



Celebrations

*A publication of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Fall 2012*

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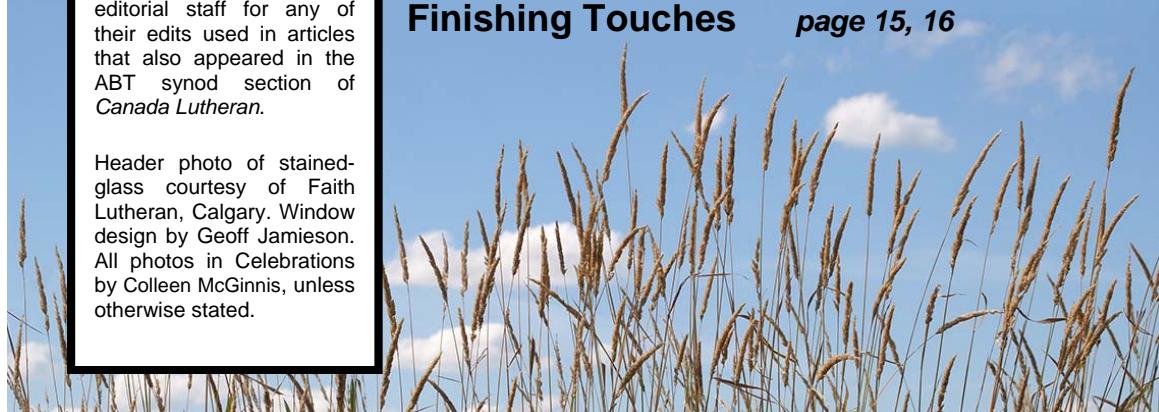
A special thanks to the *Canada Lutheran* editorial staff for any of their edits used in articles that also appeared in the ABT synod section of *Canada Lutheran*.

Header photo of stained-glass courtesy of Faith Lutheran, Calgary. Window design by Geoff Jamieson. All photos in Celebrations by Colleen McGinnis, unless otherwise stated.

Bishop Elected ...

At a special convention on October 27, Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer was elected Bishop of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories on the second ballot of an ecclesiastical vote.

Ordination of the Bishop-Elect will take place at 2:00 p.m. January 26, 2013, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Edmonton.





Called to be Sent

For quite some time I have been ruminating on Luke 9 and 10 and the sending of the 12 and of the 70. My pondering has been guided by the scripture readings themselves and by three other influences.

First, by my reading of thinkers such as David Bosch, Alan J. Roxburgh, Craig Van Gelder, Dwight J. Zscheile, M. Scott Boren and works such as: *The Missional Church in Perspective; Missional: Joining God in the Neighborhood*; and, *Introducing the Missional Church: What It Is, Why It Matters, How to Become One*. (I could add to both of these lists!)

Joining God in the Neighborhood; and, *Introducing the Missional Church: What It Is, Why It Matters, How to Become One*. (I could add to both of these lists!)

Second, by the context in which we live which might be characterized as disenchantment with the institutional church (or the inherited church), as a spirit of change worldwide, and as a searching by church leadership to address critical issues of survival, mission and ministry.

And finally by a new ministry within our synod which is putting flesh and bones to my questions, reflections, ponderings and prayers.

In January Rev. David Pettersen was commissioned as an urban missionary of our synod to the communities on the west side of Edmonton. The purpose of this "experimental ministry" is to be a presence and a means to engage those living, working, and going to school in these neighbourhoods, with the gospel of Jesus Christ and the mission of God. Pastor David wrote of this new ministry recently:

"There are a lot of people who no longer wish to be involved in the institutional church for a wide variety of reasons, but I have not yet met one of these people closed to having conversation with me. There seems to be a hunger to re-connect in some way with faith, spirituality and I am making the effort to provide opportunities for dialog through various means and events. I have tried several events with varying degrees of success but each event provides me with more experience. Some of these events include: three non-Sunday gatherings using local churches as venues; an evening gathering at the Devonian Gardens around a meal, conversation and worship; and a Sunday morning gathering at a pub/restaurant.

