

THE STANDARD

Stand Firm in the Faith



LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA CONVENTION NEWS

|

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|

JUNE 12, 2022

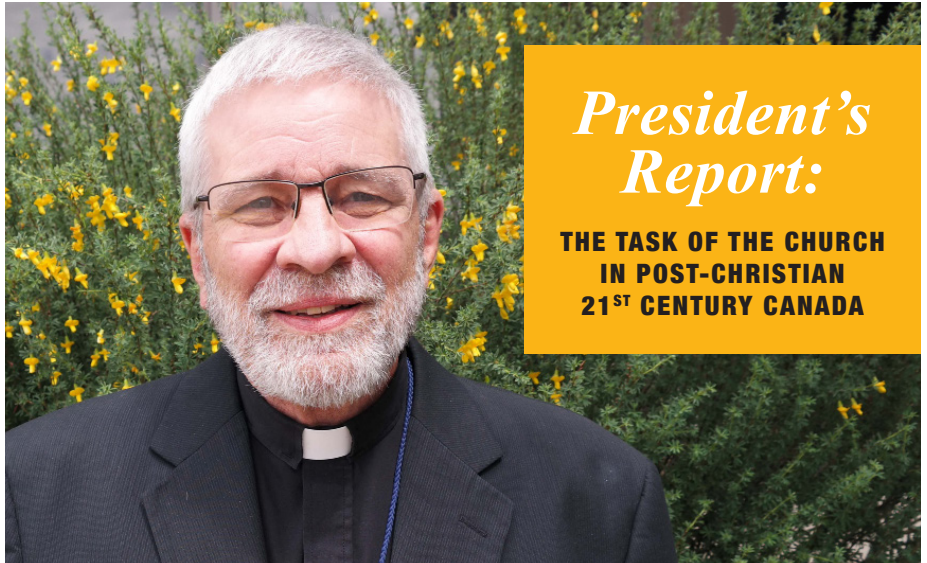
AGENDA

Sunday, June 12

- 6:30 am - **Breakfast**
8:15 am (at hotels)
- 8:15 am **Matins**
Delta Hotel
- 9:00 am **Bible Study “Ephesians 6:10-20”**
(Rev. Dr. Thomas Winger)
Delta Hotel
- 10:30 am **Session 5**
Delta Hotel
- 11:50 am **Noon Daily Prayer**
Delta Hotel
- 12:00 noon **Israel Tourism Sponsored Lunch**
Radisson Jubilee Ballroom
- 2:00 pm **Session 6**
Delta Hotel
- 3:30 pm **Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**
Delta Hotel
- 4:00 pm **Session 7**
Delta Hotel
- 5:30 pm **Vespers**
Delta Hotel
- 6:30 pm - **Stand Firm—Reaching Out: a mission event**
9:00 pm
Radisson Jubilee Ballroom

Monday, June 13

- 6:30 am - **Breakfast**
8:15 am (at hotels)
- 8:15 am **Morning Prayer**
Delta Hotel
- 9:00 am **Session 8**
Delta Hotel
- 11:45 am **Responsive Prayer 1**
Delta Hotel
- 12:00 noon **Adjournment**
Delta Hotel
- 12:15 pm **Box Lunch**



President's Report:

**THE TASK OF THE CHURCH
IN POST-CHRISTIAN
21ST CENTURY CANADA**

On the second day of convention, Rev. Dr. Timothy Teuscher gave his presidential report. LCC's President Teuscher addressed the challenging task of the Church in Post-Christian 21st Century Canada, with sobering statistics reporting a drastic decrease in church membership and attendance over one generation and projected the disappearance of various church bodies within the next decade.

On a more optimistic note, President Teuscher turned to biblical statistics, pointing to the examples of Noah and Jonah and directing attention away from numerical statistics—reminding the convention that the Holy Spirit works faith, “where and when it pleases God, not where and when it pleases us.”

