



The Eastern Synod Lutheran

www.easternsynod.org



Sept 20, 2017
Volume 66



Laurie Knott
Eastern Synod Council Vice-chair

In July, I had the opportunity to attend our church's National Convention in Winnipeg as a visitor. I always enjoy learning what is happening in our church and having the opportunity to worship together as a wider community.

One agenda item that I found particularly engaging was the ecumenical panel discussion which included a panel of leaders from the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, United, Mennonite, Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Canadian Council of Churches (see list of participants below). They were asked to provide their perspective on how the reformation was significant for the church and where they anticipated the church to be in the next 500 years. Their observations about the church's history and the way forward were insightful and at times, sobering. They provided much food for thought and raised questions as to how and why we are doing some things as a church.

As these leaders reflected on the history of the church and specifically in Canada, we were reminded that we have been shaped by a colonial

European mindset which continues to exist today. Rev. Peter Busch (Presbyterian Church in Canada) noted that new immigrants to Canada are largely Christian but their denomination and/or church experience is different than ours. The face of Canada is changing yet the church continues to cling to its western European roots. I think if we have a look at those sitting in our pews today, we would have to agree.

Rev. Busch went on to say that churches have moved away from mission and are acting more like regulatory agencies. Ouch! Governance is important but how has it shaped our activities? Archbishop Fred Hiltz (Anglican Church) reminded us that we need to find a "new understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ"—"a community of faith living out the fullness of the Gospel"—not just being a member of a church.

So what was their recommendation on what we should be doing to move forward? Their answers were similar. We need to listen—and, not just to those whose opinions and positions agree with ours! Rev. Jordan Cantwell (United Church in Canada) advised us to intentionally seek out the "weird" voices and listen to their story until we can "hear the truths that are too strange for us to hear". She suggested that we question whose voices we privilege and why.

This listening extends to our ecumenical work. While we celebrate the ecumenical work that has been done together, Rev. Busch called it "dancing with our cousins". The more challenging ecumenical work is working with Pentecostals and those from the other branches of Christianity such as the Eastern Orthodox and Coptic churches. He suggested that the future church will be an amalgamation of Christian faiths. Yet today, we sometimes find it challenging to have merger discussions with other Lutheran congregations!

We are also reminded of the importance of prayer and silent listening. Being silent listeners just may, as Dr. Allyson Barnett-Cowan (Canadian Council of Churches) suggested, allow the Holy Spirit an opportunity to say something from time to time!

Perhaps the most important message we heard that afternoon was that for the church to move forward, we also have to be willing to change and be changed.

In her message at closing worship, Rev. Cantwell called this a period of "holy correction" saying we had been given the "gift of marginality"—one that we should accept with trust and courage as we can now experience the Gospel within the context of Jesus. While we may at times struggle to deal with the changing landscape and how to be relevant in our world, we have the confidence in knowing that this is the Holy Spirit's project!

So let us be Jesus' hands and feet in the world. This is indeed the Holy Spirit's project.
Come Holy Spirit, Come!

You can watch the full panel discussion on the ELCIC website (under National Convention 2017).

<http://www.elcic.ca/In-Convention/2017-Winnipeg/July7.cfm>

I am grateful to all the participants!

The Rev. Canon Dr. Allyson Barnett-Cowan,
Canadian Council of Churches
The Rev. Peter Busch,
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
The Right Rev. Jordan Cantwell, United Church of Canada
Archbishop Richard Gagnon, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
Archbishop Fred Hiltz,
Anglican Church of Canada
Dr. Kathryn Johnson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;
The Rev. Dr. Willard Metzger,
Mennonite Church Canada

60th Anniversary Celebration

submitted by Lawrence Lupton

On 2017 May 27-28, St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Pembroke, celebrated its 60th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the congregation held a dinner on May 27 that included former pastors and members. On Sunday May 28, Bishop Michael Pryse preached at the worship service. At this service, the congregation donated \$1,000 each to the St. Joseph's Food Bank in Pembroke, Eastern Synod benevolence, CLWR and Lutherlyn Camp and Conference Centre.

Pictured are members and clergy representing each of the recipients. From left to right:



Frank is President of the Food Bank; Bernice, Helena and Ivan are long serving members of the St. Timothy's Food Bank team, Bishop Michael represented Synod and CLWR, while Pastor Bruce is the Vice-Chair of the Camp Board of Directors.

Images for ELCIC Worship Bulletin Covers

In Mission for Others. This theme of the ELCIC invites us to look out into our communities and see the people around us, loving our neighbours as ourselves. The ELCIC Program Committee for Worship (PCW) is putting out a call for images of doors and windows that look out and see in, evoking this mission that we all share across the church, to be used on worship bulletin covers for the 2017-2018 liturgical year.

Images can be of doors and windows of any sort. Doors are thresholds of welcome to invite people in. Windows see into the lives of our neighbours and inspire us to reach out. Images of doors and windows that invite us into the light, into contemplation of stability and beauty, and into transition and change are all welcome.

