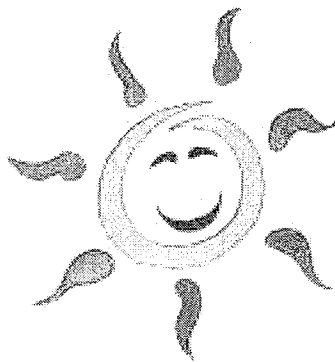


# Summer 2009 Newsletter



Christ Our King Lutheran Church,  
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## World Vision by Alanah Gerald

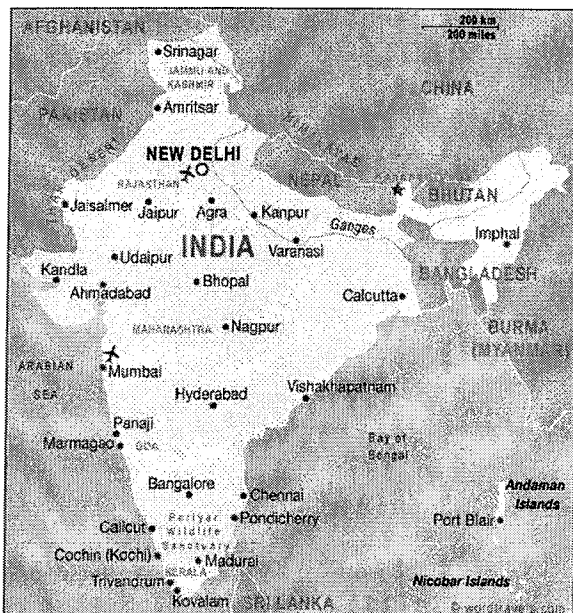
Hi, my name is Alanah, and I'm going to talk to you about an organization that our own Sunday School supports every month called World Vision.

In India right now, most families are cramped into small houses and few of the children can stay in school. Most drop out to go into the work force or care for their younger siblings.

Access to clean drinking water is one of the major challenges in this area. Children suffer most as a result of water borne disease caused by unclean water. But thanks to World Vision and sponsors around the world, that is changing.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization working to create lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities living in poverty and injustice. Motivated by faith in Jesus Christ, World Vision serves alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender. When you sponsor a child you help them have the necessities of life.

# World Vision



Our Sunday School wanted to become involved in World Vision because we are involved with children already. We didn't only want to help out with the children here, we wanted to help the children across the world because they need the love of Jesus too. We wanted to help contribute by monthly support of one sponsored child.

Through World Vision our Sunday School helps provide education, medical needs, doctor checkups, community basic needs, agriculture, and farming to the sponsored child and their family too! Our first child was a girl that we sponsored in 1998, and her name was 'Alba Luz.' Then in 2004 the Sunday School received a letter saying thank-you and goodbye from World Vision

and that Alba was now successfully healthy enough to be without a sponsor. It wasn't only Alba who we had helped, but also her community that became more self-sufficient. Our second and current child that has been sponsored is also a girl named 'Kauska Mulac'. Kauska was sponsored in 2004 and is still being sponsored by our Sunday School. She is currently being taught and provided with school supplies, nutrition, transportation, uniforms, agriculture techniques, daily survival, gardening, and cleansing. She is also provided with fresh water and was taught how to drill a well to be able to have access to clean drinking water for her and her community.

Every Sunday, part of our Sunday School offering goes to World Vision. If you wanted to sponsor a child, you have to commit to sending the needed funds every month.

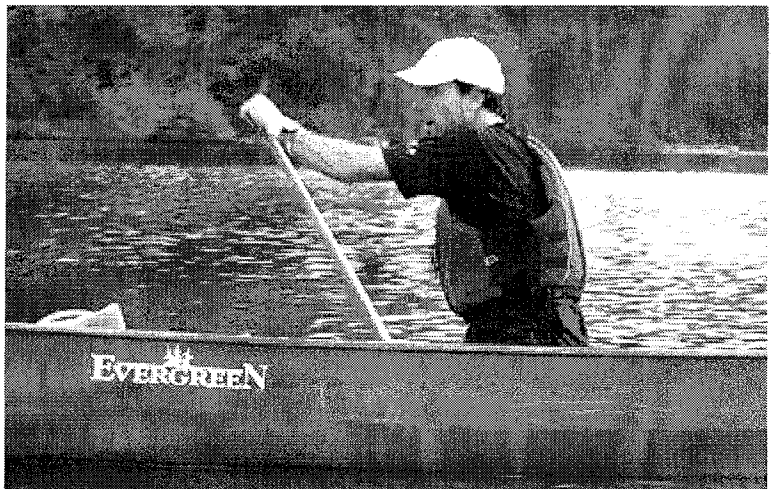
Over the years, many people in our congregation have sponsored dozens of children. Just think about all the families out there who have had another chance at life all thanks to their gracious gifts. It seems like a small difference to us, but to those who have been helped, I think that it makes a huge difference to them, and that they are extremely thankful for that.

