

BULLETIN BRINGING GOD'S MESSAGE OF LOVE IN CHRIST JESUS TO ALL THE WORLD

The Lutheran Church – International

and the

Lutheran World Parish AUGUST 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ in the LC-I Family,

The 24th Annual Synod is now a fond memory. As the comments in this issue of the BULLETIN attest,

the gathering provided a special opportunity for advancing the apostolic work of the church while allowing for communication and Christian fellowship. This issue of the BULLE-TIN features reflections by attendees and others on the experiences in this 24th Annual Synod. You will find a number of beautiful photos taken and edited by Pastor Gary Ettlemyer, our LC-I Director of Communications, along with descriptions of some of the work and fellowship activities that took place on July 26, 27, and 28.

Coming together as representatives of the ministry of a church is a hallmark of Christian church bodies for centuries. Historically, there has been some confusion among certain

Christian groups, including Lutherans regarding the nature and functions of synods and synod assemblies. Synods are not church bodies *per se*. They are organizations constituted to help and provide support to individual congregations of Christian believers. In fact, there is only one Christian church. It is "universal" or, in the Greek, *catholic*. The LC-I is a church body within that universal – or catholic – structure. As we say in the Apostel's Creed, we confess the "**One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.**" Being connected in the spirit and communicating with one another is an important part of who we are.

Blessings Through Coming Together

We were blessed during our recent Synod gathering to be able to work, worship and share together. In recent weeks our brother, Bishop Francis, the Bishop of Rome and Patriarch of Western Christi-



++Robert W. Hotes Archbishop, Lutheran Church International

Catholic Church. The following definition and description of "synodality" may be useful for us as well: Synodality is a model that includes listening to a broad range of people and then discussing the is-

anity has issued a call for "synodality" in the Roman

sues together with the goal of hearing where the Holy Spirit is calling the church.

A brief explanation of the meaning of "synod" might be appropriate here: The middle English word "sinod" comes to us from the Late Latin word, "synodus," as well as the Late Greek word, "synodos," (meeting or assembly), and from "syn + hodos", (a way or journey). By the 14th century the word "synod" took on the meaning of an ecclesiastical governing or advisory council. In the Lutheran tradition the word "Synod" became associated with a regional or national organization of Lutheran congregations.

Much Accomplished

This year we once again had the wonderful opportunity to come together to listen together and work to find ways to bring the good news of Christ to the world. Together we experienced rich and inspiring liturgical worship as the Word was preached and the Sacrament administered rightly. We prayed and sang together, shared ideas, heard about the mission and ministry of the Synod in the world, and took time for relaxation and fellowship.

Many people contributed to the effort, but special thanks are due to Dean Rodney Eberhardt and newly-elected LC-I Vice President Mitzi Eberhardt. They worked with contributions from Bishop Aubrey Bougher to produce a wonderful booklet for all of our worship services. The result was outstanding. In addition, Pastor William Gies led a beautiful Vespers worship service with Pastor Bill Wigmore preaching.

Thanking individual contributors always runs the risk of forgetting to mention someone who contributes unselfishly to the success of the effort. Please forgive me if I have done so. You know who you are. So does the Lord.

Special Thanks to Father Dan Funk

Without a doubt, special thanks are due to our Synod Assembly host, Father Dan Funk of the Holy Family Episcopal Missionary Church, Clarksburg. It was a blessing to be able to worship in the beautiful chapel at Holy Family Anglican Church and to enjoy the wonderful food and excellent facilities that Milton Ridge provides. Hosting the Synod assembly in the Washington/Baltimore area meant travel sacrifices for those participants from the Northeastern, Mid America and Western Dioceses and their attendance and participation was a blessing. The participation by the delegates from the Northeastern Diocese was also an outstanding contribution.

