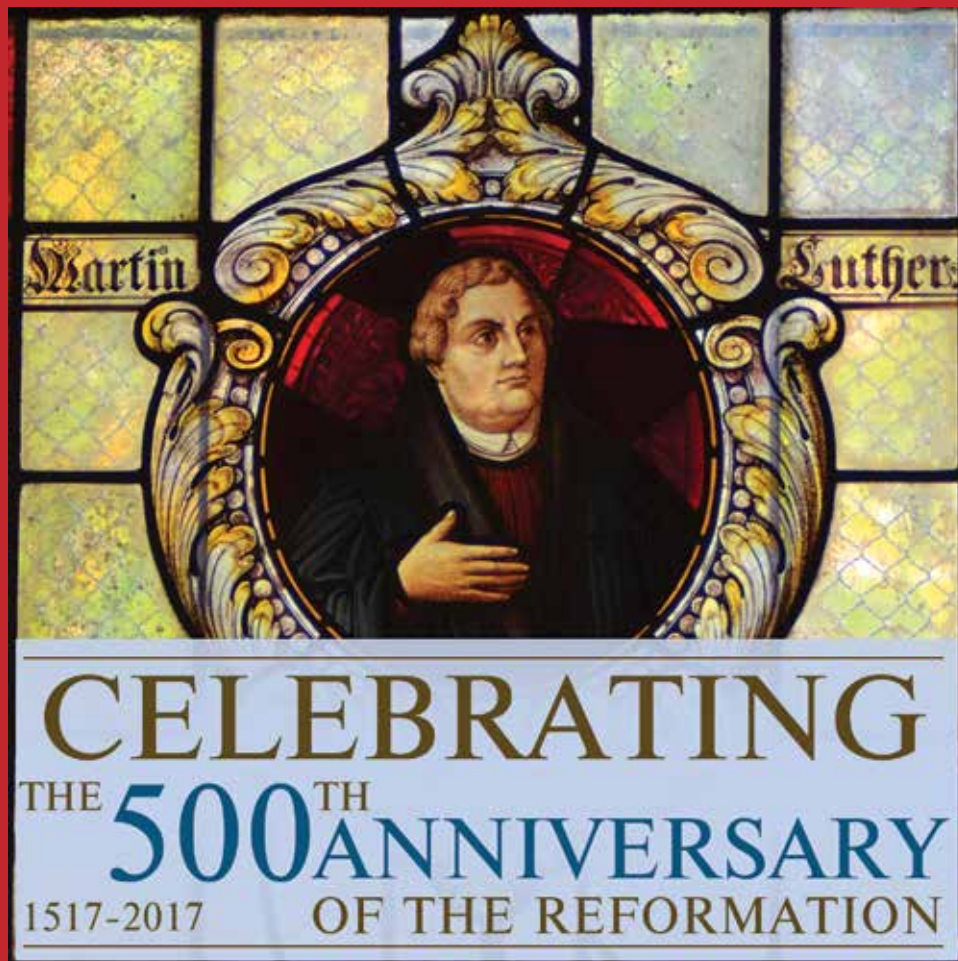


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Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

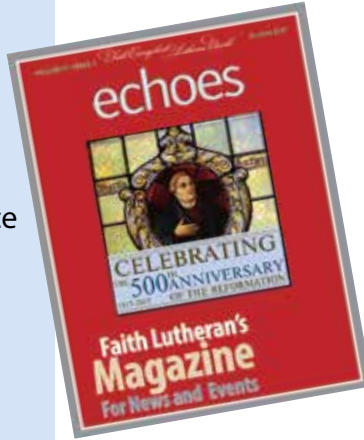
October 2017

echoes



Faith Lutheran's
Magazine
For News and Events

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echoes magazine

We want to feature the news and events of the Family of Faith at Faith Lutheran Brantford. Contact us if you would like to be in future editions, have an article you'd like to submit or an event you want to promote. Submitted manuscripts accepted but may not be returned. Authors of selected materials only will be contacted. No portion of the magazine, including advertisements, pictures or editorial content may be reproduced without permission.

