

ISSUE #7-AUGUST 2021

#### **BVCC** in Action

#### **Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids**

On Mondays and Wednesdays, a team of about 10 volunteers gather in the BVCC downstairs kitchen to prepare lunches for up to 100 children in our community, who would otherwise go without this meal. The volunteers include Gay Starozik and Jean Ramsay from our church family.

The lunches they prepare can include sandwiches, fruit, veggies, cookies or other treats and sometimes yogurt. Each day that the volunteers come in, they prepare 2 days of lunches. Their task also includes kitchen clean up and sanitizing and delivering the lunches to the participating

We are one of several Brown Bagging locations in the city, striving to provide nutritious lunches for

the 2% of the school age children in Calgary (approximately 5000) who are living in situations of food insecurity. The Pandemic proved very challenging for this program, as it adapted to children being at home. Brown Bagging shifted to Grab and Go lunches provided in specific locations and grocery cards for eligible children. Hopefully, this fall, the school season will see a return to regular lunch preparation.

schools.

This program has been running in Calgary for 30 years and our

church is glad that we can partner with Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids by providing kitchen space and willing workers. Thanks to Gay and Jean for participating and sharing information about the program. If you would like to know more about the

program, donate to this community funded program or volunteer please check their website at https://bb4ck.org.

Please include Brown Bagging in your prayers - that these lunches would

bless those getting and preparing them and that children and families needing assistance can be led to this important service.



## **Encouraging Seniors**

#### No Act of Kindness is Too Small

Shelley Johnston and Giovanna Salerno saw potential in a pile of unused craft supplies. As Covid settled in and forced isolation on everyone, especially our seniors, these two ladies found simple ways to bless these vulnerable folks.

First, they prayed for His blessing and then they constructed and mailed out cards of encouragement for all the Bow Valley seniors. That led to a cookie baking marathon (including gluten-free) and the delivery of this blessing



to these folks. In the spring, a freshly potted flower arrived at their door, to bring a reminder of His love. Giovanna says her guide is to be "the hands and feet of Jesus; to show that they are not alone." She asked them for their prayer needs, but was surprised at how the blessing went both ways. The porch visits encouraged her. She really appreciated the stories that were told and wisdom that was shared.

Shelley and Giovanna find great joy in simply making the connection. This was especially true when, all too often, a senior had no family and they discovered that their simple efforts were a lifeline for some. They learned that simply paying attention to someone can transform feeling ignored, set aside and tired into feeling appreciated and valued. These faith warriors need our support.

They firmly believe that no act of kindness is too small. Everyone has a gift that can bless others. We simply need to decide to make an effort, when the Lord nudges us. Every act of kindness helps us grow with God and closer to His people.

They are already planning their next project – assembling craft kits – to build or share with others. If you are feeling called to help with this one, contact Shelley (<a href="mailto:raven1946@hotmail.com">raven1946@hotmail.com</a>).

# Thanking our Supporters!!!

Sincere thanks to all those who continue to support BVCC Missions and our partners.

Our monthly budget for 2021 is \$8305.00, with \$7580.00 going to our missions partners. We can report that our average monthly giving, year-to-date, is \$9051.29.

This places us in a strong position to meet our commitments to our partners around the world, as they follow their specific calling to help others find and follow Jesus.

We can maintain our reserve funds and dream of supporting short term missions, as the world opens up to travel.

God bless you!



After 93 years of faithfully serving the Lord, Marion Wilson claimed her everlasting reward on July 21, 2021. She was a longtime member of Bow Valley and donated to numerous missions, charities and causes which she held dear.

She was tireless in blessing others with knitting and sewing, painting and drawing, hospitality, baking, cooking . . . an instrument of hospitality and care. She knitted thousands of baby toques and booties which were generously donated to the neonatal intensive care unit at Rockyview Hospital, Neighbourlink and the families of Bow Valley.

Marion will be sincerely missed by every heart she touched.

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# WHY I GIVE...

"As my income increases I try to increase my standard of giving instead of my standard of living."

- Randy Alcorn

### **BVCC Mission Partners 2021**

Frontier Labourers For Christ (Thailand)



Graceland Ministries
(Poland) <u>www.gracelandministries.com</u>



Refuge of Hope International (Philipines)



Compassion Canada (El Salvador) <u>www.compassion.ca</u>



Pine Lake Christian Camp www.pinelakechristiancamp.com



Wycliffe Canada (Around the World) www.wycliffe.ca



Lifeline Christian Mission (Panama) www.lifeline.org



Pioneer Bible Translators (Papua New Guinea) <u>www.pbtpng.org</u>



Alberta Bible College www.abccampus.ca



# **Pray for our Partners**

Please pray for:

Wycliffe – for the success of the ATEK project in reaching children in a camping environment in Peru.

Graceland – for the recovery for Colette after surgery. Some setbacks have been encountered and she needs our prayers for a full and successful recovery.

ABC – for the planning and preparation taking place for the new school year. Pray for leaders and students to follow Jesus in all of their classes.

Pine Lake Christian Camp – gratitude for the success of the family camps this summer, with thanks to the leaders involved and all of the participants.

Watch for it this Fall!



Bow Valley will be hosting a Lifeline Meal Packing for Haiti

There is an acute need for food support in Haiti and you can be part of the solution!



Supporting and equipping those who are called to help people find and follow Jesus, locally and internationally.

bvcchurch.ca/missions/

Email: missions@bvcchurch.ca

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