 21) turn 94 years old this year!

We send our best wishes and ask for God's blessings
as they reach these wonderful milestones.



Funerals

Elisabeth Gottwald February 10, 2018

Klaus Schwartzel April 1, 2018

Tanya H. Percy, (47),
Daughter of Lise and Gunther Kunzelmann, passed away on May 4, 2018

Peter Bender May 11, 2018

Prayers and fond memories are what we have to remember our dearly departed.
May the love of family and friends comfort all during these difficult times,
our most heartfelt condolences.



Best Wishes

Our best wishes also go out to those members and friends who are sick and suffering at home or in hospital, and also to their caregivers. We look forward to perhaps seeing you in Church soon!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Update

Jan. 1, 2018 - Apr. 30, 2018

OFFERINGS & DONATIONS

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Budget | 29,333.33 | 23,333.33 |
| Actual | <u>26,478.00</u> | <u>15,685.00</u> |

| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <u>SHORTFALL April 30, 2017 & 2018,</u> | -2,855.33 | -7,648.33 |
|--|------------------|------------------|

| | | |
|---|--|------------------|
| Please help us to eliminate our SHORTFALL of | | -7,648.33 |
|---|--|------------------|

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| <u>ATTENDANCE</u> | 624 | 429 |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|

Treasurer: Edith Schiller, April 30, 2018

Spring Clean Up

A big thank you to all who helped with the Spring clean up of our beautiful church! A big thank you also goes out to New Light Church for their contribution to the Spring clean up. They had a team of 15 working on this project!

Respectfully submitted: Petra Georges, Chair Church Council



Council Highlights

February 7, 2018:

- A motion was passed that the annual audit will be done in April. At that time, council will receive the report and printed copies will be made available to church members.
- June 10th, we will hold a Sign dedication during the joint service with St. Georges.
- Sale of the Parsonage will be put on hiatus for a few months. In mid-April, it will be relisted.
- Discussion and review regarding the rental of the piano.
- Finalization of preparation for the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting - February 11, 2018:

- Quorum established. All were thanked who participated with our Annual Bazaar and Deborah Tobin thanked all who participate and help with our various committees.
- Pastor Christian reminded us that these are exciting times, as we look to the future and for a new Pastor.
- Nancy Moulson was elected to serve on Council.
- Thank you to all for your financial support. The annual audit will be done in April and a printout will be available at that time.
- Motion was passed to allow for Finance and Stewardship committee members to serve 3 consecutive terms. Fred Neitzert will serve a 3rd term.
- It was decided that all future celebrations (i.e. Mother's day, etc.) will be potluck style; unless otherwise notified. The location of the Spring Fest (at our church or a restaurant) will be decided closer to May.
- Budget was passed and approved as is.
- Sale of the parsonage was reviewed. The sale was put on temporary hiatus for the beginning of 2018 and will be put back up for sale in April.
- Call process is underway. Deborah listed the Call committee members and reviewed the process.

March, 2018:

- Welcome Nancy Moulson as the new member of council and thank you to Rene Samulewitsch for your work on council.
- Doug Reble, from the Synod, has our Mission Profile and is reviewing it. He will be meeting with the Call committee at a future date.
- Once there is a selection of Pastors, the Call committee will hold a town hall.
- The Clay conference takes place in Thunder Bay and the Endowment committee will be looking into funding options for the youth.

- Council is looking for an additional council member to join as soon as possible for a possible vacancy.

April, 2018:

- Web Cast has been fixed. Anton Streisslberger will be requested to write out a step by step guide for other to set up the Web Cast, on days that he is absent.
- Thank you to Martin Habekost, for getting the printer up and running; and Diana Habekost for continuing to work on the bulletins.
- Ruth Boothby has submitted grant papers to Lutheran Life for our upcoming Christmas Bazaar.
- Pastoral coverage has been organized until August.
- Parsonage has been sold and final paperwork to be signed by Edith Schiller, Deborah Tobin, and Doris Lottermoser.
- Discussions have started on how best to invest funds from the sale of the parsonage. The Finance and Stewardship committee and council will be meeting with various financial agencies.
- It was agreed that 18 months of funds would be held back to go towards the running of church operations. As well, the dividends would be used to pay for the Pastor's Housing Allowance and any extra income would go towards budgeted expenses.
- A congregational meeting will be held to review and finalize the investment options.
- Thank you to Karl Liske and Edward Stahlberg for keeping our hymn boards updated.
- Heating has been fixed in the meeting room, as a new transformer was needed. Property will look into the heating in the women's bathroom.
- It is time for Spring Cleaning and the sign up sheets have been posted.

Regards Doris Lottermoser

Call Process Update:

The Call Committee received several "Availability for Call" forms from ordained ministers interested in becoming our Pastor. We are scheduling three interviews in late May/early June with these candidates. We are hopeful to be able to recommend to council at the June Council meeting our choice for consideration by the congregation.

Consequently, a **Town Hall meeting** has been scheduled for **June 17, 2018** following the service.

Deborah Tobin

June 2018

Please refer also to the calendar on our webpage www.thornhill-lutheran.org for updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|---------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Pentecost 2 10:00 German Service | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Pentecost 3 10:00 Joint Outdoor Service with St. Georges Dedication of the new sign, followed by Potluck BBQ | 11 | 12 | 13 8:00 Council | 14 | 15 | 16 2:00 Frohe Runde |
| 17 Pentecost 4 10:00 Joint Holy Communion followed by Potluck and Town Hall Meeting | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Pentecost 5 10:00 English Service | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 2:00 Circle of Friends |

July 2018

Please refer also to the calendar on our webpage www.thornhill-lutheran.org for updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 Pentecost 6 10:00 German Service (Lay led) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Pentecost 7 10:00 English Service (Lay led) | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Pentecost 8 10:00 Joint Service with Holy Communion | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 Pentecost 9 10:00 German Service (Lay led) | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 Pentecost 10 10:00 English Service (Lay led) | 30 | 31 | | | | |

August 2018

Please refer also to the calendar on our webpage www.thornhill-lutheran.org for updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Pentecost 11 10:00 German Service (Lay led) | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Pentecost 12 10:00 Joint Service with Holy Communion | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Pentecost 13 10:00 German Service (Lay led) | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Pentecost 14 10:00 English Service (Lay led) | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

September 2018

Please refer also to the calendar on our webpage www.thornhill-lutheran.org for updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|--------------------|----------|--------|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Pentecost 15 10:00 Service | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Pentecost 16 10:00 Joint Family Service followed by Potluck | 10 | 11 | 12 8:00 Council | 13 | 14 | 15 2:00 Frohe Runde |
| 16 Pentecost 17 10:00 Service | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Pentecost 18 10:00 Service | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 2:00 Circle of Friends |
| 30 Pentecost 19 10:00 Service | | | | | | |