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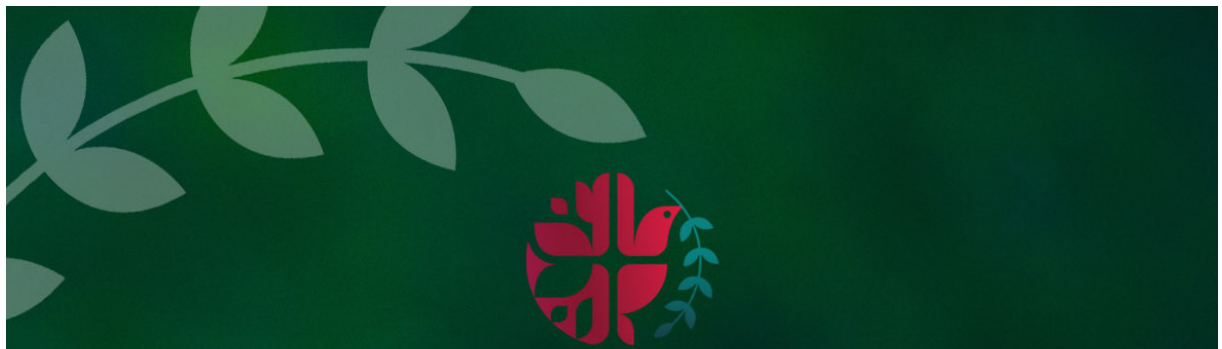


Week of August 5, 2026

1. Conversations Across the Church
2. Justice Updates
3. Partnerships
4. From the National Office

Save the Date - September 13
Climate Justice, Truth and Reconciliation, More
WCC, Cycle of Prayer, More
Updating Your Website, Sermon Series, and
More

1. Save the Date for Our Next Conversations Across the Church!



Conversations Across the Church

Sunday, September 13, 2026
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST

Please join **National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer** and guests for an hour of devotion, reflection and conversation.



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



Join us for our next Conversations Across the Church **on Sunday, September 13!**

Our focus for the third Conversations Across the Church of the year will be on Season of Creation — a time to come together in prayer and action. ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer will be joined by three speakers on why this is a priority for our church.

Join with ELCIC members across the church for Conversations Across the Church by registering here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/-PPJGV3gQ2SLvj9Mr1Rwyg> (Please note, you must register to receive the Zoom link.)

Watch previous Conversations Across the Church online events by [clicking here](#).

2. Justice Updates

Plan Ahead with Resources for Truth and Reconciliation Week 2026

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) shares that planning for **Truth and**

Reconciliation Week 2026 is well underway. The Truth and Reconciliation Week (TRW) website has officially launched, and the education portal for teachers is open - with new learning resources being added all summer long. The website also provides other valuable resources for everyone such as lunch & learn webinars and national events. Truth and Reconciliation Week this year is from **September 21 to 26**. To learn more and to access these resources, please [click here](#).

Monthly Reflections on Climate Justice

The Task Force on Carbon Neutrality provides monthly reflections on climate justice to encourage engagement, share resources and call for prayer, reflection and learning. *Biblical Passages Related to Climate Change and Carbon Neutrality* and *Community Focused Environmental Stewardship* are monthly reflections that you can read today by [clicking here](#)

Join the Prayer Walk for Peace, September 20

[The Canadian Council of Churches](#) invites you to a Prayer Walk for Peace, **September 20**, support of its ministry. In a world longing for healing, justice, and reconciliation, you're invited to "pray with your feet" - walk in your neighbourhood, your church community, or your city's streets. If walking is not an option for you, consider gathering with others to pray and reflect together about your hopes for peace. For more information, please [click here](#).

Outreach and Advocacy Conference - October 17

The [Anglican Diocese of Toronto](#) will host an online conference entitled The Church as a Catalyst for Liberation **on October 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (EST)**. Admission is free and all are welcome! For more information on this event including registration, please [click here](#).