Also of Special Note

In addition to the business meetings and splendid worship, the Solemn Pontifical Synodical Eucharist included the rite for inclusion in the historic apostolic succession of Pastor Gary Ettlemyer. Mitzi Eberhardt was also installed as Vice-president of the LC-I at that time.

A very special social hour was graciously facilitated by Mitzi Eberhardt with plenty of help from others. Another of the many blessings we experienced at the Synod gathering was to be able to share ideas and worship with Deaconess Christine Stephenson who journeyed all the way from Nebraska to be with us. We were also blessed by the presence and participation of Deacons Helena Morris and Norbert Mayer from the Mid America Diocese.

Summer Will Soon Pass

After the recent heat wave I am ready for fall. Whether we like it or not, the stores are already marketing back to school items. While it is exciting to get back to the regular routine of classes and learning, it seems a shame to have to cut the summer short. Hopefully, we have remained close to the Lord throughout the summer months through prayer and Bible study.

Live in Christ, Listen for His Voice

As St. Paul tells us, it is essential for us as Christian disciples to live in Christ and He in us. On the surface, that may seem like a tall order. But as Paul writes in the Epistle to the Ephesians, living and working in Christ Jesus is the key to realizing the free gift of salvation, "So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us as a sacrificial offering for a fragrant aroma." (Ephesians 5:1-2).

As we get ready for the young members of our congregations to go back to school and Sunday school and as we adults go back to Sunday school, it seems important to remember that we are always in the school of the Christian Faith when we pay attention to the voice of Jesus in our lives. Learning in the Christian life is more than just an experience in the classroom and even more than hearing the words of the Holy Gospel preached on Sunday. We are asked as Christians to be life-long learners, always listening to the voice of Christ in our lives as He speaks through the Holy Spirit. As good listeners and students of Jesus, the Master Teacher, we are asked to pay attention to His voice in our lives as He guides us in the Way, the Truth, and the Life. We are connected to one another in the Body of Christ, His church, and we are asked to continue listening to one another not only through Synod gatherings but throughout our days, connected to one another through God's grace.

Let us hear your voice throughout the year! Even though you may not be able to attend Synod gatherings, please let your diocesan bishop and/or the archbishop know about your life and ministries in the Lord. We want very much to listen to your voice! Our listening is one way in which the Holy Spirit makes His will known to us. Let us hear your voice!

May God continue to bless you and our ministries together!

++Robert

To Our Readers

The Editors of the LC-I and Lutheran World Parish BULLETIN are always eager to receive news of interest to the friends, members, and ministries of the LC-I. All items must have relevance to the identity and mission of the LC-I as expressed in our Constitution. A copy of the Constitution is available on the LC-I website. The LC-I reserves the right to approve all content and the right to copyright any material published with permission of the author(s).



SPECIAL

PRAYER

REQUESTS

These prayers have been requested through communication to the Archbishop's office. Please include them in your personal prayers and in the prayers of your congregation. Prayers, thoughts, and joyful remembrances may be sent to the Archbishop: **dbldoc@sbcglobal.net**

- For the work of the LC-I Institute for Ministerial Formation, under the guidance of Dean Rodney Eberhardt.
- For our brothers and sisters in India and for Missionary Dean Tanuku Prasad.
- For our ministries in Brazil, Central and South America, and the Caribbean under the Episcopal guidance of Bishop Juan.
- For all members of the Lutheran World Parish.
- For peace with justice in the world
- For all of the members of the LC-I family who are in special need of the comfort of God's grace as well as healing and improved health.
- For special prayers for all those suffering in mind, body or spirit.
- For all deacons, pastors and bishops of the LC-I.
- For our partners in ministry in the Lutheran Diaconal Association.
- For those traveling during this season. May God guide them and keep them safe in His care.
- For the families of our departed brothers in Christ, Pastors Delmar Baier and Frederick J. Schumacher. May they rest in peace.

WE PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING FOR...

