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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.

Jacqueline Khan is Confirmed on May 15

Jacqueline Khan was confirmed on Pentecost. Advent's tradition is to provide a special luncheon for the confirmands each year. Here are a few photos from this year's Confirmation celebration.



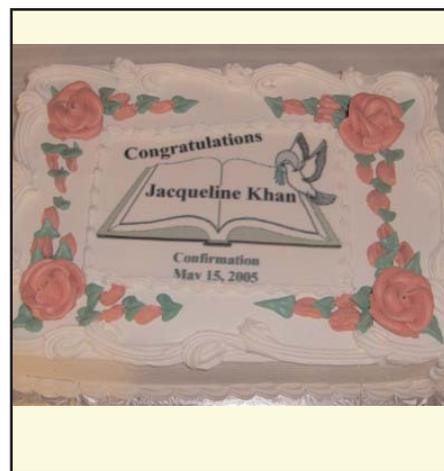
Pastor Mills presents Jacqueline with a card and gift cross from the congregation.



Proud grandmother, Delasia Khan, is enjoying the festivities.



The table in Cedar Hall was filled to overflowing with delicious food.



Jacqueline was presented with a cake that everyone enjoyed to finish off the meal.

Peanut Shell



Isn't it great now that we have nice warm weather? The good weather seems to bring renewed energy

in many areas. We certainly have a lot going on in and around Advent at this time.

While we only had one confirmand this year, that didn't diminish the festivities. We were able to hold the reception in Cedar Hall which made it a lot more comfortable than in earlier years.

We note some additional repairs that were unbudgeted for our building. We encourage everyone to do what they can to help cover the unanticipated costs.

While we're on finances, we held our first bake auction to raise funds for the 40th Anniversary Project and will continue these auctions at various times throughout the year. We will also plan at least one (depending on the response) progressive dinner this fall. There are a number of benefits for this type of evening.

If you'd like to get an overview of what is on the agenda for our National Convention, please come to the presentation on June 23 at Lutheran Ministries.

We were happy to receive Erna and John Krause's invitation to hold our congregational picnic at their home again this year. This has always been a highlight event of the summer so please plan to attend.

While Advent doesn't host a Vacation Bible School, a number of neighbouring congregations do. If you'd like to register your child, please select a location and date that fits your schedule.

We'll produce our combined July/August *Parish Visitor* in early July, which should include our summer worship schedule. Please remember that our expenses continue, even when you are away so please make arrangements to keep up your regular offerings – we accept post-dated cheques.

Enjoy your summer if I don't get a chance to speak with you.

Judy



I feel like I should be signing the guest book because I have been away more than I have been home. I really owe Marion Knaus, Alex Otten and Fred Roth a big debt because they have taken up the slack and saw to all of my duties.

As you may or may not know, we now have new "Guests" sharing our house with us. They are the Don Mills Korean Church and they meet Wednesday evenings and as well will use the space that was occupied by Grace Chinese on Sunday mornings between 11:00 and 1:00. Please, if possible, be aware of the noise level in the narthex when socializing after the service. Thanks.

If you have been in Cedar Hall recently, you have seen the construction in progress for the new cabinet which

All About our House

by Fran Brandes
Chair, Property

houses our folding chairs and three new folding tables thanks to the generosity of the Worldwide Church of God.

Several weeks ago our furnace which looks after the "old" section of the building decided it was time for some attention soooooo...approximately \$2,000 later it is once again a happy camper. Finances, finances, finances – it never seems to level out. While I am on the subject of finances, I would like to mention that our property insurance was raised this year by a hefty sum in excess of \$1,500. Please keep up your weekly giving if for no other reason than to keep Fred, our treasurer, off my head for going so far over the property budget.

I think that is a rap for this edition. Thanks for reading.

