



Faith Lutheran Church

Newsletter June 2025

A Message from Pastor Chris

Wishing you a Wonderful Summer!

The leaves are green, the grass is growing, and the sounds of birds fill the air—Summer has finally arrived! Spring and Summer are natural seasons of growth and renewal both for the earth as well as for ourselves. The sights, sounds and smells of the season evoke a primal response as we bear witness to the sudden burst of new life all around us. Flowers bursting forth to lend their perfume, paired with the scents of freshly cut grass or newly turned soil.



Gardeners descend upon greenhouses on mass, eager to make ready garden plots and beds as they work with dirt-stained hands to cultivate and nurture plants, shrubs and trees in anticipation of the harvest to come. Elsewhere, people make ready their campers and cottages, looking forward to life “beyond the perimeter.” Our highways show a procession of RV’s and boats heading to recreation sites or vacation properties.

Summer on the prairies is both a time of tremendous work, for those who tend to flock and fields, as well as a time of refreshment and renewal for those fortunate enough to be able to escape their usual routines and find time to relax and play.



Why not take advantage of this season of renewal and growth to deepen your faith life? Consider reading through the book of Psalms, or perhaps the Gospel of Luke (the Gospel primarily featured in the current liturgical year). Or if you prefer a daily devotion, consider subscribing to Eternity for Today, (available in hard copy and electronic form) or take advantage of online devotions such as Luther Seminary’s God Pause <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>. If you’re traveling this summer, consider joining our worship services online through our Facebook page @faithlcwinnipeg.

(continued on page 2)

A Message from Pastor Chris (continued from page 1)

Wildfire has had a profound impact on our province this Spring and it is likely to have continued impact on how we are able to enjoy the great outdoors throughout the Summer. We continue to hold families and communities who have been forced to evacuate their homes due to the threat of fire. We pray for those whose homes and cottages have been destroyed, for those who have lost their livelihoods and those who mourn the deaths of community members due to wildfire. We also continue to pray for all those involved in fighting fires and helping to keep communities safe and secure.



It is likely that thousands of evacuees will continue to call Winnipeg and surrounding areas their temporary home this summer. These people will continue to need a wide variety of support from the basics of shelter and clothing to opportunities for recreation and respite as they wait to return to whatever is left of their homes. There are many opportunities to donate material goods throughout the City. The Red Cross will continue to accept financial donations in support of evacuees. Keep your eyes and ears open for other opportunities to help through donations or other expressions of hospitality and compassion.

(continued on page 3)



Faith Lutheran Church *Newsletter*

This newsletter helps us achieve our vision: *Faith Lutheran, reflecting God's grace, is seeking to reach out and serve people, primarily in southeast Winnipeg; to become a community of belonging and hope, built on caring and nurturing relationships, and spiritual direction and growth.*

Published periodically, *The Faith Lutheran Church Newsletter* provides spiritual reflection, helps build community, fosters caring and nurturing relationships, and promotes opportunities for fellowship and celebration. The newsletter encourages ways to support our community missions, and provides updates on how we are working towards achieving our vision.

We welcome your contributions, which may be edited for length or style. You can reach us at:

officeadmin@faithlc.ca

(204) 253-1491

Faith Lutheran Church, 1411 Dakota Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2N 1V8

A Message from Pastor Chris (continued from page 2)

Both the ELCIC as well as the Anglican Church in Canada will have National gatherings this summer. The ACC's General Synod will take place in London, Ontario June 23-29, while the ELCIC's National Convention will be held in Winnipeg July 10-13. Both the ACC and ELCIC will be electing national leaders at their gatherings, a new Primate in the ACC and a new National Bishop in the ELCIC. Please pray for delegates of both these church bodies as they make decisions on behalf of the wider church and elect new leaders.



We wish you all the best as you enjoy all that the summer months have to offer. We pray that you will be refreshed in body, mind and spirit over the coming months. As Summer draws to a close, we invite you to join us in celebration of Welcome Back Sunday on September 14.

May God continue to bless you each day.

Pastor Chris

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

We are looking for donations in support of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund is used in support of individuals and families with unanticipated needs, including gift cards for groceries or household goods, bus tickets, and help with unexpected bills such as medical expenses or utilities. As costs have risen over past years there are increased demands for this kind of help and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund has become depleted. To donate to this fund mark donations "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" or contact the Church Office. Many thanks for your continued support!

Book exchange on June 15 and 22

What is a book exchange? On June 15 and 22 books will be on display in the Narthex. Take one or several books for your summer reading. You do not have to bring a book to take books.

