



Eastern Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

The Eastern Synod Lutheran

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Making The Most Of Your Time

September is one of those special months of the year when it seems like the whole world is in transition. Everyone seems to be shifting from summer to fall schedules. People are engaged in the realities of "getting back to business", whatever that may be. Many of us use this month to re-schedule and re-order our lives for the fall. September is often the month in which we make new plans and new commitments. This is when we decide how we are going to use our time and, hopefully, make the most of it.

If you are like many people, you are dealing with people and organizations who are asking you to commit a certain amount of your time to them and their programs. If you have children in your home then you are undoubtedly discovering how much of their time and yours may be devoted to hockey or swimming or dance or music lessons. If you are involved in the life of the larger community then

you will be trying to organize your spare time around meetings of the groups to which you belong. And, of course, there is always work. For some reason work often seems to become more demanding this time of year as well.

Now, at this point, you are probably expecting me to launch into talking about how much of your time you decide to give to the ministry of your congregation. I must admit, it's very tempting to do just that. But that's not quite where I intend to go.

Instead, I want to challenge you to consider how much of your time and energy you will invest in the work of intentionally honouring God. There are, of course, always those unplanned moments when we have the opportunity to honour God and share our faith in spontaneous ways. It is a blessing in life to seize such opportunities that are offered us.

What I am thinking here, however, are the times that we intentionally plan into our busy schedules, when we will honour and thank our Creator for the gifts of life and love that we have freely received from our generous God.

Yes, Sunday morning worship is an example of what I am talking about. While it is a very good way of scheduling your time to honour God into your life it is certainly not the only way. What about volunteering some of your time working

with a local agency that serves the vulnerable in your community, programs that care for children, youth, seniors and people in between? If political advocacy is your thing, especially on behalf of those with great need but no voice, can you do that? Is there a ministry in your congregation that needs your time and gifts?

As you go about the task of organizing your life, this fall, take a few moments to decide how you will purposefully make time to seek out God's presence, to honour and include God in your plans so that you can make the most of your time.

Happy planning!

Peace be with you,
Rev. Douglas Reble
Assistant to the Bishop
Eastern Synod, ELCIC



We love to share your news. We hunger for 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](#)



Lunch on 9th

During the summer months Light on Main Street (a program in Hanover which provides a hot community lunch every Wednesday) takes a well deserved break. Hunger doesn't. To fill this gap, St. Matthew's introduced "Lunch on 9th" and for the past two summers has been providing a nutritious bag lunch of a sandwich, raw vegetables, fruit, dessert and water. The bag lunches can be picked up and taken to eat elsewhere but the majority choose to stay and enjoy some fellowship while they eat.

Submitted by Susan Seifert
St. Matthew's, Hanover

Report of the Treasurer

(To August 31st, 2018)

Offerings received by synod office during the month of August were consistent with those received in previous months. Congregational benevolence offerings are running almost 1% ahead of last year whereas offerings to Canadian Lutheran World Relief and the ELCIC Praise Appeal continue to lag well behind. The decrease in 2018 CLWR offerings is primarily attributable to significant donations that were made in 2017 to the African Famine Relief Appeal (to date there have been no similar large, designated appeals in 2018). For details refer to [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 browsing through the following two presentations that Treasurer Keith Myra made to delegates at Assembly 2018 that took place in Toronto in late June: [Treasurer's Presentation](#) (a financial review of the past biennium), and the [2018 – 2021 Budget Presentation](#) (these Synod Council recommendations were ultimately adopted by assembly delegates).

Upcoming Events

Ordination Service
September 28, 2018

Bishops' Company Dinner
November 3, 2018

Seaway Ministry Area Retreat
November 4-7, 2018

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



Our prayers are with Deacon Scott Knarr and his family as they mourn the loss of his father in law.

Vacancies

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

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Transitions

Rev Mei Sum Lai retired

Rev Rachel Dart retired

Ordinand Leena Jensen to St. Peter's, Alice

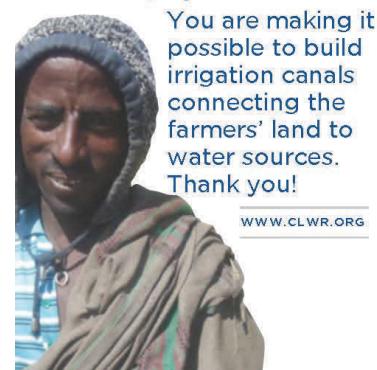
Interims

Rev Ed Bastian to Resurrection, Orleans

Deacon Pamela Harrington to Grace, Eganville



With your generous support, Fekade and other small-scale farmers like him in drought-affected areas of Ethiopia, are gaining access to water for their crops year-round.



You are making it possible to build irrigation canals connecting the farmers' land to water sources. Thank you!

WWW.CLWR.ORG



MA and MDiv students assemble during their orientation weekend. More photos on [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#).

Welcome!

This year we're welcoming **195** incoming and returning students! **16 BA; 10 MDiv, 12 Divinity combined with another degree; 96 MA; 11 General Grad Studies; 7 Grad Diploma, 41 PhD; 2 visiting.** The MA, field of Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy, continues to be our strongest program. If you're a high school student looking for a university program and community; a fourth-year student thinking about grad studies; someone looking for a career change or professional development, check out the program page on our website luther.wlu.ca

Sing Fires of Justice

The [Sing Fires of Justice for Earth, Our Home: The Earth Charter](#). This year's annual collaboration between Luther's Kanata Centre for Worship and Global Song, Laurier's Faculty of Music, and other partners is set for First United Church, Waterloo, 7-8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 30. Proceeds to The Working Centre.

Glebe breakfast

The [Delton Glebe Counselling Centre](#)'s annual breakfast is set for Thursday, Oct. 18, at Luther Village's Sunrise Centre in Waterloo. David Maginley, author of *Beyond Surviving: Cancer and Your Spiritual Journey*, will be speaking on the wisdom of grief. Tickets cost \$45 each or \$360 for an eight-seat table. Click [here](#) for details.

Program recognized by registration body

The College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO) recently recognized Luther's [MA in Theology program, in the field of Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy](#).

Kristine Lund, director of Luther's Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy programs, said recognition by the professional registration body will give students, and prospective students, confidence that the time and effort they spend studying at Luther will provide them with



a solid foundation for pursuing registration from CRPO.

"Our programs have been well-respected by professionals in our field for quite some time," Lund said.

She said Luther streamlined its master's program to achieve CRPO recognition.

"We are delivering the essential courses we always have," she said. "They are simply structured in a clearer, more focused way."

Events

You can find all of our events listed [online!](#)

19
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
[Chilling With Dogs](#)

Vol. 1 Issue 2 *Luther* is a collection of news from Martin Luther University College in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.
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