






Section 5

Statistical Reports

-  **Report of the Secretary**
-  **Necrology Report**
-  **Report of the Archivist**

Section 5 - Statistical Reports

Report of the Secretary

Secretary
Rev. Wendell Grahlman

Changes in the Roster of Synod since Assembly 2014

Rostered Ministers Received into Synod

By Transfer

Rev. Capt. Stephan Wagner from the British Columbia Synod, effective July 10, 2014
Rev. Dr. Stephen Larson from the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA, effective August 14, 2014
Rev. Gregory Smith from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA, effective September 1, 2014
Rev. Terri-Ann Mattiasson from Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, effective May 21, 2015
Rev. Ilmars Zvirgzds from the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, effective October 18, 2015

By Ordination

Rev. Janaki Bandera - March 1, 2015
Rev. Darlyne Rath - March 1, 2015
Rev. Mark Kalvaitis - September 11, 2015
Rev. Sylvia Swiatoschik - September 11, 2015
Rev. JoAnne Lam - March 12, 2016

By Consecration

Scott Knarr - February 27, 2016

Candidates Approved for Ordination upon Receiving a Call

Hilla Lahtinen

Anglican Clerics serving Synodical Parishes

Rev. Stephen Croft (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, Dartmouth)
Rev. Stephen Silverthorne (Good Shepherd, Ottawa)
Rev. Ed Wagner (St Mark's, Chesley)

Pastors On Leave from Call Status, July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

First Year

Rev. Peter Kuhnert
Rev. Dan Phannenhour

Second Year

Rev. Sara Faulhafer

Third Year

Rev. Frank Bahr
Rev. John Jacobs
Rev. Karen Jenkins
Rev. Alan Lai

Rev. Vivian Roberts
Rev. Krister Ulmanis
Rev. Dean Willich

Rostered Ministers Removed from the Roster of Synod

By Transfer

Rev. Dr. Kayko Hesslein to the Alberta and the Territories Synod, effective October 15, 2014
Rev. Gundars Berzins to Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, effective February 10, 2015
Rev. Deborah Taylor to the Alberta and the Territories Synod, effective March 9, 2015
Rev. Krister Ulmanis to the Southeast Michigan Synod, ELCA, effective September 8, 2015
Rev. Kristin Baumann to the Southwestern Washington Synod, ELCA, effective September 27, 2015
Rev. Olaf Baumann to the Southwestern Washington Synod, ELCA, effective September 27, 2015
Rev. Vihtori Leskela to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, effective January 21, 2016
Rev. Dean Willich to the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA, effective June 2, 2016

By Constitutional Directive

Rev. Franklin Andrews, effective July 1, 2015
Rev. Gilbert N'Senga, effective July 1, 2015

By Request

none

By Death

See Necrology Report

Changes in the Roster of Congregations and Synodical Missions

St. Timothy's, Sudbury and St. Matthew's, Sudbury merged to become New Hope Lutheran Church, Sudbury, effective April 9, 2016.

Pastors Requesting to be Excused from Assembly 2014 Sessions

Rev. Dennis Becker
Rev. Barry Boeckner
Rev. Michael Hackbusch
Rev. David Hammer
Rev. Stephen Larson
Rev. Randy Liedtke
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer
Rev. Christie Morrow-Wolfe
Rev. Gustav Peeter Piir
Rev. Shirley Ruller
Rev. Jerry Slote
Rev. Capt. Stephan Wagner

Pastors/Rostered Ministers Celebrating Anniversaries of Ordination/Consecration during Assembly 2016

Twenty-five Years

Rev. Rachel Dart
Rev. Dale Finch
Rev. Martin Giebel
Rev. Thomas Mertz
Rev. JR Bestvater
Rev. James Brown
Rev. Martti Hyhko
Rev. Allen Jorgenson
Rev. Jerry Slote
Rev. Peter Van Katwyk

Forty Years

Rev. James Anderson
Rev. Stephen Larson
Rev. Rolf Ruppenthal
Rev. Red Conroy
Rev. Stanley Johnstone
Rev. Fritz Kristbergs
Rev. Douglas Moore
Rev. John Tsang

Fifty Years

Rev. Frederick Schmidt
Rev. Doug Schweyer
Rev. Oscar Cole Arnal
Rev. Adam Prasuhn

Sixty Years

Rev. Val Hennig
Rev. Bob Binhammer
Rev. Paul Bosch
Rev. David Metzger

Concluding Remarks

Got questions about any of the above? Contact me:

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The categories above describe and imply some of the various aspects of the Secretary of Synod's job description. In that regard of managing the roles and places of synod council, leaders, and congregations and their documents of ministry that witness to vocation and service, the responsibility and privilege to be in my position is a humble one. Thank you for this call to serve you.

