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Blessed

*A child, dear mother,
Your life is Blessed.*

*A child, dear mother,
who in a cradle, lays to rest.*

*Your child, dear mother,
under your watchful eye plays,*

*Your child, dear mother,
not too far it strays.*

*Your child, dear mother,
grows tall and strong,*

*Your child, dear mother,
now fully grown.*

*What happened, dear mother?
When did this change?*

*This new order, dear mother,
it feels so strange.*

*This child, dear mother,
now cares for you,*

*Because dear mother,
This child learned from you.*

*You've changed, dear mother,
I've seen it day by day.*

*It's so sad, dear mother,
you're going away.*

*Your child, dear mother,
lays you in a cradle to rest.*

*With your life, dear mother,
this child has been Blessed.*

by Marion Knaus

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.

Marion Knaus wrote the above poem in Keith's mother's memory shortly after she died last fall. She has retitled it from "Joan" to "Blessed" in memory of her mother who recently died.

This poem is dedicated to all who are mothers, have mothers, and remember mothers this Mother's Day.

Peanut Shell



Aren't the warmer days wonderful? With the nicer weather we see increased activity outdoors and thank Olga Cosburn and Carol Peck for their work on the gardens by the church entrance. It's a difficult area to take care of and we thank them for their efforts.

Gifts can be a big surprise, and a surprise we had when the Worldwide Church of God offered to purchase new tables and chairs for our building. These are much needed items and we thank them for their generosity. Now, if some craftspeople volunteer to make the storage space available for them, we will be on our way.

We need to keep our financial situation in focus and remember to do our part to bring and keep our operating budget into balance. Above that, we need to remember to continue contributing to our 40th anniversary fund. If anyone has some creative fund-raising ideas, please let me know. It's much easier to raise money if we can have a good time doing it.

The Toronto Youth Council is an active group of young people and encourages all young (and maybe not so young) people to attend their event on May 7. Please support our youth to attend this event.

If you are still looking for a summer job, please look at the opportunities at Edgewood. It might be just the thing you are looking for. Get your applications in soon.

Tara Lindemann is making plans for a congregational event following the service on June 12. Lunch (mostly potluck, of course), games and other items of interest are being planned. Please contact Tara if you would like to assist. Everyone is invited.

Please remember our missionaries with your prayers and cards. They all work under sometimes difficult conditions to spread the Word.

Judy



It seems like a very long time since I submitted copy for the *Parish Visitor*, but as some of you may or may not know the past few months have been a bit stressful. All of the stress culminated early in April with the passing of my mother. I would like to thank the Advent family for all of the notes, flowers and well wishes that were sent to Claus and me. I am truly humble and appreciative.

In my absence Fred Roth, Marion Knaus and Alex Otten looked after "Our House" and did a great job. Thanks to all of you.

Just recently I received a phone call from Pastor Richard Wilding of the Worldwide Church of God. Once again I have been overwhelmed by their generosity. They have offered to buy new tables and chairs for Cedar Hall. What a blessing that will be if we don't have to contemplate spinal surgery when we want to move some of the tables we presently have which are so very heavy. Our chairs are also in bad need of replacement. It is not certain just how many tables and chairs fit into their budget, but to say the least I am filled with gratitude. As you may recall they donated one of our stained glass windows and also gave a sizeable donation to us when we replaced the carpeting in the Sanctuary. I am sure that you would agree that it is a pleasure to share our church home with such fine people.

This gift however does present us with a small storage problem. Here is the plan ... to build a cabinet which would be approximately two feet deep with sliding doors on the outside wall that backs onto the hallway along the Cedar Hall. This would allow us to store batches of six chairs with a total housing for approximately 100-200 chairs. This cabinet would also serve as counter

All About our House

by Fran Brandes
Chair, Property

space for serving luncheons, etc., in Cedar Hall. The present closet in which the tables are stored would be reconfigured to accommodate the new lightweight tables. That being said, I am "putting out the word" for one or two members of the congregation who are able to wield a mean hammer and make the plan a reality. Interested??????? PLEASE give it some consideration and get back to me. The Worldwide Church would like to complete their offer as soon as possible but we need to have proper storage before delivery.

Thanks for reading.

For Sale...Free...

Are you planning a yard sale this spring? We have just the thing you need. Please help yourself to as many of our old stack tables that you may require to make your sale a success. Presentation is everything and what better way to offer items for sale than elevated off the ground on a table. They are yours for the taking. However, if you are so inclined, if you help yourself to any tables, please feel free to make a donation toward the 40th Anniversary Fund.

