Resurrection Lutheran Church

310 Lenore Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7K 6Y1
Phone: (306) 242-4042
www.resurrectionlutheranchurch.ca
Facebook: www.facebook.com/resurrectionsaskatoon
Office Hours: 10:00am – 1:00pm
Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Pastor Sean Bell
Phone: 306-242-4563
Email: pastor@resurrectionlutheranchurch.ca
Secretary/Treasurer: Elaine Leite
Email: resurrectionchurch@sasktel.net
Council Chair: Betty Harper
Email: harperbetty324@gmail.com
Phone: 306-270-9186

November 2026 Newsletter

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Sometimes, life manages to pack all the good things into just 12 days.

We often talk about these times as "seasons of busy." And busy has a bad reputation, partly because it can be a close cousin of stress. But not all busy seasons are stressful. Some leave us feeling more alive, more hopeful, and more connected to the work God is doing in the world.

I wanted to share a little of my October with you, because these 12 days were just that kind of busy.

Oct. 13 - Headed out to FLAG (the Fall Lutheran Anglican Gathering), which we used to call 'study conference'. The conference speaker was The Rt. Rev. Shay Craig of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Episcopalians are similar to our Anglicans). The theme developed around the titles "The Church is a Row Boat", "The Church is a Sail Boat", and "The church is a Rocket Ship". The rowboat takes a lot of work and is slow, while the sailboat is still hard work but relies on the wind (Spirit). The rocket ship metaphor spoke of dreaming a vision that is too big for one lifetime, but the main point isn't to arrive at a destination. The calling is to dream God's dream while living in the moment of what is possible, and then remain faithful to the calling that will always be ongoing and renewing. In the "Rocket Ship" portion, we were also pointed to many online resources that well-resourced places are putting together for congregational life and renewal. Oct 15, return home for a day.

Oct. 17 – Fly to Kitchener, Ontario for the annual in-person meeting of the Program Committee for Worship (I'm the chair of this National Church Committee). We were planning the next ELCIC National Worship Convention, where musicians, theologians, and a variety of speakers will explore the theme "Worship Matters" (a play on words for the inspiration of why worship

matters, and also the things about worship that matter). I'll speak more about why the historic Walper Hotel is worth the trip on its own, along with the musicianship and inspiration that the rest of the conference will hold in the meeting rooms and outstanding local Lutheran churches in the coming months. SAVE THE DATE: July 15-18, 2027, Kitchener Ontario. Oct 21, return home for a day.

Oct. 23-25 Synod Youth Retreat (with National Church 40th anniversary online worship). It's no secret that camp is one of my favourite places for retreat and ministry. The feeling of rolling past the big "Welcome to Kinasao" sign is always one of homecoming mixed with excitement. Our guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Kyle Schiefelbein-Guerrero, who teaches at Lutheran Theological Seminary (Saskatoon). The theme was 'Leadership,' which begins with calling and exploring what you are called to be. Including the young adults who attended, we were 47 participants plus several pastors and other leaders who made the weekend possible. An extra special treat was National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, who came to the retreat and was often seen at games tables and in conversation with youth. The weekend concluded with the 40th anniversary service of the ELCIC that was live-streamed to many places and is available on YouTube at: https://elcic.ca/elcic-40th-anniversary/anniversary-worship-service/.

Busy times are not always stressful times. Planning and changing are both loss and new potential (death and resurrection, as it were). If I mix the learning and experience of these 12 days into one sentence, I would say, "We are a church with a dream bigger than our imagination, called into worship and beauty with the many gifts creation and community give us, and called into a vision and ministry that we'll never reach; we are filled with hope in the signs of fresh expression, youthful engagement, and hope."

Peace in the rowing/sailing/rocketing/calling/leading/worshipping!

Rev. Sean Bell

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor Sean Bell (*ex efficio*)	Betty Harper, Chair (306-270-9186)	
Esther Cherland, Vice-Chair	Bonnie Semenoff, Secretary	Dolapo Akinsete
David Kirton	Elaine Leite, Treasurer	Linda Simpson
Brady Witt		

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 12 @ 7:00 p.m.; please forward any concerns/reports requiring Council response to Betty Harper (harperbetty324@gmail.com) by Thursday, Nov. 5.

