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A special Congregational Meeting will be held following the service on July 10 to discuss Pastor Mills' request for a sabbatical (see Page 3).

Please remember that we are no longer mailing the Parish Visitor, except by request. Copies are available for pickup in church and on our website.

*Picnic Prayer*

*For water ices, cheap but good,  
That find us in a thirsty mood;  
For ices made of milk or cream  
That slip down smoothly as a dream;  
For cornets, sandwiches and pies  
That make the gastric juices rise;  
For ices bought in little shops  
Or at the curb from him who stops;  
For chanting of the sweet refrain;  
"Vanilla, strawberry, or plain?"  
We thank thee, Lord, who sends with the heat  
This cool deliciousness to eat.*

*From St. Paul's, Richmond Hill  
Newsletter*

**What I did During the Summer**

This title brings memories of school days when we had to write an essay in the fall about what we did during our summer vacation. We've also done this at Advent, and some of you have shared some interesting stories from your summer activities. I'm asking you to do it again this year. This exercise has more than one value: It helps us learn a bit more about each other and read a good story. The story doesn't need to be long – tell about a trip, an interesting person you met, an experience or project at home or cottage, a family get-together, a good book read in the hammock, etc. Children's stories are particularly welcome, so, students, please share your essays with Advent (I won't grade them). I'll be doing the September newsletter at the end of August, so if you can get something to me by August 28, or early September for the October issue, that would be great. I look forward to hearing from you. ♦

jb

## Peanut Shell



What are you doing this summer? If you have some special plans, please share with the congregation what you did during the summer.

I'll be going to Winnipeg in July to attend the ELCIC National Convention. This will be my last convention as a Church Council member, as my second term will be complete at this convention. This will mark the end of 16 consecutive years that I have served the national church. Prior to NCC, I served in the communication area for eight years. I will certainly miss the interaction with many people I've met over the years, but I'm sure I won't have extra time on my hands after the end of July either.

Pastor Mills will be attending the convention as a Conference clergy delegate and will report back to the congregation following the convention. There are some big issues on the agenda this year – election of a Bishop and Vice President, Constitutional changes, approval of GHDA mandate and Stewardship program, and the resolution for local option of same-sex blessings. Check the ELCIC website (elcic.ca) for regular updates as to what is happening (July 21-24).

Summer tends to be a time when we are reminded about a lot of little things that could go by the wayside as we take time from our regular duties to enjoy ourselves. It's similar in the church. One of the main things is our commitment to keep up our regular offerings and volunteer commitments – these don't take a holiday. We know what would happen if we decided to take a holiday from paying our mortgages, rent, or utility bills. Let's remember that our responsibility to Advent also continues and do our part to maintain our commitment.

Our September *Parish Visitor* will be available September 4. If anyone has anything to include, please forward it to me by August 28. Enjoy your summer and I look forward to keeping in touch with you.

*Judy*



Well if you haven't melted and your glasses aren't so fogged up you can't read, I'll give you an update on "Our House" and wish you all a happy and safe summer.

In the last edition I mentioned the work in progress in Cedar Hall. The work is complete and it is fabulous, thanks to Heinz Weltner and Joe Hunt for the expert carpentry. We finally have a place to store all of our folding chairs. One problem solved but...a new problem created. It seems to be a real challenge to have people return the chairs to the cabinet after they have used them. It is a "universal" problem in that it involves all of our guests as well as our own congregation. If you are able and so inclined when you see chairs stacked against the wall in the sanctuary and the fellowship hall please take what you can

## All About our House

by Fran Brandes  
Chair, Property

move and return them to Cedar Hall. THANKS SO MUCH!

Hopefully everyone was able to attend the Congregational meeting that dealt with the community garden to be installed on the south end of our property. As you may or may not know, the proposal was approved and the garden will go ahead as planned. We are truly hoping that "Our House" will be a further service to the community.

Another housekeeping tidbit is the gardens. With holiday schedules and the relentless heat we have been experiencing, our gardens sure could use a bit of TLC. If you have some spare time please contact either Carol Peck or Olga Cosburn and offer your services. It would be immensely appreciated.

