

# DAYSRING DAYBOOK

Monthly Newsletter of Dayspring Presbyterian Church, 11445-40 Ave, Edmonton, AB, CAN, T6J 0R4

May 2019

## A TALE OF EASTER CUSTOMS

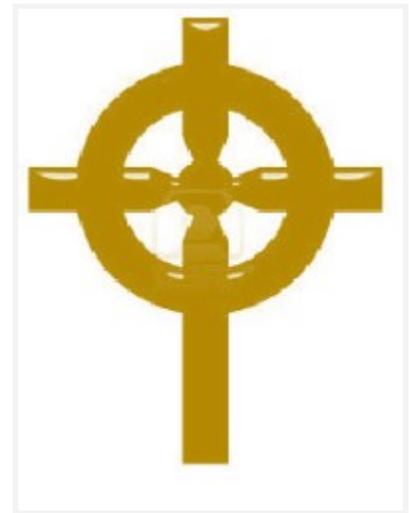
While Easter Day has passed, according to the Church calendar we are now in the Season of Easter until the celebration of Pentecost. What remains from Easter Day may be candies, lilies, palms or memories of the Christian service, followed by a family dinner.

In the early Christian Church, Easter Day as we know it now, was recalled as 'the first day of the week,' according to Luke 24:1-4, and was the prologue for the Resurrection account.

During the 8<sup>th</sup> Century, there was an attempt by Bede, an English theologian and historian, to promote the name of the Christian celebration, Eostre. This was the name of the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, who was honored in April. The source of the practice became controversial and was refuted as having no basis in history, and lost credibility. The Christian Easter celebration was maintained and practiced on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox.

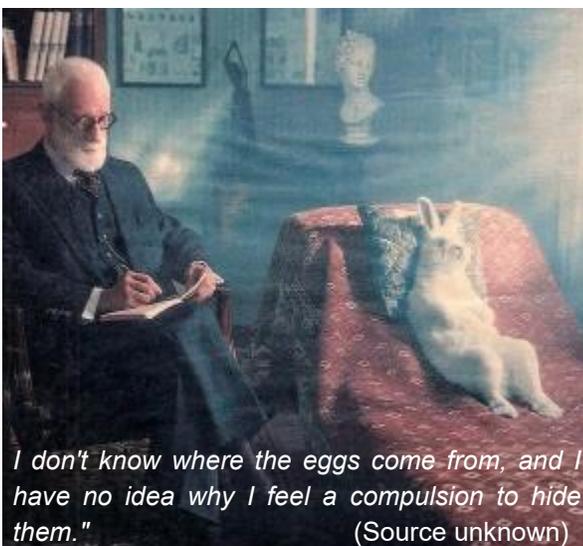
Years later, a woodland creature crept into the spring celebration in the form of a rabbit. This practice became a symbol of Easter for German Protestants and was introduced to the United States by German settlers in the 1700s. It followed the tradition of making a nest for the rabbit to lay its eggs, using fancy material, paper boxes and eventually decorated baskets. The rabbit became a widely recognized symbol of Easter and of practices that have continued for over 200 years (much like Santa Claus with Christmas), and both symbols shift the focus on the main events.

During the preparations for Easter, we are now surrounded with stories and images of the European Hare – a hopping mammal known to produce many off spring but misrepresented by its reproductive nature. No wonder Dr. Freud's client was confused!!!



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Make your life a mission  
- not an intermission."  
- Arnold H. Glasgow*



*I don't know where the eggs come from, and I have no idea why I feel a compulsion to hide them."*  
(Source unknown)

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## 2019 MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission at Dayspring begins within our own congregation and from here we join with others and move into the local community, the wider Edmonton community, and the world at large. This issue of the DayBook highlights some of those initiatives.

### 1. Our Church Building as Mission & Outreach

Do you think of our building as a Mission initiative?

Do you think of the money that we spent to build it and the money it takes to maintain it as a Mission initiative?

Here are some ways in which the building is a Mission initiative.

- a. As people walk/drive by they can see by its architecture and symbols that it is a church – and perhaps they are encouraged to come in and join us in worship and service.
- b. Perhaps something on the church sign speaks to a personal concern.
- c. The building enables us to serve the community by having a Food Bank Depot, R&S Out-of-School Care Program, Garage Sale, Community Carnival, Community Exercise Group, etc.
- d. The building enables us to be hospitable to three other faith communities.
- e. The building enables us to celebrate significant events in people's lives (weddings, funerals, etc.) and to be hospitable to all who attend those events.
- f. And, of course, the building enables us to gather for worship on Sundays and other special days – gatherings in which our faith is renewed and which send us out, each week, on our individual missions.