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2800 Don Mills Road

North York, Ontario • M2J 3B6

(416) 493-1435

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)

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 April 18, 2005	Received to April 18, 2004	Required April 18, 2005	Surplus (Shortfall)
Current/Loose	\$23,478	\$24,131	\$27,413 *	\$ (3,935)
Mortgage	1,924	3,469	3,469 **	(1,545)
Sunday School	76	64	64	13
Sub-total	<u>25,479</u>	<u>27,664</u>	<u>30,946</u>	<u>(5,467)</u>
Facilities	13,453	16,136	13,393 ***	60
Regular Benevolence	3,308	3,115	3,115	193
Total Commitments	42,239	46,914	47,453	(5,214)
Other Giving				
GHDA	1,749	1,559		
40th Anniversary	826			

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

** Same as 2004

*** 2004 x 83% as per Budget

*Fred Roth
Treasurer*

God's Given Gift

**Let's Show your God's given gift
and celebrate for it!**

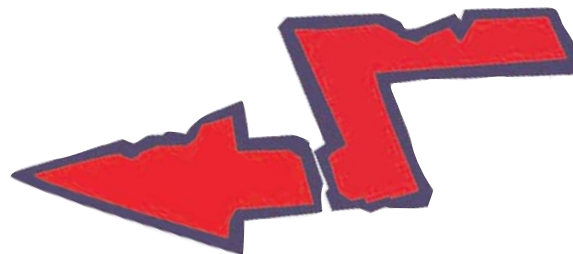
Place: Wycliffe College (Sheridan Hall)

Date: May 7, 2005

Time: 10:00am - 3:00pm

Lunch provided

Fee: \$5 / Person



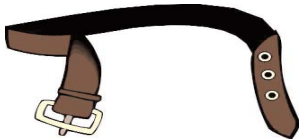
The Toronto Conference Youth Council is holding an event and invite all Lutheran youth in Toronto to attend. You can register by email at

TOConference_youth@hotmail.com
or mail to 2350 Bridletowne Circle,
Apt 1904, Scarborough, Ontario
M1W 3E6.

We want you to show us the gifts that God has given you. And if you don't feel like performing, feel free to just come out and support the youth. Either way, please plan to attend and support our Conference Youth.

**Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Canada
Toronto Conference**

Stewardship Matters



Making Ends Meet...

As we mature we find that there are a couple of ways ends don't always meet. One is when our belts don't seem to close as easily as they used to – perhaps there is too much between the ends. And then we feel that our pockets are too small and there are too many hands reaching into our pockets – also causing discomfort. It would be great if we could shift something from the beltline to the pocket. With a little exercise we may be able to achieve a better comfort zone.

One simple way to make ends meet more easily is through Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). With PAR your donation to Advent is transferred monthly from your bank account. You don't even need to be in church on Sunday to do it – although we always recommend you worship regularly. If you are interested in contributing through PAR, please see Claus Brandes. That is one way we receive regular contributions, even through the slim (meaning lower offering) summer months.

When we break down the additional money needed to meet our budget, it comes to about \$3 per week for each giving unit. Let's think about what we can each spend \$3 a week less on and donate it to the church. It could be the candy bar or pastry passed by (that would help the waistline ends meet); it can be taking a lunch to work rather than going out and buying it every day; or it can be saying "no" to an impulse purchase that usually ends up at some garage sale anyway.

If we all look at our wastelines, I'm sure we can come up with a novel way to help our ends meet more comfortably – both at Advent and for ourselves.

We always need to remember that God gave us everything and we need to continue giving thanks for these gifts. Giving back something in thanks is a natural reaction.

40th Anniversary Fund Raising

We officially closed our 40th Anniversary celebration events on February 6 when National Bishop Raymond Schultz was our special guest. We have one objective remaining – to raise the additional \$25,000 to meet our goal (so far we raised \$15,000). The Future Directions Task Force set February 2007 as the target date which may or may not be reached – it depends on all of us. To look at it in a simpler way, it amounts to approximately \$45 per member (not giving unit) per year. We can also make a donation for our birthdays, anniversaries or other special events. We can make donations in memory of someone. Families can designate memorial contributions in memory of someone who died. When my mother says, "Don't get me anything for my birthday/Christmas," I'll take it literally and make a donation to the fund instead.