PRAYER LIST



We pray for healing and wholeness for Alannah Harper; Rose Schmid; Zoey Zalizniak; Linda Lee Paulson; Norm Ouelette for healing; Terry Dizon for comfort and healing; Shellee Hogan for healing; Connie Walters for healing; Avery Lemky; Gaylene Johnston for patience and comfort; Marilyn Smith for healing; Marleen Jacob for healing; Gordon Jensen for healing; and Bishop Ali Tote for healing.

We also remember in our prayers:

- Missing and murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, the children and people buried in unmarked graves at Residential Schools and First Nations lands, all who have suffered the trauma of residential Schools.
- Those around the world impacted by the trauma of war, natural disasters, food insecurity, racism and those seeking refuge.
- World leaders, as well as those leading us in our own country, province and city.
- All those affected by the tragedy at the Canadian Forces Base in Wainwright - all those who mourn the loss of those who died, those who are recuperating, the emergency responders and medical personal, and all others who responded to the emergency.

MINISTRY TEAM

Ministry Team Matthew is on for November. Matthew's Team Leader is Elaine Leite. The sign-up sheet can be found on the back counter, along with sign-up sheets for Worship Assistants and Musicians.

No matter which team you are on, everyone is welcome to sign up and help with the Sunday duties that keep things running smoothly.

KEEPING THE CHURCH FIRES BURNING

We will continue to raise funds for a new furnace, with a goal to raising $6,500.00. If you would like to donate to the Furnace Fundraiser at any time, you can e-transfer funds or use a donation envelope – indicate on that you are giving to the Furnace Fundraiser. The fund is currently sitting at **$5138.49**. Thank-you for your generosity!

PROPERTY REPORT

Coordinator: Elaine Leite; Volunteers: Bob Berikoff, Elaine Leite and Greg Rossmann

Regular Maintenance:

- Checked emergency lights and AED battery – Elaine

Work Done in October:

- No extra work done this month

Deferred Maintenance:

- Move Projector screen / add another one or maybe install big screen TVs
- Paint the Sanctuary
- Replace broken kitchen window & seal the other kitchen window
- Install automatic door opener for front doors
- Resurface/sealcoat front driveway
- Change lights in Sanctuary to LED (must be dimmable)
- Change lights in Meeting Room and Narthex to LED
- Repair foundation on southwest corner, only the facade has deteriorated, no water damage inside
- Renovate the Fellowship Hall

FINANCE REPORT

Financial Report as of October 28th, 2026 submitted by Elaine Leite

Income	
4-1000 Donations	
4-1100 Envelopes	10,830.00
4-1110 Loose Offering	130.00
Total for 4-1000 Donations	**$10,960.00**
4-1200 Special Projects - Income	
4-1203 Social Justice Fund	80.00
Total for 4-1200 Special Projects - Income	**$80.00**
4-1210 Benevolence-In	120.00
4-1330 Furnace Fund	400.00
4-1400 Rentals	
4-1410 Rentals - Building	320.00
4-1420 Rentals - Childcare Centre	3,200.00
4-1430 Shared Operational Costs Income *	3,189.48
Total for 4-1400 Rentals	**$6,709.48**
4-1520 Fall Supper	1,670.00
4-1610 Miscellaneous Donations (LuMInHoS)	-20.00
Total for Income	**$19,919.48**
Gross Profit	**$19,919.48**
Expenses	
5-1020 Bank Fees and Interest	
5-1024 Bank PAR Service Charges	16.00
Total for 5-1020 Bank Fees and Interest	**$16.00**
5-1045 Benevolence Out -Congregational	675.00
5-1100 Operating	
5-1130 Copier Maintenance	206.83
5-1150 Office	74.93
5-1160 Telephone/Postage	213.33
Total for 5-1100 Operating	**$495.09**
5-1250 Youth	**76.32**
5-1300 Property & Management	
5-1310 Insurance	707.33
5-1330 Maintenance	272.88
5-1340 Utilities **	3,066.10
Total for 5-1300 Property & Management	**$4,046.31**
5-1700 Staff	
5-1710 Car/Travel Allowance	115.04
5-1715 Cleaner	758.54
5-1740 Internet/Cell Phone	50.00
5-1760 Secretary/Treasurer	1,339.00
5-1770 Workers Compensation	$124.00
Total for 5-1700 Staff	**$2,386.58**
5-1900 Worship	
5-1910 Altar Supplies	36.04
5-1940 Musicians	75.00
Total for 5-1900 Worship	**$111.04**
Payroll Expenses	
Company Contributions	
Health Insurance	969.69
Retirement	665.05
Taxable Benefits (non-cash)	50.00
Total for Company Contributions	**$1,684.74**
Taxes	334.53
Wages	8,313.17
Total for Payroll Expenses	**$10,332.44**
Receiver General Expense	62.40
Total for Expenses	**$18,201.18**
PROFIT	**$1,718.30**

