

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from all Lutherans of Sparwood in the year 1984.

When this letter was written, there was no Lutheran congregation in Sparwood in the strictest sense of the word. In 1984, although Lutherans were already worshipping together every Sunday and meeting weekly to teach a 'Sunday' School on Tuesdays, there was no legally recognized congregation in Sparwood. The work that was being done in this town could more or less be considered mission outreach on the part of Rev. Robert Koebernick of Fernie and his vicar from Elkford. Because of the smallness of the group, no church building existed either.

However, 1984 was the year in which many future plans were discussed. Some of these plans included working toward a constitution for the establishing of a recognized congregation, the calling of a full-time pastor for the villages of Sparwood and Elkford, and an increased effort to minister to the village of Sparwood through the proclaiming of the Gospel of forgiveness. These plans were of course continually being set before our Father in heaven in prayer.

Now however, as you read this letter, the year is 2024. In all probability, there has been a great deal of change since the writing of this letter. We, the Lutherans of 1984, hope that God has answered our prayers—prayers which included a self-supporting Lutheran congregation in its own worship building. Yet, even if this prayer has not yet been answered, our deepest and most heart-felt prayer for the Lutheran congregation of Sparwood is that in 2024 you continue to proclaim the Gospel of forgiveness to one another and to the community around you. Remain steadfast in your love for the pure teaching of the Word of God, and rejoice in the blessings God has bestowed upon you in this town of Sparwood, British Columbia.

In Christ Jesus,  
the Sparwood Lutherans of 1984