We are looking for books (no magazines) for adults and children. We also accept books on June 15 and 22.

Thank you for your participation.

Sponsored by,
Chapter One and Two Faith Book Clubs.



Greetings from our Council Chair

Greetings Faith Family,

It is a glorious May morning full of sunshine and birdsong as I write this article for the June newsletter. It is very hard to believe that spring has finally sprung and that I have been Council Chair for three months. Time does fly when you are having fun!

Your Council has enjoyed hearing about the many initiatives our church groups have undertaken. The Youth & Family Committee was granted approval for a money wall fundraiser to earn funds for the CLAY gathering later this summer. A plant fundraiser was held for RPG earlier this spring. The IT Committee has developed a surveillance policy for the use of security cameras in order to increase safety at the church. The Community Missions Committee has actively supported Street Links and The Urban with food and other necessities. These are just a few examples of how caring and supportive our congregation here at Faith continues to be. Thank you all for everything you do to make this community a better place.

Other exciting news includes a pictorial directory to be assembled this fall. Keep the dates of September 16th through the 20th in mind as photographs will be taken then. Sign-up sheets for appointments will be put up in August.

Welcome Back Sunday is being arranged for September 14th. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and have some fun together after a summer away enjoying the season.

Council is actively undertaking a review of Faith's Constitution and Policies & Procedures manual. This is vital so that Council can govern well and make the best decisions possible for our congregation. Visioning is ongoing and there are many exciting possibilities to consider for the future of our church.

In closing, I wish to express my gratitude to our Council members for their support, encouragement and dedication. They have made my transition into the Chair role seamless and enjoyable. Many thanks to all of you as well for your words of encouragement as your new Chairperson. It is truly a pleasure and a blessing to be able to serve you.

Peace, happiness, and safe travels to you this summer,



Laurie Gorman, Council Chair

Treasurer's report

Hello Faith family,

I hope this report finds you well. I am looking forward to the arrival of Summer, and spending time out at the cottage in Lac du Bonnet.

Faith's income and expenses are tracking near to our planned budget.

If you have any questions, please contact me through the church office.

Income		
Budget Jan-May 2025	Actuals Jan-May 2025	Difference
\$124,811	\$130,993	\$6,182

Expenses		
Budget Jan-May 2025	Actuals Jan-May 2025	Difference
\$176,431	\$180,467	\$4,036

Ways to give

- Mail in post-dated cheques or contact our Office Administrator, Cathy, to arrange to drop them off at the office.
- Contact Cathy to set up Electronic Funds Transfer or Pre-Authorized Remittance.
- Donate through our website <https://www.faithlc.ca/> by clicking OFFERING
- Donate via Canada Helps <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/18521>



Bill Byers, Treasurer

Secretary's report

Here are some highlights from the Church Council meetings:

- **New Photo Directory:** volunteers have come forward to help co-ordinate the appointments for photos and photos will be taken September 16th to 20th.
- **Kitchen Revitalization:** council has begun discussions regarding revitalization of the kitchen and forming a sub-committee.
- **Constitution Review/Governance Committee:** A governance committee has been formed to review the congregation's Constitution and Bylaws and its Policies and Procedures. Council will also be familiarizing themselves with these documents at subsequent meetings.
- **Welcome Back Sunday:** the date has been set for September 14th.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 10th.



Melissa Ulrich, Secretary

Going the Distance for The Urban

2025 Walk/Ride Fundraiser, September 20th (rain date Oct. 4th), starting at Abundant Life Lutheran Church from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. This is The Urban's largest fundraiser.

Participants can choose to bike ride through Birds Hill Park (25 or 50 km) or walk a path close to Abundant life (.25 - 6 km). BBQ lunch and fellowship after the walk or ride. Team Faith Lutheran has been set up through Canada Helps.

Deanna Tkach will do the walking, and Rick Sauer is riding.

Please join the team. The more the merrier! Here is the link to Team Faith Lutheran to join the team or wish to donate, <https://www.canadahelps.org/s/jgfGyz> . Please see the poster on the bulletin board for more details.



SHOUT OUT

An update on our Youth Ministry - Director of Youth Ministry

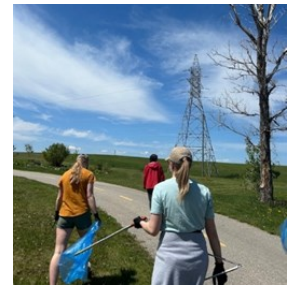
Hello everyone, I hope that everyone is staying warm as the weather is getting colder these days. Friendly reminder that, our events are for youth in grades 7-12 and youth are always welcome to bring along friends. The more the merrier! This youth group is open to all!

