

Eastern Synod Newsletter

www.easternsynod.org



Sept 18, 2019
Volume 88

On a sunny Sunday morning in August, Grace, Rankin hosted an outdoor service and picnic. Notices had been placed in mail boxes across the community to invite families in the neighbourhood to join in this special gathering.

Arrangements were made to have "The Intermittents", a Pembroke area men's choir on hand who opened the event with songs from memory lane and to lead with hymns during the service.



Pastor Leena led the service with communion under a tent that offered welcomed shade on the side lawn of the church yard. There was an abundance of positive energy as the group, young and old, grandchildren and grandparents and those in the middle, shared the fellowship. It was a God sent moment.

Following service, thanks to our two barbeque chefs of the day, a scrumptious luncheon of hamburgers and hotdogs with all the trimmings was enjoyed by all. Members were most generous with the supply of garden green trimmings for the burgers, fruit, cookies and squares that went well with scoops of ice cream from the kitchen. We are so blessed in our smaller communities with the large degree of volunteerism that makes special events such as this possible and memorable in our church family.

Delores Lemkay

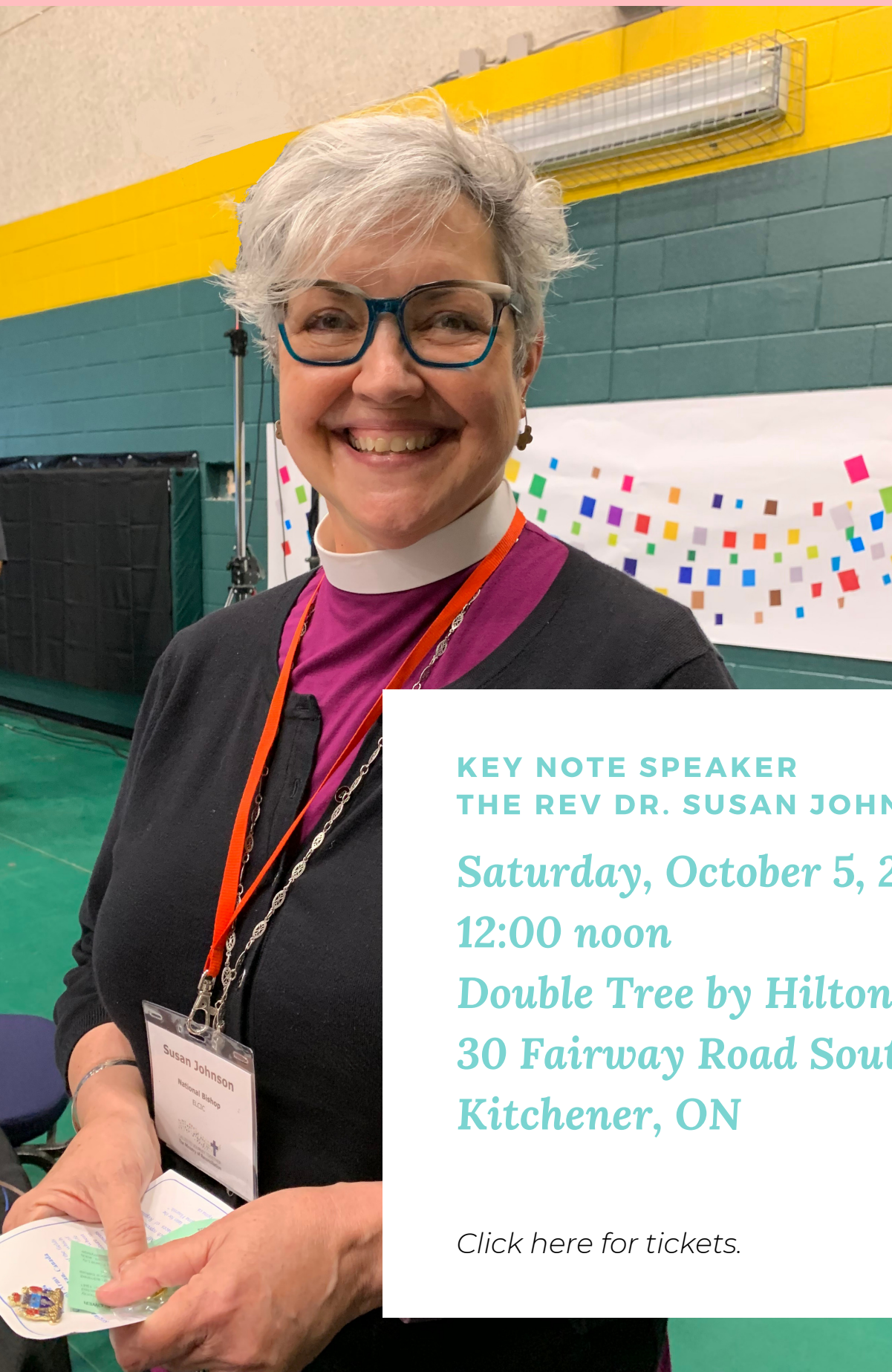


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BISHOPS' COMPANY LUNCHEON



**KEY NOTE SPEAKER
THE REV DR. SUSAN JOHNSON**

Saturday, October 5, 2019

12:00 noon

***Double Tree by Hilton
30 Fairway Road South,
Kitchener, ON***

Click here for tickets.

Seaway Conference Fall Retreat - Save the Date!

Sunday November 10 - Wednesday, November 13, 2019

The theme is yet to be confirmed, but all ES clergy are invited to share a few days of learning, rest and conversation at beautiful Camp Lutherlyn.

Watch for upcoming theme announcement and registration details.

Contact Sylvia Poetschke

sylvia.poetschke@yahoo.com

if you are interested and want to register.

Upcoming Events

Healthy Boundaries, Halifax
September 25, 2019

Liturgy Canada Conference
September 28, 2019

Congregational Treasurer
Regional Workshop
September 28, 2019

Grant Writing Workshop
September 28, 2019

Bishops' Company Lunch
October 5, 2019

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

Annual Meeting of The Auxiliary of Martin Luther University College

Saturday, October 19, 2019
Trillium Lutheran Church,
22 Willow Street, Waterloo.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Allen Jorgensen
"Listening to the Elders: Wisdom from Christian and Indigenous Sources"

Registration: 9:30 a.m.
Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.
Cost is \$22.00 and includes lunch.