Member of



ELCIC

Echoes is published quarterly by Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church at 57 Brant Avenue, Brantford, Ontario N3T 3G9.

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Please submit your materials by January 5, 2018 for the next edition. Send your submissions to sandy@arndtinthehouse.com.

REMINDER:

In order to offset the cost of publishing & postage for hard copy issues of Echoes, please consider receiving your copy via email. Perhaps a friend or family member is willing to print a copy for you. Call the church office to provide an email address 519 753 3833.

PARISH COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES:

Please consider volunteering for Church Council and/or working with one of our Committees.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Income to date in 2017:	\$83,489.00
Expenses to date in 2017:	\$89,438.00
Deficit to date in 2017:	(-\$9,949.00)

The above figures DO NOT include the 2016 deficit of \$ 13, 500.00

"Please submit your Email address to the Church Office by phone (519-753-3833) or Email (faithlutheran1@bellnet.ca)"

This is very important for updating our records for each household.

The majority of future communication to our members will be done using Email. Don't miss out on important information.

If you do not have Email in your household, please also let us know that."

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18-21 King James Version (KJV)

I believe it was Meister Eckert who said that "if the only prayer you said was 'thank you', that would be enough". In this season of bounty and harvest, we have plenty of time to say "thank you". Not only on Thanksgiving Sunday, but on each of the Sundays in the Autumn. As I said in my Oct. 9 homily, every Sunday calls us to be a "eucharist" people. The word Eucharist is from the Greek for "thanksgiving". Even though it's a word that specifically relates to the service of Holy Communion, its very usage calls us to make our whole life one of thanksgiving.

In addition to the formal "Day of Thanksgiving" we have the opportunity to give thanks for the Reformers of the Christian faith on Oct. 29 with our "Lutherfest" celebrations. The foundation of those on whose shoulders we stand allow us to continue to seek ways to share the faith that is in us. We give thanks for the paths that have been laid for us to follow and for the new paths set before us!

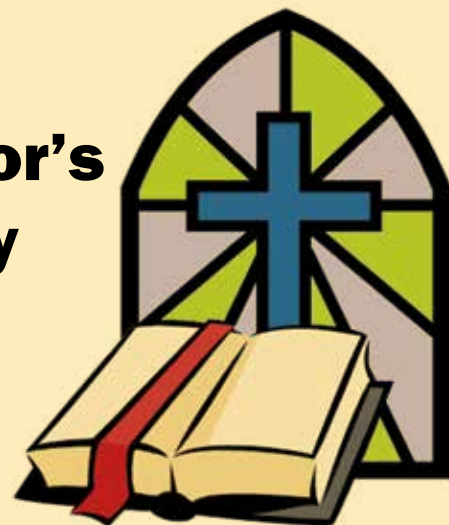
On Nov. 5 we pause and give thanks for all the Saints who have died in the past 12 months. They too have inspired and guided us to this time and this place. We have not gotten here without the guidance of those who now lie beyond the thin veil of death. On Nov. 5th we will acknowledge that AND give thanks for that reality.

Finally, we give thanks that The Rev. Brian Wilker has answered your and God's call to come and be with and among you as your Pastor. Every indication is that Pastor Wilker will start near the beginning of January 2018, therefore I will conclude my Interim Ministry on Dec. 31, 2017. We will have plenty of time to reflect on our time together AND to give thanks for this time in our lives!

May God grant all of you and all of us times to give thanks for all the blessings of this life.

***In Peace & Thanksgiving,
Pastor Kevin+***

The Pastor's Study



On Thanksgiving Sunday, we were able to dedicate the refurbishment of the Pastor's Study to the Glory of Almighty God in loving Memory of The Rev. Calvin and Mrs. Elizabeth Diegel. The funds for this project were lovingly and generously provided by their family and some Memorial funds. The following piece sets the tone for the Pastor's Study and its use...

