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Subject: ELCIC News: December 4, 2025
Date: December 4, 2025 at 5:00 am
To: oslcospika@gmail.com



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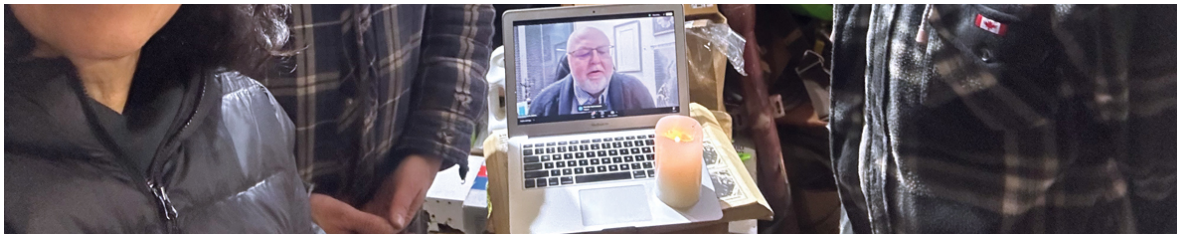


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1. Conversations Across the Church





On Sunday, November 30, ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer hosted '*Conversations Across the Church*' — an online opportunity to gather for an hour of worship, reflections, and a time of question and answer with the new national bishop.

Grounded in the ELCIC's vision to be a church *Living out God's grace and unconditional love*, the gathering marked the beginning of what is hoped will become a regular series of events connecting members from across the church.

The next '*Conversations Across the Church*' event will take place on Sunday, February 22 – the First Sunday of Lent, with a focus on work of the '*Facing Today – Dreaming for the Future*' steering committee. Details on timing and registration will be made available in the coming week:

[Read the full news release and watch the video recording here.](#)

2. Boston Laferté Honoured with Ecumenical Bursary Award



Boston Laferté, an ELCIC member and emerging ecumenical leader, has been honoured as the 2025 recipient of the Marjorie MacKinnon Bursary. The \$1,500 bursary is awarded annually by the honouree of the Marjorie MacKinnon Award - this year, Rev. Peter Noteboom, General Secretary

of the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC). Noteboom chose Laferté in recognition of his meaningful contributions as a youth governing board member of the CCC and his commitment to justice, dialogue, and Christian unity. Laferté, who is pursuing both law and divinity degrees while preparing for ordained ministry, expressed deep gratitude for the support.

Laferté's ongoing leadership within the ELCIC and CCC - from serving on the Court of Appeal to co-hosting the Let's Talk Faith & Justice podcast, reflects his dedication to strengthening ecumenical relationships. He credits Noteboom and the CCC for encouraging youth voices and shaping his approach to faith and justice work. Please click on the button below to read the full story.

[Read the full news release here.](#)

3. Invitation to Join ELCIC Task Forces on Inclusion, Racial Justice and Community Engagement

The ELCIC is seeking passionate, committed members from across Canada to join one of three task forces shaping our church's ongoing work in justice, inclusion, and faithful witness. These groups will help guide national initiatives, offer insight from diverse ministry contexts, and support the ELCIC's calling to be a welcoming, accessible, and compassionate church for all.

Task Forces:

- **Ability & Inclusion Task Force**
- **Task Force on Addressing Racism, White Supremacy and Racial Justice**
- **Amazing Grace Task Force: Diversity Equity and Inclusion for All Task Force**

Who should consider applying:

ELCIC members—lay or rostered—who care deeply about justice, inclusion, accessibility, spiritual renewal, and the future of our shared ministries. Lived experience, ministry involvement, professional expertise, and passion for equity are all valuable gifts.

Deadline:

Applications are open **until January 15, 2026.**

If you feel called to contribute, learn more and sign up through the JotForm link below.

[Apply Here](#)

4. 2025 Advent Resources

Looking for worship resources and outlines for seasons of the church using Evangelical Lutheran Worship as the primary resource? Look no further! The ELCIC's Program Committee for Worship has you covered! Their weekly worship orders include options for Holy Communion and Service of the Word.

[Advent through Christmas, Year A \(November 30, 2025 to January 4, 2026\)](#)

ELCA Resource - Sumud: For Justice in Palestine and Israel


[Sumud: For Justice in Palestine and Israel](#), a program from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has prepared a series of Advent Resources that connect us with our partners in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. The weekly resources each include a devotion, a prayer from an ELCJHL Young Adult and discussion questions. [Watch the webinar recordings when you click here.](#)

Lutherans Connect: Vigil in Hope - Celtic Advent

Join [Lutherans Connect's](#) annual Celtic Advent devotional series, running from November 15 to December 24. The 40-day tradition blends Celtic spirituality with the Christian season of anticipation, encouraging reflection on everyday holiness, acts of kindness, and hospitality, our connection with Creation, and the wisdom of Celtic saints. For details or to sign-up, please [visit the devotional site](#) or email lutheransconnect@gmail.com.

