



# BULLETIN

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

## The Lutheran Church–International

*and the*

## Lutheran World Parish

PENTECOST AND ORDINARY TIME 2024

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

Our recent annual Synod meeting at St. Meinrad's Archabbey in Indiana provided those of us who attended with wonderful resources for renewed strength and commitment. We are very grateful to all those who made the experience possible. We extend special thanks to the members of the Mid-America diocese who hosted the meeting as well as LC-I Vice President, Mitzi Eberhardt, and Dean Rodney Eberhardt who were central in bringing the plans for the Synod to fruition. Our Vice President has provided details on the events and experience at the Synod in an article in this issue of the BULLETIN.

Plans for the 2025 Synod are underway. Your thoughts are welcome. The Board and I are always delighted to hear from any of the LC-I family. Contact information for all the officers of the Board is provided in this BULLETIN.

The blessings of coming together and sharing were clear as we came together to learn from one another and to discern God's will for the LC-I. As the LC-I Board plans for the 2025 Synod, it is not too early for me to emphasize the importance of attending the annual synod. Being together in the central act of Christian worship and belief is the mortar that makes the church solid upon its foundation in Jesus Christ. During the Synod meetings the unique Evangelical catholic identity of the Lutheran Church–International was affirmed. To support this identity, the LC-I is moving forward to fine-tune the way in which the image of the LC-I is presented to the world. For that reason, we are revamping our approach to presenting our image to the public. Following Christ's instruction, we are to go forth to bring the Gospel to all nations. It is the unique gift of the Holy Spirit to the LC-I that we maintain a clear image of our identity as an Evangelical catholic expression of the true church universal. As a result, we are making changes to our presence on the Web. We will move forward with positive actions



++Robert W. Hotes, Archbishop

to ensure that the world clearly understands our mission and ministry.

Steps in that direction include discontinuing our current Facebook page and developing an on-line theological journal which will present a clear image of the LC-I. Those interested in contributing to the new publication should contact the Director of Communications, Fr. Gary Ettlemyer. Contributions to the BULLETIN are also always welcome.

The Board has determined that it is essential for the LC-I to maintain a consistent image in accord with our identity. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that our presence and ministry as a church body both in person and through the media matches the image

that we intend to convey. This is necessary to ensure effective ministries in light of the special gifts that God has given us as a church body in His service. We do not want to provide reasons for those outside of our church body to be confused as to where we stand and for what we stand as a confessional Christian Lutheran church body in the evangelical catholic understanding.

We will also want to renew focus on our North American ministries without abandoning the support of our international presence. We especially will give renewed attention to our Latin ministries in the Americas along with a developing African and Asian outreach.

In addition to making our presence and purpose clearly understood in terms of media, plans are also being developed to make the Lutheran World Parish more effective and efficient as a Christian community of faith. Those who would like to contribute to this effort are invited to contact me by phone or email. We intend to form a parish council as is appropriate for the reality of the mission of the Lutheran World Parish.

From the guidance of the Holy Spirit at our Synod gathering, it became increasingly clear that the LC-I is called to a variety of ministries that

are in service to the universal church. In this age, we stand as a pillar of strength for those who profess an apostolic faith a world full of turmoil and disbelief. More than ever, we need to be rock solid in our profession of faith while being flexible in service to the Lord's kingdom on earth, the church.

In moving forward to be identified as a church body, the LC-I has assumed serious responsibilities. We have affirmed that we exist to be truly evangelical in that we are dedicated to being apostolic in bringing the light of Christ's Gospel to the world. Each one of us is called to be active as we work by God's grace to preserve and advance the apostolic faith. For some this mission may take the form of prayer and spiritual support when active ministries are not possible. That is an essential part of our ministry as part of the universal Body of Christ, the church catholic. As a church body that is working hard to bring the message of God's love in Christ Jesus to the world, we are also called individually to do whatever we can, whenever we can, to fulfill our calling as we support our loving and Spirit-filled LC-I community of faith. Together we can accomplish great things, all to the Glory of God.

May God continue to keep us and all our ministries strong in His grace! Please keep in touch.

++**Robert**  
Archbishop



## 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](mailto:dbldoc@sbcglobal.net)

### WE PRAY FOR...

- All those who have returned to school during this season, and for the families who support them.
- For the victims and families of the school tragedy in Georgia.
- For those suffering from illnesses in mind, body or spirit, especially those in the LC-I family.

