



The Courier 2019/1 Spring (March - May)

**The English Language Newsletter
of Martin Luther Church Ottawa**

**933 Smyth Rd
Ottawa, ON K1G 1P5
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► Pastor's Message The Early Bird

Dear Parishioners,

Chill blew the wind, snow chips slamming into my face, churned up by the snowplow, with which with great stench and great noise I was trying, for the umpteenth time to clear our driveway. It was February and joyous enthusiasm over freshly fallen snow was hence already somewhat diminished. But and if only to console myself a little I thought that many of our friends in Germany probably envied us. Not perhaps the grim task of early morning snow removal, but certainly the pure white snow, which – these days – is a true rarity in the German North, whence I come. I can't forget the surprise and pure joy I saw on a brief visit in January in the eyes of school kids at a Berlin streetcar stop. Hands outstretched, there they stood to marvel at the sight of snowflakes melting on their gloves, while their parents tried to scoop up two millimeters of snow to form pathetically tiny snowballs. I would have

gladly provided them with a few snow men from the rich supply in our Ottawa garden.

But now, suddenly, and despite the clamour of our snow blower, I heard the voice of a bird. At



first I thought this can't be, not at minus twelve degrees. Still, surprised as I was, I turned off the snow blower. And, well, there indeed right on the maple in our front yard, sat this cardinal, singing his morning chant, seemingly unbothered by swirling snow and a noisy snow blower. Incredible. Glowing red in early morning light (I have often wondered how a bird with such temptingly colourful feathers can survive, yet, on this morning there was no danger of a cat

sneaking up with stealth, ours lay snug in the warm comfort of her favourite carton box next to the heater, with no thought of braving the outside.) So, in glowing red splendour up there and undisturbed sat the cardinal and sang. I know, of course, that it is the gaining morning

light that triggers such springlike singing, even if there isn't the faintest sign of a seasonal change in the offing.

It was not just a momentary consolation on this wintry morning, on which I bemoaned the still mounting snowy volumes to the left and right on our driveway. This song is also a wonderful symbol of an awareness, a knowledge that peers well beyond whatever eyes behold. Sometimes it occurs to me that as I look at our world, listening to our daily fare of incessantly bad news, that I ask myself when will the flow of bad news finally end and when will we humans, instead of only dwelling on our mundane daily problems and our selfish objectives learn to look beyond the rim of our dinnerplate, to see and register the future and well-being of those other creatures of God. Humans and animals.

I live as a Christian in hopes of attaining Gods' realm, hoping for the fulfilment of the promise that the time will come when justice and peace will prevail, the time when every human being is assured of the care and regard to which in Gods' judgment all are entitled beyond all question and doubt. When I think of the disciples of Jesus, who were, even when he lived, impatient and time and again asked this teacher

and master when the realm of God will arrive, I sometimes feel quite close to them in this longing for lasting change. Jesus thought of it as a new and different reality, not as another earthly state. He kept saying that the new reality can already be detected in tentative form, but that the full transformation was to be awaited. It can be found where people adhere to his example.

And – by the way – I allowed this early bird to send me back on the right path. Away from my gaze at the annoyances and worried cares which politics and conditions of our world impose and focussed at the signs of more hopefully fulfilling human co-existence. Certainly, one has to look with much concentration and the signs are not easily detected. They are less glaring than the red plumes of the early morning vocalist in the tree. He has seen the light and is sure that winter will wane and disappear. Haven't we also seen and entrusted ourselves to him, who said of himself: I am the light of the world? Our world would benefit if we sang and twittered more of our hopes....thinks

Your Pastor Friedrich Demke

as he wishes you a reflective Lent and a joyous Easter to come.

► Report of the Council Co-Chairs

Dear Parishioners,

We are now into the second year as the new bilingual Martin Luther Church. Our second anniversary was accentuated by a visit from Bishop Pryse in January. Bishop Pryse preached the joint service as Pastor Demke was away in Germany attending to family matters. He then joined our fellowship and engaged in a lively discussion with the congregation on the issues of amalgamation. He indicated that we serve as an example to other congregations who may face similar situations. We all hope he will visit us again soon.

The closing of the sale of Preston Street went relatively quickly. Thanks to all of you who helped in cleaning the old place and throwing away years of accumulated odds and ends. Many useful but no longer needed items were donated to established charities.

From the total proceeds of the sale less the realtor commission, lawyers fees and HST (totalling approximately \$60K), we were able to invest \$800K into a one year cashable GIC at a higher rate than offered by the BMO. The balance of the proceeds, approximately \$120K, was deposited into our BMO account pending future investing and will be used for urgent ongoing projects and renovations. However we

made a special arrangement with BMO and we are also earning interest, albeit a lesser amount, on these funds. It should be noted that our lawyer is holding \$20K in trust while we finalize negotiations with the buyers.

The stained glass windows from the old church are safely stored in the banquet hall and will have to be installed later this year, once we as a congregation decide where to install them. And you have all seen the church bell which now stands in our entrance.

As a first step of renovating our church, using the proceeds from the sale, we have bought a new stove for the kitchen and are entertaining bids for the total renovation of the kitchen. It is long overdue and will involve new plumbing and electrical wiring as well.

Other than the kitchen, which was a real priority, the council is trying to obtain bids and decide on prioritizing the many things that need to be done. Clearly there are more needs than funds, so we will have to make some tough decisions. The obvious key projects are (not in order of priority):

- A new elevator
- A church bell tower
- A new Kindergarten
- Heating ducts in Calvary hall
- Rewiring of the church
- New lightning in the sanctuary
- New roof over entrance
- Upgrade sanctuary sound system
- Repair concrete walkways
- Foundation and stairwell repairs
- Additional chairs for banquet hall
- Additional storage cupboards for renters

To properly discharge our responsibility for the children in our Kindergarten, the council also

adopted a Child Protection Policy and Protocol. It can be found on our website.

