

THE STANDARD

Stand Firm in the Faith



LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA CONVENTION NEWS

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| JUNE 13, 2022



*A historic gathering of every synodical president
of Lutheran Church–Canada*

REV. DR. RALPH MAYAN; REV. DR. EDWIN LEHMAN; REV. DR. TIMOTHY TEUSCHER; REV. DR. ROBERT BUGBEE.

AGENDA

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**
- 12:15 pm Delta Hotel
- Box Lunch**

**THANK A VOLUNTEER
BEFORE YOU LEAVE TODAY!**

LCC Past Presidents Address Convention

Convention delegates had the chance to hear from all three of LCC's past presidents on Sunday. Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee served as preacher for the day's opening service of Matins, marking Trinity Sunday with a sermon focused on John 3:1-15. Rev. Dr. Edwin Lehman, meanwhile, introduced LCC's new history book *Missouri North: The History of Lutheran Church–Canada*. Finally, Rev. Dr. Ralph Mayan brought a message of comfort, encouraging us to fix our eyes on Jesus.

Photograph by Stuart Jansen

Missouri North: New book tells the story of LCC



MISSOURI NORTH

During convention on Sunday afternoon, Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) unveiled a new book telling the history of our church body: *Missouri North: The History of Lutheran Church–Canada*. Delegates were all given a free copy of the book to take home with them.

President Emeritus Edwin Lehman, LCC’s first president following the move to autonomy, explained to delegates the origin of the book project, which he and noted Canadian Lutheran historian, Rev. Dr. Norman Threinen, conceived several years ago.

Dr. Threinen writes the first section of the book, which traces the origins of LCC from its earliest days up to 1988 when the church became autonomous. Then LCC’s first three presidents—Dr. Lehman, Rev. Dr. Ralph Mayan, and Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee—continue the story, tracing the development of synod during their tenures in office. Rev. Dr. David Somers, meanwhile, discusses the history of French-language ministry in Canada. LCC’s current president, Rev. Dr. Timothy Teuscher, provides a preface to the work.

Rev. Mark Lobitz, who served as editor for the project, encouraged delegates to read the book and remember “what all the saints and works have done, specifically in the formation of Lutheran Church–Canada.”

“The Lord has accomplished these great things,” he said. “It’s a gift to remember what the Lord has done.”

Rev. Lobitz expressed thanks to all the contributors, as well as to Alex Steinke who provided layout and design and Mathew Block who assisted with editing.

Additional copies of the book will be available to order sometime after convention.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Winger presents convention essay:

“TAKE UP THE FULL ARMOUR OF GOD AND STAND FIRM”



Sunday morning began with a service of Matins, followed by an essay presented by Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Winger, president of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines. Rev. Dr. Winger is the author of the Concordia Commentary on Ephesians, and his essay was in the form of a Bible study examining the armour of God as described by Paul in Ephesians 6:10-20. The accompanying slideshow included photos of reliefs from Ephesus that date back to the first century, and may have been seen by Paul himself.

To build the foundation for understanding the armour of God, Rev. Dr. Winger first examined the various other occurrences of the exhortation to “stand firm” in the Epistles and in the Old Testament. Echoes of the convention theme, “Stand firm in the faith,” can be found in several places throughout the Epistles, including 1 Corinthians 16:13, Galatians 5:1, Philippians 4:1, 2 Thessalonians 2:15.

At the Red Sea, Moses told the Israelites to stand firm as God would fight the advancing Egyptian army (Ex 14:13-14), and in 2 Chronicles 20:17, God told King Jehoshaphat the same thing. Throughout the Old Testament, Israel’s victories were won by God alone.

Today, as Rev. Dr. Winger pointed out, “we’re already rescued from the troubles of this life,” through the work of Jesus. The armour of God is comprised of defensive armour and weapons, not offensive ones, as “it’s not our calling to win the world for Jesus – he has already won it,” Winger said, and consequently “we are not called to take ground from the old evil foe.”

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians to “stand firm,” they were divided and in danger of sliding back into paganism, and today we are threatened by seemingly harmless secular amusements. We also tend to view those who disagree with us as our enemies, which threatens to tear apart the church with division and strife. The devil tries to make us feel guilty, to make us listen to his lies rather than Christ’s truth; however, we must remember: “I am baptised. That is our armour.” In Revelation 19, the assembled saints are dressed in the same white, blood-washed robes as Jesus himself, who did not win the war through force of arms, but through his perfect sacrifice, which we are baptized into.