- For all those who are traveling during the fall season. May God keep them safe in His care.
- For those suffering through wars and natural disasters.
- For all those suffering persecution for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, especially those in the LC-I family in Asia.
- Prayers are requested for those planning the 2025 LC-I Synod Assembly.
- For Bishop Richard Horn's recuperation and strength following his upcoming surgery.
- For the people of Ukraine as they continue to fight for their freedom and independence.
- Those who mourn the deaths of loved ones from disease and disaster, from violence and war.
- Deacon Eric Frank and the members of Zion, W. Jefferson, Ohio.
- Those who seek freedom from repression, torture and death, seeking asylum in the United States.
- Firefighters and other first responders in lives of service despite dangers.
- Those who are traumatized by events beyond their control and ability to "normalize" their response.
- For all victims and families who still suffer the devastating consequences of 9/11.
- For all people participating in our upcoming elections, that all may fulfill their roles with integrity and honesty.

### WE PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING FOR...

- The success of our 2024 recent Synod gathering at St. Meinrad in Indiana
- The Reverend Terrence Weber who was received into the Lutheran Church – International family by Affirmation of Ordination and the laying on of hands for historic apostolic succession.
- Newly installed Synod officers: The Reverend William H. Wigmore III, Treasurer, and Mitzi Eberhardt, Vice President.
- Our newly rostered LC-I Pastors that they may be blessed as they work with us for the building of the Kingdom.
- All the saints in the Church Militant, and in thanksgiving for all the saints in the Church Triumphant.
- All members of the LC-I Executive Board.
- All deacons, pastors, and bishops of the LC-I.
- All members of the Lutheran World Parish.
- The 40th anniversary of ordination of our Assistant to the Archbishop for Communications, Fr. Gary Ettlemeyer. Coverage of this wonderful event is included in this edition of the BULLETIN.
- The celebration of the 50th golden anniversary of ordination of The Reverend John C. McBride to the pastoral and priestly ministry.

## 2023-2024 LC-I OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

*(Terms end as indicated.)*

### Archbishop

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

### Vice President (2025)

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### Treasurer (2025)

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### Clergy Representative (2025)

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RevRodney14@gmail.com

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### Bishop, Caribbean Missionary Diocese

The Rt. Rev. Juan O. Cepero  
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### Missionary Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Richard W. Horn  
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### Bulletin

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The people, clergy, and bishops  
of the LC-I Contributing.

## Ready...Set...GO!

### Annual Synod XXVI

#### Preliminary Dates and Location

At the September 13th meeting of the Synod Executive Committee, the dates and location for the Annual Synod XXVI were approved.

In keeping with having our Annual Synods being held in very beautiful and meaningful locations, our gathering will be held as follows:

#### DATES

June 23-25, 2025

The Synod will start with dinner on the evening of June 23 and end after the Closing Pontifical Eucharist on Wednesday, June 25th.

#### LOCATION

The Claggett Center  
3035 Buckeystown Pike  
Adamstown, Maryland

Nestled in the rolling hills of Frederick County, this center has wonderful views of Sugarloaf Mountain and the Monocacy River Valley!

The added bonus is that it is only an hour's drive from three international airports!

#### COSTS

##### CHRISTIANE INN

Single Occupancy Room

1 Queen Bed

Private Bath

2 Nights Lodging, 6 Meals

\$348.00/Person

Double Occupancy Room

2 Queen Beds

Private Bath

2 Nights, 6 Meals

\$300.00/Person

Registration forms will be available in our Advent issue of the BULLETIN newsletter in December! In the meantime, take a look at the Claggett Center online at:

[www.claggettcenter.org](http://www.claggettcenter.org)

## 2024 Synod XXV Highlights

On Monday evening, June 17, we gathered for the 25th Synod Assembly at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Indiana. The archabbey was founded in 1854 by the monks of the Abbey of Einsiedeln in Switzerland. It is situated in the bucolic setting of southern Indiana about one hour west of Louisville, Kentucky.

For most of our assembly, we were in the Guest House for our rooms, conference rooms, chapel, and dining. Dinner on Monday evening began our assembly as we all sat together to meet and greet old and new members.

