



The Eastern Synod Lutheran

www.easternsynod.org



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The Joy in the Journey – Finding Your Joy

I remember as a kid in Sunday School, one of my favorite songs to sing went something like this:

*“I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
down in my heart, down in my
heart, down in my heart...”* You may be able to finish the chorus for yourself. It is a timeless song, because we all desire to have joy in our life. But what is this thing that we call Joy?

The Webster’s dictionary defines joy as:

1 a: the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires : delight.

b: the expression or exhibition of such emotion: gaiety.

2: a state of happiness or felicity: bliss.

3: a source or cause of delight. Quite often people equate joy with being happy and use the terms interchangeably.

But, is JOY different from HAPPINESS?

The answer is: Yes and No. Joy

is something that lasts. Happiness is something that is temporary. Joy springs from within and is an internal experience. Happiness is caused by external circumstances or experiences and it always depends on others.

Joy brings with it a feeling of contentment and confidence which can take us through a storm in our life-journey. Happiness is not present when we are in the midst of a storm; it just vanishes.

Happiness is a blurred emotion. It can mean different things to many people.

Joy is a conscious commitment to be happy, to have a sense of gratitude and contentment despite life’s challenges.

Joy in the Journey, the next Women’s Ministry Retreat, will be exploring whether we have achieved real joy in our lives as described above. It will be held on **May 24—May 26, 2019** in Niagara-on-the Lake, Ontario.

We have engaged a wonderful keynote speaker—**Wendy Farha**. Wendy is a gifted singer, songwriter, musician, comedian and inspirational speaker. She has been writing songs and performing since 1978. Wendy began by playing in local coffeehouses, churches and hospitals.

A gifted communicator, Wendy shares her songs, stories and her hilarious sense of humor to entertain & inspire her audiences. Wendy’s diagnosis of clinical depression in 2000 and then breast cancer in 2009 has given her an empa-

thy for those suffering from sickness, mental illness, and from the many difficulties we experience in this life. She will share her music, comedy and her life story — an inspirational, faith-filled message of hope and JOY through her journey which can be a model for our own journey!

Our chaplain for the weekend will be Pastor Karen Kuhnert, currently serving St. James, St. Jacobs, ON. We look forward to lively and inspirational worship for the weekend lead by Karen and her worship team. Breakout sessions will include Bible Study, Arts & Crafts; and Yoga to name a few. We will offer a couple of off-site trips into the Niagara Area—including a wine tour!

Saturday evening will feature the *Red Shoe Banquet* a themed, fun-filled evening for all. What do *Red Shoes* have to do with it? You have to come and find out! Look for more information in the next Columbine in the fall. Alternatively, you can go to our new Women’s Ministry Website at <http://eswomensministry.com/> Information will be updated as available. We hope that many of our women can come on a spiritual journey with us that weekend and find their joy.

Cathy Calvin, Director, Women’s Ministry, Eastern Synod



Thank you for supporting our Ontario We Care Baling Days! Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of refugees in Mauritania!



Beyond Surviving: Cancer and Your Spiritual Journey

Anyone who attended one of the Bishop's retreats this year had a chance to hear Rev David Maginley speak about his battles with cancer which resulted in a profound near-death experience and explorations in the nature of consciousness and the connection of body, mind and spirit.

His book Beyond Surviving: Cancer and Your Spiritual Journey has been honoured among the top 100 Indie publications by Shelf Unbound and received the silver Nautalis Book Award, which recognizes books that promote spiritual growth, conscious living and positive social change. David was also recently honoured with the Award of Excellence in Spiritual Care from the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care.

Congratulations David!

Pictured above: David and colleagues.

Every two years, the ELCIC and the Anglican Church of Canada host a national gathering of youth and their leaders. CLAY 2018 will take place on August 15-19, 2018 in Thunder Bay, Ontario. To register for threads, please visit:

<https://www.eply.com/clay2018>. General information surrounding CLAY 2018 can be found at: www.claygathering.ca.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rev Tom Ristine and family as they mourn the loss of his wife, Selma.



To find out about upcoming events around the synod check the [synod calendar](#) on our website <http://www.easternsynod.org/calendar>.

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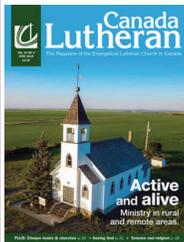
Irlavere Tubbe, wife of the late Rev. Richard “Dick” Tubbe in her 90th year, continues to serve in a ministry of healing. A member of St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church in Pembroke, she is the “foot care person” for 10-20 seniors monthly. A nurse by profession and VON nurse for many years, Irlavere thrives in the ongoing relationships she has established over the years.

During our visit she spoke of a new commitment within the community to be part of a task group addressing the issue of caring for people with four or more chronic problems. “Why they asked me to be on this task group, I don’t know” she said. On the day Sandra and I stopped by for a visit we saw her in full action, as depicted in the picture. When I asked her to put into her own words what this ministry means for her, she said “an opportunity to be of service in the care of people”. Irlavere is a person with a vocation and mission from which she never tires. Oh yes, the small fee she accepts for her care goes to St. Timothy’s church.

Submitted by Clint Rohr, Retired pastor.

A delegation from the Eastern Synod, including Bishop Pryse, Laurie Knott and Rev Riitta Hepomaki visited the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana, our companion church.

Read the full report at <http://www.easternsynod.org/faith-in-action/global>



In the latest issue of Canada Lutheran, Eastern Synod stories are on pages 28-30.

Read about Mount Zion’s Café at

<http://www.easternsynod.org/faith-in-action/local/i-was-lonely-and>

Vacancies

Conestogo, St. Matthew’s
Kitchener, St. Paul’s (Bridgeport)
Port Elgin, Faith
Richmond Hill, St. Paul’s
Sudbury, Trinity
Thornhill, Thornhill
Toronto, Redeemer
Toronto, St. Ansgar

For more information please contact Rev Douglas Reble, Assistant to the Bishop. dreble@elcic.ca

Reminder to all

Synod office will be closed for regular business from June 19-26 as we move operations to Toronto during Eastern Synod Assembly.

See you in Toronto!

Report of the Treasurer (To May 31st, 2018)

Now that May remittances have been recorded, for 2018 to date we are running behind the pace that was set for the comparable period in 2017. Benevolence offerings have decreased slightly (by 0.5%) while offerings to Canadian Lutheran World Relief and the ELCIC Praise Appeal have decreased much more significantly (by 30% and 80% respectively). For details refer to [Report of the Treasurer](#) or go to <http://www.easternsynod.org/> and click the orange Treasurers/Financial Info button.

This link to the synod’s [2017 Audit-ed Financial Statements](#) which have recently become available may also be of interest to you.

Transitions- Interim Appointments

Jun Gao– St. Paul’s, Richmond Hill

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Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

June 2018



Congratulations to our Class of 2018!



We recently celebrated as 25 of our students graduated from various programs. These students mark a milestone in seminary history -- they are the last class graduating from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary! In the fall, we will celebrate the first graduating class of Martin Luther University College. To see dozens of pictures from convocation, go to our [Facebook album](#) or [folder](#) on Google Drive.

Photos: Grads and faculty (top); Laura Ozaruk, BA (below right); PhD recipients Gregory Jenkins, Laurie Ponsford-Hill, Richard Tamas (below left); Leena Jensen, MA-MDiv (left); Christina Main, one of our 18 students who graduated with an MA in Theology: Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy, gets a hug from a supporter (bottom). Also, two of our students graduated from our post-graduate diploma program. Congratulations to all!



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