

The Call

THE NEWSLETTER OF AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH



Welcome Back Sunday September 7, 2025

WORSHIP TIME

Starting on September 7 we will move back to our **10:30 am worship time.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on September 7 at **10:15 am** as we begin the 2025-2026 Sunday School program.

POT LUCK LUNCH

We hope you will join us after worship on Sunday, September 7, as we reconnect over a

Pot Luck Lunch.

Bring your favourite dish to share with others.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you.

SEASON OF CREATION – SEPTEMBER 14 – OCTOBER 5**CLWR – LAKE CHAD INITIATIVE**

Starting on Sunday, September 14, during Augsburg's Season of Creation emphasis, we will join congregations across Canada in CLWR's Friends of Creation campaign. Over four Sundays, we'll reflect on God's call to steward the earth by looking at how climate intersects with food, water, peace, and local economies around Lake Chad, at the frontlines of climate change. Together, we'll reflect, pray, and have a chance to take action to help restore land and livelihoods in one of the world's most vulnerable regions.

Join us in answering God's call to be friends of creation: clwr.org/foc-challenge



Friends of Creation

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

It is time to prepare the next installment of the schedule for Sunday Morning Volunteers. The months covered will be **September, October and November**.

Please sign up on the sheets that are in the narthex. Many hands make light work.

65TH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us on **Sunday, October 19** to celebrate Augsburg's 65 years of mission and ministry. Augsburg's former pastor, **Doug Kramer** will be with us to offer the sermon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This year, Sunday School will continue to meet two consecutive Sundays a month during the school year. We are aiming to have all the classes on the first and second week of the month. Here are the meeting dates from now until December: **September 7 & 14; October 5; November 2 & 9; December 7 & 14**. Please mark these dates on your calendar and we hope to see you for Sunday School!

AUGSBURG'S FUN DAY – JUNE 8

A fun day **was** had by all who attended Augsburg's 65th Anniversary Fun Day. A big 'thank you' to the anniversary committee and the social events committee who organized the events and the food.





CHOIR

Augsburg is delighted to invite you to join our all ages choir. No experience is needed, just a joy for singing. The choir rehearses at **9:15 am** most Sunday mornings starting on **Sunday, October 5**, and is led by **Andrea Miersma & Tasha Serfic**.

The choir has lots of fun practising and they sing in worship about once a month from October through May. Take a look at our website to see videos of the choir in action. www.augsbram.ca

"WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD?"

As a result of the wonderful feedback we received about our 'altar side chats' last February, we have decided to invite various congregation members to speak to the congregation on a variety of Sundays during the year. We like to call it "Who are the People in the Neighbourhood" as we get to know each other more deeply and how God has worked in our lives. Our next scheduled speaker will be **Hilton Gopie on September 21**. We hope you will show your support by coming out to worship that day.

If you are interested in speaking to the congregation about your life, please speak with the pastor.

PRIDE SUNDAY



On Sunday June 29, Augsburg celebrated "Pride Sunday." We are delighted with our new banner

(note: Tasha is all decked out to represent her employer at the pride parade in Toronto. Go Tasha!).



JOIN US IN GIVING THANKS!

Augsburg's 65th Anniversary Banquet

Come and celebrate this milestone with
our members and friends

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

5:30pm - Mix, Mingle & Mocktails

6:00pm - Dinner

7:00pm - Slideshow and 'Entertainment'

Tickets on sale starting September 7

\$25 per adult and \$15 for children 12 and under





Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love

Dear friends in Christ,

We are writing to you today with heavy hearts. For nearly two years, the people in Gaza, the West Bank and Jerusalem have been suffering under devastating violence, a deepening humanitarian crisis, and uncertainty. Recently we received an update from Bishop Dr. Sani Ibrahim Azar of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, our Global Mission and Companion Synod partner. Bishop Azar shared that while the church continues to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, as we all do, he fears, “that peace is increasingly hidden from our eyes.”

“There is an atmosphere of deep fear and uncertainty across our land,” he continued. “No one knows what the next day will bring. The prospect of a regional war weighs heavily on a population already exhausted by suffering.”

Yet, despite everything, the ELCJHL remains steadfast in its mission.

- Congregations continue to gather in prayer and fellowship.
- The schools of the ELCJHL have successfully completed their 2024-25 academic year.
- Diaconal ministry is providing food, rent assistance, medical care and school tuition support to hundreds of families across the West Bank.
- Gender justice and environmental ministries are still working towards a more just and sustainable future.

“For years,” Bishop Azar writes, “we have worked to sustain the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Today, we are struggling to preserve our very existence.”

As partners in mission, we are called to respond. Together, the National Office and Eastern Synod are launching an appeal to support the ministries of the ELCJHL. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to assist in supporting this vital work that embodies faith, resilience and hope of a just peace. [Donate Now](#)

At our recent ELCIC National Convention, we welcomed Bishop-Elect, Rev. Dr. Imad Haddad, of the ELCJHL. Speaking on the theme Rejoicing in Hope, he shared these powerful words, “I will really cling to hope, but it is a hope that is not alienated from reality, a hope that understands the challenges. A hope that is great enough to choose life, a hope faithful enough to pose a question, ‘my Lord, why have you forsaken me?’, yet without losing faith in the justice of God. God is just. That is our hope.”

Dear members of the ELCIC, our church’s long-standing relationship with the ELCJHL is a vital expression of our shared faith and commitment to justice and peace.

Together, we invite you to:

- Pray for peace.
- Learn more about the work of the ELCJHL.
- Give generously to the ELCJHL Appeal.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Susan C. Johnson, Bishop, ELCIC,

Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop-elect, ELCIC,

Rev. Carla Blakley, Bishop, Eastern Synod

WORSHIP SERVICES

September 7	Welcome Home Sunday	10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Pot Luck Lunch
September 14	<i>Season of Creation</i>	10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship* Parent meeting re: Affirmation
September 21	<i>Season of Creation</i> <i>"Who are the People in the Neighbourhood" with Hilton Gopie</i>	10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
September 28	<i>Season of Creation</i> <i>Orange Shirt Sunday</i>	10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
October 5	<i>Season of Creation</i>	9:15 am Choir 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
October 12	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
October 19	65th Anniversary Service with Pastor Doug Kramer	9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
October 26	<i>Reformation Sunday</i>	9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*
November 2	<i>All Saints Sunday</i>	9:15 am Choir 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Coffee Fellowship*

**Please note: Coffee Fellowship will happen only on those days we have volunteers.*