Finally we filled out an extensive questionnaire concerning the replacement of our Pastor. As you know, unfortunately Pastor Demke will leave us in 2020. The EKD, based on our questionnaire will post an ad in the German pastoral newsletter, then make a pre-selection of three candidate, and we will make the final selection. We emphasized that the candidates need to come to Ottawa and give a service in English and German before we make a selection.

On April 28, we invite you to our Annual General Meeting. It will take place following the service. A special day, where we look back on what happened last year and together decide what we will do for the coming year. Time to talk, to say thanks and to ask critical questions. As always, coffee and cake will be available. Part of that meeting is to approve the budget for 2019, the 2018 audit report and to hear reports from the presidents, the treasurer, the pastor, and other committees, and also to elect the new council. We are advised on various construction plans, on the church lighting, the stained glass windows of the Preston St., the new kitchen, to name only a few. We ask that you keep in mind this important date in the life of the congregation. Of course, timely invitations will be sent together with the agenda. If you have an important concern that needs to be discussed at the annual meeting, please inform the church council.

Hoping that this rather severe winter will soon be over

Your co-presidents

Konrad and Sonny

► The Mount Calvary Archive moved to Waterloo, to the Laurier Archives

KAREN KUHNERT

I recently had occasion to meet Alexandra Demke on a frigid January day in Ottawa. Along with one of my daughters, Katarina, I was picking up boxes of congregational items that were no longer needed locally to continue on in vibrant ministry. What a pleasure! Yes, meeting Alexandra, a lovely person, and getting to see one of the few Churches I had not yet seen in the Eastern Synod, but also gathering up and taking back to Waterloo treasures for wider consideration and safe-keeping.

I stopped in while on a personal visit to see family in the Nation's Capital. Whenever I set foot in one of our congregations I am reminded of our family of faith, and how much bigger it is than we readily remember. I am our Synod's Archivist, though I prefer the term Story-keeper. I ensure that the memories of the lives of God's people in the Eastern Synod are respected and preserved to God's glory. In my twenty years in Ontario I've been to almost every church building in the Synod, and I'm sure I've spoken with someone from every congregation. Routinely I learn from these encounters how it is that we members of the family are uniquely shaped by our contexts yet also remain unified at the core to our common purposes and values.

On meeting Alexandra I was able to share some insight into what has been done with some congregational contents that moved on "to the Archives" physically located at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo (just one of the

universities our Synod founded). Some of this was captured in a recent article for the Eastern Synod's Leaders Edition publication:

„Sending materials to Laurier Archives professionals for preservation and utilization by both our synod and by others is to be an ongoing and active part of healthy everyday life as well as one of a number of final acts of merging, affiliating or closing congregations and ending ministries. We get to turn to Laurier Archives for advice on standards for privacy and consent to collect and use data and photographs, storage within church buildings,

and even filing of registers and records for marriages, baptisms and funerals conducted by clergy outside of congregational settings. Best-practice Leaders talk to Laurier Archive staff about what to retain, dispose of or forward for safe-keeping.

What might "preservation and utilization by others"

look like? Why keep "stuff"? Records of Women's Groups are frequently used to teach basic research methods to university undergraduate students and to write women back into the history books. Sunday School, Luther League and Camp Records have been used in a PhD project to gain insight into emerging youth culture in Canada. A number of books and publications have used our bulletins and newsletters as documentary sources for thinking about developments in church music, immigration and ethnic change. Photographs and personal correspondence are particularly



prized by diverse university and community library users as they capture memories of meaning and add dimension beyond dry data to investigations. And of course, congregational records are routinely used to help with genealogical searches, wills and estate claims and local history projects. For the university, and the community, the “stuff” of our Lutheran lives and the services we provide are already proven to be more valuable than expected. Deposits to the Archives give life to others.

In one aspect of my work as Synod Archivist, I help congregational administrators and historian/archivists to establish mutual relationships of trust with Laurier Archives staff. This builds bridges for best practices including: automatically sending Annual Reports to Laurier Archives EVERY year; getting fire safes out of church basements and getting corporate valuables out of private hands. As an active minister, I help differentiate truly useless stuff (like multiple photocopies) from contents that could be used by other congregations, missions or ministries. Of key significance in this transition era, I help keep documentation that Laurier Archives truly wants from being discarded or deleted (minutes, newsletters, photographs, anniversary booklets, special events flyers, social justice and advocacy pamphlets...).

Lutheran-encourager Kelly Fryer invited us all to remember that we don't go to church - we are the church – God's own church! Laurier Archives is our partner in determining what “stuff of our lives as church” has more inherent and inheritance value than we can sometimes see for ourselves. It is my honour to help people see that Laurier Archives can and has already put our mission and ministry into greater service for the world in ways we cannot imagine. They help us extend the reach of our on-going life-story, God's story, enfleshed in us.“

I want to thank you all for your partnership in letting me take away the items that were no longer serving your mission and ministry within the family of God. Thank you for literally passing on the faith to those who might be inspired by it including Lutherans, but also students, and researchers, and local, national and international family members trying to make sense of their family lives too.

As you continue in ministry be emboldened to know that your lives matter, more than you imagine. I welcome you to email me if you have questions or need of items that you forwarded to Laurier Archives through Katarina and I.

I can be reached via Synod Office or karenkuhnertcan@aol.com.

► The wish, to tear down walls - A visit from Bishop Pryse

J. JOACHIM MOSKAU

Sometimes we are pleasantly swept up and away and that was certainly the case at our Sunday service on January 27th. Pastor Demke was abroad due to a sad family occasion. In his stead no less than Bishop Michael Pryse had come to celebrate service with us.

A quick glance at the bishops' official biography might have helped provide a tiny hint to what was to come. Because that biography underlines his firm desire, wish and strong will

to tear down walls that stand in the way of people, or communication if you will.

Now, with Bishop Pryse on that January Sunday morning on Smyth this determination to tear down walls took the simple, totally unexpected and irresistible form of a cordial embrace, a big and very warm hug. The gesture was unmistakable, this is how you tear down walls!

