



# LACOMBE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



MARCH 2026

# CONNECT

*Love God    Love People  
Equip the Church*

CONNECT with us ...

Website: [www.lacombepentecostal.ca](http://www.lacombepentecostal.ca)

Office Email: [lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca)

Phone: (403)782-2966

40331 Range Road 27-1, Hwy 12

Lacombe, AB T4L 0E3

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March 2026	28



# LPC Staff

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## Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bryan Darnell (Lead Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca

Karla Budgell (Associate Pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca

Angela Stephenson (Children's Pastor In Studies) \_\_\_\_\_ kids@churchonthehill.ca

Paul Hildebrand (Youth Director) \_\_\_\_\_ youth@churchonthehill.ca

## Leadership Team

Stirling Bott \_\_\_\_\_ sbottsc@gmail.com

Al Rankin \_\_\_\_\_ rankinshouse@gmail.com

Stephen Friesen \_\_\_\_\_ stephen.friesen@v-mail.ca

Doug Gateman \_\_\_\_\_ dcgateman@gmail.com

Joanne Paquet \_\_\_\_\_ jpaquet70@gmail.com

## Support Staff

Barb Wilmot (Office/Financial Administrator) \_\_\_\_\_ bwilmot@churchonthehill.ca

Tracey Raimbault (Office Administrator) \_\_\_\_\_ lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca

Les Stephenson (Property Management/AV Tech) \_\_\_\_\_ lp cavtech@gmail.com

Karleen Hildebrand (Sound Director) \_\_\_\_\_ lpcoffice@churchonthehill.ca

# Welcome



## BRYAN DARNELL

**Lead Pastor**

### CONTACT

PHONE:  
403-782-2966

WEBSITE:  
[lacombspentecostal.ca](http://lacombspentecostal.ca)

EMAIL:  
[pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:pastorbryan@churchonthehill.ca)

### THERE'S A PLACE DESIGNED JUST FOR YOU AT LPC

Lacombe Pentecostal Church relentlessly reaches out to people who are far from God by revealing the grace of God offered through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

We are also passionate to seek and strengthen those who already know God by igniting them to action in their faith.

We believe that by God's grace alone,  
those who repent from their sin  
and confess faith in  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
Salvation is available

to all people by the loving,  
redemptive act of the triune God.

It is our joy to share this news with the world.  
Here at LPC, we are committed to being passionately Biblical,  
overwhelmingly loving,  
and fully committed to the glory of Jesus.

**We would love to make this place your home too.**

# Purpose Statement

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If you are new to Lacombe Pentecostal Church, or are scoping us out online, you are probably wondering what this place is all about.

Lacombe Pentecostal Church exists to **Love God, Love Others, and Equip the Church**

## LOVE GOD

Loving God is the foundation of who we are and what we do.

- We grow in **knowing Him** through the truth of Scripture, grounding our lives in the Bible to better understand God's nature, His promises, and His will.
- We **seek Him in prayer**, believing that a life of prayer draws us closer to God's heart, aligns us with His purposes, and unleashes His power in our lives and church.
- We are committed to **obeying the leading of the Holy Spirit**, trusting His voice to guide, convict, and empower us daily as we walk in step with God's purposes.
- We express our love through **worship**—not just in song, but in a lifestyle of surrender, gratitude, and reverence that honors God in all we do.

## LOVE PEOPLE

Our love for God naturally flows into love for people.

- We are committed to **genuine connection**, building a faith community where people are welcomed, known, and deeply valued.
- We live out our faith by **servicing others**, using our time, talents, and resources to meet needs and reflect Christ's love in practical ways.
- We **intentionally care for one another**, walking through life's joys and challenges together, bearing each other's burdens in love.

## EQUIP THE CHURCH

We believe every follower of Jesus is called to impact the world for His Kingdom. We are committed to equipping leaders who:

- Are **led more by Jesus**—seeking intimacy with Him and obeying the leading of the Holy Spirit
- **Lead more like Jesus**—serving with humility, empowering others, and cultivating a reconciling community
- **Lead more to Jesus**—using our lives to make disciples who are grounded in truth and equipped to multiply their faith locally and globally.

We are committed to being a **local and global force for God's Kingdom**, partnering in His mission to restore, reconcile, and renew.

