



November

2017

# Redeeming Words

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## Calendar

Nov. 5	Worship – All Saints	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
Nov. 7	ELFEC Meeting (see p. 3)	7:30 pm
Nov. 8	Bible Study	7:30 pm
Nov. 12	Worship – Baptism	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
Nov. 14	Mutual Ministry Meeting	7:30 pm
Nov. 15	Bible Study	7:30 pm
Nov. 16	LARAM meeting at CTR	7:30 pm
Nov. 18	Reformation Service - St John's Lutheran	2:00 pm
Nov. 19	Worship	10:00 am
	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
Nov. 22	Montreal Lutheran Council	7:30 pm
Nov. 25	Men's Breakfast	8:30/9:15 am
Nov. 26	Worship – Reign of Christ	10:00 am
	Coffee & Conversation	11:15 am
Dec. 3	Worship – Advent 1	10:00 am
	Advent Dinner setup	11:15 am
	Advent Dinner	5:00 pm

## Advent & Christmas Services

The four Sundays in Advent are **December 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 10 am**. Please consider volunteering as a reader for the Advent litany and candle-lighting portion of one of the Advent Sundays during the



10:00 am worship service. This is a great opportunity to participate in worship as a family or sign-up with a friend.

The **Christmas Eve Service** will be on **Sunday December 24 at 5:30 pm**. Come celebrate with carols, lessons, communion and a special candle-lighting at the end of the service. It is a wonderful way to remember the true reason for Christmas celebrations.

## Advent Dinner

Ring in the new church year at the **CTR Annual Advent Dinner on Sunday, December 3**. Meet and mingle over appetizers and punch starting at **5pm**, followed by a potluck dinner. Turkey and ham will be supplied. Bring your own beverage (punch, water, coffee and tea will be available). When you sign up, please indicate the number of people in your party and if you are able to bring an appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert. Sign up on the sheet in the coffee room, email ([cynthia-and-nils@bell.net](mailto:cynthia-and-nils@bell.net)) or call Cynthia Ek at **514-428-0636**.



## Oktoberfest

The celebration of Oktoberfest held on **Saturday, October 28** was a roaring success. It was wonderful to see so many people.



The tables set up in the coffee room were overflowing as an estimated 68 people showed up to party! Apologies for the overcrowding as the popularity of the event was underestimated.

Thanks to all those who moved over to make space for the later arrivals. Attendees were extremely generous with their food offerings - the serving table was heaped with enticing salads and desserts. The efforts made by all who helped set up, serve and clean up were really appreciated.

## Mutual Ministry Committee

The Mutual Ministry Committee will meet on **Tuesday, November 14 at 7:30 pm**. One of the items to be discussed is the challenge, put forth by Bishop Michael Pryse in his recent article in Canada Lutheran, to foster better dialogue between pastors and their congregational leaders. He suggests that they examine their expectations, both past and future, and look for areas that need work to enable their congregation to grow and develop. Salary proposals for 2018 budget will also be considered.

## LARAM

The Lutheran-Anglican Refugee Alliance of Montreal will hold their next meeting at CTR on **Thursday, November 16 at 7:30pm**. Items on the agenda are: making plans to visit member congregations for winter presentations and organizing a kick-off of fund-raising activities.

## Men's Breakfast

The men will be meeting next on **Saturday November 25** for breakfast and conversation. Cooking starts at **8:15 am**, breakfast is at **9:00 am**. Check the sign-up sheet in the coffee room or contact David Puusa for more information.

## Concert

As part of Montreal's 375 anniversary celebrations, the Orchestre de l'Université de Montréal, in collaboration with the MSO and under the direction of Kent Nagano, will perform a concert on **Saturday, December 9 at 7:30pm at Salle Claude Champagne** on the campus of L'Université de Montréal. The concert will feature soloists from the MSO and music with themes surrounding the Lutheran and Roman Catholic Reformations. **Tickets are \$20 (free for students). Call 1 855 790-1245.** This concert is supported by the Montreal Lutheran Council (although not financially).

<http://www.calendrier.umontreal.ca/detail/77109-1-oum-concert-l-musiques-de-lesprit-r-en-collaboration-avec-losm>

## Outreach

The Food Bank will be the Outreach project for **November and December**. Please pick up a food item as you shop and place it in the bin in the hallway by the Outreach table.



## Worship Assistants' Schedule

**Elizabeth Ticknor** has agreed to work with Susan Rossi to line up volunteers each month for the positions of altar care, greeters, acolytes, assisting ministers, cantors, readers and communion assistants each Sunday. Please contact either **Susan or Elizabeth** if you are able to assist during Worship in November and December.

## Council News

A worrisome trend has been noticed by our treasurer. Both attendance and offerings are down this year and this, coupled with the lack of a tenant, is becoming a cause for financial concern. We as a congregation are going to have to start getting creative to find ways to raise money to offset the day-to-day costs of running the church and maintaining the property.

