

*Inside*

Congregational Council

- 2 -

Holy Week and Easter  
Worship Schedule

- 2 -

A Word from  
Pastor Mike

- 3 -

ELW News

- 5 -

Financial Report

- 6 -

ELCIC's Participation at  
the 60th Anniversary of  
LWF

- 7 -

Mission Report

- 7 -

ESO Update

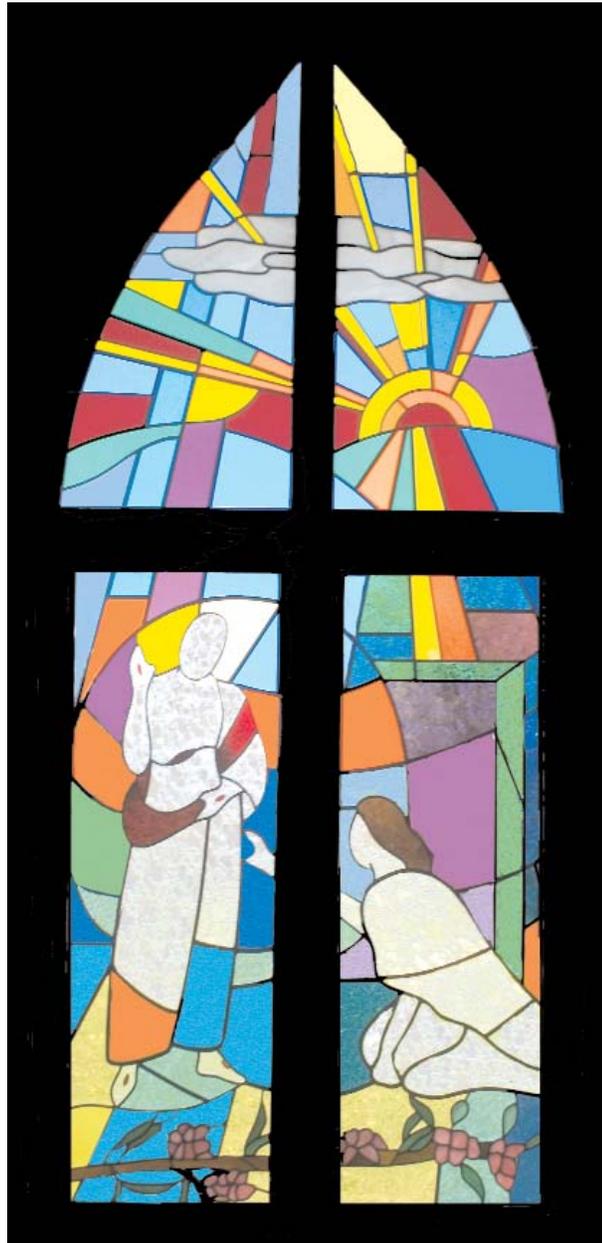
- 8 -

All About our House

- 9 -

People and Events  
Summary

- 10 -



**Resurrection**

### Peanut Shell



A blessed Easter season to all of you. With the longer days and warmer weather, we will soon see a lot of activities taking place.

I encourage you to attend the Toronto Conference Spring Meeting on May 5. Everyone will have an opportunity to discuss what they would like the Conference to do for them. Congregations are entitled to two delegates and as many visitors as possible are more than welcome.

Pastor Mills has included the sermon he gave on Transfiguration Sunday, February 18 (Page 3).

The World Day of Prayer program has an interesting background. Please read about it in Joan Fox's article.

I was pleased to receive Evelyn Arnett's note. Please keep in touch with Evelyn and Martin.

"For everything there is a season..." we read in Ecclesiastes 3:1. Last year I decided that I would discontinue producing the *Parish Visitor* sometime in 2007. That time has arrived, and this is my last issue. I began preparing our newsletter in April 1991, 16 years ago. We've come from very basic word-processing with cut-and-paste (and hoped the scotchtape marks wouldn't show) to desktop publishing using high-end software. During these years I've set aside one week for each issue to put our newsletter together and scheduled vacations and other activities around it. I've certainly enjoyed the work and have learned so much. But the time has come to close the folder.

Through my recent research I've realized that term limits are important for responsibilities we take on and we need to make changes. Term limits are written into constitutions and contracts, and we need to recognize this in our volunteer commitments as well. I thank everyone for their regular contributions and support over the years.

The Peanut Shell is at rest.

*Judy*

## Congregational Council Selects Officers and chairperson

At its February 19 Council meeting, the following persons were selected to serve as officers and chairpersons for the coming year. They were installed on February 25.