And in his following sermon Pryse continued to provide clearly audible signals and exhortations

that he will not cede ground to barriers that divide.

Our modern day world, so the Bishop appeared to suggest, faces multiple challenges that hinder and impede us in our direct daily effort to achieve full and truly helpful communication.

Pryse began with a seemingly simple descriptive story. A young and as yet inexperienced Monk is to preach to his fellow monks. He mounts the steps of the pulpit, peers over the edge of the lectern and begins softly: *"Brothers, do you have any idea as to what I am about to say?"* – The brethren look at one another and slowly shake their heads to indicate that they have no idea. *"Well," says their brother, "neither do I!"* – And he darts down the steps and hurries out of the church.

No question whatever, his abbot is angry and orders the young man to set things straight the next morning.

And so, this brother William cautiously mounts the steps again on the morrow, clears his throat and begins with a weak voice, *"Brothers, do you know what I have to say to you today?"* Since the monks had prepared themselves for just this eventuality, they now nodded emphatically and encouragingly. – And thus, the preacher now responded with great firmness, *"if that is the case," he said, "I see no need to tell you more."*

Of course the abbot now was truly upset. But he would give Brother William one last chance to redeem himself. Thus, on the morrow, our monk once more scaled the steps. Clearly chastened his was a cautious voice, *"do you know what I have to tell you today?"* His confreres were now fully prepared. One half of the brethren nodded in the affirmative, the other half shook doubting heads. *"In that case,"* said Brother William, *"those in the know can brief the unknowing."*



Greatly to his own surprise, Brother William now faced a pleasantly smiling abbot. *"You've done very well. – Your sermon had a fine message for us all to learn! Each one of us gives what our neighbor is in need of."*



And indeed, in a metaphoric sense one can appreciate the story offered by Bishop Pryse as a helpful little guideline for our conduct here in our congregation on Smyth. After a first full year of communal life together we can take stock of where we stand and consider how best to chart a course for the immediate future. How

to practise what all the German word "Miteinander" encapsulates. Is it just "life with each other", or do we sense a broader spectrum of opportunities to achieve a wider sense of seamlessness.

What are the barriers and how do we attempt to strive for better cohesion?

Our bilingual assets, to take just this one example, sometimes seem to almost hinder us. On the surface we encounter adjustment challenges. But if we dare take a small step backstage, such riches are to be found.

In that we employ our two mother tongues, English and German, to move about and to communicate, we achieve an enhanced sense of our respective cultural dignity and identity. Suddenly we detect precious contours. Sometimes we find valuable and seemingly forgotten memories of yore, which we can and should want to share and impart. And we

►As an exchange student in Canada

HENDRIK SCHUBERT

I warmly greet you with a cheerful "Glück Auf!" („Good Luck!"). At least you would say something like that in Saxony, my homeland. I come from a small village (Siebenlehn) with only 1500 inhabitants, my name is Hendrik Schubert, I am 16 years old and for a year as an exchange student here (although I find the name exchange student misleading as I do not participate in any exchange in the true sense). Alexandra had asked me if I could introduce myself here in the *Courier* and obviously I said yes.

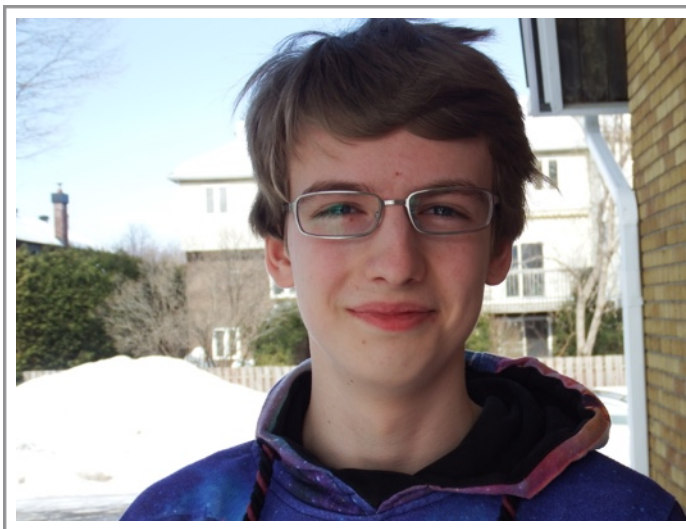
The question I get asked the most is: „Hendrik, why are you doing a year abroad? And then in Canada, when 50% of German exchange students go to the USA?" These are, of course, legitimate questions. Basically, everything started in the ninth grade, because I got less and less interested in doing my senior years (grades 11 and 12) right after my graduation from 10th grade. That's why I decided to find out about High School Year (HSY) exchange

benefit in that we are now better able to project our authentic cultural profiles, offering fresh perspectives of enhanced reciprocally beneficial future enrichment.

The opportunities to detect, employ and disseminate these riches to come create a totally unpredictable wealth of opportunities of constructive cooperation and cohabitation, which will certainly offer our new Martin Luther congregation here on Smyth a new character. Which surely we hope for.

offers. My mother printed out a political map of the world, on which my older brother and I crossed out much during the next day. Eventually there were about 8 countries left that did not have a red cross through it, about which I gathered more information and created my top ranking.

Japan; Canada; New Zealand.



To put it briefly, Japan was a no go, for bureaucratic reasons, and Canada came out ahead. However, I have never regretted this "setback," on the contrary I am very happy to have this privilege of being able to attend school here in Canada. I have always been a very spontaneous person; I chose Ottawa because I read an article in our

newspaper about the dynamiting of ice on the Ottawa River, which still fascinates me greatly. The more I think about it, the more I realize how random the ways of the Lord are sometimes. My friends from the Church Youth Group (YG) have sometimes joked since then that the Lord already knew that Japan is not for me.

