



The Daily Nail

Lutheran Church-Canada Convention News

Friday, October 13, 2017

Welcome to Kitchener!



Kitchener, ON - The home of the Lutheran Church-Canada 2017 Convention.

Agenda

Friday, October 13

- 1:00 pm - 7:00pm** **Registration**
Grand Ballroom Lobby
- 1:00 pm** **Exhibits & Bookstore**
Viking Rooms
- 1:00 pm** **Resolutions Committees**
Kitchener 1, 2, 3
- 2:00 pm** **Board of Directors**
- 4:00 pm** **Business Session 1**
Grand Ballroom
- 5:30 pm** **Dinner**
Kitchener
- 7:30 pm** **Opening Service**
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- 9:30 pm** **Seminaries Reception**
Trillium Room (1st Floor)

Saturday, October 14

- 6:45 am** **Breakfast Buffet**
Kitchener 1, 2, 3
- 7:00 am** **Late Registration**
- 8:15 am** **Bible Study / Devotions**
Grand Ballroom
- 9:00 am** **Business Session 2**
Grand Ballroom

Friday's Meditation

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans."

- Proverbs 16:3

Welcome to Lutheran Church-Canada's eleventh synodical convention! Our home for this year's convention—Kitchener—has a long and storied past. The late 18th century saw the British grant the land to the Six Nations in thanks for their support during the American Revolution. A large portion of this land was later sold to the Loyalist Col. Richard Beasley, who in turn sold much of it to German Mennonite settlers from Pennsylvania.

The area was named Berlin in 1833 and became a village in 1853. In the decades that followed, the community continued to grow through immigration, especially of German Mennonites and Lutherans. Anti-German sentiment during World War I led the city to drop the name Berlin in 1916 in favour of Kitchener, a nod to the then-recently-deceased Herbert Kitchener who had served as the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for War.

Today, the Kitchener metropolitan area (which also encompasses Kitchener's twin-city of Waterloo as well as Cambridge) counts more than half a million citizens. Many things have changed, but the city's German ancestry remains an important aspect of local culture—as evidenced by the Oktoberfest events taking place in the city right now. In fact, the Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is considered the second largest such event in the world, with approximately 700,000 people taking part each year.

Enjoy your visit and God bless our convention!

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A service to remember!

This evening's Opening Divine Service is at Historic St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a five-minute walk from the hotel. It begins at 7:30 p.m. and you are encouraged to get there early so you can sit in the church nave rather than the overflow area in the gymnasium.

An early arrival also guarantees you'll be there to hear the exceptional prelude music provided by organist Paul Walrath, the KW Circuit Choir directed by Rev. Ron Mohr, the Grande River Brass and other guest musicians.

Rev. Dr. Roger Winger, who served as pastor of the church notes that it dates back to 1835 "when Rev. F. W. Bindemann organized the congregation as 'The German Evangelical Protestant Congregation in Berlin, Waterloo County,' one of seven such congregations he founded in the area. Bindemann's liberal Protestantism prevailed during his nearly three decades as pastor. It was not until 1872, under Rev. Adam Ernst, the father of Missouri Synod Lutheranism in Canada, that the congregation adopted the name St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church and joined the Missouri Synod, and then was one of the founding members when the Canada District was organized in 1879.

"As the oldest Lutheran congregation in Kitchener, the adjective "Historic", added more recently, is certainly apt. The building, the third to stand on the present site, was erected in 1889, now the second oldest church building in the city.

"The congregation flourished into the 20th century as the only Missouri Synod congregation in the twin cities, at one time numbering nearly 1,000 members and a Sunday school of some 350. Over the years, members transferred to help found new congregations. Bethel congregation, founded to serve German immigrants, worshipped at first in the parish hall. In a very real sense, therefore, Historic St. Paul's can be called the mother church of the LCC congregations in Kitchener-Waterloo.

"As membership has sharply declined in recent years, the congregation seeks to reach out and serve the downtown with a flourishing Community Cupboard, which provided food, clothing and fellowship to some 500 people a week during the winter, and an ELS program for new Canadians, some of whom have been received into membership."