Join CCC's "A Season of Miracles" Online - December 4





The [Canadian Council of Churches](#) (CCC) will be holding an online Advent celebration, “**A Season of Miracles**” on **Thursday, December 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. Come to hear and share stories of miracles and extraordinary acts of love, light a candle of hope with friends across traditions, and learn how you can help form young leaders and strengthen the Council’s ministry. Bring a candle (or phone light if needed).

[Register Here](#)

5. Justice Updates

Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory Calendar

The ELCIC has developed a Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory Calculator for congregations to assist faith communities in monitoring GHG emissions. There is also a User Manual for the GHG Inventory Calculator. If you would like to learn more about the GHG Inventory Calculator, please contact Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop at pgehrs@elcic.ca.

ELCIC Volunteer Opportunities - Ecumenical Justice Committees

The ELCIC is seeking representatives for two ecumenical committees:

1. Project Ploughshares Management Board
2. The Commission on Justice and Peace of the Canadian Council of Churches

Both groups are affiliated with the Canadian Council of Churches. For more information, please contact Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop at pgehrs@elcic.ca.

6. Advanced Study Program - Applications Now Open

The **Advanced Study Program** provides grants to **Continuing Education Plan (CEP)** members who are engaged in study programs that lead to advanced degrees or diploma. Grants are awarded through an application process and are evaluated by the Program Committee for Leadership Ministry (PCLM). Their evaluation is based on how the proposed program of study will provide growth for effective ministry and will support the ELCIC’s vision of a church *Living out God’s grace and unconditional love*. For more information, please visit our [website](#). We encourage you to apply using our easy [online form](#). This is available on the [GSI website](#). Applications must be received by **January 15, 2026**.

[CEP Forms](#)

7. Diaconal Sunday Resources



Resources for the upcoming 2026 Diaconal Ministry Sunday are [now available for download and use off the ELCIC website](#). The ELCIC lifts up diakonia through Diaconal Ministry Sunday on the last Sunday of February, annually. This year it will be celebrated on February 22.

Learn more about the service and leadership offered by the ELCIC's diaconal leaders and download the 2026 Diaconal Sunday sermon video and written text for use at home or in your congregations below:

DOWNLOAD NOW

8. Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, December 7:**

ACC: The Primate Archbishop Shane Parker and the staff of the Primate's Office of the Anglican Church of Canada

ELCIC: National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and the national office staff of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

MOR: The Rev. David E. Bennett, President of the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in America

9. From the National Office

ELCIC Logo and Resources For Your Church



The ELCIC rebranded last spring. Through a years-long process, a new tagline and logo were adopted. This was inspired by a new vision statement, which was developed through extensive consultation with members across the church.

Now, it is time that we ask if you have seen our new logo popping up around your church building, on your materials and documents, on signage, on your website, or wherever else you may see the ELCIC branding?

If you are still seeing the 'old' logo around your church building and website, [please find the resources you need to access the NEW logo here.](#) Various options and styles are available to best suit your church's needs.

[ACCESS FILES HERE](#)

SUBSCRIBE NOW --> *Canada Lutheran and Eternity for Today*

Looking for a meaningful Christmas gift that nurtures faith and connection? Consider giving a *Canada Lutheran* subscription. Each issue offers inspiring stories, thoughtful reflections, and insights on how our church is *Living out God's grace and unconditional love* across Canada and around the world. A subscription is a simple way to share hope, spark conversation and accompany someone you care about throughout the year.

Give a gift of *Canada Lutheran* TODAY: https://www.simplecirc.com/give_a_gift/canada-lutheran

Interested in an individual subscription to our national publications? Sign up today and start receiving the publications with the next issue.

--> [Canada Lutheran subscription form](#)

--> [Eternity for Today subscription form](#)

Annual Report Covers - It's not too late! Does your congregation need Annual Report Covers? These covers can be used by any ELCIC congregation or ministry as part of your Annual General Meeting's annual report. Included on the back page of the Annual Report Covers are devotions to

open and close your annual meeting. These resources are available free of charge from the national office (your congregation is invited to consider covering postage costs to send these out approx. \$25 per package). We anticipate sending these out shortly. [Order your 2025 Annual Report Covers here.](#)

Do the officers, council and members of your congregation receive ELCIC News directly? From information and resources, to upcoming events -- ELCIC News keeps you connected!

Encourage them to sign up for ELCIC NEWS today.

ELCIC News is an electronic Newsletter full of information and resources from the ELCIC National Office.

Please share this information widely.

Forward this email to others in your congregation.

Items can also be copied and pasted into worship bulletins, calendars and announcements.

Follow the ELCIC on social media by following the links below:



Contact us:

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love

Some of the resources mentioned in ELCIC News 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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