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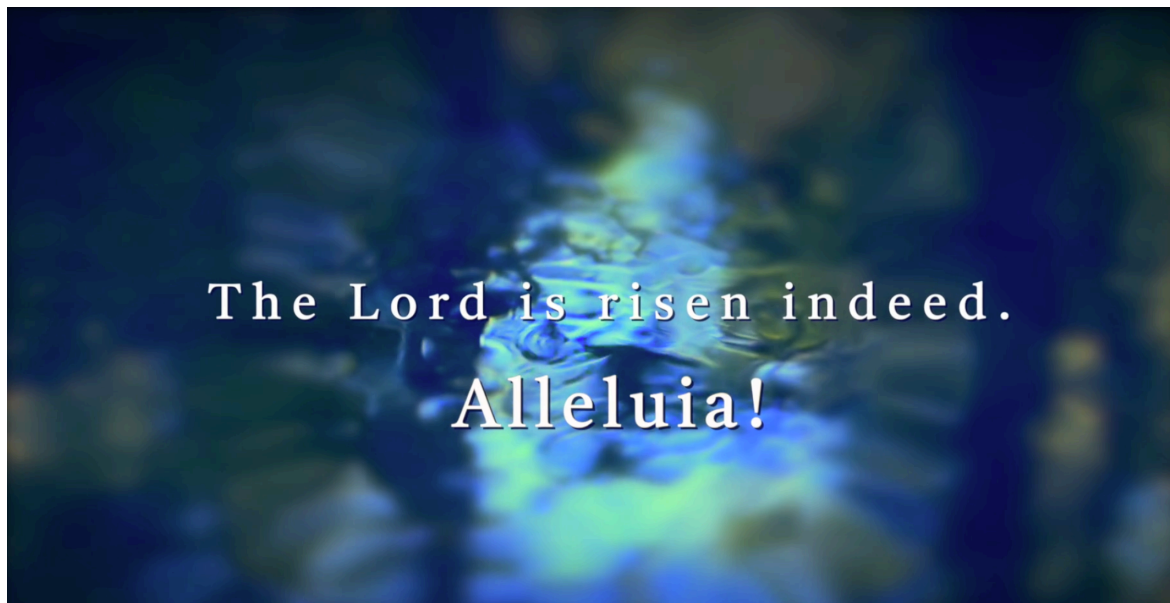
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The newsletter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

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| 2. ELCA, ELCIC, ELCJHL             | Webinar from the Holy Land                |
| 3. Lenten Resources                | ELCA, CLWR, More                          |
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| 5. Compassionate Justice           | Carbon Neutrality, Earth Week, More       |
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## 1. Joint Easter Message



As Holy Week approaches, [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan C. Johnson and [Anglican Church of Canada](#) (ACC) Acting Primate Archbishop Anne Germond share a joint Easter message as they reflect on the new world order put in place by Christ's resurrection. ELCIC member congregations are welcome to download and include this Easter message in their worship services. To view and download in various file sizes and formats, [please click here.](#)

## 2. Join Lutheran Bishops in a Conversation from the Holy Land, April 12

**WEBINAR**

# IN PRAYERFUL SOLIDARITY

**A conversation from the Holy Land**

**PRESIDING BISHOP EATON**  
ELCA

**BISHOP AZAR**  
ELCJHL

**NATIONAL BISHOP JOHNSON**  
ELCIC

**12 APRIL 2025** **10:00AM CST**





You are invited to join in an important conversation with ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson, Bishop Sani Ibrahim Azar from the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land](#) (ELCJHL) and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton from the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) (ELCA) **on Saturday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m. (CST)**. Together these bishops will discuss the ongoing situation on the ground in the Holy Land, and what prayerful solidarity looks like as North American Lutherans. To join this webinar via Zoom, please click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87560093980>. You may also visit the Facebook page of [ELCA Sumud](#) for more information or to join the webinar from there.

### 3. Lenten Resources

#### **Growing in Grace - Learning Series for Lent**

The **Growing in Grace Lenten Study** uses a series of articles, written with a gentle storytelling approach to introduce challenging and contextually relevant topics on racism, immigration politics, birthright citizenship, cultural differences, privilege, and responsibility. Rev. Janaki Bandara from the Anglican Parish of the Bruce Peninsula (where St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran in Wiarton is a part of), wrote this series with the goal to put together each article with scripture and study questions, and for the group to gather and discuss together.

Each week, one article is provided as an audio podcast along with scripture and some reflection questions. There will be a gathering to discuss on Zoom or in person. For more information and to get the links for this study, please click either the [PDF](#) or [Word](#) file which will allow you to edit it if you want to lead your own study, and fit it in your own setting.