- Carol Peck ..... Chairperson
- Brit Missirlian ..... Vice Chairperson
- Kristin Doak ..... Appointed as Secretary to serve until June
- Treasurer ..... Fred Roth
- Christian Education ..... Erika Day
- ESO ..... Ingrid Schurr
- Mutual Ministry ..... Rebecca Taylor
- Property ..... Fran Brandes
- Stewardship/Finance ..... Robert Wraith
- Worship and the Arts ..... Rebecca Taylor
- Youth ..... Ingrid Schurr and Robert Wraith
- Caring Conversation ..... Walter Rothenburger
- Refugee Task Force ..... Brit Missirlian
- Financial Secretary ..... Claus Brandes



### Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday	April 1, 10:00 a.m.	Procession of Palms
Maundy Thursday	April 5, 7:30 p.m.	Re-entering the Upper Room
Good Friday	April 6, 10:00 a.m.	Adoration of the Crucified
Easter Vigil	April 7, 7:00 p.m.	Journey of Freedom
(This service will be held in Cedar Hall)		
Easter Sunday	April 8, 10:00 a.m.	Resurrection of our Lord

### Seniors

Our seniors group is looking for more members. Both men and women are welcome to participate.

It is not an exclusive group but an inclusive group. Come and have fun, a cup of coffee and fellowship. We meet on Tuesdays, April 3 and 17, at 1:00 p.m. Welcome.

Joan Fox

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 2800 Don Mills Road  
 North York, Ontario • M2J 3B6  
 416 493 1435  
 The Rev. Michael Mills, Pastor  
 Worship Service and Sunday School  
 at 10:00 a.m.  
 The *Parish Visitor* is produced  
 for our members and friends.  
 Judy Baribeau, Editor 416 264 4527  
 Copyright © 2007  
 Advent Lutheran Church  
[www.adventlutheranchurch.ca](http://www.adventlutheranchurch.ca)



## A Word from Pastor Mike

As we approach Easter, the season of new life, I am aware of many upcoming avenues of growth and renewal in our parish community.

■ Using some of the categories outlined in the synodical document: *Renewed Vision for Mission in the Eastern Synod*, Congregational Council has begun exploring new avenues of outreach and renewed mission in our local context. Specifically we are talking about ways to build bridges between the larger community and the church. We believe that the Christian church has a wealth of insight and wisdom to offer our world. Now, how do we make connections that allow us to reach out? Watch for more on this in the weeks ahead.

■ We have also adopted the ELCIC standards to provide for the safety of children in our Sunday Church School and Youth Group. This means that we will be helping our volunteer teachers and leaders provide the best oversight

possible to those in their care and we will be paying more attention to screening individuals who are interested in leadership positions, especially if those individuals are newcomers to the church and do not have a known history. Our task here is to provide the safest environment possible for the most vulnerable members of our community.

■ Adult Education classes resume April 15 at 9:00 a.m. with a study of the *Principles of Worship* behind the new cranberry hymnal. If you are interested in exploring some of the foundations of our common worship life, this informal seven week session is for you.

■ Congregational Council will be having a day-long retreat led by Pastor Tom Doherty on April 28. During this time of reflection, worship, study and conversation we will be looking at issues of community building, leadership and visioning.

■ If you check out the April edition of *Canadian Gardening* magazine, you will see a wonderful writeup about our

community garden on Pages 104-106. It's posted on the bulletin board for those who are interested.

■ As I promised to many of you, in this edition of the *Parish Visitor* I have included a recent sermon on relationships called *Expecting Love*. This is the most-requested sermon I have preached in fifteen years of ministry. As always I value your thoughts and comments.

■ Worship and the Arts has planned some lovely, renewing worship for Holy Week and Easter. Check out the worship schedule in this edition. And if you have never taken the journey of Holy Week by participating in all five liturgies (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday), I invite you to consider doing so this year. Together these worship services are one uninterrupted telling of the story of Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

*Holy Week and Easter blessings,*  
Michael

### Expecting Love

Relationships – whether between spouse and spouse or between brother and sister or between parent and child or between pastor and parishioner – run on expectations. You expect your partner to be there for you if you've had a hard day. You expect your child to keep his room relatively clean from week to week. In turn he expects his regular allowance. Expectation is the glue that holds a relationship together. But expectations have to be negotiated. It is not helpful when my muffler falls off on the 404 to tell my mechanic simply, "fix my car." I may return to find my transmission overhauled and new filters installed, as well as a new muffler in place. Not because the mechanic is being duplicitous, necessarily, but because the mechanic is unclear about how much work I expected to be done. Relationships work best

when what we want and expect is spoken, understood and agreed upon.