Please contact your church's Auxiliary rep to register or Mrs. Lynda Karn by October 11, 2019
335 Keewatin Ave.,
Kitchener, ON N2B 3W2

Tel: 519-895-8888 or
email: lkarn@rogers.com

The Auxiliary of Martin Luther University College provides bursaries for the twelve week Clinical Pastoral Education Program (CPE) that is a requirement for those preparing for ordination, as well as other projects that support the educational mission of our College.

Donations may be made to The Auxiliary of Martin Luther University College. Please make your donation cheque payable to The Auxiliary of Martin Luther University College,
c/o Lynda Karn
335 Keewatin Avenue
Kitchener, ON N2B 3W2.

Unfortunately, according to CRA rules, The Auxiliary of Martin Luther University College or your Church cannot issue a tax receipt.

Living Our Faith— PRAY*READ*WORSHIP*LOVE

You are invited to join in a new four-year emphasis on Living our Faith, as together we pray, read worship and love.

Starting this September, ELCIC members are invited to join in a year of prayer. As a whole church, we will learn about prayer, grow in our experience of prayer and deepen our regular prayer practice.

In September 2020, we will move on to a year of reading and learn about scripture together. September 2021 will see us focusing on a year of worship and private devotion. And September 2022 will bring us into a year of focusing on love.

Go to <http://elcic.ca/livingourfaith/default.cfm> often for updates and resources. We will be posting weekly and monthly encouragements on our social media pages and through e-communicate.

As we begin this first year, consider how you might offer workshops or retreats on prayer. Use different forms of prayer on Sunday mornings and in all your meetings and gatherings. Preach about prayer. And provide opportunities and encouragement for people to pray with each other.

Transitions

Deacon Scott Knarr finished at Mount Zion, Waterloo and began at St. Matthew's, Kitchener.

Rev Paul Roellchen-Pfohl retired from Zion, Pembroke.

Interims

Rev Ralph Carl Wushke began at First, Toronto

Rev Jim Goos began at Zion, Pembroke



Training for Treasurers

Taking on responsibilities for congregational financial matters isn't easy! This job is even tougher if you haven't received any recent training or if you aren't aware of a variety of resources that are available to assist you.

Help is on the way! Through funding provided by the Lay Ministry Education Fund, the Eastern Synod is offering a series of regional workshops in Ontario (Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, and Stratford) and Nova Scotia (Bridgewater) this fall that will cover a wide variety of financial matters.