Please send images attached to an email to BulletinPictures@gmail.com indicating the PHOTOGRAPHER who took the image and the LOCATION where the picture was taken. Tell the STORY: say something about why you took the image. Include the name of the congregation if appropriate.

The PCW has asked David Solheim, who prepared the current bulletin series, to select and prepare the set of images for the bulletin covers again for 2017-2018. Since the bulletin covers require a square image (like Instagram), Dave will crop your image as needed. Dave says that, from a practical point of view, any jpeg (.jpg) image that is 2.6 MB or more in size can work.

All images for the first half-year need to be submitted by **September 30, 2017**. Please continue to send images for the second half until April 4, 2018.

Real Presence: Responding to the Word

The Liturgy Canada fall conference in Waterloo

Saturday September 23, 2017, 9:00 -3:00

For more info go to

<http://www.easternsynod.org/event/2017-09-23-130000-real-presence-responding-word>



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BISHOPS' COMPANY FOR MISSION PRESENTS:

Oktober 14. 2017



LUTHER *fest* 5000

with MICHAEL COREN



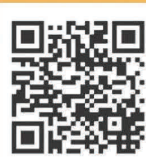
award-winning
author, radio
and TV-
personality,
columnist
and speaker

WELCOME!

6:00 pm gathering, 6:30 pm dinner

ENTERTAINMENT

Tickets \$50,
purchase at
easternsynod.org



Venue: Holiday Inn
30 Fairway Road S.
Kitchener

Remembering 40 Years

submitted by Pam Radunsky

The year was 1977: Somebody named Trudeau was Prime Minister, and Elizabeth II had just celebrated her silver jubilee as Queen. We thought it strange a peanut farmer could be President of the US, Apple Computer was incorporated, Canadian road signs were switched to metric and Elvis left the building following his last public performance ... Oh, and three Lutheran congregations in Sudbury, Ontario: Christ, St. John's and Messiah merged to form Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on June 5th, 1977.

On Trinity Sunday, June 11, 2017, members and guests gathered to remember, to celebrate and praise God for the witness and ministry of this congregation. There was a lot to reflect on over the forty year span.

In his message, Brian Koivu noted the many ways this community of believers have witnessed and shared their love for God and one another: both within these walls as well as in the wider church and community. He referenced the ministry and leadership of Pastors Donald Krantz, Redmond Conroy, Paul Schult, Bill Brown, Paul Roellichen-Pfohl and Glenda Morrisette. He noted that, though smaller now, we still have a vibrancy



and strong desire to be a force for good in this world. While Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sudbury, will change and evolve as it must and though perhaps in ways we cannot yet imagine, yet there will be a spirit that endures and thrives.

Pastor Bill and Joyce Brown were able to be with us and celebrate communion. Brian Koivu and Antti Saari shared their musical talents and chef Dan Bartoli, along with his able assistants, BBQ'd his famous chicken to add to the potluck feast. Youth leaders helped everyone slather their hands to create a series of handprint paintings commemorating the event. Balloons and cake added to the festive air.

Brian concluded his message by reminding us to hold fast to the words Jesus gave to all those who follow him: "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b)

We, at Trinity, Sudbury, remember and praise God!

Honouring our Water Spirits

The "Honouring our Water Spirits" event on September 30 is an Indigenous Water Ceremony with participation by members of the Two Rivers Ministry Area (with leadership by Rev. Anne Anderson) and joining with friends from Six Nations of the Grand River, especially Brightening the Spirit—Breaking the Silence suicide awareness and prevention group.

Everyone is welcome to bring some water and fruit for the ceremony and celebration which follows.

For more information go to <http://www.easternsynod.org/event/2017-09-30-220000-water-ceremony>

Vacancies

Faith, Brantford
Faith, Fergus-Elora
St. Peter's, Ottawa
Advent, Toronto
Bethany, Woodstock

For further information please contact Rev Douglas Reble, Assistant to the Bishop, dreble@elcic.ca or call 1-877-373-5242.

To find out about all the upcoming Reformation Celebrations and other events check the [synod calendar](#) at our website <http://www.easternsynod.org/calendar>

Grow Hope— Share the Harvest

is a new opportunity to raise funds and 'grow hope' for families who don't have enough to eat.

Visit clwr.org for details.



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

Webinar: Responsible Investing for Individuals

As part of Canada's 4th Annual RI week

Details:

Date: Thursday Oct 26

Time: 12pm – 1pm, EDT

Location: Your own computer desk! We are hosting this session online.



Join us for a [free webinar](#) to get answers to the questions "How can an individual investor be a responsible investor? What options are available, and what are the steps to take?" Brian Barsness, CIM, Director of Investment Services at Kindred Credit Union will provide the expertise and insights to becoming a Responsible Investor.



Register by RSVPing to Krista at kkuehnbaum@elfec.ca.

REVISED

Women's Auxiliary Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Annual Meeting

October 21, 2017
St. John's Lutheran Church
22 Willow St.
Waterloo, ON

10am-1pm
Registration 9:30 am

Theme: Women of the Reformation

Guest Speaker: Henry Fischer
"Queen Maria of Hungary, A Supporter of the Reformation"
also: "Meet Katharina von Borra, wife of Martin Luther."

