

From: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada info@elcic.ca
Subject: ELCIC News: April 23, 2024
Date: April 23, 2024 at 9:58 AM
To: oslcospika@gmail.com



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1. LWF Call for Youth-Led Climate Justice Proposals



Photo credit: LWF/A. Hillert

The [Lutheran World Federation](#) (LWF) is calling for proposals for climate projects led by young people in all regions of the global communion of churches. All projects must have the endorsement of an LWF member church and should be rolled out in the period from July to October 2024. For more information on guidelines and applications, please [click here](#). For more details on ELCIC member church endorsement, please contact Deacon Gretchen Peterson at gpeterson@elcic.ca or Rev. Paul Gehrs at pgehrs@elcic.ca.

2. Earth Week 2024 - April 21 to 28

Engage in a Climate Justice Activity...Praying, Learning, Acting

From April 21 to April 28, we come together together for the love of creation to connect, grow, listen, inspire, hope, and affect change. Please check-out the [interactive map of events](#) on the [For Love of Creation](#) website. In addition to local events, there are a series of online events which you can join. Coming up next on:

- April 23 at noon EDT: [Watershed 4: Re-Orientation](#)
- April 25 at 1:00 p.m. EDT: [Climate Change, Eco-anxiety, and Habits of Hope](#)

Please see also the Earth Day Statement from ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson and ACC Archbishop Linda Nicholls [here](#).

Citizens for Public Justice: Give it up for the Earth! Lenten Campaign Wraps Up But You Can Still Take Action

During Lent, communities of [Citizens for Public Justice](#) (CPJ) supporters pledged to **Give it up for the Earth!** by committing to reduce their personal greenhouse gas emissions, embracing eco-spirituality, and signing an open letter to Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault. Even if Lent is over, this campaign continues. There is still time to sign the letter and urge Minister Guilbeault to set more ambitious climate action targets and to support a just transition towards a low-carbon economy. To read the letter and sign, please [click here](#).

Recordings of Webinars on Environmental Action

The Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ) shares two recent recordings of webinars on environmental action. Discover the lessons on eco-spirituality and climate justice when you listen to these recordings.

[Laudate Deum: Eco-Spirituality in Action](#): CPJ and For the Love of Creation team up to dive into Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, "Laudate Deum." Watch and discover how this inspiring document serves as a call to action in the realms of environmental justice and creation care.

[The Climate Virus: Lessons from COVID-19 Towards Urgent Climate Action in Canada](#):

Lila O'Grady leads a panel discussion on the connections between the COVID-19

Julia Sterling leads a workshop on the cross-crisis lessons between the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis to imagine what an urgent pandemic-level climate action plan could look in Canada.

3. Leadership Conference of the Americas

ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson Attends Annual Conference



Photo by Gabriela Giese/LWF

From April 15-19, delegates from North America, the Caribbean and Latin America met for the annual [Leadership Conference of the Americas](#) in São Leopoldo, Brazil.

Participants met under the theme *'Fear not! There is good news!'* A bringing together of church leaders, youth, council members, partners and women, the conference was hosted by the Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (IELCB) in honour of 200 years of Lutheran worship in Brazil. In attendance to represent the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada was National Bishop Susan Johnson.

"We express our solidarity with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) which suffers the effects of war. We call for a ceasefire and access to humanitarian aid for those in need," [reads a message adopted by delegates](#). "Silence in the face of fears and concerns is not an option. We accompany one another and walk together as one body in Christ", remembering the message of the Gospel to "Not be afraid" and sharing the Good News.

4. Compassionate Justice

Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage - Canada





Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage: Canadian Churches for Just Peace

The [Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage: Canadian Churches for Just Peace!](#) invites local faith communities and leaders to walk as a way of praying for a ceasefire and a just peace for all in Palestine and Israel. Learn more and [share your events, experiences, and photos with Kairos Canada](#). If you can, join national church leaders for the final leg of their pilgrimage, converging on Parliament Hill on May 22.

Seven Weeks for Seven Sacred Teachings - Resources Now Available

The [Circle for Reconciliation and Justice](#) of the [Eastern Synod](#) invites congregations to "Save the Dates" for seven Sundays, **from May 19 to June 30** as a time in the church year to walk with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. We encourage you to learn about and reflect upon the Seven Sacred Teachings of the Anishinaabe, also known as the Seven Grandmothers or the Seven Grandfathers. A series of resources are now available to accompany you as you lean into these teachings as we celebrate National Indigenous History Month in June. To access and download these resources including a video message from Bishop Michael Pryse, please [click here](#).

5. Effective Partnerships

Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, April 28**.

ACC: The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop, The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews, Episcopal Administrator, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Moosonee

ELCIC: The congregations of the Winnipeg area of the Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Synod

ELCJHL Appeal

The ELCIC has an ongoing [appeal to support our partners in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land \(ELCJHL\)](#). Looking for more resources? You can find a [list of updates, statements and resources on the ELCIC website here](#).

Fourth Global Christian Forum





In photo: ELCIC Bishop Larry Kochendorfer presenting one of the Bible studies at the 4th Global Christian Forum held in Accra, Ghana.

The [Global Christian Forum](#) (GCF) held its 4th global gathering on April 15-20 in Accra, Ghana. [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada's](#) (ELCIC) Bishop Larry Kochendorfer attended, representing the [LWF North America](#) region and presented one of the Bible studies. To read the message of the Fourth Global Gathering, please [click here](#). To view photos from the gathering, please [click here](#).