***In Peace,
Pastor Kevin+***



The Pastor's Study is a symbol of the calling of the Christian minister to be the shepherd of a flock of God. Here sermons are prepared to feed the people of God the Holy Word. Here the work of the church is planned so that the congregation may grow in grace and bear fruit in worship, service, fellowship, teaching, and witnessing. Here you will always find a friend and counselor in time of need. The Pastor will not be surprised by sins, nor will you be judged in them, but you are always invited to share the wisdom and love of God, the knowledge of forgiveness of sins, and the saving grace of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

You are always welcome here!

Report on ELCIC National Convention in Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 6-8, 2017

Some people say that they love the church very much, but not enough to attend one of its conventions. To all the convention sceptics out there: the national assembly of the ELCIC 2017 in Winnipeg was a good, spirit-filled and meaningful event.

It was the first assembly after the completion of the restructuring process of the ELCIC. After the convention in 2019 future national conventions will be held only tri-annually. The total number of delegates is limited to 150 (80 lay, 10 youth, 60 clergy) with their costs covered by the synods. Each synod is allocated a number of delegates based on the baptized membership of each Synod, who have to be nominated at the congregational level and then be elected at Synod conventions.

Our Bay Area was well represented. Of the total of 58 Eastern Synod delegates, 6 came from local congregations in and around Hamilton: Judy Lindeman (Transfiguration), Gail Bennie (Faith, Hamilton), Thomas Mertz (St.

John's), Julia Hilgendag (youth delegate, Faith, Brantford) Ben Cameron (youth delegate, Holy Cross) and Dorothy Emerson (Faith, Brantford).

The theme of the National convention was "Liberated by God's Grace" consistent with the theme of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation.

Worship always plays an important role in the life of any ELCIC convention. The planning committee succeeded in winning the Rev. Dr. Willard Metzger, General Secretary of the Mennonite Church Canada and Right Rev. Jordan Cantwell, Moderator of the United Church of Canada, as guest preachers. Their messages to the assembly: Our liberation by God's grace restores us to God's purposes and calls for our loving action in the world.

The keynote address was given by LWF President, Rev. Dr. Munib Younan, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. As always, his talk was very moving

and inspiring.

The assembly passed an ELCIC Statement to Muslims in Canada "challenging all members and congregations of the ELCIC to develop respectful, meaningful and mutual relationships with Muslims." The ELCIC encourages use of the 2017 resource "Encountering People of Other Faiths: Interfaith Guidelines" with the belief that respectful interfaith dialogue can lead to deeper understanding of our own faith.



An ecumenical panel of church leaders from the large denominations in Canada discussed the significance of the Reformation Commemoration. They acknowledged the ongoing transformation of the church landscape and stressed the importance of churches working together, by each contributing their rich tradition and theological wisdom. Our world needs to continuously hear of God's grace.

Kaila Johnston - Research Coordinator of the National Centre for

Truth and Reconciliation at the University of Manitoba gave a presentation of the work of her organization and shared the link to their public archive (<http://nctr.ca/map.php>) as a very helpful resource for congregations.

On the business end of the convention, Sheila Hamilton was elected for another term as vice-president of the national church council. Our Lutheran Schools reported on their outstanding ministry (<https://www.luthercollege.edu/high-school/>). Robert Granke, Executive Director of CLWR announced his retirement later this year.

You can listen to all of the sermons and talks given at Convention by going to elcic.ca, What We Do, National Convention, Daily Highlights. I'm sure you will find them worth listening to.

The bulletin of reports for the convention is available as pdf-file on the ELCIC website (<http://www.elcic.ca/>)

Reported by Dorothy Emerson, Thomas Mertz, Judy Lindeman, and Gail Bennie

My ELCIC National Convention Experience By Julia Hilgendag

The 2017 ELCIC was my first time going to this convention. I did not know what to expect and had very little knowledge on what I would be doing at this convention. I knew that I would be exposed to different church representatives from all over Canada. Coming from a local Lutheran church community I knew that this trip would test my comfort zone of traveling away from the people I know and to expose myself to different people of similar beliefs in God. Of course from not knowing what ELCIC would be about, I learned a lot of what they do and how they help others, not just in Canada, but globally.

