



Eastern Synod Newsletter

www.easternsynod.org



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Volume 85

Metamorphosis: The Changing Shape of the Eastern Synod

Over the last few years several changes have altered the framework of our synod, with some congregations closing and others merging together. Here's some of what's been happening:

St. James, Cambridge closed

Many members of the former St. James, Cambridge are now worshipping at St. Peter's, Cambridge with Rev Janaki Bandara.

Faith, Deep River merged with St. John's, Petawawa

Guided by Rev Bruce Thompson,

Faith, Deep River merged with St. John's, Petawawa.

The current pastor in Petawawa is Rev Albert Romkema.

Mount Calvary, Ottawa merged with Martin Luther, Ottawa

In early 2018 Mount Calvary, Ottawa merged with Martin Luther, Ottawa.

Now worshipping in the former Mount Calvary building with current pastor Rev Friedrich Demke.

Trillium Lutheran Church, Kitchener

This new congregation is the coming together of St. Mark's, Kitchener; St. John's, Waterloo and Reformation, Kitchener.

Now worshipping in the former St. John's, Waterloo building with current pastors Rev Annette Smith and Rev Fred Ludolph.

St. Philip's, Kitchener merged with St. Luke's, Kitchener

Pastor Jim Koellner worked closely with synod office to facilitate the merger of these congregations with the majority of former members now a part of the St. Luke's family.

Rev Olavi Hepomaki is currently the interim pastor.

Hamilton- Pending

The congregations of Grace, St. John's, Transfiguration and Faith, Hamilton have been working towards amalgamation for over a year with monthly meetings, a steering committee and working groups already in place.

They have been working with consultants TUCC (Toronto United Church

Consultants) and are still studying their options.

A final vote on amalgamation is set for September 2019.

The congregation of Grace, Hamilton has already sold their building.

South Grey Bruce Parish- Pending

The congregations of St. Paul, Neustadt; St. Paul, Normanby and St. Matthew's, Mildmay are currently working towards amalgamation.

St. Paul, Normanby has sold their building.

Niagara- Pending

In the Niagara area, 6 of 7 congregations have been in consultations with the goal being realignment to shared ministry. The hope is that they can facilitate a sustainable pastoral ministry of Word and Sacrament in the area.

Nith Valley Shared Ministry Parish

Recently the congregations of St. James, Baden; St. Peter's, Milverton and St. Paul's, Ellice entered into a shared ministry arrangement with one full time pastor, Rev Bonnie Schelter- Brown and one part time pastor, Rev Barry Boeckner.

This is a similar arrangement to what is happening in Nova Scotia with Zion, Lunenburg; Grace, First South; St. Matthew's, Rose Bay and St. John's, Feltzen South.

The current pastor there is Rev Rick Pryce.

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Stained Glass Windows of St Peters Fellowship Hall.

Eastern Synod Council member Bonnie Weppler took these pictures of the baby sweaters that the women of St. Peter's Lutheran in Ottawa made for the baby bundles which will be packed up on Mothers' Day for CLWR distribution.

"This is the first time that I have seen the women hang the sweaters on the windows and I thought it was a great - and brightening - idea in what has been a very long and hard winter in Ottawa."



Vacation Alert

As rostered leaders are planning their holidays, perhaps you are looking for a means to provide a sermon to your congregation on Sundays. Look no further! A national resource overseen by the Program Committee for Worship

(<http://www.worship.ca/>), called Sermons by Email, is available to your congregation on Sundays when the rostered leader is away.

Simply send an email to Pastor Jane Gingrich, jdgingrich11@gmail.com - a minimum of two weeks before the Sunday on which the sermon is required (and up to one year in advance, if you're that kind of planner). This resource is also available on a weekly basis to ELCIC congregations who are without a pastor/ rostered leader. If you have any questions, simply contact Pastor Jane Gingrich at the email address above.



Want to know more about what Lutherans are doing across the country? Contact Barb bwiebe@elcic.ca

New Testament women
How their significance was nearly lost.