### 2. Mission Projects of our Children and Youth

- a. Our Sunday Church School sponsors a child in a country in the developing world. The children bring an offering each Sunday and the offerings are presented on Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of every month.
- b. Our Youth (in the past) helped to serve food in our Food Bank Depot.

### 3. Highlights of the Craft Group and Fellowship Team Mission Initiatives

- a. Izzie dolls for children in crisis
- b. Baby afghans for babies (AVIRT - Alberta Vulnerable Infant Response Team)
- c. African Grandmothers
- d. E4C 86 toques, 14 scarves, 5 hats/scarf sets
- e. YESS – toques and underwear
- f. Shepherds Care (114 Street) – 6 lap robes



## FROM OUR MINISTER

### Our faithful presence

When Jesus touches our lives and “we love each other as He loves us” we clearly have a mission in the world because Jesus had a mission.

It could be said that any congregation that is sent and has a faithful presence, is a community of God’s people that define themselves, and organize their life around their real purpose of being agents of God’s mission to the world. We become conduits for what God is up to in the world. In other words, the church’s true and authentic organizing principle is mission. When the church is in mission, it is the true church.

Having said all of this, Dayspring has intentionally been involved with having a faithful presence in our neighbourhood and city, as mentioned elsewhere in this edition of the DayBook.

By God’s very nature God is a “sending God” who takes the initiative to redeem all of creation. This perspective causes many to redefine their understanding of the church. Because the church is comprised of the “sent” people of God, the church is the instrument of God’s mission in the world.

We as Christians often say, “The church has a mission,” but a more correct statement would be “the mission has a church.” Our building, our staffing, our activities are all driven by the fact that God is sending us.

What a wonderful calling we have as followers of Christ! As we follow Jesus Christ, we find it natural to be people that love people in this world with whom we interact. *“I (Jesus) give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”* (John 13:34-35, NRSV).



*Heimrich*

## 4. Other Local Mission Initiatives

- a. Edmonton Urban Native Ministry (donations of food & clothing )
- b. Benevolent Fund to assist persons in financial need
- c. Toques for the Children at Richard Secord School
- d. “Jam” for the Children at Richard Secord School
- e. Blankets and baby afghans for S.E. Health Care Centre
- f. Toques and Scarves for WEAC, WINGS, and Mustard Seed
- g. Neighborhood Garden
- h. End Poverty Edmonton
- i. No Room in the Inn
- j. The Neighborhood Centre



## 5. Mission Outside Canada

### Through our participation in Presbyterian Church in Canada Initiatives

- a. Presbyterians Sharing (support for work in Malawi, Nigeria, Taiwan, Nepal, India, etc.)
- b. Presbyterian World Service & Development (disaster relief and support for development projects, often acting together with other non-governmental organizations)
- c. Canada Food Grains Bank (through PWS&D)



### Through initiatives generated within the congregation

- d. Hope International
- e. Medical Supplies for Doctors without Borders
- f. Refugee re-settlement
- g. Amnesty International
- h. Teaching assignments of Dayspringers in India and Ghana

## 6. What can you do?



a. Volunteer to become involved as a Volunteer in specific Mission Initiatives.

b. Pray for these Mission Initiatives – for the persons involved in enacting them and for those who are helped because of them.



c. Tell us about your Personal Mission Initiatives and allow us to add those to the list so that Dayspring can support you.

d. Tell us about Mission Initiatives that might be undertaken by our congregation.

e. Be generous in your financial support of the various mission initiatives.



### Contact Us

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#### DayBook Deadlines

3rd Sunday of September, October  
and June

2nd Sunday of December, January,  
February, March, April, and  
May

## SESSION

**Moderator:** Heinrich Grosskopf

**Session Clerk:** Gina Kottke

**Deputy Clerk:** Iris Routledge

**Roll Clerk:** Jim Jeatt

### Other Elders

Hostensia Bineba

Bill Davis

Jane de Caen

John Carr

Darlene Eerkes

Peter Eerkes

Carina Grosskopf

Ransford Kusi-

Menkah

Sam Malayang

Samuel Mforteh

Jan Ray Moncada

Nick Nation

Stanley Ngwa

Laura Patterson-

Fortin

Todd Shipman

Darleen Springstein

Heather Tansem

Mary Waugh

## MINISTER

The Rev. Dr. Heinrich Grosskopf

## CHURCH STAFF

**Church School Coordinator:** Lynn  
Vaughan

**Youth Coordinators:** Shane Johnson &  
Zachary Bruce (on leave)

### Worship Arts Coordinator

Gordon McCrostie, B.Mus., M.T.S.

**Pianist:** Binaifer (Binu) Kapadia, B.Mus.

### Alternate Pianist

Darolyn McCrostie, B.Mus., P.D.A.D.  
(Education)

**Administrative Assistant:** Linda

**Custodian:** Jim