Have a great summer, stay well and thanks for reading. ♦



## Evangelical Lutheran Women

The ELW ended our first six months with a barbecue at the Arnetts. Despite the weather, we still had a good time.

On August 14 the ELW will be leading the worship service. Please let me know if you can help.

Our next meeting will be on September 14 at 7:30 p.m. Please come and join us.

The seniors had a noon luncheon and everyone had a great time. Our next Seniors get-togethers will be September 6 and 20, both at 1:00 p.m. Come and join us.

*Evelyn Arnett*



### ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2800 Don Mills Road  
North York, Ontario • M2J 3B6  
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The Rev Michael Mills, Pastor  
(416) 691-3774

Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:00 a.m.  
(September–June)

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for our members and friends.  
Judy Baribeau, Editor (416) 264-4527

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## Treasurers Report

| Commitments              | Received to<br>June 21, 2005 | Received to<br>June 21, 2004 | Required<br>June 21, 2005 | Surplus<br>(Shortfall) |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Current/Loose            | \$36,591                     | \$39,237                     | \$44,573 *                | \$(7,982)              |
| Mortgage                 | 2,801                        | 4,798                        | 4,798 **                  | (1,997)                |
| Sunday School            | 108                          | 95                           | 95                        | 13                     |
| <b>Sub-total</b>         | <b>39,500</b>                | <b>44,130</b>                | <b>49,466</b>             | <b>9,967</b>           |
| Facilities               | 21,550                       | 22,418                       | 18,607 ***                | 2,943                  |
| Regular Benevolence      | 4,964                        | 4,940                        | 4,940                     | 24                     |
| <b>Total Commitments</b> | <b>\$66,013</b>              | <b>\$71,488</b>              | <b>\$73,013</b>           | <b>\$(7,000)</b>       |

### Other Giving

|                  |       |       |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| GHDA             | 2,578 | 2,494 |
| 40th Anniversary | 1,321 |       |

\* 2004 Current and Loose increased by 13.6% as per Budget

\*\* Same as 2004

\*\*\* 2004 x 83% as per Budget

*Fred Roth  
Treasurer*

## Sabbatical Journey

The concept of wholeness and wellness in ministry is an important principle in the life of the church, and our ELCIC church believes that a healthy and effective congregation requires a healthy pastor, refreshed from time to time bodily, socially, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually and professionally (words adapted from Eastern Synod Sabbatical Guidelines document).

To this end, in their 2004 Annual Report, the Mutual Ministry Committee brought forward a request for a six-month sabbatical for Pastor Mills in 2006; and at the annual meeting a Sabbatical Steering Committee was created. That committee brought a report (Sabbatical Covenant) and approval motion to Council on June 20, 2005, and the following motion was passed:

*“to take to the congregation that Advent Lutheran Congregational Council recommends that during the period March 1, 2006, to August 31, 2006, Advent Lutheran Church releases Pastor Michael Mills from his regular duties of worship leadership, administration and pastoral care, and covenants to pray for his health, well being and growth in grace as documented in the*

*Sabbatical Covenant between Pastor Michael Mills and Advent Lutheran Church, Toronto.”*

A Congregational meeting is now scheduled for Sunday, July 10, 2005.

Please plan to be in church that Sunday so we have a quorum.

Last February, the Sabbatical Steering Committee was charged by the congregation to follow the guidelines published by our synod, and that means we really need to submit the documentation to Eastern Synod before Pastor Mills goes on vacation at the end of July 2005. That's why the July 10 congregational meeting is called.

A sabbatical such as this is a two-way thing, and it is a part of a pastor's call to a congregation. For Pastor Mills, it provides an opportunity for reading and study, relaxation and physical/mental repair, for prayer and rejuvenation, for visiting other places of worship and seeing how others practice their religion and celebrate the Holy Spirit. For Advent, it is a time for exploration of the spirit moving among us parishioners and for reflection by us and our church committees, who will keep functioning in the leadership role they have today. Arrangements are being made for parish

## Congregational Meetings

■ **July 10 meeting called** – A congregational meeting has been called for July 10 following the worship service to review Pastor Mills' request for a six-month sabbatical beginning March 1, 2006. Information related to this request is available at the rear of the church.