World Vision is a Christian Organization and is run by Christians. They started this organization because they wanted to share their love for Christ with other people, and to show them that they are also loved no matter what. This is not for them, but for other unfortunate people who need to know that God loves them.

A very important way to help is to just pray for these people. Because everyone can pray no matter how small or weak you are. We never really think that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the world lives in poverty. We can help change the world simply through prayer. World Vision is encouraged at schools and businesses because it teaches both children and adults that it's a good selfless feeling to sponsor someone who needs your help and depends on you. We all know that the economy is bad worldwide, but their economy is probably way worse than ours seeing that theirs lives weren't so good before the terrible economy came. So we already know that they are most likely going through tougher times than we are. So even simply donating a dollar to a charity is helping. Sponsoring one child seems like a very small difference has been made to us, but I bet it makes a huge difference in their lives, because a little is a lot.

### **Mark Jurgens in Honduras by Thomas Carroll**

People donate millions of dollars to charities. People donate millions of cans to food drives, but only a handful of people will spend years on end helping less fortunate people in our world. One person that is planning on spending a minimum of 2 ½ years in Honduras is our own Mark Jurgens.



When Mark arrived back from teaching school in Australia he was approached by a friend to volunteer at a camp here in Ontario for mentally challenged students. Even though this camp was not a Christian based camp Mark had the opportunity to witness what a non-Christian life was like. Every so often in this camp they would go camping for 8 or 9 days. During this period of time Mark would tell stories about Jesus to the campers.

After spending this time in the summer volunteering Mark felt that he wanted to go further in the ministry. He was approached to go to India to help out with a mission

there. When he told his friend Jam about this and asked if he would help support him, Jam said, "No I will not support you to go to India. You have to go to Honduras." When Jam said this Mark thought that he was crazy. But Mark started thinking about Honduras and realized that other people were telling him that as well. When he thought about it Mark realized that God uses people as sign posts to tell us where to go in life.

As he started planning for his trip he heard that Ester and David were coming up from Honduras to recruit people for the school they have there.

Eventually Mark went to Honduras to work at the school during the week and volunteer at the camp during the weekends. During the week he was a physical education and science teacher. Mark eventually got to know Ken, the camp director, and was offered a job. Ken told Mark he had to go back to Canada for a year to get proper training to speak Spanish and to raise funds to help him.

Mark is planning to stay for 2 ½ years although Ken would like him to stay for five years. Mark would like to stay for the five year term but he will have to raise more funds and have monthly supporters.

While Mark is down in Honduras he will be spreading the good word of God because he will be connecting with other Christians and he will be in contact with the leaders of the school and camp. Also, when people realize how far out of his way Mark has gone to spread the good word of God, they will listen to him with more desire to learn. The final way that Mark will spread the good word of God is by a 14 day trip into the wilderness which is a biblical theme.



Because Honduras is one of the poorest countries in our western hemisphere, many of the fathers leave their families in order to find work. The children then lose their father's influence and older siblings can't go to school because they have to take care of their younger siblings. Honduras also lacks strong Christian leaders in their government. The camp that Mark is going to work at tries to build leadership skills with a Christian theme.

We can all help to support Mark while he is on his mission by including him in our daily prayer. The other way that we can help Mark is by making donations at [www.markinhonduras.com/support.html](http://www.markinhonduras.com/support.html) so that he can continue God's work in the second poorest country in the western hemisphere, which is Honduras.

## **Ecuador by Vanessa McCann**

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, Laura Prusha, Valerie Marshall, and Peter Verlinden left for Quito, Ecuador and will be returning on June 14<sup>th</sup>. As volunteers with NGO they have the pleasure of helping the children and their families. The average worker in Ecuador makes around \$1,825 per year, or \$150 per month. If they made as much as we did they would have better housing, food, drinking water, technology, clothes and shoes.