At a recent Stewardship Committee meeting we decided the best way to raise funds is to plan a number of fund-raising events that would be separate from requesting donations as part of our

regular offerings – although any donations are more than welcome. With our tight financial situation this year, we need to remember that donations to the Anniversary Fund are over and above our regular offerings. As a congregation we approved the \$40,000 goal and it is our obligation to meet it.

We will be contacting various persons to see if they are willing to work on planning events – to use their creativity to promote some fun stuff that we can all enjoy. It can go from selling candy bars to a silent auction to a sponsored dinner to bake sales, progressive dinners, or whatever. If anyone would like to volunteer or make some suggestions, please contact me. We've already had an offer to collect recipes to create an Advent cookbook. That is one way we can raise funds and be able to prepare some of the foods so many of our people share when we have meetings, coffee hours and potluck dinners.

I encourage everyone to take a serious look at their wastelines and see where we can make them more comfortable for Advent and ourselves.

Judy Baribeau

Employment Opportunities at Camp Edgewood

CAMP EDGEWOOD needs boys 17 or older to work as counselors this summer. We are looking for enthusiasm, love of working outdoors, a desire to work with kids and people who really know how to have fun. Think you are the person? Think you know this person? Please go to www.edgewood-camp.on.ca and look at summer camp employment opportunities. The current rate of pay for a first-year counsellor is \$275 weekly (if under 18, minimum 17) and \$290 weekly if 19 or older – and all the food you can eat.

A Head Cook position is also available. This position is really for a mature, responsible individual who is willing and able to work in a team setting. This leader must instruct kitchen staff in food preparation, regularly order food required to feed the camp participants and delegate health and safety procedures as well as several other responsibilities... like cooking food. The head cook reports to the Camp Director and will receive training in food orders, health regulations, and menu planning. A weekly salary of close to \$500 is available.

Notes from Toronto Conference Spring Meeting – April 16, 2005

The Toronto Conference Spring meeting was held on April 16 at Lutheran Ministries in Scarborough. Thirty-nine people representing 20 congregations in the Conference were present. Pastor Sylvia Poetschke served as Chaplain.

The Conference voted to give voice and vote to members of the Toronto Youth Council who were present.

Dean David Tin encouraged greater participation from congregations at Conference events, particularly support for Youth initiatives. Everyone is also asked to check our Conference website (elcic-torontoconference.ca) frequently for updates.

Bradley Wong and members of the Youth Council gave a report on their activities and advertised the youth event to be held on May 7 at Wycliffe College on the University of Toronto campus. Representatives of the Youth Council will be contacting each congregation to get information on the youth and encourage them to participate in various events.

David Tin noted two changes in the Conference clergy delegates to the National Convention. Pastors Martti Hyhko and Dennis Becker will replace Pastors Tim Dutcher-Walls and Steve Olson who have moved from the area.

Pastor Martti Hyhko gave a report on the newest CLRP for the Differently Aabled. He noted that government and other funding are available to help equip a facility for the differently abled.

Special Orders

■ **Convention Preparation** – Pastor Phil Heinze, Assistant to the Bishop, facilitated a discussion on convention preparation as it relates to the local option resolution for same-sex blessings. Members asked questions and gave various comments both in support and opposed to the resolution. We are encouraged to view the National ELCIC website (www.elcic.ca) for essays and other information posted related to the

resolution and also the ELCA website (www.elca.org) for their task force recommendation which will be presented at their Churchwide Assembly this coming August.

■ **Ontario Multifaith Council Re-integration Program** – Michael Skaljin gave a presentation on the OMC's Re-integration Program where volunteers provide spiritual and social support to returnees to the community. Returnees eligible for the program are those who are faced with homelessness when their terms in correctional institutions end. The OMC is looking for faith groups or individuals who would be interested in participating in this program; and if anyone is interested, to contact either Pastor David Tin or Esther Au.

Synod Report

Pastor Phil Heinze presented the report from the Synod and reviewed the written report briefly. He encouraged attendance at upcoming Synod-sponsored events. He noted that 2004 was slightly better than 2003 financially and because some committees came in under budget, additional money was available for some ministries. However, our benevolence offerings are 33 percent lower than ten years ago.

Pastor Heinze presented Benny awards to 14 congregations in the Conference thanking them for their increased benevolence. They are: Westside, Barrie; Augsburg, Brampton; Peace, Pickering; St. Paul's, Richmond Hill; Faith, Toronto; Advent, Toronto; Epiphany, Toronto; First Lutheran, Toronto; Toronto Lithuanian; Martin Luther, Toronto; St. George's, Toronto; St. Philip's, Toronto; Bethesda, Unionville; and Toronto Chinese.