Oh, yes, the YG. I joined them after completing the Christian teaching classes and being confirmed, as did my now 20-year-old brother. My mother is Evangelical Lutheran, but my father is an atheist, so it was our choice to be confirmed or not. I wanted to because my brother was already confirmed and the two of us are very close. After confirmation, he came up to me and said something like, "Don't you want to join me now in the YG?" Every Wednesday he would come and ask me again. After about 3 weeks I gave in and went, and I ended up enjoying this youth group so much that it became an integral part of my life. I even helped lead the group during my last school year, and had actually a fun time. Because of the young congregation, I finally came to the Martin Luther congregation. Stella, a friend from the YG, expressed her deep regret that I wouldn't find a congregation in Ottawa. I thought so too, because according to Google there are a lot of Mormon and Pentecostal congregations in Kanata. She then bet €2 that she would find me a congregation and I bet against it, of course. In short, after a while, she sent me the website glco.org. I guess I officially owe Stella €2.

My "commitment", as Alexandra puts it, on the one hand comes from there, and on the other hand I feel very comfortable in your congregation. By the way, the same goes for my host family and the Earl of March Secondary School in Kanata. To be honest, I am surprised that other countries are able to have young teachers who are above all, friendly. After my many years in the Saxon education system, I would not have expected to be able to come across something like that again. Personally, I really can't complain about my current living conditions here in Canada. Plus, there are even free Chromebooks at my school! Not to mention the Internet, which I have here, and which is really super fast compared to my bamboo line in Germany. But back to my school: Compared to my previous standards in Saxony, the material is not so hard (e.g. math), which is why I still receive relatively good grades.

In conclusion, I can only say that I am very happy to have been given the opportunity by my parents to go abroad and I am really happy to have discovered your congregation. Oh, and if you still have any questions, don't hesitate to talk to me.

► Review of special events and occasions

2nd of Advent

Joint Advent celebration with sing-along

ALEXANDRA DEMKE

We celebrated the second of Advent with the whole congregation. At 2 pm we met for a prayer meeting, which the Concordia choir helped shape musically, and in which we sang German and English songs.



The Mount Calvary Hall was decorated festively. We had long tables, with Stollen, Christmas cookies, coffee and mulled wine, it looked very inviting and it smelled good.



We all sat together in large numbers - we even had to set up an extra table - and we sang English and German Christmas and Advent songs together. This celebration was an



all-round successful, happy and nice joint gathering. A wonderful meeting of the English and German speaking members of our



congregation, with many new encounters and exciting discussions. And some people felt in the end, that this festival on this December 9, was the real beginning of the advent season.

Christmas pageant

ALEXANDRA DEMKE

Performing the Christmas pageant we show the Christmas story always from a new perspective. This year the Little Town Crier told what had happened there in Bethlehem on Holy Night.

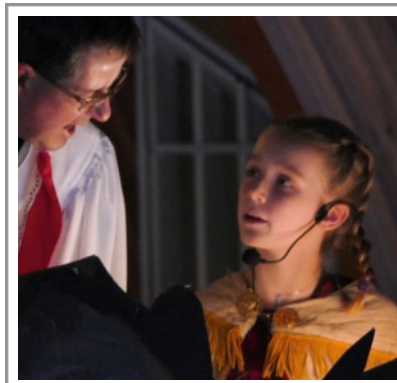


On his first assignment in his new job, the little crier, apprenticed to an older colleague, has to announce the order from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed and all had to go to be taxed, every one into his own city - with

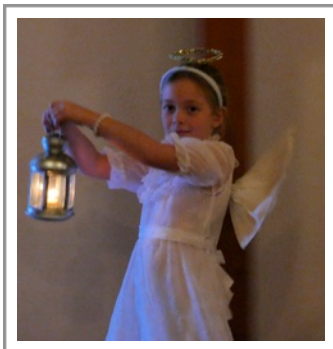
drum rolls and proclaimed with a loud and clear voice. The Little Crier is filled with zeal, but the Big Crier does the job leisurely, taking breaks for lunch and naps - which time the Little Crier uses to watch Joseph and Mary trying to get lodgings in Bethlehem, how they are rejected everywhere and eventually end up in a stable, though everyone can see that Mary is heavily pregnant.



The Little Crier is outraged by so much heartlessness while the Big Crier just waves it off: as for the injustice of this world, they have nothing to do with it. The little one, however, makes it clear that it is the proclamation of the emperor's orders, which has caused the suffering for these people.

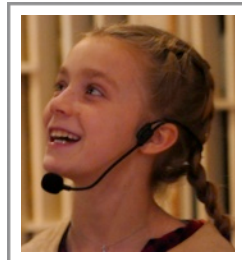


The Little Crier stays awake that night, experiences the bright light that the shepherds see, hears what they say about the Angel's message, the newborn King, the Saviour in a manger



in a stable ... The Little Crier soon realizes which stable they referred to and decides to take a closer look. He secretly follows the shepherds and sees it all. And he understands everything. He decides to quit his service to the

Emperor and from now on wants to be the crier of this little child. Excited and beaming, he starts with his good message, which he wants to make known in the world: "The Saviour was born to you today!"



Ecumenical New Year's service

ALEXANDRA DEMKE

It was a feast day, this 1st of January, when we gathered together with our brothers and sisters from the Roman Catholic St. Albertus congregation for the New Year's service, conducted together by Msgr. Hans Feichtinger and Pastor Friedrich Demke.



The Concordia choir, the Martin Luther church choir and the instrumental ensemble, which at the beginning played the Pastorale of Arcangelo Corelli, contributed musically to this service.

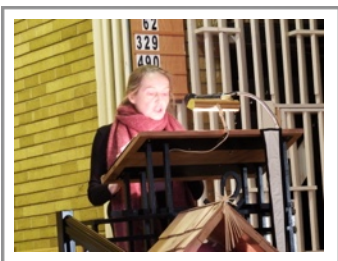


Pastor Demke preached on the motto for the year 2019, which appears in Psalms 34:

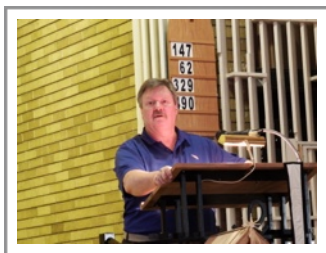


„Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from words of deceit. Be turned from evil, and do good; **make a search for peace, desiring it with all your heart.**“





Ute Davis on behalf of Co-President Konrad von Finckenstein and



Co-President Sonny Lapointe spoke to our congregation and expressed their thanks for our first year together in this church. We were very pleased



about the visit of the German ambassador, Sabine Sparwasser, who brought greetings in which she

elaborated on our new situation as a bilingual congregation. We thank her very much for the good words.