The children of Ecuador have a very different life style than we have in Canada. Those children work on the streets 365 days, selling and trading whatever they can to earn some money for their families. They have very little to eat, and the oldest child takes care of all their siblings while their parents are busy working. Since the children work at home they do not have enough time to attend school, which means most children cannot read or write. Even though there is a lot to do at home they still try hard to attend church every Sunday but most families cannot even do that because they are trying to earn money for food and many other home essentials.

NGO is an organization that is popular with the children and their parents. A non-governmental organization, it provides meals for the children and their families, teaches basic school lessons, and provides the children with some toys. Another thing that NGO provides is a different way to live. Life is not about working on the streets trying to get money to buy food; there's more than that, and it gives them opportunities as well.

We can all help out the children and their parents by donations. The most obvious and first thing that comes to your mind when you think of donations would be cans of food and water bottles but they could use more. They need school supplies, toys, clothing and shoes, hygiene supplies, medical supplies and anything else that we can contribute. The problem that we have here is that we have so much and we take almost all of it for granted. In Ecuador, the children and their parents are very appreciative for everything they have. Laura, Valerie, and Peter each took along extra suitcases full of school and other supplies for the children of Ecuador.

In Ecuador there are many churches and most of them are Christian but not that many of them are well built; they are very unhealthy and dirty but that doesn't stop people from coming. In Acts 20:35 God says "In all things I have shown you by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.'" He is saying it is better to help others than worry about yourself and that is what Laura, Valerie, and Peter are doing in Ecuador. They are putting other children before themselves.

Ecuador is a good country with good people and it is a shame that they are so less fortunate than we are here. Again, we can help them by praying, and donations, and physically getting involved like Laura, Valerie, and Peter are doing right now!

## Haiti Lutheran Mission Society by Andrea Vacl

You all probably remember last year when our congregation collected items for hurricane relief in Haiti. The goods were sent by the Haiti Lutheran Mission Society. The mission helps Haitians rebuild their lives. They not only send goods, supplies and food but also the message of Christ. The chairman is Howard Bogusat. He directs meetings, goes to Haiti to view mission efforts and communicates with the Lutheran pastors. He fills shipping containers full of everything from mattresses to feed items. They even get to keep the container. Most importantly the Mission Society also sends spiritual gifts.



Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. It is prone to horrible natural disasters and is situated right in the middle of a hurricane belt. There are inadequate supplies of potable water and soil erosion makes it difficult to farm on the island because of storms.

The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society brought about a feeding program to the Lutheran schools. They provide the hungry children with rice and beans every day for less than 30 cents U.S. As a result 85% of the children and 65% of the parents have become Christians. The Haiti Lutheran Mission Society has also provided and/or helped with an orphanage, a senior's home, radio/TV ministry, a computer and a rock quarry. I was told by Howard, "Because of such extreme poverty, you cannot separate the spiritual from the physical." The mission needs to bring both help with the necessities of life as well as the love of Jesus.

Haiti is an island different from many others, which makes it in need of the Gospel. It is an island dedicated to voodoo gods. Voodoo is a religion full of hexes and spells. In Haiti the Gospel really is good news. People are spilling into the courtyards of the churches every Sunday morning ready to hear the good news.

The greatest part about the Haiti Lutheran Mission is that they're not only rebuilding physically but spiritually as well.

The most inspiring part for me, when talking to Howard, was seeing that he started out as an ordinary person, just like you and me. But he prayed to God for the Lord to use him in some way, and the Lord did. He started as a grocer on a mission board to being a chairman, helping others in impoverished countries. The Lord has directed him everywhere from warehouses to hungry school rooms.

His story inspired me and I hope it has shown you what an ordinary everyday person can do for the Lord.

## Nicaragua Lutheran Church by Staci Coffin

I had the pleasure to talk with Lois and Greg Munz about their mission work in Nicaragua, and I would like to tell you about the work that they have done there. Greg had been to Nicaragua about three years ago when he helped with the building of a church and repairs on residences. Lois and Greg became aware of the needs of the Lutheran Church in Nicaragua through friends from the Niagara area who kept in contact with the pastor in Nicaragua.