I had a very powerful teacher of expectations – my mom. My mom was a kind, warm, funny, gregarious and loving individual. And she was an alcoholic. Like most alcoholics, when embraced by her addiction she became a different person. Her hurts, fears, injuries and sorrows spilled out of her. She would complain that dad was never a good enough provider, that my brothers and I never did enough work around the house; that she was imprisoned in her four walls, that life was hard, that there was never enough money. Fill in the blanks. As an eight year old, I didn't know about alcoholism, or addiction, or triangling (that's where you tell someone else what's bothering you, but not the person you really need to speak to), or unhealthy relationships, or any of the other psychological frameworks that

later became helpful to me. All I knew was that mom was unhappy and that it was my fault. That's what kids do, isn't it? We blame ourselves.

Another thing kids do is try to fix things. I knew to the depth of my core that if I could discern what would make her happy then her drinking and her sadness would go away. So I guessed as best I could. If she said dad was the source of her sorrows one day I would speak to my dad and suggest he be nicer to her. If she made noises that the house was too messy, I would clean it up. If her sorrow seemed to be because there was not enough money I would say that I didn't need my allowance that week – what am I going to buy out on the farm anyway? In short I did back flips trying to figure the situation out. Of course, no matter what I did it didn't make mom more happy, in fact she often seemed worse. I didn't know it then, but happiness was

*Continued on Page 4*

## Expecting Love

*Continued from Page 3*

not that far away from her, but to get to it she would have to learn to articulate her needs. This is so important. The secret of happiness is that you have to articulate what you need. First to yourself. Then to the world at large. We alone are responsible for our happiness. Not one other person on earth can do that for us. My mom was a great teacher for me. She taught me how to cook, she taught me to ride a bike. She taught me to laugh – for she really did have a wonderful sense of humour. And she taught me about expectations, albeit in a negative way. We all have them, they are essential to life, but no one can read our minds. For the sake of our own happiness we have to identify our expectations, own them and speak them out loud.

Here's a secret that God whispered to me once when I was very, very sad: it's okay to ask for what you want. I know this can be hard for people. Ironically it can be especially difficult for Christians, who have learned that we must give and do for others, and sacrifice, and give up in order to be justified. For some of us, it can just be plain hard to say to someone else, "I need. I want. I desire." I think this is particularly so for women of my mom's generation. They often worked extremely hard meeting other people's needs and then when it came to their own needs being met, no one was there for them and they felt it was unchristian to ask. How difficult is that? So, it is not only okay to ask for what you need, it is imperative. Your happiness depends on it. "Knock," said Jesus, "and it will be opened. "Seek, and you will find." "Ask, and it will be given to you."

If it's okay to ask for what we want, then it's equally important to learn to say something else, and that is, "No." We need equally to learn to say no to what we don't want. Its called setting boundaries and it's also essential for relationships. Lutheran theologian Paul Tillich says "It is the right of every individual to demand something of us." It is the right of every person in our family, every person in our church, every person in the

world to make a demand on us. That is their God given right and because it is their right, it is incumbent upon us to say no to those things we can't fulfill. My mom really wanted me and others to fill the emotional hole left after giving up a child for adoption when she was a young woman – a secret and shameful thing for her which was a big part of her unhappiness and something I didn't learn about until much, much later – I was in my twenties. If she had been clear about what she wanted, I could have, and indeed should have said, "I'd love to make you happy mom, but I can't be someone else." "I can't be the boy you gave up. I can't be anyone other than who I am." Saying no is just as important to a relationship as is saying "I want." It is how relationships are negotiated and how they honour both people involved.

So what do you expect of your spouse? What do you expect of your child? Have you told her or him? Try it. For a week. First take some time looking at your own heart and ask yourself what it truly is that you want from the relationships in your life. And then step out in faith and ask for it. Be prepared to hear no, of course. Just because you have expectations doesn't mean that others are able or willing to fill them. But, then prepare yourself for a whole bunch of, "Yeses." "Yes, I'd be happy to help you." "Yes, I'll journey with you." "Yes, I'll play with you." "Yes, I'll read to you." "Yes, I'll cook along side you."

Now do the same thing for your pastor. What is it that you need in your pastoral relationship. For instance, there are currently 18 people with cancer in our parish. These are just the ones I've been told about. Some people want communion visitations and they asked for that. For some people any illness is deeply personal and a visit, even by the pastor is seen as an intrusion. Some people want their names in the prayers on Sunday, some expressly ask not to be mentioned in prayers. I can't say this clearly enough – I cannot read minds. You need to tell me your needs. And in turn I will tell you if I can meet those needs and if I can't we will look at alternatives.

