



Courier 2022 June-August



Newsletter of Martin Luther
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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

There are times when we take stock. We look back and ask ourselves: What was good, what was bad in the past years? What has held us back and what has brought us forward? We take stock and look at the bottom line.

You look back and take stock and may laugh or at least smile as you do so, or you may have to sigh and struggle with tears welling up, tears of sadness, disappointment, anger.

Yes, there are times when we take stock and sometimes, the dull feeling creeps in that most, or even all, could have been in vain.

You ask yourself: what is going on? And you feel betrayed, abandoned and all alone.

When it is difficult to stand firm, we need orientation and support, something to which we can align ourselves and hold on so that we don't crash when everything wobbles and shakes.

There is one story, precisely about that topic: A woman is taking stock. She's looking back at her past years and falls asleep exhausted. She begins to dream: she is walking along the sea. But she is not walking alone; she is walking "with God," and in the dark night sky, images from her life shine - like streaks of light. And meanwhile, two pairs of footprints are always visible in the sand, those of the woman and those of God. When the very last image has passed the woman looks back once again, back to the whole distance that has been walked so far. She looks back and she is startled, because in many places of her life's journey she only sees one trace in the sand. She sees only one track and she remembers that where the second track has disappeared, there have been the hardest times of her life.

Concerned, the woman turns to God, and she says - in a trembling, tremulous voice: "God, when I began to follow you, you promised me something. You promised to be with me in all my ways. But now I have to discover that in the hardest times of my life there is only one trace in the sand. Only one trace! Why did you leave me alone when I needed you most?"

God looked at the woman long and thoughtfully. He looked into her eyes and into her soul, and then He said, "My dear child, I love you, and I will never leave you alone, whatever happens. I will never leave you alone, even more so when you are in hardships and difficulties. Where you saw only one trace in the sand, I carried you faithfully."

The woman woke up, but still she had the voice in her ear:

"I will not let you fall, nor forsake you." (Joshua 1:5)

"I will carry you. I will sustain you and I will rescue you" (Isaiah 46:4)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ.

We can all feel the same way as the woman in our story. When we take stock and look back on our life's journey, we may also have the feeling at one point or another that there is suddenly only one footprint left in the sand. At the very point where we urgently needed support, we find ourselves abandoned and alone. But it is precisely then that we can listen to what God has to say to us. And if we do that, then we will recognize why the second track disappears. It is not gone because God has left; it is only gone because he took us into his arms, because he draws us to himself to be very close to us. He carries us and will never let us fall, whatever happens.

Amen

Our AGM 15.05.2022

News from the congregation

On the 15th of May 2022 we were finally able to hold our AGM after a long break (due to Corona).

The finances were revealed and the reasons for the closing of the kindergarten last year were explained again.

During Corona times some things were redone and repaired in our church, what is still missing and what was voted on at the AGM is that the elevator in the church will be renovated as well as the potholes in the parking lot around our church.

Let us hope that the worst part of the Corona Pandemic is behind us and church life is now going to be "normal" again.

Let us hope for common celebrations, gatherings and ideas.

It has often been asked and pointed out that volunteers are needed, because as you know, a church can only function through the help of everybody.

What are volunteers needed for?

For tasks that you have probably all already done. Unfortunately, there was a kind of standstill in congregational life due to Covid and now everything has to settle down again....

- Coffee and cake

Now that it is possible to meet again, we want to start our church coffee again, initially once a month after Joint service.

Of course, this will only work if someone is willing to make coffee, help in the kitchen, and bring cake. I know that this worked well before the pandemic, so I think finding volunteers here is certainly not a big problem.

In addition to the church coffee, we have also been having coffee in the church on Tuesday mornings since March. We need helping hands for that as well. At the moment Heather Ladoceur is helping, but if we have more helpers, it will be easier for everyone.

- Gardening

We have a beautiful garden in front of our church. Or think of the flowers and plants around the church. It looks beautiful. The garden invites you to stay, it creates peace and even has a labyrinth. However, as you all know, such a garden also makes work. We have a garden service that mows the lawn. We have some volunteers who sacrificially take care of the flowers and the garden, but here we really need more people and help.

