



The Eastern Synod Lutheran

www.easternsynod.org



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Volume 63



Costly Reformation

Rev Dr. Mark Harris, Principal Dean
Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

In April the staff and faculty of Waterloo Lutheran Seminary packed up our entire building in preparation for the move to Heidelberg House, a former Laurier residence that is serving as our interim home for the next 14 months while the seminary undergoes renewal and modernization. Absolutely everything had to be sorted and packed in order to totally vacate the building: classrooms; faculty and administrative offices; lounges; the chapel; sacristy and vestry — even the custodial and furnace rooms. Everything had to go!

Part of this process was easy and straightforward. Are we going to use this particular object in our renewed facility? Does this item hold some historical significance? Are these records that we are obliged to preserve?

But other parts of the process were much more laborious as we sorted through 54 years of accumulated records, reports, files, and historic materials to determine what had to be packed and moved; what needed to be forwarded to the ar-

chives; and what could be recycled or discarded. It was both a formidable and, at times, even an emotional process.

Along the way, there were some surprising discoveries: the brass nameplate from the original chapel in Willison Hall at Waterloo College; another for the current bell tower; a serviette, dated 1984, on which a young Doug Reble nominated a similarly young Michael Pryse to serve as the student representative to the Faculty Senate; student lists including the names of folks long forgotten; archival materials related to the original design and fundraising efforts for the construction of the seminary building and much, much more. Case upon case of materials, reflecting documents and materials of historic significance, were forwarded to the seminary archives. Even more was moved to our temporary facilities or put in storage.

But this process of sorting also involved countless decisions about what to relinquish. There was much that simply had to be discarded as no longer useful, helpful, or significant, even if it had once been so. I recall a report, concerning a matter long past, whose margins were filled with the comments of a much-beloved profes-

sor; a threadbare academic gown labelled with the name of another; and countless working documents relating to people and events long gone. Once our move was completed, I walked through the empty seminary and the very walls seemed to echo with the people and memories that had filled this beloved place. As I did so, I lamented the letting go and the saying goodbye.

The renewed facility, to which we hope to return in 14 months, will better serve this institution for many years, as we seek to equip our students for lives of ministry and service in congregations and in the wider community. But it would seem that reform and renewal does not come without a cost. Regardless of the allure of the familiar, we cannot hold onto all that was and still embrace the possibilities of the future into which God is calling us all.

Seeking to be faithful to this time and place, wherever that may be, will always involve more than just holding onto our past. It will also involve choosing what to surrender, and an entering into the not-yet-known, if we are to participate into whatever new thing God is doing our midst.



All are Welcome!

There will be a Service of Leave taking
St. James Evangelical Lutheran
Church

96 Queen St. E.
Cambridge (Hespeler) N3C 4B1

Sunday, June 25, 2017

2 PM

Welcoming the Stranger

submitted by Christine Lauffer

St. Paul's, Magnetawan has been working with the Romero House community to enable refugees or residents to visit northern Ontario. Romero House interns accompany refugees on their journey to visit the north. Thanks to an Eastern Synod Missions grant, St. Paul's and Romero House have been able to extend the visits to 10 times per year. The money helps to pay for gas, sometimes a rental car (if it is a larger family), and the food they like to bring to prepare an ethnic lunch and dinner when they visit.

To learn more about Romero House and their work with refugees, please visit their website at <https://romerohouse.org/>

Pictured is Treasurer Nancy Woodruff presenting a cheque to an intern from Romero House, Jeff Cheng.

A musical play sponsored by, and in support of, Canadian Lutheran World Relief. Visit onetruncktheatre.com for details.

MISSION POTLUCK



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

Vacancies

Faith, Brantford
St. Matthew's, Kitchener
St. Peter's, Ottawa
Advent, Toronto
St. James, St. Jacobs
Bethany, Woodstock

For further information please contact Rev Douglas Reble, Assistant to the Bishop, dreble@elcic.ca or call 1-877-373-5242.

