

# Eastern Synod of the ELCIC Newsletter



**April 3, 2014**

To find tools and resources for worship, missions, and ministry, visit the Eastern Synod website: [www.easternsynod.org](http://www.easternsynod.org)

**TOGETHER**  
for the *love* of the world

**Registration is now LIVE!**

The online registration for Assembly 2014 is now ready to go.

You will need to have your travel and rooming arrangements set before you register.

To get started go to [www.easternsynod.org](http://www.easternsynod.org) and click on the Synod Assembly button.

## Changes are Coming

The Eastern Synod is making changes.... New Ministry Areas are on the way!  
Do you have questions about re-structuring? Information is available by going to [elcic.ca /Resources/Structural Renewal](http://elcic.ca/Resources/Structural%20Renewal).

Looking for a list of Eastern Synod Congregations and their new ministry area designations?

go to [www.easternsynod.org](http://www.easternsynod.org)

Click on About Us

## EVENTS:

**Visit the Eastern Synod website for more information on all these events**

**Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Lay People**  
Apr. 4 – 6, 2014

**Women of Faith K-W Conference Event**  
Apr. 5, 2014

**Congregational Treasurer's Workshop**  
April 5, 2014

**Organ Concert**  
April 6, 2014

**Atlantic Conference Meeting**  
April 26, 2014

**Northern Conference Meeting**  
April 26, 2014

# VOLUNTEER

Planning is already well underway for the 2014 Eastern Synod Assembly taking place early this summer at the International Plaza Hotel in Toronto, ON - June 26 - 29, 2014. Space is reserved, the agenda and the banquet menu are being finalized and congregations around the synod are choosing their delegates. But as every Local Arrangements Committee will tell you, one of the most important tasks is finding the dozens of volunteers that will make the assembly run smoothly. Volunteers are needed to host and greet, to count ballots, act as stewards, serve at the hospitality desk, and some good strong folks who can help tear down and help pack up at the end of the Assembly.

## Congregational Volunteer Co-ordinators needed

The Local Arrangements Committee is also looking for congregational Volunteer Coordinators to receive the names of the volunteers and share Assembly updates as information becomes available. Please speak to your pastor for more information, or contact Fiona Haapalehto at [volunteercoordes@gmail.com](mailto:volunteercoordes@gmail.com).

## Do you have three hours to spare?

Volunteer Co-ordinator Fiona Haapalehto, a member of the Local Arrangements Committee, estimates that she will need up to 85 volunteers. Each volunteer shift is approximately three hours. As part of the many volunteers required, we are looking for 19 people to serve as Stewards from Thursday afternoon and evening, Friday morning, afternoon and evening, and Saturday morning and afternoon. If you have an interest in how our church operates and you love to meet new people. Contact your congregational Volunteer Co-ordinator and learn how you can best put your talents to work.

## New and exciting news

This year we are offering an on-line registration for our visitors and delegates. To view the Delegate Registration Package and up-dates concerning the Eastern Synod Assembly 2014 logon to the Eastern Synod Website at [www.easternsynod.org](http://www.easternsynod.org).



The kids club at holy cross Burlington just wrapped up a unit on charity and world relief. Back in January they set a goal to build 50 We Care Kits for the CLWR. They built a plan to raise the funds to purchase all the goods that would be needed in the kits – they made bracelets, held a bake sale, and put on a very brilliant talent show. In the end, they raised all but \$20 (which was donated by council) for the goods and bags to make 50 Living and Learning Kits for CLWR. You can see from their smiles just how happy they are to help others in need.

## Pastoral Opportunities

The following Congregations are seeking a pastor. For more information, please contact **Rev.**

**Douglas Reble,**

Assistant to the Bishop

(1-877-373-5242)

### Atlantic Conference

Grace Evangelical  
Lutheran Church and  
Zion Evangelical  
Lutheran Church,  
Lunenburg, NS  
All Saints,  
Newcombville  
St. John's, Mahone Bay

### Ottawa/ St. Lawrence Conference

St. John's, Arnprior  
St. Paul, Saint-Laurent



The theme for the 2014 ELCIC Praise Appeal, ***Do Justice, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly with Our God***, comes from Micah 6:8 and outlines what God requires us to do in a way that is both memorable and compelling.

Once again we are encouraging individuals and congregations to contribute generously to the Appeal, which is a significant source of revenue for the ELCIC.