#### **ELCA: Sumud Lenten Series 2025 - A Resource Focused on the Plight of Palestinians**

The [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) shares a Lenten resource focused on the plight of Palestinians. The devotional called "Sumud," an Arabic word meaning "steadfastness," offers churches and individuals a six-week study with videos and reflections to raise awareness of and advocacy against Israel's occupation of Palestinian lands and its military rule over Palestinians. For more information on this Lenten devotional including a feature story on this initiative, [please click here](#). To download this resource which includes links to the weekly devotionals and featured videos, [please click here](#).

**Faith Communities Unite for Climate Justice: Join 'Give it up for the Earth!' 2025**  
[Citizens for Public Justice](#) (C.P.J) has announced **Give it up for the Earth! 2025** - a

[Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry \(DUIM\)](#) has announced **Engage Difference! For the Earth 2025** - a national Lenten campaign mobilizing faith communities **from March 5 to April 17, 2025**. As the climate crisis deepens, this initiative invites individuals and churches to reduce emissions, embrace eco-spirituality, and advocate for federal climate policies that reflect justice and sustainability. For more information including resources and how to engage your congregation, please visit their website when you [click here](#). Share also your Lenten journey with #ForTheEarth and #ClimateJustice to inspire others.

### **CLWR: A Lenten Journey of Reflection, Action and Hope**

[Canadian Lutheran World Relief](#) (CLWR) invites you to come along on a Lenten journey of reflection, action and hope. A new reflection is posted on CLWR's website and social media each week, and focuses on a theme - Hunger, Safety, Well-Being, Identity Loss, Community, Nature, and Faith - and reflects on how these issues shape our lives, our communities, and our world. Through scripture, discussion, and action, we will consider how God calls us to respond with justice, compassion, and hope. Join us on our journey through Lent when you [click here](#).

## **4. Register for the Next Engage Difference! Event**



**Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry (DUIM)** is a five-day interactive and engaging program with practical ideas for implementation in your

own context. This program is for ministry leaders and community members nurturing cultural relevance, understanding, and awareness in their communities. The next DUIM event is **on May 26-30, 2025** in Mayfair United Church, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. For more information on this event including bursaries and registration details, [please click here](#). You may also download the [event poster](#) and share it with your network!

## 5. Compassionate Justice

### Reflections On A Low-Carbon Life: April Reflection is Here



The ELCIC Task Force on Carbon Neutrality is writing monthly reflections on climate justice to encourage engagement, share resources, and call for prayer, reflection, and learning. The reflection for the **month of April** from Mary Philip aka Joy, PhD (she/her), is now available. To read this month's reflection, [please click here](#).

### Election Resources for ELCIC Members

As we approach Canada's federal election **on April 28**, ELCIC members may use the following resources from our partners. To support informed decision-making, we encourage you to explore these resources.

[KAIROS 2025 Election Toolkit](#)

[CPJ's Public Justice at the Polls: Election Bulletin 2025](#)

[The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Justice and Hope for All: A Federal Election Resource](#)

### Earth Week 2025 - Together for the Love of Creation

**From April 20-27**, [For the Love of Creation](#) is marking **Earth Week 2025** using the theme Together for the Love of Creation. We invite all faith communities to be part of Earth Week and join with others across the country to engage in praying, learning, or acting for climate justice! This coming together for the Love of Creation is a way to connect, grow, listen, inspire, hope, and affect change. To consider adding your event to the interactive map [please click here](#).

### **Palestinian Christian Call for Repentance Conference on May 28-30**

A conference which focuses to attend to the Open Letter issued by Palestinian Christians to Western Churches titled "**A Call to Repentance**" is scheduled to take place **on May 28-30, 2025** at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, Ont. This conference aims to centre Palestinian Christian voices. By facilitating a forum in which international church and community representatives, activists, and scholars can engage in dialogue regarding how the Western churches can heed the Call to Repentance, we intend to examine the means and methods for effective solidarity, peace-making, and justice in Palestine. For more information, please [click here](#).

## **6. Youth Ministry and Leadership**

### **CLAY 2025 Registration is Ongoing**

Registration for CLAY 2025 opened on February 15. If you and your Home Team haven't registered yet, you can do so now. Please visit: [www.claygathering.ca](http://www.claygathering.ca). Stay up-to-date with us on Facebook, Instagram, and X, and [sign-up for the newsletter](#) today!

### **Charitus Pym Legacy Fund Grant: Planting the Seed**

[Charitus](#) is offering a grant to congregations, ELCIC Synods and other Charitus stakeholders to apply for the Charitus Pym Legacy Fund Grant: Planting the Seed for CLAY 2025 - Rooted and Rising. This fund is designed to support youth attendance at CLAY 2025 in Saskatoon, The funding of \$500 is being offered to each congregation or group to support fundraising initiatives aimed at assisting youth with the financial commitments necessary to attend and/or register for CLAY 2025. For more information and to learn how to apply, [please click here](#).