President Teuscher then addressed the challenges the church faces today, encouraging an individual increase in Biblical knowledge, warning against the pull of technological dependence toward Gnostic tendencies, and rebuking temptations to appeal to entertainment culture by compromising on the pure preaching of the Gospel. President Teuscher also urged against viewing the high church attendance and membership of the 1950s as a norm, connecting the shrunken state of the church to the early church, where the church withstood persecutions from outside and heresies within.

Rebuking a lone-ranger mentality among all members of the church, President Teuscher called attention to the necessary task of the church at large to continue proclaiming the Word, entrusting the time and hour of conversion to God. He exhorted all to support the mission of the church through work, prayer, and offerings.

President Teuscher concluded with “the only statistic that matters” by pointing to the innumerable multitude in heaven as attested in Revelation 7 and citing Hebrews 13:8: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

LCC reelects President Teuscher

Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) has reelected Rev. Dr. Timothy Teuscher to a second term as President unopposed. The decision came the morning of June 11, 2022 during the church’s synodical conference.

President Teuscher was first elected in 2017. Since becoming LCC President, he has also joined the board of Directors of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), which he now serves as Vice Chairman.

In May 2022, Concordia Lutheran Seminary bestowed an honorary Doctor of Divinity on President Teuscher for, among other things: his 42 years of service as a pastor; service as a circuit counsellor; service as first and second vice president on the East District’s Board of Directors; service on LCC’s Commission on Theology and Church Relations; and leadership in implementing LCC’s new structure following the 2017 convention.

LCC elects new Vice-President

LCC also elected Rev. Michael Schutz as its new Vice-President during the morning session on June 11. Rev. Schutz was elected on the second ballot with 58 percent of the votes over Rev. Kurt Reinhardt with 42 percent of the votes. Rev. Alexander Klages, who had also let his name stand, was eliminated following the first ballot.

Rev. Schutz is pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church in Penticton, B.C., which he has served as pastor since 2013. Prior to his ordination, he served the same congregation as Director of Parish Services (DPS) from 2009-2013. He previously served as a DPS in Spokane, Washington (2005-2009) and in Kelowna, B.C. (2000-2004). He has also been a Circuit Counsellor since 2018. Rev. Schutz has also served synod on the Committee for Communications and Technology from 2003-2005 and 2012-present, and on the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure from 2017-2018.

Rev. Schutz succeeds Rev. Tom Kruesel, who had declined to let his name stand again for reelection. Rev. Kruesel was elected as LCC’s sole Vice-President in 2017 following the vote to restructure. Under LCC’s previous structure, he served as Third Vice-President from 2009-2011 and Second Vice-President from 2011-2017.



VERSE OF THE DAY

HEBREWS 13:8

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday
and today and forever.*



*Rev. Dr. Maxfield
presents convention essay:
Luther at the Diet of Worms*

“GOD’S WORD AND LUTHER’S DOCTRINE”



Saturday began with a Service of Prayer and Preaching, followed by convention essayist Rev. Dr. John Maxfield presenting on “Luther at the Diet of Worms.” Rev. Dr. Maxfield is a professor of history and religious studies at Concordia University of Edmonton, and has recently accepted a Call to serve as Assistant Pastor at All Saints Lutheran Church in Edmonton. For a list of his published works, see page I.5.

Martin Luther’s stand before representatives of the Holy Roman Empire at the diet of Worms in April 1521 is one of the most legendary, and well-recorded, events of the reformation. Rev. Dr. Maxfield’s essay laid out the historical context for the event and addressed the question of what Luther’s confession of faith means for Lutheran Church–Canada today as we “Stand Firm.”

The Diet of Worms was an official gathering of civil officials of the empire, although many of them were also bishops. The diet started in late January 1521, shortly after Luther had been excommunicated by the pope. Labelled a heretic by the Roman Catholic Church, he was to be burned at the stake by the civil authorities, with no chance for appeal. However, thanks in large part to the influence of Duke Frederick the Wise, Luther was granted safe passage to appear before the diet.