Although I have never asked for money to support this ministry, people have made contributions that have allowed me to provide ministry in a variety of venues, operate a website, distribute materials to support this ministry, and provide support for outreach/service projects. I have also been gifted with a stipend from Our Savior Lutheran Church, Edmonton to provide some support ministry for them and to assist me with the ministry I am doing on the west side of Edmonton. Our Savior also serves as my "home church"- a safe haven for me and a base for this experimental ministry.

We have no formal group/community that comes together on a regular basis. I do have an advisory team and a small support group (8 to 10 people) who participate as they are able and keep the ministry in their prayers. The remainder are a loose connection of people connected by contact with me, the Internet, or with "friends" of this ministry (active church members in a local church who have invited me or introduced me to non-churched friends, family, neighbors, or colleague - and who attend events as they are interested or able)."

As I continue to reflect on Luke 9 and 10, it seems to me that this experimental ministry is being modelled after Jesus' own ministry and that it is pointing us to a sending like that of the twelve and of the seventy into the neighborhood where those sent accept what they are given, share the gospel and heal the sick; sent into the world to participate in God's mission.

"The purpose of this ministry," writes Pastor Pettersen, "is not to establish a new church or develop a multi-site ministry or even set up a house church. Rather, it is to bring the dialogue into the neighborhood."

The mission is ultimately the mission of God, who has sent the Son, who has sent the Spirit, who has sent the disciples, who has sent...us.

By Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop- Elect

Around the Synod



Coming Events

Travel Opportunities

Wellsprings of Hope ... Colombia, July 9 – 16, 2013

Let's go on a journey to Colombia! Experience, embrace and engage the contexts and ministries of our Synod's Companion Partner, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia. Build relationships with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Maximum of 12 participants – must be 18 years of age.
Cost - \$2650 includes flight, accommodations, meals, translators and in-country transportation.

Journey facilitator: Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop-Elect
Applications must be submitted by December 31, 2012.
For more details, call the Alberta synod office at 780-439-2636.

Tour the Holy Land

Maybe you've never visited the holy land. Maybe you have and wish to return. Whatever your circumstance, you can travel there this spring and visit locations such as Caesarea, Galilee, Nazareth, Dead Sea, Mount of Olives and more.

Rev. Dennis and Corrine Aiken, Emmanuel Lutheran, Calgary, will be your hosts
February 18 – March 4, 2013.

Former ABT Bishop Steven and Jane Kristenson will be your hosts April 16 – 29, 2013.
For information and brochures, call Rostad Tours, Calgary 1-800-361-8687.

Confirmation Retreats at Camp Kuriakos, Sylvan Lake, AB

Fall Confirmation Retreat #1: November 9-11
Fall Confirmation Retreat #2: November 23-25
Winter Confirmation Retreat #1: February 8-10, 2013
Winter Confirmation Retreat #2: February 22-24
Winter Confirmation Retreat #3: March 1-3

Contact Ryan Moe, Assistant Director, Camp Kuriakos at 403-746-2702.

Ecumenical Action:



**Being
DISCIPLES**

Vital Church Conference Edmonton Feb 5 - 7 2013

Discipleship is what Jesus called us to do: to be and make disciples.

Vital Church Conference 2013 is all about Discipleship.

Bishop Graham Cray ("Being Culturally Relevant") and other inspiring speakers will offer talks and workshops on:

Being DISCIPLES & making DISCIPLES

★What Christ teaches about being His body in the world today ★Leading and building communities following Christ together

<http://edmonton.anglican.org/vital-church>
for registration and info

The Diocese of Edmonton's third Vital Church Conference: ***Being Disciples***, will be held February 5-7, 2013. This conference will gather Christian leaders from a variety of traditions to learn from each other's ministries and from the experience of innovators in mission and discipleship in the Church. The conference will be led by Bishop Graham Cray, *Archbishops' Missioner and Team Leader of Fresh Expressions UK*; James Penner, head of *James Penner & Associates – Empowering Youth*; and Terry LeBlanc, co-chair and founder of *My People International*.

Participants will not only learn from the speakers, but will also worship together, encourage, inspire, and support one another in our mission of being and making disciples. A highlight of the conference will be a time for ministry sharing, a kind of trade show that will give everyone the opportunity to meet and interact with Christian leaders engaged in innovative ministries across Western Canada.