“Where we stand shows what we value most,” Winger said, and Christ is the shield we stand firm behind.

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

Elections for LCC’s board of directors, commissions

Elections continued on Sunday, with the convention electing new members for the Board of Directors as well as various commissions. Elected to the Board of Directors are:

- **LAY:** Kristen Guggenmos (Central), Arnold Drung (East), Lois Griffin (East), Grace Henderson (West), and Doug Petersen (West)
- **CLERGY:** Rev. Ted Giese (Central), Rev. Mark Hennig (West), and Rev. Tom Kruesel (West)

• **DIACONATE:** Dcn. Amanda Hastings
Elected to serve on the Commission on Constitution Matters and Structure are:

- **ROSTERED WORKERS:** Rev. Alex Klages (Central), Rev. Paul Schallhorn (East), and Rev. Jef Dul (West)
- **LAY:** Curtis Schafer (East), Delton Zehr (East), and Ronald Faulkner (West)

Elected to serve on the Commission on Theology and Church Relations are:

- **ROSTERED WORKERS:** Rev. Michael Keith (West) and Rev. Joel Kuhl (East)
- **LAY:** Mathew Block (Central) and Archie Richardson (West)

Elected to serve on the Commission on Nominations and Elections are:

- **ROSTERED WORKERS:** Rev. Kurt Lantz (East), Rev. Philip Washeim (West), Rev. Keith Hoveland (West), and Dcn. Kathy Cornish (West)

- **LAY MEMBERS:** Rod Johnson (Central), Rhonda Kelman (West), Alison (Liz) Schieman (West)

Elected to serve on the Commission on Adjudication are:

- **ROSTERED WORKERS:** Rev. Paul Roggow (West) and Rev. John Rapp (East)

LCC reelects Regional Pastors

Elections for Lutheran Church–Canada’s (LCC) Regional Pastors took place during synod’s convention on the afternoon of June 11, with synod’s current Regional Pastors each elected to another term without opposition.

As a result of the election, Rev. David Haberstock continues to serve as Regional Pastor of the Central Region; Rev. Marvin Bublitz as Regional Pastor of the East Region; and Rev. Robert Mohns as Regional Pastor of the West Region.

All three were first elected to office in 2018, following the adoption of LCC’s new structure in 2017.



LCC declares fellowship with the Lutheran Church in Norway and Iceland

On June 12, 2022, Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) declared fellowship with the Lutheran Church in Norway and Iceland (LCNI) in a unanimous vote.

Rev. Joel Kuhl, chairman of LCC’s Commission on Theology and Church Relations, noted how refreshing it was to engage in dialogue and discover that our churches have the same confession of faith.

Like LCC, the Lutheran Church in Norway and Iceland is a member church of the International Lutheran Council. It previously entered into fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 2015.

Bishop Torkild Masvie of the LCNI was delayed in arriving at convention but was expected to arrive on Sunday night. Bishop Masvie also attended LCC’s synodical convention in 2017.

Quick Reference Guide

Greetings to the Convention

Written greetings were extended to the assembly by the Rt Rev. George Samiec, Chairman of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE), and Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo, Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC).

Additional greetings were brought by Bruce Clemenger, President of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC); Lisa Jackson, Managing Director of Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada (LLLC); Kurt Buchholz, President and CEO of the International Lutheran Laymen's League; and the Mayor of the city of Edmonton; Rev. Mark Lobitz, President of Concordia Lutheran Mission Society.

Mission Event

In 2005, the last time synod held a convention in Edmonton, Pastor Larry MacKay pastor of Grace, Edmonton created a mission festival event that so impressed President Teuscher that he asked if something similar could be done for this convention. Pastor MacKay, now emeritus, graciously agreed and along with his team of Cheryl Galbraith, Bethel, Edmonton and Deacon Kathy Cornish, Riverbend, Edmonton and other consultants put together last evening's "Stand Firm—Reaching Out" mission event. More updates to follow.



NAME TAGS AND VOUCHERS

Before you leave for home make sure you return your voting keypad and nametag to the Delta Information Desk. You can also drop off your expense voucher.

REPORTING TO CONGREGATION

This newsletter is designed to help you with reporting the actions and activities of the convention to your congregation. This information will also be available online at:

www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca

TRANSPORTATION 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

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Donor Appreciation