I want to recognize the people who have been partners in this ministry: those who have served with me on the Legal & Constitutions Committee, and alongside them, the dozens of people of our synod who have corresponded and conversed regarding their congregational constitutional documents; the members of Synod Council for their support and prayer of our synod's mission; Cathy Caron, the Administrative Support Staff to the Secretary of Synod, and the rest of the synod office staff; and my partner Officers, Bishop Michael Pryse, Vice-Chair Linda Grainger and Treasurer Keith Myra. I wish to acknowledge gratefully my appreciation to them as they have accompanied me on the journey.

Necrology Report

I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25).

In this biennium, the deaths of five pastors, five spouses and two children are recorded.

The Rev. Earl Edial Albrecht – July 11, 1935 to July 7, 2014

Rev. Earl Albrecht was a loving father and husband and is survived by his wife Sandra (Musselman), children Elizabeth Albrecht- Bisset and Stephen Albrecht, his grandchildren Magdalena and Robert Bisset of Toronto and his sister and brother-in-law Shirley (Albrecht) and Earl Schaeffer of Kitchener.

He attended the Ontario College of Art, the University of Western Ontario and Waterloo Lutheran (now Wilfrid Laurier) University. He became a minister with the Lutheran Church (ELCIC) and served churches in Chesley, Ontario, Fredericton, New Brunswick and Toronto, Ontario.

A celebration of Earl's life was held at Advent Lutheran Church, Toronto on Saturday, August 9th.

Hulda Cecilia Jansen – May 8, 1921 to August 2, 2014

Hulda Jansen, wife of the late Pastor Orval Jansen, was born in Kristinstad, Finland and immigrated to Canada through Ellis Island, New York. Hulda will be sadly missed by her son Stuart and his wife Marilyn, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren—Wayne (Monika), Tyler, Megan; Brad (Z'Anne), Luke, Ethan; Maureen, Sam Mueller; Pam (John) VanDerLaan; one brother Don Erling (Loretta); many nieces, nephews and many, many loving friends. She was predeceased by her husband Orval Jansen; her parents, Henry and Aina Erling and her brothers, Ernest and Emil.

A memorial service was held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Wellesley on Tuesday, August 19, 2014, with Pastor Dave Hammer officiating. Interment in St. Mark's Cemetery.

The Rev. Dr. William ("Bill") Edward Kurschinski – September 7, 1931 to August 10, 2014

Rev. Dr. William "Bill" Kurschinski, was the loving husband of Virgie Kurschinski (nee Merkley) for 63 years. Dear father of David Kurschinski (Colleen) of Winchester, California and Kathryn York (Tim) of London. Bill will be fondly remembered by grandchildren Jill, Dillon, Austin and Lance. Also survived by nieces and nephews.

Bill was born in Kitchener, Ontario, and was a graduate of Waterloo University College (BA); Waterloo Lutheran Seminary; McGill University, Montreal, QC; Drew University, Madison, NJ (DMin). He was ordained June 12, 1957, and served the congregations of Trinity, Fort Erie, 1957-59; Trinity, St. John's, Nfld, 1959-64; Our Saviour, Lachine, Quebec, 1964-70; Prince of Peace, Clifton Park, NY, 1970-72; Christ, Buffalo, NY, 1972-82; Trinity, Windsor, 1988-92. He also served as Chaplain at University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College, London, 1982-88, retiring in 1992 as Pastor Emeritus, St. Matthew's, Cornwall.

Funeral service was held at South Dundas Lutheran Community Church, Williamsburg, on Friday, August 15, 2014 with Rev. Diane Raddatz, Rev. Norine Gullons and Rev. Douglas Reble officiating. Interment in New Union Cemetery, Williamsburg.