Do you know what is beautiful about being in relationship? It is one of the best places we have to learn how to be fully human. That's because being fully human means giving and receiving love. And here's another secret? You are the one expert on how to love you. Think about that for a moment. No one else knows how to do that job better than you. You know best what you need to hear, what you need to experience, what you need to feel in order to feel loved. It's your life's one great work.

And not only are you the expert on loving you, you are also the best example to the world of how to love yourself. Which is quite delightful when you think of it. And as you remind yourself what you need to be loved and as you begin to tell the world what you need to be loved, and as you start to act out of that love a miracle will begin to happen. Namely, you will begin to love yourself more deeply than you've ever known possible. I'm not completely sure why this is, but one day you suddenly realize that the love you thought you needed from other people pales in comparison to the love that is now growing inside. It's not that you don't need to be loved by others, it's just that your happiness is no longer dependent upon it – fickle human beings that they are. Everything you need to be happy is contained within you. And when you realize this, you find yourself (again quite suddenly and unexpectedly) in the company of Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Catherine of Sienna, Francis of Assisi and all those other saints from time past and time present who dwell intimately, lovingly, fully, richly with God. Indeed, on that day you will discover that you and God are already One and together you have become lovers of all creation: playful, beautiful, mischievous lovers of creation. And joy will spill out over and around and through you. Actually, there will be excess to be mopped up. Throughout eternity, there will be excess joy and love and happiness to mop up. And you will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*Michael Mills*

## Mission Report

On the first Friday of March each year, The World Day of Prayer service is held. This is sponsored by the Women's Inter-Church Council with members from all denominations. This year is a Quadrennial meeting of the World Day of Prayer International Committee when 150 women will be welcomed. We at Advent are one of the churches together with five other area churches of other denominations that gather together for the World Day of Prayer service.

### Women of Paraguay write service for World Day of Prayer

Each year a different church plays host. Each year women from different countries are asked to write the service that will be used on the Day of Prayer. This year it was the women of Paraguay. What is so wonderful is that women are united around the world on that day as the same service is used from Australia to Zanzibar.

In Paraguay as in many other countries around the world, there is a tragic history of violence and violation of human rights. Dictatorship that allowed people to be kidnapped, assassinated and tortured which has left deep scars.

In 1989 Paraguay began to rebuild itself, but is still struggling with corruption and dishonesty in government and the public sphere. There is a huge gap between rich and poor. Most of the land is owned by 10% of the people. Powerful businesses and foreign interests have pushed indigenous groups and rural farmers off their land and have burned forests to grow soy beans.

The rural population has been moving to the cities to survive, creating a strain on housing. Many families do not have running water and electricity. One out of four Paraguayans is poor and the majority of the Paraguayans live on less than US\$2 a day. The poorest people are the indigenous, the landless peasants, and women who head households. Unemployment is high and many

children work or beg. Even people who have jobs don't make enough money for basic necessities.

Paraguayans show solidarity and help each other due to the lack of government resources. They help sick neighbours; they support each other when someone dies; and respond to any type of accident or problem..

Monies received as offerings at the World Day of Prayer services go as grants to countries all over the world to help defend rights of workers, children's homes/orphanages, battered women, etc.. Pray for women the world over that face poverty and try to make a better world for their children.

*Joan Fox*

*Mission Representative*



## Evangelical Lutheran Women

On Sunday, April 1, the ELW distributed daffodils in support of the fight against cancer.

In April the ELW will not meet so that we may attend the Easter services. The ELW Toronto Conference Spring Meeting is on April 21, at St. Paul's, Richmond Hill. Registration is 9:00 a.m. and the program will finish at 3:00 p.m. If you wish further information, please call Brit Missirlian at 416 447 6895 or Joan Fox at 416 757 3831.

In May our meeting will be on Wednesday, May 9. We urge everyone to attend as we have some serious decisions to make about the future of the ELW.

*Joan Fox*

## Toronto Conference Spring Meeting Saturday, May 5, 2007 First Lutheran Church, Toronto

The Toronto Conference Spring Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 116 Bond Street, Toronto.

### Preliminary Agenda

- 9:00 Registration and coffee
- 9:30 Conference Reports
- 10:00 Synod Report (The Rev. Guenter Dahle, Assistant to the Bishop)
- 10:30 Conference Council Elections (four to be elected)
- 10:45 Presentations and Discussions
  - (1) Campus Ministry – David Berg and Pastor Brian Wilker-Frey
  - (2) Ethnic Ministry – Pastor Martin Giebel
  - (3) Youth/Confirmation Ministry – Piia Latvatalo and Pastor Mavis Fung
  - (4) Shared Activities – Seija Hyhko
- 11:30 Worship
- 12:00 Lunch and adjournment

### Registration

The cost is \$10 per person to cover food and materials. All congregations are asked to be represented by two delegates. Other members of the congregation are also encouraged to attend and participate.