The key factors discussed at the convention were CLWR, Kairos,

This brought people together to help those in need. I was surprised

churches have planted 2000 trees for the same purpose, on Earth Day April 22, which I am very proud to have been part of.

Going to this convention allowed me to understand more of what ELCIC is all about. I was anxious how people would perceive me or how I would get along with others. Once I got there however, I found I was able to start conversation and gain confidence with speaking to many members of this convention. I made a lot of friends. I had a great experience getting to know others and have the opportunity to feel like a family away from home.



Refugee sponsorship and the Reformation Challenge. The ELCIC is very involved with those in need such as sponsoring the Syrian refugees. Also last year they donated money to people who lost their homes in the Alberta Wildfires.

that not only they cared about people but also the environment! The Reformation Challenge was brought up about the tree planting project that is still a goal for 2017 to plant 500,000 trees. I can relate to that because our Bay Area

Restoration & Renewal (R&R) Fund

This dedicated account was established in 2013 to accumulate funds necessary for special projects for our building upkeep. You may contribute to this fund through your regular offering envelopes at any time throughout the year whether or not there is an existing fund-raising project.

The expenses for the FRONT STEPS, EMERGENCY ROOF REPAIR and REFINISHING THE BASEMENT FLOOR totalled approximately \$24,000.00. **Approximately \$27,400.00 has been raised putting us "over the top".** With the balance that existed in this account originally, we now have a surplus of \$4400.00 for future repairs and maintenance.

A huge thank you for all the support received and for your ongoing support of this important fund!

Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted,
Gigi Todd, Parish Council Chair



20TH FAITH SCOUTS

I am pleased to say we've been very successful at getting 'new' Scouter support for our two younger sections. It's like a breath of fresh air with the talents these volunteer bring to our program. Five are active on the floor working with the youth and 2 in a pending role (soon to be active). We have 18 Beaver Scouts



16 Cubs invested and 2 new Scouters welcomed with parents looking on. The Cub Scouts made leather Woggles. and played some games, treats and drinks to finish the night.

and still growing. They are preparing for their Investiture ceremony and working on the S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) projects.

Cub Scouts have been busy with a fun and exciting Investiture ceremony and making leather woggles. The Parents enjoyed watching and help during this special occasion.

Scouts have already done two outings. Bike hike along the Lorne



Scouts getting out on bike hike and backpack hike most recently



Bridge area and backpack hike. Guess you know what there next

endeavor wants to be? Yup, an overnight backpack bike hike. We're hoping to get this in before the winter.

Venturer Scouts are meeting as a Brant Area group with 5 other groups joining in and making plans. It's a lot easier planning with more participants and also get to know other youth in the area.

All of our sections will be

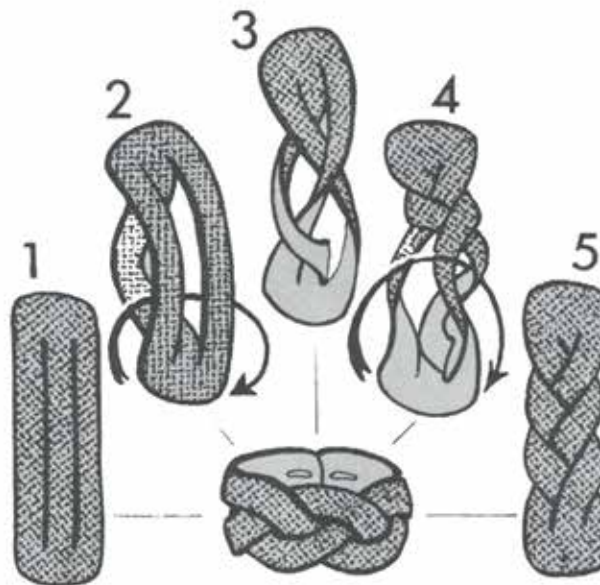


participating in the Annual Apple Day campaign and appreciate all your support AND get a delicious apple as THANKS.