2024 National Worship Conference



STONES CRY OUT:

Praying with the Land

ELCIC/ACC National Worship Conference
July 18-21, 2024 – Regina, Saskatchewan

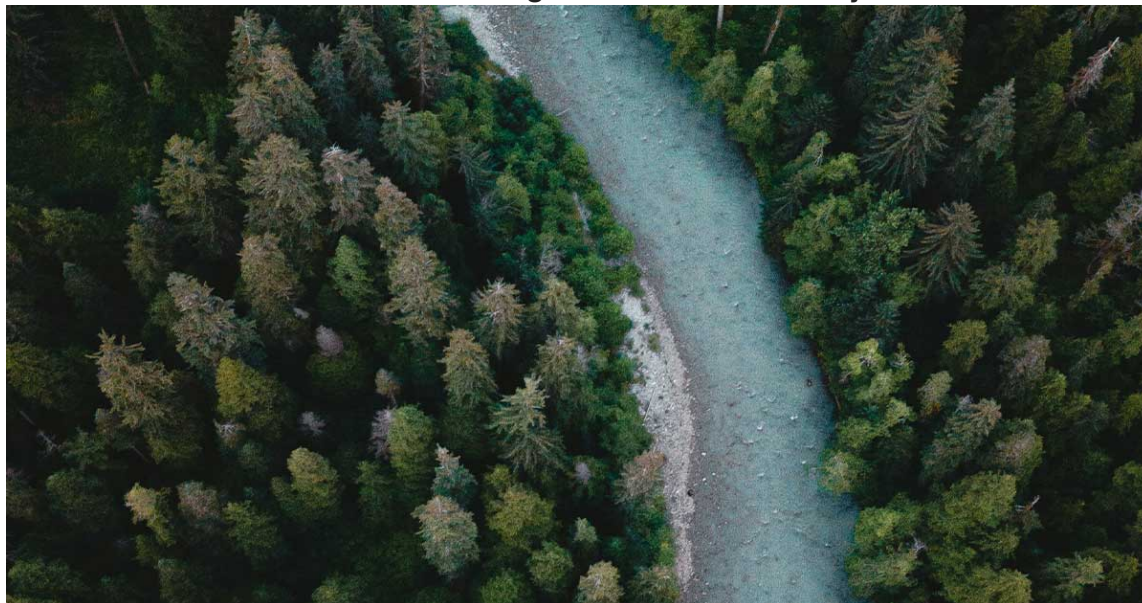
It's not too early to start planning your summer schedule! The [2024 National Worship Conference](#) titled "**The Stones Cry Out: Praying with the Land**" will be held **on July 18-21, 2024** in beautiful Regina, Saskatchewan. For more information and to register, please [click here](#) and follow us on Facebook [@nationalworshipconference](#) for updates regarding keynote speakers, workshops, and Friday evening hospitality options!

In the spirit of unity of all denominations, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

In the continuing spirit of full communion, the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) and the [Anglican Church of Canada](#) (ACC) are pleased to announce the recipients of the **2024 Companion of the Worship Arts** (CWA). The CWA is awarded every three years in recognition of significant contributions to the worship life of both churches. Since 2014, one Anglican and one Lutheran recipient receive the honour, recognizing ongoing inspiration and encouragement to others, and service to God, through worship, spirituality and the arts. This year's Lutheran recipient is the Rev. Lyle McKenzie and this year's Anglican recipient is the Ven. Dr. Richard Leggett. The CWA awards will be presented by ACC Primate Linda Nicholls and ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson at the **2024 National Worship Conference "STONES CRY OUT: Praying with the land"**. To read the full article and the bios of our 2024 CWA recipients, please [click here](#).

6. Important Dates, Resources and More

Join the Webinar on Social and Ecological Justice Work - May 7



If your congregation is interested in deeper engagement in God's mission to love and heal the world, you are invited to join a webinar on ***Engaging Your Parish in Social and Ecological Justice Work: From Discernment to Action*** on **May 7 at 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time**. In this webinar, you will be equipped with the tools to help you and your congregation prayerfully discern and engage in work on social and ecological justice. You will learn more about the tools offered in the [Parish Engagement Resource](#) for social and ecological justice which was developed and shared with Assembly in July 2023 when the [Anglican Church of Canada](#) and the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) gathered for Assembly 2023. For more information and to register for this event, please [click here](#).

You Are Invited to Our Online Racial Justice Workshop





Racial Justice WORKSHOP

Looking for a way to start conversations on addressing racism in the church and Canadian society?

Sign up for an upcoming online Racial Justice Workshop.

Carmen Ramirez (she/her), ELCIC's Assistant to the Bishop for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion will hold two workshops on racial justice. These are intended to be taken together.

REGISTRATION

ELCIC members Free

Presbyterian members \$50

Sign up early as each session will be capped at 50 participants.

SESSION 1 — MAY 9, 2024

11:30 am EST to 2:00 pm EST

[Click here to register](#)

SESSION 2 — MAY 9, 2024

3:00pm EST to 5:30pm EST

[Click here to register](#)

If you're looking for a way to start conversations on addressing racism in the church and Canadian society, you can join our online **Racial Justice Workshop**. ELCIC's Carmen

Ramirez, Assistant to the Bishop for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion will hold two workshops on racial justice. These workshops are intended to be taken together. **Session 1 is on May 9th from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (ET)** and **Session 2 is also on May 9th from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (ET)**. Registration is **free to all ELCIC members**. To register for Session 1, please [click here](#). For Session 2, please [click here](#). To view and download the event poster, please [click here](#). You may share this event widely to your network.

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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