On Tuesday morning at the Opening Eucharist, the Synod Assembly was declared open by the archbishop. This year the Mid-America Diocese hosted the Synod Assembly and as the Bishop of that Diocese, The Right Reverend Jeffrey Bischoff was the presiding minister. The Very Reverend Rodney Eberhardt, Dean of the Institute of Ministerial Formation, assisted with The Most Reverend Dr. Robert W. Hotes as the preacher.

Worship services and business sessions were on Zoom for those who could not attend. After lunch, The Reverend Patrick J. Rooney, STS, CTJ offered a presentation in which he spoke about the importance of being “evangelical catholic” in the church today.

The Reverend William L.F. Gies officiated at Vespers assisted by The Reverend Deacon Norbert Mayer. After dinner, there was a short business session and at 7:15 PM we met at the Guest House Desk to walk to the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel for a recital by Dr. Frederick Hohman, our guest organist for Synod Assembly. The chapel is home to the forty rank 1980 Gabriel Kney opus 93 organ.

Dr. Hohman gave brief details before each piece was performed. The pieces included:

- J.S. Bach - Prelude and Fugue in C major, S. 541
- Antonio Vivaldi - Concerto II in A minor for Two Violins and Orchestra, Opus 3 #8, as transcribed by J.S. Bach for organ solo, as S. 593
  - o Adagio senza Pedale (second movement)
  - o Allegro (first movement)
- J.S. Bach –
  - o Chorale-Prelude on: A Mighty Fortress, S. 720
  - o Chorale-Prelude on: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice, S.734
- J.S. Bach - Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring, as arranged by E. Power Biggs from Cantata No. 147, S. 147

- John Stanley - Trumpet Voluntary in D, as arranged for organ solo by Henry Coleman with embellishments in baroque style by Dr. Frederick Hohman

- Sigfrid Karg-Elert - Choral Improvisation: Now Thank We All Our God, “Marche Triomphale,” Opus 65

- J.S. Bach –
  - o Prelude in G minor, S. 535
  - o Toccata in F major, S. 540.

As an aside, Dr. Hohman referred to the last piece in his presentation as the “toeccata” and we watched him dance the melody on the pedal board!

After the organ recital, synod participants enjoyed time together in fellowship, food, and beverages of choice. Fr. Gies was seen handing out samples of his homemade beers!

With our business session finishing early, The Most Reverend Dr. Robert W. Hotes served as the presiding minister of the Closing Eucharist.

In the sermon based on Matt. 5:43-48 Dean Eberhardt, spoke about how we are to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect and we are to love and pray for our enemies. The Reverend Deacon Helena Morris served as the assisting minister. The Bishop's Chaplain was The Reverend William H. Wigmore III and Master of Ceremonies was Dean Eberhardt.

At the closing service, we rejoiced in receiving The Reverend Terrence Weber into the Lutheran Church – International family by Affirmation of Ordination and the laying on of hands for historic apostolic succession.

Officers installed were The Reverend William H. Wigmore III, Treasurer, and Mitzi Eberhardt, Vice President.

A new Directory has been published and will be updated shortly. It will be emailed/mailed to members.

Kind remarks were made by members attending: “The organ concert was delightful!” “At the fellowship time and at mealtimes, I was able to learn more about some of the members attending.” “I found the Service/Business binders with the Schedule helpful.” “It was a very good Synod.”

Thanks to all who made it a successful Synod Assembly! Many hands make light the work.

Plans are underway for next year's Synod Assembly. Please follow in “The Bulletin” for the date and place.

Peace and blessings!

Mitzi Eberhardt, Vice President, LC-I

*[Editor's Note: We thank Synod Vice President Mitzi Eberhardt for her wonderful, thorough coverage of this year's Synod.]*

## The Reverend Terrence L. Weber, STS, KTJ

Received into the LC–I Roster and Affirmation of Ordination



At this year's Annual Synod XXV at St. Meinrad's, The Reverend Terrence L. Weber, STS, KTJ was formally rostered with our Synod and received Affirmation of Ordination. Pastor Weber has been a wonderful example of what it means to live a life as a "priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." (Psalm 110:4)

Pastor Weber is a graduate of Concordia Junior College, Milwaukee, WI (1972), Concordia Senior College, Ft. Wayne, IN, and Concordia Seminary of St. Louis where he received his Masters of Divinity degree. He was ordained on June 18, 1978 by The Most Reverend Edmund H. Happel, DD, Northern Illinois District, The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

Pastor Weber's pastoral and priestly service includes the Metropolitan NY Chapter of the Society of the Holy Trinity (STS), Chapter Dean (2016-22); Roman Catholic Archdiocese of NY (Historical Commission for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of His Eminence Terence James Cardinal Cooke (2005-Present) and Member of the Advisory Committee for the same Commission (2004-Present); Lutheran High School Association of New York City–Martin Luther High School (Member, Board of Directors (1996-2016) and President of the Board (1998-2016); Metropolitan NY Synod ELCA, Dean of the Northwest Queens Conference (1998-2006).