Elections

Pastor Ilze Kuplens-Ewart resigned from the Conference Council which left one year on her term. We also were required to fill four two-year terms to complete the Council membership. The

following persons were elected: Pastor Peeter Vanker (two-year term), Pastor Brian Wilker-Frey (two-year term) Judy Baribeau (two-year term), Gigi Young (two-year term), and Dr. Tilly Chandulal (one-year term). These people were installed during the worship service that closed the meeting.

Closing

In closing David Tin thanked everyone for their support, particularly Pastor Ilze Kuplens-Ewart, Pastor Lenise Francis and Fran Brown who are leaving the Conference Council.

The Full Bulletin of Reports prepared for the meeting is posted on the Toronto Conference website. ♦



Evangelical Lutheran Women

- Our next meeting is May 11, 7:30 p.m. where we will focus on the Bible Study from the *May Esprit*.
- The ELW Biennial convention will be held in Port Elgin from May 27-29.
- Congratulations to Brit Missirlian who was elected President of the Toronto Conference ELW.
- Seniors Meet May 3 and 17.
- Remember your recipes.

Evelyn Arnett

Adult Discussion Group Spring Schedule

May 1-May 29 – The Bible and History (Colleen Shantz, facilitator)

Children



Children

My Grandmother used to say, and I translate, that May is for mothers. For the longest time I thought that she was directly meaning Mother's Day, the second Sunday every May we put aside to send our mothers' flowers, make them breakfast or just give them a break from our usual routine. Well yes, but that was just a start.

Mother's Day was actually a day proclaimed for mothers everywhere to unite to speak out against the horrors of war and the loss of husbands, sons, families... Today the USA observes National Peace Officers' Day and Memorial Day as reminders of those who are needed to preserve peace and those who have sacrificed their lives to protect it. Loss and sorrow, honouring those who have died and those who shout out for change, for transformation. Worthy are these topics in the season of change and transformation which is at its most vibrant.

May Day is May 1. Have you ever heard about dancing around the

Maypole? Without describing the more complicated aspects of it, this was a celebration of planting, fertility of the earth and universe. People would decorate poles with flowers. They would dance and weave coloured ribbons around a pole. They would also jump over fires for fertility, good health and luck for the year.

Looking at the church wheel on May 5, we observe Ascension Day – Jesus' ascension to heaven. The ascension occurred 40 days after the Resurrection. Jesus gave his disciples this message:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

And so begins the Pentecost season, also known as the day of First Fruits. This is when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles like the wind and enabled them to speak in languages previously unknown to them in a room filled with persons of many

nationalities. This is what we shall be studying in Sunday school. The season of Spring. The season of Pentecost. Being transformed through Jesus and enabled by the Holy Spirit. How we, in turn can help transform and enable our world into the living place that it should be...

June 12 is Party Day

And speaking of community... The last day of Sunday School and Adult Education is Sunday, May 29. To celebrate its completion we are having a grand and massive PARTY on June 12. We invite everyone to attend. There will be food, games for all ages, more food, more games, and balloons, of course.

So please come and join us on Sunday, June 12, after worship. Do not forget sun block. If we are plagued with monsoon-like rain the alternate spot is in the Fellowship Hall.

Peace and all that is good and lovely,
Tara Lindemann

Toronto Conference SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER'S MINI CONFERENCE:

"Learning About Children"



Saturday, September 24, 2005, 9:30 - 2:30

at The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (North York) 1630 Lawrence Avenue West (at Black Creek Dr.)

Registration: \$10.00 includes lunch

Register by mail, by e-mail or by phone: Contact Seija Hyhko, Conference Learning Resource Person
416-244-5973 or seija@sympatico.ca
12 Woodridge Court, Toronto, Ontario M6M 4G1

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Congregation: _____

Mission Report

This is an update from Katharine Bergbusch, our missionary in Peru. Katharine was on a six-month trial period in Iquitos, Peru, to decide if a mission was to become a reality. After the six months ILEP (Peruvian Lutheran Church), the ELCIC World Mission and Katharine decided to proceed.

Katharine then had the task of closing her apartment in Lima where she lived for ten years. After sorting through all her possessions, she sent her belongings to Iquitos by road and air. She also



stored some items at Cristo Rey, where she has a room to stay when she visits Lima. Quite an upheaval, like any move when one has lived so long in one place.