■ **June 5 meeting** – At our congregational meeting on June 5, the congregation gave approval to permit some of our property to be used for a community garden. The garden was started very quickly and there are some items already planted there. ♦

oversight by an ELCIC pastor who will be our guide and consultant, and who will preside over many of our services. In September 2006, we will welcome back a recharged Pastor Mills.

The Sabbatical Steering Committee's plan is to communicate with our congregation frequently, starting now. The title "Sabbatical Journey" is intended to imply that we all walk this journey together, and the best way for us to do that is to continue learning more about it and to talk about it – to communicate. This journey is started.

*Jim Doak, for the Advent Sabbatical Steering Committee*

## Stewardship Matters



“I don’t have the time.” How often do we find ourselves saying we don’t have time to do something or other? Is this true, or is it an excuse? Our stewardship of time has a lot to do with our priorities. If we don’t want to do something, we say we don’t have time. If we want to do something, we often find the time.

During the summer, most people take time for rest and recreation. It may be an active vacation, or sitting in the backyard reading a book. However you spend your time this summer, please take some time to consider how you can use some time to help Advent with some of the congregation’s needs.

For example, our Property Committee is always looking for additional people who have skills in repairing various items around the church that need attention, or working on the garden. Please see Fran Brandes to discuss where you can fit in. If you are interested in children and would like to help with Sunday School in the fall, please speak with Tara Lindemann as the Sunday School can always use additional help – and if you have children, please bring them on Sunday mornings starting in September (date to be announced).

If you would like to read one of the lessons or usher at a service, please sign your name for the date you are available. There is a sheet on the bulletin board and always has room for your name. If anyone is interested in Youth work, we need a youth advisor.

We also need your time to help us keep up our financial commitments. If you will be away, you may give the church post-dated cheques, or you may wish to begin using PAR (pre-authorized remittance) that automatically transfers the amount you select from your bank account to the church’s.

We also encourage you to continue supporting our 40th anniversary fund appeal. Below you will find some interesting ways we can do it as a group and have some fun as well.

### 40th Anniversary Fund Raising Projects

#### Progressive Dinners

Since we’re Lutherans, we enjoy eating. One way to enjoy a good meal, fellowship and at the same time raise funds for our 40th anniversary fund is by holding a progressive dinner – or two. We need volunteers to be hosts to serve one course each: appetizer, main course, or dessert and coffee. The dates suggested are Saturday, September 24, and/or Saturday, October 1. The cost will be \$15 a person (hosts \$10 each). If you would like to participate, please sign on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or speak with me. On the sheet you can indicate your preferred date, whether you can be a host and which course you would like to serve, or if you would just like to be a guest – we need hosts and guests. This is an opportunity for a fun-filled evening to support our anniversary project.

### Bake Auctions

So far we’ve had two successful bake auctions during coffee hour. If you would like to contribute one of your baking specialties to auction off, please let Judy Baribeau or Rebecca Taylor know. We will schedule an auction on various Sundays and will give advance notice so that you may come prepared to take home a specialty for your enjoyment or to serve to your guests. You don’t have to be the auctioneer – we will provide one.

### Silent Auction at Anniversary Dinner

Looking ahead, as part of our program for our anniversary potluck dinner on October 30, we will hold a silent auction. Please let Judy Baribeau know if you would like to donate an item and the starting amount for bidding. We’re looking for nice items, not rummage sale stuff. For example, Pastor Mills will be donating one of his paintings for \$\$\$\$. So, if you have a good white elephant (rather than re-gifting it to one of your relatives), or would like to donate a sample of your creativity, please let me know.

*Judy Baribeau  
Chair, Stewardship*



### ELW Recipe Reminder

Are you interested in providing a few very special, tried and true recipes for the ELW Cookbook fundraiser? If you have a family favourite, a picnic hit, a to-die-for dessert, a never-fails-to-please cookie – then you should consider sharing them rather than keeping such luscious secrets to yourself. Please bring your recipes (neatly written and double checked, of course) to Evelyn Arnett or Rebecca Taylor, or email them directly to [cookbook@adventlutheranchurch.ca](mailto:cookbook@adventlutheranchurch.ca).