Fran Brandes
Property Manager

Congregational Meeting – June 5

A Congregational Meeting will be held following the service on June 5 to discuss the community garden proposal for Advent's property. The committee met a few times and is now ready to present the proposal to the congregation. ♦



Evangelical Lutheran Women

This brief report covers our activities until September. Our next meeting will be on September 14.

Our annual barbecue will be on June 17 at the Arnetts. Please sign the list posted on the bulletin board if you would like to attend.

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

The Seniors will meet on June 7 and 21. On June 21 we will have a luncheon starting at noon. The seniors will not

meet during July and August, and our first meetings of the fall will be on September 6 and 20.

Evelyn Arnett

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

The *Parish Visitor* is produced
for our members and friends.

Judy Baribeau, Editor (416) 264-4527

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Advent Lutheran Church

www.adventlutheranchurch.ca

Treasurer's Report

Commitments	Received to June 2, 2005	Received to June 2, 2004	Required June 2, 2005	Surplus (Shortfall)
Current/Loose	\$30,941	\$32,985	\$37,471 *	\$(6,531)
Mortgage	2,521	4,328	4,328 **	(1,807)
Sunday School	97	85	85	13
Sub-total	<u>33,559</u>	<u>37,398</u>	<u>41,884</u>	<u>8,325</u>
Facilities	20,036	19,549	16,226 ***	3,810
Regular Benevolence	4,314	4,276	4,276	39
Total Commitments	\$57,909	\$61,223	\$62,385	\$(4,476)
Other Giving				
GHDA	2,286	2,064		
40th Anniversary	1,192			

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

** Same as 2004

*** 2004 x 83% as per Budget

*Fred Roth
Treasurer*



Preparation for National Convention

The Toronto Conference Council will host a meeting to assist delegates in preparing for the National Convention to be held July 21-24 in Winnipeg. The purpose is to review the Bulletin of Reports and brief delegates on the agenda. The session will be held on Thursday, June 23, at Lutheran Ministries, 2850 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, from 7:00-10:00 p.m.

While the meeting is primarily for delegates, anyone is welcome to attend. The Bulletin of Reports will be sent to delegates the first week of June and will be available on the ELCIC website (www.elcic.ca) by June 17. Toronto Conference members of National Church Council will be present to assist in reviewing the material. Please bring your copies of the Bulletin of Reports to the meeting.

The agenda will include:

- (1) Highlights of the Bulletin of Reports
- (2) Review process for election of National Bishop
- (3) Discussion on blessing of same-sex unions
- (4) Discuss processes congregations pursued in discussing the subject of same sex blessings
- (5) Review voting process.

We encourage all delegates and others interested in the Convention agenda to attend. ♦

Children



Children

Our Sunday School year now draws to a close for the summer. It has been delightful to engage in discussion and witness such active participation and creativity. We have explored many themes and figures key to our faith. We have challenged them and today's world and have come out shining.

■ Worship bags will now be available for young children up to the pre-confirmand. They contain colouring items to magazine articles.

■ Come to our picnic on June 12 for games and food.

■ Come in August to actively complete our Sunday school mural.

Have a wonderful summer.

*All blessings,
Tara Labbanz*

Stewardship Matters



...from the Heart

“Stewardship comes from the heart” may sound like an old cliché. But there is a lot of meaning in that little phrase. Our hearts are the centre of our lives. If our heart is not working, neither are we – in other words, we’re dead. So what can we do while that little organ is pumping blood spreading life throughout our bodies.

Head

First, let’s look at our heads. Here is where our thought processes lie. We think about what we are doing, should be doing, and would like to do. What are our talents; what are our interests; what gifts can we offer; what are our opportunities? Let’s not use our energy to avoid doing something. Let’s keep our heads up, make eye contact and look forward. Our newsletter always contains information about areas where we can help.

Mouth

As we move down, let’s think about our mouths. We open our mouths to sing (hymns during the service and in the choir), pray, assist with the reading lessons at worship services, greet visitors – not just official greeters, everyone can speak with visitors at our services.