Afterwards everyone was invited to the New Year's reception with a wonderful buffet, with coffee,

cake, wine and juice. Many thanks to all who helped in the kitchen, serving



drinks, organizing the whole feast day, setting up and later tidying up again.

Memory of Marion Peterson our oldest church member

FRIEDRICH DEMKE

Once a month on a Wednesday, we come together for a meal and fellowship at lunch time. The name "Weels to Meals" is used for this get together, and is intended as a special invitation to those members of the congregation who, for various reasons, cannot come to the church on their own. On request they will be picked up.



The February meeting this year became a very special gathering, and I would like to report about it. Marilyn Donison had asked to remember her mother, who died in February at the age of 103. She had faithfully attended „Wheels to Meals“. We began with a short prayer service dedicated to the memory of Marion Petersen.

A separate table displayed a special flower arrangement, a photograph of Marion, and her urn. Mount Calvary Hall looked solemn. We sat together at a long table and sang songs that Marion Petersen had liked. More important, some of those present shared their memories of her. All those for whom travel to the actual



memorial service in Saskatchewan in June is too far, had an opportunity to bid farewell to Marion Petersen in a dignified manner.

A big thank you to all who have contributed their organizational and culinary skills to this special Wednesday lunch. Heather Ladouceur, who has the main responsibility for this Wednesday lunch, and I as well wish to cordially invite the German speaking congregation members to also discover this as an opportunity to meet and to talk.

► Upcoming events

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday school and family worship services

Always on the SECOND Sunday of the month we invite to the German children's service at 11 am, unless we celebrate a family service. There is no children's service during the holidays. The children's worship team includes Vicky Oelck, Martin Damus (music!) and Alexandra Demke.

The next children's services will be celebrated on March 10, April 14 (Palm Sunday) and May 12.

The next family worship service (English/German) will take place on Easter Sunday, April 21.

German book circle

(every 6 weeks on Mondays, 7:30 pm)
Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Road

April 8

Robert Menasse: „Die Hauptstadt“
Host: Jörg Esleben

In his great European novel, Robert Menasse draws a wide arc between the times, the nations, the inevitability and the irony of fate, between

petty bureaucracy and great emotions. "The Capital" was celebrated by critics as the world's first novel about the European Union and received the German Book Prize. The reasoning of the jury reads:

"The humane is always worth aspiring to, and never a reliable given: Robert Menasse forcefully shows with his novel 'The Capital' that this also applies to the European Union. He dramatically digs into the deep layers of the world we call ours. And, among other things, makes it absolutely clear: the economy alone will not be able to secure a peaceful future for us. Those who undermine this peace project Europe, they sit among us - 'the others' are quite often us."

27. Mai

Irmgard Keun: „Gilgi - eine von uns“
Host: Helmut Zobl

In 1931 Irmgard Keun's novel "Gilgi - one of us" appears. The author becomes known overnight; she is 26 years old. "Here's a talent", Kurt Tucholsky rejoices: "If she works, travels, will have experienced a great love and lives in a mediocre relationship, one day something can

become of this woman" And she does become something: Keun's early books hit a timely nerve.

"With 'Gilgi' she landed a direct hit. She hit the mentality of thousands, hit their heart, one can say somewhat sentimental. Kracauer's essay on employees had just been published, the topic: a crowd of female employees who suddenly appeared after 1923, after economic disaster, when so many women suddenly had to work, who had formerly lived on an inheritance, which was now dissolved. I do not think there's been a book since Goethe's 'Werther', no text as identifiable as 'Gilgi'." (Keun's biographer Hiltrud Häntzschel)

Because the young employee Gilgi - and thus she is a role model - fights through and takes her life into her own hands. She is what in the late 1920s and early 1930s was called the "new woman".

Deutschlandfunk, Matthias Kußmann

German Filmclub (with children's cinema)

(usually on the last Friday of the month at 7.30 pm, children's cinema about every two months)

March 29

„As we were dreaming“

"As we were dreaming" is a German film directed by Andreas Dresen, based on the novel of the same name by author Clemens Meyer about a group of East German friends in Leipzig at the time of the German reunification.

Andreas Dresen conveys in this specifically German coming-of-age story before and after the fall of the wall with a lot of humour and rousing drive, the very special way of life of his youthful protagonists. Dani, Mark, Rico, Pitbull and Paul live in the intoxicating raptures of a special time. Years in which societies and systems collide and everything, really everything seems possible. The boys are thirteen when the

story begins in the GDR, seventeen, when it ends in the new Germany.

Director: Andreas Dresen

Germany 2015

109 minutes; German with English Subtitles

April 26

„Kebab Connection“

Entertaining comedy, slanted, crazy and fast-paced. - Ibo, a creatively chaotic Hamburger Turk and absolute admirer of Bruce Lee, wants nothing more in life than to shoot the first German Kung Fu movie. With a commercial for the doner kebab of his uncle, he is celebrated overnight as the secret star of his district and as the new Steven Spielberg. His German girlfriend Titzi awaits him with the message that she is expecting his child - and she does not like his reaction at all ...

Director: Anno Saul

Germany 2005

91 minutes; German (no subtitles)

May 31

„Effi Briest“

2019 marks the 200th anniversary of Theodor Fontane's birthday. On this occasion we are showing a film adaptation of the novel "Effi Briest".

