



Eastern Synod Newsletter

www.easternsynod.org



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Synod Council Meets

The Eastern Synod council welcomed six new members when they met in early November. Elected at the 2018 Synod Assembly in Toronto the new members include laypersons Benjamin Bestvater and Judy von Wahl as well as pastors Anne Anderson, Janaki Bandara, Joanna Miller and Adam Snook. The remaining council members include Rev Dwight Biggs, Margaret Christenson, Anne Drouillard, Rev David Malina, Bonnie Wepler and David Wilk as well as the officers, Bishop Pryse, Laurie Knott, Wendell Caron Grahlman and Keith Myra.



The Council met with the Board of Directors for the annual meeting of Lutheran Homes Kitchener-Waterloo (LHKW). Members also heard a report about the “Strategic Initiative” work related to property transformation through LHKW; this project is now at a transition stage.

Left-The Council had a guided tour of the upgraded facilities of Martin Luther University College, and were given an update on its history, mission and programmes.

From the Mission Committee

To see a list of [Mission](#) grants awarded for 2019 go to page 6.

Motions from the meeting included:

- ✦ how the proceeds from the remainder of Edgewood Camp’s funds and from the sale of the Edgewood property will be distributed. See article on page 2.
- ✦ establishment of a fund that will support Indigenous projects in the future (in addition to the YAYA funds independently established);
- ✦ appointments of people to serve on the Candidacy, Examining, Mission and Youth & Young Adult committees; the Board of Governors of Martin Luther University College; the Board of Directors of Lutheran Homes Kitchener-Waterloo.



Edgewood's Ministry Continues Through its Legacy

For seven decades Edgewood Camp and Conference Centre carried out a much-loved ministry in Southwestern Ontario. Even though it is no longer financially viable for the synod to continue to provide outdoor ministry in this location, it is both reassuring and exciting to know that through its legacy, Edgewood's long history of ministering to children, youth and young adults will continue in future years.

As Rev. Joel Crouse, the synod's Ministry Director of Property Transformation, reported in the July/August, 2018 issue of *The Eastern Synod Lutheran*, Edgewood's property was sold in the early summer realizing net proceeds of approximately \$775,000. An additional \$115,000 remained in cash assets at the time of Edgewood's closure. Various suggestions for allocating these assets were made by the membership of Edgewood's incorporated body at its final annual meeting (May, 2017) as well as by rostered and lay delegates to Assembly 2018 (June, 2018).

After reviewing these and other suggestions the synod's Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Ministries Committee, a group comprised of six young adults, made a series of recommendations to the Synod Council. These recommendations were subsequently approved by Synod Council at its meeting in early November and included the following actions: returning \$90,000 of unused Edgewood redevelopment funds to the synod; repaying the synod for a \$21,000 loan that was previously made to Edgewood; providing \$10,000 to each of Camp Lutherlyn and Camp Mush-a-Mush to help cover future emergency situations; making a \$25,000 donation to the Resto-



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ration of Identity (ROI) Indian Residential School Survivors (IRSS) Legacy Project; placing \$25,000 in a fund for future use by the YAYA Ministries Committee for Indigenous projects; establishing two new funds (approximately \$178,000 each), one for each of Camp Lutherlyn and Camp Mush-a-Mush to help fund future capital projects; and adding approximately \$330,000 to the YAYA Endowment Fund (income earned by this fund will be used to help fund YAYA ministries in future years). The remaining \$23,000 will be distributed after further investigation is completed, thus ensuring that original donor intentions and regulatory requirements are honoured. These actions ensure that Edgewood's legacy will continue to serve future generations of children, youth and young adults, helping them to grow in their faith. YAYA Ministry Director, Rev. Christie Morrow-Wolfe, referring to the recommendations made by the YAYA Committee, commented: "I am super proud of this group of young people. They do justice, love kind-

ness and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). They live it."

In its final recommendation, the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Committee challenged Synod Council to match YAYA's \$25,000 allocation for future Indigenous projects, a challenge that Synod Council eagerly accepted in recognition that we are walking together with our Indigenous neighbours down a path of reconciliation.

As required in the sale agreement, the new owners of Edgewood's former property intend to donate a large portion of the land to a conservation authority, making it accessible to the general public. Along with the funding allocations identified above, this land donation, a reminder of God's creation, is yet another way in which Edgewood's legacy will continue to serve our wider community for years to come.

