

Proclaiming His Faithfulness

Lutheran Church—Canada, East District

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President's Corner: *by Rev. Al Maleske, President*

Celebrating Our Lord's Ascension Day Gifts

May 17th is celebrated as the Ascension of Our Lord. Will it quietly slip away unnoticed without trumpets like other Christian observances? We need to celebrate what we receive as precious gifts of God's grace because of our Lord's ascension. While in the parish, I used to have Ascension Day services regardless of the numbers who attended.

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their studies at our two seminaries and one college. Because it happens every year, maybe we take it for granted, like Ascension Day.

When I see these men and women, I see a miracle of God's grace. They are bright, talented, dedicated, and eager to serve. Many of them have bypassed other careers and professions with more financial benefits and greater prestige in the world. We celebrate the grace of God that has worked within them to serve the Lord's church as servants of the gospel.

We also celebrate their families—the dads and moms that also love Jesus and desire their sons and daughters to serve. Celebrate them. Celebrate the pastor who speaks the gospel to you. Celebrate the deacon who shares

What are those ascension gifts? Paul discusses the church in Ephesians 4 and refers there to Christ's ascension. When Jesus ascended into heaven He had completed His work of redemption. He now rules everything for the benefit of His church. Paul notes that Jesus grants grace to each member of the church as He 'measured' it out to us (v. 7) and also gave some "to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service" (v. 11). These are the Ascension Day gifts we want to celebrate.

Jesus with your children and youth. Celebrate your fellow believers. They are all Ascension Day gifts!

**Celebrate them!
They are all Ascension Day gifts!**

The first of these gifts is the talent the Lord gives to the wonderful people that He gathers into His church. Each of us has different abilities, talents, strengths, and weaknesses too. We have a place and function in His church—no exceptions. We ought to celebrate each other. It's time to celebrate the way Jesus made us and how He grants us the privilege of serving Him in the role He has determined. Pause this Ascension Day to celebrate these gifts that God gives to His church.

The second gift Paul calls the "pastors and teachers" that Jesus gives His church, that is, all those who serve the Lord's people in the public ministry. Like other gifts, they are undeserved. Every year we observe the completion of

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Enclosures: May & June Devotion Calendars; ABC District Newsletter; Youth & Young Adult Day Poster

All congregations are encouraged to copy and distribute

InsideOUT

by Rev. Mark Hartburg, Assistant to the President

Has Your Congregation Registered for LCC's National Open House to be held the last weekend in September? If not you're missing special info that is being sent to those who have. Please go to <http://www.lutheranchurch.ca/openhouse/index.html> to fill in a "notification" form. It's easy! Of particular note is the announcement of a DVD campaign to encourage our member households to distribute 25,000 copies of *The Story of Jesus for Children* recorded in 16 languages—a wonderful opportunity to reach out to children and their families.



Why Not "Daughter" a Congregation?

There are some common objections that get raised. Over the next couple of issues I'd like to share some as well as offer a response.

- **"We're too small" or "We can't afford to 'lose' members."** Good Shepherd in Barrie planted a daughter across town with an average attendance of around 85. Even after two years in a pastoral vacancy, the congregations continue to grow.
- **"We can't afford to lose leadership and workers"** It's surprising how many times more people step up to the plate when a valued worker moves away for other reasons. Sometimes people feel that their contribution wasn't needed.
- **"What if the daughter grows larger than the mother?"** Praise the Lord! Just look at Zion-Wabewawa, the mother of many congregations in the North. She now has less than a handful of members, but look what a blessing her life has been to the church!
- **"We can't afford it."** I believe that where a vision for expanding the Gospel mission exists, that God's people will rise to the challenge and the Lord will supply what is needed. And, in addition, He has provided some wonderful resources through our District's 125th Anniversary Thank Offering.
More next time!

125th Anniversary Thank Offering Projects

To date \$170,000 has been committed for three New/Expanded Ministries through 2009, with about \$525,000 in designated funding remaining. For Local Outreach Initiatives \$47,000 has been committed for sixteen projects through 2008. Over \$175,000 in funding remains. A spreadsheet can be found on the District website outlining amounts requested and granted, along with local and other funding. <http://www.lcceastdistrict.ca/125.htm>

Inter-district Cooperation

Our LCC Districts are working hard to function more like a Synod than a "federation of Districts." This past month:

- Representatives met in Edmonton with Church Development Partners from California, an LCMS organization which helps missions/congregations acquire sites at little or no cost to the congregation.
- The Assistant to the President, Mr. Stephen Klinck, and Mrs. Linda Long, helped train *Equipping to Share* presenters in Alberta and British Columbia.