In his role serving the Archdiocese of New York, Pastor Weber authored the document "Report as the Chairman of the Historical Commission for the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of Terence Cardinal Cooke to the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Vatican City (December 2006). In addition, he authored the text, THY WILL BE DONE: A SPIRITUAL PORTRAIT OF TERENCE CARDINAL COOKE, ALBA HOUSE, STATEN ISLAND, NY (1990). He has been a member of the Society of the Holy Trinity (STS) since 2000.

Awards that have underscored Pastor Weber's faith and dedication to the pastoral and priestly ministry include The Terence Cardinal Cooke Peace Award (2007), Resolution of the Martin Luther School (2016), and Knight of the Temple of Jerusalem (2019).

Although Pastor Weber is retired from parish ministry, he is still actively involved in supplying at churches when called upon. He and his wife, Mary Jean, reside in Florida.

## Frequently Asked Questions

From time to time we will publish answers for some of the questions that are asked about our Synod. A few of the most recent ones are included here.

### **How do I keep my status with the Lutheran Church–International up to date?**

The very best way to keep one's status with the Synod is to: (1) read and be familiar with our Synod's Constitution and Bylaws. Copies are available from our Synod Secretary, Bishop Jeffrey D. Bischoff; (2) attend meetings of the Synod held in the various dioceses and especially the Annual Synod each year; (3) visit the Synod's web page which will be updated soon; (4) stay in contact with the Bishop of your diocese; (5) keep financial obligations up to date by paying dues on time. (6) Pray! Daily! Keep God's grace and blessings in your heart by taking time to recall who you are and WHOSE you are: a child of God.

Remember that the success of our mission and ministry's continued success and growth depends upon the active participation by everyone who is part of our family of faith. There are many ways you can participate in our efforts. Why not start by telling family and friends about our Synod and even better: make copies of our BULLETIN to share! All you need is a willing, Spirit-filled heart and you will find a way!

**What happens if I have financial difficulties with regard to attending the Annual Synod or other activities?** No problem! Please contact your bishop and speak with him. In addition to your local diocese, the Synod Office may be able to help!

**What is the Annual Synod meeting really like?** If you like wonderful worship in the Lutheran tradition; if you like fellowship with wonderful, Spirit-filled bishops, priests, deacons, and lay people, you'll love joining our Synod family at some of the most beautiful and inspiring places you can imagine.

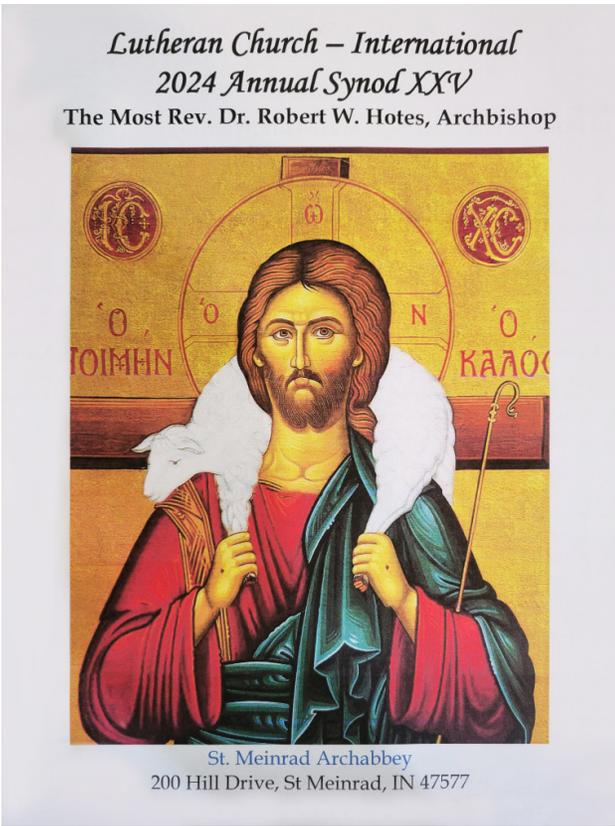
**What is the responsibility of clergy regarding attendance at Synod gatherings?** Attendance at as many synod gatherings as possible is an important responsibility of clergy membership. Exemptions from this requirement are liberally granted for good reasons upon contacting the local bishop or the Archbishop's office. Participation in synod meetings is a privilege of membership, not a burden.