**CONGREGATIONAL
TREASURERS,
FINANCIAL
SECRETARIES,
FINANCE
COMMITTEES
CHURCH COUNCILS
PASTORS,
AND OTHERS**

For details on the four Ontario workshops click on the following link *2019 Regional Treasurer Workshops*. For more information and to register for the Nova Scotia workshop scheduled for St. Paul's, Bridgewater on November 9th, contact the Synod Treasurer, Keith Myra (email: kmyra@elcic.ca).

Indigenous Reconciliation Action Fund: Funding Program Launched by the Youth and Young Adults Committee

Kata Kuhnert

The Youth and Young Adult Committee (YAYA) is excited to introduce the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Fund (IRAF), a new funding program intended to support learning, relationship building, and justice work between Lutheran and Indigenous children, youth, and/or young adults under 30 years old. The IRAF fund aims to energize action regarding the conversations of Reconciliation which have taken place within the Lutheran church over the past ten years.

Edgewood Camp and Conference Centre served for seven decades as a place for Lutherans, particularly children, youth, and young adults, to connect deeply with God's Creation by engaging in outdoor ministry. This education in loving the land took place on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, At-tawandaron/Neutral people, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation within the Dish with One Spoon Covenant territory. As such, we acknowledge that the relationships built with Creation at Camp Edgewood were only possible because of the collective responsibility that Indigenous peoples showed historically and continue to provide in caring for the land. The seed funding of the IRAF fund comes from the proceeds of the sale of the Edgewood property. YAYA will commit to allocating an addition-

al 10% of our annual discretionary funding from the investment income of the YAYA Endowment Fund to the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Fund with a minimum contribution of \$5000 per year for the next five years.

YAYA will also gratefully accept cash and in kind donations to the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Fund.

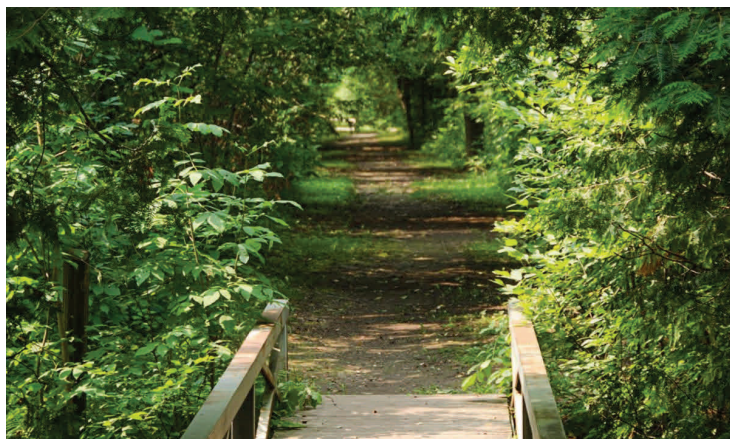
Indigenous communities have guided us to the path of Reconciliation and provided the tools to renew the relationships between settlers and Indigenous peoples. We have heard apologies from politicians and faith leaders that have promised changed behaviour. We know that there is no Reconciliation and no justice without action. It is our responsibility to keep our promises and follow up on what has been asked of us to ensure that these conversations are translated into direct actions. It is especially important to center youth in these movements so that the future can look different than the past. We must honour the life-giving labour of Indigenous Elders and youth to date by pursuing meaningful change in our church and heart-based connections with

our Indigenous neighbours.

Indigenous Elders who are in relationship with the ELCIC have said that we need youth at the table to create meaningful and lasting change. As we think about the next seven generations of youth that are growing up in the church, we have the opportunity to reimagine what it looks like to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8). This financial support of Reconciliation actions is a powerful way to continue to serve future generations of children, youth, and young adults by helping them to understand the relationship between the land, the church, and Indigenous neighbours. We trust our youth to guide our church to grow in faith and community while walking humbly with the Creator and our Indigenous neighbours down a path of Reconciliation.

For more information regarding the Indigenous Reconciliation Action Fund and how to apply for funding for the 2019-2020 year, follow this link.

<https://www.easternsynod.org/resource/iraf-grant-application>





LUTHER

September 2019



Welcome (more) students!

This fall we welcome 196 students into our undergraduate, master's (pictured with faculty) and clinical placement programs: a whopping 41 more students than one year ago! View more photos from our incoming grad student orientation on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#).

