



The Lutheran Church - International and World Lutheran Parish BULLETIN - Advent, 2018



Archbishop's Letter for Advent, 2018

Luke 21:25-26

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

Moving from Ordinary Time into the season of expectation can help us to reflect on where we have been as a church community and where we would like to go, by God's grace. Certainly, as the Scriptures tell us, we are in a time of great perplexity and turmoil. But this is also a time of great **anticipation**. Blue is the color of hope for the future, and we see that color in many of our churches these days.

At one time purple was the standard color for vestments and paraments during Advent. We are called to a recollection of our less than appropriate and sinful behavior as children of God even while we are saved by His grace alone. And we are called to **repentance**.

Advent helps to give us perspective as we recall our Christian Life and the life of the universal Church. In Advent, I am moved to grateful reflection on the grace God has shown to all of us in the LC-I family. Please know that YOU are honored and cherished in prayer daily for your membership, concern and participation within the LC-I and the World Lutheran Parish.

Since our founding in 1967 we have developed into a vibrant church body with a unique mission and outreach. We have been blessed with the faithful ministries of Word and Sacraments and other ministries of service in our congregations of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Christ in Rosedale NY, First Lutheran Church in Lyons NY and Zion Lutheran Church, Montpelier OH. We give glory to God for our Holy Cross Mission in Sacramento CA and for our mission activities in Maryland and other places. We have been blessed with our developing ministries in India under the leadership of Pastor Tanuku Prasad. Bishop Juan Cepero has been tireless in his faithful service to Christians in Puerto Rico and Nicaragua and in other Latin and Caribbean ministries. We also have developing cooperative ministries in Australia and Africa. There are other equally important developing ministries that I am not mentioning here.

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But to continue to grow in our service to the Lord and His people we need your personal support. We need your prayers as co-ministers of the Gospel. And we need the financial support that comes from members and friends of the Lutheran Church – International and of the World Lutheran Parish. If the ministries of the LC-I are important to you, please consider your support and do what you can in the Holy Spirit. **All faithful support** from clergy and lay members and friends of the LC-I is welcome and will be used to further the ministries of the Lutheran Church – International to the glory of God.

At this time of year, during Advent, we also ask that all ministers and congregations of the LC-I remit their 2019 annual dues. An invoice with mailing directions is attached to this BULLETIN on page 5. If for any reason the full payment of dues for any ministerial member or congregation is a present difficulty for you, please talk to the archbishop or to your local bishop. Clergy members of the World Lutheran Parish are excused from these official membership dues, but are welcome to support as able by the grace of God.

There are also many other modes of service and support in the LC-I. Please consider talking with your bishop or the archbishop about possibilities you could suggest or accept. For example, if you are an Amazon shopper, you can make donations to the LC-I at no extra cost to you. Pastor William Wigmore, LC-I Treasurer, has provided instructions on how to do so in this edition of the BULLETIN (see page 4). According to Pastor Wigmore, if you do your regular shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0196505 it will aid the LC-I (International Lutheran Fellowship) without any extra cost to you. Thank you for anything that you can do to help!

My prayers are with you especially this Advent season. May God continue to bless our ministries together as we go forward into the new year.

++Robert W. Hotes

Archbishop, Lutheran Church - International



Share the News about the LC-I:

Do you know of individuals interested in receiving the LC-I BULLETIN? Please forward a copy AND send the names and email addresses to the Archbishop:

Archbishop@LutheranChurchInternational.org



With thanksgiving to God

we pray for and support our ministries
of the World Lutheran Parish
and of the LC-I!

Special prayer requests and celebrations:

- ✚ for all those suffering because of natural disasters, especially those who are victims of fires in California. There have been 88 confirmed deaths, 203 persons still missing and 13,000 structures destroyed. For those affected by the earthquakes in Alaska.
- ✚ for Holy Cross Lutheran Mission and its ministry in the capitol city of Sacramento CA.
- ✚ for the special intentions of Pastor Bruce Hackman and his ministries in Southern California.
- ✚ for recuperation and strength for Pastor Walton Horn and Bishop Richard Horn and family.
- ✚ for those suffering from violence and abuse throughout the world and for those who seek shelter and safety as they flee from danger and for their lives.
- ✚ for those suffering from hunger or need of any kind.
- ✚ for those suffering from physical or mental health issues.
- ✚ for the special intentions of Deacon Eileen Smith.
- ✚ for the family of former U.S. President George H. W. Bush and for the people of the United States as they mourn his death and remember his legacy.
- ✚ with congratulations to Pastor William Wigmore on his appointment by the Archbishop to be the Director of Communication where he will especially focus on outreach through electronic communications. We ask God's blessings on this new aspect of his ministry of the Gospel.

Who and What is the Lutheran Church – International?

The Lutheran Church - International (LC-I) is an **evangelical** (Gospel-centered) **catholic** (universal) **Lutheran** church body which follows the **orthodox** (true and genuine) faith as expressed in the Bible and proclaimed in the Book of Concord (the writings of Martin Luther and other reformers of the Church as they stated their beliefs shared with and in protest against changes in the Western [Roman Catholic] Church not supported by the Scriptures). It is made up of congregations, lay members, lay ministers (deaconesses, church musicians and teachers) and clergy (deacons, pastors/priests/presbyters, and bishops) who share this Christian Lutheran faith within local congregations and/or through the non-geographic World Lutheran Parish.