- Our Archbishop and all of our bishops, past and present for their spiritual guidance and prayers.
- For the special ministries of Pastor John Schilling, Pastor Art Hebbeler, Pastor William Gies, the Very Rev. Tanuku Rajendra Prasad, Dean of the Missionary Diocese of India, and Bishop Richard Horn, Missionary Bishop for the Western Diocese.
- For our loved ones and all the saints in the Church Triumphant who are feasting at the heavenly banquet table.
- For newly elected LC–I Vice President Mitzi Eberhardt and all members of the LC-I Executive Board.



Archbishop Hotes with our gracious host at the Annual Assembly, Father Dan Funk of the Holy Family Episcopal Missionary Church.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times. Martin Luther

Also from Our Archbishop's Desk Additional Prayer Requests and Needs

• Special prayers are asked for all of our Christian brothers and sisters in Africa and Asia. Many are subject to hardship and persecutions because of their adherence to the Faith. Like the early martyrs, our LC-I members are giving witness to the truth of the Christian message. At times, and perhaps very often these days, they are called upon to suffer for that testimony.

• We ask for special prayers for our LC-I sisters and Christian brothers in India as they face difficulties with regard to government policies Christians in many parts of Asia are under persecution and restrictions. In the case of Southern India, although there has been a Christian presence for more than two thousand years, the government is seeing Christians as a threat to the identity of India.

• Please remember with special prayers those suffering from the fires in Hawaii.

• Several LC-I committees are hard at work. Under the guidance of Dean Pastor Rodney Eberhardt, an Institute for Ministerial Formation is organizing to prepare future ministers for service in the LC-I and the Universal Christian Church. The Media and Outreach Committee under the leadership of Pastor William Wigmore and Deacon Helena Morris have begun their work as well.

• Please pray for those who are suffering war and disasters around the world.

• As noted in my opening letter, summer is ending and as the kids go back to school there is always a feeling of new beginnings, even if it has been a long time since we ourselves have been in school. Of course, for those teachers and other school officials among us it is often a pretty hectic time, not to mention the pressure and stress on parents and the students themselves. It is also an exciting time for all, one that reminds us of the blessings of our young people and those who minister to them in their special ways.

• Many of us feel a bit nostalgic as Summer ends and we know that there will be fewer hours of day-

light. As we move into Fall we are reminded of the seasons of our own lives here and on earth, with pleasant memories and perhaps some nostalgia. As we say in the Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness each Sunday, there are things that we wish we had not done, and we are conscious of things that we have left undone

• This turning of the season is an excellent time to remember that no matter how dark our earthly days may be, the light of Christ is always with us. His light is always there to guide us through our study of Holy Scripture and the warmth of His love and the fellowship in the Holy Spirit. Back to school time is a time of excitement and renewal for all of us who are called to be lifelong learners in the teachings of Jesus Christ. As we return to the rhythm of the academic year, we have an opportunity to take stock of the elements of our faith, to rededicate ourselves to worship together and the study of Holy Scripture, and to resolve to continue to grow in the love and service of the risen Lord.

- Please pray for the recovery of Pastor John Schilling who has had surgery after a recent fall.
- Please pray for the intentions and the ministries of Pastor William Babbitt and for his safety in the path of tropical storms.

• The Southern Episcopal Church of the U.S.A held its 2023 annual synod gathering in Tennessee last month. We praise God for His blessings to that group with which we share several historical and spiritual connections. Special prayers are asked for their current Presiding Bishop William Martin Sloan and for Bishop Huron Manning, former SEC Presiding Bishop.

Institute for Pastoral Formation Established

We are blessed that the Executive Board has approved the formation of an Institute for Pastoral Formation under the leadership of Pastor Rodney Eberhardt, who will be its Dean. The Institute will function under the authority of the LC–I Board and will provide continuing theological education for LC–I members and clerical candidates. More details will be forthcoming.

2023-2024 LC-I OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

(Terms end as indicated.)