## **NOTICE!**

**The deadline for articles for our Advent issue of the BULLETIN is November 20th, just before Thanksgiving.**

Please help us "stuff" the Advent issue with parish news, blessings, and "food for thought." Everyone will be thankful, especially your editor!

# 2024 Synod XXV Photos



Worship Booklet Prepared by Fr. Rodney and Mitzi Eberhardt  
We thank them for such a splendid job!



Bishop Jeffrey D. Bischoff Celebrates the Holy Eucharist at the Opening of the  
LC-I 2024 Annual Synod XXV, Assisted by Fr. Rodney L. Eberhardt.



Archbishop Hotes Preaches at the Opening Eucharist, Annual Synod XXV.



Fr. Rodney L. Eberhardt Offers the Intercessions at the Opening Eucharist.



Archbishop Hotes Conducts the Affirmation of Ordination for The Reverend Terrence L. Weber. L to R: Fr. Weber, Bishop Horn, Fr. William H. Wigmore III, Archbishop Hotes, Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff, Fr. Rodney L. Eberhardt.



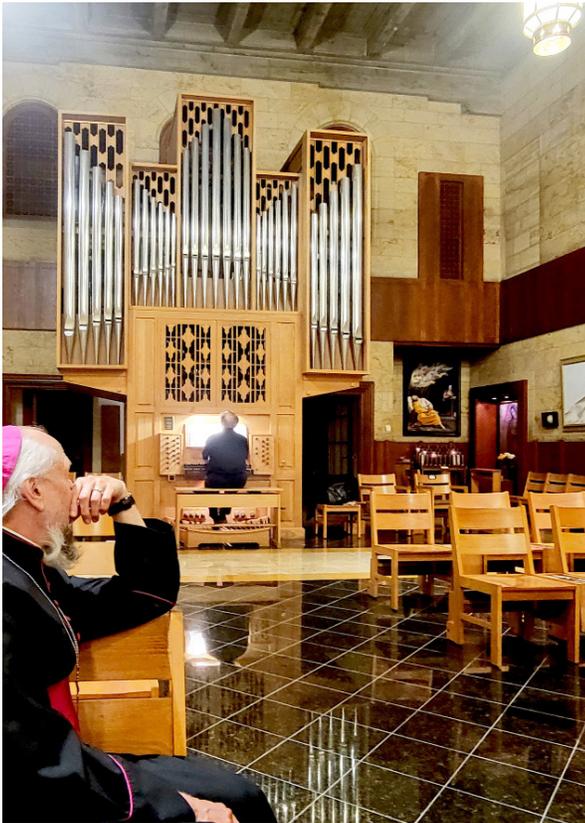
The Archbishop and Clergy complete the Affirmation of Ordination by the Laying on of Hands, Confirming Fr. Weber's Place in Apostolic Succession. Background: Deacon Helena Morris, Assisting Minister.



Fr. Weber Receives Recognition of the Affirmation of Ordination as the Bishops, Clergy, and the Congregation Offer a Round of Applause.



Bishop Jeffrey Bischoff with the Thuribel at the Closing Pontifical Eucharist Background: Deacon Helena Morris, Fr. Rodney L. Eberhardt. Foreground: Ute Horn, Wife of Bishop Horn, Fr. William F.L. Gies, Fr. Patrick Rooney, Senior of the Society of the Holy Trinity (STS).



Bishop Bischoff Looks on as Dr. Frederick Hohman Performs at the Organ Concert, Tuesday Evening at St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel.



Holy Family Painting in the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel Where the Organ Concert was Held.



Carving of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Chapel at St. Meinrad's Where the Synod XXV Worship was Held.