*Rebecca Taylor*

## Mission Report

I received a report from Bonnie Weppler in Papua New Guinea. She was talking about the cultural differences between our two countries. Motu is both a language and culture in PNG. It is mostly found around the Port Moresby area. In this area Motu is spoken instead of Melanesian Pidgen.

Every September Port Moresby holds a little Hiri Moale Festival which celebrates some aspects of the Motu culture, including their special kind of sailboat – lagotou.

There is a big competition for Miss Hiri Moale. Motuan tattoos appear in all their elegance and the girls also decorate themselves in feathers, furs, shells and beads.

The body tattoos are in different shapes and sizes according to traditional beliefs and rituals. The Motuan men go away on their traditional Hiri expeditions.

Tattoos are first started on the arms from hands to elbows. When young girls are tattooed, they must remain indoors, are not allowed to bathe or cut their hair. When the men are sighted returning in their lagatois, then the girls are taken outside and are allowed to bathe and clean up. As the girls have been indoors for a long time, their skin has become pale which shows up the tattoos better. As the girls age, they are tattooed across their midriff. When a girl becomes engaged and the bride price agreed to, a V-shaped tattoo is made between the breasts up to the shoulder. After marriage, the woman's throat is tattooed and her private parts.

The first born daughter of a lagaoi captain can wear a *tear drop* tattoo below each eye and over the cheek.

PNG men are considered *violent* according to a report from the World Health Organization and newspapers.

Papua New Guinean men are considered the second most violent in the world. They are second to Uganda, in terms of assault on women. According

to the report 56.1 percent of PNG women have been physically assaulted. This does not include sexual abuse or rape. Ninety-eight percent of sexual assault and family violence were to women; more than half of this being teenagers and 13 percent being girls less than 10 years old. In almost 30 percent of the cases, there was more than one perpetrator.

Those and other statistics and facts of life in PNG bring to mind a quote from Father Leonel Narvaez. "How does a Christian help ordinary men and women to become active agents of peace in a society saturated with violence?"

Bonnie says, sometimes people ask me how I can stay in PNG; why I stay here; in light of this violence and abuse. My answer has always been: I can leave; I can get out of PNG anytime I need or want to. My Papua New Guinean women and children friends don't have that same luxury. *Em tasol*, that's it.

Bonnie asks you to join with her in

the following prayers:

*Healing God, you created us in your image and you created us, male and female, as equals. We ask that you make your love known to those who are not loved, to those who are abused, to those who are hurt. We pray for all victims of domestic abuse. We mourn for the children who are victims of sexual abuse. We long for a better world where love is more plentiful than hatred and abuse.*

or

*Loving God, we remember missionaries in all corners of the world and we remember that we are all commissioned to be missionaries in our own families and communities. We especially remember those long-time missionaries who have given their lives to service in ELC-PNG, including Ulrich and Edelgard Bermann. We ask that you ease their transition into new lives in their other "home" country.*

Joan Fox

Mission Representative



## It's Picnic Time Sunday, July 17

John and Erna Krause have invited everyone to their home on Sunday, July 17, beginning at 2:00 p.m. for the congregation's annual picnic. If you haven't had the opportunity to go to the picnic in previous years, please plan to come this year. A good time is guaranteed for everyone. Enjoy an afternoon of relaxation, fellowship, swimming and enjoy the nice country air.

Bring a potluck dish to share for your dinner (bring dishes and cutlery if you wish), lawn chairs, sunscreen and bathing suits. There is a pond for swimming. If you need a ride, or can give a ride, there will be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board.

### How to get there

Take Highway 404 north to the Stouffville cutoff. Go east to Woodbine. Go north on Woodbine to Bethesda Sideroad. The Krause home is on the south side (right side if you are coming from Woodbine). Look for Krause on the mailbox. Follow the lane to the house for parking.

**Mark July 17 on your calendars now and we'll see you there.**

# People and Events Summary

## Worship Services and Meetings

**Worship services** are held every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday School** classes are in recess until September.