### **DOTAC Seminar Series: Mondays in May**

This year, the [Diakonia of the Americas and the Caribbean \(DOTAC\)](#) Education Committee is going ahead with their fifth annual "**Mondays in May: DOTAC Seminar Series on Diakonia**." The focus this year will be on the publication *Diaconal Studies: Lived Theology for the Church in North America*. Many former Mondays in May presenters have contributed to the 21 chapters in the volume. DOTAC wants to do one section of the book in each of their four Mondays in May, and have one presenter from that section lead our time together. Scheduled dates in May include **May 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. CDT**. For more information on this seminar series including the book and study guide to be used, please [click here](#).

## **7. Effective Partnerships**

### **Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer**

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, April 13:**

**ACC:** The Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario

**ELCIC:** The congregations of the Central Manitoba area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

**TOGETHER:** The Rt. Rev. Amy Gohdes-Luhman, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province

### **AON Update: Easier Insurance Solutions for ELCIC Member Churches**

Good news! AON has made changes to better serve congregations within the ELCIC. They now operate through a centralized management system, with AON's Affinity Group as the new go-to contact and with Matthew Bowden as manager. One big improvement - churches can now send rental groups directly to Affinity Group for insurance instead of requiring them to find their own. The Affinity Group will handle billing and coverage separately, making the process hassle-free. They also offer special event and smaller church policies to meet your needs. These are just a few ways the Affinity Group is making insurance simpler. For more details and contact information, [please click here.](#)

### **Opportunities:**

#### **KAIROS: Executive Director Position Open**

The Executive Director of KAIROS is accountable for the overall leadership and strategic direction of the organization. While working collaboratively with the Executive Officer, Finances of the United Church of Canada, management team, Steering Committee, and future Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for driving KAIROS' mission forward, ensuring financial sustainability, and maintaining a strong presence among churches, social movements, and the broader public. For more information and to apply, [please click here.](#)

#### **ELCA: Various Positions Open in Five Regions of the World**

The [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) (ELCA) is recruiting for pastors, teachers, education and communication coordinators, and a West Africa Regional Representative. A little over a year ago our two Bishops signed a covenant that we would work together on recruiting and sending mission personnel to work with our companion churches. For more information including job description, please click on the specific region of the world where recruiting is required.

Global Mission Opportunities: [Africa](#), [Europe](#), [Middle East North Africa](#), [Asia and the Pacific](#), and [Latin America and the Caribbean](#).

#### **Charitus Announces Calls for Partner Grant Program Applications**

Charitus has launched its [2025 Partner Impact Grant Program](#), offering matching grants to ELCIC congregations and institutions for projects addressing social and environmental needs in both church and broader community contexts. Grants of up to \$3,000, covering

up to 75 percent of project costs, are available to support impactful initiatives under three key objectives:

1. **Elimination of Poverty:** Projects like low-income meal programs, food distribution, and essential items assistance.
2. **Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples:** Initiatives to promote awareness, education, and community engagement, such as healthy meals, cultural camps, and work programs.
3. **Sustainable Environmental Practices:** Ideas such as energy-efficient lighting upgrades, water conservation measures, or rain barrel installations.

This is an opportunity for your congregation or Synod to receive financial support for projects that make a tangible difference. Applications are open to all Charitus partners and congregations supported by their Synod. The deadline for submission is **May 31, 2025**. For more details or to apply, visit [Charitus Grant Application](#).

## 8. 2025 ELCIC National Convention

### National Convention Registration is Now Open!

The [2025 National Convention](#) of the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) has now opened the registration for delegates from every synod as of April 1st. The Registration Information Package and Agenda are now both available online at: <https://elcic.ca/national-convention/>. Please also visit this webpage for updates on our 2025 National Convention. Other pieces of information will be uploaded as they become available. For any questions on the registration process, please contact Peace Anthony-Ikoko, Convention Manager at [nationalconvention@elcic.ca](mailto:nationalconvention@elcic.ca). **Deadline for registrations is on April 30th.**

## 9. From the National Office

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

To our current *Eternity for Today* subscribers - by now you should have received your **April-May-June issue**. We've been advised of potential printing issues with this edition. Please take a moment to check for any errors, such as missing or misordered pages. If you notice any issues, kindly let us know as soon as possible (email [info@elcic.ca](mailto:info@elcic.ca) or call our office at [204-984-9150](tel:204-984-9150)) and we will ensure you receive a correct copy asap! Thank you for your support of our national publication - we appreciate you!

ELCIC congregations are encouraged to complete their **2025 renewals** as soon as possible so they don't miss out on any upcoming issues. If you need a link to your online



renewal form, please contact us at [office@elcic.ca](mailto:office@elcic.ca) .

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*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.*

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



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## 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](mailto: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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