Report of the Treasurer (To April 30th, 2017)

As can be the case during the early months of the year, remittances during the month of April swung wildly from those received in the previous months. As a result, as of the end of April, 2017, benevolence offerings are now tracking more than 6% behind the amount received for the corresponding period in the previous year. On the other hand, thanks to a \$20,000 donation to the "Seeds of Hope – South Sudan" appeal from one congregation, remittances to Canadian Lutheran World Relief have pulled within 2% of those received to the end of April, 2016 (compared to a 25% lag last month). For details refer to [Report of the Treasurer](#) or go to <http://www.easternsynod.org/> and click the Treasurers/Financial Info button.

Women's Auxiliary Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Annual Meeting

October 21, 2017
St. John's Lutheran Church
22 Willow St.
Waterloo, ON

10am-4pm

Registration 9:30 am

Theme: Women of the Reformation

Guest Speaker: Rev Henry Fischer "Queen Maria of Hungary, A Supporter of the Reformation" also: "Meet Katharina von Borra, wife of Martin Luther."

Come out and enjoy a wonderful day of worship, a Luther Hymn Sing and fellowship. Meet the new Seminary students and see the beautiful quilts.

Cost for registration and lunch is \$22.

To register contact Mrs. Lynda Karn by October 13, 2017
email: lkarn@rogers.com



Small gestures of welcome

submitted by Rev Sebastian Meadows-Helmer
Thornhill Lutheran Church

In this past year, our church has made two small changes that symbolize welcome to youth and young families. Last year, we installed a Reserved Parking Sign for new and expecting mothers (which I generously interpret as also for any parent with a stroller). While I was on parental leave last year, I realized how difficult it was to get two young children out of a car, into a stroller and then through a parking lot into church. It is a small gesture of welcome to harried young families that we're glad that they went through the hassle of getting their kids ready on Sunday morning to come church, and that we want to make their lives a little easier.

When we updated our congregation's constitution this year to reflect the 2010 Model Constitution, we deleted a clause which limited voting on financial and legal matters to those of the age of majority (a few years back, the ELCIC Constitutional committee had received legal advice that youth under 18 could in fact vote on all matters). Now our confirmands, even at 14 years, can be full voting members at our congregational meetings. Often, fresh out of confirmation, they have some enthusiastic idealism that should be nurtured, so this is a good move.

While these two changes are small, they are gestures of welcome that change both the way the congregation operates, and signals an openness to the outside. Perhaps there are some small modifications that you could do in your congregation that could help signal your welcome to the community?



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Alma Janke, wife of Rev Melvin Janke who passed away April 28, 2017.

Well Done Redeemer!

Pictured below are confirmands with Pastor Tim Dawkins from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fishersville, who along with congregation members, recently collected 35 Quick Kits (school/personal care items) plus \$420 cash donations for CLWR. The items were blessed during a Mission for Others Christian Ministries Special Service on May 7, 2017 and are on their way to help children less fortunate.



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THE FAITHLIFE FINANCIAL DIFFERENCE

Money, Faith & You

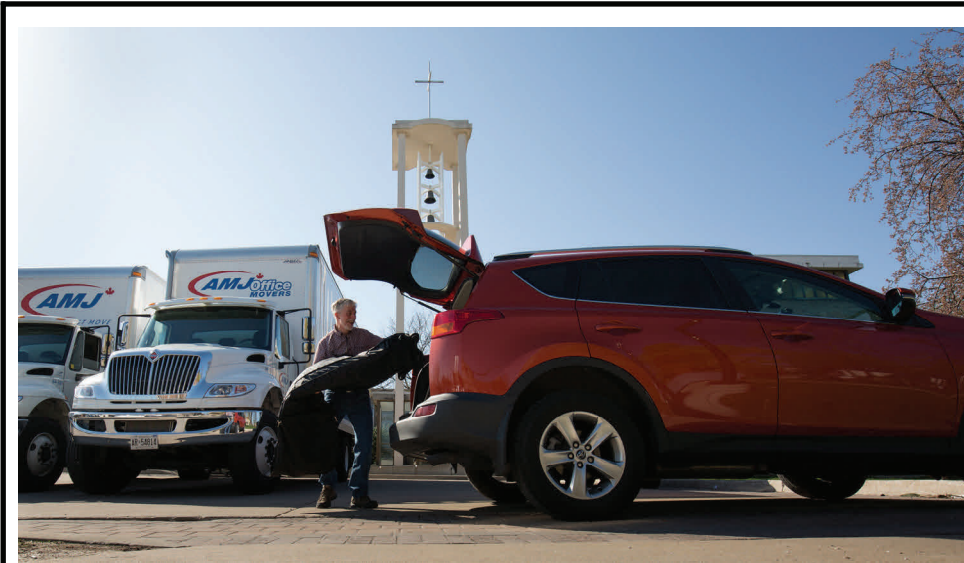
You believe faith and finances go together. So do we. Let's start a new conversation about being wise with money and how generosity is an expression of your faith. To learn more, visit faithlifefinancial.ca.