- Reading Services

Perhaps you would like to read the Gospel on Sundays during the service and/or help count the collection afterwards. For each Sunday we need one reader and two people to count the money afterwards.

And there is more:

- Visiting circle, writing birthday cards

- Children's Worship Helpers

- Occasional helpers in the kitchen at larger meetings (which we hope can happen again, e.g. Sauerkraut dinner or some kind of Oktoberfest).

As you can see, there are a lot of tasks, but all of them are not that hard and if you spread it out and not only a few people have to do all of it, it becomes a lot easier.

We also know that members of the Church Council and others have taken on a lot of work, especially in the last two years.

Thank you very much for that!

As was mentioned in the service before the general meeting, this is the only way a congregation can function: Paul wrote that to the Corinthians (I Corinthians 12):

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by^[c] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Finally, there was a new church Council elected on our AGM as well. These are the new member: Thank you for your service and Welcome:

Ute Davis

Klaus Edenhofer

Carole Moritz (new)

Klaus Moritz

Sheri Pendlebury

Alfred Popp

Heidi Rausch

Silke Schwarz (new)

Esther Shoemaker

Barbara Turner (new)

Konrad von Finckenstein

Christina Wendorf

Barbara Zabel



A farewell message to the MLK Congregation

Now that my resignation has taken affect, I have been asked to provide you with a synopsis of my tenure as the Co-President of the MLK Council over the past four and a half years.

It all started in December, 2017 when I was approached to accept a council position on the newly established council for the German Martin Luther Church (herein referred to as MLK). The council was to consist of representatives from MLK and the former Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. At our first council meeting on December 4, 2017, I was appointed Co-President along with Konrad von Finckenstein. I was honoured to accept the position and felt that my past experience as a former council member and trained facilitator would be beneficial to all parties concerned. Over the past years, it has been my pleasure to prepare agendas and facilitate monthly council meetings as well as AGMs and retreats. My thanks and appreciation goes out to all current and past council members and in particular to Konrad for his guidance and assistance.

The following is a synopsis of my tenure as your council member:

2018 proved challenging as we transitioned into one church while continuing the English and German traditional services. With the guidance of Pastor Demke, we were able to meet the challenges that confronted us. Leaving the spiritual side to the Pastor, I focused on the business side of the church operations. Along with Konrad, we negotiated a fair price for the sale of the Preston Street property and the proceeds of which we have invested for future use.

With the closing sale of the property in 2019, I was tasked to arrange the relocation of certain items to the Smyth St building. With the assistance of Klaus Moritz, the memorial plaques were mounted in the new building. Next was the moving of the organ and piano. Luckily I had contacts in the piano moving business and the items were moved professionally. With the assistance of fellow members, the remaining items at Preston St were boxed and relocated to the Smyth Rd building and other items were donated to charitable organizations. All unwanted items were placed in a dumpster which I arranged to be placed at Preston St. This contact proved invaluable as dumpsters were needed when we renovated the manse for Pastor Kierschke and her family.

My involvement in the future of the Kintergarden over the years has been minimal other than to review possible building renovations. I felt this was better left to the experts directly involved with this project.

Aside from co-chairing the monthly meetings, I am proud to have initiated the following over the last few years:

- Negotiated a cleaning contract of our church building with JaniKing which also led to the addition of sanitizing the premises during Covid restrictive measures
- Negotiated preferred rates for our GIC investments with Meridian Credit Union
- Negotiated an outside lawn maintenance contract with Hansen Lawn Care
- Contracted a painter to complete the manse painting during covid and in an expediated timetable prior to Pastor Judith's arrival
- Contracted dumpsters as required at Preston St, Smyth St, and the manse
- Responsible for the Parking Rental Agreements and associated duties
- A member of the Sanitizing Committee ensuring that all covid restrictive measures were in place
- Contracted the building of storage cabinets in Mount Calvary Hall for our renters
- Contracted the replacement of the cement sidewalks
- Contracted Waste Management for a dumpster and weekly removal of our garbage

It should be noted that none of the above could have been done without the support of my fellow council members. It is their continued dedication and volunteering to take on tasks that no one else will that keeps our church going.

