

# REMEMBERING CHRISTMAS 2023



## ECOH Community Council

Thank you to our Community Council members, Bruce Finkel, Mike Alexander and Sumeet Shinde for their commitment and contribution to the Edmonton Centre of Hope over the last several years. Your input has been invaluable and although you will no longer be serving in an official capacity, we look forward to a lifelong friendship.



## ECOH Staff Appreciation Day & Strategic Plan Kick Off

**Thursday May 9th  
12 Noon  
Grace Village - Front Entrance**

All scheduled staff required to attend.  
Lunch will be provided by SA Food Truck!



CANADA & BERMUDA TERRITORY PARTNERS IN MISSION  
Salvationist.ca/PIM

## SELF-DENIAL FAITH IN MOTION

2024 TERRITORIAL TARGET: \$2.4 MILLION

For more information, please visit website.

<https://salvationist.ca/international-development/partners-in-mission-2024/>

ECOH spring fundraiser TBD.

Fall fundraiser—Silent Auction—Watch for details.

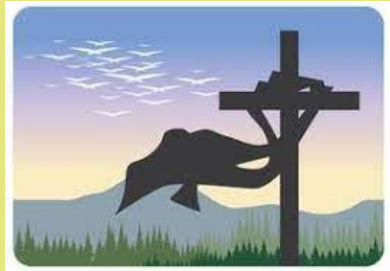
# THE ECOH CONNECTION

MARCH 2024 / VOL 12



### A "Perfect" Entry and a "Perfect" Trust

As I've been reflecting on the Easter season, I've been reflecting on Palm Sunday. Within the four verses in John 12: 12-15 we see what is known as Palm Sunday. If you take the time to read these verses below, you'll see a quick snapshot of the different signs of perfection flowing out of the life of Jesus. All the while seeing that these signs of perfection remind us that Jesus can be perfectly trusted. He can still be trusted with every part of our lives if we'll let him.



The festival called the Passover Feast was an Old Testament festival going back to when the Israelites were released out of 400 years of slavery to Egypt. It was the blood of an innocent lamb, that was placed over the door posts of the houses. The people that were in those houses were saved from the angel of death as part of the 10<sup>th</sup> plague. We'll find out later in the Passion narrative that it's Jesus' innocent blood that saves us from our sin of slavery.

The Palm branches that were thrown on the ground were the perfect kind of branches used to lay on the ground, as Jesus came into Jerusalem. Why? Because throwing Palm branches on the ground was a common thing to do when royalty was entering a city. Which leads to why shouting, "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD! Hail to the King of Israel!" were the perfect words to use. The perfect branches used, and the perfect words used.

Then we see the perfect animal being used that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on. Riding into a city on a donkey symbolized the humility of Jesus; especially when he specifically asked for the colt of a donkey. Jesus wanted an untainted animal that was seen as a symbol of weakness and innocence to the world watching. Yet, when he returns at the end of all time he will come on a strong white horse.

All of these symbols that Jesus used in these four verses, as he entered Jerusalem, pointed to perfection. This reminds me and hopefully you, that just as all these aspects of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem were perfect. Jesus himself can be perfectly trusted with every area of your life. He is perfect because he is God's Son. Who else can you put so much trust in?

*Dr. Parry Stelter is originally from Alexander First Nations which is part of Treaty Six Territory. He's also one of the Chaplains at Edmonton's Center of Hope.*

<sup>12</sup>The next day, the news that Jesus was on the way to Jerusalem swept through the city. A large crowd of Passover visitors <sup>13</sup>took palm branches and went down the road to meet him. They shouted, "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD! Hail to the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup>Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: <sup>15</sup>"Don't be afraid, people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey's colt." (John 12: 12-15 NLT)

## EASTER 2024

The Administration offices will be closed:

Friday, March 29  
Monday, April 1





## Roma Borzel Grace Manor Maintenance Worker

On April 29, 2002, Roma began her first position with Edmonton Centre of Hope, working as a custodian. Grace Manor had just opened two months previous and everything was new and fresh. Four years later she moved on to her current position as maintenance worker.

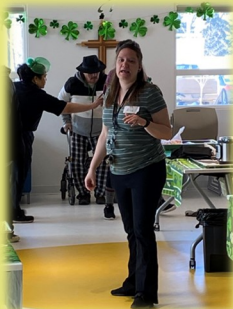
Fast forward 22 years and on April 29, 2024, Roma will say farewell to Edmonton Centre of Hope and the many managers, co-workers, contractors and residents and all the work requisitions she has received. She will miss you all

Some of her most special memories are of taking the ducklings from the Grace Manor court yard though the building to their new home across the street. She would like to ensure staff take on this responsibility after she has left and will even provide training.



