

Eastern Synod of the ELCIC Newsletter



Eastern Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

March 12, 2014

To find tools and resources for worship, missions, and ministry, visit the Eastern Synod website: www.easternsynod.org

TOGETHER

for the *love* of the world

Online Registration is coming.....

Final preparations are under way for the first ever online registration for Eastern Synod Assembly.

Click [here](#) for an Assembly 2014 checklist that's sure to help answer any questions.

ELCIC
Praise
APPEAL 2014

May 11, 2014 is the proposed date for Praise Appeal Sunday.

Our goal this year is \$60,000.

Check our [website](#) for more information.

Prayers and Best Wishes

The family of Rev. Karen Kuhnert as they mourn the passing of her mother.

Our thoughts are wish Rev. Deborah Ann Taylor as she mourns the death of her niece.

We remember Rev. David Wirt in our prayers as he grieves the loss of his mother, Betty.

Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Lay People

Information and registration forms are now available on our [website](#).

EVENTS:

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

An Evening of Hope
March 15, 2014

Maple Syrup Festival
March 22, 2014

Healthy Leadership Workshop
March 29, 2014

Congregational Treasurer's Workshop
March 29, 2014

Messy Fiesta
March 29, 2014

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

Learning Opportunities

Congregational Treasurer's Workshops.

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

Click [here](#) for more information.

Leadership for Healthy Congregations

St. Ansgar Lutheran Church

London, ON

Click [here](#) for more information.

Christ the Redeemer Church

Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC

Click [here](#) for more information.

Volunteers Wanted

Are you computer savvy?

We're looking for people with the know how to help congregations set up their own websites. Can you help? If you are willing and able to help, please contact Rev. Riitta Hepomaki, <mailto:rhepomaki@elcic.ca>

Congregations who would like assistance with a website, please contact Pastor Riitta.



"On January 26,2014, St. Mark's Anglican Lutheran Church, Midland had a special visit from Bishop Michael Pryse who tweeted that the worship at St. Mark's was magnificent and that his heart was full!

The church also held a Silent Auction to raise money for people that they had never met. A total of \$1,950.00 was raised that will go to the First Nation's community of Pikangikum to help provide clean drinking water in every home. It is through projects like these that St. Mark's mission of "to live, share and grow in Christ's love" is fulfilled."

Submitted by Rosemary Hagedorn

From left to right: Rev. Catherine Barley, Bishop Michael Pryse, Rev. Rachel Dart and in the background is Blake Smith.

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, NS

Ottawa/ St. Lawrence Conference

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

May I Introduce You To.....

Debbie Lou Ludolph, Worship Ministries Director Pictured here with Bishop Younan



As director of worship ministries, all of my endeavors seek to model and encourage worship that nurtures spirited discipleship, welcomes diversity, and embodies compassionate justice. Specifically, every other year I gather a worship team to plan for the Synod Assembly, and I assist with the planning of ordination services as required. Throughout the year, I work with worship planning teams of seminarians, pastors, musicians and lay leaders, and provide information about worship resources and conferences through the worship blog. Some of my time is given to individual work with pastors, musicians, and lay leaders regarding congregational worship needs, while it is also true that I have travelled to each of the conferences within the synod to do a global song workshop, which allowed me to learn about the particularities of worship needs throughout the synod, and to support the learning of the hymnody in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

An important aspect of my work is to be collaborative with other ministry directors and the synod office so that worship ministry is integrated into, and reflective of, all aspects of synod life. To that end, I gather with ministry directors, deans and synod staff twice a year to reflect on our common work. In addition, I communicate with the ELCIC worship committee, and sit on the synodical task force regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, with a particular interest in prayers and preaching that takes seriously right relations with our aboriginal neighbours.

The synod views the work of my position as ministry director connected to my work as director of the Kanata Centre for Worship and Global Song at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, as that work aligns so strongly to the synod missional goals. The Kanata Centre provides an opportunity to wrestle with best practices in our Lutheran worship life that respond to the multi-cultural and multi-faith Canadian context in which we find ourselves. At WLS, worship is formed out of theological reflection with ecumenical and interfaith partners, as well as with seminary faculty, students and guests. It is my hope that more of this material will be able to be shared for synodical use, as communication links are improved.

As I reflect on this past biennium, many opportunities shaped my synodical ministry. It was enlivening to work with *Music Makes Community* leaders in Hong Kong, to host Brother Emile of *Taize* at WLS, to plan a worship event with indigenous activist *Lee Maracle* and sing with Inshallah on the *Six Nations* reserve, to exchange ideas with Taiwanese ethnomusicologist *I-to Loh* and contribute to a video on using Asian song in worship. I also believe that studying in the DMin program at WLS is equipping me to be a more effective leader, and one of the exciting elements for me this past spring was the opportunity to interview rabbis and pastors in Jerusalem, including our synod's companion ELCHLJ *Bishop Munib Younan*.

As this year is a Synod Assembly year, my time will be given primarily to developing worship for our gathering, but I will also be listening for next steps needed to serve the worship life of our synod as together we continue to offer our praise to God and our prayer for the world.

To see Debbie Lou and Eastern Synod musicians who are part of Inshallah, the seminary global song ensemble, at the Calvin Worship Symposium 2014 leading Vespers, go to <http://vimeo.com/87085980>