Effi Briest has always been a child of her time. This applies to Fontane's novel from 1894 as well as to the five film adaptations between the years 1939 and 2009. The latest film adaptation of the classic keeps close to the narrative structure of the novel. In the end, however, there is a departure from this: Effi does not succumb to society's pressure, but develops into a free and emancipated woman. Director Hermine Huntgeburth explains:

"I think if you look at the story again, you have to show something completely new. The pure retelling, the pure translation of the novel is, I

believe, no longer up to date. Nevertheless, the themes covered in the novel are absolutely transferable to today, and that's why I find it exciting to show things that have never been shown, but can be read indirectly and between the lines. "

Is that allowed? Should you do that? This could certainly be discussed.

Director: Hermine Huntgeburth
Germany 2009
118 minutes; German (no subtitles)

Wheels to Meals

Third Wednesday of the month, 12 noon

HEATHER LADOUCEUR

As our congregation has grown to a new, bigger, merged congregation we were thinking that „Wheels to Meals“ should be looking for a new name. It should be a name that reflects that we are inviting everybody to our monthly meal - no matter what age you are, what language you prefer, whether you are vegetarian or meat-lover. All are welcome to join us for this meal and fellowship. If you need help with transportation let the office know and we will do our best to get you there. This is always a fun gathering.

If you have an idea for a new name, please let us know. The hunt for a new name has started!

The next meals will take place on March 20, April 24 and May 15.

RSVP Ministries (Christian Women)

Film & Discussions

Generally last Thursday of the month, 9:30 am

MARILYN DONISON

Once a month several of us come together in the Mt. Calvary Hall to watch a short 10 minute film together. The films are usually anecdotal...a look at one person's personal struggle and how through acceptance of Christ in his/her life that

person is able to move forward with the love and support of God. Following the video we grab a snack and delve into a discussion based on questions as well as Bible references set out in our guidebook.

We invite you to join us at future Video Days and we welcome both women and men! We meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Mt. Calvary Hall at Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Rd.

SPECIAL DATES

World Day of Prayer 2019 from Slovenia

Friday, March 1, 7 pm, St. Albertus Church

„Come, everything is ready“: under this motto, Christian women from Slovenia invite us to the World Day of Prayer 2019. They introduce us to their beautiful country, which lies in the middle of Europe. They familiarize us with the country's eventful history, which has been governed time and again by different powers, which declared independence in 1991 and became a democratic state as the Republic of Slovenia. We hear about the different life situations and the worries and needs of Slovenian women and their families.

With open hands and a friendly smile, the Slovenian women invite the whole world to their service. There is still room - especially for those people who are otherwise marginalized, such as the poor, the refugees, the sick and the homeless. The artist Rezka Arnuš has symbolically implemented this concern in her cover picture. Ecumenical women's groups are calling for participation in World Prayer Day in more than 120 countries around the world.



"Come, everything is ready! - but what about a Europe that is increasingly isolating itself and reinforcing its borders? How do we deal with the invitation of God in the face of world-wide great need, especially of women and children?"

As always, we celebrate the World Day of Prayer together with the St. Albertus congregation, this year again in St. Albertus Church. The Quodlibet Choir will again shape the ecumenical service musically, for which we sincerely thank them! After the service, we are invited to a potluck with typical Slovenian dishes - "Come, everything is ready!".

**Carnival (Fasching) on March 2nd
with the Quodlibet Choir
6 pm, St. Albertus Church, 416 Parkdale Ave**

The Quodlibet Choir cordially invites you, big and small, to its annual carnival. There will be music, dances, songs, games - and an "extravagant circus performance". So please disguise yourself on the subject of circus. There is a potluck buffet.

**Ash Wednesday, March 6
Worship services of the Ottawa Lutherans**

With Imposition of Ashes — a ritual to ground us in our humanity — and Holy Communion to remind us that God in Jesus walks with us on our earthly and sometimes painful journey through life and death.

This year, congregations of the Ottawa Ministry Area (Ottawa Lutherans) are gathering together to worship on Ash Wednesday, at three locations and at different times in the day; first, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Orleans (1325 Gaultois Ave) at 1pm; then at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (43 Meadowlands Dr. W.) at 7pm, and finally at St Peter's Lutheran Church (400 Sparks St) at 7:30pm. This worship service is a ministry of Ottawa Lutherans.



Invitation to Lenten Bible Study Series

March 30., April 6 and 13, 9-11 am

Faith Lutheran Church, 43 Meadowlands Dr. W.

MARIANNE THORNTON

Lent offers a perfect time to reflect on many things. You are invited to reflect on the mysteries of the Easter story by joining together in a Lenten Bible study. On Saturday mornings March 30, April 6 and 13 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

at Faith Lutheran Church in Ottawa's West end, on 43 Meadowlands Dr. W., contemplate the Lenten journey, and enjoy a hot brown beverage if you so choose.



This Lenten reflection series called 'Finding meaning from Lent to Easter' will be facilitated by Pastor JoAnne Lam based on resources from the Journey to Baptismal Living Workshop. On this study journey you may encounter the Word of God in a personal way, experiencing God in the midst of your life. You may come to any or all of the studies, come alone or bring a friend, plan to listen, or share in the discussion.

It would be wonderful to experience this journey with you. This series will culminate in an Easter Vigil taking place the evening of Holy Saturday, April 20, from 6:00-9:30 pm at Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Road, with soup provided.

For more information you may contact Marianne Thornton:

marthorntonpt@gmail.com 613-526-5414.

HOLY WEEK

In Holy Week, the week before Easter, there are a number of special events to which all are cordially invited including of course, Easter Sunday.

On Maundy Thursday, April 18,

we want to come together for a Jewish Seder meal. Marianne and Steve Thornton have agreed to prepare it. There will be an introduction at 7 pm, the actual meal will start at 7:30. We want to remember how the meal was celebrated, in which Jesus for the last time came together with his disciples and then also introduced the much shorter feast we celebrate as Holy Communion.