PROTECTING FINANCIAL FUTURES • LIVING CHRISTIAN VALUES • BUILDING A BETTER WORLD



Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

May 2017



Mark Harris, the seminary's principal-dean, packs vestments into his vehicle as movers empty the seminary and shuttle furniture and boxes to temporary offices nearby at 190 Lester Street. Check our YouTube channel and Facebook page to view our [renewal roundup](#) video updates on the \$9-million renewal and modernization project. Videos will be posted regularly throughout the 14-month construction phase. And visit [reformcapitalcampaign.ca](#) to learn more about the project and the \$1.5-million capital campaign to help us grow into the 21st century.

Kate Harper honoured for research

Kate Harper, assistant professor of spiritual care and psychotherapy since 2015, has received the Society for Pastoral Care and Counselling Research's dissertation award. Harper successfully defended her dissertation in April, without revisions, for a PhD in Psychology at York University in Toronto.



Kate Harper

Her dissertation — Psychoanalysis as an Interdisciplinary Science: From 19th Century Neuropsychology to Modern Neuropsychoanalysis — in part explores the integration of the knowledge of the brain (objective neuroscience) with psychoanalysis (the subjective understanding of the human condition) and argues the benefits of using them together to enhance psychotherapy

treatment and keep the lived experience at the forefront of brain-based research. [Click here for the abstract.](#)

Kristine Lund, the seminary's assistant principal and director of spiritual care and psychotherapy programs, says the SPCR's award for Harper is well-deserved.

Harper said she is flattered her work was selected. "It would not have been possible without the support of my committee and supervisor, Dr. Raymond Fancher of York University, and everyone at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary." The award was to be presented at the SPCR's conference in Waterloo, which Harper and Lund organized as part of their work with the [Delton Glebe Counselling Centre](#).

Reformation conference

Michael Coren, broadcaster and commentator on issues of religion, will present the keynote talk during a [daylong conference](#) on contemporary expressions of the Reformation. The June 17th conference, is co-sponsored by the seminary and Renison University College. The event — Reformation, Turmoil, and Religious Experience: Tending Contemporary Expressions — is an Anglican-Lutheran conference observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation through creative expressions of worship, music, preaching, spirituality, and justice. Deadline: June 9.

thirdspace_

The alternative worshipping community known as [thirdspace_](#), a project of the Eastern Synod's missions committee, continues to meet throughout the summer at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday (but not on long weekends).



Location: 190 Lester St. in Waterloo. For [details click here](#) or contact Rev. Anne Anderson at ananderson@wlu.ca

Centre for Public Ethics

John Milloy, assistant professor of public ethics, has assumed the role of director of the [Centre for Public Ethics](#) after former co-director David Pfrimmer's retirement on May 1. The seminary's board recently honoured Pfrimmer by giving him the status of professor emeritus, and named him the first Fellow of the Centre for Public Ethics.

Contact us

Events: Dorinda Kruger Allen, dkrugerallen@wlu.ca
Seminary stories: Mirko Petricevic, mpetricevic@wlu.ca