Hands

Then, let’s look at our hands. Many hands make light work, another cliché, but so true. We see so many examples of what our hands can do all the time. Some of our members are talented artists and we have a number of

examples of their work. A number of our members are very good at carpentry, electrical work, painting, plumbing and general maintenance – but we can always use more so that the few who are always on call can get a break. We use our hands in the kitchen – in being coffee hosts, providing food for the various requests we have for lunches, receptions and other events.

We use our hands for outdoor maintenance as well, such as working in our garden by the entrance. While we have a couple of dedicated people willing to look after them, we can always use an additional hand to remove the hated weeds and fertilize and water what we want to keep.

Well, then, we also write our cheques for support of our congregation and wider church – a very important part of our stewardship. When you read the Property report, you’ll see where we had unexpected furnace and insurance expenses that will affect our budget. Please help where you can.

Feet

Now let’s look at our feet. How can we use them? Let’s walk towards our goals and not away from them. Certainly, our ushers are on their feet more than sitting down. We can always use more people willing to hand out bulletins, assist worshippers in finding seats and the other duties that make worship a comfortable experience.

Heart

Now that we’ve moved through our body, we get back to the heart – the pulse that keeps us going. Please see what you can offer to ease our burden and keep Advent’s heart beating merrily along.

God has given us our hearts and we must use them in a healthy manner. Just as our blood flows from the heart to keep our bodies alive, it also returns to the heart for renewed strength to do it all over again. In the same way God keeps giving to us all over again so that we may also give and then receive back.

*Judy Baribeau
Stewardship*

40th Anniversary Fundraising

I mentioned in our last newsletter that we decided to hold special fundraising opportunities to raise the needed commitment to the 40th Anniversary Appeal. One of the ways is the bake auction at our coffee hours. We thank Rebecca Taylor for starting this off and the first donation from the auction was \$35 for the fund.

This fall we are planning a progressive dinner (September 24 or October 1) and participants will be asked to pay a set amount to travel among the hosts’ homes for an evening of food and fun. If you are willing to be a host/hostess,

please sign on the sheet on the bulletin board and let us know which course you would like to provide (appetizer, main course, dessert/coffee). If you would like to attend as a guest, please sign as well. If we get a large enough response, we will have more than one dinner so that we don’t have too many people going on the same tour. We hope to see many of our members taking part. This will give us an opportunity to get to know each other better and sample the hospitality of some of our members. Think about it. We’ll have details later.

Judy Baribeau

Mission Report

It is some time since we heard about our missionary work in Argentina. Rev. Sergio Utz has been pastor of the congregation Esperanza del Sur (Hope of the South) in Esquel and in the Mission Point in Cushamen since January 2004. This is a joint mission with the Inglesia Evangelica Luterana Unita (ILEU), United Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada through the Patagonia Mission sponsorship.

Esquel

The congregation had been served by a pastor who had to travel 600 km every two weeks to officiate at services on Saturdays, and continuity could not be achieved. Since Pastor Utz has been in Esquel, there are services every Sunday at 11:00 a.m., and the attendance has grown noticeably. It shows the importance of a pastor who lives there. It is helping the community grow stronger each week. A Sunday School has been started with two dedicated teachers who bring much strength to this important work. The buildings are not in very good shape and need repair. Also, due to lack of a security fence around the property, there have been a number of robberies which include a lawn mower, hot water tank, stove, doors, sinks, gas lines, musical keyboard, etc., which are great losses. The grass was cut, and the windows are being replaced with nylon until a security fence is built. Broken windows are a regular occurrence.

The heating equipment was repaired. The roof is being repaired. The window frames and doors of the church are being painted, as they had deteriorated due to the weather. The building beside the church is also being repaired and painted. This building will be used for activities that were not able to start due to lack of appropriate physical space. "Many hands make light work." The work mentioned above was all done by people in the community.