This past December Lois joined Greg and three other men who were returning to do repairs to the church's roof and some of the residences, which are very simple buildings made of tin with dirt floors. Lois went along to work with the children in the community, many of whom were members of the church. The earthquakes and general bad weather have caused the buildings in Nicaragua to crumble and are in need of repair. The people of Nicaragua are willing to work, however they don't have the money to pay for the necessary tools or materials to do the repairs. Just bringing money to Nicaragua helps a lot because it allows the economy to grow.

The people of Nicaragua are aware of Jesus. There are 24 congregations there, 6 missionaries, who drive around the country on motorcycles and there are 9 pastors. There is even a seminary in the mission centre. The mission work here is to help the people with the necessities of life that they don't have as Nicaragua is a poor country. This is why Lois wanted to work with the children. She went to help enhance the children's learning by taking with her two big suitcases filled with various school supplies, such as puzzles, pencils, etc. and paper bag puppets that the kids from Christ Our King provided.



Depending on the city and the funding available, the church offers a school for the children which includes a kind of Vacation Bible School with a lunch and/or dinner program for the children,. They visited four cities. In one city it might be lunch daily and in another maybe only once or twice a week as there are still funds needed to be able to provide the lunches more often. The kitchens are very simple. The meals are cooked over a fireplace and dishes washed in large bins. There are many volunteers to help the children of Nicaragua who are not well nourished. About one third of the children that attend these centres are from the Lutheran congregation and the rest are children from the village. The children get to have a healthy meal while participating in activities and games that they wouldn't be able to do otherwise. One of the projects Lois worked on was purchasing material to

make bean bags, which then were used to play many different games while teaching the children.

The idea for this mission was to get people here aware of the need of the people in Nicaragua. Raising funds to help the people is the most important need. Lois and Greg met a gentleman who has a plantation where he grows coffee and sells it in Canada to raise money to help with the centres to provide lunches and dinners.



It was a terrific trip, said Lois. They did not feel as though they were in the way of the citizens, whom were very welcoming. Communicating was a bit of a problem as the Munz's don't speak Spanish, but with the dictionary they brought and the help of others they were able to communicate with everyone.

The Munz's will be going back again to show the people that they are not abandoning them, and do care about them. You get a good feeling being

able to help people and see their joy. The Munz's continue their work here for the Nicaragua people by telling of their journey and the need to raise money and they are also raising money through the sale of coffee to help support the centres so that the people can receive good healthy meals.

## **Change Me!**

Dear Lord,  
I do not understand how much You love me.  
I'm glad Your love isn't limited by the size of my mind.  
Help me believe what I cannot conceive.  
May I never forget You love me,  
even though I am not lovable.

Forgive me for grieving You,  
for failing to love You, myself and others,  
for disappointing and disgusting You.

In spite of myself You love me!  
Through Jesus You've drawn me to Yourself.  
You've made me one with You!  
Me! United with the Ruler of the universe!  
Me! Reconciled to the Holy One!

You sacrificed Jesus to make this possible.  
Your only Son died for me! Incredible!

Now He lives in me, and I in Him.  
I cling to the hope You give me.  
*"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;  
the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Change me, Lord. Renew me.  
Enable me to become what You want me to be.

Greetings from Cathy Sookhoo  
Supervisor/Administrator  
June 2009

Well another school year has come to an end and the pitter patter of little feet in the halls of Christ Our King will not be heard again until September. Our end of the year festivities were well attended and much appreciated by all. A trip to Bronte Creek, a Father's Day celebration and our annual Graduation and Family picnic were just some of the events that took place in the last few weeks of school.

Our Father's day "Dad's and Dogs" celebration was held on Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup>. Much to the amazement of the staff, each and every child had their dad by their side to partake in the activities. The celebration began with a Father's day story under a shady tree and then the fun began. Each child was invited to "shave" daddy, with handfuls of shaving cream and popsicle sticks for cleaning off the "scratchy" beards, the children and dads took part in this very exciting event. To conclude the morning, hotdogs, chips and juice were served to all.

Our annual end of year Graduation and Family Picnic was well attended with approximately 150 people gathered for a mini concert of songs and poems by the students, a pot luck picnic, and of course to watch as their little ones received their diplomas and made one small step toward their big, bright futures.



Continued on next page...

