

## PROCLAIMING HIS FAITHFULNESS



PASTOR JOHANN ADAM ERNST

As a young apprentice shoemaker in his native Oettingen, Germany, Johann Adam Ernst heard of the spiritual needs of Lutherans in North America and offered himself for service there. A year of studies under Pastor Wilhelm Loehe prepared him as a teacher. He arrived in America in 1842, and after a brief career as a teacher he prepared for the ministry, and as a pastor was a founding member of The Lutheran Church–Missouri.

While serving in Eden, NY, near Buffalo, he made mission trips to surrounding areas, including Ontario's Lake Erie shoreline. There he was instrumental in founding the first two Missouri Synod congregations in Canada at Delhi and Fisherville. Forced to resign his pastorate due to a severe throat ailment, he returned to Ohio and to his shoemaker's trade for a time.

When called to the Floradale-Elmira, Ontario, parish in 1863, he said to his wife, "Anyone who desires this call may have it. I do not consider myself physically strong enough to go to that wild country." Nevertheless the Lord led him to accept. While serving in Elmira, he was also called to serve St. Paul's in Kitchener.

His leadership was widely recognized. He edited a weekly newspaper, "Das Lutherische Volksblatt," and through that paper promoted the establishing of a Canadian district of the Synod. In 1879 the Canada District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, now the LCC East District, was organized at a convention in his church in Elmira, and he was elected its first president. Pastor Ernst is rightly called the "father of Missouri Lutheranism in Canada."

Rev. Dr. Roger Winger  
District President (Retired)

## PROCLAIMING HIS FAITHFULNESS



PASTOR JOHANN ADAM ERNST

As a young apprentice shoemaker in his native Oettingen, Germany, Johann Adam Ernst heard of the spiritual needs of Lutherans in North America and offered himself for service there. A year of studies under Pastor Wilhelm Loehe prepared him as a teacher. He arrived in America in 1842, and after a brief career as a teacher he prepared for the ministry, and as a pastor was a founding member of The Lutheran Church–Missouri.

While serving in Eden, NY, near Buffalo, he made mission trips to surrounding areas, including Ontario's Lake Erie shoreline. There he was instrumental in founding the first two Missouri Synod congregations in Canada at Delhi and Fisherville. Forced to resign his pastorate due to a severe throat ailment, he returned to Ohio and to his shoemaker's trade for a time.

When called to the Floradale-Elmira, Ontario, parish in 1863, he said to his wife, "Anyone who desires this call may have it. I do not consider myself physically strong enough to go to that wild country." Nevertheless the Lord led him to accept. While serving in Elmira, he was also called to serve St. Paul's in Kitchener.

His leadership was widely recognized. He edited a weekly newspaper, "Das Lutherische Volksblatt," and through that paper promoted the establishing of a Canadian district of the Synod. In 1879 the Canada District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, now the LCC East District, was organized at a convention in his church in Elmira, and he was elected its first president. Pastor Ernst is rightly called the "father of Missouri Lutheranism in Canada."

Rev. Dr. Roger Winger  
District President (Retired)