

October 2017 Newsletter



Christ Our King Lutheran Church,
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Sunday School Teacher's Workshop

**“Being Part of God's
Family”**

Not Just for Sunday School Teachers: The Annual Sunday School Teachers' Workshop will be on Saturday, October 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Kitchener.

Workshops include:

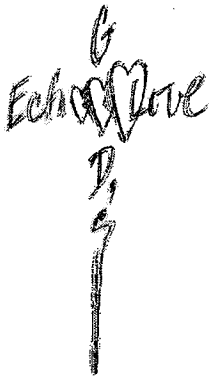
- *Grandparents: Ideas on how to be involved with the raising and nurturing of grandchildren. How can grandparents help parents as they raise their children in the faith?
- *Contemporary Issues: Are you concerned about something? How do computer games, marriage issues, etc. fit into our Christian lives today? Or do they?
- *Youth Ministry
- *Puppets & Pageants: Presented by Rev. Dave Smilek & Laureen Kuhl
- *Family Devotions
- *Media: How does Media affect our children? What can we do to protect them and how can we use media to assist in the development of faith in our kids?

Contact Donna Prusha or Pastor Flohr for registration information.

1 John 3:1a “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God.”



Mr. Todd Hennig - Keynote Speaker



October 2007

Beloved in Christ Jesus,

When Cathy Rigby, one of the gymnasts on the United States Olympic Team in Munich in 1972, failed in her dream to win the coveted gold medal, she was crushed. She sat down with her parents to have a big cry. "I'm sorry," she told her mother through her tears. "I did my best."

In reply her mother echoed words which Cathy had heard so many times before. "You know that, and I know that, and I'm sure God knows that, too. Doing your best is more important than being the best."

Now I share this little mother-daughter conversation with you for a reason. It helps us think about the gifts which God has given to us and how we use those gifts. It helps us to think about God's expectations—the fact that He calls us to faithfulness and to managing His blessings well. He never says to us, "I love you only if you are the best." His call, rather, is to faithful service.

In the Parable of the Talents from Matthew, chapter 25, we find quite possibly one of the most straight forward stewardship text in the New Testament. It seriously challenges us to see things as God sees them. It opens our eyes to the blessings which God provides and to His expectations for us. Our Lord calls us to faithful and productive management of His good gifts.

The story tells us about a journey. The owner of an estate, the character in the story which represents God, is going on a journey. Before leaving he entrusts three of his servants, that's us in the story, with portions of his wealth. They are to manage his possessions while he is away.

In many respects, those three servants are going on a journey, too. Theirs is not a geographical one. Theirs is a journey of faith. When you and I manage God's good gifts it is a journey of faith—our decisions, our actions are determined by the faith which we have in our God and in His promises.

Also note that the three servants did not each receive the same amount of the master's wealth. Rather, the master entrusted his wealth to each one "according to his ability." Look around you in the church. Look at your brothers and sisters in Christ. God in his wisdom did not bless all of us in the same way. God gives different gifts. God gives different amounts of his gifts. But everyone is blessed—everyone is entrusted with a portion of the Lord's wealth. No one got overlooked.

No matter the amount given by the master of the house, the expectation was the same. Manage my gifts well. Invest them well.

Two of the three did just that. They got to work. They were conscientious managers. They used what the master had given to them and they were blessed with a profit ... in fact, quite a large profit. That is the way it is with us. When we put to work what God has entrusted to us, great things happen. God adds His blessing to our faithful stewardship. We turn a spiritual profit as others are told about the love of Jesus, as others are helped in their time of need, as others become part of the family of faith which has blessed us. Let me tell you, faithfully investing God's gifts in His service is a "sure-thing" investment—a far better investment than the stock market, the money market, or even your local bank. Faithful and conscientious management is always blessed by God. Good things are going to happen.

The parable then tells us that the master returned from his journey and he wanted to know how his servants had invested his wealth. He wanted a management report. The fellow who had been given five talents of money reported that he had earned five talents more. He is praised by his master. He is welcomed into a sharing of the master's joy.

The fellow who had been given two talents of money reported that he had earned two talents more. Again he is praised by his master. We is welcomed into a sharing of the master's joy.

Then came the fellow with the one talent. He had a problem. His problem wasn't that he had been given just one talent. His problem was that he had done absolutely nothing to manage what the master had given to him. Now that man had his excuses. He tried to justify his failures. But it didn't work. It wasn't convincing then and it isn't convincing now. He failed the test of faithfulness. He failed to be a good manager. He is chastised by his master and condemned.