Please let Judy Baribeau know if you are interested in attending, as well as which of the four groups you wish to join, by April 28.

[gandjbaribeau@rogers.com](mailto:gandjbaribeau@rogers.com) or phone 416 264 4527

# Advent's Financial Position as at March 27, 2007

## Our Revenues

Summarized as follows is Advent's giving to March 27, 2007, being the first 12 Sundays of the year, together with other revenues received. Since there were five Sundays in January 2006, the 2006 figures are taken to March 20, 2006, thereby covering the first 12 Sundays of this and last year.

Commitments	Received to March 27, 2007	Received to March 20, 2006	Difference
Current/Loose	\$ 16,442	\$ 17,813	\$ (1,371)
Mortgage	1,242	1,329	(87)
Sunday School	<u>3</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>(47)</u>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$ 17,687</b>	<b>\$ 19,192</b>	<b>\$ (1,505)</b>
Facilities	17,514	14,206	3,308
Regular Benevolence	<u>2,126</u>	<u>2,835</u>	<u>(708)</u>
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$37,328</b>	<b>\$36,233</b>	<b>\$1,095</b>
<b>Other Giving</b>			
GHDA	\$ 1,167	\$ 1,175	\$ (8)
40th Anniversary	\$ 1,327	\$ 807	\$ 519

Current, festival and loose collections tell us how much we are donating to support our everyday operations, i.e. pay our bills. It is obvious by the figures that our giving has declined compared to last year. Granted, it's still early in the year, however **the decline of 7.7% is significant**. Through 2006, we were consistently ahead of our giving in 2005, so this decline is somewhat alarming.

We are also down in 2007 for mortgage revenue by 6.5%, and Regular Benevolence by 25%. Our only saving grace in 2007 has been our Facilities income, which is up significantly for the year by 23% over 2006. Preferably, Advent's reliance on Facilities income should be declining, not escalating. Please note that these amounts include billings for additional time by our regular users. As the year progresses, the variance between 2007 and 2006 will

likely narrow, since these revenues are received in large lump sums, and not on a regular basis.

Under Other Giving, Global Hunger is virtually unchanged, and 40th Anniversary is well ahead of last year by some 64 %.

## Our Expenditures

To March 27, our overall expenditures were about \$2,047 or 6.1% higher in 2007 than in 2006. Virtually all of this increase is attributable to Outdoor Maintenance, with a jump of \$1,985 this year. Snow shoveling is becoming a major cost generator for us.

Other expenditures have remained fairly consistent from this year to last.

## Our Bottom Line

At the Annual Meeting in February, we approved a 2007 Budget of \$138,160, as compared to \$131,292 in 2006. This is an increase of 5.2%. **With declining revenues from the Congregation**

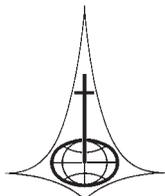
**by 7.7%, we could be heading for financial difficulty later in the year.**

Our reliance on Facilities revenue is not the sign of a fiscally self-sufficient Advent Lutheran Church. I would encourage everyone to look at their individual giving with a view to eliminating the gap in current, festival and loose collections between 2007 and 2006.

## 40th Anniversary

Collections to the end of March 2007 total \$1,326.58, as compared to \$807.35 in 2006. Total collections since inception three years ago are \$31,550, so we are \$8,450 from our final goal of \$40,000 over four years. However, at this pace, we won't meet our \$10,000 collection target for the final year of our four-year term, so I encourage you to keep dumping your change (preferably Loonies and Toonies) in your coin banks.

*Fred Roth  
Treasurer*



## ELCIC's Participation at the 60th Anniversary of LWF

*The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) met in Lund, Sweden March 20-27 and celebrated the 60th anniversary of the LWF. To see all the coverage of the meeting, please go to [www.lutheranworld.org](http://www.lutheranworld.org). The website includes audio, video and news articles. The LWF is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition,*

### Lutheran Churches Urged to Build Bridges of Healing; LWF General Secretary Highlights Challenges of Being in Communion

LUND, Sweden/GENEVA, 22 March 2007 (LWI) – The General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Rev. Dr Ishmael Noko, has appealed to churches in the Lutheran communion to take up the urgent task of building bridges of healing between and among Lutheran churches that have no fellowship among themselves.

