

NOTES FROM HOSANNA

ONLINE &
IN-PERSON
worship
SUNDAYS @ 10AM

Fall Edition
September 2025
Volume 39 Issue 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Welcome Back!

Bible Studies

Refugee Support



Table of Contents

2	General Information
3	The Pastor's Page
	Update and Thanks!
5	Worship & Music
5	Care Committee
6	Youth
7	Christian Education & Family Ministries
7	Choir & Handbells
8	Social Justice
9	People in Our Prayers
	Prayer List
	In Loving Memory
10	From the Church Office
	Announcements
	Calendar

HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH 9009-163 St. T5R 2N8
780-484-3932 office@hosannalutheran.ab.ca

OUR MISSION

Hosanna Lutheran Church equips God's people of all ages for Christian witness and service through worship, learning, fellowship and spiritual care.

OUR VISION

Empowered by dynamic and creative liturgical Lutheran worship, Hosanna Lutheran Church will lead Edmonton in equipping Christians for spiritual growth and service.

OUR STAFF

Rev. Dr. James Hendricksen	Senior Pastor	pastorjames@hosannalutheran.ab.ca In case of emergency, call (H) 780-430-9835 or (Cell) 780-222-5451
Rev. Anna Thede	Assistant Pastor	pastoranna@hosannalutheran.ab.ca In case of emergency, call (Cell) 780-405-7840
Sonja Carmichael	Director of Education & Family Ministries	sonja@hosannalutheran.ab.ca
Kari Heise	Organist/ Accompanist	
Lena Nikolic	Office Administrator	office@hosannalutheran.ab.ca
Isabela Ramos	Choir/ Handbell Director	isabela@hosannalutheran.ab.ca
Cameron Terry	Outdoor Custodian	

OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Marcus Busch	Chair – Care	780-435-3025
John Campbell	Fellowship	587-783-0348
AJ Jeannotte	Vice-Chair, Social Justice	780-481-9885
Dianne Kieren	Secretary	780-913-4355
Cindy Schriener	Treasurer, Finance	780-233-7816
Colleen Vogel	Worship & Music	780-484-1425
Dan Wold	Education	780-940-4340

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Welcome Back!

This is a fairly standard greeting this time of year as many people are starting a new year of programming. So even if you didn't go anywhere, welcome to a new year of programming!

There are a few things we want to let you know about this fall, some of which are covered in other places, but not everything. One of the big changes we you might notice is that Jesus Reigns Forever church (JRF) will be leaving us at the end of September. They have been able to purchase their own space (which was always their intent), and so we wish them God's blessings as they move to their new space.

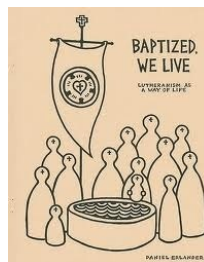
This change comes at a time when the preschool (Edmonton Montessori School - EMS) was in need of more space. They will be taking over some of the space previously occupied by JRF – most notably the north office and conference room spaces. To facilitate this, some renovations occurred over the summer, to add a washroom to that space for use by the kids (paid for by EMS).

EMS has agreed to pay additional rent to Hosanna commensurate to what JRF was paying, so there is ultimately no change to our income stream. We will also regain better use of the Peace Hall on evenings and weekends, and have access to some much-needed storage space previously occupied by JRF. On the other side, the conference room is no longer serviceable for adult groups (unless you like to sit at the tiny tables), however, most of these groups have been using the social room for their events anyway, so it shouldn't be a problem.

EMS has been a good partner over the past few years and have been willing to work with

us to accommodate our needs and requests. We look forward to continuing our relationship. One thing is for sure, there is always a good level of energy in the building when they are around.

As we move forward into this year, it is good to remind each other that part of our mandate is to provide space for the many community groups that need it. This is an important part of our ministry and our community engagement. This also means that we live with the reality of shared spaces, which does have an impact on how we do things. For example, we can't assume spaces will always be available. Please check the calendar and with the office for room availability before planning meetings or programs. We can usually accommodate requests, but sometimes need to shift things around a bit. Thanks for your cooperation in making this all work.



LUTHER COURSE UPDATE AND SCHEDULE

We are pleased to announce that the course on Lutheran Identity has a set of dates! We have had numerous challenges in scheduling this event,

but we are committed to these dates! They are Sundays following church (and coffee time) and will run for about an hour. The dates are October 5, 19, November 2, 16, and 30 (if needed).

We will be using a book entitled *Baptized We Live; Lutheranism as a way of life*, by Dan Erlandson. It is a good guide to some of the key topics of our faith. The course is open to anyone who is interested, whether you are new to the Lutheran Church or have been a part of one for a long time.