ILEP sent a young man, Jorge, to accompany her for two months and assist her in settling in. He is from the Belen congregation and was trained in JULUMI, the youth mission program, as well as receiving training in computer design. He is a big help in many ways, one of which is teaching her how to place photos and text in a manuscript. At the moment she has minimal furniture in the apartment.

In June last year she had the company of another young person, Julia, a volunteer from Germany. She was cheerful company and was appreciated by the children. Julia taught them a song in German. October 20 is the anniversary date for "Fiel es Diosa" so they celebrated the anniversary together with Reformation Sunday on October 31.

In Cardoso, Fiel es Dios" they have

been looking for property to rent or buy and have found a house for sale for S/.15,000 or about US\$4,700). It is constructed of brick and has a concrete floor in the main room. It sits on a lot 10 m by 32 m. ILEP has agreed to borrow money from other areas of her budget to provide cash for the purchase. They are hoping for donations from their partner churches and individuals to pay back this money.

Assistance for Triunfo

In the rural area of Triunfo, an experienced agriculturist from the Lutheran NGO "Diaconia" came from Lima to do an analysis of the situation and needs of the farmers, none of whom have agricultural training. Suggestions have been made to improve their methods and they are hoping for more input. From the congregation "Cristo Rey" and the German mission they have received an electric generator for the use of the participants in Triunfo until the state implements electricity. Unfortunately, a problem has arisen for the Agricultural Association in the process of obtaining legal title to the land.

*God is our refuge and strength
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear,
Though we should move
And land up in the middle of the
jungle.*

Blessings to all.

New Address

Rev. Katharine Bergbusch
Urb, Juan Pablo II, Mo. 45-103
Iquitos, Peru

■ **Bonnie Wepler's** birthday is on May 8. Her address is PO Box 80, Lae, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea
■ Patagonia Mission Pastor: **Rev. Sergio Utz's** birthday is May 10. His address is Esperanza del Sur, Av. Fontana 439, 9200 Esquel, Chubut, Argentina

Joan Fox
Mission Representative



Garden Committee Reviews Proposal

In mid-March members of the Garden Committee met with with the three groups who are proposing to use Advent property for a community garden site. They were asked to provide a written proposal for our consideration.

The proposed location is the south end of our property. We received the proposal in mid-April and reviewed it. We are asking for further clarification and answers to concerns that arose. We hope to have their response in early May to review and present any recommendation to Congregational Council.

If Council agrees with the recommendation, a congregational meeting will be called to present the proposal to the congregation for discussion and approval. A Congregational Meeting may be called for early June. We will keep the congregation informed as to the status of the project. ♦



People and Events Summary

Worship Services and Meetings

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

Sunday School and Adult Discussion groups meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Adult classes will end on May 29 for the summer.

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.

The Seniors meet May 3 and 17, 1:00 p.m. at the church.

Congregational Council meets Monday, May 9, 7:00 p.m. at the church.

ESO Committee meets Monday, May 16, 7:30 p.m. at the church.

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Events

■ Our annual Confirmands' Luncheon will be held after the service on Pentecost, May 15.

■ We are planning a Party Day on June 12 following the service. Details will be provided as available.

Please bring your used toner cartridges to church and place them in the recycling box in the narthex.

Congratulations

■ To Brit Missirlian on her election as President of the Toronto Conference ELW.

Thank you

■ We plan to say "Thank You" to all the members of the Future Directions Task Force for their work in planning and carrying out our celebration activities at the service on June 5.

■ With regret we received Sam Paranavitana's resignation from Congregational Council at our April meeting. We thank Sam for his contributions while on Council.

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



May 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
May 1 Elizabeth Lancia	Joan McLean	Fred Roth	Brian Peck	Youth Group	Brit Missirlian & Martin Gangadeen	Munro Family
May 8 Elizabeth Lancia	Alex Otten	Erika Schurr	Kyle Hunt	Mary Hassan & Elsie Wraith	Rebecca Taylor & Brit Missirlian	Judy Baribeau & Heli Jens
May 15	Arie Fox	Jackie Fromme	Arie Fox	Alfred Schurr	Walter Rothenburger & Sonita Dillon-Rhodus	Confirmand Luncheon
May 22 Carol Peck	Cynthia Stewart	Peter Buckley	Judy Baribeau	Nicole Li & Brian Peck	Martin Gangadeen & Tara Lindemann	Khan Family
May 29 Michaela Ehring	Judy Baribeau	Carol Peck		Indira & Nalini Beekie	Bernd Brandt & Gladys Ammatil	Isha, Nalini & Beekie