A New and Improved version of *Equipping to Share* is now available for a workshop in your congregation or circuit. Please contact me, or Stephen Klinck at Lutheran Hour Ministries, for more information to set up a Saturday workshop. All that is needed is a minimum of 20 participants. To date, over 450 East District members have taken part.

Some Mission Updates:

- Our Saviour-Etobicoke has received word that they have been granted \$31,000 from the Mustard Seed Foundation to assist their partnership with the East District and People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (POBLO) to contract a field missionary to help them reach out to their multiethnic community.
- This June a group of students from Christ Lutheran School-Kitchener is headed out East for a mission servant event in cooperation with Faith-Dartmouth. They will work in a nearby housing project cleaning up a common area and playground which can be used for VBS and other outreach projects.
- Representatives from the East and English Districts and Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary held their first meeting to discuss plans for common mission outreach in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).
- The Department for Outreach is taking their May meeting "on the road" to Kincardine and Collingwood. In the evenings they will hold "town hall" meetings with the leaders and members of these two Assisted Congregations.

Business Briefs by Darryll Holland, Business Manager

REPORT OF MISSION RECEIPTS FROM CONGREGATIONS For the period ended March 2007 by Darryll Holland, Business Manager

For the Year Ended:	March 2007	
Anticipated Amount: (1/12 of 2006 Approved Budget - \$1,187,355)	\$99,946	100.00%
Actual Receipts Remitted for current month	\$78,890	79.7%
Over (Under) Amount Required	(\$20,056)	-20.3%
Year-To-Date Receipts		
Anticipated Amount (Budget)	\$197,893	100.00%
Actual Receipts	\$104,062	52.6%
Over (Under) Amount Required	(\$93,831)	- 47.4%
Use of Mission Receipts (Year-to-date)		
Remitted to Synod	\$79,900	32.5%
For District Operations - Expenses	\$165,990	67.5%
	\$245,890	100.0%
Mission Receipts Comp. By Yr		
	Actual	Budget
Receipts - Year-to-Date 2006	\$104,062	\$197,893
Receipts - Year-to-Date 2005	\$176,810	\$195,402
Incr. (Short) to Prev. Year YTD - \$	(\$72,748)	
Incr. (Short) to Prev. Year YTD - %	41.1%	



Student Aid Applications

District financial aid is available to all college and seminary students who are enrolled in a Synodically approved program and attending a Synodically operated school to prepare for full-time service in the church. Aid is granted for one school year at a time (max. amounts per year). A new application must be filed each year aid is desired for college or seminary training.

DISTRICT EVENTS

JUNE

June 4: East District Board of Directors & Annual Corp. Meetings @ 9:00 am - District Office

June 4: CLTS Golf Tournament @ 12:00 noon Sawmill Golf Course

June 9: Stratford Circuit Forum @ 1st St. John, Seebach's Hill

June 9: PHF Evangelism Task Force Meeting @ 9:00 am - District Office

June 9: Circuit Team Training @ 1:00-3:00 pm

June 10: LCC Sunday



July 6-10, 2007

Algonquin College,
Ottawa, ON

www.nyg.lutheranyouth.ca

Registrar: Christy Julius
204-226-1388
registrar@lutheranyouth.ca

DISTRICT EVENTS

MAY

May 3: National Day of Prayer

May 4-6: Spring Youth Retreat

@ Historic St. Paul's, Kitchener

Theme: Each one, Reach one!

Speaker: Rev. Roland Syens

Music: Wayfarer

Registration: Speak to your pastor or youth worker

May 4-6: LWMLC, Laurentian

District Convention, St. Luke's,

Eganville, **Theme:** Let there be light.

May 5: Certification & Call Service

@ 4:00 pm - Christ, St. Catharines

May 6: Ordination Service- William

Chuol @ 2:00 pm - Hope, Kitchener

May 7-9: P&D Conference and Paul

Gerhardt Conf. @ Christ, St. Cath.