Pastor James

UPDATE AND THANKS!

As many of you know I participated in the Great Cycle Challenge – Canada this past August. The goal of the ride is to fund life-saving research to develop safer and more effective treatments, and find cures for all childhood cancers. It has been happening for a number of years now, but it was my first year as a participant.

Everything is now complete. Thanks to everyone who supported my ride and followed my progress. I got involved in the ride, in large part because my brother Dennis, who has been doing this ride for many years now and who inspired me to get off my butt and actually ride this year. I learned many things, and found it to be a positive experience overall. I probably rode more this year than in the last 10 years combined, which has been a good change. I am still riding, although with fall programming is full swing and the sun setting earlier, it is more of a challenge. I hope to be able to participate again next year, and also to up my mileage goal. I will let you know if that happens.

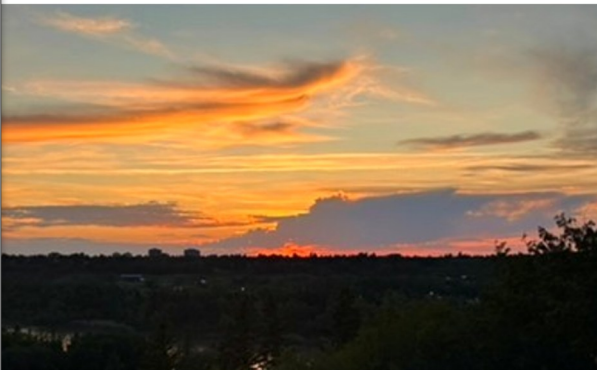
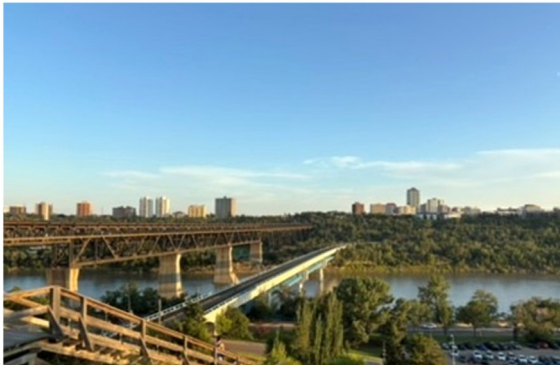
For those of you who are interested in the ride

and some numbers (and I know some of you love numbers), here are some statistics about the ride, and my personal numbers. First, there were 11,475 riders in Canada this year (across the country). There was a total of \$6,728,076 raised to fight kid's cancer, and 2,238,838 km were pedalled across Canada.

I rode 252k of my 250k goal (so 101% completed). I raised \$4762 of my \$3000 goal, or 159% (although my original goal was \$1000, so 476% of that!). I ranked (with respect to fundraising) 167th overall, 21st in Alberta, and I ranked 56th in my age category (which was the top fundraising category). I ranked 13th nationally for first-year riders. My Team - Pedaling Pastors Posse, ranked 25th nationally, 11th in our category (Friends), and raised \$14,153.

Thanks again to those who supported my ride (and the rides of others). Let me know if you don't receive your tax receipt for your donation, and I will look into it for you.

Here are a few pictures from my rides!



A NOTE FROM WORSHIP AND MUSIC FOR FALL 2025

Welcome to Fall! We hope you are enjoying our worship series based around prayer. Our worship space is awash in greens, bricks, and candles as we talk about prayers of complaint, thanksgiving, protection, intercession, and those that feel unanswered. Both Hosanna and Lakeland Lutheran are sharing the same created liturgy, a sung version of the Lord's prayer (a common LLC) worship practice, and weekly member led Prayer Reflections. We hope that these weeks of prayer help you feel more connected to God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and one another. That the intentional practice of focusing on our prayer life serves as a reminder, in the business of fall, of the presence of God in all we do, and our continual invitation to be in conversation with our creator as we walk through our daily lives.

As we look ahead, we find that there are several festive Holy Communion Sundays to come in October and November. **October 12** we will celebrate **Thanksgiving** with Holy Communion. Members are invited to bring vegetables to share as part of the Thanksgiving display. Please bring any produce to be displayed to the church the week of Oct. 6-9 so that a design can be built as part of our worship together. **October 26** we will celebrate **Confirmation Sunday** and commemorate the **Reformation**. Two young women will be completing their confirmation classes this October and then standing to affirm their faith in worship with Holy Communion this day. **November 2** is **All Saints Sunday** and the congregation is invited to share the names of those who they have lost in the last year, or those we remember as part of the

cloud of witnesses; prayer and Holy Communion will be



a part of this worship service. The church year ends on **November 23** with the celebration of **Reign of Christ Sunday** and includes Holy Communion as part of our worship together.

