



E-Communique from the ELCIC April/May 2007

Welcome to E-Communique
**An electronic resource of instant information for Church
Leaders from the National Office of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.**

E-Communique is:

- An electronic toolbox of timely information and resources recommended by the ELCIC and sent to congregations, national committees, clergy and lay leaders throughout our church.
- An easy to use collection of new ideas, resources and live links to helpful websites.
- Easy to cut and paste from so that you can add information from this resource to your worship bulletins!

Read past issues and subscribe/unsubscribe on-line at
<http://www.elcic.ca/communique/index.html>

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1. STEWARDSHIP

ELCIC's NEW Stewardship of Creation initiative issues call for children's insight on our role as stewards of creation. One of our greatest inspirations for sustainability of God's creation comes from our youngest members of the ELCIC. In order to have an even better understanding of their insight into our role as stewards of creation, the ELCIC National Office is asking children to submit

their visual expression of our role in taking care of all of God's creation. Find out more by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.elcic.ca/docs/SOCdrawingcontest.pdf>

Giving: Growing Joyful Stewards in Your Congregation - the 2007 stewardship resource materials have arrived at the National Office. Congregations should receive a sample package in the coming weeks.

2. EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WOMEN (ELW)

Looking for a Resource that is.... *Fun Enough, Flexible Enough, Simple Enough, and Affordable Enough* to introduce a topic most people are afraid to discuss-how we deal with money in our lives? ELW, in partnership with Lutheran Planned Giving has just released *What's Enough? Making Faithful Decisions in a Consumer Society*. This easy-to-lead four-session program is perfect for stewardship events, new member ministries, congregational retreats or your fall study series. To order contact the ELW office: elwinc@elcic.ca or by phone: 204.984.9160 or visit our website: <http://www.elw.ca> and download the brochure.

3. ELCIC's GLOBAL HUNGER AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL (GHDA)

GHDA is currently examining how we can renew the justice work that we do together as a church. As a part of this we are wanting to hear from ELCIC members where they hear God calling us as a church in terms of our justice and charity work. If you have any suggestions or comments please send them to randersen@elcic.ca.

GHDA is developing an e-list for people who want to be actively involved in our church's shared justice work. If you are interested in being a part of our *Justice* e-list please send your name and e-mail to randersen@elcic.ca.

4. THE 2007 NATIONAL CONVENTION

In Mission for Others: A People Called - Further information continues to be added to the website for the Eleventh Biennial Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (to view this site, click on <http://www.elcic.ca>, and look for the Convention 2007 link), including the recently added electronic version of the Bulletin of Reports.

5. MISSION IN THE WORLD

Global Mission Event (GME): Registration is now open for the GME in Columbus, Ohio, July 19-22, 2007 - an ELCA event endorsed by the ELCIC. Go to <http://elcic.ca/mission/gme/gme.html> where highlights of the Canadian experience at the 2006 GME are now posted and follow the links to register for the Columbus event this summer.

6. CANADA LUTHERAN

Do you subscribe to *Canada Lutheran*, the magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada? Here's what CL subscribers are reading about in the April/May issue:

- Growing in Faith: Organic farming may seem like a buzz-word right now, but more and more we are realizing the importance of using the resources of our world in a faith-filled and conscious way. In this article, Sheila and Ron Hamilton of Armena, Alberta share their story of successful organic farming.
- On the Other Hand: Two thoughtful and well-considered essays on the topic of same-sex blessings.

If you aren't currently a subscriber to Canada Lutheran, find out how to become one at: <http://www.elcic.ca/clweb/index.html>

7. WORSHIP

In a recent issue of the Program Committee for Worship (PCW) Update, it was noted that the ELCIC is making the greening of the church a priority for our life together. In connection with this timely and important endeavour, the PCW notes the following resources:

- Pastor Paul F. Bosch, CWA (<http://www.worship.ca/sec1.html#companions>), has begun a series of essays called "Greening Christian Worship" in his popular Worship Workbench (<http://www.worship.ca/workbench.html>) collection. Pastor Bosch offers practical teaching about Christian worship and the preparation of liturgy. As the series unfolds, Pastor Bosch will offer additional suggestions around the greening of worship and a number of brief rites which honour God's creation.
- Essay 115 - May, 2007 ~ Greening Christian Worship (http://www.worship.ca/docs/ww_115.pdf)
- Pastor Fred Ludolph offers an essay called "Grain of Life and Grape of Love: Worship Which Inspires Thanksgiving and Attention to Stewardship" in The Road Where Faith Is Found, a series of pastoral essays designed to support the introduction of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (<http://www.worship.ca/renew.html>). Visit the Worship Matters (<http://www.worship.ca/worshipmatters.html>) page at Lift Up Your Hearts for the complete series of essays. Our new worship book offers many

opportunities to give attention and voice to concerns about God's creation. Let's take advantage of them!

- WM 35 ~ Grain of Life and Grape of Love
(http://www.worship.ca/text/Worship_Matters_35.pdf)
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8. BROCHURES AND ENVELOPES

Looking to share or find information on ELCIC Programs and Ministries?

