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ELCIC NEWS



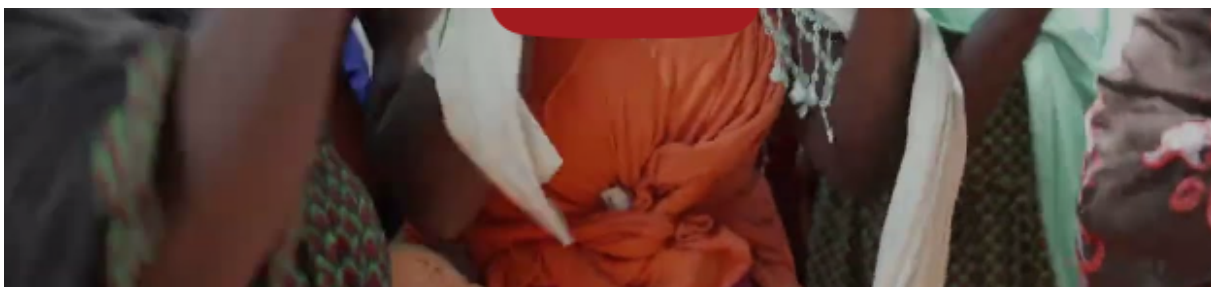
Week of July 14, 2026

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1. Friends of Creation - Lake Chad Reflections





"They're not coming with technical advice, but with their hearts."

Earlier this year, ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, Saskatchewan Synod Bishop Ali Tote, Eastern Synod Bishop Carla Blakley and Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) staff travelled to Chad and Cameroon to witness the life-giving work of the Friends of Creation project.

Through sustainable agriculture, reforestation, improved clay stoves and fisheries management, local communities are building resilience in the face of climate change while strengthening food security and livelihoods.

Hear reflections from Bishop Kochendorfer on this powerful journey and discover how the ELCIC's partnership with CLWR and the Lutheran World Federation is living out God's grace and unconditional love through accompaniment, compassion and hope.

[Download the video here.](#)

[Watch it on YouTube here.](#)

[Learn more about Canadian Lutheran World Relief here.](#)

2. Emancipation Sunday

The 2025 ELCIC National Convention formally designated the **last Sunday in July** as **Emancipation Sunday**. Emancipation Sunday commemorates the coming into effect of the Slavery Abolition Act on August 1, 1834 - Emancipation Day - freeing approximately 800,000 enslaved people in British colonies, including Canada. Members are encouraged to observe this day through worship, reflection, and community engagement. Check out these [Anglican resources for Emancipation Sunday.](#)

Emancipation Sunday Worship Service

Join the [Black Anglicans of Canada](#) for our **Emancipation Sunday worship service** which will be held **on July 26 at 8:00 p.m. EST or 7:00 p.m. CST**. The speaker for this event is

Pastor Steve Greene from the Diocese of Huron. To join this online event, use the Zoom Meeting ID: 954 6969 4485. Follow the [Black Anglicans and Lutherans Facebook page](#) for updates or more information.

3. Justice Updates

New Resource on Responding to Christian Nationalism

A new resource titled *Kingdom Over Nation* created by [Churches Together in England \(CTE\)](#) offers timely guidance for navigating conversations around Christian Nationalism. This resource is a thoughtfully developed collection of theological and pastoral materials designed to support ministers, leadership teams, small groups, and individuals in reflecting on faith, identity, and discipleship in today's cultural context. Rooted in ecumenical collaboration, *Kingdom Over Nation* invites Christians to consider what shapes their vision of the world and to place God's Kingdom above national identity. Get this resource when you [click here](#). To read more about the creation of this resource, check out the [interview](#) by the World Council of Churches.

Ministry With the Sick and Dying in the Context of MAID

The Anglican Church of Canada has prepared a new liturgical prayer resource for use at the time of death in contexts of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID). You can [access the prayer here](#). You may also be interested in the ELCIC's 2019 [Call to Faithfully Journey with the Dying](#).

A Call to Listen: Launching a New National Initiative to Respond to Poverty

The Canadian Council of Churches' Commission on Justice and Peace (CJP) is launching [Churches Listening & Responding to Poverty](#). This national initiative invites local congregations, para-church organizations, and ecumenical groups into a structured process of shared listening with people who have lived experience of poverty. Rather than introducing another programmatic model, the initiative seeks to move beyond traditional charity toward relationships rooted in dignity, humility, and justice. You are invited to get involved by connecting with the CJP.

4. Partnerships

World Day of Prayer 2026 Report

The [World Day of Prayer 2026 report](#) is now available. You can also read [grant stories](#). In 2027, WDP will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

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, July 19**

ACC: The Most Rev. Greg Kerr-Wilson, Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Calgary

ELCIC: The assistant to the bishop and the staff of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories

MOR: The Canadian Moravian Foundation

5. Sign-up for Our Weekly Sermons from May to October



Looking for worship resources 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 July 26.

More than 400 subscribers are already receiving the series. Congregations can sign up 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.

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:



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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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