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1. Joint Letter
2. Worshipping Together
3. National Church Council
4. Study Opportunity
5. ELCJHL Appeal
6. CLAY 2025
7. Now Hiring
8. Effective Partnerships
9. From the National Office

Anniversary of the War in the Holy Land
First Lutheran Church
Meeting Highlights
LWF Theological Seminar
Donate Within
A Prayer From the Youth
CLWR, WCC Job Opportunities
Lutheran/Moravian Event, CCC, ELCA, COP30
LLLF, Subscriptions, More

1. ELCIC, CLWR Leaders Mark Anniversary of Israel-Hamas War With Renewed Call for Peace



On the second anniversary of the war between Israel and Hamas, [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and [Canadian Lutheran World Relief](#) Interim Executive Director Rev. Dr. Michael Pryse write to the church with heavy hearts as they, "continue to call urgently for a cessation of all violence in Israel and Palestine, an immediate release of hostages, and unhindered humanitarian access to those in critical need."

"Our hope is for peace based on justice, an end to the decades-long occupation, and a robust Palestinian economy, a thriving education sector and protections for the rights of all," the leaders continue, as they call on members of the ELCIC to join them in prayer.

[Read the full letter here.](#)

2. Worshipping Together

National, Synod Bishops Worship Together at First Lutheran Church



From left: Bishop Ali Tote (Saskatchewan), Bishop Kathy Martin (BC), Bishop Jason Zinko (MNO), Bishop Larry Kochendorfer (National), Bishop Trish Schermund (Alberta and the Territories), and Bishop Carla Blakley (Eastern). Photo by Rev. Ken Kuhn

While in Winnipeg for National Church Council and the Conference of Bishops, the ELCIC's National and Synod Bishops attended worship together at First Lutheran. Rev.

Michael Kurtz shared the following in the congregational newsletter: *"As we often say at First, it is important for us as worshipping people to show up with our bodies on Sunday mornings as a witness to God's great love for our neighbourhood and its people. The West End of Winnipeg has its many joys - as well as its many struggles, but it is a great blessing to be there. When the six bishops of our church show up in person, it really reinforces for us that it is important for us as a worshipping, missional community, as a member of the ELCIC, to be there, in the heart of the West End of Winnipeg, sharing God's unconditional love and grace."*

3. National Church Council Meeting Highlights

The ELCIC's National Church Council (NCC) met on September 25-27 in Winnipeg for their first meeting as a new council following elections at the 2025 National Convention held in July. The meeting also marked the first council gathering with our National Bishop, Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, also elected at the recent national convention. To read the highlights from the NCC meeting, [please click here.](#)

4. Study Opportunity

30th LWF International Theological Seminar for Pastors

The call for nominations for the 30th Lutheran World Federation [International Theological Seminary for Pastors](#) at the [LWF Centre in Wittenberg](#) is now open. Titled, 'The Way We Pray Shapes the Way We Believe' will serve as a theological exploration of Lutheran worship. The seminar will occur in Wittenberg from March 7-21, 2026.

If interested in this study opportunity, please be in touch with your synod bishop or email Deacon Gretchen Peterson for more information at gpeterson@elcic.ca

"Please find attached the [Nomination Form](#), to be returned to our Administrative Assistant, Mr. Cornelius Arndt (by e-mail to: arndt@dnk-lwb.de, copy to Rev. Dr. Nánási: nanasi@dnk-lwb.de), by **October 17, 2025.**"

5. Appeal for Support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

The ELCIC National Office and Eastern Synod have launched an appeal to support the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL). Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to assist in supporting this vital work that embodies faith, resilience and hope in a just peace. To date we have raised almost \$30,000.

For nearly two years, the people in Gaza, the West Bank and Jerusalem have been suffering under devastating violence, a deepening humanitarian crisis and uncertainty.

Despite all this, the ELCJHL remains steadfast in its mission. Congregations continue to gather in prayer and fellowship. The schools of the ELCJHL have begun their 2025/26 academic year. Diaconal ministry is providing food, rent assistance, medical care and school tuition support to hundreds of families across the West Bank. Gender Justice and environmental ministries are still working towards a more just and sustainable future.

Our church's long-standing relationship with the ELCJHL is a vital expression of our shared faith and commitment to justice and peace. You are invited to: pray for peace, learn more about the work of the ELCJHL and give generously to the ELCJHL Appeal.

DONATE NOW!

6. A Prayer From the Youth at CLAY 2025

CLAY 2025 A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH



At CLAY 2025, the youth were asked the following questions:

1. What is a key message of Jesus that you think the church has forgotten and needs to remember?
2. What is one gift you see in the church that you want to draw the church's attention to?