We have some updated information about CLAY 2025. This trip is Monday August 18th to Monday August 25th, 2025. The first portion of the trip August 18th to 21st is the MNO bus trip. This year we will tour around Western Manitoba exploring the CLAY theme “Rooted and Rising” which discusses reconciling with the land. We will visit Riding Mountain and a Lutheran Camp. There will be a mix of fellowship, recreation, reflection and mutual learning together. August 21st to 24th is the CLAY Gathering which located in Saskatoon this year! CLAY included large group gatherings, learning sessions, and worship that you get to choose from and more. Often there are evening activities such as crafts, dances, and evening worship services. I will share about the CLAY itinerary when I have more information. Our bit together will be the travel home August 24th to 25th with one more overnight in Western Manitoba area. Most meals and all lodging is included in the trip price. Youth are asked to bring their spending money. Please reach out if you would like to join us on this great adventure!

We are currently doing a money wall fundraiser for this CLAY Gathering. Please check out the wall in the Narthex that is covered with envelopes. Our Youth have set up the wall to fundraise for the trip to the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth gathering being held in Saskatoon this August. All you have to do is choose an envelope and donate the amount that is indicated on the

that is indicated on the envelope and place it in the green basket. Don't forget to put your name on the envelope for a donation tax receipt. Additionally, please move the bus along the posterboard to symbolize your contribution that will help the youth experience a journey of a lifetime! This fundraiser will be on until Sunday June 15th.

Our group really enjoyed the Synod led youth event that occurred May 4th at our church. Deacon Michelle organized groups of people to talk about some of the missions that we are doing as a church with food insecurity, baby layettes, food for The Urban, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace. The youth appreciated seeing the impact in the community. There was a great message encouraging them on how they could think about their gifts and what roles they could play to help the community. We had great discussions and had the opportunity to do some activities and helped make sandwiches for The Urban. Another highlight was that we recently volunteered with Take Pride Winnipeg who provided supplies for us to clean up litter in our city. It felt nice to help tidy our city. We appreciated the warmer weather and greenery around us.



We look forward to volunteering more, doing fun activities and enjoying the wonderful CLAY gathering. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at youth@faithlc.ca if you would like to join our youth group or have any questions! We would love to expand our group to anyone that is interested! Thank you.



Community Missions: **Making a difference in our community**

Refugee Sponsorship update

These past few months have been busy with newcomers. We saw the arrival of three teenager siblings and a mother and her three children. All express their gratitude for being sponsored and are doing well settling into Canadian life.

We are expecting a young Ethiopian woman to arrive soon and are in the process of filing a new application for an Eritrean woman. We also are participating in a Syrian sponsorship with Grace Lutheran Church.

June 20 is World Refugee Day. Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) asks everyone to “join them in prayer, meditation and action about the plight of displaced people around the world, and God’s call for us to respond”. One of our sponsored families provided a video for CLWR’s video project to celebrate the day.



What's happening at Street Links

We have been regularly delivering freshly prepared chili, Shepherd's pie and sandwiches to Street Links over the past few months – along with the toiletries, winter clothing and blankets you've donated. These are so appreciated!

Thanks to everyone who has helped prepare meals, which help feed those staying temporarily at 604 St. Mary's Road, as well as those who are living outdoors. Over the summer we switch to delivering fresh eggs and sandwiches.

As warmer weather arrived, the Outreach team at Street Links cleaned up trash and discarded needles in areas that had tent encampments over the winter. Street Links regularly patrols the extensive network of parks and recreational spaces along the Red and Seine Rivers, visiting folks who are living outside and connecting them to services such as healthcare and housing.

Street Links' Executive Director, Marion Willis, was recently named an Order of Manitoba recipient for the work she does with the homeless community.

Rene Deleurme Centre

Faith Lutheran Church continues to support our local mission project, the Rene Deleurme Centre with dry goods, dairy items, canned goods, toiletries for children and adults and items for babies. The centre and the families that they support are truly thankful for our contributions to their food cupboard. Helping families in need is a blessing.

Books For Babies

The Wednesday Morning Fellowship Group, Faith Book Club 1 and Women of Faith joined together to collect new and gently used books for babies and children up to 3 years old. We collected 150 books that were donated to Healthy Start. These books are given out to families in need and also to newcomer families. A facilitator at Healthy Start gave out some of the books the next day to 2 families that were in a shelter and she shared how the children were so excited to have their own books.