Also, if interested we

Your Woggle

Have a go at making your own woggle. Take a piece of leather or plastic from an old handbag or washing-up liquid bottle about 10cms long and 4cms wide. Paint it in your Six colour. Make two cuts as shown and then plait the woggle. Staple the two ends together.



also have sign up sheets for our once a year Popcorn Campaign. Your orders will arrive before Christmas, so you can do some shopping early.

Scouter Jane Redin



Renewing Waterloo Lutheran Seminary (WLS)



Lutherans can be proud of WLS's contribution to higher education. The seminary, a small faith-based school with a remarkable history of forming leaders, has been operating at its present campus location since 1911. The school grew from solely providing training for Lutheran pastors, into a liberal arts college that brought higher education to Waterloo Region. In 1959 the seminary founded Waterloo Lutheran University which, in 1973, became Wilfrid Laurier University.

Now is the time to renew the programs and facilities to meet the needs of students today and the future. Montgomery Sisam Architects Inc. has been retained to design a \$9-million renewal and modernization of the seminary. WLS's Board of Governors has embarked on a \$1.5-million Reform capital campaign to support the project, which will be completed during the summer of 2018. Highlights of the project include:

- Renewing and modernizing the seminary building, built in 1963, to meet increased student demand.
- Significantly expanding and diversifying the seminary's courses and programs.
- Renaming the school as Martin Luther University College to reflect the seminary's mission in the 21st century.

The renewal and modernization will focus on upgrading building systems and technology, and reconfiguring internal spaces mostly within the current footprint, including:

- seven state-of-the-art classrooms
- gathering commons

- community room
- multifaith room to include ablution facilities
- worship arts centre
- community pastor office
- courtyard
- lobby and welcome centre
- energy efficient design

Rethinking Education

While the seminary remains dedicated to forming pastors for service, we have become much more. We offer programs designed to nurture leaders with a global perspective who are committed to contributing to the health and well-being of our increasingly diverse communities.

Programs include:

- Christian Studies and Global Citizenship
- Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy
- Master of Divinity
- PhD in Human Relationships
- The Kanata Centre for Worship and Global Song
- The Centre for Public Ethics
- Delton Glebe Counselling Centre

Responding to Community Needs

Supporting mental health and well-being has been a core mission of our school for more than 50 years. Our pioneering work in addressing grief, death and dying has comforted countless people. The positive impact of our faculty and graduates resounds throughout the community. The places our alumni are serving include:

- Grand River Hospital (Kitchener and Freeport campuses)
- St. Mary's General Hospital
- Cambridge Memorial Hospital
- Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre
- Family Counselling Centre of Cambridge and North Dumfries
- KW Counselling Services Delton Glebe Counselling Centre
- Long-term care: Grand River Hospital's Freeport Campus and the Trinity Village Care Centre

Please go to www.reformcapitalcampaign.ca to explore ways of donating to this worthwhile cause.

Call Process Update

A Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday September 10, 2017 to consider a recommendation by Parish Council and the Call Committee regarding a pastoral candidate. The vote was a unanimous 53 in favour of the Call and the candidate was allowed 30 days to make a final decision.

On October 2, the Chair of Parish Council was notified that Pastor Brian Wilker has accepted the Call to be Pastor of Faith Brantford. He will begin on or about January 1, 2018.

Thanks be to God!

Thank you to the Call Committee!

We want to express our gratitude to the members of the Call Committee for their faithful dedication and perseverance in search of a new pastor at Faith Brantford. The members are Volker Storjohann, Christine LaPointe, Dorothy Emerson, Gary Bechtel, Sandy Kunej, Petra Hilgendag and Chair, Rita Hamilton.