* Includes payment for Utilities EPP settle-up for City of Saskatoon & SaskPower $1,078.87
** Includes annual Storm Water Utility $1,068.00 and EPP settle-up for City of Saskatoon $600.49

Bank Account Balances:
Chequing: $27,093.21
Social Justice: $293.26
Furnace Funds: $5.138.49
Property Reserve: $6.240.31
Youth Initiatives: $562.75
Investment Balance: $123,148 (3rd quarter loss $784.06; management fees $310.61)

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The next **Sandwich Making Bees** will be on Sunday, November 8th and Sunday, November 22nd. Monetary donations are welcomed to help purchase the supplies for making the sandwiches.

A **Personal Hygiene Collection** has been started for those in need (e.g. tooth paste, tooth brushes, shampoo, etc.). A donation basket will be placed in the Narthex.

Food Bank Donations are gratefully accepted; please place donations in the wagons in the narthex.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

The **Fall Supper** was held on Sunday, November 1st – a lovely meal was enjoyed by all! Thanks to everyone who helped with planning, pie donations, set-up, prep and clean-up.





YOUTH ACTIVITIES / SAVE THE DATE

- **CLAY 2027 Information Session (November 15 @ 4pm via Zoom)**
  Grab your coffee (or other beverage) and come for a chat with Deacon Gretchen Peterson to learn more about CLAY 2027! Feel free to invite any leader who is interested in learning more. (There will be more in the months to come!)
  Sign up to attend - https://shorturl.at/lEdgA

- **Resurrection Youth are invited to join our teamlinkt app**
  at: https://app.teamlinkt.com (Code to join is: DFD2-XKFR)

- **SK Synod Young Adults**
  We're building an online community where young adults can connect, grow in faith, serve others, and explore what it means to live with faith, hope, justice, and reconciliation.
  Follow us on:
  - **Instagram:** @sk_synod_young_adults
  - **Facebook**: Sask Synod Young Adults

  As new opportunities and events arise, we may tag your congregation or ministry. We encourage you to share our posts and help spread the word so that more young adults can connect with this growing community. Thank you for helping us reach and engage young adults across the Synod!

- **Cultivator Wanted!**
  The **Cultivator Program** is launching for the fall/winter/spring season, and we'd love you to be part of it! Cultivators are young people aged 16-30 who help us build connections, create opportunities for young people across the Synod, and experiment with what peer ministry can look like in our local communities.

This is a paid position with the Saskatchewan Synod. The Honorarium is $15.70/hour for roughly 10 hours per month. For more information, speak with Pastor Sean, or check out this link: **https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IFJcRZe3Phv-Fy7AfVYshO-z1-fGupzV/view**

30 Years of Stephen Ministry in Saskatoon

How We Got Started

Stephen Ministry in Saskatoon (in Lutheran circles) started in July, 1996. That's when a few folks from Redeemer and Zion went to Seattle for a Leadership Training Course. This Canadian contingent included Pastor Hugh Farmer, Pastor Boyd Molder, Pastor Harold Hesje, Elaine Hesje, Fran Seidler and Carol Tastad. We were a very small group in a sea of several hundred people who were all there for the same reason.

The training consisted of a grueling seven days of intensive lectures, workshops, discussions, role playing and just plain hard work. The days were long, including evening sessions.

In addition to everything that was poured into our heads and hearts that week, we were saddled with huge boxes of files and training materials to take home! Everything we needed to start Stephen Ministry in our home congregations was either in our heads or in those boxes.

We came home labelled as Stephen Leaders, and we were not smart enough yet to work together, so each congregation (Redeemer and Zion) started its own training program. In January, 1997, Redeemer had eleven people enrolled in the training program. In October, 1998 six more were enrolled. Zion had a few more each of those years. When the people we trained completed their 50 hours of training, they were labelled as Stephen Ministers (or Caregivers) and each of them was ready to be paired with a care receiver. As they ventured out, they were supported through regular meetings with their Stephen Leaders.