As the staff and children prepare to say good-bye for summer break, I too will be saying good-bye to Christ Our King, but not just for the summer but rather an entire year as I embark on a new journey in my life... an addition to the Sookhoo family. My husband Ruel and I are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our second child. The expected due date is August 1<sup>st</sup>, although myself and others believe it to be much sooner. I look forward to putting my feet up in the month of July as I wait in anticipation to meet the new addition.

With this in mind, I would like to announce that we have hired a new experienced, Christian staff member to fill-in during my maternity leave. Her name is Noushin Ganji and she will be taking on the role of the supervisor/kindergarten teacher in September 2009. Noushin comes to us with many years experience as an Early Childhood Educator. Noushin's work experience, raising a family and volunteer work in her church has prepared her for the new challenges to come in September. She looks forward to sharing her enthusiasm and love of Christian education with the families of Christ Our King Nursery School and Kindergarten.

We are happy to announce the return of both am and pm classes at both the nursery school and kindergarten levels. Both Corinna Brown and Lynda Morell will be returning in September to teach at the nursery school level and Noushin Ganji will be teaching at the kindergarten level.

May the Lord continue to keep you and your family safe through summer months and I look forward to visiting in the fall with my new bundle of joy. Have a safe and happy summer!



## NEWS FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is now over for another school year and our precious children are anxiously waiting for their summer vacation. School and exams are now finished, and both teachers and students look forward to resting and relaxing with family and friends.

On Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, we had our last Sunday School time together and celebrated the events of the past year. Below is a list of the children who received attendance awards for faithful Sunday School attendance of over 50% throughout the year. Several children had almost a perfect attendance record! We give praise and thanks to those parents of these children who consider Christian education a priority in their lives and who faithfully bring their little ones week after week to grow in faith and to learn of Jesus. Please take a moment to congratulate the following children for a job well done this past academic year.

NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN: Lauren Agnew  
Luc Raymond  
Katrina Krewdel  
Samuel, Benjamin & Matthew Kriwetz

GRADES 1 & 2: Eric Agnew  
Sebastian Krewdel

GRADES 5 & 6: Jessica Chant  
Christina Vernon  
Sarah Vopni  
Allison Lutz

We also extend a big “Thank-you!” to all of the Sunday School teachers and staff for their hard work, dedication and service in the Children’s Ministry, and praise and thank God for the many continued blessings that He bestows upon us here at COK.

It is my sincere hope and prayer that you all have a most wonderful and relaxing summer, and that we will see you all again in the fall, ready to start another Sunday School year.

In His service,

Donna Prusha

# International Lutheran Layman's League

59th East District Convention

Saturday, September 19th, 2009

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, London Ontario



9:00	Display set up
9:30	Registration & Fellowship
10:00	Call to Order
12:00	Lunch
4:15	Worship & Installation of Officers
5:30	Banquet & speaker
7:00	On the road again

Send registration to: Dave Wiegand, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
552 Fanshawe Park Road East, London ON N5X 1L1

For information call Good Shepherd 519-667-2006, email [dwiegand@sympatico.ca](mailto:dwiegand@sympatico.ca)

Reserve your own hotel accommodations by contacting:

Airport Inn, 2230 Dundas St. E. P: 1-877-464-1200 double \$92 (price is guide only)

Spencer Hall, 551 Windermere Rd P: 1-800-983-6523 double \$129

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## Registration Form: LLL East District Convention 2009

Deadline for registration is September 5th 2009

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$28 = \_\_\_\_\_ (includes lunch & snacks)