### Also Worth Noting Special News from Christ Lutheran, Rosedale

Under the instruction and direction of Bishop Aubrey Bougher of the Northeastern Diocese, Christ Church, Rosedale plans to resume its highly regarded and successful training classes for acolytes. This program has provided wonderful resources in support of the beautiful liturgies at Christ Church.

It was a blessing for the Archbishop to talk with Mr. Douglas Kral who is working on the Christ Church staff in important administrative positions. Douglas was a member of the parish years ago.

#### 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. Articles in this BULLETIN reflect the opinions of their authors and are not to be understood as official statements by 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 as well as the right to copyright any material published with permission of the authors.

# 50th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration

## The Reverend John C. McBride

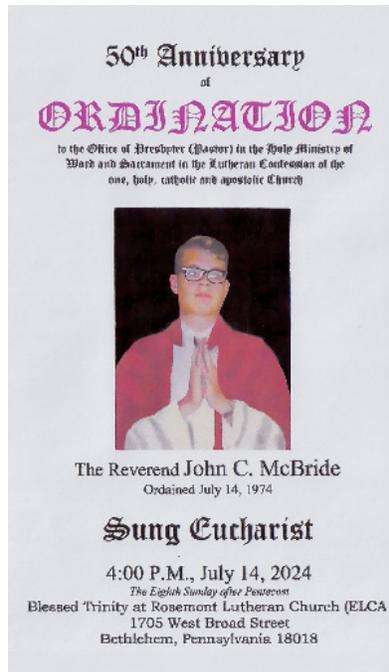
Ordained July 14, 1974

On Sunday, July 14 a Sung Eucharist was held at the Blessed Trinity at Rosemont Lutheran Church (ELCA), Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in celebration of fifty years of pastoral and priestly ministry by the Reverend John C. McBride. On hand for this very special worship celebration were several clergy and well-wishers on his special day.

Joining Fr. McBride at the altar for the concelebration of the Holy Eucharist were The Rt. Reverend Aubrey N. Bougher, STS, Bishop of the Northeastern Diocese; Bishop Richard W. Horn, Missionary Bishop, Western Diocese; The Reverend Gary V. Ettlemeyer, Northeastern Diocese and Assistant to the Archbishop for Communications; The Reverend William H. Wigmore III, Synod Treasurer; The Reverend Terrence W. Goad, Northeastern Diocese.

John Carl McBride was born June 15, 1946, in Dayton, Ohio. He was baptized into the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church of our Lord Jesus Christ at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Dayton on October 27, 1946, by Fr. John Kraus. He attended public schools and graduated from Alter High School in 1966 after which he enrolled at Sue Bennett Junior College in London, Kentucky, receiving his A.A. degree in 1968.

Following his time in junior college, Fr. McBride matriculated at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, spending two winters studying in Europe. In the winter of 1969, he studied the life and theology of Martin Luther at the University of Erlangen. The following winter he studied in Greece and Italy, with a focus on ancient and medieval history. In May, 1970, he received his B.A.



degree in history from Capital. During his studies, he was led to believe in the Lutheran expression of Christianity and in June, 1970, he became a Lutheran by reception into Christ Lutheran Church, Columbus. He entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus that fall. His internship year was spent at Faith Lutheran Church, Massilon, Ohio, under the supervision of the Rev. Dale C. Trautman. He was awarded the Master of Divinity degree from LTS Columbus in June, 1974, which qualified him for ordination to the ministry. He was ordained July 14, 1974, 50 years ago.

Fr. McBride served as associate pastor of Emmanuel-Skresfrud Parish, Beresford, South Dakota, 1974-76. He was then pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lawrenceburg, Indiana, 1976-1979, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sidney, Ohio, 1980-84. After completing those Lutheran calls, he entered the United Church of Christ under their procedure, "privilege of call" on November 12, 1984 and served U.C.C. congregations in Pennsylvania as pastor at Trinity, Hublersburg, 1985-87; Interim Pastor, Grace, Hazleton, 1987-89; Trinity, Tower City, and St. Peter's, Orwin, 1989-93; Interim Pastor, Friedens, Lenhartsville, 1996-99; and pastor at Lenhartsville, 1999-2006, after which he entered retirement.

Fr. McBride married Pamela Evans at the West Lawn United Methodist Church in West Lawn on June 19, 1993. He is the father of John Carl II and William Patrick.