Weekly worship services all happen at 10am. All services are available live or via the Hosanna YouTube channel (bit.ly/HosannaEdmonton). Service bulletins are available from the Hosanna website at HosannaLutheran.ab.ca under the Livestream heading. If you would like to serve as a leader please speak with Pr. Anna, Margaret Sadler, or any member of the worship and music committee. We are always seeking those who are willing to serve as readers, lay leaders, actors, musicians, greeters, altar guild members, a/v technicians, or communion assistants.

As a note, if you love worship and want to be part of imagining and planning for the worship we do at Hosanna the W&M committee would love for you to join us in our work! We are always seeking new members. Current members are: Colleen Vogel (Council rep), Sonja Myroon, Susan Querengesser, Rodina Couling, Carol Chrapko, and Emily Stebner. Staff committee members are Kari Heise, Isabela Ramos, and Pastor Anna. Our next meeting is October 27, at 7:30pm in person at the church. If you are interested in working with this dedicated group of volunteers please speak with any committee member.

HOSANNA'S CARE COMMITTEE



A huge thank you goes out to those who serve on the Hosanna Care Committee (Marcus, Del, Ursula, Rodina, Don and Pastor Anna) for your ongoing ministry to the members and friends of Hosanna. This dedicated group of people call and visit with members every month as a sign of God's kingdom drawing near and our love and connection to one another. We are always seeking new members to do visits, and people who need visits – if either of these categories seems like you, please reach out to Pr. Anna. The committee meets once a month, on the first Tuesday of the month at 10am in the social room for a time of fellowship, education, and check-in. Thank you for all you do Care committee members!

HOSANNA YOUTH

Yah for fall! Hosanna youth is very excited to announce the start of another season of fun youth events. Youth is open to anyone in grades 7-12, or who are 12-19 years old. Friends are welcome, and we encourage you to join us as often as possible for our monthly gatherings. Here is an outline of date and activities for fall 2025:

- **Saturday, September 20: Fall Kickoff - Bowling!**

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Location: St Albert Bowling Centre ([14 Inglewood Drive, St Albert](#))

Please bring **\$10** to help cover costs. Snacks will be provided.

Friends are welcome!!

Please RSVP to Pastor Anna by Friday, September 19.

- **Saturday, October 18: Craft Night!**

○ Time: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

○ Location: Hosanna

○ Plan to bring a snack to share

- **Saturday, November 22: Baking Night!**

○ Time: 7:00 - 9:30 PM

○ Location: Hosanna

○ Come out to make cookies to eat, and more importantly cookies to share with the congregation as a thank you for all their support!

- **Friday, December 5 to Saturday, December 6: Tree Decorating, Games & Sleepover!**

○ Time: 7:30 PM to 10:00 AM (or 11:00 PM for those not sleeping over)

○ Location: Hosanna

Plan to bring sleepover gear & a snack to share. Breakfast will be provided.

For more information about youth or youth events please speak with Pr. Anna or Juli Zinken to get on the email list.

The next Youth Committee meeting is set for **December 1, at 7:30pm** via zoom. A big thanks to those who are serving on this committee: Juli Zinken (chair), Helena Hendricksen (secretary), Chris Terry (youth leader), Jabe Bilodeau (jr. leader), Gabby R.U. (youth and young adults leader), and Pr. Anna. If you are interested in being part of

planning for the Hosanna youth program our committee is always seeking those who are willing!

Youth Fundraising Winter 2025

Looking ahead the Hosanna Youth Committee is pleased to announce the return of two familiar fall fundraising options as we will be offering both Fundscrip and Purdy's again. Sales will be offered November 2-19, 2025, with product delivery starting on November 30. Both the committee and the youth are deeply grateful for your ongoing financial support as this is how we fund our program, send youth to gatherings, and manage general expenses. We can't do youth ministry without your support and are always grateful for what you do to help!

Confirmation Classes 2025/26

We are delighted to resume our online confirmation classes this fall. The class meets weekly, on Tuesday from 5-6pm, via zoom, and this year we are studying the catechism. We are pleased to welcome confirmands from Edmonton, St. Albert, Millet, Barrhead, Cold Lake, and Good Soil (SK). You can look forward to seeing two of our confirmands affirm their baptisms on Sunday October 26 at 10am. Please join us as we celebrate with Sophie and Emma!

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!