The event will be hosted entirely at the Matrix Hotel in Edmonton (www.matrixedmonton.com). These excellent accommodations will give our short conference more of a retreat atmosphere with space and opportunity to build relationships and truly be the church in Western Canada together. This conference will benefit the whole church by equipping leaders to be and make disciples in both established and new Christian communities in our present cultural context.

Online registration is now open at: www.vitalchurch.eventbrite.com.
For more information, please visit the website: www.edmonton.anglican.org/vital-church.

God is Great! Keep Out!

Recently while biking through the backcountry I came across an old shack, graffiti decorating its outer wall. One message read, “God is Great!” Next to that was, “KEEP OUT!”

An interesting message so unconsciously written – welcoming, yet afraid of who might enter. I have found during conversations with friends who believe in God, but have no official religious affiliation, that they feel exactly this way - encouraged and enticed to join a church. They are lured with words of compassion and understanding. But there's always a “but” they tell me. But ... you have to believe what we believe, you have to recite this doctrine and abide by these rules, otherwise, well, you can't stay. You aren't Christian enough if you don't agree to the doctrine and dogma. In general, we Christians talk about love, forgiveness, inclusiveness, but only on certain terms. That graffiti message brought **Rev. Dr. Gordon Jensen's** April seminar, *The Theology of the Cross*, to life for me.

Dr. Jensen (William Hordern chair of theology at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon) explained that the theology of the cross keeps the word of God and the cross together. It is a way of living, about bringing God closer to us, where God wants to be.

Much in our worldly perception reflects the idea that God is above – watching, judging, separate from us, waiting for us to earn a path to Heaven and into God's “good book”. Once we believe enough, donate enough, do enough good deeds and pray enough, we will be rewarded with success, health, healing, wealth, and filled pews. Do good, get good. If we are suffering it's because God didn't see our faith as being strong enough.

In the theology of the cross, God already loves us – everyone. Nothing can change that nor ever will. Even before we accept God's love, God's love is ours, freely, unconditionally, inclusively.

Once we accept God's unconditional love, the next consideration in the theology of the cross is how we will act as Christians. Are we out there being God, extending the hand of grace from our hearts, or are we just setting ourselves up to earn a better place in Heaven? If love and forgiveness are a given, then do good works count for nothing?



Dr. Gordon Jensen: “God is alive when we act like Christ.”

"Not quite", was the answer. Theology of the cross is about walking with God and knowing we are not alone. In essence, it's not about what we do but whose we are. In a world where spiritual emptiness is filled with material goods, financial success and outcome-based theology, there is a need for hope. Hope from a place of truth; hope from a place within a love filled heart. Good actions are not sincere when based upon filling our own end needs. Doing "good deeds" with the wrong intention dilutes the power to unify a community. It breeds mistrust of Christianity, not faith in God. When we do good because it is the right thing to do and because God asks it of us, the presence of God among us grows.

Theology of the cross encourages us to live according to the greatest commandment: to love one another. Our role is one of discipleship. We are the hands, feet, and body of Christ now. God calls on us to be Christ in the world - to be hope in moments of despair and suffering; to be a loving presence when our neighbors feel alone, abandoned and confused. God calls us, as Dr. Jensen said, "to be in the light and the shadow of the cross", not by our terms, but by God's.

As much as God may call upon us to do what is right, we may not always want to do it. God is with us too in those moments. Suffering brings people to desperation, asking, "Where is God? Why me, God?" Jesus shows us unlimited possibilities when we open ourselves to God's grace and guidance, not for us to plan or influence, but to trust, follow and act. Our faith deepens and the kingdom of God becomes interactive. We bring God closer by stepping out of the audience and onto the playing field, so to speak. Through it all we grow, comfort each other, celebrate, and stay centered in God by living life as Christ teaches us. As Dr. Jensen said, "Just as the birth of Christ was God saying, 'I am here!' so, too, is God alive when we act like Christ."