*[Biographical sketch provided by Bishop Bougher.]*



L to R: Fr. Ettlemeyer, Bishop Horn, Fr. McBride, Bishop Bougher, Fr. Goad, Fr. Wigmore

## 40th Anniversary of Ordination

### The Reverend Gary V. Ettlemyer

Ordained The Feast of St. Augustine, August 28, 1984

Celebrated, The Feast of St. Bartholomew, August 24, 2024

The celebration of the fortieth anniversary of ordination of the Reverend Gary V. Ettlemyer was held at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Blairstown, New Jersey on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

Clergy participating in the Solemn Festival Eucharist included The Rt. Reverend Aubrey N. Bougher, Bishop - Northeastern Diocese; Bishop Richard W. Horn, Missionary Bishop, Western Diocese; and The Reverend Terrence L. Weber, Southeastern Diocese. (*Special mention must be made of Bishop Horn's effort to be present. He had recently had to cancel his family's trip while in transit to Germany due to health issues.*)

Among those present were friends from prior parishes as well as family members.

Born in Gloversville, New York, Fr. Ettlemyer spent much of his childhood in White Plains, New York, Alabama, and Georgia. In 1958 he returned with his family to Tarrytown, New York where his father acquired a funeral business. Following graduation from Sleepy Hollow High School in 1965 (*Regents, Honors in Spanish*), he received his B.S.Ed. in Elementary Education with a Minor in Spanish from Wagner College, Staten Island, New York in 1969. He began his teaching career at Trinity Lutheran School, Staten Island while finishing his degree at Wagner. He also taught at the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island for two summers.

Following his time at Trinity Lutheran, Fr. Ettlemyer was an elementary teacher in the Mattituck School District from 1970 until his Ordination in 1984. In 1972 he received his M.A. from the State University at Stony Brook. From 1980 to 1984 while still teaching, he studied at the George Mercer, Jr. Memorial School of Theology (Episcopal), Garden City, New York. Under the supervision of the East Coast Synod, Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches (AELC) and Christ Seminary – Seminex, St. Louis, he completed the equivalent course requirements for the M.Div. from Seminex and was certified for Ordination in July, 1984.

Fr. Ettlemyer was ordained by The Reverend Dr. Rudolph P.F. Ressemeyer, Bishop of the East Coast Synod – Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in America (AELC). The Ordination took place on the

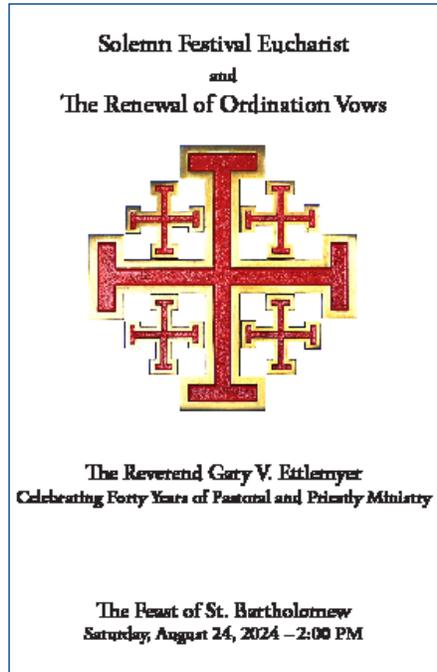
Feast of St. Augustine, August 28, 1984 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Greenport, New York, to which he was called by the East Coast Synod to a three-fold form of ministry: Pastoral Assistant at St. Peter's;

Director of Chaplaincy at the San Simeon by the Sound Nursing Home (owned and operated by the congregation); and CEO of the San Simeon Retirement Community, under development. Prior to the Call he had served as Council President and a Deacon ordained by the congregation.

In 1987, Fr. Ettlemyer was called to Christ Lutheran Church, Yonkers, New York, where he served until 1992. While at Christ Lutheran he served on the Worship Committee of the Metropolitan New York Synod, ELCA.

In 1992, Fr. Ettlemyer was called to be Pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lynbrook, New York, where he served until 1998. While at St. John's, he was Chaplain to the Lynbrook Fire Department

and the Lynbrook Police Department. He was honored as "Man of the Year" by the Village of Lynbrook for activities related to those two departments. He also served on the Board of the Interdenominational Housing Program of Long Island.