Keith Myra
Eastern Synod Treasurer



**No Congregation Too Small:
St. Paul's Church in Niagara Falls
hosts 81 teens from Winnipeg**

This summer brought some real joy to the members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Niagara Falls, when a bus-load of 81 delightful teens and their leaders from Winnipeg camped in St. Paul's church hall. The young people were on a summer trip that was to take them to Niagara Falls, Sault Ste. Marie, and a youth rally in Thunder Bay. They slept for two nights in the church, and enjoyed nutritious meals lovingly prepared by church members.

It is impossible to describe the good feelings that emanated from both church members and young people. The youths were energetic, respectful, gracious, and oh so polite! The church people of St. Paul's were thrilled and beaming over having their space filled again with youthful laughter! A good time was had by all.

A little side story comes with this one. To her great surprise, St. Paul's pastor, the Rev. Dr. Doreen McFarlane discovered there were, in attendance, not only eight young people but also their pastor, Rev. Mike Kurtz; all from First Lutheran Church on Victor Street in Winnipeg; the very

church where Doreen was baptized in 1946! Yes, First Lutheran was her very first church home. Not only did they have this in common, but Pastor Kurtz and Pastor Doreen also discovered they shared a deep interest in the history and even the languages of the Middle East. (Doreen is a Hebrew and Aramaic scholar and Mike an Arabic scholar!) It was agreed to by the group that Doreen will visit Winnipeg next October for the 140th anniversary of their beloved First Lutheran Church.

The Winnipeg young people expressed that they were impressed by the generosity of St. Paul's to be willing to host and prepare meals for their large group because, as they said, many larger congregations would not be quick to take on such a daunting project.

The message from all this is twofold. First, if you are a smaller congregation, fear not in taking on a project that may seem a bit beyond your scope. Miracles can be accomplished. And, second, if you are willing to do so, do not be surprised how magnificently God will work in the midst of it all. The members of St. Paul's will tell you, the presence of these young people was a gift beyond measure.

Submitted by Rev Doreen McFarlane.

Vacancies

Eganville, Grace/ Augsburg, St. John's/ Bonnechere, St. John's Kitchener, St. Luke's Richmond Hill, St. Paul's Toronto, Redeemer Orleans, Resurrection

**Report of the Treasurer
(To October 31st, 2018)**

Benevolence offerings received by synod office during the month of October were the most received for any month so far this year. As a result, 2018 receipts are running 2% ahead of last year.

Offerings to Canadian Lutheran World Relief also picked up during October but are still 16% lower than last year. For details click on [Report of the Treasurer](#) or go to <http://www.easternsynod.org/> and click the orange Treasurers/Financial Info button.

You may also be interested in the presentations that Treasurer Keith Myra made to delegates at Assembly 2018: [Treasurer's Presentation](#) (a financial review of the past biennium), and the 2018 – 2021 [Budget Presentation](#).



Our prayers are with Rev Joanna Miller and her family as they mourn the loss of her mother and with the family and friends of Rev Ab Lorch who passed away last week.

We love to share your news. We want to read your stories. Don't be shy to send your ministry stories directly or through links to other publications or invite me to visit to learn what is happening in your congregation.



[Pastor Riitta](#)

Transitions

Rev Gloria Ryder begins at Faith, Fergus-Elora
 Rev Pamela Kormano finishes at Good Shepherd, Niagara Falls & St. Luke's, Ridgeway and begins at St. Ansgar, Toronto

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Upcoming Events

Charity Concert
 November 18, 2018

Liturgy Canada Conference
 February 2, 2019

Atlantic Conference for Rostered Ministers
 February 10-13, 2019

Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Clergy
 February 24-27, 2019

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

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, February 2, 2019, 9:00 to 4:00
 Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 3455 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, 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 Holy Cross Church, visit us at www.liturgy.ca. Sign-in, coffee, & workshop registration at 9 am.

Gifts from the Heart

Coming soon!

Start today:
clwr.org/gifts



LUTHER

November 2018



Congratulations to all of our recent graduates — the first from Martin Luther University College and the 115th graduating class since our founding in 1911. Check out the photo albums from our Oct. 27 fall convocation on [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#).