A prayer was written using the unedited responses of youth participants. Find a PDF of the prayer and also a video of the prayer here: <https://claygathering.ca/prayer-for-the-church/>

The second video, "One Word For The Church" asked youth to describe their hope for the church into a single word. <https://claygathering.ca/prayer-for-the-church/>

Please feel free to use these videos and companion PDF in ways you see fit - in worship services and youth gatherings. Please use these to share this message from our youth, to all areas of the church.

7. Now Hirina

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) is Hiring

CLWR is looking to hire for the position of [Digital Content Producer](#). Qualified applicants should email a single PDF document, including a cover letter and resume to hr@clwr.org and include a link to a portfolio that demonstrates your video skills. **Closing date is October 8, 2025.** [View the full job description here.](#)

WCC is Hiring

The World Council of Churches is hiring for the open positions of Programme Executive and Professor of Ecumenical Missiology, which are both full-time and based out of Switzerland. More information on both jobs can be found at the following links:

- [Programme Executive](#)
- [Professor of Ecumenical Missiology](#)

8. Effective Partnerships

Lutheran/Moravian Event

Christian Nationalism: A Canadian Context What is Christian Nationalism? How does it impact Canadians? How might we respond? Join speakers Dr. Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament, and Dr. Marc Froesse, Professor of Political Science, for this timely conversation at Rio Terrace Church in Edmonton **on October 18 at 10:00 AM.** [Sign up for either in-person or Zoom attendance here.](#)

**CHRISTIAN
NATIONALISM:
A CANADIAN
CONTEXT**

**WHAT IS CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?
HOW DOES IT IMPACT CANADIANS?
HOW MIGHT WE RESPOND?**

OCTOBER 18, 2025
10 AM – 3 PM
REGISTRATION OPENS AT 9:30AM

SPEAKERS

The poster features two circular portraits of the speakers. The top speaker is a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark suit and a checkered shirt. The bottom speaker is a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark shirt. The background is a light beige color with a purple band across the middle containing the event details.

DR. GREG CAREY
PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT
LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,
PENNSYLVANIA

DR. MARC FROESSE,
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,
BURMAN UNIVERSITY, ALBERTA

TO PARTICIPATE ON ZOOM VISIT
<https://mcchurch.ca>



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PLEASE SCAN TO REGISTER
SO WE CAN PLAN FOR LUNCH

Your Freewill
Donation is Appreciated!

For Further Info Contact Rev. Deborah Ann Taylor
pastordeborahann@telus.net

This event is made possible by the Racial Justice Team of the Moravian Church,
Northern Province and organized by Pastor Aaron Linville (Moravian),
Pastor Craig Wentland, (Lutheran), and Rev. Dr. Deborah Ann Taylor (Lutheran)

Canadian Council of Churches

This past week, [The Canadian Council of Churches](#) took a significant step in advocating for the well-being of Canada's children and youth. The President of the Council, Rev. Amanda Currie, sent a formal letter to the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mark Carney, requesting the appointment of a Children's Commissioner. This call to action is a direct response to the urgent and escalating risks facing children and youth today.

"We must collectively urge government officials to recognize this pressing issue and take decisive action. We firmly believe that a Children's Commissioner would be an invaluable role, capable of bringing these concerns to the appropriate authorities and driving the legislative and regulatory changes necessary to safeguard our future generations." Please join in by sending out the letter to your elected officials in your communities. [Read the full letter to the Prime Minister here.](#)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Yehiel Curry was installed as the presiding bishop of the [ELCA](#) on October 4 in Minneapolis. Curry is the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA and will serve a six-year term following his election on July 30.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton presided at the installation, while many partnerships, several ecumenical, interreligious and global partner representatives were invited, including Henrik Stubkjaer, president of the Lutheran World Federation and Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, national bishop of the ELCIC.

COP30 - Collective Action: November 10-21

From November 10-21, the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties, [COP30](#), will be held in Belém, Brazil. The motto is Global Mutirão meaning collective efforts. During COP30, [For the Love of Creation](#) invites groups across Canada to host candlelight vigils and/or Jubilee Walks for Climate and Debt Justice in their own communities on the weekend of November 14-16, 2025. This will be a time to reflect and share our love for our planet, our concern for ourselves, humanity and all our non-human relations at risk from climate change. You can read more about this invitation and register/find an event at [Candles for COP30 and Jubilee Walks webpage](#).

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, October 12:**

ACC: The Rt. Rev. David Lehmann, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Caledonia

ELCIC: The dean, council, and congregations of the North Region of the British Columbia Synod

TOGETHER: For people and ministries working to address issues of poverty, homelessness, and affordable housing

9. From the National Office

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

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

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

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

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:

ELCIC News
400-185 Carlton St,
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3J1
info@elcic.ca

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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