L to R: Bishop Richard W. Horn, The Reverend Terrence L. Weber, Fr. Ettlemyer, Bishop Aubrey N. Bougher, Northeastern Diocese

In his continuing capacity as Fire Department Chaplain in Lynbrook, Fr. Ettlemyer also served in the morgue at "Ground Zero" after 9/11. This was due to his experience in his family's funeral business.

In 1998 he was called to be Pastor of Spruce Run Evangelical Lutheran Church, Glen Gardner, New Jersey, where he served until his retirement in 2019. While at Spruce Run, he was instrumental in establishing the Spruce Run Preschool. He also served as Chaplain of the Glen Gardner Fire Department.

In 2014 he accepted a request to participate in the Clergy on Call for the Office of the County Prosecutor of Hunterdon County. In 2016 he completed state requirements to become a certified Disaster Response Crisis Counselor (DRCC) and Chaplain under the Certification Board and the Mental Health Association of New Jersey.



Fr. Weber Prepares the Altar for the Concelebration

Fr. Ettlemyer also actively participated in One Voice – Faith Communities of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, an organization that brings together law enforcement, the Safe Communities Coalition, and faith-based community leaders to have “one voice” in addressing issues of substance abuse, crime and safety in communities. Working closely with the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office, One Voice promotes education and cooperation between community faith-based leaders, chaplains, and law enforcement.

In February 2022, Fr. Ettlemyer resigned from the roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) citing the many liberal changes that had taken place in that Synod and the various ways it had moved away from the scriptures and the teachings of the church as expressed in the Lutheran Confessions, which he swore to uphold in his ordination vows. By God’s grace he has since become a rostered Pastor in the Lutheran Church – International in which he now serves as Assistant to the Archbishop for Communications, Assistant to the Bishop of the Northern Diocese, and Editor of the Synod’s newsletter, THE BULLETIN.

In June 2023, Fr. Ettlemyer was affirmed by the Lutheran Church–International in his ordination as Presbyter into the Apostolic Ministry of Word and Sacrament of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Apostolic Succession by the laying-on of hands at the 24th Annual Synod.



Fr. Ettlemyer Presides at the Concelebration of the Holy Eucharist

Fr. Ettlemyer is married to his wife, Virginia (née Nelsen), whom he met while they were at Wagner College. Ginny received her B.S. in Nursing degree from Wagner. She is retired from nursing after a fruitful career in ICU/CCU nursing, providing private critical care nursing, and working in Post-partum Maternity Care. He and Ginny have two sons who are married and three grandchildren: Michael (married to Annelies van der Wateren – son, Andrew Robert) and Martin (married to Frances X. Carias – children, Gary Thomas and Sophia Grace). He baptized all of his grandchildren: Gary Thomas, Sophia Grace, and Andrew Robert. He confirmed Gary and Sophia. She is also Pastor’s goddaughter.



Holding the Bishop’s Crozier, Fr. Weber Looks on as Bishop Bougher Conducts the Renewal of Ordination Vows. The Three have been Good Friends for over Forty Years

Fr. Ettlemyer is especially thankful to God in Christ Jesus for the blessing of having had his sons, Michael and Martin, participate as lectors at the celebration. Forty years ago they served at his ordination – Michael as Crucifer, and Marty as Thurifer. Sophia Grace also offered the Intercessions at the fortieth celebration.

Fr. Ettlemyer is an avid photographer and woodworker who enjoys reading on those subjects as well as all things “Lutheran.”



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

## HAVE YOU NOTICED?

FOR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE LIFE AND MISSION OF THE LC – I

Our usual form for submitting annual dues is somewhat changed this time around. 2024 is quickly coming to an end. While dues are received on an annual basis, it's always appropriate to make a special thank-offering to the Lutheran Church–International. Why not remember a special occasion, a special person, or your experiencing God's love in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit? Can you take a moment to think of a special way that you have been blessed, and make that blessing even more meaningful as you support the mission and ministry of the LC–I? This issue of the BULLETIN demonstrates the many blessings we have received as a family of faith!

**2024 LUTHERAN CHURCH – INTERNATIONAL 2024**

I/We wish to make a very special thank-offering to the ministry of our Synod so that it may grow!

In Memory  In Thankfulness

For \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ or Electronic Funds Transfer: \_\_\_\_\_

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15 High Street  
Lyons NY 14489

**OR** Pastor Wigmore@gmail.com (1-215-416-9591)