Bookstore Hours

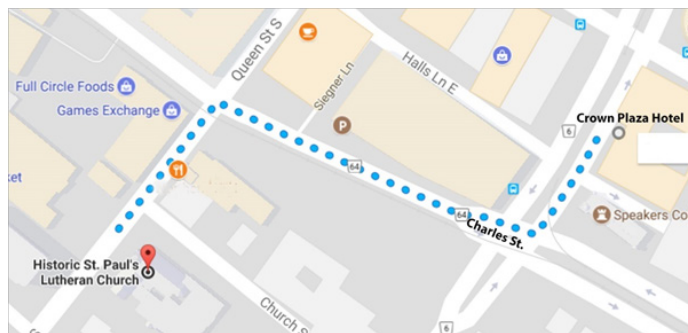
The bookstore and exhibit area are open during mealtimes and breaks.

Seminaries Reception

Following the Opening Worship service LCC's seminaries are hosting a reception in the Trillium Room (first floor near the pool). Everyone is welcome!

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Stay connected online: synod2017.lutheranchurch.ca



Directions

Exit the hotel front lobby doors, turn left to Charles St. Turn right to cross Benton St. and continue along Charles to Queen St. Turn left at Queen and continue on Queen. The church is on your left.

Convention Choir

Our Sunday morning Matins Service will include a convention choir under the direction of Pastor Ron Mohr. If you signed up to sing when you registered online or if you are interested in being part of the choir rehearsals are Saturday at 12:45 pm and 6:15 p.m.

Let's eat!

Where are meals and InfoMeals?

All Convention meals, including InfoMeals are served buffet style outside the Kitchener rooms. There are four buffet lines: two identical buffets, two sides. Your name tag with the green dot shows you can attend the buffet as part of your registration. If you noted allergies on your registration, the hotel has listed the ingredients on most dishes. For those who need gluten-free options, please identify yourself to a member of the banquet staff for your specially-prepared items.

Those attending an InfoMeal Saturday, Sunday and Monday in Kitchener Room 4 are encouraged to use the second set of buffet tables as they are located close to your meal room.

If your name tag does not have a green dot there is a restaurant in the hotel lobby area or the Information Desk has a list of other nearby places to eat.

Find your places

Seating at tables in the convention room is designated. Look for the signs. Voting delegate seating is also marked by the gray napkins on the table. Only those seated in this area will receive ballots for elections. If you are a voting delegate seated in any other area you will not be eligible to receive a ballot.

Security

While our volunteers are aware of who is coming and going you are encouraged to keep an eye on your personal items. At the end of the business day, please take personal items such as laptops and tablets with you.

Emergency phone contact

The phone number for the Convention Office is 204-797-6032.

The office is in Viking Room C in the Exhibits area. It is staffed:

Friday, October 13	noon – 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 14	7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 15	7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 16	7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Convention Banner

The convention banner in tonight's procession and in the business room was designed by Philip Prozenko as a gift to the church. Prozenko is chairman of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He also designed the Reformation500 logo and the convention logo. He is president and owner of AtlantexCreativeWorks, a company that designs and fabricates exhibits, displays, and sculptures for museums, interpretative centres, and trade shows.

Connie Klassen, a member of First St. Paul's in Wellesley, Ontario, interpreted the design into fabric. She along with a talented team of women quilted the final design.

Reformation 500 display

Take a look at the Reformation display in the Grand Ballroom lobby. You'll find posters detailing various aspects of the Reformation and original Reformation-themed artwork by Kelly Klages (Trinity, Winkler, MB) that The Canadian Lutheran published on its covers this year. We are grateful to the East District Reformation Anniversary Committee for gathering and setting up the display.

Prayer

We know that our brothers and sisters in Lutheran Church-Canada across the country are praying for our deliberations. However, if you have a special prayer request please fill-in the request forms available at the Information Desk, leave it in the marked tray and our Convention Chaplain, Rev. Ken Maher, will include it in his prayers at the close of our business sessions.

Discover resources and opportunities for your congregation

We are pleased to welcome our exhibitors. They are in the Viking Rooms and lobby area. Find out what resources they have you can use in your congregation.

- Ambassadors of Reconciliation Canada
- Canadian Armed Forces Chaplaincy
- Canadian Lutheran World Relief
- Concordia Lutheran Mission Society
- Concordia Lutheran Seminary
- Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary
- FaithLife Financial
- Israel Ministry of Tourism
- LCC 2019 National Youth Gathering
- LCC Worker Benefit Plans
- Lego Luther Rose
- Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots
- Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada
- Lutheran Church-Canada Missions
- Lutheran Foundation Canada
- Lutheran Friends of the Deaf
- Lutheran Heritage Foundation
- Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada
- Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada
- Lutherans For Life Canada

LEGO activity *for the young Luther in you!*

During this Reformation 500 anniversary year groups of children, youth, and adults across Canada have enjoyed themselves building a Luther Rose out of LEGO. Now it's your turn.