The application of this parable is so very obvious. Do you recognize the gifts—the talents—the abilities—which God has given to you? Are you faithfully managing them? Are you using them in service to your Lord and to the people around you? Are you investing God's good gifts well? Those are questions we cannot escape. Those are questions which we need to answer.

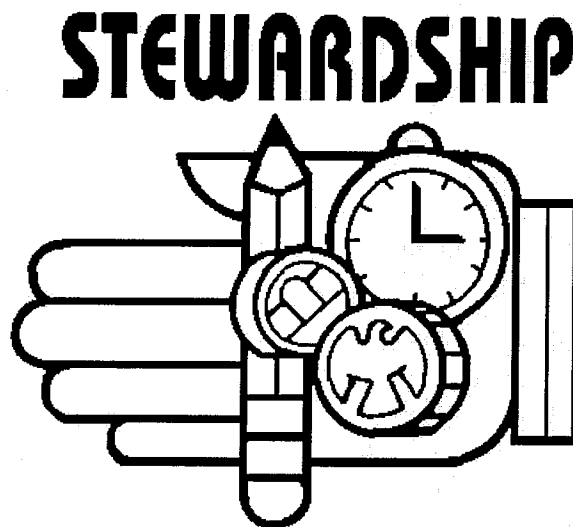
But let's not just deal with the negative application of this parable. There is far more to it. It also tells us about the goodness of God. We know God has blessed us. We know that He expects us to manage well His good gifts, but He is the One who takes our faithful management and makes it profitable. He is the One who blesses us when we do well. He is the One who forgives us when we don't do well. He is the One who gives us new opportunities to serve Him. And He is the One who gives us joy in His service. Now that is exciting!

In the weeks to come, our Stewardship Board will hold before you a special opportunity for using your talents well in service to your Lord. Very soon you will receive a Fall Time and Talent Inventory. It will come in both an adult and a youth version—the youth version addresses young people grade six through high school. Contained in the inventory are dozens of different opportunities to use the abilities with which God has blessed you. There are dozens of different ways to be a faithful manager of God's good gifts. Please take some time when you receive it and carefully and prayerfully consider the ways in which you can serve your Lord through this congregation during the coming year.

When you think about it, Cathy Rigby's mother was right. We cannot all be the best. But we can all do our best. We can take what God has given to us. We can manage it well in His service and in service to others. And we can do that good management with a joyful heart. Amen.

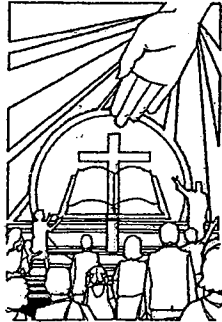
Peace and Joy in Jesus,

Pastor Larry Flohr



Doctrinal Unity Conference
Sponsored by the Lutheran Church-Canada
First held October 2007

