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1. International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia





[Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan Johnson and [Anglican Church of Canada](#) (ACC) Archbishop and Acting Primate Anne Germond wrote a joint letter to the church in advance of International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia, on May 17. [Read that letter here.](#)

2. Church Leaders Write to the Prime Minister on Humanitarian Aid in the Holy Land

ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson and ACC Archbishop and Acting Primate Anne Germond wrote a joint letter to the Prime Minister regarding Israel's ongoing attacks on the Palestinian people. Both leaders are calling on the Canadian government to provide urgent humanitarian aid. Our call for peace is rooted in our relationship with partner churches, the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. To read the letter, [please click here.](#)

3. WCC Congratulates Pope Leo XIV



Photo: Vatican Media

The [World Council of Churches](#) (WCC) extended ecumenical greetings to Pope Leo XIV and an assurance of continuing engagement with the Roman Catholic Church in the era of its new pontiff. To read the full article, [please click here.](#)

4. Compassionate Justice

Pedaling Pilgrims for the Planet



A Pilgrimage for the Planet cyclist enters Ontario near St. Eugene on Saturday, May 10. Photo: James Morgan

Concerned cyclists were pedaling the nearly 200-kilometre trip from Montreal to Ottawa on Saturday, May 10, and Sunday, May 11 as part of the ecumenical Pilgrimage for the Planet organized by the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC). The pilgrimage also has participants from Catholic, United, Anglican, Wesleyan, and Quaker congregations. To read the full news story, [please click here](#).

Palestine, Settler Colonialism, and Western Churches Conference

Meeting at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, **from May 28 to 30**, this [conference](#) aims to bring together an international group of church and community representatives, activists, and scholars to learn from and dialogue with Palestinian leaders about the current situation in Palestine and to discuss to how attend to the [Open Letter](#) issued by Palestinian Christians to Western Christians titled "A Call for Repentance."

G7 Jubilee People's Forum in Calgary

You're invited to the [G7 Jubilee People's Forum in Calgary](#) on **June 12-15**. Highlights will include an interfaith worship service, a visit to Stoney Nakoda land for prayers with elders, hearing Indigenous and Global partner voices, Jubilee campaign training, and a creative public action in the heart of Calgary. To register, [please click here](#). For more information and to check on updates, [please click here](#).

5. Youth Ministry and Leadership

Applications for 2025 Advanced Study Grants Due Next Week

The **Advanced Study Program** provides grants to [Continuing Education Plan \(CEP\)](#) members who are engaged in a study program that leads to an advanced degree or to a diploma. Grants are awarded through an application process and are evaluated by the Program Committee for Leadership for 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 mandate to be a church in mission for others. For more information, please visit our [website](#). We encourage that you apply using our easy online form! This is available on the [GSI website](#). Applications must be received **by May 15, 2025**.

6. From the National Office

Summer Sermon Series 2025



For the sixth year in a row, the ELCIC bishops and assistants to the bishops have agreed to provide sermons for congregational use **from May to September 2025**.

Resources include both text and video files of the sermons for each week. These are downloadable files that may be used as part of your congregation's worship however works best for your context.

As sermons are submitted and edited, they will be posted publicly to the online folder and made available for download. The first sermon will be available soon!

Not only are the sermons helpful to use if you need to cover vacation leave over the summer but they are a wonderful way to introduce members of your congregation to our bishops and assistants to the bishops from across the ELCIC.

[To access these resources, please complete the following form by clicking here.](#)

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7. Stewardship Resources

Looking for stewardship resources? For many, many years, the National Office ordered and sent out copies of the North American Ecumenical Stewardship Resource – *Giving Magazine* – to all ELCIC congregations free of charge. This annual publication, along with supporting resources, provided a wealth of stewardship content for congregations. In 2021, the organization that oversaw this resource voted to dissolve the organization so the magazine is no longer produced, but 40 years of Giving Magazine resources are now available DIGITALLY! All of these resources are available at no cost through the Lake Institute. To view these, visit: <https://lakeinstitute.org/resource-library/ecumenical-stewardship-center-resources/>

The ELCIC also has a number of [resources available on our website for congregational use](#).

The following are links to additional Canadian denominational stewardship resources:

- [Giving our Thanks and Praise](#), from the Anglican Church of Canada
- [Exploring Stewardship](#), from the Presbyterian Church in Canada
- [Stewardship - Sharing - Generosity](#), from the United Church of Canada

8. Effective Partnerships

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, May 18:**

ACC: The Rt. Rev. William Cliff, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Ontario

ELCIC: The Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Saskatchewan Synod

MOR: The Rt. Rev. Kay Ward, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province

An Invitation to the 29th LWF International Seminar for Pastors

[The LWF Center Wittenberg](#) of [The Lutheran World Federation](#) (LWF) Invites you to the **29th LWF International Seminar for Pastors, "Basics of Lutheran Theology - Preaching the Word of God and Celebrating the Sacraments"** from November 8-22, 2025 in Wittenberg. For more details on this invitation, [please click here](#). The LWF looks forward to welcoming pastors from member churches in times of global insecurity, fostering a sense of theological and spiritual togetherness across national and church borders becomes even more important. This invitation is nomination-based. [Please click here](#) for the nomination form. If interested, please apply. For information, please [email](#) Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop for Justice and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. Deadline for nominations is **June 10**.

Luther: An Evening With Mary Hynes

Join in [an evening conversation with Mary Hynes](#), host of CBC Radio's *Tapestry* on **June 12, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. EDT** at Knox Presbyterian Church in Waterloo, Ont. This event will be facilitated by Luther's Principal-Dean Kristine Lund. Please [click here](#) to download the event poster.

Job Opportunities:

Editor, Eternity for Today

The ELCIC is looking for a new editor for its quarterly devotional publication, *Eternity for Today*. [View the full job description here](#). For more information or to apply for the posting, please email tgallop@elcic.ca or pwall@elcic.ca. Deadline for applications is **May 15, 2025**.

CLWR Job Postings:

Administrative Assistant, Westminster, BC Office

[Canadian Lutheran World Relief](#) (CLWR) is hiring a dedicated and organized Administrative Assistant to join their team! This position will be at CLWR's Westminster, BC office. If you are a youth between 15-30 years of age at the beginning of the employment period and has a genuine desire to support resettled youth in addition to being detail-oriented among others, please apply for this position **before May 22**. For more information on this position including qualification and how to apply, please [click here](#).

Senior Manager, Communications and Marketing

CLWR is also looking to fill the role of senior manager, communications and marketing. A permanent, full-time role based out of Winnipeg (preferred), Kitchener or Vancouver, the job listing will remain open until filled. Resumes and cover letters are to be emailed to hr@clwr.org. [A full job description can be found here](#).

9. Spot the Scam, Skip the Spam

You've likely seen email from our synods, maybe your congregation, and other organizations about the resurgence of spam email. These messages may ask for personal information, urgent financial help or contain suspicious links. The sender is likely someone who might be familiar to you, but the tone of the email seems off. If an email seems weird, it probably is! Often times, you can spot these emails quickly by just looking at the "sender's" return email address. Spam emails often (but not always) come from an outside, unofficial email address. Please know that we will never contact you in this way. And, we will never ask for personal or financial details via email. If you're ever unsure about a message, please contact our office directly before responding or clicking on a link.

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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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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