



THORNHILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

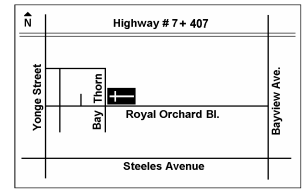
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Dear Pilgrims of Thornhill,

We have just come through the annual “Hollywood Award Season” (It seems to get longer every year!) One of my pet peeves about these telecasts is the trivial “Red Carpet” interviews which always include the predictable fashion question, “Who are you wearing?” The answers are equally predictable: Versace. Gucci. Prada. Rosarie says that if she ever had the opportunity to answer that question she would proudly reply, “I’m wearing Reitman’s, or Winners!”

The season of Lent invites Christians also to reflect on our clothing. In the earliest years of Christianity, Lent was the season in which new believers in Jesus Christ were prepared for baptism at the Easter Vigil – the Easter equivalent of Christmas Eve. Indeed, the Gospel stories of Jesus’ resurrection mention his clothing specifically! In them we read that the tomb in which the crucified, dead and buried Jesus lay was empty, except for the grave clothes he had left behind (see Luke 24:12; John 20:5-7). This tiny, often overlooked detail raises the question, “What was Jesus wearing after being raised from the dead?” ...

Of course, we don’t know the fabric, colour or style of Jesus’ clothing. But we *do* know that, having left behind the *old* clothing of our human mortality, Jesus has put on the *new* clothing of God’s eternal life. And the same is true for us in baptism! The Apostle Paul says, “As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have *clothed* yourselves with Christ!” (Galatians 3:27).

In baptism, you and I symbolically remove our no-longer fashionable clothing of sin and death, and are symbolically clothed with the new life of our risen Lord and Saviour! But no matter how long ago; no matter how recently we may have been baptized, our “garments of salvation” (Isaiah 61:10) do not quite fit us perfectly – yet! Our annual pilgrimage in Lent is all about our spiritual growth into our God-given “robes of righteousness” (Isaiah 61:10); learning to fit into the risen life of Jesus Christ through the traditional spiritual disciplines of self-denial (fasting), renewal in worship (prayer) and generous self-giving (charity) which reflect our sincerity in the repentance and conversion to which Christians are called and, in turn, are sent to call our neighbours.

In the meantime, should you or I ever find ourselves on a red carpet being asked about our

taste in fashion, or our Christian faith; whether dressed in an Armani suit, Vera Wang evening gown, or blue jeans and tee shirt from Value Village, let us remember our baptism and respond to the question "Who are you wearing?" with integrity and credibility, by proudly replying: "I'm wearing Jesus Christ!"

In Christ,
Pastor Peter

Liebe Pilger von Thornhill,

Wir sind gerade durch die jährliche „Hollywood Award Saison“ gegangen (Es scheint, dass sie jedes Jahr immer länger dauert!) Eine meiner Lieblingsaergernisse bei diesen Sendungen sind die trivialen „Roten Teppich“ Interviews, die immer die schon vorhersehbare Frage einschliesst: „Wen trägst du?"

Die Antworten sind auch ebenso vorhersehbar: Versace. Gucci. Prada. Rosarie sagt oft, wenn sie jemals die Gelegenheit hätte, diese Frage zu beantworten, würde sie stolz antworten: "Ich trage Reitmans oder Winners !"

Die Fastenzeit lädt Christen ein, auch über unsere Kleidung nachzudenken. In den frühesten Jahren des Christentums war die Fastenzeit die Zeit, in der neue Gläubige an Jesus Christus auf die Taufe in der Osternacht vorbereitet wurden - die Osternacht entsprechend der Heiligen Nacht. In der Tat, die biblischen Geschichten von Jesu Auferstehung erwähnen seine Kleidung ganz genau! Wir lesen, dass das Grab, in dem der gekreuzigte, tote und begrabene Jesus lag, leer war, bis auf die Grabeskleidung, die er zurückgelassen hatte (siehe Lukas 24:12; Johannes 20: 5-7). Dieses winzige, oft übersehene Detail wirft die Frage auf: „Was trug Jesus nachdem er von den Toten auferweckt wurde?

"Natürlich kennen wir weder den Stoff, die Farbe noch die Mode der Kleidung Jesu. Aber wir wissen, dass Jesus, nachdem er die alte Kleidung unserer menschlichen Sterblichkeit zurückgelassen hat, die neue Kleidung des ewigen Lebens Gottes angezogen hat. Und das gilt auch für uns in der Taufe! Der Apostel Paulus sagt: „Wie viele von euch auf Christus getauft sind, haben sie Christus angezogen wie ein Gewand!“ (Galater 3:27).