I will continue to support our church as we go forward into the future. However, our future is in you as a member to step up and volunteer to assist your council members in going forward.

Auf Wiedersehen

Sonny

Confirmation service 22.05.2022

Despite the Thunderstorm one day before, we had a very nice confirmation service with wonderful musical support from MaryAnn and Peter Foley and also from Signhild and Martin Damus. Many thanks.



On the picture you can see our confirmands

(Freda Bohnekamp, Aleah Shoemaker, Jakob Kierschke, Bianca Mallet, Pastor Judith Kierschke, Evan Araya, Isabelle Mallet).

The topic of the service was the light that we have in Jesus. Through the last 2 years of confirmation class (during the pandemic), an adaptation of Psalm 27 accompanied us a lot, which was also prayed in the confirmation service:

Psalm 27 English

The Lord is my light when it is dark. When I am afraid, he is my protection.

Whom should I fear? People? God is stronger. Being alone? The Lord is with me. Do not turn away, Lord, show me my way, and accompany me on it. When you are with me, I have courage. When you help me, I am strong. Lord, you are my light in the darkness and my protection in the night. I thank you for helping me.

Do you remember your confirmation time?

If you know someone who would like to join our confirmation class after summer please contact Pastor Judith.

The new confirmation class starts in September and we are looking forward to new confirmands!

What was our Pastor doing in NIAGARA FALLS and COSTA RICA?

When it was still really cold, before Easter, I was on a Spiritual Retreat from the ELCIC in Niagara Falls, together with my German colleague (Pastor Annika Klappert) from Toronto.



It was the first retreat that took place "after" Corona again IN PERSON. This meant for both of us the first time to get to know our colleagues personally and not only via Zoom. It was also the first time I could talk to our Bishop Susan Johnson and our Bishop Michael Pryse personally.



Bishop Susan Johnson worked with us on her new book "Praying the catechism". We focused on the "Lord's Prayer" for the 3 days. Of course we all know the Lord's Prayer by heart, it's nothing new to us, or is it?

If you look in the worship schedule, you will see that there is a sermon series on the "Lord's Prayer" during summer, and we will also talk about it in our Discussion Group. It is going to be interesting!

After Easter I was in Costa Rica together with the children for almost 2 weeks.

It was really wonderful. But it was not just a vacation.

It was a meeting of all German-speaking Pastors (plus families and people from Germany) who belong to the EKD and work in America (Canada (as the only country with 2 representatives from Toronto and Ottawa), USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Brazil, Chile, Columbia).



After the pandemic it was the first IN PERSON meeting, normally it takes place annually.

Usually we work on certain theological or socio-political topics and invite speakers. This year was different. We all felt that it was time to reflect on the pandemic and what it has done and is doing to the ministry, the congregation and the church. So we didn't have speakers, we had a lot of sharing, a lot of reflection: What has happened? How are we doing? How are the congregations doing? What was possible? What is possible now?

You have seen it in our congregation. We had only online services, we couldn't really sing together, we had limitations in the number of participants, we still don't celebrate the Lord's Supper like before. All of that is hard for a congregation. And if you think Canada would be careful, I can tell you in other countries the restrictions were much more far reaching (e.g. in Chile, people were allowed to leave their houses only with police permission to buy groceries - in other South American countries people over 65 were not allowed to go out at all).

Of course, this is an issue for churches but also for Pastors.

I started my work right in the middle of the pandemic. This is not how we all wished or imagined it would be.

Talking about it with other Pastors who are experiencing similar things was good for everyone involved.

But of course it wasn't all work. We also got to know the beautiful country a bit, for example on a river trip where we saw big crocodiles.



In addition to our program the German ambassador of Costa Rica joined us and told us about her work and someone from the Inter American Court of Human Rights, which is based in Costa Rica talked about their work as well.

I have to say that I didn't know much about Central and South America so far, so it is all the more interesting to get insights about the colleagues and churches there now.

In San Jose, at the end of the conference, we attended the church service of the colleague in the German congregation together. That was also interesting to see how it works in other German congregations abroad.