# Ways You Can *SERVE*

*Having a place to minister and serve is instrumental in truly belonging to a community. LPC wants to assist you in finding a place for you to use and grow in your spiritual gifts, which ultimately edifies the Body of Christ.*

*If you wish to get involved in any of these ministries, contact one of the Staff or Lead Team*



AMAZING GRACE  
ALTAR PRAYER  
ANCHOR KIDS LEADER/HELPER  
AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM  
COFFEE CORNER  
COFFEE  
COMMUNION  
CONNECT CORNER  
CONNECT GROUP LEADERS/HELPERS  
DECORATING  
EZ WORSHIP  
GIVING MINISTRY  
GREETER  
GRIEF SHARE  
HANDS & FEET  
INTERCESSORY PRAYER  
LIBRARY  
MEN'S GROUP  
NURSERY WORKER  
PRAYER CHAIN  
STEPHEN MINISTRIES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER/HELPER  
USHER  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELPER  
WEE COLLEGE LEADER/HELPER  
WORSHIP TEAM/SOUND  
YOUTH WORKERS

# Connect Groups ...

## ✿ Lead a Small ✿ Group or Bible Study!

LACOMBE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH | CHURCH

Are you passionate about connecting with others, building community, and helping people grow in their faith?

We're looking for **Small Group Leaders** and **Bible Study Facilitators** for the upcoming season. Whether you love to host-teach, or simply create space for discussion – we'd love to hear from you!

- ✓ Help others grow – and grow yourself.
- ✓ Lead meaningful conversations.
- ✓ Foster connection and care.

### Interested? Let's talk!

## Pastor Karla

✉ [pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:pastorkarla@churchonthehill.ca)

☎ 403-782-2966

# ... Connect Groups

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## FOR MARCH

### **MONDAY**

Stephen Ministries - Evenings

### **TUESDAY**

Intercessory Prayer - Evenings (1st & 3rd wk)

Ladies Bible Study - Mornings

### **WEDNESDAY**

Life of the Messiah Study - Ends Mar. 4

Men's Group - Evenings

Ladies Connect Group - Evenings (3rd wk)

### **THURSDAY**

Pray & Play - Mornings (Every 2nd week)

Celebration of Discipline - Mornings (Every 2nd week)

Praying parents - Mornings (When school is running)

Women's Bible Study - Evenings

### **FRIDAY**

Women at the Well - Usually Evenings (3rd Fri of the Month)

### **SATURDAY**

Pit Stop - Mornings

Platinum Friends - Dates announced

# Stephen Ministry

**Stephen Ministers** are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation or many other life challenges.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.



For more than 50 years people from more than 14,000 congregations and other organizations have been trained as Stephen Ministers to bring hope and care to the hurting.

Stephen Ministry multiplies blessings throughout the church and community as:

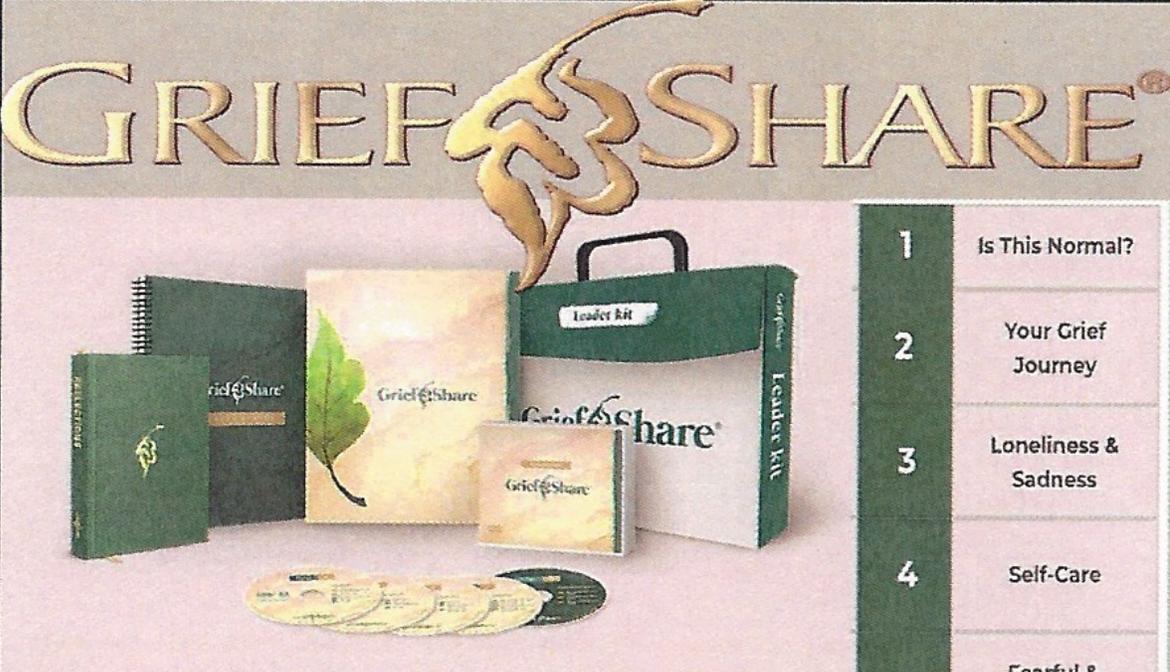
- People are equipped to carry out Christ's commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12 RSV) in a powerful and practical way.
- Pastoral care is extended by a team of gifted, trained, and committed lay caregivers ready to minister to hurting people.
- Lay people nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others.
- People who are hurting gain a caring Christian presence to provide emotional and spiritual support.