What Training Is All About
50 hours of training sounds like a lot, but when broken down into 20 sessions and spread over five or six months, it is more palatable. People who take the training always experience significant personal growth, as they acquire the skills needed to be dedicated and effective caregivers.

The training manuals include 25 modules. The primary focus is learning to listen. One module is called "The Art of Listening", and this theme recurs throughout the training program.

Here's a story from our early experience with Stephen Ministry. After we found care receivers for each of those first eleven people at Redeemer, we held regular peer supervision sessions, and here's what happened in one of those sessions. The Stephen minister said in effect, "You trained me to listen. I went to visit my care receiver and found that he was unable to speak. Now what do I do?" Well, we saw the irony in the situation, but we didn't have an answer to offer. We knew that the care receiver had ALS. We knew that communicating with him would be a challenge, but we also knew that he, perhaps more than anyone, needed a Stephen minister. Thankfully, our newly trained Stephen minister did not give up. He went on to develop a close relationship with his care receiver. He became for us living proof that the ministry of presence, and the ministry of silence is real, and can be very effective and comforting for both the caregiver and the care receiver.

The 30th Anniversary Celebration
On June 12-14 a wonderful 30th anniversary celebration took place, celebrating the Stephen Ministry that is now happening in three of our Saskatoon congregations: Resurrection, Zion, and Redeemer. Friday evening, we enjoyed networking and browsing through displays, as we sipped punch and sampled appies. The evening wrapped up with devotions and music. Saturday, we began at 10:00 a.m. with devotions and moved on to sharing stories about Stephen Ministry, playing toss and pitch games outdoors, sharing more stories, enjoying a wonderful evening banquet, and hearing an excellent presentation by Bishop Ali Tote. Bishop Ali highlighted the benefits of Stephen Ministry and reiterated that he would like to see Stephen Ministry in every Lutheran congregation.

The celebration concluded on Sunday morning at Zion where Pastor Sean Bell presided at the 10:30 a.m. service. Pastor Sean spoke about the importance of caring ministry and healing ministry in our congregations. The sharing of bread and wine was the perfect ending for a meaningful three-day celebration.



LuMinHoS

The latest edition of the LuMinHoS Caregiver newsletter is now available!
Highlights include:

- Walkathon update and photos
- Nov 1 Hymn Sing Event details
- Reflections from our board chair and our chaplain
- Getting to know two new board members

Click here to view the Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE

- Come to enjoy music and singing! **The LuMinHoS Hymn Sing on Sunday, November 1 is at 7 pm at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church,130 Kingsmere Place**. This is in support of our Saskatoon Lutheran Hospital Chaplaincy Ministry! Free will offering. Refreshments and goodies to follow!
- **Luther Tower Tenants' Association Fall Fundraising Bazaar, Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026, 11:00 AM to 2:00PM. (**Tower Dining Room on the 22 floor, 1223 Temperance Street.) Tables featuring: Baking, Crafts, Jewelry, Knitting and Woodworking. EVERYONE WELCOME! For further information, please contact: Lorraine Harilstad: (306) 652-2497.
- **Luther Heights Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, November 14th, 2026, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Alexandra Avenue.** Crafts, Baking and White Elephant Sale!! To book a table ($5/table), call Fern 306-987-0176.
- **COMING AGAIN – *ADVENT – CHRISTMAS MARKET & TEA* – to Redeemer Lutheran Church, 812 Preston Ave. November 21, 2026 10 am – 3 pm. WE ARE NOW INVITING VENDORS –** Crafters, artisans, DIY Creators - to be part of this festive market – featuring locally hand made items - a market full of a wide variety of creations! Table Rental is $20 for an 8ft. table. For further information or to book a table, please email **marketatredeemer@gmail.com** or text/call Elaine at 306 220 8074 (Please include your first and last names in your text). Now is the time to inquire! Spaces are limited. We look forward to our 2026 Market along with our Advent Tea room and a collection of "New to You" Christmas items for sale.
- **On-Line Advent Reflection " Voices in the waiting" - 7:00-8:00 p.m. via Zoom** on Tuesday, November 24, Tuesday, December 1, Tuesday, December 8 and Tuesday, December 15; additional details below. Register using the QRCode or this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vsIRbfrkTCibyj2T5KNNjw#/registration