**Men's Breakfast Group** – meets at 9:00 a.m. the first Saturday each month at the Wexford Restaurant, northeast corner of Lawrence Avenue East and Warden Avenue.

**Congregational Meeting** – July 10 following the service to discuss Pastor Mills' request for a sabbatical.

**Congregational Council** meets Monday, September 19, 7:00 p.m. at the church.

### Toronto Chinese Lutheran Church Moves to 2850 Midland Avenue

We are invited to attend the inaugural service of Toronto Chinese at its new location on Midland Avenue on Sunday, July 10, 3:00 p.m. The new ministry there will include Cantonese, English, and Mandarin services and proposed programs for the Tamilese community.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### Congratulations

■ To John and Erna Krause who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

■ To Kyle Hunt and Mihiri De Silva on each winning a \$1,000 Eastern Synod Spencer-Barche scholarship.

■ To Harvey Schneider who is celebrating his 95th birthday on June 30 and Loretta Schneider who celebrated her 91st birthday in May.

### Weddings

■ Congratulations to Brian Peck and Nicole Li who were married on June 10.

■ Congratulations to Robert Krause and Joanna Mackie who were married on June 24.

### Farewell

■ To Al and Myrtle Greve who are transferring their membership to Grace Lutheran in Hamilton. They have been members of Advent since 1966.

### Thank you

■ Tara Lindemann for organizing and for everyone who contributed, to the congregational picnic on June 12.

■ To the members who have donated items for the bake auctions to raise funds for the 40th Anniversary Fund.

### Baptism

■ We welcomed Dominick Leonard Frank, infant son of Marva and Lloyd Frank through baptism on June 19.

### Summer Worship

The following changes from regular worship will take place during Pastor Mills' absence:

**July 24** – Pastor Ernie Skujins will be supply pastor.

**August 14** – The ELW will conduct the service.

**August 21** – Pastor Ernie Skujins will be supply pastor.

**August 28** – The Men's Group will conduct the service.

## July/August 2005 Volunteers

Volunteers assist with the worship services. The *Parish Visitor* lists those who have agreed to assist each Sunday as a reminder and a thank you for serving. In addition to the areas listed below, we invite you to provide altar flowers for special occasions in your lives. If you have questions about them, please speak to the Altar Guild person for the particular Sunday.

| Altar Care                   | Greeter            | Assisting Minister | Reader              | Ushers                   | Counters | Coffee Hosts  |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|---|
| July 3<br>Brit Missirlian    | Yvonne Cumberbatch | Carol Peck         | Ingrid Schurr       | Kyle Hunt & Jackie Khan  |          | Mills Family  |
| July 10<br>Kristin Doak      | Jenny Persaud      | Jim Doak           | Chloë Shantz-Hilkes | Alfred Schurr            |          | Rosemarie Gardow & Carol Peck                         |
| July 17<br>Carol Peck        | Alfred Schurr      | Nalini Beekie      | Mihiri De Silva     |                          |          | Karen McDonald & Martin Gangadeen                     |
| July 24<br>Kristin Doak      | Joyce Strebel      | Peter Buckley      | Alex Otten          | Indira Beekie            |          | Yvonne Cumberbatch                                    |
| July 31<br>Mercy De Silva    | Indira Beekie      | Ingrid Schurr      | Mary Hassan         | Jenny Persaud & Chi Ling |          | Alex Otten, Wendy Zhang, Cindy Xue                    |
| August 7<br>Mercy De Silva   | Joan McLean        |                    | Joan Fox            | Olga Cosburn             |          | Shirley & Hilton Beharry, Mary Hassan                 |
| August 14<br>Mercy De Silva  | Alex Otten         | Fred Roth          | ELW                 | ELW                      |          | Marlene & Jim Barthelmy<br>Ann Marie & John Gangadeen |
| August 21<br>Brit Missirlian | Arie Fox           |                    | Chris Moeglich      | Hilton Beharry           |          | Evelyn Fromme & Robin Sheppard                        |
| August 28<br>Brit Missirlian | Cynthia Stewart    | Erika Schurr       | Mens Group          | Mens Group               |          | Roth Family   |