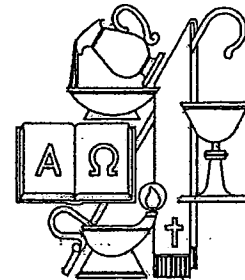
Pastor & People: Together in Service



Church

&

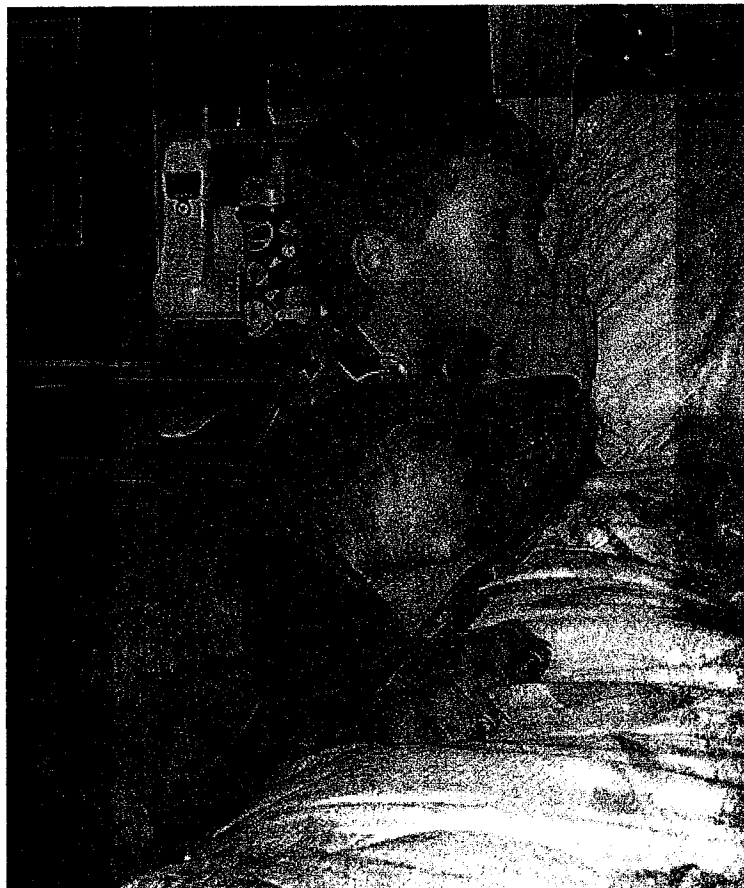
Ministry



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Albin Stanfel, President Emeritus, East District

October 13, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
1299 Brant St.,
Burlington, ON L7P 1X7
905-332-7671

Please register to ensure enough food is prepared:
www.lcceastdistrict.ca/registrationdocunity.htm
or call 519-578-6500 ext 211 or email llene@lcceastdistrict.ca



Did you know



- ...that British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec provide full or partial funding to faith based schools regardless of religion or denomination.
- ...that the only faith-based schools to which Ontario provides any funding (and it is **full** funding) is to the Roman Catholics.
- ...that Ontario's funding to Roman Catholic schools costs the Ontario taxpayers \$6.5 Billion in 2007.
- ...that all other Christian-based schools in Ontario are considered to be private and receive no government funding whatsoever.

The issue of public funding for faith-based schools has become one of the main issues in the current Ontario election campaign. Because there are few details about this funding available at this time, it's hard to know if public funding would be a good thing or not, or whether we should support it. Please pray about this.

- The Progressive Conservative party proposes to offer government funding for all faith-based schools provided they teach the Ontario school curriculum and have certified teachers.
- The Liberal party opposes government funding any other faith-based schools.
- The New Democratic Party also wants the status quo maintained.
- The Green Party wants all faith-based schools, including the Roman Catholic schools, to receive no government funding. In essence, it seeks to establish one publicly funded system.
- The Family Coalition Party is in favour of a full student voucher plan to the school of the parents' choice. If the tuition fee set by the school is in excess of the government voucher, the parents would pay the difference.

In a country that prides itself on equality and fairness, these facts give us something to think about.

What should you do?

- It is your responsibility as a Christian citizen to get out and vote, and to pray for all those in authority.
- Give thanks for having Christian teachers in the public system. Their vocation is a calling from God. We have many public school teachers in our congregation and they are lights of the Gospel to their students and other staff. Give thanks to God for Christian students in the public system whose faith can be a positive influence on their peers.
- Give thanks to God for our Christian Nursery School and Kindergarten, for the privilege of sharing Jesus with them, and for God's continued blessing as we seek to add grade school classes.
- Don't underestimate the value of a Christian education; or the responsibility of parents to teach their children about the love of God in Christ Jesus at home.

LWML NEWS



As we begin another year of LWML, we consider all the blessings God has given to us : fellowship with others in our own society as well as with those at the zone level, an opportunity to study God's Word and discuss a variety of topics included here, as well as the opportunity to take part in a variety of mission projects through our Work Nights and collection of Mites. May God be the Glory!

We look forward to October 14th our LWML Sunday. Not only will we have our Mite Collection and Dedication on that day, but we will also host the Toronto Zone Fall Rally here at COK . Our guest speaker will be Bob Schmidt who will give us an update on the many things happening around the world through the work of Lutheran Bible Translators. Please join us for his interesting presentation followed by a supper organized by our ladies. If you have not as yet seen our poster and signed up to help, please do so. We would certainly appreciate your involvement.

If you like to socialize and work with your hands, you will want to join us on Monday October 15th as we hold our Mission Work Night. Trimming stamps, counting Campbell Soup Labels, as well as discussing our other projects for the upcoming year will all be a part of our evening. Please plan to join us.