Are you a recent youth, high school graduate, college/university student or young professional? Are you 18-30? Do you like food or the people you grew up with in the church? If you said yes to any of these questions, please reach out to Pastor Anna to be invited to our upcoming Young Adults Gathering. Young adults are invited to Pr. Anna's house for a BBQ and fire on Saturday October 4, starting at 6pm. The cost is \$10 each to help cover food. We have a What'sApp chat going – if you aren't a part of it please speak with Pastor Anna and we will get you connected to the group. If the October option doesn't work for you, we will gather again in December so put us on your calendar!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday School

We're looking forward to another year of Sunday School. We meet in person in a classroom off the Peace Hall most Sundays starting at 11:00 am (following the worship service). There is an option to join by Zoom if requested in advance. If you know of anyone who is interested in our Sunday School program, please let Sonja know.



Thursday Morning Bible Study

We meet in the Social Room and Zoom with our friends at Lakeland Lutheran in Cold Lake. Others can join by Zoom if that is more convenient. We start the year off with a study called Peace: Christian Living in a Violent World. We'd love to have new people join this group!

Women's Bible Study

This group meets monthly on the second Friday of the month. We will meet in person in September and then switch to Zoom for the colder, darker months. This year we will be doing a study called "The Task-Filled Life". All women are welcome to join in for study and fellowship.

CHOIR & HANDBELLS

Choir & Handbells Are Back!

We're getting geared up to start this Thursday, September 11! Handbell rehearsals ring out at 5:15 PM, followed by Choir raising their voices at 7:00 PM. If you'd love to engage in some joyful music-making *and* fellowship with some truly awesome folks, we'd love to have you join us! Please reach out to Isabela for further details.

And just so you know... we don't just make beautiful music, we *know how to throw a party in perfect harmony!* (See attached photo from our end-of-year wrap-up, where we got to hang out in the nicest backyard in the city with the best patch of grass, no less.)

Mark Your Calendars!

Our choir will be joining forces in a choral festival with Glory Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, Ascension Lutheran, and Holy Spirit Lutheran

on **Sunday, October 26, 2025 at 7:00 PM.**

Come and enjoy an evening of shared musical gifts! The concert will be held at Holy Spirit Lutheran, with entrance by freewill offering.



Together Our Churches Have the Opportunity to Make a Difference

Background

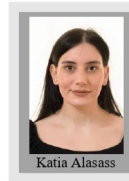
In 2019, Trinity Lutheran Church, working with Glory Lutheran, Holy Spirit Lutheran, Holy Trinity Anglican and family already living in Edmonton, submitted a request through CLWR to sponsor the Salloum-Alasass Family, a Christian family from Syria. After 4 years, Alaa, Nada and son Ghassan arrived in Edmonton to be reunited with family here. They have now settled into life in Edmonton, welcomed another son into their family, are self-sufficient and maintain a close relationship with the sponsorship committee.

Appeal for Support

Our Inter-Church committee has received a further request for urgent help from the Salloum-Alasass family to sponsor their 3 sisters, single women from Syria, Katia, Reem and Hala. With the recent government takeover, the safety of these young women is threatened. The women have fled Syria and are currently in Lebanon awaiting refugee sponsorship. \$15,000 is required for the sponsorship of each woman, money that is held in trust by CLWR until they arrive.

Meet the Women

Katia, 24, is a sister to Nada. She was living with her parents in Syria and attending university. Katia was forced to leave Syria in February 2025, along with her sister Reem, after the fall of the Assad regime. She was targeted for being a single Christian woman. Katia was also the victim of an attempted kidnapping. She was approached and grabbed by a suspect on a motorbike but managed to pull away from him. She and her sister fled the country two days after this incident. Katia and her sister are now living together in Lebanon and unable to work legally. They cannot remain in Lebanon as there is no asylum program to apply for and cannot return safely to Syria. Katia's hope is to reunite and live with family in Canada.



Katia Alasass

Reem, 27, is a sister to Nada. She was living in Syria and completed a 2-year teacher preparation program. She was forced to leave Syria in February 2025, along with her sister. Like Katia, Reem was targeted for being a single woman and for her Christian faith. A kidnapping attempt of her sister was the last straw in making the decision to flee. Reem and Katia are living together and seek undocumented work to survive. They receive some money from family in Canada.



Reem Alasass

Hala, 37, is a sister of Alaa. She was living in Syria by herself. She was forced to leave her country in March 2025 after the takeover by opposition forces. Her area became dangerous and Hala lived in fear that she would be targeted. Hala worked as a grade 1 teacher for 11 years and recently was only able to go from home to work and back, and after 5:00 p.m. she could not leave her house. Hala is now in Lebanon, living with Katia and Reem. Hala prays to be reunited with her brother Alaa and family and dreams of being a teacher in Canada.



