

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Report to Conference Conventions – 2011

The stewardship consultant program, initiated by the National Church (ELCIC) in 2000 terminated in June of this year. There was also some funding from the Synod to support the program. It began with lay people appointed to each of the 5 synodical positions, however, except for the Alberta Synod, the stewardship consultant position has been incorporated into the job description of assistants to the bishop in the four other synods in Canada.

After serving the Synod faithfully for twelve years as the Stewardship Coordinator, Lorraine Kalis has retired. Lorraine believes and taught a biblical understanding of stewardship, reminding us that all we have and all we are, are gifts of God, to which we gratefully respond with generosity. “Helping members understand this concept, would benefit congregations in the long run and in so many ways”, says Lorraine. The stewardship resources that she developed have been appreciated across Canada, with requests coming from as far as South Africa. This material includes powerpoint presentations, confirmation-aged presentations, bulletin inserts, sermon suggestions, workshops, articles... most of which is posted on our website ([www.albertasynod.ca](http://www.albertasynod.ca)). Much is also included in the comprehensive and well-organized binder of stewardship resources that is still available by calling me at the synod office. We will miss Lorraine but appreciate that she is still passionate about stewardship and continues to suggest resources. Thanks to God for Lorraine’s gifts to this Church!

The search continues for a dedicated Stewardship Coordinator and although I am exploring another possibility, please contact me if you would be interested in serving the synod in this way.

In the first half of the year, Lorraine met with congregations and continued to produce stewardship resources for the website, which were also distributed through the synod mailing. She provided a regular ‘column’ in “Notes & News” with helpful ideas and notice of upcoming stewardship events. Since ‘retirement’, Lorraine has developed a list of stewardship-focused books with a brief description of each. This too was distributed in the late August mailing from the synod office.

Please contact the synod office if you would like any of the stewardship resources that have been produced for the congregations of this synod.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Villetard  
Administrative Coordinator  
Synod of Alberta and the Territories