By Carrie Schmidt, Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin, AB



President of the Board: Canadian Lutheran World Relief

The board of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) elected a new executive committee at their biannual meeting in Winnipeg, held from Friday, September 28 to Sunday, September 30, 2012.

Mr. Marcus Busch was elected president of the board, and is now serving his second term on CLWR's board of directors. He is a social worker working in the education sector in Edmonton, Alberta. Mr. Busch and his wife, Margaret Sadler, are members of Hosanna Lutheran Church.

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**Gifts
from the
Heart**
~
**Gift ideas
that
change
lives!**

www.clwr.org

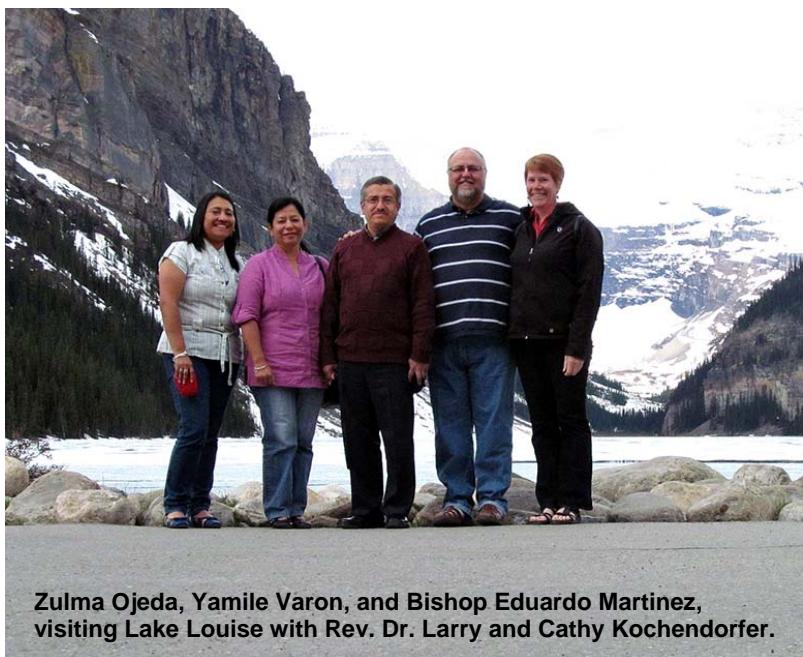
Lutherans in Alberta and Colombia: *Enriching a Friendship*

The Synod of Alberta and the Territories (ABT) welcomed three members of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO), its Companion Synod, May 22 – June 5, 2012.

Our guests, Bishop Eduardo Martinez and his wife, Yamile, together with Zulma Ojeda, the Principal of the Lutheran School in Sogamoso spent the first day visiting the Synod office and touring the city of Edmonton, then meeting for a meal and conversation with youth and adult participants in the “Journey to Colombia 2011” from Ascension Lutheran, Edmonton.

The ABT Synod Convention met May 23 – 26 during which time IELCO Bishop Martinez and ABT Bishop Ron Mayan renewed the covenant agreement. Bishop Martinez brought greetings from IELCO, proclaimed the Word at an evening worship service, and met with Rev. Dr. Dittmar Mündel regarding teaching opportunities in early 2013. Our Colombian guests led a workshop for convention delegates, and participated as communion servers in the closing Eucharist. Bishop Martinez met with the members of the Synod World Mission committee, renewed acquaintance with National Bishop Susan Johnson and met Rev. Carla Blakely, Assistant to the National Bishop, Global Mission. During the convention Mary Campbell (ELCA - Associate Director for Companionship, Advocacy, and Education for Latin America and the Caribbean) provided translation.

Colombian photos by Cathy Kochendorfer



Zulma Ojeda, Yamile Varon, and Bishop Eduardo Martinez, visiting Lake Louise with Rev. Dr. Larry and Cathy Kochendorfer.

Following convention our guests toured the Synod, met members of Alberta missionary families to Colombia, and experienced many of Alberta's tourist sites: the Calgary Zoo, Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump, Banff and Jasper National Park, and the Columbia Icefields.

