

“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; **HE HAS RISEN!**”  
Luke 24:5-6

LAURENTIAN WESLEYAN

# CHURCH LIFE

MARCH & APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

## What's Your Take-Away?

I've been reflecting, as I hope you have been, on our church's AMP Weekend held March 1-3. If you weren't able to attend, you can find more information at [www.laurentianchurch.com/AMPWeekend](http://www.laurentianchurch.com/AMPWeekend). It was great to host pastors Peter, Ian, Krista (and intern David) and have them invest their time, experience and wisdom in our church. It certainly was clear that they wanted to do what the name of the weekend implied; help us accelerate our mission and purpose. We took time to assess where we are as a church and are grateful for the recommendations the team gave to help us move forward. I especially enjoyed the sermon by Rev. Peter Rigby titled "Three Imperatives and One Connecting Word" (online if you missed it: [www.laurentianchurch.com/sermons](http://www.laurentianchurch.com/sermons)). I'm asking myself "what are my take-aways from the weekend?" And for me, it comes down to two words.

**Mission** - Have you ever described someone as "on a mission"? Someone who is passionate and determined. The team is encouraging us to take another look at our church's mission. What is challenging yet compelling is that this mission is the Great Commission of Christ based on Matthew 28:18-20. We express it this way: "Laurentian Wesleyan Church exists to invite people into a fully devoted, life-giving relationship with Jesus". The church does many things such as caring for the poor, fellowshiping with other believers, ministering to the sick, supporting the elderly, to name a few. These things are important! But I would suggest that they are by-products of what a fully-devoted follower of Jesus does. Our mission is centred on sharing the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. How we do this is always changing. The mission however, must not change as this would not be faithful to what Jesus has asked us to do. I love how Pastor Ian put it; "Jesus may be a stumbling block to people, but we want to make sure that we aren't". So we come to the question; "Do you believe in the mission of the church?" Let's talk about it. Do you have questions, concerns, suggestions. That's what these next few weeks are for.

**Focus** - The second word I think of as I reflect on the AMP Weekend is dependent on the first. If we really believe in our mission then let's focus on accomplishing our mission with the help of the Holy Spirit. We must continually ask, "Is what we're doing effectively helping us accomplish our mission?" As I write this question, I'm reminded again of the teaching we received. We can't do everything well, but we can do something. We are not called to be *another* church, God has a purpose and task for *our* church. So we evaluate all of what we do in relation to our mission. Sometimes this means change. Sometimes it means saying "no" to good things so we can say "yes" to a better thing. As the AMP Team encouraged us, we're doing some great things. However, I see it, and I hope you do to, that we could be more focused on our mission than we are now. I'm willing to change for the advancement of God's Kingdom here in North Bay, are you?

### Next Steps:










1. **Discernment** - We'll be spending dedicated time to pray in our services over the next few weeks.
2. **Discussion** - March 17 refreshments after service in basement with discussion about the report.
3. **Decision** - Sun., March 24 we'll be voting on whether to adopt the report's recommendations.

As you read the AMP Weekend Summary Report ([www.laurentianchurch.com/AMPWeekend](http://www.laurentianchurch.com/AMPWeekend)) what are your take aways? Let's continue to pray, learn and dream about what God has for us.

*Serving Christ with you,  
Pastor Jason*



# MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					 <b>Accessibility Project Fundraiser</b> Collect items (clothing, shoes, bedding, DVDs, toys, etc) and later this Spring we'll collect them & cash in! <a href="http://www.laurentianchurch.com/accessibility-project">www.laurentianchurch.com/accessibility-project</a>	
3 Service @10:30am 	4  DON'T FORGET TO SPRING FORWARD		6	7 Bible Study @7pm 		
10 Service @10:30am ~ Waters Edge @2pm	11 Don't forget your loose change for our "Change for Change" offering. 		13	14 Bible Study @7pm		
17 Service @10:30am ~ Movie @6:00pm  Donations Welcome <a href="http://laurentianchurch.com/movie">laurentianchurch.com/movie</a>		19 Advisory Board 7pm	20  FIRST DAY OF Spring MARCH 20	21 Bible Study @7pm	22 	23 Breakfast Fund-Raiser Drop In 9am to Noon
24 Service @10:30am ~ Hospital Service @2pm		26	27  Gathering Place	28 Gathering Place @8:30am ~ Bible Study @7pm	29	30
31 Service @10:30am	AMP Report - Please Pray! March 17 - After Service Discussion March 24 -Vote <a href="http://laurentianchurch.com/ampweekend">laurentianchurch.com/ampweekend</a>			<h2>APRIL 2019</h2>		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Bible Study @7pm 	5	6
7 Service @10:30am 	8 Please bring items for the Salvation Army food bank. 	9	10	11 Bible Study @7pm	12	13
14 Service @10:30am ~ Waters Edge @2pm 	15 Don't forget your loose change for our "Change for Change" offering. 	16	17 Advisory Board Tuesday @7pm	18 Bible Study @7pm	19 Good Friday Gathering 10:30am Capitol Centre 	20
21 Family Easter Sunday! Breakfast @9:30 Service @10:30am	22  Happy Easter	23	24  Gathering Place	25 Gathering Place @8:30am ~ Bible Study @7pm	26	27
28 Service @10:30am ~ Movie @6:00pm  Donations Welcome <a href="http://laurentianchurch.com/movie">laurentianchurch.com/movie</a>						


**March & April Birthdays - We Bless You on Your Special Day!**

March 25-Laverne Lebold | April 1-Josh Floyd | April 14-Peter Daly

April 25-Angelika Falkenberg | April 29-Jonathan MacLeod

\*Is your special day missing? Sorry about that. Contact the church and we'll add your name.

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