If we meet our Synod-wide goal of \$60,000 in 2014, we will assist our national church to:

- \* work in partnership with KAIROS and the Anglican Church of Canada in the areas of homelessness and affordable housing and responsible resource extraction;
- \* support refugees around the world and work in many development and relief programs with our partners in the Lutheran World Federation and Canadian Lutheran World Relief;
- \* do ministry in indigenous communities in Argentina and Peru with our partner churches.
- \* deepen the discipleship of all our members and find new ways to reach out in faith to those around us;
- \* build better relationships with other denominations and faiths here in Canada, through the Canadian Council of Churches, and around the world through the World Council of Churches.

#### **Why Mother's Day?**

The Praise Appeal was originally an annual project of the Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW). We want to honour the legacy of the ELW; the love and care that the women of our church have bestowed so generously upon us through their faithful work for the ELCIC.

#### **Want to get More Involved?**

You are invited to participate in this year's artistic project for Praise Appeal.

Encourage your parishioners, friends and family members to express their passion for "justice and kindness" in writing, painting, drawing, dancing or playing.

Please, send your art work or links to your videos to Rev. Riitta Hepomaki by mail:

74 Weber St. W.

Kitchener, ON N2H 3Z3

or email: [rhepomaki@elcic.ca](mailto:rhepomaki@elcic.ca)

We will publish them throughout the year in our publications. **Art projects received by May 31, 2014 will be featured at Synod Assembly in June.**

Or maybe you would like to use them in your own church bulletins, newsletters or websites.

Donations can be made anytime, just go to:

<http://www.canadahelps.org/dn/6472>

For more information regarding Praise Appeal please visit ELCIC at:

<http://www.elcic.ca/praiseappeal/2014Resources.cfm>

## May I Introduce You To.....



**Linda Grainger**  
**Vice-Chairperson**

I have to admit that when I was first elected as Vice-Chairperson, I found the title somewhat intimidating. I looked to the Constitution to find out what my official duties included:

Section 8: The vice-chairperson shall:

- a. Preside at the synod convention and at meetings of the Synod Council on the request of the bishop;
- b. In the event of the death, resignation or incapacity of the bishop, convene the synod council to provide for the discharge of the bishop's duties pending the election of a new bishop at a regular or special convention;
- c. Perform such additional duties as are set out in the bylaws.

Well, that seemed reasonable and manageable (except for Section 8.b. which I sincerely hope no vice-chairperson ever has to deal with).

The time I spend doing Synod work is not structured in any way. I tend to simply do whatever is needed. I have been employed full-time for the Government of Ontario for the past 35 years and my work requires me to travel regularly. Thankfully, I have a very flexible work schedule which allows me to do this work.

Some of the tasks I do for our Synod are:

- Attend Synod Council and Officers' meetings as well as Synod Assembly
- Chair these meetings as requested by the bishop
- Chair the Personnel Committee, which includes the Bishop's Performance Review, staff salary recommendations, etc.
- Serve on Legal and Constitutions Committee
- Attend Conference meetings
- Serve as lead for Structural Renewal
- Assist with Synod Assembly planning
- Lead the "New Delegate Orientation" at Synod Assembly
- Respond to requests for assistance as required

I enjoy playing cards and games in my spare time (which I do regularly with my family). I am also a volunteer with the Canadian Red Cross. I was recently deployed to Toronto to assist following the ice storm. I was a volunteer at the 2010 Olympics (assigned as transportation manager at Athlete's Village in Whistler) and hope to volunteer at the upcoming 2015 PanAm Games in Toronto.

I hope to retire later this year which will bring with it the opportunity for new adventures

## Scholarships

Just a reminder that the deadline for applications is fast approaching.

Please make sure your completed form is here in our office by April 30, 2014.

Good Luck Everyone!

## **Church Secretary's Training Day Postponed.**

Originally planned for late May, we have had to reschedule for September. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## **Pastoral Changes**

Rev. William Shafer retired from St. Stephen's, Kitchener as of March 31, 2014.

## **Learning Opportunities**

### **Congregational Treasurer's Workshops.**

Designed for Congregational Treasurers, Financial Secretaries, Finance Committee Chairpersons, Pastors (and anyone else who is interested)

For more information go to [easternsynod.org](http://easternsynod.org) and click on Treasurers/Financial Info.

### **Leadership for Healthy Congregations**

Saturday, May 31, 2014

Christ the Redeemer,

Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC

For more information go to [easternsynod.org](http://easternsynod.org) and check the events calendar.

# **Happy Easter Everyone!**