The Mission Project focus for this month is that of "*Funding for the Training of Workers in Immigrant Communities*". We pray:

Heavenly Father, remember in mercy the workers You send into immigrant communities. Keep them strong in faith and in their mission to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Help them to respect the customs and cultures of the places where You have stationed them. By Your Spirit, let them communicate Your message of love clearly and effectively. Enable us to provide sufficient funding to allow this endeavor to be carried out according to Your Will. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CANADIAN LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF WE CARE PROJECT

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League of Christ Our King have chosen a Mission Project for you to be part of for the months of October, November and December. We want to put together "Children's Kits" which will be sent overseas to the needy. You can bring in all the items to make one kit, you can bring some of the items, or you can give a cash donation towards the kits and give the money to Barb Jurgens or Delaine Magwood. We will be compiling and packaging the items at our January LWML Meeting. We would like all the kits to be brought to the church before the end of December.

Here is the list of items needed for one kit. Due to new international regulations and standards it is imperative that all kits contain only the items listed.

1 large writing pad (8"x10"--20.3 x 25.4 cm)

5 unsharpened pencils, 1 metric ruler, 1 pencil sharpener, 1 eraser

1 bar soap (new and wrapped), 1 toothbrush

1 hand towel (approximately 26" long--66cm.)

1 washcloth, 1 small coarse comb

1 pocket pack of disposable tissues

We have purchased silk screened bags made by artisans in India to put each kit in. By purchasing these bags we are also supporting poor people in India.

Since 1946 Canadian Lutheran World Relief has collected almost seven million pounds of material resources valued at over \$14 million. Material resources include quilts, blankets, kits of different kinds, drugs and medical supplies. These gifts are shipped to locations primarily in Africa.

Brighten the life of needy children. We want to thank you in advance to all of you who will support this program.

Report on LWMLC Ontario District Convention

The 29th LWMLC (Lutheran Women's Missionary League Canada) Ontario District Convention was held on May 11th and 12th 2007 at the Arden Park Hotel in Stratford Ontario. It was a pleasure for me to attend Convention and so much more as the Christ Our King Society delegate.

The host committee of the Hanover and Mitchell Zones did an excellent job of providing everything that was needed to organize the Convention. Of the 69 Societies in Ontario District, 57 Societies were represented. On average, 284 people attended the Convention over the 2 days.

There were 38 women who participated in the 30 minute Mission Walk. The money raised by the Walk will be used to obtain Christian material for libraries in the Hanover Zone. I thank all members of Christ Our King who supported Barbara Jurgens and myself through financial pledges.

The recipient of the 'Gifts of Love' Ingathering is the Optimism Place in Mitchell Zone. Optimism Place provides temporary emergency shelter for women and their families who have experienced domestic violence. Services include crisis counseling and support, information and referrals, weekly support groups, services for children and adolescents, community outreach, transition and legal advocacy.

My purpose as a Delegate for Christ Our King LWMLC Society was to participate in the election of officers, vote on Motions presented by the Resolutions Committee and to vote on Mission Grants.

Here is the new slate of Officers for 2007 - 2010:

President	- Fran Van Vorst
VP for Mission Education and Mission Inspiration	- Anna Gruber
VP for Mission Service and Mission Grants	- Carolyn McLeod
Recording Secretary	- Doris Schaeffer
Corresponding Secretary	- vacant
Financial Secretary	- June Williams
Treasurer	- Donna Famme

See next page for the Report of the Ontario District Mission Grants for the period of 2007-2010.

The Convention ended with an invitation to attend the 2009 LWML-C Convention in Ottawa, Ontario on July 8 to 12, 2009 at the Place Crown Plaza Hotel.

A second invitation was issued by the Windsor Zone to an Ontario District Convention to be held in Sarnia at the Holiday Inn on June 11-12, 2010.

Your Sister in Christ,
Hazel Steiss

**Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary,
St. Catharines, Ontario,
Seminary Guild**

HARVEST DAY, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2007



HARVEST DAY is our annual Fall get-together where we meet new and returning students as well as our adopted students. We get reacquainted with the Faculty and Staff and our many Seminary Guild members. A new school year has begun and we meet together to plan, with God's guidance, ways in which to support the students in order to achieve the goals of the seminary.



Our **Presentation** is a musical one featuring Mr. Al Durow from North Tonawanda, playing the harmonica and promises to be very entertaining and enjoyable to listen to. Again, a **Luncheon** will be catered by Chef Paul and organized by our Hosting Coordinator, Linda Makey. Please check the **Registration Deadline** date to avoid an added fee of \$3. Won't you come and join us on **Saturday, October 20?** You won't be disappointed.