Her plans are to resettle in the Pigeon Lake area and enjoy her retirement. Before she leaves she would like to pass on some important advice to the staff coming after her. "Always be aware of what is going on around you. Remember to keep the safety of clients and yourself in mind as you work throughout the day. Take one day at a time and don't stress".

All staff are invited to stop by before the end of April and wish her well on her new adventure.



## WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month –  
a time of relaxation / meditation / intentional disconnect  
from work stress.

The following will be held at Grace Village  
in the Spiritual Care Room at 2:30 p.m.

April 3rd  
May 1st  
June 5th

### ECOH OHS COMMITTEE AND THE INTERNAL RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM

#### What is the OHS Committee?

The OHS Committee is a group of worker and employer representatives working together to address health and safety concerns. They are an important part of the internal responsibility system because they allow meaningful participation in health and safety and provide a forum for shared problem solving. The internal responsibility system gives everyone in the workplace accountability for health and safety, in proportion to their authority and control on the work site.

#### How does the OHS Committee function in Edmonton Centre of Hope?

In compliance with the Alberta OHS Act, ECOH has established functional OHS committees for both the AUPE and CUPE unions respectively. Each Occupational Health & Safety Committee (OH&SC) membership is made up of two (2) Co-chairs: one (1) from management representative assigned by the Executive Director or designate and one (1) from the bargaining unit committee members chosen by consensus, as well as additional worker members representing each site (program/department) and area of service. A list of members of the OHS committee members are posted on the staff safety noticeboards in all ECOH programs, as required by legislation.

ECOH has developed written terms of reference to guide the effective functioning of both the AUPE and CUPE OHS Committees regarding membership, conducting meetings, term of office for members, selecting co-chairpersons as well as minutes taking and distribution. AUPE affiliated sites meet bi-monthly, while CUPE affiliated sites meet quarterly. In 2023, AUPE OHS committee successfully hosted 4 meetings, while CUPE OHS committee hosted 3 meetings respectively.

The ECOH OHS committees understand the advisory role they play in the organization and have been very actively and effectively carrying out their functions, which include overseeing occupational health and safety activities at the Edmonton Centre of Hope sites, acting as an internal observer of OHS issues and making recommendations to management, participating in hazard assessments, role modeling behaviors for staff and management, participating in workplace safety inspections as well as reviewing trends in incidents and accidents, among other functions.



This collaboration between the ECOH OHS committees and management has brought remarkable improvement to workplace safety, accountability for health and safety in proportion to each party's authority and control of the worksite and enhanced worker wellbeing within the organization.

2024 promises to be a more engaging year.

Instead of celebrating Volunteer Week on April 15-19, ECOH Volunteers will be invited to join our Staff Appreciation Event on May 9th.

# Welcome



## Jackie Gibbard Community Relations & External

**Originally from:** Edmonton, Canada, and have lived in Perth Australia for a period of time.

**Studie:** Human Geography, minoring i Sociology at the University of Alberta.

**Hobbies:** Travelling, photography, camping, crocheting, collecting coffee mugs.

**Work Experience Highlights:** Worked at Camp Caroline as counselling staff, and counselling team supervisor for a number of years, and previously worked with Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers, Big Sisters as a mentoring facilitator with Edmonton public schools.

**Fact:** I spent the last 18 months travelling to 20 different countries experiencing new cultures, making new friends, and memories!

## John McCullough Resident Care Manager—Grace Manor



**Originally from:** Born in Canada( Grande Cache, AB and lived in the Edmonton area since 1994.

**Studied:** Licensed Practical Nurse from Norquest College in 2000.

**Hobbies:** My hobbies are camping, golf, fishing, attending concerts and live sporting events and traveling to warmer destinations

**Wprl Experience:** started my working career as a roughneck on the oil rigs before my career change and have worked as an LPN as a front-line nurse and in different levels of management with Capitalcare, Park Place Seniors Living and All Seniors Care

**Fun Fact:** have 5 children between the ages of 18 and 26.



## Rose Amer Spiritual Care Manager

**Originally from:** Ethnicity Iranian, Birth Country Pakistan, lived in Canada for more than two decades.

**Studied:** Bachelor of Commerce & Accounting University of Karachi, Certificate in Christian Studies & Master of

Divinity, Tyndale University, Toronto, Canada, Biblical Greek -McMaster Divinity College, Chaplaincy Certificate- Booth University

**Hobbies:** Gardening, Baking, travelling and listening to hymns

**Work Experience Highlights:**

- Admin-The Salvation Army St.Catharines Corps/CFS.
- Senior Pastor- Niagara Falls Christian Ministries.
- Director- Grace Pantry

**Fun Fact:** scared of swimming but loves to sit in the pool and hot tub.

Welcome back **Julian Moxam**—Finance Manager.

Julian is returning from a year's maternity leave. We are glad to have her back.