3. Partnerships





Photo: Albin Hillert/LWF (Source: Lutheran World Federation website)

Lutheran World Federation Scholarships

Lutheran World Federation (LWF) scholarships support theological and diakonia/development-oriented education that transforms individuals, the life of the churches and the world in which we live. Eligible programs include Diploma, Bachelor, Master, or PhD programs in theology or development-oriented study fields. The main criteria for a candidate's approval are that the proposed application responds to the strategic priorities and human capacity needs of the church in the area of theology and diakonia. Every application must be endorsed by the ELCIC. In this pre-screening phase, the ELCIC gathers the names of potential candidates and assists individuals in submitting an application.

Interested individuals are invited to contact Deacon Gretchen Peterson at gpeterson@elcic.ca.

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for: **Sunday, August 9**

ACC: The Rt. Rev. Helen Kennedy, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle

ELCIC: The dean, council, and congregations of the Northern Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories

MOR: Remembering August 13 - in 1727, this was the day when the young community in Hermhut, Germany, nearly torn apart by internal theological conflict, was bonded together by the power of the Holy Spirit. Some call it our Moravian "Pentecost."

An invitation for a Week of Prayer for Just Peace for All in Palestine and Israel

The World Council of Churches (WCC) invites member churches, faith-based communities, and civil society organizations around the world to join for a week of prayer for just peace for all in Palestine and Israel. The special week in September includes the UN International Day of Peace on September 21. It will be a time to be united and take peaceful actions together, to create an international public witness. The theme is from Psalm 127:3 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord." For more information and to read the full article, please [click here](#).

4. From the National Office

Your Website is Part of Your Welcome

When someone is looking for information about your congregation, where might they go first?

Beyond your physical building and outdoor signage, what kind of online presence does your congregation have? A website? Facebook page? Instagram? X? TikTok? When were these sites last updated? Do they include your summer worship times? Is someone ready to update them for September if your worship schedule changes this fall? (It's only a few weeks away!)

What about the rest of the information on your website? Is your pastor listed correctly? Are your staff and council contacts current? Office hours accurate? Are special events listed? Is it easy for a first-time visitor to find where you are, when you worship, and who to contact?

These are the kinds of things I think about regularly. If I were someone new looking for a church home, would I be able to find the information I needed without it feeling like a scavenger hunt? Would the website feel welcoming, inclusive, and current?

I was reminded of this recently when I tried to attend worship at a different congregation. Finding the service information wasn't easy, and when I did find it, it was incorrect. The worship time had changed, but the update had only been shared in a congregational news bulletin and hadn't made it to the website.

As we prepare for the fall, **now is a great time to review your congregation's online presence.** Better yet, ask someone who isn't as familiar with your church to try finding basic information on your website or social media. Fresh eyes often spot things we take for granted or expect people to know.

A few minutes spent updating your website and social media today could make all the difference to someone looking for a welcoming place to worship tomorrow.

Have questions about your congregation's online presence, need to add the ELCIC new logo on there? We'd love to hear from you at tgallop@elcic.ca. And while you're checking your website, be sure to visit findachurch.ca and make sure your information there is also up-to-date.

Weekly Sermons from our Bishops and Assistants to the Bishops

Looking for sermon help this summer? The ELCIC Sermon Series offers weekly sermons

from bishops and assistants to the bishops from across the church to support congregations throughout the season.

Available in both written and video formats, these sermons are designed to be adaptable for a variety of worship settings. New sermons are added as they are received and prepared, with resources currently available through August 9.

Congregations sign up at anytime to receive each new sermon as it becomes available through September, or access the resources currently available online.

Whether you're planning for vacation coverage, lay-led worship or simply looking to hear voices from across the ELCIC, these resources are here to support your congregation's worship life throughout the summer and into the fall.

[Sign up here](#) to access the sermons available so far.

ELCIC Day of Action Highlight Video

This year marks 40 years in the life of our church and one way we celebrated this milestone was the ELCIC Day of Action on May 31. Many responded and participated in ways where the ELCIC stepped beyond the church walls and engaged in acts of service! To live out the spirit of service and continue to be inspired, please watch our [ELCIC Day of Action 2026 Highlight Video](#) if you haven't done so yet. This video is also a good resource to share to your congregation as we move forward Living Out God's grace and unconditional love.

***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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