Sleep in Heavenly Peace

We had a very successful group bed build for Sleep in Heavenly Peace on April 12th. 28 people were able to participate. We had hoped to build 30 beds, but actually made 41 beds in under 4 hours. 18 Bed sets and \$627.67 was donated to SHP. SHP was very happy with the help and donations. With the interest shown we will look into booking another build next Spring. And possibly a bedding drive throughout the year leading up to the build.

We believe that there should not be a child that doesn't have his or her bed that they can call their own.



“Reconciliation is getting to know one another”

Mary Simon, Governor General



June 2025 News from your Ministry Manager

Please note the Urban is closed for holidays for the month of July.

Our regular schedule resumes on August 3rd.

As forest fires rage in Manitoba and Saskatchewan we pray for the thousands of people who are frightened and worried. We pray for those who are displaced, don't know when they can return home and not sure what they will find there when they can. We pray for the children who just want to go home.

Fellowship and Spiritual Care come together in our Urban sharing circles:

- I always say that our men's lunch/sharing circle, our women's sharing circle both on Wednesdays, and our co-ed sharing circle on Thursdays - all three have their own particular charm.
- When I started these circles almost nine years ago, I had a vision and a goal for them. And surpassing my dreams, they have created a coming together of people who speak of hopes and dreams, worries, current events, faith, family stories, medical anecdotes and current medical struggles, work, school, and sports anecdotes, and humorous events, to name just a few.
- In the past few weeks our topics have been: persistence and perseverance; my favourite season and why; changing the things I cannot accept; and, how is your week going / what's on your mind.
- We are an eclectic group of Indigenous, settlers, and immigrants (India, China, Cameroon, and Jamaica).
- Before each circle begins – as people sit with their coffee and dessert – there is a din of conversation and laughter. It's a large group of friends. Yesterday, June 5, there were 22 of us in our co-ed circle.
- We hear the comment often “you are all my family”.

My heart is continually filled by the privilege of knowing our wonderful Urban community. Some of whom I've known for 20 years - first as a volunteer on Sundays, then as a board member for 8 ½ years (volunteering along with fellow board members) and nine years now as ministry manager.

To our MNO Congregation Members and Clergy: Please join us anytime in Sunday worship at 1:30 and pray with us – and join us anytime in fellowship in our sharing circles:

Sunday Worship Service: door opens at 1:00 p.m. with coffee/tea. Worship service 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Men's Lunch/Sharing Circle every Wednesday - Downstairs at Noon

Please stop by at 12:00 p.m. Noon (ring the doorbell) for lunch and great fellowship and conversation!

Women's Sharing Circle every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. (until 3:30 p.m.)

Please arrive at 2:00 p.m. (ring the doorbell) for coffee/tea/dessert and great fellowship and conversation!

Women's Drop-in every Wednesday from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Please drop in (ring the doorbell) for coffee/tea/cookies and visiting together! Kids & grandkids welcome to come with you and we have colouring and arts and crafts to keep them busy.

Co-ed Sharing Circle every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. (please arrive at 4:30 p.m.)

(ring the doorbell) Join us for great fellowship and conversation! And coffee/tea/dessert.

- Rhonda Gorham, Ministry Manager, Lutheran Urban Ministry Corp.

Cooking for the King - June Monthly Appeal

Each month a group of “cooks” gather in the kitchen at Faith to prepare meals.

Sometimes the meals are prepared to be placed in our freezer in the church to be shared with someone who is in need of a meal or meals because of circumstances in their life.

This food is then available for distribution by the Pastor, our Office Administrator(204.253.1491x 20) and any member of our Congregation who is aware of someone in need.

On Sunday morning, the group prepares bag lunches to be taken to The Urban where they are served after Worship services on Sunday afternoon. The bag lunches served at The Urban have a fresh sandwich, a fruit, a granola bar and a juice box.

Cooking for the King is a fun group to be part of.

Peals of laughter accompany the delicious smells that come from the kitchen on the Saturday mornings when the “cooks” are in residence.

Thank you to all who support this wonderful ministry by your gifts of prayers, time, talent and taste buds. If you would like to donate to this ministry you can do so through your offering. Please make sure to indicate that it is for Cooking For The King.

We are always looking for more members! Everyone with a passion for cooking and serving is welcome to join.

To obtain further information about this outreach you only have to contact a member of *Cooking for the King* or contact the church office.