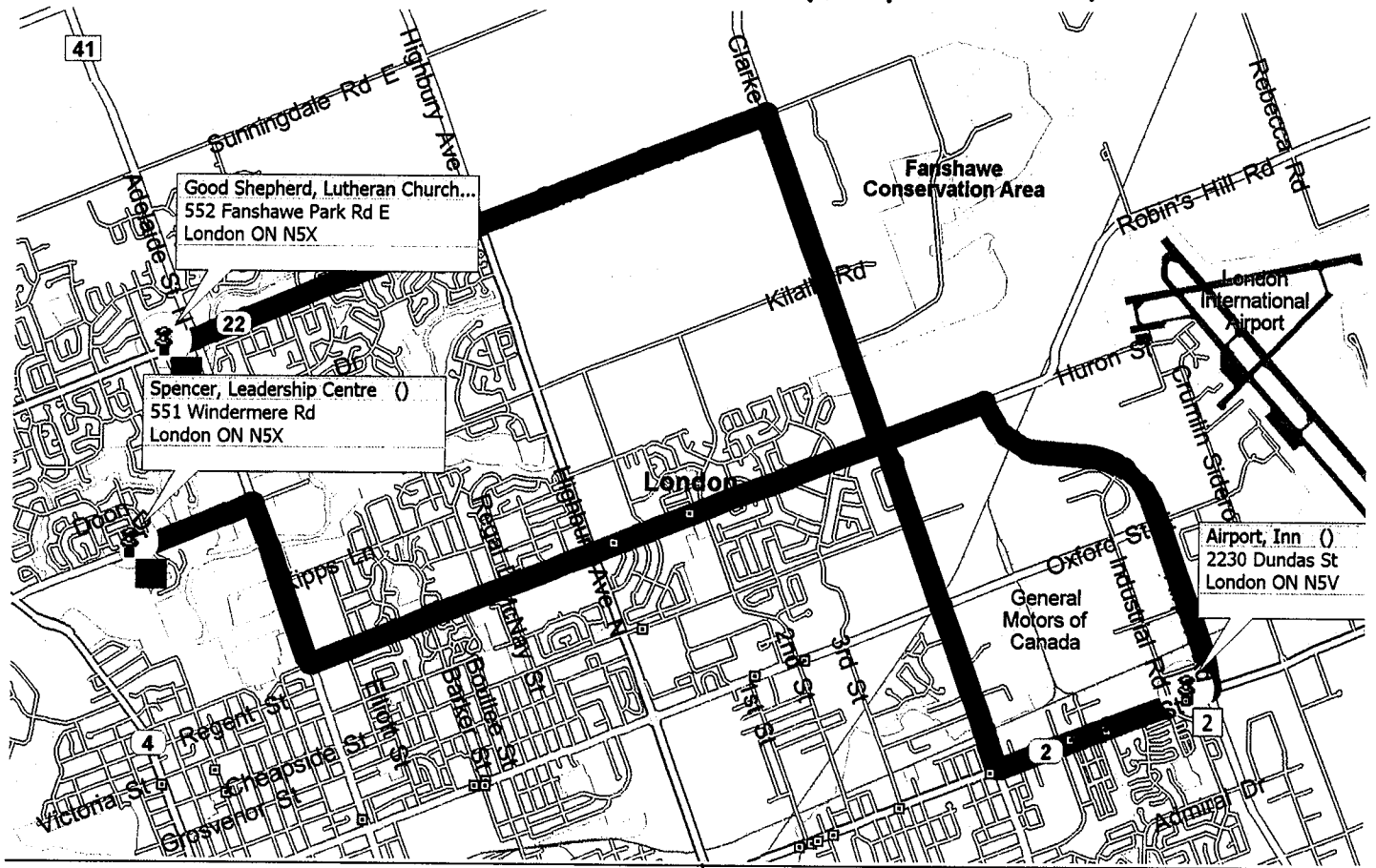
Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ @\$22 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Cheques payable to LLL London Zone