Inshallah

Inshallah, Luther’s community choir, helped raise \$5,800 for the St. Mark’s and Calvary United outreach ministry during the choir’s Remembrance Day program at Trillium ELC. [View more upcoming events online.](#)

Vol. 1 Issue 4 Luther is a collection of news from Martin Luther University College in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

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Stories: Mirko Petricevic mpetricevic@luther.wlu.ca

Glebe breakfast, and a new look

More than 150 people assembled at Luther Village on Oct. 18 for the [Delton Glebe Counselling Centre’s](#) third annual breakfast. David Maginley — author, hospital chaplain and four-time cancer survivor — delivered a keynote on living with grief. Photos on [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#). The centre revealed its



the Delton
GLEBE
COUNSELLING CENTRE

new visual identity at the breakfast. The logo complements Luther’s new visual identity and visually connects the centre to Luther. The Glebe’s new icon replaces a graphic of a leaf that is frequently used on signs, websites and marketing materials for local churches and other counselling agencies.

2019 Mission Grants Awarded

Each fall the Eastern Synod Mission Committee reviews numerous grant applications and then faces the difficult task of deciding how the funds will be distributed. Grants are awarded in 3 different categories; Long Term Partnership, Short Term Partnership and Compassionate Justice Initiatives.

This year there were 67 applications to review resulting in 51 grants being awarded totalling \$302,996.

Grants awarded are as follows:

Compassionate Justice Initiatives

Congregation or Agency	Program
St. John's, Arnprior	Children's Healthy Snack
Holy Trinity, Belleville	Food Insecurity
St. Peter's, Cambridge	Home Hospice Assn.
St. Philip's, Etobicoke	Neighbourhood Table
All Saints, Guelph	Community Market
St. Mark's, Kitchener	Community Ministry
St. Matthew's, Kitchener	Refugee Sponsorship
St. John's, Montreal	Food Justice Ministries
St. David, Orillia	Route 66
Our Saviour, Owen Sound	Celebration 30
St. James, St. Jacobs	Community Café
Trinity Village	Support for Impoverished Seniors
Two Rivers Ministry Area	Six Nations Partnership
Mount Zion, Waterloo	Mount Zion Café & Open Sesame Preschool

Long Term Partnership Grants

Congregation or Agency	Program
Westside, Barrie	Ongoing Program Support
Westside, Barrie	Lutheran Homes K-W
St. Peter's, Kitchener	TV Ministry
St. David, Orillia	Program Support
thirdspace_, Waterloo	Program Support
First, Toronto	Outreach
Martin Luther, Toronto	Ecumenical Vicariate/Internship in Toronto
Rhenish, Toronto	Program Support
St. Paul Chinese, Toronto	Community Outreach program with Bethesda

Short Term Partnership Grants

Congregation or Agency	Program
St. Peter's, Cambridge	Future Ministry with St. Peter's Place
Central Toronto Ministry Area	Missional Leadership Training & Area Workshops
Faith, Fergus- Elora	Senior's Summer Camp & Drop In Centre
St. Matthew's, Kitchener	LED Sign
St. Paul's, Listowel/ Wallace	Website
St. John's, Mahone Bay	Media Outreach and Music Ministry
St. Mark's, Midland	Health & Healing
St. Michael's Finnish, Montreal	Visioning the Future
Holy Cross, Newmarket	Beyond Welcome Outreach
St. John, Ottawa	New Edinburgh Community Choirs
Our Saviour, Owen Sound	Digitalizing Worship
St. Timothy's, Pembroke	Website & Serving Marginalized Community Members
Zion, Pembroke	Three Parts
St. John's, Petawawa	Community Friendship Meal
Christ, Peterborough	One Roof Dinner & Kid's Klub/ Messy Church
Peace, Pickering	Alternative Worship Service
St. Paul's, Richmond Hill	LED Sign
St. James, St. Jacobs	Website & Brand Overhaul
Agricola, Toronto	Website
Redeemer, Toronto	Missional Leadership Development
Trinity Village	Age With Grace
Christ, Waterloo	YouTube Church
Christ the King, Whitby	BASIC Seniors
Toronto Campus Ministry	Lutherans Connect