“Our credibility as Lutheran churches is constantly undermined by the fact that we are not in pulpit and altar fellowship with each other in spite of the common confessional writings. This persistent division gives the impression that there are other reasons that divide us rather than confessional stands,” said Noko in his report to the LWF Council gathering in Lund, Sweden from 20 to 27 March. He expressed hope that the dialogue between the LWF and International Lutheran Council could lead toward such reconciliation.

This year’s meeting includes a global Church Leadership Consultation and celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of the LWF. The Church of Sweden is hosting the LWF events in the city where the Federation was founded in 1947.

The general secretary’s report focused on the practical challenges of being in communion today; the Lutheran communion and the one holy, catholic and apostolic church; renewal of the LWF and; the 11th Assembly in 2010 as a potential landmark. Other issues included the 2017 commemoration of the 500th anniversary of Luther’s 95 theses; the issue of family, marriage and sexuality; and the episcopal ministry within the apostolicity of the church.

The general secretary pointed out that the LWF’s engagement in bilateral dialogues had led to new avenues of reflection and practice, which justified why new phases of dialogues, even with traditional partners were being established. He mentioned, among others, the new dialogue commissions that were set up with the Anglican Communion and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and new stages that are being explored in these relationships. Noko especially paid tribute to the “meticulous work” of theologians in the member churches, the Geneva secretariat, and the Institute for Ecumenical Research in Strasbourg, France, for managing to reconcile the century-old theological differences between the church families.

On the LWF’s renewal process – endorsed by the Council at its 2005 meeting in Jerusalem – Noko said it was important to genuinely and openly listen to the churches’ voices. Renewal, he noted, “is not a bureaucratic exercise” but a process characterized by mutuality, consultation and accountability. He pointed out that “since mission and diakonia cannot be outsourced, we need to design a qualitatively different LWF” that would enable the member churches and their organizations to effectively undertake its mandate together, without a sense of competition, tension and alienation.

On the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s nailing of the 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, Noko emphasized the significance of an ecumenical commemoration, and affirmed the LWF’s central role in the preparatory phase.

Turning to the next LWF Assembly, the general secretary said it would be a historical landmark achievement in the ecumenical movement if the 11th

Assembly in Stuttgart, Germany, could be designed to point the way to a new stage in the ecumenical participation of Christian world communions.

### Inclusive Participation

Noko expressed concern that despite significant progress made so far, women continue to be excluded in both church and society. He affirmed the LWF’s commitment to supporting the ordination of women and men, and encouragement to churches, in which this was not yet the case to dialogue with their sister churches. “There are about 20 women, something no one would have thought of 60 years ago,” he remarked.

He noted that although the LWF member churches have agreed to ensure a minimum 40 percent participation of women, many church meetings and consultations excluded women’s participation. “Unless and until we attend to gender mainstreaming in the life and work of our churches, we cannot truly be witnesses to gender justice in our societies.”

Noko commended the Indian churches for making the Dalit issue a central priority and noted that the LWF member churches in India and the World Council of Churches are planning a global ecumenical gathering on Dalit liberation.

He underscored the LWF’s support toward indigenous peoples’ struggles as mandated by the Tenth Assembly in 2003, and noted that an international consultation on the issue took place in September 2006 in Karasjok, northern Norway, while one is planned for the Asian region in 2007. However, it was still a major challenge to mainstream indigenous people’s concerns and ensure that their “spirituality becomes a shared spiritual property of the church for the edification of all the saints,” he said. ♦

## ESO Update

# Small Ministries

*At a recent meeting of the ESO committee, Adele Buckley, Arie Fox, Joan McLean, Brit Missirlian, Sophia Liu and Michael Mills were talking about some of the ordinary ministries that are part and parcel of the Christian life. Some are so ordinary, in fact, that we hardly think of them as ministry, like driving a neighbour to the x-ray clinic or making lunch for the kids to take to school and yet, no matter how ordinary, these small things are service done in love and this is the heart of our life as Christians. So we challenged ourselves to tell about a ministry that we are part of which we usually don't think to tell others. It was humbling to hear each other's stories, and in our meeting we thought that maybe others in our parish community might like to hear them too. They are nothing fancy, and they are not meant to draw attention to the individual authors. Rather they are meant as a word of encouragement. We want to encourage all members of our church to think about and celebrate the unique and life-giving ways we, each in our own small way, try to be the presence of God in the world. Enjoy! And give thanks for your own every day ministries.*

## A Small Ministry to the Global Community

*"In the tragic situation which confronts humanity, we feel that scientists should assemble in conference to appraise the perils that have arisen as a result of the development of weapons of mass destruction. ...We are speaking on this occasion, not as members of this or that nation, continent, or creed, but as human beings, members of the species Man, whose continued existence is in doubt" [Russell-Einstein Manifesto. London 1955]*