In short, Stephen Ministry helps carry out the mission of the church.

## Love God, Love People, Equip the Church

If being a Stephen Minister interests You or if You are having a difficult time right now ... please talk to a Stephen Minister. (403) 782-2966 or email: [stephens@churchonthehill.com](mailto:stephens@churchonthehill.com)

# Grief Share



**Thursdays, February 5 - April 30**  
**7-8:30pm**

GriefShare is a 13 week support group offered to those grieving the loss of a loved one.

To sign up or for more information go to: [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org) under find a Group, type in Lacombe Alberta, more information and then register.

Or  
 call/text/email:  
 587-679-0602  
[griefshare@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:griefshare@churchonthehill.ca)

GriefShare is also actively looking for facilitators, please use above contact if your interested or have questions.

1	Is This Normal?
2	Your Grief Journey
3	Loneliness & Sadness
4	Self-Care
5	Fearful & Overwhelmed
6	Anger
7	Regrets
8	Grief & Your Household
9	Grief & Your Friendships
10	Questions for God
11	Stuck in Grief
12	Hope & Resilience
13	What Do I Live For Now?

# Next Generation Ministry



2025-2026

## Next Generation

Ministry Programs

### Sunday Mornings

Nursery (0-24 mo.) - downstairs  
Toddlers (2-3 yrs) - upstairs  
Preschool (4 yrs) - upstairs  
Gr. K-4 - main room upstairs  
Gr. 5-6 - upstairs

### Mid-Week Programs

**Anchor Kids (Gr. 1-6):** Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:45 pm. September - April. Devotions, worship, games, crafts, cooking and other life skills. Starting Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Anchor Kids Worship:** Student-led worship teams, serving every Wednesday night.

**Gr. 5/6 Bible Study:** Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 pm, starting October 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Grades 7-12

**The Anchor Youth:** Friday nights from 7:00-9:30pm, September - June. Includes worship, games, small groups, overnight trips, and youth conferences.

**The New Life Ministry (Grades 10-12):** Student servant-leadership team meeting monthly from September-June and serving Friday nights.

**Redemption Worship:** Student-led worship team, serving twice monthly on Friday nights.

## Contacts

Pastor Angela  
(ages 0-Gr. 6)

[kids@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:kids@churchonthehill.ca)

403-782-2966

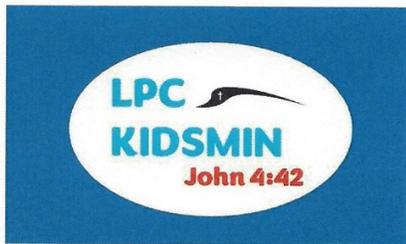
Youth Ministry  
(Grades 7-12)

[youth@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:youth@churchonthehill.ca)

403-782-2966

Leaders are needed in kids and youth ministries! If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, please get in touch!

# Children's Ministry ...



You are invited to make a difference in a child's eternal life... **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**KNITTERS:** We are looking for 2-3 people willing to come for 3 weeks only to teach knitting, The dates would be April 8, 15, 22.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...** If you are a **PRAYER PAL**, our next event will be on March 18, 6:15-7:45 pm. If you cannot attend, please let Pastor Angela know.

*IF YOU CAN FILL A NEED OR HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT  
PASTOR ANGELA*



**WEE COLLEGE YR 1& 2 GRADUATION**  
**Sunday, March 22 (at the end of the service)**

**Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments and hard word of our preschool students.**

**WISH LIST:** If you are spring cleaning, LPC KidsMin is looking for board games, children's books, LEGO, and other activities in good shape for the older children (PreK-Gr. 6). Please let Pastor Angela know if you might have something you are able to donate.



# ... Children's Ministry



## SAVE THE DATE!

**EMPOWER 2026** will be held at First Assembly in Calgary on April 18th. This is a one-day conference designed to equip children's ministry leaders with training, resources, and personal connections. Whether you're teaching or serving faithfully behind the scenes, Empower is designed to strengthen you for the season you're in. We would like to take a group to attend this great conference. Register on the LPC app or website or use the QR Code.  
**Cost: \$20 group rate. Deadline to register will be March 25th.** After deadline group rate will not be available and you will need to register through the PAOC Empower website.