Bei der Taufe entfernen wir, symbolisch, unsere nicht-mehr modische Kleidung von Sünde und Tod, und sind danach symbolisch mit dem neuen Leben unseres auferstandenen Herrn und Erretters bekleidet! Egal wie lange es her ist; egal ob wir erst kürzlich getauft wurden, unsere „Kleider des Heils“ (Jesaja 61 : 10) passen noch nicht ganz perfekt zu uns! Aber auf unserer jährlichen Pilgerreise durch die Fastenzeit dreht sich alles um unser geistliches Wachstum in unserem von Gott gegebenen „Mantel der Gerechtigkeit“ (Jesaja 61: 10). Wir lernen durch die traditionellen spirituellen Disziplinen von Selbstverleugnung (Fasten), Erneuerung der Verehrung Gottes (Gebet) und großzügige Selbsthingabe (Nächstenliebe) in das auferstandene Leben Jesu Christi hineinzupassen, was unsere Aufrichtigkeit in der Umkehr und Busse widerspiegelt, zu welchem wir Christen aufgerufen sind, und wiederum zu unseren Nachbarn gesandt werden um sie anzurufen.

Sollten wir, in der Zwischenzeit, uns selbst auf einem „Roten Teppich“ befinden und über unseren Geschmack in der Mode oder unseren christlichen Glauben gefragt werden, ob in einem Armani-Anzug, einem Abendkleid von Vera Wang oder in Blue Jeans und T-Shirt von Value Village bekleidet, dann lässt uns an unsere Taufe erinnern und die Frage „Wen trägst du?“ beantworten mit Rechtschaffenheit und Glaubwürdigkeit, indem wir stolz antworten : „Ich trage Jesus Christus!“

In Christus
Pastor Peter



From the Pastor's Desk

The year of our Lord 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War 2 including, of course, the various history making, and personal life shaping events of A.D. 1945 – for example, Germany's bombing of Canterbury Cathedral, and England's retaliatory bombing of Dresden, where my late father, Eduard, had been a schoolboy at the time, having fled his hometown in Vocin, Yugoslavia when the Russian army invaded. And, of course, August 1945 witnessed the world's *first ever* and, so far, the *only* – hopefully the *last ever* – use of nuclear weapons when the United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and (predominantly Christian) Nagasaki.

Another war related anniversary from 1945 is the execution of Rev. Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer on April 9 in the Gestapo prison at Flossenburg, Germany. His story is well known to the congregation of Thornhill Lutheran Church, formerly named Christ the King— Dietrich Bonhoeffer! Indeed, as pastor of a neighbouring congregation during this congregation's conversations about changing its name, while I understood the perceived need for a shorter name, I registered my personal preference that Pastor Bonhoeffer's name somehow be kept as a public testimony to the courageous, if controversial, public witness of this truly remarkable Christian.

Now privileged to serve as pastor in this congregation during this milestone anniversary year, we have begun to ask the question of how we might, most appropriately, keep Pastor Bonhoeffer's memory alive among us – and his legacy in the public eye of a world increasingly dominated by a politics of fear, and its inevitable consequence of violence and war!

The question will begin to be answered during our regular morning worship service on Palm Sunday, April 5th – four days prior to the 75th anniversary of his death – which will include the commemoration of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We look forward to your presence, prayers and participation in planning, preparing and presenting an appropriate memorial over the next few months.



Highlights Congregational Meeting Highlights

February 9, 2020

Council Chair, Doris Lottermoser called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. after establishing a quorum of 31 eligible Voting Members.

- 1) **Proposed changes to our congregation's constitution**, were adopted for "Second Reading" at a congregational meeting to follow our regular Sunday worship service on March 8. Our Congregational Council will be installed at the worship service prior to the meeting.
- 2) **Fred Neitzert** accepted the appointment to serve on our **Endowment Committee**
- 3) Over the next three months **Fred Neitzert and Tony Streisslberger** will complete much needed renovations in our kitchen.
- 4) **Worship & Arts:** Doris Lottermoser thanked **Leni Schwaertzel and Ruth Boothby**, who have resigned from the committee, for their many years of faithful service on our behalf. **Diana Habeksot** invited anyone interested in joining the committee to speak with her or with **Gunther or Lise Kunzelmann** or Pastor Peter. **Gunther Kunzelmann** extended an open invitation to anyone interested in joining our choir in preparation for Easter. The choir rehearses following worship on Sundays throughout the month of March.
- 5) **Proposed Calendar for 2020:**
 - * Ash Wednesday service was removed from the calendar, as proposed by our Worship & Arts Committee.
 - * The regular morning service on March 15 was cancelled to encourage attendance at the Ecumenical Lenten Service of the Thornhill Ministerial which we have been invited to host at 4:00 p.m. on March 15.
 - * A proposal to have a German & English service on Easter Sunday. By show of hands only three people voted in favour; the proposal was denied.
 - * A proposal was then made that the Easter Sunday service be bi-lingual, with Holy Communion followed by a luncheon. All were in favour.
 - * In July & August only the last Sunday in the month will be a German service.
 - * December 6: Hymn sing service in English and German.
 - * December 27: Regular German service. Motion carried.
 - * **Nancy Moulson** offered to help **Ruth Moskowitz** with the organization of this year's **Spring** Fest, scheduled for May 2, 6:30 p.m.

6) **Presentation/Adoption of the 2020 budget:**

The proposed budget of \$10,000 less than last year, was adopted after a thorough and detailed explanation by our faithful and diligent treasurer, **Edith Schiller**, to whom we extend our deep gratitude for her hard work over many years!