At the Lego Luther Seal Exhibit in the Viking Room lobby:

1. Pick up a Lego baseplate, a pattern sheet, and the LEGO pieces you need to complete your square.
2. Place the LEGO on your baseplate according to your pattern sheet.
3. Return your completed square to Luther Seal Mosaic frame in the lobby area.
4. Watch Luther's Seal take shape and rejoice in the Gospel message it proclaims.

Pamphlets explaining Luther's Seal are available at the Lego Luther Seal Exhibit in both French and English.

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What's that sound?

To avoid interruption of the business sessions all cell phones must be turned off unless absolutely necessary in which case they should be set to silent or vibrate mode and conversations conducted outside the convention room. If you are using a laptop, smart phone, or tablet we ask that you confine its use to convention business so as not to distract other delegates, guests and visitors.

The hotel provides free guest WiFi service throughout the building. Speeds may be slower in the Grand Ballroom to allow for streaming bandwidth.

Parking

Parking during the convention is free. When you park in the hotel garage take the parking ticket to open the gate, bring it to the convention Information Desk and exchange it for an exit pass.

Bible Study to focus on Reformation verses

Leading daily Bible studies at the synodical convention is Rev. Esko Murto, Assistant Professor of Theology at Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary (CLTS).

Focusing on texts from Psalm 46, Romans 3, and John 8, Professor Murto will lead convention-goers through a devotional study of the Scriptures in order to find edification, encouragement, joy, and hope. "Through these lessons we encounter enemies of faith: the unbelieving world with its pride and anger, false human righteousness trying to escape the severity

of God's law, and the slavery of sin hidden behind glorious façade of past faithfulness," he notes. "These texts call us for repentance, but also reveal the grace and freedom Christians have in Christ Jesus."

Rev. Murto was born in 1981 in Orivesi, Finland. He was ordained in 2007 and served as a pastor in the Mission Diocese of Finland before coming to Canada to teach at CLTS as a visiting scholar in 2017. He was installed as a permanent professor at CLTS in September 2017. Rev. Murto earned his Master of Theology from the University of Helsinki and a and his Master of Sacred Theology from Concordia Theological Seminary (Ft Wayne, Indiana). He is currently in the process of beginning doctoral studies.

Rev Esko Murto, born in 1981 in Orivesi, Finland, was ordained in 2007 and served as a pastor in Mission Diocese of Finland before coming to Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary first as a visiting scholar in 2015, and from September 2017 serving as an assistant professor of theology in a permanent position. Rev Murto earned his Master of Theology from University of Helsinki and his Master of Sacred Theology from Concordia Theological Seminary (Ft Wayne, Indiana). He is currently in the process of beginning doctoral studies.

He has been married to his wife Elisabeth since December 2016. The two are exploring Ontario in their blue Mini Coopers, went a little bit crazy about gardening last fall, and have strong opinions about European cheeses, houses with vinyl siding, and Johann Sebastian Bach.



— Professor Esko Murto

DONOR APPRECIATION

Lutheran Church–Canada expresses its sincere thanks to the following organizations who have provided support for the convention, both financial and in-kind.



Why the Daily Nail? As we gather together for Lutheran Church–Canada's 2017 convention, we do so with the knowledge that this is a special year for Lutherans. Later this month we will commemorate 500 years since the beginning of the Reformation.

On October 31, 1517, tradition states Martin Luther posted 95 Theses on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg hoping to spur debate on indulgences. This was not a significant event in and of itself: the church door acted as a sort of bulletin board, so Luther's actions were hardly something out of the ordinary. But Luther's

words struck a chord. Within weeks the 95 Theses had spread across Europe. The Reformation was underway.

500 years on, we still hear the echoes of that hammer. As a nod to that living history, we have called this convention's newsletter The Daily Nail, hoping it might act as our own "bulletin board" to record the work delegates are undertaking in Kitchener. Be sure to take The Daily Nail home with you after the convention: it's an excellent resource to help you share important news from convention with your circuit.