**Plans are under way for our 2026 VBS, RAINFOREST FALLS. If you would like to be part of our ministry team, please fill out an application form found on the KidsMin table.**

**Student registrations will be available starting in May.**

**Keep watching for more details.**

**FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION,  
contact Pastor Angela**

# Things You Should Know ...

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## LPC ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 8

1pm

Hotdog Lunch will be provided before meeting.

Members please try to attend.

Everyone is Welcome!



3rd Wednesday of Each Month  
6:30pm @ LaRee Rankin's Home



Thurs, March 26 at LPC

Details TBA

SAVE THE DATE!!

# ... Things You Should Know ...

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April 3, 2026

10 am



... Things You Should Know ...

INTERNATIONAL  
HERITAGE TOURS

**Together on a Biblical Tour  
Through Israel & Petra**

**With Pastor Mark & Dawn Running**

**November 8-19, 2026**

**\$6,529 CAD per person for 12 Days**

Including airline taxes & fuel surcharge  
Edmonton Departure

**Contact Pastor Mark or Dawn for more  
information**

**dawnrunning3@gmail.com**

# ... Things You Should Know



Over 2,000 Discipleship Videos for Kids, Youth & Adults are available to Church members & attendees. Bible Studies, Marriage Enrichment, Training Conference Sessions, Family Videos & More!

Right Now Media is a service provided to our membership & attendees. If you would like to sign up please call the office @ (403)782-2966

## LPC Mens Group

WhatsApp group  
Join our LPC Mens Group  
Scan this QR code with your camera to stay connected



## Did you know that we have a Prayer Chain?



This is a group of people who will pray for you from their homes, should you ever have a need. If you let our office know your request, we will contact the leader of the Prayer Chain and your request will go out to all who are on the team. You will not be contacted personally, unless you wish to be. Our office # is 403-782-2966.

If you would like to be a part of our Prayer Chain and have time to pray for others, please also contact the office and we will get you set up. This is a very valuable ministry and the more people praying, the better.

## Amazing Grace Ministries

AGM is a church ministry dedicated to helping individuals and families from LPC who are facing financial hardships. If you need help with the cost of food, rent, utility bills, vehicle repairs, house repairs or other necessities to live, **please talk to us:**



Kevin & Yvonne Reed  
Leroy & Lois Penrod  
[amazinggrace@lacobepentecostal.ca](mailto:amazinggrace@lacobepentecostal.ca)

AGM is **fully funded** by donations from our congregation. We are very appreciative of the continuing support from many of you. If you would like to contribute to AGM, please place your donation in a tithe envelope and mark it AGM.



## Hands & Feet Ministry

The Hands & Feet was established to bridge the gap between our church and the local community's needs. As needs arise, the Hands and Feet contact list is notified, and leaders organize groups to make sure that needs are met. These needs could be anything from needing help cleaning the house/ needing some meals/ help moving. If someone is lacking support, the H&F community is here to help.

If you would like to join our team or know of someone in the community who needs a hand, please contact us at [handsandfeet@churchonthehill.ca](mailto:handsandfeet@churchonthehill.ca)



# Community News ...



**LIVING TRUTH**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

4803 49 Avenue, P.O. Box 89, Mirror, AB T0B 3C0  
Phone: 403-788-2444 | Fax: 403-788-2445

Living Truth Christian School is now accepting applications for the 2026-27 school year! Space is limited in all grades, K-12, so please contact our school to book a tour and connect with our principal soon! We also have a Homeschool Program available.

403-788-2444 Mon - Thur 8:30am-4:00pm  
[info@livingtruthchristianschool.ca](mailto:info@livingtruthchristianschool.ca)  
[www.livingtruthchristianschool.ca](http://www.livingtruthchristianschool.ca)



The Broom Tree Foundation has officially received charitable status! This is a big step forward for us as we continue to support and serve our community.

If you would like to donate or get more information about this ministry use the following barcode or contact [thebroomtreefoundation.com](http://thebroomtreefoundation.com).



*Save  
the Date*

PONOKA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AUCTION  
SATURDAY APRIL 11, 2026

*On behalf of the auction committee, Brianne Horne 905.928.9257*



**Now Accepting Applications** - Ponoka Christian School is now accepting **Applications for Pre-School and Kindergarten** for the 2026-27 school year. Information and registration packages can be found on the school website at [www.ponokachristianschool.com](http://www.ponokachristianschool.com) or may be picked up from the school office.

**Ponoka Christian School is Hiring!** - Please pass on the following messages to anyone you know who may be interested and pray that the Lord may provide the school suitable candidates to carry out His Kingdom work here at PCS.