Presentations were made at Church of the Good Shepherd, Red Deer; Emmanuel, Calgary (a partner congregation with Iglesia Evangelical

Luterana – Emmanuel, Paz de Ariporo); Church of the Good Shepherd, Lethbridge; Grace, Hinton (a partner congregation with Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Divino Redentor, Bucaramanga); and Ascension, Edmonton. A total offering of \$1771.27 was received for the Lutheran Schools in Colombia.

At Ascension, Edmonton, Lori Anderson, daughter of Rev. Gerhard and Helen Ostrem, presented to the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, with Bishop Eduardo's permission, a DVD: “*Colombia - a traves de los ojos de Gerardo Ostrem*” (*Colombia - through the*

eyes of Gerhard Ostrem) which was produced with additional footage and pictures for IELCO's 75th anniversary in 2011. A copy is available to borrow from the synod office.

Bishop Martinez preached at Ascension on Sunday, June 3, and co-preserved at the Eucharist with Rev. Barbara Groote. After the service Rev. Groote, Synod staff and their spouses, and Journey to Colombia 2011 and 2009 participants and their families, joined them for a picnic lunch and conversation.

Zulma Ojeda, with Cathy Kochendorfer, travelled to Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute, a high school of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada at Outlook, SK, where they led morning chapel, toured the facilities, met with school staff, and discussed the possibilities of Colombian students visiting the school.

The opportunity for our guests to experience our synod in this way, and for us to continue to build our relationship as companion synods, was a positive and meaningful experience. Costs for the visit of our Colombian guests were provided through bequest funds left to the synod.

By Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop-Elect

Can't Make it to Church this Sunday Morning?

Tune in to the Evangelical Lutheran Broadcast at CKBI Radio 900 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, every Sunday morning at 8:30! This broadcast, the dream of Pastor A.M. Vinge, then of Fairy Glen, SK, began in 1934 and was recorded live, with local musicians and accompanists. It reached many who at that time were unable to attend church regularly because of winter weather and roads, sickness, or isolation.

Times have changed, and now, because of the ease of Internet and new recording technology, taping is done in advance. Guest pastors from Saskatchewan and Alberta lend their voices and wisdom to fill 30 minutes with music, bible lessons, sermons and prayer to bring you ... a church service any time of day, anywhere you are in the world, with the click of a mouse at www.lutheranbroadcast.ca.

The Evangelical Lutheran Broadcast proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it is interpreted in the Lutheran Confessions, seeks to supplement church attendance and to serve as a mission program for people who are unable to attend church.



Bishop Eduardo Martinez, his wife, Yamile Varon, and Zulma Ojeda, Principal of the Lutheran School in Sogamoso.

Interior Reno for Martin Luther House, U of A, Edmonton



Martin Luther House at the U of A has been a construction zone this year with the renovation of its basement suite through \$85,000 provided by the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. A further \$24,000 was approved by the City of Edmonton, "Cornerstones Grant Program for Affordable Housing," on condition that the suite is rented to a low-income earner at 85% of market rental rate for 5 years. The suite renovation was

initiated to secure a stable source of funding for Lutheran Campus Ministry - Edmonton from outside the synod budget. Through its affordability, it will advance the mission of our synod as a signatory of the *Capital Region Interfaith Statement on Homelessness & Affordable Housing*—in particular, the pledge “to continue and expand our presence in neighbourhood and city wide homelessness and affordable housing initiatives.”

Construction began during the summer of 2011 directed by the Suite Renovation Committee: Carl Sorensen, LCM Council appointee; Rev. Richard Reimer, Chaplain Advisor; and Kari Heise, Designer/Project Manager. Newlite Construction was contracted for the critical job of raising the support beam into the joists, to secure the minimum head clearance required by code, i.e., 77

inches. With the under-powered furnace due for retirement, Direct Energy was contracted to install an entirely new and efficient heating system for the entire house, including a boiler supplying: fan coils to heat the main floor and second storey, baseboard radiators for the basement suite, and a quickly recovering indirect hot water tank to serve the entire house. Finally, Waldon Works was hired to undertake the renovation as general contractor in late 2011 with





the goal of completing construction in March, 2012.

And indeed, the suite at Martin Luther House has been completed! Through the backing of the synod, the ‘sweat equity’ of many fine volunteers, and the affordable housing grant from the City of Edmonton, the suite now provides affordable housing to a graduate student couple that moved in this September.