Here are some comments from our recipients:

“Your delicious meals fed our hearts as well as our stomachs, thank you!

“The other day L. and I came home from chemo and she was so pleased to take out a frozen beef soup for our lunch. And it was so good!! I just wanted to let you know that your efforts are really appreciated. C.A.A.”

“The goodness of the Lord definitely shines through you! Thank you for all you do! K. brought over some soups and meals for me during my recovery from surgery. They really came in handy. And so tasty and ‘just right” .G.T.”





Harvest Manitoba - July/August Appeal

In 1985 when we started, the name Winnipeg Harvest said everything you needed to know about us. We collected and shared food inside the city limits.

Over time we grew, and in our 35th year, Harvest officially amalgamated the Manitoba Association of Food Banks into our Harvest family. We joined forces and resources to become the 4th largest food distributor of its kind in Canada – and the best and only provincial food network Manitoba has ever had.

And now, our new name, Harvest Manitoba, better reflects who we serve, where we serve, and the breadth of contributions we receive.

Thanks to our amazing community spirit, and generous hearts, Harvest collects and shares 13 million lbs. of healthy and nutritious food to hungry Manitobans every year.

With this food, we prepare Harvest Hampers in our Winnipeg Warehouse, which are then distributed to feed more than 100,000 Manitobans – hungry children, hardworking families and struggling adults – every month.

Our volunteers donate the equivalent of 20 full-time employees annually to make this happen. We would never have lasted this long – 39 years – or helped as many people as we have if it were not for you, the people who support us.

For all that you've done and will do in the future to nourish our province and sense of community, thank you Manitoba!

Our Vision

Working together toward a healthier future for all where no Manitoban goes hungry.

Our Mission

- Collection and distributing food
- Providing client-centered long-term solutions
- Advocacy and informing

Found at :

<https://www.harvestmanitoba.ca/about-us/> June 2025

Women of Faith

We do not meet in the summer so please join us Saturday, September 6th, at 10:00am. Stay tuned for more information on our fall Bible Study.

All are Welcome!



Confirmation

Confirmation classes have ended for the year. Please watch for information on starting dates and times in the fall newsletter.

Children are invited to summer camp at Meadowood United!

The United Church in Meadowood is offering summer camp for ages 4-9 from August 11-15, 2025. If your child is interested, you can register at <https://ucim.org/event/camp-meadowood-hero-central/> If the cost is a barrier, please reach out to the committee at christianeducation@faithlc.ca.

Faith Singers

A big thank you to the choir for singing throughout the season, and Karen for accompanying. Thank you to those who added instruments to certain pieces, Ciara Day cello, Deacon Michelle flute, Ken Day violin. Also a big thank you to all the music groups who lead worship, along with Dianne and Jody. We are done for the season, see you at choir in September.



Peace & Blessings Randall
Enjoy the Summer

Thank you for learning and trying new things together!

Thank you to our Faith family for supporting a new approach to children's ministry! There were many wonderful moments of learning and sharing together both in worship service and through our intergenerational Coffee and Chaos events. While we pause the education moment in worship through the summer months, the videos, discussion questions, and colouring pages are still available here:

<https://www.faihlc.ca/education/sunday-school/>



The Christian Education Committee is already planning for next year! If you are interested in getting involved in helping with an education moment in worship, or helping plan a Coffee and Chaos event, or have another idea of how we can learn together, please share it. You can reach the committee at christianeducation@faithlc.ca.

Faith Lutheran Book Club Chapter 1

We will be hosting our annual potluck and book selection on **Tuesday, June 17th at 5:30**. If you are interested in joining us for the potluck and participating in choosing the books we will be discussing starting in September please contact Bernice at feely@mts.net. This is an evening full of great food and laughter. New members always welcome.

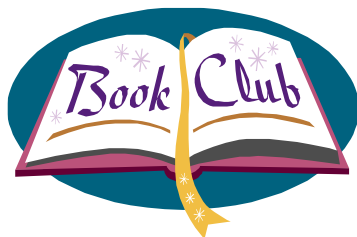
Watch for our upcoming dates and books for discussion in the Fall newsletter.

We are pleased to once again join forces with Book Club Chapter 2 to offer a book exchange after the service on June 15th and 22nd. Thank you to Elaine for getting us organized.

If you are looking for a summer reading list, here is a recap of the books we discussed this year.

- *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles
- *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews
- *The Paris Apartment* by Kelly Bowen
- *Drive your Plough Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk
- *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- *The Phoenix Crown* by Kate Quinn and Janie Chan
- *The Humans* by Matt Haig
- *The Women* by Kristin Hannah

Happy reading!