- Circ. Couns. Mtg @ 1:30 pm CLTS

- Salary Guidelines Mtg - following

- Missions Mtg - following conf

May 11-12: LWMLC, Ontario District

Conv, Arden Park Hotel, Stratford

Theme: Rejoice, Give Thanks & Sing

May 12: Windsor Circuit Forum

@ 10:00 am, First, Windsor

May 13: Mother's Day & Life Issues Sunday

May 14-15: DFO Meeting - on site at

Kincardine and Collingwood

congregations

May 17: The Ascension of our Lord

May 20: Installation - Rev. David

Gallas @ 3:00 pm - St. Peter's, New

Hamburg

May 21: Victoria Day - Office

May 22: Dept For Finance Meeting

May 25-26: Lutheran Foundation

Canada Board Mtg @ District Office

May 26: Ottawa Circuit Forum

@ 9:30 am - St. Luke, Eganville

May 27: Day of Pentecost

May 27: Concordia Lutheran

Mission Society Sunday

May 28-June 1: Volunteer Work

Project @ Living Faith, Orangeville

More Info:

www.lceeastdistrict.ca

Submit Events:

info@lceeastdistrict.ca

Notices:



Echo God's Love
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 Stewardship Initiative

Resources: www.lcceastdistrict.ca/echo.htm

Theme Sunday III - July 29th
 (or select any Sunday during July or August)
"Our Echo: Well-Managed Blessings"
 Matt. 25:14-30

Contacts: Wayne or Kathy wkhartwig@sympatico.ca

JOIN US IN PRAYER

We pray for all those who are ill or suffering within our district. **Especially remember:**



- **Rev. Paul Williams & family**, Grace, Kitchener, following the sudden death of his father **John Willaims** in Peoria, IL
- **Mr. Bob Paetz**, former East District Business Manager, as he recovers from bypass surgery at the end of March.
- **Pastor Bill Gillissie**, Bethel, Kitchener, as he happily adjusts to a walking cast and enhanced mobility.
- **Mr. Carl Wathke**, Evangelism Task Force (Faith, Desboro), as he recovers from recent day surgery.

East District Annual Corporate Meetings June 4, 2007



The annual general meetings for:
Lutheran Church-Canada, East District Inc. (NB Corp.)
 and for **Ontario District, LCMS**
 and for **Lutheran Church-Canada, East District**

have been postponed until **June 4, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.**, at the East District office, 275 Lawrence Ave, Kitchener, ON.

These meetings will elect officers and consider other such business as may come before the board. All members of the corporations are entitled to be represented at the meeting, in person or by proxy.



Spring Circuit Forums

Windsor	May 12	10:00 am	First, Windsor
Ottawa	May 26	9:30 am	St. Luke, Eganville
Stratford	June 9	10:00 am	1st St. John, Seebach's Hill

Volunteers Wanted

We have a **wide-variety of volunteer opportunities** available at the district office. The amount of time you commit is up to you - as little or as much as you would like. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Darryll @ 519-578-6500 ext 214.

CALLS & VACANCIES

PASTOR / DEACON	CALLING CONGREGATION	RESULT
Rev. Richard Orłowski Kitchener, ON (Emmanuel, Petersburg)	Historic St. Paul's, Kitchener, ON (Ass't to the Pastor/School Headmaster, Christ Lutheran School)	Declined
Rev. David Gallas, Fort Frances, ON (Ch. of the Lutheran Hour)	St. Peter's Lutheran Church, New Hamburg, ON	Accepted. Installation: 5/20/07
Rev. Larry Flohr Mississauga, ON (Christ Our King)	Clarington Lutheran Church, Bowmanville, ON	Declined
4 Candidate Calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beamsville/Smithville • Bradford/Orangeville • Grace, Pembroke(Locksley) • Good Shepherd/Loving Saviour, Barrie 	<i>Pending...</i>
Rev. Andy Schroth Wellesley, ON (1st St. Paul's)	St. Peter Lutheran Church, Simcoe, ON	<i>Considering...</i>

VACANCIES

- | Holy Trinity, Bradford & Living Faith, Orangeville |
- | Loving Savior & Luth Church of the Good Shepherd, Barrie |
- | Emmanuel, Beamsville & St. Matthew, Smithville |
- | Clarington, Bowmanville | Grace, Pembroke (Locksley) |
- | St. Peter's, Simcoe | Redeemer, St. Thomas |

East District Pastors' & Deacons' Conference and Paul Gerhardt Symposium @ Christ Lutheran Church, St. Catharines, ON **May 7-9, 2007**

Theme: 400th anniversary of the birth of Paul Gerhardt, hymn writer, theologian, and church father

**Register online or
 download to fax or mail
 Available at the district
 website:**

lcceastdistrict.ca/BulletinBd.htm

**Registration Deadline:
 April 16, 2007**

**Non-church-workers wishing to
 attend the Symposium must
 contact the Seminary directly.**