Diet Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

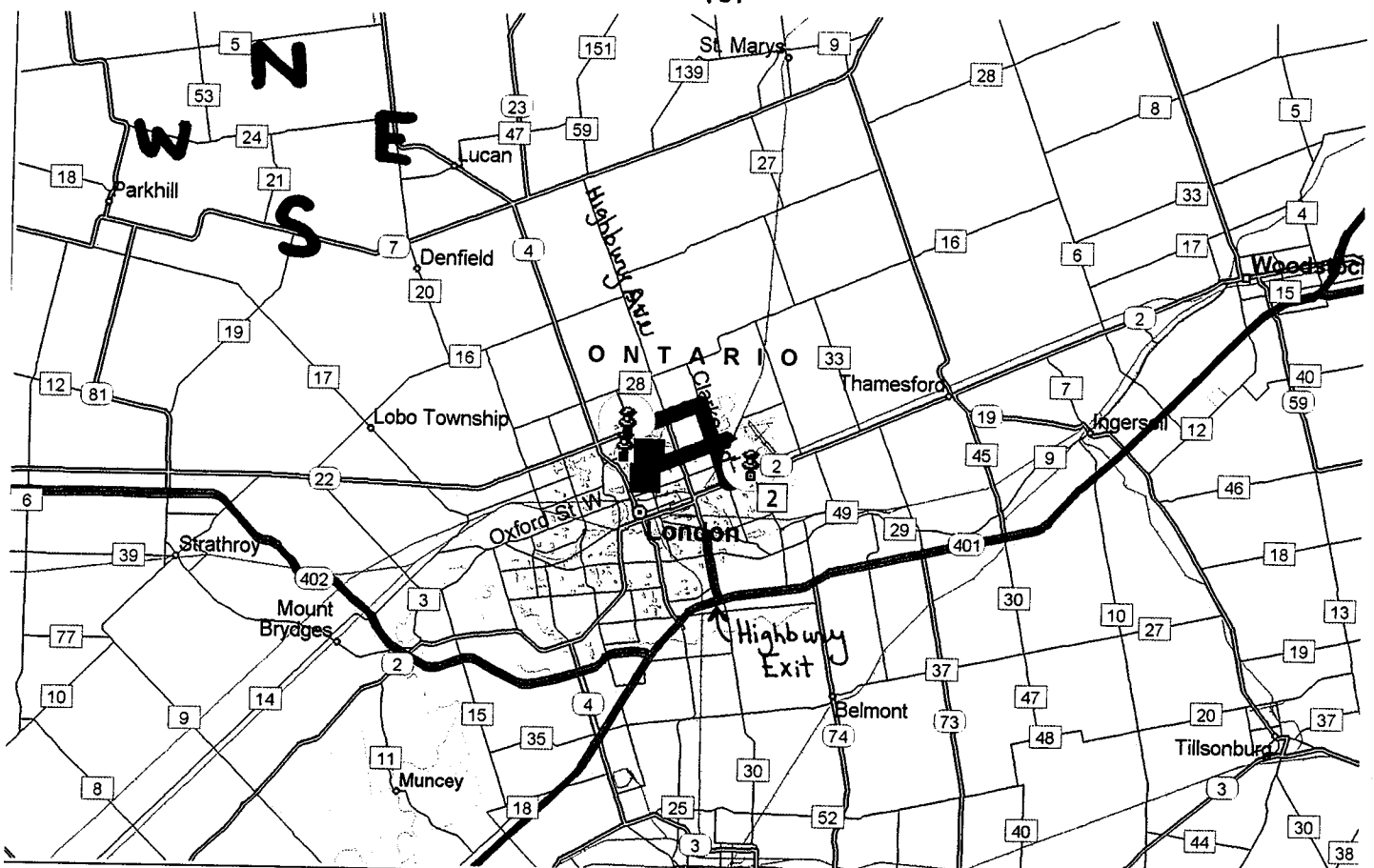
# International Lutheran Layman's League

## 59th East District Convention Saturday, September 19th, 2009



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**International Lutheran Laymen's League, East District  
59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, London, ON  
Agenda**

- 09:00 Display Set-up, Board of Directors' Meeting
- 09:30 Registration and Fellowship (Coffee & Doughnuts)
- 10:00 Call to Order: District President Ron Fischer  
Welcoming and Housekeeping: Convention Committee Chairman Henry Jacob  
Reading of Resolution #1 The Theme Resolution:  
Opening Prayer: District Pastoral Advisor Rev. Min Kim
- 10:15 Business Session  
Minutes of 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Stratford: District Secretary Linda Lingard  
Treasurer's Report: District Treasurer Macklem Sherman
- 10:30 Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada: Managing Director Stephen Klinck
- 11:15 Business Session  
Reading of any Resolutions  
Presentation of the Slate of Officers
- 11:30 Jeopardy: David Dawson
- 12:00 LUNCH and viewing of displays
- 01:00 Greetings from  
LCC, East District  
LWML-C, Ontario District  
Concordia Lutheran Missionary Society  
Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary
- 01:30 Programs of the International Lutheran Laymen's League: Dave Dawson
- 02:15 Ambassador Training in the church nave: Stephen Klinck  
Others view DVD from International Convention in Greensboro
- 03:00 Break and viewing of displays
- 03:15 International LLL Board of Directors & International Ministries: Regional Governor Bob Felstead
- 04:00 Business Session  
Election of Officers  
Other business  
Final Resolution of Thanks
- 04:15 Worship Service and Installation of Officers: Host Pastor Manna, Pastoral Advisor Kim and Ass't. Pastoral Advisor Gajdos
- 05:30 Banquet and Banquet Speaker David Dawson