Submitted by Rev. Richard Reimer

Mortgage Burning at Lord of Life, Edmonton



Photos by Ruth Knieling



Riddle: When do people clap and cheer at the sight of something going up in smoke?

Answer: When that “something” is mortgage documents ... paid in full ... and the people are members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Edmonton, AB.

Lord of Life Lutheran was established April 11, 1976, and held services in Edith Rogers Jr. High School until their church was built. The first service in the new building was held December 20, 1981 – just in time for Christmas. Thirty years and scores of weddings, funerals, baptisms, and confirmations later, their last mortgage payment was made December 31, 2011. On September 9, 2012 they celebrated their mortgage

free status with a communion service. Immediately following the sermon, Pastor Peter Grundler held a flame to the papers.

In true Lutheran fashion, the service was followed with lots of good food and fellowship. There were lots of photographs of the congregation’s early days both in albums and posted on the walls. There were “Do You Remember” sheets where people wrote their memories. There was joy, hope, and love in abundance. It was a good day to celebrate.

Photos: (above) Pastor Peter Grundler burns the mortgage, and (left) cuts the cake with Council President, Ronda Morgan.

Block Party! “Service in the Son” at Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin



Photos by Alie Forth



Our Pastor (Rita Roste) challenged the council to think of ways that our congregation could not only be *welcoming* but also an *inviting* group. Many new homes have been built around the church in the past couple years, so plans were made to have a block party and invite the neighbors! We are beginning to understand that we can no longer build churches and sit around waiting for people to come to us. So, several members bravely went door to door with a printed invitation inviting people to come to the party.

And what fun we had! The weather could not have been more perfect - we sat in chairs on the parking lot – guitars, accordions, drums and tambourines and our voices all let the neighbors know we were there. Children from the summer VBS program sang, everyone had a part in a drama about the shepherd who found one lost sheep and the

woman who found one lost coin; reminding us all of God’s deep and searching love for us all the time. And we all enjoyed a BBQ lunch!

Some neighbors took us up on our invite and introduced themselves. We know our task is to invite others to “come and see”, and that is what we did – we pray God to work in all lives who attended. It was a wonderful “community building” day for all who gathered.

Submitted by Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin

Splashdown!



Confirmands, being marked with the sign of the cross by Pastors Mike Wellman and Barbara Groote.



Photos by Kristina Little

More than 50 confirmands from churches in the Edmonton area gathered for "Splashdown" -- a music and learning event -- on Sunday, October 14. Mount Olivet Lutheran in Sherwood Park hosted the event.

A high-energy 5-piece band fronted by Garret Johnson of Mount Olivet led the worship music. Pastor Mick Macintyre of Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church in Spruce Grove spoke on aspects of baptism in a message entitled "Water Is Life". There was much joy and laughter as the confirmands gathered around the font to be splashed and remember the amazing promises of God, as we are baptized into the body of Christ Jesus!

Many participants agreed that the evening was "awesome" and Edmonton-area pastors are looking at other opportunities to work together for combined confirmation events in the future.

By Pastor Bruce Ehlert, Mount Olivet, Sherwood Park



Master of Sacred Theology – Rev. Ryan Anderson

Rev. Ryan Andersen recently completed his STM at Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon. His thesis, *Transforming Waters*, looked at both the personal and corporate process of transformation and the process involved using the theological frame of baptism. Rev. Andersen participated in the graduation ceremony in May in Saskatoon. He serves as Pastor at Advent Lutheran Church, Calgary.

“Future-Proofing” – Equipping the Saints for Ministry



The Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) is 99 years old this year. That's a lot of time to have spent, as their mission statement says, in “equipping, nurturing and challenging women and men for Christ-centred ministries that call people to lively commitment, bold witness and sacrificial service.”

LTS President, Rev. Dr. Kevin A. Ogilvie (above), was in Edmonton earlier this year to speak about the seminary, Christian service, the church, and how “future-proofing” might be accomplished.