<u>Archbishop</u>

The Most Rev. Dr. Robert W. Hotes Archbishop@LutheranChurchInternational.org

> <u>Vice President (2024)</u> Mitzi Eberhardt MVE5022@gmail.com

<u>Secretary (2026)</u> The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Bischoff Bishop, Mid-America Diocese Secretary@LutheranChurchInternational.org

<u>Treasurer (2024)</u> The Rev. William H. Wigmore, III Treasurer@LutheranChurchInternational.org

> Delegate Representative (2025) Mitzi Eberhardt

Clergy Representative (2025) The Rev. Rodney L. Eberhardt RevRodney14@gmail.com

<u>Bishop, Northeastern Diocese</u> The Rt. Rev. Dr. Aubrey N. Bougher BpANB@ptd.net

Bishop, Caribbean Missionary Diocese The Rt. Rev. Juan O. Cepero BpJuan@gmail.com

> <u>Missionary Bishop</u> The Rt. Rev. Richard W. Horn Bp.RWHorn@gmail.com

<u>Bulletin</u>

The Rev. Gary V. Ettlemyer, Editor garyettlemyer@mac.com <u>or</u> gargin@comcast.net Cherie Gerwin Bischoff cgerwi@live.com The Bishops of the LC–I Contributing To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer. Martin Luther

Synod Assembly Venue Committee

The Committee met on August 17, 2023 to conduct an evaluation of the 2023 Synod Assembly venue. It was determined that we should look at venues that would provide the best outcome for next year's Synod Assembly. Those venues would not only provide lodging, meals, conference, and worship spaces but also allow for fellowship time together in one place. Presently, the Committee is looking at various retreat centers.

The Committee will meet again on August 30 and we'll provide updates when we are able.

Mitzi Eberhardt LC–I Vice President

Our Host Church – 24th Annual Assembly June 26-28, 2023



Holy Family Episcopal Missionary Church 26130 Frederick Road Clarksburg MD 20871

A Reminder...

Dues in support of the mission and ministry of the Lutheran Church – International are payable at the start of each calendar year. A form for submitting your contribution is included elsewhere in this issue.

24th Annual Synod Highlights

The following pages of this issue of the BULLETIN contain photos from our Annual Synod this year. They are a way of letting you know that the Lutheran Church – International is just full of life and eager to bring the Good News of God's love through the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Led by Archbishop Hotes and Synod Secretary Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff, our meetings were well-run and productive. The discussion and actions taken by the leaders and membership bear witness to the fact that our Synod is strong. It has a bright future. The worship represented the very best of our Lutheran liturgical heritage. It was Spirit-filled and uplifting for all! The following are comments regarding our time together:

"I appreciated the binders that were prepared for our Annual Synod meeting for use by the attendees. They contained all of the various worship services and music which made following along in each service easy to do especially if you were unfamiliar with some of the Office Hours. Also, having the "business" section containing the Annual Synod schedule and various reports at our fingertips made for a well-organized meeting. The Fellowship Hour that followed our business session Tuesday evening was a time to meet new members and also to get to know others better. Thank you to all who made our XXIV Annual Synod a worshipful and meaningful event." — Mitzi Eberhardt

The Annual Synod was the best synod gathering I have ever attended. The leadership of our bishops and our Archbishop coupled with the hard work of all provided the best example of what God's holy Church can be as it seeks to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to others. The constructive discussion, positive tone, and the warmth and friendliness of all made the entire time together wonderful. I'm looking forward to our next one! – Reverend Gary Ettlemyer +



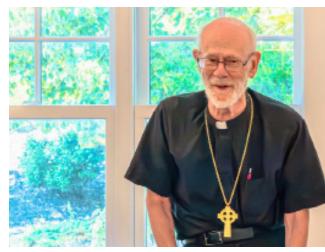
















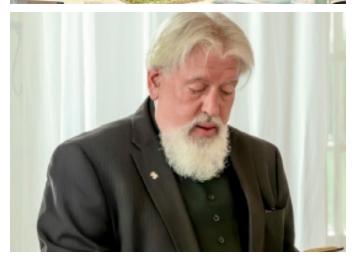










































L to R: Deacon Norbert Mayer, Bishop Aubrey N. Bougher, Archbishop Hotes Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff, Bishop Richard Horn, Deacon Helena Morris