Hala Salloum

How Can I Help?

- Make a donation at your church, **CLEARLY MARKED Trinity Refugee Fund**, and receive a charitable receipt from your church. Your church will send donations to the Refugee Fund at Trinity Lutheran.
- Donate directly (e-transfer) to **Trinity Refugee Fund** and receive a charitable receipt from Trinity (donation@trinity-lutheran.ab.ca).
- Any questions can be forwarded to contact person Rosanne Thede at rosanne.thede@gmail.com.
- Total amount will be sent to CLWR to hold in trust.
- Pray for this sponsorship effort and for the three women we hope to bring to safety – Katia, Reem and Hala.

LET'S JOIN TOGETHER TO WELCOME
KATIA, REEM AND HALA TO CANADA.



PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS



To request confidential prayer for yourself or for others, contact our Prayer Chain Leader:
Del Bennett at 780-487-4062.

If you are interested in being a part of the Prayer Chain, or finding out more about it, contact Del.

Prayer Requests

**Those who have been ill, at home or in hospital,
and have asked for our public prayers:**

Graeme Peppink (Pr. Anna), **Terry Suvanto** (Sherry Suvanto), **Harold Benn** (Deborah Hasenuik), **Raymond** (Kristin Jakobson), **Fiona** (Gladys Hansen), **Mike Wende** (Al Wende), **Aldon, Pamela Beuerlein** (Marlene Chapman), **Pat and Morley Becker, Carole Hernder, Gail Hadfield** (Gladys Hansen), **Tom Hampton, Linda Serink** (Del B.), **Gordon and Marlene Chapman, Dana Lesmeister** (*Gladys Hansen*), **Archie Martin** (Marg Miller), **Kay** (Del Bennett), **Sheila Wood** (Eugene Ulmer), **Dianne and Tom Kieren, Shawn Marino** (Sherry Suvanto), **Ariella S.** (Ray Janke), **Chantel** (Marg Miller), **Nathaniel Rietveld, Emily Stebner** (Pr. Anna), **Beth Olsen** (Don Olsen), **Jacque Gross** (self-requested), **Ken Hansen** (Gladys Hansen), **Erwin Marquardt, Deliah Johannas** (Sherry Suvanto), **Sherry Clark** (Pr. Anna), **Al Wende** (self-requested), **Liz Wise** (Maureen Lyall), **Holly Armstrong, Darlene Brown** (Marg Miller), **Marilyn Beebe** (Maureen Lyall), **Dianne Begert** (Pr. Anna), **Dale Grinde** (Marlene Grinde), **Elaine McKinlay** (Glenys Schmidke), **George Kubinski**, (Irene Kubinski), **Chelsea Sloan** (James Sloan), **Don Vinge** (Peder Vinge), **Millie Dofka** (self-requested), **Wes Baines** (Rodina Couling), **Hilda Lindae** (self-requested)

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF



Heidemarie (Heidi) Bowler

November 15, 1951 – June 28, 2025

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE



You can stay current on what's happening at Hosanna each Sunday by subscribing to the e-bulletin **HOSANNA HAPPENINGS** that goes out each Thursday, along with a listing of the volunteers serving in the worship services on the coming Sunday. If you would like to join the distribution list, please contact **Lena** at office@hosannalutheran.ab.ca



Enewsletter Sign Up

Still getting a paper copy of the Newsletter? **Spread the word**— you can get it by email!

You can also access the PDF version on our website:

www.hosannalutheran.ab.ca

If you would like to link to the online version of the calendar, **click here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/d3pexey3>

STAFF AWAY DATES/ OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER

Pr. James @ LLC Sept. 19th – 21st,
and away Sept. 18th

Pr. Anna @ LLC Sept. 12th – 14th,
and away Sept. 22nd – 28th

Church Office Closed September 30th

in recognition of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

OCTOBER

Pr. James @ LLC Oct. 24th – 26th

Pr. Anna @ LLC Oct. 10th – 12th

**Church Office Closed Monday, Oct. 13th,
Thanksgiving Monday**

Lena out of office Wednesday, Oct. 29th

NOVEMBER

Pr. James @ LLC Nov. 21st – 23rd

Pr. Anna @ LLC Nov. 7th – 9th

**Church Office Closed Tuesday,
November 11th, Remembrance Day**

“

More than ever I find myself in the hands of God. This is what I have wanted all my life from my youth. But now there is a difference; the initiative is entirely with God. It is indeed a profound spiritual experience to know and feel myself so totally in God's hands.”

PEDRO ARRUIPE, S.J.



woman's day