Save the Dates

Sunday October 29th - Lutherfest Dinner at 5 pm and Bay Area Reformation Service at 7 pm

Friday November 10th - Joint Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Service (originally scheduled for January 2017 but cancelled at the last minute)

Christmas Services:

Sunday, December 24, 2017 at 10 am, 7 pm and 11 pm
Christmas Day, December 25, 2017 at 10 am
New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, 2017 at 10 am

Watch for further information closer to the dates.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

An Apology

Voting Members

At the call meeting held in the parish on Sept. 10, 2017, I ruled as the Chairperson of the meeting that only confirmed members of the parish were allowed to vote. I stand corrected and offer my apologies. After re-reading the constitution of the congregation, voting membership is addressed therein:

ARTICLE IV, Section 2. Subsections a & b.

"Members of this congregation shall be classified as confirmed and voting.

a. Confirmed members are baptized members who have been

i Confirmed by this congregation

ii Received by adult baptism

iii received by transfer as confirmed members from another Lutheran congregation,

iv. Received by affirmation of faith as baptized adults.

b. Voting members are those confirmed or otherwise designated members who are in good standing."

"Good standing" is by consensus definition in our tradition, those who are any two of: confirmed, communing, contributing (financially) individuals. Therefore, I should have allowed individuals to vote who met that "b" subsection based on any two of the criteria of "confirmed, communing, contributing".

Again, I offer my apologies for not being as prepared as I should have been for that vote, and encourage those who did not vote to do so at future congregational meetings based on the above criteria.

Pastor Kevin+

Are you on PAR?

.....Did you know that you can arrange for your offering to be established as an automatic payment to Faith. No more need to remember the offering envelope, your cheque book or cash on Sundays. Your annual contributions can be spread evenly over the year to assist with church budget & planning needs. Contact the church office to arrange for this form of dedicated giving and convenience.

Thank you for this consideration.

Parish Council

Walk an hour in my moccasins

Mark your calendar, tell your friends, and join us in Luther Hall on Friday, 17 November, 7:00-9:00 PM. We will participate in the Blanket Exercise.

The Blanket Exercise is an invitation to participate in a one-hour walk through history to explore relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people on the northern part of Turtle Island, also known as Canada. Friends from Nations Uniting will be present to guide us through this wonderful learning experience.



The Blanket Exercise was developed jointly about twenty years ago by Indigenous representatives and KAIROS Canada. This uniquely Canadian learning opportunity has been offered hundreds of times across Canada and has a strong international reputation for enabling participants to explore the meaning of reconciliation.

A sharing circle and refreshments will follow the Blanket Exercise. We look forward to seeing you there.

Questions? Speak with Gigi Todd or Peter Mogk.

Synod Benevolence

The Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran in Canada (ELCIC) is our immediate connection to the church-at-large.

If you would like to support the work of our greater church you may designate funding on the second line of your regular church offering envelope or by indicating your preference on any other envelope.

Parish Council continues to be dedicated to this important giving by including it within our approved 2017 budget.

Treaties Recognition Week 2017

5-11 November
 "Hear our voices"

This is the second year we in the Province of Ontario celebrate Treaties Recognition Week. We have much to learn about treaties in Canada. Our history is loaded with these arrangements that have left an alarming scene; more than 300 years of treaty making.

We all are treaty people. It also has been said that we all are victims; victims of treaty ignorance, miscommunication, treaty abuse, deception, racism, and manipulation. When we acknowledge this painful truth, we can begin to come together to establish new ways of being treaty people. There is much need for healing. Education and conversation do help to nurture new attitudes and relationships.

1. We recognize pain and anguish resulting from these many treaty agreements. We also find hope in knowing that the United Nations has worked for 25 years with all nations on earth and indigenous peoples to develop the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (often called UNDRIP). It is strange that such a document is needed to remind us that Indigenous peoples are people; even stranger that we have to be reminded that Indigenous peoples have the right "to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties" concluded with states or their successors.