Adjournment: Pastor Peter ended the meeting with a quote from popular author, **Robert Fulgham**: “The meaning of life is to shine a light into the darkness of others.” He then thanked everyone present for the particular ways in which each one at the meeting reflects the light of Christ among us.

Proposed Calendar for March to May 2020

For changes and updates, please check at church or on the website

March	6 8 15	Friday Sunday Sunday	10:00am 4:00pm	World Day of Prayer at (TBA) English Service (Installation of Council) 2 nd Reading of Constitutional Changes Lenten Services (We are to Host) - followed by coffee hour – No Service at 10:00 a.m. on March 15 th
April	1 5 10 10 12	Wednesday Sunday Friday Friday Sunday	 10:00am 9:30am 11:00am 10:00am	First day of Spring Cleaning (please sign up for a specific job) Palm Sunday Karfreitag Communion Service (German) Good Friday Service (English) Easter Bilingual Communion Service & Potluck Lunch Completion of Spring Cleaning
May	2 10	Saturday Sunday	6:30pm 10:00am	Spring fest Dinner Mother’s Day Service – Followed by Potluck Luncheon



Birthdays



Mary Pavlik will be 97 years old on March 12.

In April **Elisabeth Schenck** celebrates her 91st birthday on April 21.

Inge Liske will be 91 on April 24.

In May **Stefan Lojowsky** will celebrate his 95th birthday on May 9
and **Helga Kosubek** has her 97th birthday on May 30.

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

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. Please contact Pastor Peter when you would like to invite him to visit with you and your family.



Invitations - Einladungen

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

Friday, March 6, 2020

1:30 p.m.

World Day of Prayer Service

Thornhill Baptist Church



Sunday, March 8, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Service of the Word

Installation of Council

Sunday, March 15, 2020

4:00 p.m.

NO MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Ecumenical Lenten Service

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

First Day of Spring Cleaning

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Last Day of Spring Cleaning



Sunday, April 5, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service

Commemoration of Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Friday, April 10, 2020

9:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Karfreitagsgottesdienst mit Abendmahl

Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 12, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Bilingual Easter Service with

Holy Communion



Saturday, May 2, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Springfest Dinner/Fundraising Event

Frühlingsfest mit Abendessen

Sunday, May 10, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Mother's Day Service

Followed by Potluck Lucheon

Gottesdienst zum Muttertag

mit anschließendem Mittagessen





**Saturday May 2, 2020
Doors open @ 6:30pm**

Ticket Price: TBA

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

Ruth Moskowitz(905) 787-8713
Nancy Moulson(416) 498-5390

We need your HELP!

Raffle donations and volunteers

Council Members for 2020-2021:

Prisca Kenel
Doris Lottermoser
Nancy Moulson
Edith Schiller
Martin Habekost
Edith Schulbeck



Thornhill Ministerial Lenten Series

Finding our way in a BROKEN World



March 1 – *Finding our Way in a World Broken by Sin*

Holy Trinity Anglican Church – Speaker: The Rev. Paul Gibbon

March 8 – *Finding our Way in a World Broken by Violence*

Thornhill Baptist Church – Speaker: The Rev. Canon Stephen Fields

March 15 – *Finding our Way in a World Broken by Division*

Thornhill Lutheran Church – Speaker: Pastor Dennis Jones

March 22 – *Finding our Way in a World Broken by Greed*

Thornhill United Church – Speaker: The Rev. Peter Lisinski

March 29 – *Finding our Way in a World Broken by Neglect of Creation*

St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church – Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

March 2020

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lent 1 1 10:00 English Service	2	3	4	5	World Day of Prayer 6 1:30pm Thornhill Baptist	7
Lent 2 8 10:00 English Service Inst. of Council Cong'l Mtg (Constitution)	9	10	11	12	13	14
Lent 3 15 No 10:00 Service 4:00pm Lent Service	16	17	18	19	20	21 Frohe Runde 2:00pm
Lent 4 22 10:00 English Service	23	24	25 Council 7:30pm	26	27	28
Lent 5 29 10:00 German Service	30	31				

April 2020

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
PALM SUNDAY 5 10:00 English Service	6	7	8	9	GOOD FRIDAY 10 9:30 German Service 11:00 English	11
EASTER SUNDAY 12 10:00 English Service Pot Lock Lunch	13	14	15 Council 7:30pm	16	17	18 Frohe Runde 2:00pm
EASTER 2 19 10:00 English Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
EASTER 3 26 10:00 German Service	27	28	29	30		

May 2020

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Spring Fest 6:30pm
EASTER 4 3 10:00 English Service	4	5	6	7	8	9
EASTER 5 10 Mother's Day 10:00 English Service Pot Lock Lunch	11	12	13	14	15	16 Frohe Runde 2:00pm
EASTER 6 17 10:00 English Service	18	19	20 Council 7:30pm	21	22	23
EASTER 7 24 10:00 English Service	25	26	27	ASCENSION 28 OF OUR LORD	29	30
PENTECOST 31 10:00 German Service						