The Rev. Erwin Lange – March 3, 1935 to February 18, 2015

Rev. Erwin Lange leaves his wife of 52 years, Astrid (Giedraitis) Lange; his son Norman and his wife Sarina Lange; his daughters Hannah and her husband Greg and Maria Lange; his five grandchildren Emmanuel, Jonathan, Isaiah, Rebekah and Gloria; his sister Ilse Schroeder; Barbara and Harold and many relatives and close friends.

Erwin was born in Germany, the son of Oskar and Gertrud. He met his wife, Astrid Giedraitis at the church where she was organist and they were married in 1962 in Regina, Saskatchewan. He was a graduate of St. John's Anglican College, Winnipeg (BA), and Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon (MDiv), Erwin was ordained June 6, 1963. He served the congregations of Salem Lutheran, Shaunavon, SK; Ardal/Geysir, Arborg, MN; St. John's, Montreal, QC; Trinity, Windsor, ON; and Redeemer, Coaldale, AB.

Funeral service was held at Walsh Baptist Church, Simcoe on Tuesday, February 24, followed by a private family burial.

Kathryn Ann Weber (nee Lotz) – May 15, 1931 to May 7, 2015

Kathryn Weber was the wife of Pastor Eric Weber and beloved mother of Rev. Stephen Weber and his wife Janet, Tim Weber and his wife Diane, Tammy Junker and her husband Al, and Krista Schott and her husband Jeff. Cherished Oma of Mike (Nicole), Kyle, Adriana, Daniel, Emilie, and Matthew. Sister of Barbara and her husband Rev. William Huras. She was predeceased by her parents Rev. Albert and Hester (nee Kelterborn) Lotz.

A celebration of Kathryn's life was held at St. Pauls Lutheran Church, Cambridge on Monday, May 11, 2015.

Norma Nuhn (nee Decher) – December 13, 1923 to June 7, 2015

Norma Nuhn, was the wife of the late Pastor Henry Nuhn and dear mother of Virginia Dawson of Uxbridge, Fredrick Nuhn and Charlotte Weppler of Walkerton, Victoria Austin and Keith of Kentville, Nova Scotia. Loving grandmother of Philip and Christine Dawson, Jonathon and Tammy Dawson, Christina and Scott Baker, and Chas Nuhn. Fondly remembered by her great-grandchildren Hannah, Grace, Jacob, Rhys, Bryn and her sisters Ruby Boettger (Jack) of Kitchener and Cora Hagen of Kitchener. Predeceased by her sisters Gladys Pontin, Loreen Tucker, Betty Hett, Mildred Barnes, Thelma Kimmel and her brothers Robert Decher and Karl Decher.

A memorial service was held at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Walkerton on Saturday June 13, 2015 with the Rev. Ed Bastian presiding. Interment in St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery, Neustadt.

The Rev. Wilmer Minke – October 14, 1929 to July 5, 2015

Wilm was the father of Wendy (Dennis), Sande (Rick); and Jack (Ruth); grandfather of Meaghan, Tyler, Kieran, Vanessa, Aaron, Amy, Jeff, Jenn, and Connor, and great-grandfather of Layla, Emma, Mackenzie, and Addie. Dear brother of Doris (Don) and Marian (John) and brother-in-law of Bill (Lorraine). He was predeceased by his wife, Shirley, three brothers, one sister, and a grandson, Christopher.

Born in Sullivan Township in 1929, Wilmer was ordained in 1969 after studying at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. He served parishes in Mildmay-Neustadt, St. Catharines, and Wellesley-North Easthope-Gadshill, retiring to Kitchener.

Memorial service was held at St Stephen Lutheran Church, Kitchener, on Friday, July 17, with Bishop Michael Pryse and Rev. Richard Schwass officiating. Interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Welland.

Linnea Lora Veinotte - August 12, 1979 to December 6, 2015

Linnea Lora Veinotte was the daughter of Rev. Douglas Moore and his wife Karen. Along with her parents she leaves her husband Matt; their sons Lucas and Issac; brother Robert, sister Deborah and many relatives and close friends.

The funeral was held at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lunenburg, on Sunday, December 20, 2015 with the Reverend Rick Pryce presiding.