“It is a great privilege to be called, ordained, and sent to serve God’s people wherever they might be”, said Ogilvie. “It is an even greater privilege to help train men and women for that ministry. And when you have an opportunity to see those people you might have touched, and know that they are going to do something in the world for God that is remarkable, it’s all worth it.”

The seminary building is now more than 40 years old and in order to future-proof the structure, renovations have been undertaken to upgrade the heating plant and to make the building more accessible for people with disabilities. But wait. There’s more.

The church is changing at a rapid pace. The church was one thing when people returned from the wars, immigrants began arriving, and churches were being built right and left to accommodate the growth. About 30 years ago, when Ogilvie was ordained, his job, along with other pastors of that era, was mostly maintenance. Those churches were there and functioning, and the mission was to make sure they kept on functioning. Now, things are different. The mission in the rural areas is difficult because the populations of those areas are declining. Yet, the populations of the cities are growing.

“How do we serve in those places?” asked Ogilvie. “What do we do for evangelism? How do we make sure that our sheep don’t get so far outside the pen that we can’t find them anymore?” Our future leaders will need to think outside the box, to come up with new strategies and ideas on how they can better serve the constituency that is western Canada. The seminary will need to be there to future-proof that process.

“It won’t mean very much, however, if there are no candidates to train,” said Ogilvie. “The numbers of people offering themselves for Christian ministry in the ELCIC and other Christian denominations has dwindled. Many pastors serving today are 55 years and older, so in 10 years, we are going to need a lot of clergy. Where are they going to

come from? How do we spark the imagination of young people for ministry? How do we capitalize on the gifts of people who had a career but now see that God is calling them to something else?"

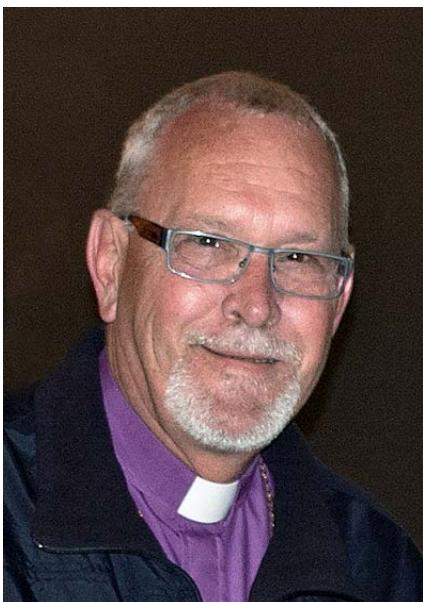
The seminary is looking for people who will offer themselves for Christian service in the leadership of the church. Statistics show that clergy have the highest job satisfaction, and that's not surprising since people expose their hearts and invite pastors into their lives at sometimes the most critical times.

We can all help. Along with our financial gifts to assist in future-proofing the facility, we can join LTS in finding those people who are willing to offer themselves for Christ's service to future-proof the church.

"The truth is," said Ogilvie, "that we can't future-proof the church. That's not our job. Luther said, in reference to the Lord's Prayer, that *we don't bring in the kingdom ... we pray that God will bring it to us*. The church's future is already ours. So, we are free to move into that future, confident that the church will be there because Christ will be there. We can, however, march alongside and make sure that our witness is strong and that people are trained to train others for gospel ministry. A friend of mine made a booklet on the Duties of a Pastor. It contained one item ... 'Equip the saints for ministry.' That's what we at LTS would like to do - equip people at Saskatoon so they might help equip the people who serve in all the places in western Canada that desperately need to know that Christ is by their side and that their future is assured."

By Colleen McGinnis, Editor

Wise Words from Retiring Bishop, Ronald B. Mayan

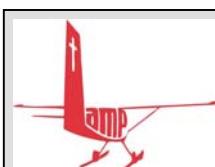


It has been said that the greatest obstacle to future success is past success.

It's quite possible to choose to back into our future. We could just choose to glide along, oblivious to the massive cultural changes. We still have enough critical mass to continue. But the Spirit of Jesus is calling forth more from us than that. We can – and must – dare to pray for the ignition of the Holy Spirit at this moment in our church ... an enlivening Spirit moving us to serve with compassion and fervor.