Come out and enjoy a wonderful time of worship, meet the new Seminarians and sing some of Luther's hymns.

Meeting concludes with lunch.

Cost for registration and meal is \$22.

To register contact Mrs. Lynda Karn by October 13, 2017
email: lkarn@rogers.com

Report of the Treasurer (To July 31st, 2017)

Benevolence offerings received by the synod office during the month of July decreased significantly more than is usually the case over the summer months and as a result, for 2017 to date we are tracking almost 2% behind the comparable period for 2016 (and almost 3% below budget requirements).

Donations to Canadian Lutheran World Relief (both designated and undesignated causes) have decreased almost 17% for the period January 1 to July 31, 2017 compared to the same period in 2016.

For details refer to [Report of the Treasurer](#) or go to <http://www.easternsynod.org/> and click the orange Treasurers/Financial Info button.

FYI, the Eastern Synod's 2016 audited financial statements are available on the synod website. To review these, click on the following link: [2016 Audited Financial Statements](#).

REFORMATION 500 is scheduled for October 22 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral on 472 Richmond Street, London, Ontario. The celebration of Dr. Martin Luther's legacy will include our guest speaker, Dr. Christine Helmer, a world-renown Luther scholar speaking on his importance for today, the Amabile Youth Singers and Prima Chorus leading the singing, with musical accompaniment by the Reverb Brass (from Toronto) and organist Angus Sinclair. Each person will receive his/her own hymnbook. The music will feature many hymns of the Reformation period and focus on the four "sola(s)" of Lutheran theology. The entire afternoon, sponsored by the Lutheran Social Services (London) is absolutely FREE ---even the parking at London Life across from the Cathedral. In this special year of 2017 when we commemorated the hundredth anniversary of Vimy Ridge, the 150 years of Confederation and the 99 years for the total eclipse, make this celebration of 500 years of Reformation special in your life as well. Come and join the community in praise and thanksgiving. Submitted by Margaret Mantz

Dedication of Memorial Bench

submitted by Rev. Gerald Slote

On Sunday, September 17th Redeemer, North Bay dedicated its new commemoration bench honouring the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, and the 150th anniversary of Canada. Special guests (pictured right) include l-r: Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong from St. Brice's Anglican, Gerald Slote, MP Anthony Rota, Mayor Al McDonald, and Rev. Monsignor Dave Tramontini of Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption. It was a very inspiring service which spoke of the healing and growth of Christ's Church on earth over the past 500 years, and the ongoing reformation within the church and our country. We were delighted by the turn out, especially on such a beautiful summer day.

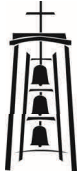
It's the first event marking the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in our congregation. We have also reached our commitment goal of sponsoring one student at our school in Jordan as part of the Reformation Challenge, and are working on a second scholarship.

On Saturday, October 28th we will be having a catered Reformation Dinner at the church, and will be entertained by the harmonies of the Baytones, a local all-women's group which will wrap up our Reformation observances for the year.

Just in time as Operation Warmth, our annual give away of warm winter coats and clothing begins November 1st.

Members Rob and Suzanne Jagues are pictured standing behind the bench. They donated, from their farm in Chisholm township, the rock for the pathway and the quartz rocks that make up the centrepiece of the flower garden in front of the commemoration bench.





Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

September 2017

Welcome...and welcome back!



Meet some of the 170 full-time and part-time students for the 2017-2018 school year. Above: Incoming MA and MDiv students. Far left: Incoming and returning students, BA Christian Studies and Global Citizenship; Left: Incoming PhD candidates.

Upcoming events

Oct. 21, Women's Auxiliary annual meeting; **Oct. 26**, Second annual Delton Glebe Counselling Centre gala breakfast, with keynote [Carrie Doehring](#); **Nov. 6**, Circle of Dialogue with Bev Jacobs; **Nov. 15**, Abrahamic Faiths Forum. We also hold a brief time of prayer and reflection each weekday at 12:30 p.m. and weekly services on Wednesday at 5 p.m. All welcome. For the most complete listing of seminary events, and details, please search for our events on Laurier's [online calendar](#).

Contact us

Events: Dorinda Kruger Allen,
dkrugerallen@wlu.ca

Seminary stories: Mirko Petricevic,
mpetricevic@wlu.ca

Contributing to public knowledge

Publish or perish, the old saying goes. Judging by the recent articles and book chapters our faculty members have had published recently, they're flourishing.



"Women, Children and House Churches," by Mona Tokarek LaFosse (pictured) appears in [The Early Christian World](#) (2nd Ed.); Kristine Lund's chapter "A Puppy's Touch," appears in [Therapeutic Touch: Research, Practice and Ethics](#); Mary (Joy) Philip recently had several articles published including "Postcolonial Luther," in [Encyclopedia of Martin Luther and the Reformation](#), and another translated into Portuguese; Allen Jorgenson and Daniel Maoz published "Teaching Exodus Interreligiously," in [Teaching Interreligious Encounters](#). And John Milloy contributes a weekly column to [nationalnewswatch.com](#) This is just a sample of their latest contributions.