On Good Friday,

the German-speaking worship service will take place in the morning at 11 am and include Communion. The English-speaking worship service takes place at 3 pm

On Holy Saturday,

we invite you to an Easter vigil in the evening. (see article on page 15)

EASTER

On Easter morning at 6 am

for early risers (like the women who went to the tomb of Jesus) we celebrate a meditative service with songs from Taizé and readings from the Bible, there is no sermon, but instead a time of silence. Readings and songs are in German and in English.

Afterwards there is an EASTER BREAKFAST

At 9:30,

the Easter service will be held in English. It is an invitation for all who on Easter day value a worship service with a familiar liturgy

At 11 am

we invite to an Easter family service. As usual, it will be celebrated with a mix of German and English-speaking elements and is aimed at

families with children and everyone who enjoys a lively celebration of Easter morning.

Annual General Meeting

April 28

On April 28, we cordially invite you to our annual meeting. This Sunday we want to celebrate a joint service at 9:30 am, the Concordia choir will sing in this service. After the service there will be a little break with coffee, cakes and snacks in the narthex - after which the annual meeting begins. Invitations with the agenda will be sent beforehand. We are looking forward to a strong attendance and good discussions.

Augenblick-Theater

„The visit“

At the beginning of May, the Augenblick-Theater will perform its latest production: "The Visit" by Friedrich Dürrenmatt.

In the spring of 2018, this theatre group had performed "Nathan the Wise", a bilingual play in German with English supertitles. "The visit" will also be played in German with English supertitles. The performance will take place at Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Road in Mount Calvary Hall.

Ascension on May 30

7 pm, Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Rd

Together with St. Albertus congregation, we will be celebrating an ecumenical worship service on May 30, which this year will take place in our church at 933 Smyth Rd. We will once again take up the theme of the Evangelical Alliance Prayer Week, for 2019 it says: "Learning to live unity".

► It is made easy to donate – online

Of course, we very much like to see you all in the church and at the service! Not everyone can or wants to visit Smyth Rd regularly, but that does not mean he or she does not want to support our work. We want to keep it the same way the church still functions in Germany: we do not complain about those who seldom or never come to church, but we are also very happy about those who support their church "only financially".

Since the Canadian system has no church tax like Germany where the government collects it from church members and passes it on to the church, we have developed ways to make it as easy as possible for you to finance the work of the congregation.

In addition to the classic cheque and cash transactions, which still accounts for a large part of our donations, there are two complementary ways to help our congregation. We hope that this will appeal to younger people in particular, and you can help by pointing out these possibilities to your adult children:

1. **If you are a CIBC customer and already have a three-digit donation number from our church**, then you can add our church online as Payee to the institutions where you pay your other bills (in the search box "German Martin Luther Church"). At the end of the year, as

usual, you will receive your donation receipt from our finance secretary. Heather Bent (613 248-0600, heatherbent@bell.net) can also give you a three-digit donation number at any time if you do not already have one.

2. If 1. does not apply to you then you can instead of by cheque or cash, donate online via our **website** www.glco.org. On the website under the menu item "donations" there is a "donate-now" - button of the organization CanadaHelps. Please click on it. If you're not yet registered with CanadaHelps, you'll need to create a short profile (it's faster than writing a cheque!) But you need to do this only once. After that you can help your congregation by credit card over a secure connection. You will not receive the donation receipt from the church, but directly from CanadaHelps. This system works very well and enjoys increasing popularity.



► Events in the Martin Luther Congregation

(Please pay attention to additions and changes that are announced in the worship services and communicated by email, as well as on our website and on Facebook)

REGULAR MEETINGS

**alternately on the 1st Monday
or Tuesday in the month**

7:30 Council council

Tuesday

10 a.m. Church Choir rehearsal in Mt Calvary Hall (please check the calendar on the website for updates or changes!)

**usually every second
Sunday of the month**

11 am meeting of the German-speaking playgroup in the Sunday School - followed by a coffeetable and other activities
Contact: Esther Shoemaker (estershoe@gmail.com)
(no Sunday School during the Holidays)

The German Senior Club „**Frohe Runde**“ meets on Thursdays in the St. Albertus Church.
(Contact: Linda Kiesewalter, kiesewalterlinda@yahoo.ca, Ph. 613-224 7467)

WORSHIP SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Bible text for the month of March

Let your hearts be turned to the Lord, and be servants to him only.

1. Samuel 7:3

► March

- Friday, March 1.:** **World Day of Prayer: „Come, everything is ready“**
Ecumenical worship service with the Quodlibet Choir
7 pm, St. Albertus Church, 416 Parkdale Ave
Followed by a Potluck with typical Slovenian sidhes
- Sunday, March 3:** **8th Sunday after Epiphany**
9:30 am Joint Worship service (Demke) with Communion
- Wednesday, March 6:** **Ash Wednesday - Worship services of the Ottawa Lutherans**
1 pm Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1325 Gaultois Avenue, Orleans
7 pm Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, 43 Meadowlands Dr. W.
7:30 pm St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 400 Sparks St.
- Sunday, March 10:** **1. Sunday in Lent**
9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Sunday School
- Sunday, March 17:** **2. Sunday in Lent**
9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
11 am German Worship service (Demke)
- Wednesday, March 20:** 12 noon „Wheels to Meals“
- Sunday, March 24:** **3. Sunday in Lent**
9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
11 am German Worship service (Demke)
- Thursday, March 28.:** 9:30 am RSVP Film & Discussions, Mt Calvary Hall, 933 Smyth Rd
- Friday, March 29:** 7:30 pm Filmclub: „As we were dreaming“ (German, with english subtitles)
933 Smyth Road
- Sunday, March 31:** **4. Sunday in Lent**
9:30 am English Worship service (Demke) with Communion
11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Communion

Bible text for the month of April

Jesus said: See, I am ever with you, even to the end of the world.