As beautiful as Costa Rica is, I have decided for myself to be happy to have landed in the Canadian climate. In the long run this sultry heat would not be for me.

Pastor Judith Kierschke

The Gnostic Gospels

By Gunther Bauer

In December 1945, an Egyptian farmer, Muhammad Ali-Saman and his brother, made an amazing archaeological discovery in their field in the village, Nag Hammadi, in Upper Egypt, where they were digging for fertile soil. They came across a clay vessel, about a meter high. Thinking it would contain valuable things, they broke the vessel. They found thirteen leather-bound books with papyrus documents. The books contained 52 writings from the early Christian period, including a number of Christian Gospels, which were unknown as far as they went. The age of the papyrus documents, the leather covers, and the Coptic script were determined to be written between 350 and 400 AD. The scholars also agreed that the Coptic texts were translations of original documents in Greek script from the period 140 AD. Fragments of the originals of the "Gospel of Thomas" and the "Gospel of Mary Magdalene" had been found earlier. In the writings there were also translations that came from texts older than the New Testament Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke and John (50-100 AD). The Nag Hammadi scriptures even contained documents that told about the creation of the world, written differently from the Old Testament.

These texts came from the Gnostic Christians, as they were called by the Orthodox Christians. The word comes from the Greek word *gnosis* and is usually translated as "knowledge", but it means more than that. It is rather an inward process of self-knowledge. One must first know oneself in order to know God. Perhaps a few lines from the Gospel of Thomas will better explain what is meant by "Gnostic faith". Jesus says to his disciple Thomas that they are both of the same origin, Jesus says to Thomas: " I am not your master, since I drank from the same bubbling spring that I measured out. But whoever drinks from my mouth will become ME; I myself will become YOU, and things that were hidden from you will be revealed to you."

Why these writings were buried and why they remained hidden for nearly 1600 years is unknown. Similar Gnostic documents were denounced as heretical by Orthodox Christians, especially by Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons. Theological scribes had long known that during the first 300 years of the Christian faith, there was a critical dispute between the Orthodox and Gnostic churches. Each church called the other heretical. When Emperor Constantine made the Orthodox Christian Church the state religion, the Gnostic faith was officially declared heretical, and all its writings were banned and burned. Possession of these texts was punishable by death. It was believed that the destruction of all Gnostic writings was quite complete until the find at Nag Hammadi came to light. It is believed that monks from a nearby monastery buried these forbidden writings. Many of these papyrus scriptures, as well as the leather bindings, can be seen today in the Coptic Museum in Cairo. My wife and I had the opportunity to visit the museum in December 1991. The Gnostic section is visited by few people, we

were told. This is understandable, since the museum has many valuable pieces on display that are worth seeing, such as mummies and burial treasures.

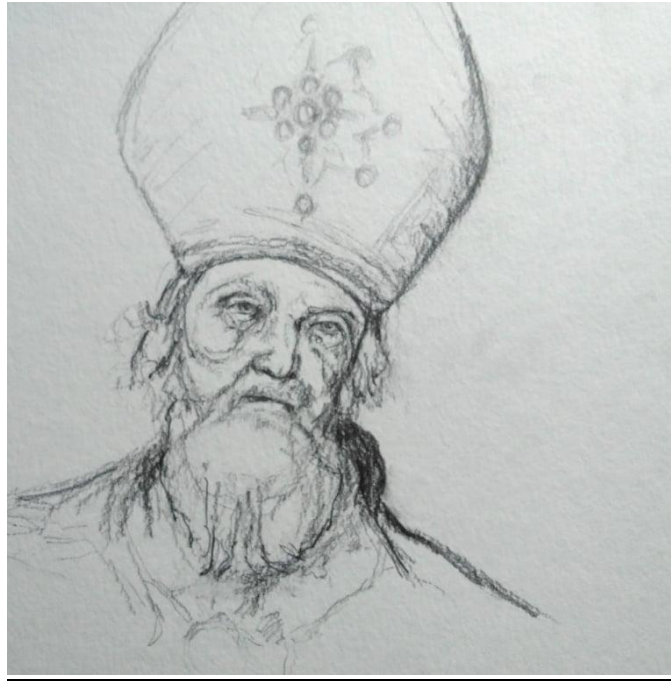
If these Gnostic writings had been found a thousand years earlier, they would almost certainly have been burned as heretical texts. After the Reformation, the Orthodox Church took other forms. But they are all based on the same foundation, which was established by the Orthodox Church in the fourth century. All believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God and accept the New Testament as the basis of their faith. Most profess the Orthodox Creed, as well as the Christian sacraments, perhaps in different forms as originally established in the early Christian Church. They all believe that Jesus Christ lived, was crucified, and rose again on the third day.