L to R: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Aubrey N. Bougher, Bishop – Northeast Diocese; The Most Rev. Dr. Robert W. Hotes – Archbishop; The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Bischoff Bishop, Mid-America Diocese; The Rt. Rev. Richard W. Horn – Missionary Bishop



L to R: Mitzi Eberhardt, LC–I Vice President; Archbishop Hotes; Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff, Synod Secretary; The Rev. William H. Wigmore, III, LC–I Treasurer

Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man

A special treat during worship at the Annual Assembly was Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff's impromptu sharing of the great Sunday School song from years ago, "Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man." (*Editor's note: I especially enjoyed Bishop Bischoff's motions as he provided the song. I hope you enjoy seeing him act it out along with the words provided. The song is sometimes done with more verses. The words may vary according to the country in which it is sung.*



Zacchaeus was a wee little man, and a wee little man was he.



He climbed up in a sycamore tree, for the Lord he wanted to see.



And when the Savior passed that way, He looked up in the tree and said, 'Zacchaeus, you come down from there;



For I'm going to your house today! For I'm going to your house today!'



Zacchaeus was a wee little man But a happy man was he,



For he had seen the Lord that day And a happy man was he.



A sinful heart was certainly changed when Jesus the Lord passed by.

He wants to change your sinful heart, too, this truth you cannot deny.

If you desire to see the Lord the Bible tells the way:

For it says, "Believe Christ died for you." He will come into your heart today. Yes, He'll come into your heart to stay.

Solemn Vespers – Patronal Feast of St. Clare St. Clare Roman Catholic Church, Rosedale



Third from Left: Pastor Tom Robson, Christ, Rosedale

Members of Christ Lutheran Church, Rosedale attended Solemn Vespers for the Patronal Feast of St. Clare at St. Clare Roman Catholic Church on August 11th. Members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church also attended. The photo is of the clergy present at Vespers. Further ecumenical activities are being planned by the three churches.

All who call on God in true faith, earnestly from the heart, will certainly be heard, and will receive what they have asked and desired. Martin Luther

A Week at Camp Palmer Maumee Valley Conference, NW Ohio Synod, ELCA

Deacon Helena Morris (LC–I) spent a week at Camp Palmer with the Maumee Valley Conference of the NW Ohio Synod of the ELCA assisting with a youth mission camp. The week was spent team building, having fun, and serving others through a variety of projects. They had a great time using power tools to build beds for children who do not have a bed. The list of children needing beds in NW Ohio includes over 650 names. They spent a fair amount of time tending and picking vegetables from a church community garden and took the vegetables to another church for their ministry to the poor in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Toledo. They worked hard planting a new flower bed in a developing park garden, painting already existing flower beds, building a picnic table, pruning fruit trees, tending the grounds, and building a pallet barrier around a tree. They painted murals for an organization that is welcoming refugees from Ukraine



and the Henry County Humane Society. They also painted large wooden butterflies for an overdose awareness ceremony. They had a great time learning how to make balloon art and then giving the balloons to preschool students at a childcare center and residents at a local residential facility for people with severe disabilities who are unable to live by themselves. The photos that follow provide a glimpse into the many good projects completed and the fine fellowship that was shared. (Deacon Helena serves two congregations in the Northwest Ohio Synod of the ELCA for the joy of serving the Lord. She spends most of her time with service ministries and worship leadership, including preaching. When not serving the congregations, she works to support people with disabilities to improve their circumstances through education and skills development.)