This is not the time for a tired or retreating church. It is the time for a transformed church that is a vehicle of the Spirit to transform people and, indeed, the whole world.

Excerpt from the closing service, 2012 Synod Convention.



Order LAMP's 2012 Advent Devotional book now!

Visit: www.lampministry.org

Email: office@lampministry.org

Shared Ministry for Faith County Parish

Bethania Lutheran Church, Sedgewick; Hope Lutheran Church, Forestburg; St. John's Anglican, Sedgewick; and Trinity Lutheran Church, Lougheed are working together and sharing their ministry. The joint Lutheran/Anglican installation and induction of Rev. Rick Laurendeau as pastor and priest of Faith County was held in an evening communion service at Bethania on September 30, 2012.

KAIROS ...

Is a Greek word meaning "time". But, what kind of time? If you do a search on the Internet for the definition of "kairos" you will find that it is not just the passage of time. It is:

- ... a critical moment in time
- ... an opportune or decisive moment
- ... a moment for decision or action.

Kairos Canada has built their organization around this definition of time, and to help us understand how, Rev Ryan Anderson, Social Justice Coordinator, and pastor of Advent Lutheran in Calgary, offers this explanation:

"Kairos is how we work ecumenically to address the issues of justice in Canada and around the world. Kairos provides research and policy analysis for the church and works with the churches to advocate on issues that the churches have agreed on shared positions. In short, Kairos is how we work for justice, together as Christians, along with 10 other churches and church related organizations.

I encourage you to take the time to learn about Kairos, to teach your congregations about the work we do through Kairos and consider becoming a Kairos community."

Learn more by visiting the Kairos Canada website at: www.kairoscanada.org.

100th Anniversary

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols for Advent and Christmas



Monday, November 26

7:30 PM

Winspear Centre for Music

Admission: \$15 (plus service charge)

Winspear Box Office: 780-428-1414

*A benefit for the
U of A Campus Food Bank*

*Presented by the U of A Interfaith Chaplains,
Mixed Chorus and Department of Music.*



ABT Welcomes – Darla Wildfang

Darla has been actively involved in the Lutheran church most of her life. She's taken a leadership role in the areas of worship, music, teaching as well as a representative role at synodical and national conventions. She says, "I enjoy creating in its many forms, ...[and] am passionate about teaching and communicating clearly."

The synod staff welcomes Darla to the position of Administrative Assistant/Receptionist and is delighted to have her share in this ministry of support to the congregations of this Synod.

Upcoming Consecration and Installation - Diaconal Minister

On November 18 at 2 pm, celebrate the consecration of **Keirra Noelle Maher** as a Diaconal Minister and into the rostered ministry of the ELCIC, including First Call Installation and Celebration of 5 years of Ministry as Chaplain at the Kipnes Centre for Veterans.

The Kipnes Centre for Veterans is located at 4470 McCrae Avenue, Edmonton (1/2 block south of 153 Ave on 113a Street).

Parking is limited so be prepared to drop off passengers and park across the street at the YMCA or shopping center. Walk around to the front of Kipnes - there is no access from the building's back or side. For more information contact Keirra at: 780-953-5162 or knmaher@gmail.com

Emmaus to Lay Wreath

The Royal Canadian Legion Kingsway Branch Branch #175 has a new facility across from Emmaus, Edmonton. The opening of their new facility will be combined with the Remembrance Day Service, Nov 11 at 11:00. A wreath will be laid at the cenotaph on behalf of Emmaus, the Christian community and Churches in North East Edmonton.

Installation Service Held

Rev. James Hendricksen joined Hosanna Lutheran Church, Edmonton in an installation service on October 6, 2012.

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ITS PURPOSE is...

...to connect the people and congregations of our synod.
...to provide a forum for celebrating the people, places and mission of the congregations in our synod.
...to help us learn from each other and encourage each other in our work for Jesus Christ.

SUBMIT articles and photos about the life, work and mission of the congregations of our synod to the **Celebrations** editor, Colleen McGinnis at:

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780-352-3519

Please include name, phone number and email or address with all submissions. All submissions will also be considered for the ABT Synod section in *Canada Lutheran*.

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