Our need for such a document indicates the persistent presence of a deep seated problem. Resource extraction around the world uses underlying practices that dehumanize Indigenous peoples. The annex to UNDRIP may guide us to the problem, when it affirms that "indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognizing the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such."

If you are not familiar with UNDRIP, we hope that you will read it; it takes only a few minutes and works for a lifetime. You can access it through the internet or you may take a copy of this booklet. http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf Knowledge is power for change. Frequent use encourages wisdom.

2. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued ninety-four calls to action. When we become familiar with these and commit to respond, we nurture hope for future generations. Read one section each week. Talk about and discuss with someone else what you are reading. http://nctr.ca/assets/reports/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

3. This year we focus on our attitudes and the contributions of Indigenous people. We take for granted many gifts that have been shared. How do we acknowledge these?

Our Reconciling Circle [ReconcilingCircle@execulink.com] hopes that naming some of these treasures will help us all to become more conscious of the need and opportunities for renewing relationships. We know that we need a new way of relating.

Treaties Recognition Week



Ontario has passed new legislation to recognize the importance of treaties and to bring awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province. Join us as we recognize Treaties Recognition Week.

Public Forum

	<i>“Hear Our Voices”</i>
Date:	November 5, 2017
Location:	Woodland Cultural Centre 184 Mohawk Street, Brantford Stories of two residential school survivors Presented by the Woodland Cultural Center and the Reconciling Circle in support of the Save the Evidence Campaign Time: 02:00 – 04:00 p.m.

Movie Night

	<i>“A Window to the Future”</i>
Date:	November 7, 2017
Location:	St. Mark’s Church 155 Memorial Drive, Brantford

Blanket Exercise

Date:	November 17, 2017 / Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location:	Faith Lutheran Church 57 Brant Ave, Brantford

FAITH LUTHERAN EVENTS CALENDAR



November 2017 Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

December 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Reformation Sunday (No morning service) Lutheran Dinner at 5 pm + Celebration Service at 7 pm	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 All Saints Sunday (Coffee Hour following the 10:30 Service)	6 Treaties Recognition Week 2017	7	8 Food Pantry at 9 am Parish Council Meeting at 7 pm	9	10	11 Remembrance Day (Many regions)
12 LAMP Sunday with Coffee Hour following the 10:30 Service	13	14	15	16	17	18 Communion at 405 Park Road North Men's Breakfast at 8:30 am
19	20 Worship Committee at 7 pm	21	22 Food Pantry at 9 am	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Last Thursday Fellowship at 1:30 pm	1	2



December 2017 Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30 Last Thursday Fellowship at 1:30 pm	1	2
3 First Sunday of Advent	4	5	6 Parish Council at 7 pm	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Food Pantry at 9 am	14	15	16
17 Giving Tree at both services	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Services at 10 am, 7 pm and 11 pm	25 Christmas Christmas Day Service at 10 am	26 Boxing Day (Most regions)	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve Service at 10 am	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany

LUTHERFEST

**Bay Area
Reformation
Dinner and
Service**

**Faith Lutheran
Church, Brantford
(57 Brant Ave.)**



Lutherfest

October 29, 2017

Dinner at 5:00 P.M. Service at 7:00 P.M.

\$20 per person (Children 10 and under are free)

Deadline for ticket sales - Sunday October 22nd

A limit of 150 tickets to be sold - get yours early so you don't miss out

Any profits after expenses will be donated to the Reformation Challenge Scholarships for the Schools of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

Reformation Dinner menu:

Sauerbraten, Potatoes, Spaetzle, Red Cabbage, Vegetable medley, Latvian Cabbage Dish, Strudel

Guest speaker: Rev. Dr. Oscar Cole-Arnal, a retired professor from Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

Please contact our Church office at 519-753-3833 for information

echoes **newsletter**

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Brantford, ON N3T 3G9