Have you been online to www.elcic.ca recently? There are a number of electronic brochures that are available for download from the ELCIC website. Perhaps you're looking for information to share with new members, a committee or even for yourself, these resources can be easily printed and distributed to individuals or included with your worship bulletins. The following are just some of the brochures that are currently available on the ELCIC website:

- Diaconal Ministry Brochure: http://www.elcic.ca/docs/DM_Brochure.pdf
- ELCIC's Global Hunger and Development Appeal (GHDA):
<http://www.elcic.ca/ghda/resources/2006/2006brochure.pdf>
- Called by God - It's Your Call Brochure:
http://www.elcic.ca/call/gifts/Brochure_4.pdf
- Annual Report Covers: <http://www.elcic.ca/steward/AnnualReport2006.pdf>
- Continuing Education Plan:
<http://www.elcic.ca/ministers/CEPBrochure2006.pdf>

Offering Envelopes: Is your congregation planning to focus an upcoming Sunday on a specific area of ministry within the ELCIC, such as Mission in the World Directed Giving, Global Hunger and Development Appeal or Canada Lutheran? Pre-printed offering envelopes are available from the National Office to assist with your worship service. For further information and to order envelopes for your congregation, please contact the ELCIC Orders Desk by phoning 1.888.786.6707 ext. 177 (in Winnipeg, 984.9177) or by emailing bwiebe@elcic.ca

9. LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION (LWF)

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is celebrating 60 years of mission and ministry this year. The LWF began in 1947 at the close of World War II when Lutherans had been at war with one-another. We came together to aid European refugees and to begin a process of reconciliation and trust among the churches of Europe. Sixty years later we are still assisting refugees around the globe and the LWF has become a family of Lutherans that is 66 million strong. Join us in the celebration with some resources designed for congregations. Remember, *66 million Lutherans Do make a difference!*

Resources:

- Global prayers and brief stories for each week of 2007. Useable in your church bulletin or worship bulletin - <http://www.elca.org/lwf>
- Black and White downloadable bulletin insert - <http://www.elca.org/lwf>
- A hymn, commissioned by the LWF North America office in celebration of the anniversary - <http://www.elca.org/lwf>
- 4-color interpretive LWF map (17" x 22") available to view on-line (<http://www.elca.org/lwf>) and can be ordered through the North America office at lwf@elca.org or 1-800-638-3522.
- 4-color bulletin insert available on line or can be ordered through the North America office at lwf@elca.org or 1-800-638-3522

While you are encouraged to celebrate during the whole year, the ELCIC will officially celebrate the anniversary on October 28.

10. YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS EVENTS

ELCIC Young Adult Conference, June 29-July 2, 2007. Join us on beautiful Lake Blackstrap, south of Saskatoon, SK. Check youth.elcic.ca/IT for details, or contact Pastor Murray Halvorson in Regina: mhalvorson.faith@sasktel.net.

2008 Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering: Mark your calendars! The 2008 Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering (CLYG) will be taking place August 14 - 17, 2008 in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

11. ACROSS THE SYNODS

The North American Association for the Catechumenate (NAAC), of which the ELCIC is a member, gathers July 19 through 22 at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario. The theme, "Connecting Worship, Experience, and Sacrament," will be developed by the Rev. Dr. Craig A. Satterlee of the Lutheran School of Theology (ELCA) at Chicago. Liturgist for the event will be the Rev. Dr. Clay Morris, the Liturgical Officer in the Office for Liturgy and Music of the Episcopal Church (TEC) in the United States. More details of this gathering and the work of NAAC are available on the website <http://www.catechumenate.org>.

Preliminary trip itinerary now online: Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) is hosting an African trip for supporters who want to understand the issues of refugee assistance and HIV/AIDS prevention in more depth. The trip, Global Encounter 2007, takes participants into refugee camps, villages and cultural sites. Visit <http://www.clwr.org> for further information or to register for the trip, please call 1.800.661.2597.

The Canadian Association of Parish Nursing Ministry will hold its 9th Annual Conference, "Harvests of Compassion" in Edmonton, Alberta May 25 – 27, 2007. The venue for the conference will be the University of Alberta Conference Centre. This conference is open to all Parish Nurses and any other interested health care professionals, lay church leaders and pastoral care personnel who are interested in sharing and learning more about health and wellness in the faith community. Keynote speakers will be Dr. Joanne Olson and Dr. Margaret Clark, co-authors of the book "Nursing within a Faith Community". For more information and to register: <http://www.capnm.ca> (under "Coming Events")

12. NUGGETS FROM THE 'NET

Sharing the Faith: Is your congregation or committee looking for resources to launch or renew evangelism in your community? Look no further than <http://www.elca.org/evangelism> - containing information on creating a hospitality team to daily e-tips, there are plenty of resources on this site to use to reach out to your community.

A new study guide on global poverty and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has been produced jointly between the ELCA and the Episcopal Church and is available for download and for purchase through Augsburg Fortress. Titled "God's Mission in the World", the guide is intended as a resource for congregations and other groups looking to broaden their understanding of global poverty and become part of the worldwide movement toward achieving the MDGs. Released as part of the ONE Lutheran Campaign you can also download a guide by visiting <http://www.elca.org/one/> - copies can also be ordered through Augsburg Fortress.

Do you know a dynamic younger Christian leader (18-35) who God is using in significant ways? The 35 Under 35 National Recognition Project is an initiative of Arrow Leadership, ChristianWeek, the Canadian Council of Christian Charities and the Bridgeway Foundation. Find out how to submit your "Dynamic Young Christian Leader" nominee by visiting the following link - <http://www.35under35.ca>

Some of the resources mentioned in E-Communique are available from the ELCIC National Office. If you prefer to order those materials in print, phone 1.888.786.6707 ext 177 or 204.984.9177; email orders@elcic.ca; or fax your order to 204.984.9185 "Attn Orders Desk". Be sure to fully describe the item and tell us the quantity you need. You will be invoiced when the order is filled.

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