**Elementary Teacher** - Ponoka Christian School is now accepting teacher applications for an elementary teacher for the 2026-27 school year. Interested candidates can forward a cover letter, resume, statement of faith and pastoral reference to [office@ponokachristianschool.com](mailto:office@ponokachristianschool.com), attention Robert Morris, Principal.

**Celebration of Learning** - Mark your calendars March 11, 2026 from 6-8pm. Parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents, pastors and Christian school supporters are invited to attend Ponoka Christian School's second annual Celebration of Learning! This is an opportunity for students to showcase some of what they have learned throughout the year and how it is connected to God's Story.

Each classroom will look a little different so we encourage you to visit them all and see what PCS students have been learning. Our prayer and hope is that this celebration of learning ignites a spark of excitement and a deep sense of ownership in our students! We want this experience to be more than just a moment but also a powerful opportunity to make learning come alive. We hope to see you there!

# ... Community News ...



## Registration for Playschool & Kindergarten for the 2026/27 School Year is open! Spots are limited.

Registration for Playschool is open to children who will turn 4 by Dec. 31, 2026. We have 2 classes available: Tue/Thu, 8:45am-11:15am (2.5hrs), OR Fri, 8:45am-11:45am (3hrs).

Registration for Kindergarten is available for children who will be 5 by Dec. 31, 2026. We offer 2 day Kindergarten, either M/W or T/Th, 8:40am-3:35pm, with busing included.

If you would like more information, contact the office at 403-782-6531 or drop in to pick up your registration package (5206-58 St) or download it from our website: [lacs.ca](http://lacs.ca)

## Lacombe Christian School Employment Opportunity: Educational Assistant

LCS is accepting applications for a short-term part-time Educational Assistant position starting ASAP (Monday to Friday mornings). We are looking for educators with a passionate walk with Jesus Christ and a developed Christian worldview.

Applications for EA positions are preferred to have certification, but it is not required. Please contact Derek Hoogerdijk, Principal, for more information at [dhoogerdijk@lacs.ca](mailto:dhoogerdijk@lacs.ca) or 403-782-6531. To learn more about our school, visit [www.lacs.ca](http://www.lacs.ca).



DINNER + AUCTION | MARCH 5, 2026

# SWING *into* SPRING



**Dinner is free. Dessert is on you!**  
Central Alberta Christian High School  
Event is from 6-9pm. Doors open at 5.30pm.

RSVP to 403.963.4630  
[developmentdirector@cachs.ca](mailto:developmentdirector@cachs.ca)

CACHS' annual fundraiser- Swing Into Spring, this Thursday, March 5 at 6pm! Come enjoy a FREE delicious dinner buffet prepared by HT Catering and then bid on your favorite desserts. Doors open at 5:30pm and dinner will be served at 6:00pm. There will be a movie for the kids. Proceeds from this event will go towards a new deep fryer and a parking lot expansion. Reserve your free seats by Tuesday, March 3 by filling out [this form](#), or you can text/call Cindy at 403-963-4630.

On March 12th at 7pm CACHS will be hosting our annual **Grade 10 Registration Evening**. During the evening, current Grade 9 students and their parents/guardians can learn more about CACHS and register for Grade 10 courses starting in September. We encourage all Grade 9 students intending to attend CACHS in September to join us March 12th so that we can best plan courses and staffing for the coming school year.

# ... Community News



Central Alberta Pregnancy  
**CARE CENTRE**

## WE'RE HIRING!

**CLIENT SUPPORT WORKER**

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Relevant knowledge & experience in pregnancy, labour/delivery, breastfeeding, infant/child development, parenting & working with vulnerable women & children
- Strong discernment & problem-solving skills
- Dependable & responsible individual with a heart to serve
- Solid approach to code of ethics & confidentiality
- Understanding of trauma, addiction & mental health
- Experience working as a team member



### DETAILS

- Red Deer location
- Up to 32 hours/week
- Daytime and evenings
- Open until a suitable candidate is found

For more information or to submit a resume & cover letter, contact [client-services@pregnancycares.ca](mailto:client-services@pregnancycares.ca)

The Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre is a registered Christian charity. We require our employees to agree to respect & not detract from our employment values during their employment with us.



Central Alberta Pregnancy  
**CARE CENTRE**  
PRESENTS



ALIVE: A STORY OF HOPE

### DATES:

Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 7pm  
Friday, March 20, 2026 at 7pm  
Saturday, March 21, 2026, at 2:30pm  
Saturday, March 21, 2026, at 7pm  
Doors open 30 minutes before each performance.