The Rev. James Stephen Dauphinee - April 25, 1916 to January 15, 2016

James is survived by his children, Michael (Monique), Greenfield Park, QC, and John, Oakville, ON as well as daughter, Lynne (Bob) Hester, Scarborough, ON; grandchildren, Joanna, Cameron and Mathieu; brother, Philip (Miriam), Truro and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, the former Floris Mullen, parents, Charles and Bessie and a sister, Frances.

James was born in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia on April 25, 1916. He attended the Lunenburg Academy and then went to Dalhousie University Kings University where he graduated in 1936. James attended the Waterloo Seminary and graduated in 1939. He was ordained at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Halifax on June 23, 1940. He served the parishes of North River, Walden, New Germany, Newburne, West and Upper Northfield, and Mahone Bay, and the congregations of St. Peter's, Cambridge, St Paul's, Richmond Hill and Zion, Maple.

Funeral service was held Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at Zion Lutheran Church, Lunenburg with Bishop Michael Pryse and Rev. Rick Pryce officiating. Interment in Hillcrest Cemetery, Lunenburg.

Kathrine (Kaye) Haase - September 28, 1920 to February 4, 2016

Kaye Haase was the wife of the late Pastor Earl Haase (1994) and loving mother of Judy (Rick) Michel, Sandra (Fred) Michel, Marg (Art) Heidebrecht. Cherished Grandma and Great-Grandma to Ian, Marianne, Braeden, Marta, Andrew, Tanya, Steven, Laura, Heather, Doug, Silvia, Matthew, Angelina, Andre, James, Kymberly, Simon, Jack, Joanne, Rick, David, Laura, Christine, Mike, Hannah, David, and Victoria. Predeceased by her sister Lorna Payne (1995). Fondly remembered by brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She will be deeply missed by her devoted friend, Barbara Kassner.

A funeral service was held at Grace Lutheran Church, Hamilton on Monday, February 8, 2016 with Pastor Loretta Jaunzarins officiating. Interment at St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery, Kitchener.

Lucille Dookram - February 26, 2016

Lucille Dookram, was the wife of the Rev James Dookram and loving mother of Sandra (Bob) Dewar of Walkerton, Linda (Bill) Becker of Corunna, Walter (Linda) of Barrie, Gavin (Debbie) of Fergus and Rosemary (Jason) Chow of Guelph. Cherished grandmother of Olias, Alyssa, Renata, Steven, Alaina, Devon, Destiny, Bethany, Benjamin, Senna, Haleigh and Brandon. Dear sister of George (Serene) Cameron of Minnesota and Rudolf (Eunice) Kishnen-Bohen of Florida.

Lucille was predeceased by her brother James Cameron; sister Mardai Kishnen-Bohen (Thelma Cameron) and her parents Manoo and Rosalind (nee Jagroob) Bohlen.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Walkerton with Bishop Michael Pryse, Rev. Ed Bastian and Rev. Catharine House officiating. Interment in Walkerton Cemetery.

Mikko Horvath - April 7, 2016

Mikko was the son of Pastor Elina Salonen and her husband, Pastor Ed Bastian. He was father of Teagan Myla, and brother of Anna (husband Bob, daughter Lil). Lovingly remembered by Mummo, Enokummi and family in Finland.

Funeral and interment in Finland.

Report of the Archivist

Archivist

Rev. Karen Kuhnert

The Book of Exodus gives us this vivid image of God's people in the wilderness unsure of whether to go back to the security of the slavery they've known, or risk to move forward into the insecure future of unknowable freedom-promised. As Archivist, I often encounter individuals and congregations at moments when the past and future is powerfully on their hearts and minds. I have the privilege to remind folks that we are not the people of the *exodus* (people on the way out), we are the people of the *synodus* (people on the way together).

In this Biennium Lutherans of the Eastern Synod have been on the way with increasing courage even though risk is real and the journey may be long. Accompanied by the One who leads us, we have moved from prescribed conferences to self-defined Ministry Areas (MA). We have moved from gathering at fixed and familiar hearths to joining neighbours down the road. And along the way, we have had to make painful decisions about what weight to leave behind and what essentials to keep with us while we move onwards.