The Nag Hammadi Codices

5 Questions to Bonifatius

How Christianity came to Germania



Civil name: Wynfreth

*673 in Crediton /England † 755 near Dokkum in Friesland

Boniface was a missionary and church reformer in the Frankish Empire. He was one of the first to bring Christianity to Germania.

1) You went to Franconia as a missionary at the age of 41, before that you lived in England. What did you do there?

I was born in Crediton in England. My birth name was not Boniface at all, but Winfried.

My parents sent me to a Benedictine monastery in Exeter and later to Nursling when I was still a child. That was pretty much common at that time. I grew up there and wanted to become a monk, that is, to spend my life in the monastery.

As it turned out, this was a good path for me. I was a good student and I enjoyed learning. Hearing about Christ and working in His service fulfilled me.

At the age of 30, I was ordained a priest and worked as a teacher of grammar and poetry. I even wrote a new Latin grammar. You can say, without boasting, I was a well-known scholar. But I realized Jesus had something else in mind for me.

2) Did the Frisians rejoice and welcome you with open arms when you explained the Christian faith to them?

You would think so, but unfortunately that was not the case.

My first missionary journey to Friesland in 716 was not at all successful. The pagan Frisians did not even think of giving up their belief in the Germanic gods.

But it was not only the faith, it was of course also about power interests. The Frisians wanted to remain independent from the Frankish Empire - to name one particular person, it was the Frisian Duke Radbod, who made my efforts quite difficult. He had just reconquered southwestern Frisia from the Franks.

So I went back to England for the time being, but did not give up my plans to proselytize the Frisians. I realized that the Word of God was not the only thing that mattered here; politics and power always play a part. I also needed more authority and support to confront these stubborn Frisians. Authority I could only get in Rome, from the Pope. So I made the arduous journey across the Alps to Rome.

In May 719 I finally arrived in Rome and there I received a missionary assignment for Germania. The Pope also gave me my new name "BONIFATIUS", which translated means: Good Promising or Good Fate Bringing. With this name I now officially were allowed to spread the teachings of Christ as a missionary I was under the special protection of Rome.

In addition, I received a letter of protection from the Frankish king Charles Martell. So everything possible was done to protect me and my missionary work. This was also necessary, the Teutons were not exactly hospitable. Fortunately at least Radbod had died in the meantime.

3) But they were not squeamish either, what happened then at and with the oak tree?

With the pagan Teutons you sometimes had to be a bit more descriptive and practical so that they would understand.

After I had already converted and baptized some pagans, it happened again and again that these - now indeed baptized pagans, did not want to acknowledge Christ

as the only God. They still worshipped their old gods. This clearly contradicts the 10 Commandments that we are not to worship any other gods except the One. Here I really had to set a sign.

In Hesse was one of their Germanic cult places. A large oak tree, which was dedicated to their god Donar. They even offered him sacrifices here. They no longer needed that as Christians. So I had this oak tree cut down - under the protection of the Frankish military, of course.

At first there was a terrible commotion among the pagans, but after their alleged gods did nothing but retaliate - like sending lightning or something - they finally realized that our Christian God is stronger and more powerful than their so-called deities. After that, by the way, many pagans got baptized.

4) You are called the "Apostle of the Germans" in the Catholic Church. So was your mission successful after all?

After this incident with the oak tree, things slowly progressed with the missionary work. For the next few years I traveled through areas in what is now Hesse, Thuringia and Bavaria.