Prairie Centre for Ecumenism
Voices in the Waiting:
Advent with the Minor Prophets
Weekly Online Ecumenical Advent Prayer and Reflection
Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:00pm on Zoom
Registration required
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vslRbfrkTCibyj2T5KNNjw
Week 1: Hope from the Margins - Micah
Tuesday, November 24, 2026
Dr. Gertrude Rompré,
Director of Mission and Ministry,
St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon
Week 2: Waiting for the Vision - Habakkuk
Tuesday, December 1, 2026
The Venerable Amy Bunce,
St. Stephen's, Saskatoon, Anglican Diocese of Saskatoon
Week 3: A Vision of Joyful Restoration - Zechariah
Tuesday, December 8, 2026
The Rev. Dale Worrall, Chaplain,
Northern Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy, United Church of Canada
Week 4: Preparing the Way - Malachi
Tuesday, December 15, 2026
Pastor Karen Stepko, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Christ Lutheran Church, Rhein, SK
For more information:
admin@pcecumenism.ca
www.pcecumenism.ca
www.facebook.com/pcecumenism/
Register Here
Prairie Centre for Ecumenism

Church rentals are managed by Elaine Leite: resurrectionchurch@sasktel.net. **November Newsletter items can be forwarded to Betty Harper at harperbetty324@gmail.ca. In order to be published with the November 27th bulletin, please forward Newsletter items by noon on Wednesday, November 25th. Visit our website at http://www.resurrectionlutheranchurch.ca and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/resurrectionsaskatoon**

NOVEMBER 2026						
Sunday	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**
Church @ 10:00 am **Communion** ***All Saints Sunday*** **Fall Supper @ 5:30 pm** **01-Nov**	Carpets Cleaned 9 - 3 AlAnon-MR: 7-8pm **02-Nov**	Quilting-FH: 9-3 Cantare-S: 7-9 **03-Nov**	Artists-FH: 10-2 TOPS-MR: 6-7:30pm **04-Nov**	Stephen Ministry Zoom at 4 pm **05-Nov**	Men's Breakfast-8am Lawson Smitty's Stephen Ministry-FH 6-8 ***Quilting Retreat @ Kinasao Nov 6-8*** **06-Nov**	**07-Nov**
Church @ 10:00 am ***Quilting Retreat Kinasao*** ***Sandwich Bee*** **08-Nov**	AlAnon-MR: 7-8pm **09-Nov**	Quilting-FH: 9-3 Cantare-S: 7-9 **10-Nov**	Artists-FH: 10-2 TOPS-MR: 6-7:30pm ***Remembrance Day*** **11-Nov**	Council-MR: 7-9pm **12-Nov**	Men's Breakfast-8am Lawson Smitty's **13-Nov**	**14-Nov**
Church @ 10:00 am **Communion** ***CLAY Zoom Call @ 4pm*** S'toon Children's Choir-S 1:30-6pm **15-Nov**	AlAnon-MR: 7-8pm **16-Nov**	Quilting-FH: 9-3 Cantare-S: 7-9 **17-Nov**	Artists-FH: 10-2 TOPS-MR: 6-7:30pm **18-Nov**	Ministerial Group-FH 8-11 am Stephen Ministry -FH: 7-9pm **19-Nov**	Men's Breakfast-8am Lawson Smitty's **20-Nov**	**21-Nov**
Church @ 10:00 am ***Christ the King Sunday*** ***Sandwich Bee*** S'toon Children's Choir-S 1:30-6pm **22-Nov**	AlAnon-MR: 7-8pm **23-Nov**	Quilting-FH: 9-3 Cantare-S: 7-9 Private Rental-MR 5-7 **24-Nov**	Artists-FH: 10-2 TOPS-MR: 6-7:30pm **25-Nov**	**26-Nov**	Men's Breakfast-8am Lawson Smitty's **27-Nov**	**28-Nov**
Church @ 10:00 am **Communion** ***First Sunday in Advent*** **Nov-29**	AlAnon-MR: 7-8pm **30-Nov**	Quilting-FH: 9-3 Cantare-S: 7-9 **01-Dec**	Artists-FH: 10-2 TOPS-MR: 6-7:30pm **02-Dec**	**03-Dec**	Men's Breakfast-8am Lawson Smitty's **04-Dec**	**05-Dec**
Note: Cleaners typically in on Wednesdays at 8p.m.						
Legend: FH: Fellowship Hall K: Kitchen MR: Meeting Room S: Sanctuary						