### LOCATION:

Deer Park Alliance Church  
2960 39 Street, Red Deer

### DETAILS:

Rush Seating  
Suggested Donation - \$20/Person  
Family-friendly

**NO  
TICKETS  
REQUIRED**

### DONATE



### SPONSOR



*Proceeds allocated for the Maternity Home Program*

Learn more about the Maternity Home Program:  
[www.pregnancycares.ca/maternity-home](http://www.pregnancycares.ca/maternity-home)

For more information or for sponsorship opportunities, call 403.343.1611

*Free to attend thanks to our generous event sponsors.*

# Missions (Heinrich) ...

After days of rain, clouds, breeze and mud, we have sun poking through today. Actually, we don't mind the weather as it is cooler than the normal hot and humid. Last week we had three big meetings, and for the last one, we travelled through the rain, across the river on the motorcycle that Gary drove onto the boat, so that we could get to the monthly district meeting in Talamanca. We're so thankful for rain gear that keeps us dry, but unfortunately, I didn't capture any of that trip due to safety – just trying to be a good passenger and arrive at the meeting on time. Today could be that day with some sun, but maybe not!!



The year is off to a good start in Talamanca with the local churches organizing their calendars along with the dates from head office. There's already been a prayer and fasting gathering for the pastors and leaders, an evangelism conference for leaders in both Talamanca and Limon districts, a conference for leaders 30 yrs and under, and our ladies were in a leadership conference this week for Women's Ministry and Sunday School. There is a big event scheduled next weekend for the children, with each church bringing their Kids group. There could be up to 200-225 in attendance, and so we're excited to be part of this fun weekend!



This past week, the National Director of SEC and the Bible Institute came for our evaluation in Zone 8-1 for the year 2025. It was a good informative meeting, and with it came some changes. There are still three classrooms in three different churches with the professor travelling to each location on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for 6-hour classes. We need more classrooms and more teachers to increase our numbers – it's something we are all working on right now. The role of director was officially passed to the Presbyter where there will be a functioning, active board set up – the students will continue to receive the projected four classes throughout the year, with all finishing this school year by the end of November. Please pray for Professor Juan, the 21 students in Zone 8-1, and for Presbyter Rigoberto (and us) as we reorganize to have a great year in the Bible Institute.



We have a praise report within Zone 8:1, and that is that Pastor Chamo was last seen in December by his Dr about the brain tumor he had, and what seemed to be a possibility of its return. His scans showed no tumor, no cancer, and in fact, his Dr said he didn't need to be seen again. We are rejoicing with him as it's been a difficult journey for him and his family, but they've always kept their faith in God's healing and sustaining power!

# ...Missions (Heinrich)



Along with the praise report, we'd like to ask for continued prayer for Zabdiel, who was born prematurely in late 2024. He's had a bit of a rough go since August 2025, when he started having seizures every time he woke up from sleeping. This past week, he was finally seen by a neurologist at Children's Hospital in San Jose and was diagnosed with Infant Epilepsy. The Dr was positive that it could be dealt with by administering medications (the ones that were given previously had not worked to control the seizures). He would like them to try the new meds for a week, morning and evening, to see if they need to be adjusted more for Zabdiel. They will all return next week on the 8th day to see the results. Please keep him in prayer, and his parents, Osmin and Katherine. It has been hard for them to watch their child suffer, and they are so thankful that this Neurologist has taken Zabdiel on as his patient. The Lord is able – thank you for helping us pray.

Thank you Lacombe Pentecostal for praying for us and for giving to missions – we appreciate you all very much!

Gary and Kathy Heinrichs  
PAOC Global Workers to Costa Rica

# Church Membership ...

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## **What About Church Membership?**

“I don’t have to go to church to be saved. I don’t have to belong to a church to be a Christian. I can worship God in my heart.” Have you heard this popular dodge? It’s sometimes difficult to refute because it happens to be true ... to a point. Nothing you do and nothing you can join makes you a Christian. The Bible makes it abundantly clear that Jesus is the only Way; that no-one comes to the Father except through Him.

### **Q: What does the Bible say about church membership?**

**A:** The Bible is very clear that involvement in, and commitment to, a local church are essential for Christians. Throughout the New Testament the pattern of the Christian is to meet in local congregations (eg. Acts 2:46, 1 Corinthians 14:26, Ephesians 4:16, 1 Timothy 3:15). At some points we are commanded to do so (eg. Hebrews 10:25). Even Saul/Paul in Acts 9:26 – “When he came to Jerusalem he tried **to join** the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple.” Having said that, it is true that the Bible nowhere **requires** membership in a church. In fact, in Biblical times there was no such thing. However, the Biblical principle is that the church is a family and a unit. The Bible speaks of the church as a family, or the household of God. Church membership is not like joining a country club; it is about joining an organic family. Church membership is a way of being accountable and becoming involved in the church and in demonstrating a commitment to Christ by participation in the church.