Week at Camp Palmer (Continued)













IN MEMORIAM The Very Reverend Delmar L. Baier, STS, S.T.D. 1934–2023

Biographical sketch of the Very Reverend Delmar L. Baier, by his bishop, the Rt. Rev. Aubrey N. Bougher, STS, S.T.D. (Condensed by the Editor)

Delmar L. Baier was born on April 26, 1934 into a devoted Lutheran family. Following his confirmation, his participation in church declined until his college days, during which he kindled an interest in Christian social ministry. This led to a change in

major to pre-theological courses which led him to appreciate the evangelical catholic movement within the church. He held several jobs over time including work as a lab technician and summer camp counselor for juvenile delinquents. While working part time at a local hospital, a prominent physician urged him to leave the seminary and enter medical school.

In 1956 Pastor Baier accepted an invitation to attend a retreat concerning the Eucharist in Brooklyn, NY which turned out to be a profound personal experience. At the retreat he met the evangelical catholic church leaders Arthur Carl Piepkorn and Arthur Carl Kreinheder among many other

evangelical catholic pastors. Shortly after this retreat he became a member of the Fellowship of St. Augustine and served as a novice under the direction of Fr. Arthur Carl Kreinheder. Also during this time, he met Mardella Norma Meyer whom he married at Zion Church, Detroit and he resigned as a novice monk. He enrolled at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary from which he received a Diploma of Theology in 1961 and he became a resident of Canada.

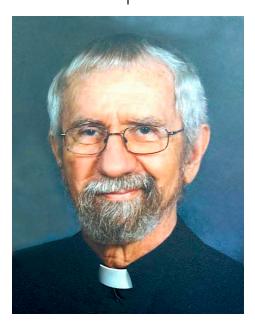
Pastor Baier was prebyterally ordained in the Lutheran Church in Canada at St. Peter's Church, Cambridge, Ontario on June 17, 1961. He was called to be pastor and mission developer of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Other significant calls, appointments, and accomplishments followed including:

Development of the Lutheran Student Movement, University of New Brunswick; Chaplain at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario; counseling post at W. Ross Macdonald School, Brantford, Ontario (during a year's sabbatical leave), a post at which he felt called to remain.

Considering himself a worker priest, Pastor Baier was a counselor and tutor for four years at MacDonald,

a school for the blind, until his status "awaiting a call" with the Lutheran Church in Canada expired in 1975. Still maintaining he was called to serve at Macdonald, he accepted an ecclesial call to that institution from the Old Catholic Church. He was (re-)ordained



December 7, 1975.

After qualifying for a pension in 1993, Pastor Baier resigned from MacDonald and was appointed Pastor of St. Francis Christ Old Catholic Church, Niagara Falls, Ontario where he served until 2000, followed by studies leading to the Master of Divinity (Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, 1984), Doctor of Sacred Theology (St. Elias School of Orthodox Theology, Lincoln Nebraska). Beginning in 1995 he taught theological classes at St. Mary's Seminary of the Christ Old Catholic Church and continued his ministry into the 21st century, also serving as vicar general in the Christ Old Catholic Church.

Pastor Baier continued to serve

in various capacities including reinstating his participation as an associate member (oblate) of the Congregation of the Servants of Christ, associate pastor of Westside Evangelical Lutheran Church, and staff at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Barrie until his death. He also became a member of the ILF, even being nominated to the order of bishop which he declined.

Pastor Baier assisted at the ordination of Bishop Bougher and Deacon Anna Haye in 2006. In the past ten years Pastor Baier also became a professed member of the Society of the Holy Trinity (STS), hosting several of its retreats in Canada and St. Augustine's.

Pastor Baier and his wife were the parents of two children and two grandchildren. Mardella died December 3, 2020. Her funeral was conducted by Pastor Baier at Good Shepherd, Barrie. She had been the national leader of the peace movement in Canada for many years.

Pastor Baier's funeral was held on Monday, July 17, 2023 at Good Shepherd, Barrie.