*In joyful service,
Kay Tiffney, Secretary*

H A R V E S T D A Y A G E N D A

8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Registration and Coffee Fellowship
9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Hymn Sing WELCOME by Dr. Harald Tomesch, President Concordia Seminary
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	BUSINESS MEETING
(As time allows)	Hymn Sing
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	CHAPEL SERVICE
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	GUEST PRESENTATION: Mr. Al Durow, on the Harmonica St. Matthew's, North Tonawanda
11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS
12:15 p.m.	CATERED LUNCHEON AT THE SEMINARY – Chef Paul



REGISTRATION FORM
HARVEST DAY

Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary
St. Catharines, Ontario

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2007

NAME: CONGREGATION:
AND
ADDRESS: CITY:
PHONE:

REGISTRATION: \$ 2.00 AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
LUNCHEON : \$ 8.00
TOTAL : \$10.00 NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING:

LIST NAMES ON BACK OF FORM (INCLUDING
ADOPTED STUDENT, LUNCHEON COST ONLY)



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007.
A LATE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$3 WILL BE ADDED TO
ALL THOSE REGISTERING AFTER THE DESIGNATED DEADLINE.
THE DEADLINE DATE MUST BE ADHERED TO BECAUSE
THE MEAL IS CATERED.



MAIL TO: MRS. BONNIE STEPHENSON
32 FOREST HILL ROAD
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO L2R 3T9

MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SEMINARY GUILD



**From the Principal's Desk
Greetings from Lois Munz
Christ Our King Lutheran School
Friday, September 28, 2007**

We are blessed to be working with this current number of students:

22 Nursery School students (plus 3 who will be starting in January).

7 Junior/ Senior Kindergarten students (3 morning, 3 afternoon, 1 full day)

A waiting list needs to be started for Wednesdays and Fridays for new registrations for the Nursery School, as student numbers are at the legal limit according to present staffing.

Donna Prusha has very generously offered to spend Wednesday mornings with the Nursery School/Kindergarten children. Wednesdays are very busy because of the greatest number of children coming on that day, so Donna's patience and teaching expertise are appreciated.



The Nursery School/Kindergarten Program Night held on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, was attended by parents interested in meeting with Staff and hearing about the many aspects of the Nursery School and Kindergarten programs. Each Staff member explained a portion of the information, there was a time for questions and then the two parents that had offered to be Parent Representatives on the Nursery School/Kindergarten Board were welcomed. Refreshments and a social time followed.

Preparations for the Family Fun Fair included planning the games, collecting the equipment, picking up things for prizes (donations from Christian Book stores), purchasing snacks, scheduling volunteers, assembling the "take away" bags and creating a floor plan. We had advertised to church and school families, Vacation Bible

School families, Church Board members, former students' families and members of the community that everyone was encouraged to attend and either help with or participate in the events of that Saturday.

The expectation of including what the next planned event would be when the "take away" bags were given out, has led to the inquiry of an organization called "Worship In Motion". It does movement/dance workshops that celebrate the Christian message, with children of all ages. The date of Saturday, January 26, 2008 has been tentatively booked for this next program.

I have arranged to attend an information session concerning the new flex benefits plan on Monday, October 1, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in Waterloo, ON. The intent of the program is to give more options to the employees concerning their benefits packages.

Christ Our King School has been asked to set up a display again at the Sunday School Teachers' Conference in Kitchener on Saturday, October 27, 2007. I had set up a display last year with the other Ontario Lutheran Schools, and will do a similar one again this year.

The Clarkson BIA sponsors a street party type of event each year at the end of October. This year it is on Saturday, October 27th. We intend to set up a display area to hand out information about our current programs and also to promote the grade school plans.

I have compiled a list of the local Christian churches and my goal is to contact the pastors of each congregation and ask to meet with them. The focus of my discussions is to determine how much support there might be for our Christian grade school. I hope to report on my progress in detail by the end of October.

The progress of the playground renovations will be determined by the recommendation from the Voters' meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2007.

"And He took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them." Mark 10:16



The Toronto Circuit Forum will be on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 3:30 p.m., at Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Mississauga. Part of the agenda will be to elect pastoral and lay delegates to our next synodical convention in Winnipeg, June 5-9. If you are interested in being a lay delegate from our circuit, or would like more information, please let Pastor Flohr know.

A Toronto Circuit Reformation Festival will be held on Sunday, Oct. 28th at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 2705 Islington Ave. N., Toronto. Service starts at 5:00 p.m. with a pot luck dinner to follow. If you would like to be part of the combined choir for this service, please speak to Barb Jurgens. Choirs will practice on their own, then gather prior to the service at 4:00 p.m. for a final rehearsal.