

DIVORCE CARE

The next Divorce Care group will begin on Sept 14 and it will run until Dec 7. This year we will also be offering DC4K - Divorce Care for Kids, ages 5 - 12. We will meet from 6:30 - 8:00 and the cost is \$20. You can register at sjvan.org/events. If you have any questions, please email margaret@sjvan.org.

ST. JOHN'S IS HIRING!

The Early Childhood Coordinator works as part of a team to execute the vision of St. John's Children and Family Ministry. The ECC focuses primarily on biblical teaching and spiritual formation of children aged 0-5 and ministry volunteers working with this age group. The role includes preparing teaching materials from existing curriculum, and leading the Sunday and Thursday morning early childhood program under the oversight of the Children's Ministry Coordinator. A detailed job description and application instruction are available at sjvan.org/jobs. Deadline for applying is August 12.

RIDE FOR REFUGE | SEPT 30

Ride for Refuge is a family-friendly cycling and walking event on Saturday, Sept 30 that raises awareness and funds for a number of agencies that assist those in need of refuge. Three of the agencies that St. John's supports are Ratanak, Journey Home Community and Kinbrace Refugee Housing and Support, and you are invited to participate in one of the St. John's teams:

Ray Dujardin (dujrm@shaw.ca) will lead a team called "St. John's Riders for Ratanak", Kallen Fong (kfong@accesslaw.ca) will lead a team for Kinbrace, and Jonathan Baylis (jonathan@baylis.ca) will lead a team for Journey Home. If you are interested in taking part in the event or donating to a team, please contact the respective team leader.

SUMMER LUNCH

After the 10:00 am Service on August 20, we will be having a lunch to re-connect with each other and get to know newcomers.

Would you like to help out? Contact Lyn Unger at lyn@sjvan.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

- 8:00 AM Holy Communion
- 9:30 AM Prayer for People in Authority (Room 123)
- 10:00 AM Family Morning Prayer
- 6:00 PM Evening Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

- 8:00 AM Holy Communion (**Romans 8:31-39**)
- 9:30 AM Prayer for People in Authority (Room 123)
- 10:00 AM Family Holy Communion (**Luke 15:3-7**)
- 6:00 PM Evening Service (**Romans 8:31-39**)

[Learn more at sjvan.org/calendar](http://sjvan.org/calendar) & sjvan.org/events

CHRISTMAS ELVES ARE WANTING TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are creating a Chest of Ideas for the Christmas Season, full of ways you and your family usually engage in hospitality, outreach, and community. Things like: inviting someone to Christmas dinner who has nowhere to go, good books to give as gifts to people who have questions about faith, and other such things. If you have any ideas, please email info@sjvan.org with your thoughts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Sunday School program needs volunteers who will provide snacks for the children for selected Sunday services. Snack is an integral part of our classes as it fosters community and creates space to continue conversations about the lesson. A sign-up document for the fall will be emailed out at the end of August. Please email jessica@sjvan.org if you would like to be added to the email list.

New Sermon Series

A message from Canon David Short

On October 31, 1517, a Roman Catholic monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany with the intention of provoking a conversation and protesting the abuses and corruptions of the Medieval Catholic Church. This was reform, not revolt. That action sparked the most important reformation in the last 2,000 years of church history.

The protest spread like wildfire throughout Europe and England, against fierce opposition. Though it involved political, social, and intellectual factors, the Protestant Reformation was profoundly and definitively theological. And though the primary 'Reformers' each had many flaws as they struggled toward biblical assurance and faith, they laid the path for the recovery of the biblical gospel.

The great issue was the nature of the gospel. How can we be right with God: what does it mean to be justified by faith? The gospel not only announces what Christ has done but how the benefits of his word are made real in the lives of individuals and the church. Over time, the contribution of the reformation has been summarized with five interconnected statements, often called "The 5 Solas" (because sola is the Latin word for "alone").

- Grace alone (Sola gratia) – how can a person be right with God?
- Christ alone (Solus Christus) – how does this grace come to us?
- Scripture alone (Sola scriptura) – how do we find the real Christ?
- Faith alone (Sola fide) – what is our part in response to Christ?
- Glory alone (Soli Deo gloria) – all our salvation comes from God and is for his glory.

So what does all this mean for us? This is not arcane history. As this year is the 500th anniversary of the reformation, we want to rediscover and revive these treasures and beg God to revive us again.