In this biennium, LaurierArchives and I have received valuable collections in Waterloo (see <https://library.wlu.ca/research-materials/archives>). The single box from the former Toronto Conference, only large enough to hold perhaps six bottles of wine contained Spring Conference materials equating to a nearly twenty-five year Executive Summary of the lives of the GTA congregations and the entire Synod. The bread loaf-sized box from the Atlantic Conference included histories of Campus Ministry, Chaplaincies, and Camp Mush-A-Mush. Though we have left conference organization behind now, these items will continue to proclaim concisely how God has reliably sustained pilgrims thus far by faith.

I too have been out on the road. In my travels I encounter the work of people like Ernie Ritz (Nith MA), Audrey Krotz (Georgian MA) and Eric Dyck (Montreal MA) who thoughtfully gather up and preserve locally the stories of the people of the congregations for publication. Such leaders not only pour over Record Books but they also lovingly engage God's people in recalling the stories of faith. Pastors and councils are, of course, constitutionally required to preserve some records safely for Good Order and provincial government compliance. As congregations share this responsibility the temperature controlled vault at LaurierArchives is a safe place to preserve original documentary evidence of our sacred stories.

Regularly Laurier Archives and I field research and genealogy questions from near-by and far around the world. With congregation story-keepers we make connections and reconnections between people using closed, closing or growing congregational records and materials. This biennium we were entrusted with original research materials from our foundational historian, Rev. Dr. Carl Cronmiller, as well as the pre-confederation hand-written records and personal correspondence of Rev. Herman Hayunga. In Hayunga's pages, perfectly preserved from the early 1800's, he writes of the lives, missions and ministries of his parishioners who were neighbours and then refugees to Canada with the Haudenosaunee of the Six Nations. The Loyalist Lutherans and Haudenosaunee moved together from Up-State New York to the starvation camps east of Montreal before final settlement. The British colonial government located them along the waterways to prevent future American invasion, as eventually did happen in the War of 1812 (Seaway, GTA East, Central, GTA West, Bay, Niagara, Thames MAs).

The oral histories of refugees have been stored in hearts across our Synod for our entire existence. At long last Lutherans are feeling both called and confident-enough to share their

tender recollections. From Sault Ste Marie to the Ottawa Valley out to Windsor, Nova Scotia, and back to Windsor Ontario, the current refugee crisis and the gentle grace of CLWR has brought forth dis-location memories of pain and hope offered now for the sake of inspiring contemporary refugee embrace. This biennium we have received archival materials from the former Lutheran Refugee Committee of Kitchener Waterloo as well as stories submitted through TESL. Please do keep material from current refugee outreach ministries so that when the future time is right, these new settlers might also have the option to make public the tales of your travels to new life together.

We, the people of the ELCIC are a migration Church. From my work with Pier 21 in Halifax, the immigration arrival point for millions of new Canadians in the last century, readers should note and share that federal staff are available now to do document searches for free. Records for citizens arriving prior to 1935 can be acquired by phoning 1-902-425-7770 ext 224 (or online <http://www.pier21.ca/research/immigration-records/research-request> (pier21.ca). In addition, Laurier Archives desires to receive the personal histories of Lutherans that can be substantiated with documents, photographs, as well as letters written and received in direct correspondence. This is to support researchers who look to our Collections at Laurier Archives to help them piece together social histories of Canadians whose settlement stories were lost along history's way.

On the way together this biennium we have experienced transition pain as we move from what was to what is yet to be. Re-formation is as challenging now as it was 500 years ago. Yet God still promises to deliver us. My previous reports of 2010 and 2012 urged us to Remember for the Future. In 2012 and 2014 I encouraged us to nurture resilience always mindful of what we are inclined both to do and to leave undone. I continue to think particularly here about the terrible legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery for African and Indigenous peoples. It is right to pause and marvel at how bravely Lutherans are risking to live differently now than in the past as expressed in our Assembly themes Salvation and Human beings NOT for Sale. But we cannot pause long as we certainly have farther to go, especially on theme of Creation Not for Sale. As we start to recognize climate refugees, not just from remote Pacific atolls but also from our own Arctic, how will this inform and challenge our current stewardship of creation?

It's not enough for us to be an exodus people turning our backs to some former way of being. The time has come for us to be led out energetically embracing what we are becoming. The journey of living liberated involves continuing *on the way together* following the uniting-One who is The Way. May it always be so among us.