



PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear Redeemer,

Did you happen to notice that the poster for the Harvest Dinner is up? You know fall is in the air when the plans are revealed for our annual Harvest Dinner, hosted by Parish Life. Other work and ministry is picking up too, as we move into September. Social Ministry and Sunday School are holding up for us the Season of Creation, marked in the church from September 1 to October 4. On October 7, we will cap off the Season of Creation by holding an Animal Blessing at 10 am. This worship and blessing is open to everyone, even if you don't have a pet companion. Worship and Music has begun to work on liturgies and supply until you call a new pastor. Soup and Study continues this month with another excellent book. The Book Club will do the same. Choir will meet again on Thursdays and help us praise God through worship and song. Inshallah London meets at Trinity Lutheran, breathing peace and justice into the world through global song. Council, the Redeemer Reimagines Team, Development Team and the Call Committee are working hard on plans for the future of this congregation. And, as we take up the work of ministry with which we are familiar, there is always space for new inspirations, new ideas, and new ventures as we seek to live out the good news of the gospel in our context.

In a few days I am off to the Lutheran World Federation 13th Assembly in Krakow, Poland, with the theme *One Body, One Spirit, One Hope* based on Galatians 4:4-6. First there is the work of the

Women's Pre-Assembly and the Youth Pre-Assembly and, for the first time, there will also be a Men's Pre-Assembly. Then we gather together to strengthen our steps as member churches for God's mission in this world. This quote from the Assembly Study Guide is a timely reminder: "The church's role in that mission begins with the good news that God does not abandon the world God created but stays with this world through Christ's incarnation. God is "in" all through God's indwelling Spirit (Eph.2:22). God is "for" all and continually acts to fulfill God's promise of life abundant (Jn.10:10). This promise is for all creation, the whole cosmos."

This is our work through worship, proclamation, public witness and service. We do this together whether we live in Tanzania, Finland, Singapore, the United States, or Canada. Though each in our own member church, we are called to lean into "the Assembly sub-themes - the Spirit creates, the Spirit reconciles, the Spirit renews - [which] will help interpret the main theme in light of the unconditional promise of God's love that creates, reconciles, and transforms the world through this cosmic hope."

As we take up God's mission in the season which September brings, consider some questions from the Assembly Study Guide, which you can find here: <https://www.lutheranworld.org/resources/publication-assembly-study-guide>

"How will member churches, individually and as a global communion of churches, be signs of hope in creation, participating in God's holistic mission of creating, reconciling and renewing? How are we called, enlightened and equipped to participate in the ministry of reconciliation that has been entrusted to us? How can we help one

another make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace?”

Happy transitions into September, all you signs of hope!

Pastor Katherine