Pastor Utz has several projects that will strengthen the congregation and church life with everyone working together. This year confirmation classes will begin. There will be two groups – one for adolescents and the other for adults. They will be studying on Saturdays with Pastor Utz reflecting and developing skills for these people to serve in the church.

Cushamen

Pastor Utz celebrates services in Cushamen every two weeks depending on the time of year. Cushamen is 200 km from Esquel, a three-four hour journey one way. A small truck was provided that was strong enough to cross the rough roads. Here, as in Esquel, various children are starting to come to the children's time in the service.

The "Cup of Milk" program is run both in Esquel and Cushamen by the women of the community. These women bake the bread and prepare the

milk for distribution to the children in the community.

In Cushamen our goals include: To strengthen our mission with the Mapuche people; to establish a plant nursery; to repair the church building; and to conduct special activities for the children during summer vacations.

A message from Pastor Utz: "I give thanks to God for the blessing of working in these communities, together with the Lutheran Church in Canada of which I feel part of despite the distance that separates us. I have integrated very well in the city of Esquel where I reside. I have joined the choir in the city and I am also participating in a municipal project to teach literacy skills to adults. The classes are small and the experience is very gratifying."

Pray for Pastor Utz and his work in the Patagonia region and especially his work with the Mapuche people of that area.

*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.

Adult Discussion, June 5. Kevyn Dawe will introduce us to some of the hymns in the new hymnal.

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 – June 5 following the service to discuss the community garden proposal.

The Seniors meet June 7 (1:00) and 21, at noon for lunch at the church.

Sabbatical Steering Committee meets Thursday, June 9, 7:00 p.m.

Congregational Council meets Monday, June 20, 7:00 p.m. at the church.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Events

- **Congregational Barbecue, June 12** – Everyone is invited to remain following the service for a potluck picnic lunch and games.
- **The Annual Congregational Picnic** will be held Sunday, July 17, at the home of Erna and John Krause.

Sympathy

- Our sympathy to Krish and Mercy De Silva and family on the death of Krish's mother in Sri Lanka..

Thank you

- To everyone who helped set up, serve and clean up at the Confirmands' lunch on May 15.
- To Alex Otten for coordinating Advent's participation in the Peanut town Festival on June 4 and for everyone who brought items to sell.
- Jim Doak and Lester McLean for conducting the worship service on May 29 in Pastor Mills' absence.

Please remember to turn the ringer off on your cell phone while we worship.

Vacation Bible Schools

Some of the Toronto Conference Congregations will be hosting Vacation Bible Schools this summer. If you are interested, the dates, location and contacts are:

- **Agricola, Toronto** – July 2-8. This school will be held at the congregation's Marmora facility 200 km NE of Toronto. Call 416 489 7600 or agricola@rogers.com for more information.
- **St. Paul's, Richmond Hill**, and St. Mary's Anglican, July 4-8 at St. Mary's . Phone 905 884 6915.
- **Toronto Chinese**, August 22-26, Joint Vacation Bible School at Lutheran Ministries, Scarborough. Phone 905 475 7872.
- **St. Ansgar, Toronto**, August 26-September 2, "Circus Spectacular". Call 416 783 3570 or www.stansgar.ca.

June 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
June 5 Kristin Doak	Adele Buckley	Ingrid Schurr	Peter Buckley	Peter and Joseph Buckley	Judy Baribeau & Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Elizabeth & Guy Lancia
June 12 Michaela Ehring	Delasia Khan	Robert Wraith	Jonathan Roth	Fran & Claus Brandes	Martin Gangadeen & Tara Lindemann	Joan & George McLean
June 19 Carol Peck	Krish De Silva	Gabi Schickedanz	Olga Cosburn	Brenda Kroeker	Walter Rothenburger & Sonita Dillon-Rhodium	Fran & Claus Brandes
June 26 Brit Missirlian	Hilton Beharry	Jackie Fromme	Indira Beekie	Indira & Nalini Beekie	Kristin Doak & Carol Peck	Myrtle & Al Greve