I was not alone, I had warriors, craftsmen and larger retinues with me. I founded some settlements and monasteries. Fortunately, I was now also connected to politics. My missionary desire coincided with the interests of the Frankish house-meier Charles Martell. He saw in Christianity and in a tightly organized imperial church a bracket that could promote the cohesion of his empire.

I achieved a great deal on the administrative level, where not much was available. I structured the church in the east of the Frankish Empire. I founded numerous monasteries, including Fulda, which was to develop into a cultural center. Other bishoprics were founded in Salzburg, Freising, Passau, Regensburg, Würzburg, Eichstätt and Erfurt. It almost seemed that I was more successful as a church organizer than as a missionary.

I myself eventually became bishop in Mainz.

5) If you had to put your life and work under one Bible verse, which one would it be?

Oh that's hard, there are so many good and encouraging words from the Lord.

The Psalm word "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105 is probably a good description of my ministry, all things considered.

I went through the darkness of the peoples of Germania who did not yet know the light, the Word of God. I myself would not have been successful and would not have progressed at all if I did not have the Word of God myself. It always guided me and strengthened me when I regressed and showed me the way.

It was the Word of God that I wanted to carry into the world. The light, the way that should illuminate all.

What happened after that...

At the age of 80, Boniface went on a missionary journey to Friesland once again. How dangerous life was on the road as a missionary became apparent here. In 754, he and his fellow travelers were slain by a band of robbers on this missionary journey.

His bones were buried in the cathedral at Fulda.

His writings are considered an important source for early medieval history.

Boniface was later given the epithet "Apostle of the Germans" in reference to Paul, the "Apostle of the Nations." He was one of the first to bring Christianity to Friesland, founding many churches, organizing bishoprics, and linking it all to the papacy in Rome.

A good 1000 years later, in 1849, the Catholic Church founded the Bonifatiuswerk. This relief organization supports the missionary task in places where Catholics live in a majority of non-believing and increasingly unbelieving environments .

Gottesdienste & Termine in der Martin Luther Kirche

June – August 2022

Pastor Kierschke is at a conference from the EKD in Germany in August.

Tuesday 31.05.	10am Coffee in Church	10 am Kaffee in der Kirche
05.06. Pfingsten Pentecost	10 am Joint Service With Children Service Afterwards Coffee downstairs	10amGemeinsamer Gottesdienst Mit Kindergottesdienst Anschließend Kirchenkaffee
12.06.	9.30am English Service	11am Deutscher Gottesdienst
13.06.		7pm Deutscher Buchkreis
16.06 5pm	Joint Discussion Group in Church!!! 5 pm „Russian Icons and western paintings“ Dr. Andreas Buß	Gemeinsamer Gesprächskreis in der Kirche!!! 5 pm „Russische Ikonen und westliche Bilder“ Dr. Andreas Buß
19.06 Ausflug Trip to Petroglyph National Parc	No Service in Church	Kein Gottesdienst in der Kirche
21.06	10 am Coffee in church	10 am Kaffee in der Kirche
24.06 Movie Night	6pm Church English Film: Pope Joan	6 pm Church Englischer Film: Die Päpstin
25.06.	Begin of Summer Barbeque in Pastors Garden 5-7 pm come along	Sommerferienbeginn mit Grillen in Pastors Garten 5-7pm Einfach vorbeikommen
26.06.	9.30am English Service	11 am Deutscher Gottesdienst Mit Abendmahl
03.07.	10am Joint Service with Children Service and Coffee and Icecream afterwards	10 am Gemeinsamer Gottesdienst mit Kindergottesdienst und anschließendem Kaffee und Eis
07.07		Deutscher Gesprächskreis Thema : Das Vater Unser