Matthew 28:20

► April

- Sunday, April 7:** **5. Sunday in Lent**
09.30 am Joint worship service (Demke) with Communion
- Monday, April 8.:** 7:30 pm German Book circle (Robert Menasse: „Die Hauptstadt“)
933 Smyth Road
- Sunday, April 14:** **Palm Sunday - 6. Sunday in Lent**
9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Sunday School
- Thursday, April 18:** **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
7 pm Seder meal (with introduction)
- Friday, April 19:** **GOOD FRIDAY**
11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Communion
3 pm English Worship service (Demke)
- Saturday, April 20:** **HOLY SATURDAY - EASTER VIGIL**
6 pm soup, 7:30-9:30 Vigil
- Sunday, April 21:** **EASTER**
6 am meditative service with songs from Taizé and readings from the Bible (Germ/Engl)
Followed by an Easter breakfast
9:30 am English Easter Worship service (Demke)
11 am Family Easter Worship service (Demke) (German/English)
- Wednesday, April 24:** 12 noon „Wheels to Meals“
- Thursday, April 25:** 9:30 am RSVP Film & Discussions, Mt Calvary Hall, 933 Smyth Rd
- Friday, April 26.:** 7:30 pm Filmclub: „Kebab Connection“ (German, no subtitles)
933 Smyth Road
- Sunday, April 28:** **1. Sunday of Easter**
9.30 am Joint Worship service (Demke) with Communion
and with Concordia Choir
Followed by the Annual General Meeting of our congregation

Bible text for the month of May

There is no one like you and no other God but you.
2. Samuel 7:22

► May

- Sunday, May 5:** **2. Sunday of Easter**
09.30 Uhr Joint worship service (Demke) with Communion

- Sunday, May 12.:** **3. Sunday of Easter**
 9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
 11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Sunday School
- Wednesday, May 15:** 12 noon „Wheels to Meals“
- Sunday, May 19:** **4. Sunday of Easter**
 9:30 am English Worship service with Communion (Demke)
 11 am German Worship service (Demke)
- Sunday, May 26:** **5. Sunday of Easter**
 9:30 am English Worship service (Demke) with Communion
 11 am German Worship service (Demke) with Communion
- Monday, May 27.:** 7:30 pm German Book circle (Irmgard Keun: „Gilgi - eine von uns“)
 933 Smyth Road
- Thursday, May 30:** 9:30 am RSVP Film & Discussions, Mt Calvary Hall, 933 Smyth Rd
- ASCENSION**
 7 pm Ecumenical Worship service with St. Albertus Church (German)
 Martin Luther Church, 933 Smyth Rd.
- Friday, May 31:** 7:30 pm Filmclub: „Effi Briest“ (German, no subtitles)
 933 Smyth Road

► Event invitations by email

For our special events, we invite you again by e-mail. If you also want to be reminded this way, please send an email to lutherinfo@gmail.com .

► Joy and sorrow

From our congregation have died

Edith Linse, 99 years
 Werner Wegener, 89 years
 Edith Franz
 Marion Peterson, 103 years



Truly, blessing and mercy will be with me all the days of my life;
 and I will have a place in the house of the Lord all my days.

Psalms 23:6

► **Belong - become a member of our congregation!**

We welcome you to join our congregation – even if you live in Ottawa only temporarily. Our church is and stays alive through those who belong to it and support it.

Yes, I want to belong to Martin Luther Church Ottawa:

Last name, first name:

Address:

Phone, Email:

Place and date of birth:

Place and date of baptism:

Place and date of confirmation (if applicable)

I am interested to participate in the following:

I would like to receive further information about:

Date and signature:

We are here for you:

Contact: 933 Smyth Road, Ottawa ON K1G 1P5, (613) 733 5804 / info@glco.org / www.glco.org / Facebook: Martin Luther Gemeinde Ottawa
Parking at the Church

Pastor: Rev. Friedrich Demke, (613) 748-9745

Confidential Email: pastor@glco.org. Please call or send an Email if you would like a personal conversation.

Church musician: MaryAnn Foley 613-225-2522 / macfoley@rogers.com

Council Co-Chairs: Konrad von Finckenstein, (613) 744-5856 / finckenstein@gmail.com

Rolland Lapointe, (613) 692-5506 / rolland.lapointe@sympatico.ca

Treasurer: Klaus Edenhoffer, (613) 252 4325 / kedenhof@gmail.com

Building Committee: Gunther Bauer, (613) 730 3495 / guntherbauer@hotmail.com

Klaus Moritz, (613) 254 9893 / klausmoritz5@gmail.com

Representative for the Martin Luther Kindergarten: Esther Shoemaker, (613) 366 8000 / esther@shoemaker.ca;
Sven List, (613) 569-9135 / svenlist@sympatico.ca

Other members of the Church Council:

Martin Damus, (613) 821 5195 / damusm@yahoo.com

Ute Davis, (613) 236 3736 / muted@rogers.com

Klaus Köhler, (613) 741-0799 / klausimann@hotmail.com

Heather Ladouceur, (613) 263-1812 / heather.ladouceur@gmail.com

Sheri Pendlebury, (613) 523-5262 / bsp_sheri@hotmail.com

Heidi Rausch, (613) 247-9102 / hrausch@hotmail.ca

Nancy Schoenherr, (613) 835-9806 / nanken@rogers.com

Steve Thornton, (613) 526-5414 / stevethornton@rogers.com

Christina Wendorff, (613) 489 3438 / christina.wendorff@gmail.com

Financial secretary: Heather Bent, (613) 248-0600 / heatherbent@bell.net

Church secretary: Gail Smith

English Worship service: Sunday 9:30 am, every Sunday with Communion

German Worship service: Sunday 11 am, on the last Sunday of the month with Communion

Joint Worship service: First Sunday of the month 9:30 am, with Communion (English/German)

German Sunday School: Second Sunday of the month 11 am (no Sunday School during the Holidays).

Our two newsletters, the German "Ruf" and the English "Courier" are issued four times a year in March, June, September and December by German Evangelical Martin Luther Church of Ottawa Inc. If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please let us know sending an e-mail to lutherinfo@gmail.com – we would love to put you on our mailing list. You may also receive the newsletter by post on a regular basis and at no charge (even if you are not a member of the congregation). Please check the mailing address on the envelope and inform us about changes and corrections.