Faith Book Club Chapter 2

Faith Book Club Chapter 2 meets offsite usually on the fourth Thursday of the month. Please join us for a lively book discussion and fellowship. Contact the church office for location.

The selection for June, The Women by Kristan Hannah

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is over-whelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost.

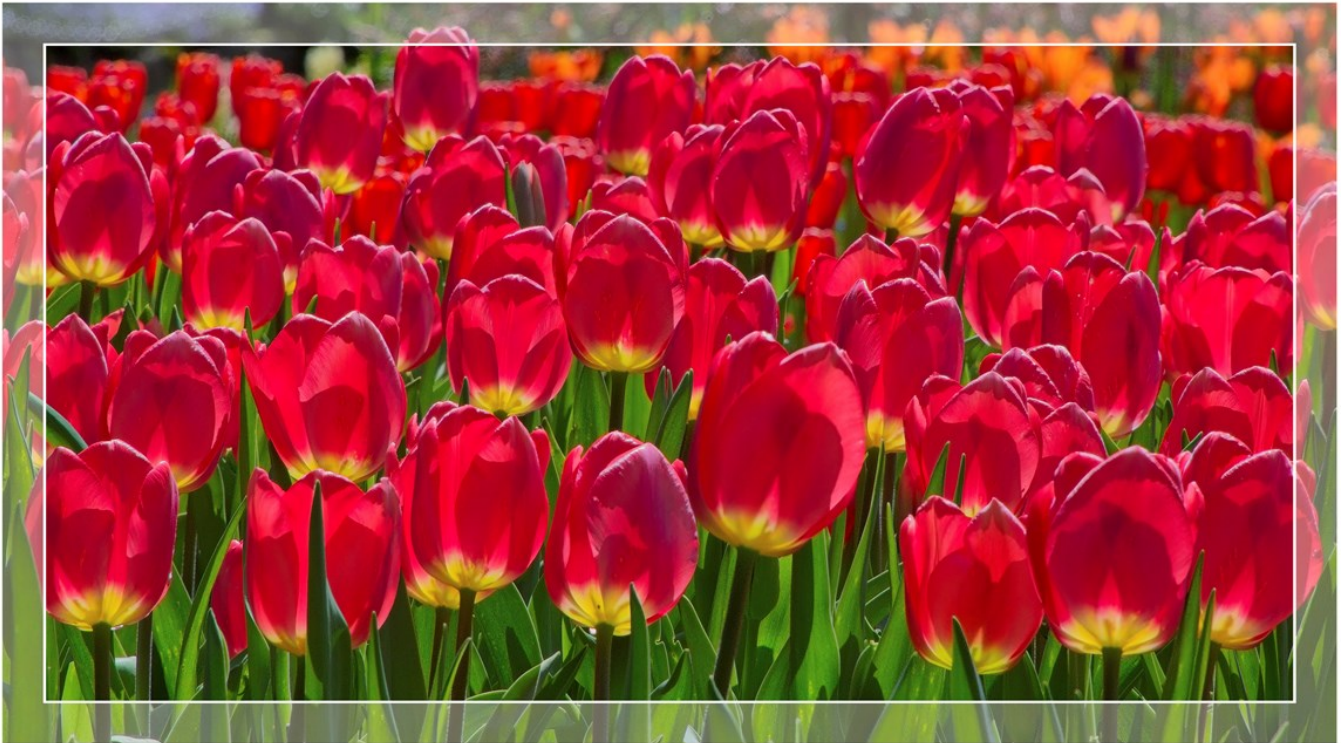
But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten.

We will also be making our reading selections for 2025-2026.

FAITH GARDENS INC.

June 2025



Butchart Gardens Tulips

Perhaps some of the residents at RPG, or family members or friends, have been to Butchart Gardens near Victoria BC. If they have, and they see this picture, it can't help but stir memories of the beauty of the place. With Manitoba's spring and summer flower season about to begin, we hope this picture can brighten your day.

Please remember to support the Spiritual Care Ministry to River Park Gardens. To many, Marigold is like these tulips, that bring a bit of joy to their lives. Donations large or small are always accepted with gratitude. Donation cards are displayed next to the Donor Tree at the main entrance or the easiest way to donate is through Canada Helps. This QR code takes you right to FGI's page.

You may also use a cheque made to:

Faith Gardens Inc.

send to:

Faith Gardens Inc.
1311 Dakota Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2N 1V8