10.07.	9.30 am English Service Sermon Series 1 The Lord's Prayer	11am Deutscher Gottesdienst Predigtreihe 1 Das Vater Unser
12.07	10 Coffee in Church	10 Kaffee in der Kirche
14.07		Deutscher Gesprächskreis Das Vater Unser
17.07	9.30 English Service Sermon Series 2 The Lord's Prayer	11 am Deutscher Gottesdienst Predigtreihe 2 Das Vater Unser
19.07	11 am Coffee in Church	11 am Kaffee in der Kirche
24.07.	9.30 am English Service Sermon Series 3 The Lord's Prayer	11 am Deutscher Gottesdienst Predigtreihe 3 Das Vater Unser
28.07	English Discussion Group Lord's Prayer	
29.07 Kinoabend		6pm Deutscher Film "Das Tagebuch der Anne Frank"
31.07.	9.30 English Service	11 German Servicemit Abendmahl
02.08	10 am Coffee in Church	10 am Kaffee in der Kirche
07.08	10 am Joint Service With Children Service and Coffee afterwards	10 am Gemeinsamer Gottesdienst mit Kindergottesdienst und Kaffee im Anschluss
14.08	9.30 Service of the Word S. Lapointe	11 Uhr Lektorengottesdienst Christina Wendorff
21.08	9.30 Service of the Word S. Lapointe	11 Uhr Lektorengottesdienst Konrad von Finckenstein
28.08	9.30 am Englisch Service	11 am Deutscher Gottesdienst Mit Abendmahl
30.08	10 am Coffee in Church	10 am Kaffee in der Kirche
04.09.	10 am Joint Service With Children Service and Coffee afterwards	10am Gemeinsamer Gottesdienst mit Kindergottesdienst und anschließendem Kaffee

We mourn the loss of our long-time, very active and valued member:

Emmi Moll

13-Sep-1934 - 23-Mar-2022

Gratefully we look back on her life's journey and hopefully we look forward to the one who is the beginner and perfecter of our faith.

We wish the relatives of Emmi Moll, God's companionship, guidance and protection with the following words of blessing: "May the God who gave and took turn to you again. May he resurrect your life to hope.

May He dry your tears and give you the light of trust, so that you may see the graves open with the eyes of love."

Rest in peace, Emmi Moll. Amen



*Emmi Moll, Astounding Volunteer,
"Jack of all Trades"*

13 Sep 1934 - 23 Mar 2022

Born on the family farm in the village of Görzhof/Posen, now Poland, Emmi quickly learned that hard work and taking responsibility were expected of her and these attributes formed the theme of her life. She had three brothers with whom to compete and that farm chores were a duty, sometimes more urgent than schooling. In 1945, following news of the death of her father in the army, she suffered a huge disruption in her life. The family was forced to flee the

advance of the Russian army, leaving all normal life behind. They fled and became refugees in Berlin. There she grew up and married. Her young husband thought Canada would be not only peaceful but a land of opportunity. He entered the country and after a year to become established arranged for her to join him. The transition was difficult as she had had little chance to learn English. Emmi found employment in a doctor's office, learning English as she went. Then she was fortunate in getting a job at Bittner's Delicatessen in Ottawa. Her dedicated hard work and organizational skills led to her promotion to manager after only two years and she remained with the firm for 25 years. It was a popular spot with Ottawans, especially those of German origin and Emmi found it a good fit for a woman who was now German/English bilingual and who really knew her way around a kitchen.

She adored her three children, Wolfgang, Horst and Monika and needless to say her four grand-children, Sonia, Wilhelm, Callum and Rebecca.

Emmi enjoyed two major activities, choral singing and serving truly tasty food. Fortunately, both are popular as well as international. She was a very dedicated member of the GMLK congregation and she and her youngsters took a very active part in many church events. Her organization and expertise as chef made the annual Sauerkrautessen a particularly popular event for many years and it was said that the vigorous dancing of the Schuhplattler group made them the only ones who did not gain weight.

Emmi was a founding member of the Concordia Frauenchor in 1975 and showed her dedication by serving as librarian, treasurer and finally for some years as president. She also contributed in organizing fundraising events, food sales and as designated cook and baker for many special events. She particularly enjoyed travelling with the choir in North America and in Europe. Through both church and choir Emmi became a staunch supporter of the Maple Leaf Almrausch Club, where her help and support made her a widely respected figure. In the German-Canadian community choral singing and a tasty dinner are synonymous with enjoyment. We will not forget our Emmi Moll!

By Ute Davis

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