At the diet, Luther was presented with his published works and given the chance to recant them. In his famous speech, recorded by several attendees in German and Latin, he declined. There is some debate about the most legendary “here I stand” proclamation, as it appears in some transcripts but not others; however, the most important outcome of Luther’s speech is that “Martin Luther stood, as we do, on sola scriptura—on the truth of scripture alone,” Maxfield said. “As Christians of Lutheran Church–Canada, we will stand firm in our faith only as we stand firm on scripture alone, confessing that the only rule and guiding principal according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments alone.”

After the diet, Luther spent almost a year in hiding, during which he translated the New Testament into German.

Rev. Dr. Maxfield concluded the essay by inviting the assembly to sing “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word,” which was composed by Luther some twenty years after the diet at Worms.

The full text of the essay will be available in the convention proceedings.

Greetings to the Convention

Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), extended greetings to the assembly virtually.

Convention also received written greetings from Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill, General Secretary of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), and Rev. Dr. Hans-Jörg Voigt, Bishop of the Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (SELK).

Additional greetings were brought to the assembly by:

- Linda Long, President of Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada (LWMLC);
- Drs. Jim Gimbel and Thomas Winger, Presidents from LCC’s two seminaries;
- Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR);
- Rev. Mark Lobitz, President of Concordia Lutheran Mission Society.

Written greetings were extended from the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Alberta.

Quick Reference Guide

TIME TO GO (DEPARTURES INFORMATION)

The convention is operating an hourly bus service to Edmonton International Airport from the Delta Hotel beginning at 11 a.m. with the last bus leaving at 4 p.m. It takes 20 minutes to get to the airport and airlines are recommending a minimum arrival time of 90 minutes to two hours before departure. Please time your departure accordingly. All transportation departs from the Delta.

Flight time

Before 1 p.m.
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Anytime
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
After 6 p.m.
Tuesday or later

Bus departure

LCC Van: 8 a.m.; 9 a.m.; 10 a.m.
11 a.m.
12 noon
1 p.m.
2 p.m.
3 p.m.
4 p.m.
Cab or Uber

If you need help with baggage from the Radisson, please ask the Information Desk volunteer to arrange for the inter-hotel shuttle to pick you up.

EXPENSE VOUCHERS

If you're ready to submit your expense vouchers today you can leave them at the Information Desk at the Delta Hotel. You can also mail it to LCC in Winnipeg, 3074 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3K 0Y2.

CHECK-OUT INFORMATION

Check-out time at both hotels is 1 p.m. The hotel front desk can arrange luggage storage if needed.

MEALS

Lunch today is at the Radisson Jubilee Ballroom sponsored by Israel Tourism Ministry. The ballroom is on the P2 level of the hotel.

MISSION EVENT

Dinner this evening features an event you won't want to miss! It all happens in the Radisson Jubilee Ballroom. "Stand Firm—Reaching out" includes interactive exhibits from mission groups that support and carryout LCC's outreach at home and overseas, a delicious international buffet, and entertainment from an array of artists and groups. A fun and informative fellowship event for the final evening of the convention.

MONDAY BREAKFAST CHANGE AT RADISSON

If you are staying at the Radisson, your breakfast location tomorrow has changed. It is now in the Imperial Ballroom on the P1 level.

WWW.LUTHERANCHURCHCANADA.CA/SC2022

OFFERINGS

The offerings collected in Friday's Opening Service totaled \$4,192.60 and will be designated to LCC Missions.

EXHIBITORS

We are pleased to welcome our exhibitors. They are in the Diamond/Emerald Room on the Main Floor of the Delta.

Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada
Lutheran Foundation Canada
Lutheran Church—Canada Missions
Concordia Lutheran Seminary
Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary
Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada
Plan to Protect
Lutherans For Life Canada
Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada
Concordia Lutheran Mission Society
LCC National Youth Gathering
The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
Lutheran Heritage Foundation
Lutheran Heritage Foundation
Parasource
BC Mission Boat Society
Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots
LCC Worker Benefit Services

Donor Appreciation



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World Relief



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Ellement

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