New faculty

In August, we welcomed Daniel Rzonzinski to our faculty. Daniel, who is serving as assistant professor, spiritual care and psychotherapy, fills a position opened by Brice Balmer's retirement. Read the [announcement](#).



Vol. 2 Issue 8 *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

Election town hall

Luther's Centre for Public Ethics and Ottawa-based [Citizens for Public Justice](#) are co-hosting an election town hall. Shaping a Just Canada starts at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 1 at Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 29 Westmount Rd. S. Free. Details on [registration page](#). PublicEthics.ca

Sing Fires of Justice 2019

Join us for Sing Fires of Justice presented by the Kanata Centre for Worship and Global Song, and Wilfrid Laurier University's Faculty of Music. Events take place over three days at two locations: Friday, Oct. 4 to Sunday, Oct. 6. View the [downloadable poster](#) for details.

Worship at Luther

While Luther is a learning community, faith is at the centre of our life together. Join us for [Open Door](#), our weekly communion service on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. On Sundays, drop into the alternative worshipping community [thirdspace](#) that gathers in Keffer Memorial Chapel on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Stay Connected!

In addition to [Luther News](#) (this monthly bulletin you are reading right now) we publish the quarterly [Luther Alumni News](#) and the occasional [Donor Update](#) bulletin. To subscribe to any of our newsletters or bulletins, please contact us at stayconnected@luther.wlu.ca

St. Martin's Chorknaben 2019 Canada Tour

Thanks to the many contributions and participation of virtually everyone in our Congregation, the St. Martin's Chorknaben visit to our Church was a resounding, exhausting success. After months of planning, we weren't sure what to expect from the two day visit... would there be a good turnout to the concerts?...with the younger Choir members not able to speak English, would chatting be challenging for the Billet families?

The excitement began when the Choir arrived at noon on Monday, June 10...all 67 of them spilling out of their bus and escort vehicle. Belleville was the second city on their seven City, first ever Canada tour. We learned that St. Martin's Parish, their home parish in Biberach, Germany, houses two congregations: one is Lutheran and the other is Catholic. The Choir is composed of members of both denominations.

Their days were filled with sightseeing. On Monday afternoon, the Choir went on a tour of Belleville and the Tyendinaga Territory, while on Tuesday the group visited City Hall and met with Mayor Mitch Panciuk. For the rest of the day, the Choir enjoyed an outing to Sandbanks Provincial Park.

With safety and hospitality in mind, we were ready to host the community for two evening Concerts. With overflow crowds into the Hall, they were able to watch a live stream courtesy of teacher Jim Doyle and students of Eastside Secondary School's Technology Dept., as were the families of the Choir members who watched on YouTube from their homes in Germany. A link to both Concerts on YouTube is available on Holy Trinity's website <http://www.htelc.ca/>.

The Chorknaben and Conductor Johannes Striegel gave amazing performances on both nights. With the Choir's age range of 8-28, four-part harmony was possible with songs sung in four languages. Not mentioned in the Program, was the well received surprise towards the end of the second Concert when the Choir led the crowd in the singing of O Canada. The free will offering netted approximately \$2,400.00, with 10% of the proceeds being donated to the Music Dept. of Eastside SS. And the remainder split between HTELC Music Ministry and St. Martin's Choir.

The Choir usually tours in Europe each summer for two weeks, so CanadaTour2019 was an ambitious, expensive undertaking and adventure for them. They greatly appreciated our hospitality, the meals, the Billet families and the overnight accommodation in our Fellowship Hall for the older Choir members who slept on the floor in their sleeping bags. Choir members were astonished that there were so many German speaking people in our Congregation and community.

A highlight of the tour was a special visit with Mayor Mitch Panciuk and Councillor Thompson at City Hall for a tour, a visit and singing. One birthday boy will remember that visit very fondly! The beauty of the choirs' songs filled City Hall with great joy and peace. Many thanks also to all who helped promote the Concerts in InQuinte's online newspaper. Thanks also to Holy Trinity's Women's Group, and all those who baked and helped with the refreshments after the Concerts, the families who billeted 23 Choir members, those families who donated and prepared the pulled pork sandwiches for the Choir's Monday supper, those who contributed to other meals for the Choir, to our new partnership with Eastside's Technology Dept., the YMCA for providing showers for Choir members each morning, the Concert Committee and the many Congregation members who supported the St. Martin's Concerts with their attendance.

This was truly an experience to remember!

Ruth Kollars