For 12 years, I have been part of a group that is concerned with peace and security, emphasizing nuclear disarmament. It serves the global community. This is the 50th anniversary of the Pugwash movement; and it started in Canada in Pugwash, Nova Scotia, in 1957. It became truly global and is known as the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. The organization, together with its founder Sir Joseph Rotblat, was awarded the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize, for its work to seek the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

My regular duties as the Chair of the Canadian Pugwash Group have greatly expanded. My daily preoccupation is planning for five days of events in Pugwash village, with local, national and international partners. My tasks run from mundane to challenging. In one instant, I am a travel agent for members who need bed and breakfast accommodation; advising our liaison at the Pugwash Peace Exchange. Then, my committee is designing an all day Forum, jointly sponsored by several peace groups. We will have illustrious speakers, and then breakout groups to discuss how to gain attention for The New Pugwash Appeal. A great Peace Dinner will have us mingling with nuclear disarmament experts who just spent two days discussing "Revitalizing

Nuclear Disarmament". They will revisit the problems that were life-threatening in 1957, continued, seemed to be hopeful of change as the Cold War ended, regretting the opportunities that global leaders did not take at that time. They will try to see a way out of today's situation, where the United States is developing new nuclear weapons in a multi billion dollar 50-year program, and we are on the brink of a new arms race. Not surprisingly, other nations react and so we have nuclear proliferation – eight countries in possession of these illegal and immoral weapons (International Court of Justice, 1996).

Pugwash members try to influence governments, but governments don't act unless they think the citizens are with them. It is vital for the public to press for Canada to use its considerable global influence and lead the way. Joseph Rotblat was a physicist, who resigned from the Manhattan project (that invented and built the nuclear weapons of WWII), as a matter of conscience. At first, he became, essentially, an outcast. Nevertheless, he devoted his life to the cause of nuclear disarmament. Year after year, he was an inspiration to many around the world, working tirelessly from the beginning until he died in 2005 at age 96. For Jo Rotblat, his community service was at great personal cost – it was years until he was recognized as the

heroic figure that he was. The personal cost to me is moderate indeed – much time spent, exhaustion sometimes when the load is heavy. On the positive side (very positive), at international Pugwash conferences, I meet dedicated peace activists, who have spent their lives trying to make the world more peaceful. Many are deeply religious and this is their way of serving the community.

Now, with luck, I will arrange speaking engagements in Toronto, Ottawa and Halifax for Prof. M. S. Swaminathan, on his way to the 50th anniversary. He is a molecular biologist from India, said to be the father of India's "green revolution". Soon my duties at an Ottawa press conference will be discharged. There we will promote our 50th Anniversary campaign – Canada has to assume a leadership role and be an agent for change of NATO policies that call for indefinite retention of nuclear weapons, potential first use, and nuclear weapons in Europe. This sometimes frantic pace may seem to be backing an exercise with little chance of success. Yet I must believe that ideas and small actions spread out and can make a difference. I hope you will pray with me that my ministry to the global community is a tiny step toward a more peaceful world.

*Adele Buckley*



## All About our House

Spring has finally sprung and I for one am ready except...

All of the "ants" and uncles from outside have decided to come inside and pay us a visit.

Please help out by being extra careful during coffee hour and not drop too many crumbs to aid in their fellowship hours. I have asked all of our regular guests in the building to do likewise and perhaps we can persuade all of our little creepy friends to find another home.

In case you haven't noticed, our grounds are in need of a bit of TLC. The mud borders to our parking area are anything but attractive. This occurs each and every spring and there isn't too much that can be done about it. When the snow is on the ground people overshoot the paved parking area and end up on the soft borders, and when the thaw begins we are left with major ruts which are quite unsightly. If any one has a cost effective remedy to this dilemma I would appreciate hearing from you.

Concrete bumpers, similar to the ones that are found in many parking lots, were one suggestion but they are very expensive. Anything else?

In the very near future the carpeting in the Sanctuary, the offices and the adjoining hall will be shampooed. The floors in the Cedar Hall, Fellowship Hall, kitchen and Sunday School room will be stripped and waxed. There is a "rumour" that some painting will take place in Pastor Mills' office as well as in the Fellowship Hall (any colour preference?) but you know...the best laid plans of mice and men. As you can see spring cleaning and refurbishing has begun in "OUR HOUSE" with a vengeance.