### **Q: I’m committed to our church, so what difference does it make if I am a member or not?**

**A:** “Times have changed from years ago when you could have a loose relationship with the church. Our society and our laws have changed.” There are a number of key differences between people who just attend with no strings attached and the actual church member. There seems to be a deeper sense of belonging and often a higher level of commitment from the people who step out and want to be members. They are more ready to shoulder responsibility and encourage the ethos of the church. Members have the right to vote at church business meetings. This is possibly not the most exciting thing you’ve ever been able to do, but it does allow you to have a say in what the church does and how it functions. Only church members can vote for deacons (lead team members) and Lead Pastor when a new lead pastor is to be called. Only church members can raise queries and make proposals about issues at a church business meeting. They are able to vote and add input to the sale or purchase of land or buildings for the church. If you would like to have a voice in the way that our church is run and the things that it does you need to have a vote, and to have a vote, you need to be a church member. A knowledge of which people are willing to publicly associate themselves with the church by becoming members assists the church leadership in planning and effectively running the church. If you are a member of another Pentecostal Church and you have moved here to Lacombe, you can have your membership transferred.

### **Q: How can I become a member?**

**A:** See the Application for Fellowship on the next page or at the Welcome Desk. When you find yourself in agreement with those statements, sign and apply for membership and leave it in the office or with a staff member.

# ... Church Membership



## APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP STATUS

### Article 6 Membership

#### **Section 1**

Persons desiring to become members of this church shall give credible profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. They shall give evidence of compliance with the Biblical standard of Christian practice and manifest spiritual growth by giving evidence of the Fruit of the Spirit: "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22,23 NIV)

They shall refrain from acts of sinful nature: "... sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like..." (Galatians 5:19-21 NIV) Sexual immorality shall be interpreted to mean common-law marital relationships, pre-marital and extra-marital sexual relationships (1 Corinthians 6:15-18, 7:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, Hebrews 13:4), and all forms of homosexual activity, along with other practices deemed inexcusable for Christian conduct, and which place a person under God's judgment (Romans 1:26-2:11).

They shall indicate a desire to live in harmony with this body of believers, shall accept the doctrinal standards as set forth in the *Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths*, and shall be regular financial supporters of this local church.

#### **Section 2**

Membership shall consist of the following:

1. *Regular Members.* Persons 18 years of age and over who fulfill the requirements of Article 6.1 shall be known as regular members.
2. *Junior Members.* Persons between the ages of 12 and 18 who fulfill the requirements of Article 6.1 may be eligible for junior membership. Such membership does not qualify for voting privileges at congregational business meetings.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am in agreement with the above statement and would  
(Please print full name)

like to apply for membership status for the Lacombe Pentecostal Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Lacombe Pentecostal Church  
40331 Range Road 27-1, Hwy 12, Lacombe, AB T4L 0E3  
Phone (403)782-2966 or Fax (403)782-2961



# Water Baptism ...



## Water Baptism Information

Lacombe Pentecostal Church

### What Is It?

1. Baptism is a powerful, symbolic expression of the repentance that has happened, your acceptance of Christ as Lord and Saviour, and your commitment to being a dedicated disciple of Christ.
2. It is a public demonstration of a person's union with Christ and His death and resurrection. It comes from the Greek Word "*baptizo*," which means *to plunge, submerge or immerse*. It signifies that a person's former way of life has been put to death (*under the water*) and points to their new life, saved and redeemed by Jesus through His resurrection (*coming out of the water*).
3. Baptism does not save you. Salvation can only occur through the grace of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice on the cross.

### Why Be Baptized?

Baptism is a step of obedience, faith and commitment.

1. **STEP OF OBEDIENCE:** Jesus commands baptism for everyone who follows Him. Even Jesus, who had no sin, identified Himself with those who were repenting and was baptized.
  - Read Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38, Matthew 3:16
2. **STEP OF FAITH:** You don't need to have everything figured out to be baptized. The act of baptism is a step of faith in what Jesus has done and is continuing to do in your life.
  - Read Acts 8:35-38
3. **COMMITMENT:** Baptism is an external act that signifies you are ready to embrace spiritual growth and transformation
  - Read 1 Peter 3:21

# ... Water Baptism ...

## What's Next?

### 1. What should I do to prepare myself for baptism?

- Spend time in prayer and reading scripture. Reflect on Jesus' love for you.
- Invite your friends and family! This is a significant moment in your life. Celebrate it!
- Ask someone you care about to come to the front and pray for you during the baptism (*No testimonies or long stories please. Just a 1-2 minute prayer and Bible verse*)
- OPTIONAL: Practice sharing your testimony (*the story of how came to faith*)

### 2. What should I wear and what do I need to bring with me?

- Bring shorts or pants that can get wet. Shirts are provided and you can keep them!
- Have dry clothes to change into after the baptism
- Consider asking a friend or family member to take pictures or a video.