The **BULLETIN** is published monthly by the **WORLD LUTHERAN PARISH** on behalf of the **LUTHERAN CHURCH – INTERNATIONAL, Office of the Archbishop**. The deadline for submissions to the **BULLETIN** is on the 15th day of each month. If you want additional copies or permissions or if you want to add or remove names of persons to receive this newsletter, please send an email to the Office of the Archbishop at Archbishop@LutheranChurchInternational.org or to the editor, Bishop Richard W. Horn at Bp.RWHorn@gmail.com.



About Your Financial Support of the LC-I:

Financial support of the Lutheran Church - International (LC-I) is primarily voluntary. Congregational members, along with all deaconesses, teachers, pastors and bishops are expected to financially support the congregations to which they belong. The ministerial members and congregations are also asked to financially support the LC-I through payment of nominal annual dues unless the dues are temporarily excused as a financial burden; those who pay the annual dues are given an annual credential card and recognition as an “Active Member” of the Lutheran Church - International (LC-I).

As a U.S. not-for-profit religious organization, the LC-I welcomes gifts and bequests in payment or by transfer which may be tax-deductible according to applicable laws. There is no required “apportionment” of congregational assets to be sent annually to the LC-I, but gifts from individuals or congregations can be designated for a specific use in the ministries of the LC-I.

Amazon Offers Help to Support LC-I Ministries:

Some major companies (perhaps including the company you work for!) will give donations to tax-exempt organizations upon the request of their employees. We received news from Treasurer Pastor William Wigmore that the online merchant *Amazon* will donate to the LC-I under the former name “International Lutheran Fellowship (Springfield IL)” (smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0196505). If you purchase ANYTHING through Amazon, please consider this designation. These funds cost you nothing and are given in recognition of your purchases at and register your account. Amazon will donate to the LC-I one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the amount of your purchases without cost to you. This does add up over time and with more participants. Every amount helps us in ministry through the LC-I!

May the **HOPE,**
PEACE,
JOY,
and **LOVE**
expressed in our
Advent Wreath
find its fulfillment
in **THE LIGHT OF**
CHRIST



and may that
LIGHT guide you
throughout the
coming year
in the Name of the
Triune God:
FATHER, + SON,
and **HOLY**
SPIRIT!



DUES INVOICE

For continuing support of the LIFE AND MISSION of the Lutheran Church – International:

Clergy and Lay Minister Membership Dues: \$75.00 U.S.D.

Congregations / Communities of Faith Membership Dues: \$150.00 U.S.D.

(Payments are due on the First Sunday in Advent and are required for good standing and credentialing)

NOTE: Individuals or congregations unable to meet their responsibility for 2018 are asked to please contact their bishop as soon as possible to make arrangements for 2018 and 2019. Please remember that, on request, these obligations may be adjusted or excused for financial necessity.

Please note: These dues are not required for ordained or lay members of the World Lutheran Parish who have not been received on the official ministerial roster of the LC-I.

All contributions, gifts and bequests are gratefully received.

My personal receipt:

I have sent to the Treasurer of the LC-I the amount of \$ _____ on date _____ for payment of 2019 Ministerial / Congregational Dues and/or as a voluntary contribution to the LC-I.

Please detach or copy the form below and send or email it to the Treasurer of the LC-I:

- ___ 2019 Dues for Ministerial members: \$75
- ___ 2019 Dues for Congregations and Communities of Faith: \$150
- ___ Voluntary Contribution (for members of the World Lutheran Parish, lay members, friends)
- ___ Additional gift(s), bequests of, in memory of, or designated for: _____



Amount sent: _____

Date sent: _____ **by Check # or Electronic Fund Transfer:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Send to:
The Rev. William Wigmore, Treasurer
15 High Street
Lyons NY 14489

or send to: PastorWigmore@gmail.com (1-215-416-9591)

NOTE: you will receive an acknowledgement to confirm receipt of your dues/contribution/gift/bequest.

DECEMBER, 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
2 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	3 Francis Xavier (1552), missionary to Asia	4 John of Damascus (c. 749), theologian and hymnwriter	5	6 Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (c. 342)	7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (397), hymnwriter	8	
9 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10	11 Lars Olsen Skrefsrud (1910), missionary to India	12	13 Lucia (304), martyr	14 John of the Cross (1591), renewer of the Church	15	
16 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	17 Daniel and the Three Young Men, prophets	18	19 Adam, patriarch, and Eve, matriarch	20 Katharina von Bora Luther (1552), renewer of the Church	21	22	
23 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	24	25 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS DAY	26 SAINT STEPHEN, Deacon and Martyr	27 SAINT JOHN, Apostle and Evangelist	28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Martyrs	29 David, prophet	
30 First Sunday after Christmas	31						

from

Calendar of Seasons and Saints

(+RWHorn)