Transitions

Rev Bonnie Schelter-Brown finishes at St. James, New Dundee and begins at Nith Valley Shared Ministry Parish

Rev Barry Boeckner begins at Nith Valley Shared Ministry Parish

Interims

Bishop Bruce George begins at St. Mark's, Kingston

Rev Helen Toman finishes at St. Matthew's, Kitchener

Rev JoAnne Lam finishes at Zion, Schwartz/ St. John's, Ladysmith

Deacon Pamela Harrington finishes while

Rev Jim Goos begins at Grace, Eganville/ St. John's, Augsburg/ St. John's Bonnechere

Mutual Ministry Guide

A new Mutual Ministry Guide has been prepared by the ELCIC. The purpose of this guide is:

- To help congregations and leaders to nurture good and healthy mutual relationships.
- To provide guidelines to facilitate intentional and regular evaluations of congregational ministries, the staff and rostered ministers.
- To seek together opportunities for growth and renewal.

For more information, please click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Joy in the Journey Women's Retreat

May 24-27, 2019

Dubrick Summer Institute

May 27-29, 2019

150th Anniversary– Gadshill

June 2, 2019

Healthy Boundaries– Sudbury

June 18, 2019

For more information and to see further events click [here](#).

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Holy Land Study Tour 2019: Putting a face to the faith

Every other year, Luther leads a student-pilgrim group to the Holy Land to learn and support Eastern Synod partners in the [ELCJHL](#). Photos from this spring's tour, clockwise from the top: Day 1 in Jerusalem; [Yad Vashem's](#) Pillar of Heroism; Susan, Ruth and Mona prepare to enter the Dome of the Rock shrine; Justin listens to a talk by Naseef Muallem, principal of the [Evangelical Lutheran School of Hope](#) in Ramallah. Thanks to Ruth MacNeil, Nick Steinberg, and Bishop Michael Pryse for their pictures. More on [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#).



Vol. 2 Issue 5 *Luther* is a collection of news from Martin Luther University College in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.
Website: luther.wlu.ca **Events:** Dorinda Kruger Allen dkrugerallen@luther.wlu.ca
Stories: Mirko Petricevic, mpetricevic@luther.wlu.ca

Report of the Treasurer (To April 30th, 2019)

Offerings remitted to the synod office in 2019 towards our two primary causes, benevolence and Canadian Lutheran World Relief, continue to lag significantly behind those received for the comparable period in 2018. For details refer to Report of the Treasurer or go to

<https://www.easternsynod.org/>

and click the orange Treasurers/Financial Info button.



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Helping you be wise with money and live generously.

Does your congregation prepare a newsletter?

Please share it with us, we want to hear what's happening in your world. With your permission we may want to share your stories with the whole synod .

Please send electronic copies of all your newsletters to Liz, ezehr@elcic.ca. Thanks everyone!



National Convention 2019

For a complete list of Eastern Synod delegates to National Convention go to

<https://www.easternsynod.org/story/may-15-2019-national-convention-delegates>

Eastern Synod Mission Committee Visits Six Nations

Rosalyn Kantlaht'ant Elm, pastor of The Six Nations Anglican Parish, had this to say on facebook, "After Morning Prayer with the Lutheran Eastern Synod. It was great to show off Music for the Spirit. Lots of learning lots of traditional teaching, relationships fostered."

An in depth story to follow in an upcoming edition of Canada Lutheran.

Synod Office Fax Number Discontinued

In our ongoing efforts to reduce costs, we have made the decision to discontinue our fax line (519-743-4291). Over the last few years the use of our fax number has diminished greatly. Most things are now sent via email. As such, we felt the expense of the line was no longer justified.

CANCELLED

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LITURGY CANADA

a Rediscovering Liturgy conference

Real Presence: GOD SENDS US IN MISSION

FIFTH OF FIVE CONFERENCES

ON RENEWING EUCHARISTIC WORSHIP, FROM *GATHERING* TO *SENDING*

Saturday, September 28, 2019, 9:00 to 4:00

All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church

210 Silvercreek Parkway North, Guelph, Ontario



A Rediscovering Liturgy conference designed for parish worship teams — for all who serve in the liturgy.

To register and pay, visit <http://realpresence5.eventbrite.ca> and submit name(s) and the name of the parish. Cost: \$35 per person, or \$125 for a parish team (up to 5; \$25 for each person beyond the first 5); \$25 for students. Lunch is included.

For the list of workshops and directions to All Saints Church, visit us at www.liturgy.ca. Sign-in, coffee, & workshop registration at 9 am.