"May the souls of the righteous, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

Exciting News from the Western Diocese

The Western Diocese of the Lutheran Church – International has been hit with devastation in a number of ways and places. Because of the vast expanse of this largest LC-I diocese, stretching from Arizona to Hawaii to Alaska across western and arctic Canada, wildfires and floods resulting from excessive heat have impacted areas well beyond even the borders of the diocese.

But the diocese is very small in its representation within the Lutheran Church – International. There are three pastors currently on our roster (two in California and one in Colorado), one rostered teacher, and one mission in "partnership" with a congregation in Sacramento CA. The leadership of the diocese is provided by Archbishop Robert Hotes, assisted by Missionary Bishop Richard Horn.

Holy Cross Mission in Sacramento is a ministry of outreach and education on behalf of the LC-I, working closely with Pastor James Townsend as missioner. Through this Mission, there is an interest in 1) providing an outreach to other Lutherans and persons of other, or no faiths; 2) providing an opportunity to learn more about the Lutheran faith; 3) learning how this Lutheran faith is expressed within the LC-I; 4) sharing together with others in fellowship and support; and 5) providing an evangelical catholic worship opportunity for those gathered together. Some of the participants see this ministry as a continuation of their solidly Lutheran faith and life as they have known it, while others see it as a Lutheran alternative to other expressions of faith and life. In its outreach, education, fellowship and worship, Holy Cross Mission seeks to be a support for those who share together as they reach out to others with Christian love and ministry. An interesting result of the ministry of Holy Cross



The Altar at the 24th Annual Synod

Mission is the developing leadership among its participants. To teach and share the Lutheran faith has become the initial goal, and one of the involved lay participants has reached out to the LC-I for help. In response to the request, Bishop Horn has compiled, edited and provided an updated translation of Luther's Small Catechism with scriptural references from the New Revised Standard Version (Updated Edition) (2021) and liturgical texts from the English Language Liturgical Consultation (2023). Copies are also available to other LC-I congregations, ministries and rostered members upon request.

Another exciting development has been in the training of persons for special ministries including as teachers and ordained deacons. One of the persons helping Holy Cross Mission is receiving training through reading, online presentations and mentoring by Pastor Townsend and Bishop Horn. In addition, Dean Rodney Eberhardt and the LC-I Institute for Pastoral Formation are working to develop a program specifically for deacons to serve the LC-I and its ministries. This has the potential to shape our pastoral and diaconal ministries for the years ahead.

We are thankful to God for the opportunities being opened for us. As members and others who are supportive of the LC-I and its ministries, please consider how you can help with disaster relief (including through Lutheran World Relief) or mission development (especially for Holy Cross Mission), and for pastoral and diaconal formation. This support for one another is part of the ministry each of us has accepted in our Baptism and our Confirmation.

> + Rt. Rev. Richard W. Horn, Missionary Bishop, Western Diocese

To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer.

Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?

You are not only responsible for what you say, but also for what you do not say.

- Martin Luther



First Lutheran Church, Lyons, New York LC-I Headquarters Church and Archbishop's Office

Reminder –2023 Dues FOR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE LIFE AND MISSION OF THE LC – I Clergy and Lay Minister Membership Dues: \$75.00 U.S.D. Congregations / Communities of Faith Membership Dues: \$150.00 U.S.D.

Please maintain your good standing and credentialing! The dues are required for ordained and lay members and communities of faith who have been received and included on the official ministerial roster of the LC-I. All additional contributions, gifts, and bequests are gratefully received.

SPECIAL NOTE: Unable to meet your responsibility for 2023 dues? Contact your bishop as soon as possible.

	LUTHE	RAN CHURCH – INT	FERNATIONAL	
	2023 M	EMBERSHIP DUES AND CO	ONTRIBUTIONS	
	_ 2023 Dues fo	r Ministerial Members: \$75		
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