You have heard me say so many times in the past "We have lots of people that work tirelessly behind the scenes to make OUR HOUSE run smoothly." One of those people is Joe Hunt. For the past few years Joe and his son Kyle have regularly looked after

taking our garbage from the bin to the roadside for pick-up. Well Kyle is off to University and Joe needs a break. Fortunately now we have Michael Day who will be taking Joe's place. Thank you Joe for all of your help in the past and thank you Michael for stepping up to look after this concern.

It will soon be time for our gardeners to return and we look forward to once again being able to offer this important ministry to the community. We look forward to a very productive, attractive and beneficial association again this year. With the addition of the compost shed, things will be able to be kept a bit more tidy and I am certain now that everyone has had a chance to "settle in" over the past two years every effort will be made to ensure an overall appearance that will benefit us all.

Have a blessed Easter season and thanks for reading.

*Fran Brandes  
Property Chair*

March 19, 2007



Dear Friends of Advent Lutheran Church,

Just a quick note to tell you all how the Arnetts are coping. We survived a cold winter, but spring is here – looking forward to summer. We are settled in a two bedroom suite right behind a shopping centre that even has a movie theatre we can walk to.

Martin goes to a centre Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. He keeps asking when are we going home. I'll say we are home. Yes, I used to live here, he'll say.

We go to St. Mark's Lutheran here. It's the same pastor that married us. It's a big congregation with many children and young people. No coffee after service. The ELW has only met once. The seniors group has met twice.

We sure miss you all but not the big city.

In January we drove to my old home town, Southey and had to go through the Qu'Apelle Valley. I cried as I hadn't gone for a while. My two brothers are enjoying my cooking again.

Thank you for all your phone calls.

Have a Blessed Easter.

*Love,  
Evelyn and Martin Arnett*

You can reach us at: Phone: 306 586 0559

Address: 107 – 330 Plainsview Drive, Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 6Z8

# People and Events Summary

## Worship Services and Meetings

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

**Seniors** meet in the Fellowship Hall Thursdays April 3 and 17 at 1:00 p.m.

**ELW** meets Wednesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m. at the church

**Congregational Council Retreat** will be on Saturday, April 28.

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### Thank you

■ We thank members of the ELW for providing daffodils on April 1.

**Communion Bread**  
 Please let Brit Mssirlian know (416 447 6895) if you are able to buy/bake bread for communion.

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

### New Members

■ On February 18 we welcomed the following people into membership: Ashley and Robin Sheppard; Jackie, Monica, Natasha, Sean and Evelyn Fromme.

### Significant Church web sites

Please check the following web sites frequently to keep in touch with local and national church news:

- **Toronto Conference** – [elcic-torontoconference.ca](http://elcic-torontoconference.ca)
- **Eastern Synod** – [www.easternsynod.org](http://www.easternsynod.org)
- **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)** – [www.elcic.ca](http://www.elcic.ca)
- **Lift up Your Hearts** – [www.worship.ca](http://www.worship.ca)
- **Lutheran World Federation** – [www.elca.org/lwf](http://www.elca.org/lwf)



### April 2007 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.

Altar Care	Greeter	Assisting Minister	Reader	Ushers	Counters	Coffee Hosts
<b>April 1</b> Walter Rothenburger	Indira Beekie	Erika Schurr	Sean Fromme	Hilton Beharry	Fran Brandes & Brit Missirlian	Adele & Peter Buckley
<b>April 5</b> (Maundy Thursday, 7:30 p.m.) Walter Rothenburger		Gabi Schickedanz	Hildegard Weltner			-
<b>April 6</b> (Good Friday) Walter Rothenburger	10:00 a.m.)	Lester McLean	Olga Cosburn			-
<b>April 7</b> (Easter Vigil) Walter Rothenburger	7:00 p.m. Cedar Hall)	Peter Buckley				-
<b>April 8</b> Walter Rothenburger	Jacqueline & Delasia Khan	Robert Wraith	Claus Brandes	Olga Cosburn & Carol Peck	Fran Brandes & Gladys Ammattil	Elizabeth & Guy Lancia
<b>April 15</b> Walter Rothenburger	Joan McLean	Sean Fromme	Indira Beekie	Alfred Schurr	Brit Missirlian & Robert Wraith	Mary Khan & family
<b>April 22</b> Carol Peck	Adele Buckley	Jim Doak	Krish De Silva	Elizabeth & Guy Lancia	Fran Brandes & Kristin Doak	Anita & Eric Azeez
<b>April 29</b> Judy Baribeau	Arie Fox	Fred Roth	Judy Baribeau	Fran & Claus Brandes	Gladys Ammattil	Brit Missirlian & Cynthia Stewart