

## Valhalla Lutheran Church

### Chairman Report – 2021

It is that time of year again, when we say good-bye to the old year, and welcome the new one. Many things are happening in the world, both for good, and for bad, and of course the church is not immune to these happenings. One of our biggest challenges over the last year has, of course, been dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, and attempting to respond not only to that situation, but to the ever changing regulations that go with it. It has forced us to find creative ways to serve the congregation and community, such as the service live-streaming, and more presence on social media. I would like to express my thankfulness to both council and the congregation for their trust in me to serve as chair. We as council have had a unity of purpose and vision, and that has made the work much easier.

Last year we were privileged to have Darcy Albers serve as our student pastor, until he and his family left in June. I know that their ministry here was much appreciated, and they are missed. Since Darcy left, our pulpit has been filled every Sunday, either by local pastors, students, or the NALC pastors that come from a distance to minister to our congregation, and serve communion. A big thanks goes out to all of them. Our search for a full-time pastor is ongoing, and the NALC is assisting us in that endeavour.

The work of the deacons, parish ed, and the trustees is ongoing, as you will see from their reports. A big thanks to those who organized to fill out pulpit and found worship leaders, to those who plan and carry out VBS and club programs, and those who keep our church building and parsonage in good shape. I'd like to extend my thanks both to those council members who have completed their terms, and are going off council, as well as to those who are coming on.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who do so many things, such as shovelling snow, cleaning the church, serving coffee, and many other tasks, such as doing our live-streaming, and maintaining the website and Facebook page.

May we continue in prayer and dependence on the Holy Spirit to find our place in the work that God is doing in the church, and in the community, as we continue to be salt and light to the world.

Respectfully submitted

Dennis Friesen