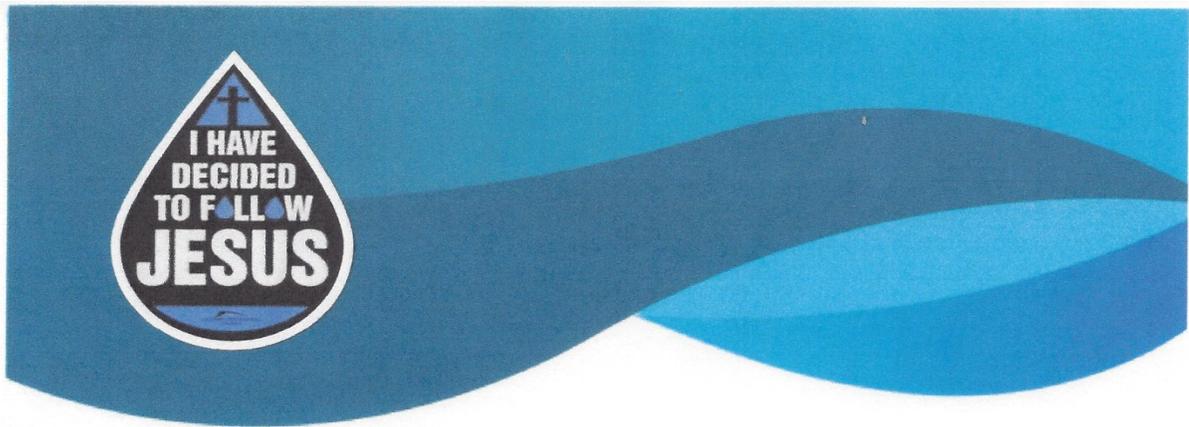
### 3. Can my family or friends be baptized together?

- Yes! If each family member or friend understands fully what it means to be baptized, we encourage it! Every person who wants to be baptized should.
- Remember this is a personal statement of faith, not a family tradition.

### 4. How will this look in a service?

- After the sermon, when the music starts playing, dismiss yourself and head upstairs to the baptism door. Come down the stairs carefully as soon as the person ahead of you comes up.
- Please ask someone ahead of time to come to the front microphone to pray for you and share a blessing/verse (*Please ask them to keep this to 1-2 minutes*)
- Those baptizing you may ask a few questions and then they will say "I now baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."
- You will be tipped backwards just enough to cover your face and then brought back up immediately. At no time will you be let go. Feel free to hold your nose with one hand if that will help you feel more comfortable.
- You will go up the stairs and can dry off, change your clothing, and celebrate this great moment in your life as a disciple with your friends, family, and the church.

# ... Water Baptism



## Water Baptism Application

Lacombe Pentecostal Church

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe that Jesus Christ, as God's only begotten Son, paid fully for your sins on the cross and do you choose to submit your life fully to Him? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you accept Christ as your personal Saviour? \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a short testimony below as to why you wish to be baptized, or write one below:

# Calendar of Events

## March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)	2	3 Wee College (9:30am) Ladies Bible Study (9:30am) Intercessory Prayer (7pm)	4 Wee College (9:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Life of the Messiah (7pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	5 Praying Parents (8:40am) Prayer & Play (9:30am) Grief Share (7pm) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	6 Youth (7pm)	7 Pitstop (8am)
8 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am) Annual Business Mtg (1pm) Lunch prior.	9 Stephen Ministry Supervision (7pm)	10 Wee College (9:30am) Ladies Bible Study (9:30am)	11 Wee College (8:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	12 Praying Parents (8:40am) Celebration of Discipline (9:30am) Grief Share (7pm) Womens Bible Study (7pm)	13 Youth (7pm)	14 Pitstop (8am)
15 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)	16	17 Wee College (9:30am) Ladies Bible Study (9:30am) Intercessory Prayer (7pm)	18 Wee College (9:30am) Anchor Kids (6:15pm) Ladies Connect Group (6:30pm) Men's Group (7:45pm)	19 Praying Parents (8:40am) Prayer & Play (9:30am) Grief Share (7pm) Women's Bible Study (7pm)	20 Youth (7pm)	21 Pitstop (8am)
22 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am) Wee College Grad (11:30am)	23 Stephen Ministry Supervision (7pm)	24	25 Men's Group (7:45pm)	26 Celebration of Discipline (9:30am) Grief Share (7pm) Platinum Friends (TBA)	27 Youth (7pm)	28 Pitstop (8am)
29 Pre-Service Prayer (9:15am) Worship Service (10am)	30	31 Ladies Bible Study (9:30am)				

