

## **Pastor John and Brenda Atwood**



My wife Brenda and I both grew up in homes where Christ was not a primary influence and both began our teen and adult years as non-Christians, living a negative lifestyle. Shortly after our first son was born in 1975, we were led by a Lutheran pastor to place our faith in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ together. Since that time, we have always been involved in and been regular attendees in a local church. We have almost always been involved in a weekly group bible study and have usually been leaders in the churches we have attended.

I attended Bible school at Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute in 1977 but did not have a calling to serve as a pastor until 2017, when God called us to begin a house church, Foothills Bible Fellowship, in our home. Since beginning Foothills Bible Fellowship, we have both become more appreciative of Lutheran theology, especially as expressed by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC).

We received the call to come and serve East Kootenay Lutheran Parish based at Mount Zion Lutheran Church in Cranbrook in the spring of 2025 and have served here since September 1 of that year. We are excited about the opportunity to serve the Cranbrook community through this ministry.