## Eastern Synod Lutheran

The most recent electronic issue of the synod newspaper is available at:

[http://www.easternsynod.org/sites/default/files/content/tesl\\_oct\\_0.pdf](http://www.easternsynod.org/sites/default/files/content/tesl_oct_0.pdf)

## Reformation Challenge Update

As of **October 26, 2017**, the totals were:

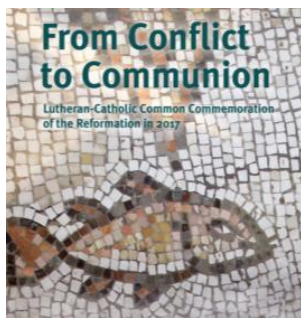


<http://elcic.ca/ReformationChallenge>

## Evangelical Lutheran Foundation Eastern Canada

On **November 7 at 7:30 pm**, Jeff Pym, Synod Ministry Director for Generous Giving, ELFEC and the synod-wide investment fund will be at CTR to speak to Council members about investment opportunities open to our congregation with the ELFEC.

## From Conflict to Communion



A liturgy called "Common Prayer: From Conflict to Communion" will be led by Archbishop Christian Lepine (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Montreal) and Bishop Michael Pryse (Eastern Synod of the

ELCIC) on **Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 2pm** at **St. John's Lutheran Church**, 3594 Jeanne Mance. Seating is limited. Ten free tickets have been reserved for Christ the Redeemer. Contact Pastor Jim if you would like one of these tickets.

## Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund

The Humanitarian Coalition and its member agencies, which include Canadian Lutheran World Relief, applaud the launch of the Government of Canada's Myanmar Crisis Relief Fund in response to the Rohingya Crisis. **Until November 28**, the government will match all donations made by Canadians to this fund. To donate, go to: <https://www.clwr.org/donate/rohingya-crisis>

## Gift-giving options this Christmas

Want to give a gift that makes a difference this Christmas? Why not make a donation to CLWR to purchase hygiene kits for displaced persons or seeds for refugees looking to start a new life? With every donation, CLWR will send you a gift card explaining what your donation will be used for. Enclose this card in a Christmas card as a gift to a friend or loved one.

Visit <http://clwr.donorshops.com/> for gift options.

Change lives this Christmas



Canadian Lutheran  
World Relief

Find your catalogue at  
your church or online  
at [clwr.org/GFTH](http://clwr.org/GFTH).

## Help Wanted

Contributions are needed for future newsletters. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fill newsletter pages every month with only an outline from the Pastor. Photos taken at church events, notices about events involving congregation members, updates on former members and notices of interesting local events are all welcome. Feedback is essential too if this publication is to evolve into something people want to read. I cannot do it alone. Please consider submitting ideas and articles for the next issue, preferably by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## Sunday School

Vicky Valois who will be leading classes on **November 5, 19, December 3 and 17**. All children aged three to 12 are welcome.

## Toys needed

Now that we have some young children attending services, we are looking for some donations of 'quiet' toys, lego, books or a few puzzles to help keep the children occupied during the service. Please speak to **Lee-Anne Grandsire** if you have anything to donate.

## Bible Study – Hard Readings

Continuing on Wednesday evenings **from 7:30 to 9 pm**, Pastor Jim invites you to the second half of a six-part study of some difficult bible passages.

Nov 1 – Body, Mind and Soul?

Nov 8 – Women and Children Last

Nov 15 – Slavery

## Confirmation Class

There is so far only one confirmand registered this year. Confirmation class is open to teens, Grade 7 and older. Please see Pastor Jim to register.

## Lessons

### November 5 All Saints

Genesis 2:4b-9, Psalm 8

Acts 23:6-11 John 11:1-44

### November 12 Pentecost 23

Habbakuk 3:2-4, 12-13, 17-19a

Acts 20:17-18, 22b-32 John 10:1-21

### November 19 Pentecost 24

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm 134

Revelation 22:1-7a, John 17:1-26

### November 26 Reformation

Genesis 18:22-33, Psalm 141:1-4, 8,

2 John 1-6, John 8:31-36

## Dear John,

In some ways the past year has been wonderful. But as it draws to a close I think it's time we ended things.

In the beginning I was attracted to your poetry. Your Word about your friend Jesse was like a bright and refreshing ray of light, even as you expressed the sense that he was also quite alone and lonely.

As we got to know each other I was glad to meet your friends – John B., Andrew and Peter, Phil and Nate. (I haven't heard much from John B. lately. Do you have any news?) Maybe I'll keep in touch with some of them, if you don't mind.

Do you remember the wedding reception in Cana? I think we all had a bit too much wine that night. And I still don't know where Jesse hid all the good stuff.

For a while there was something magical about our year together. Even a cup of cold water from a well, a loaf of bread, and a few fish seemed like a feast. Just being together with you, and the others, was the best medicine I could have taken.

In those days it was easy to love you. You were wide-eyed and full of hope. And it was contagious.

But life has gotten harder, for both of us. Maybe it was Jesse's fault. You and I might have had a future together, but he didn't let us be. We followed him to the city. Hoped that he might do something amazing. Then watched as he picked fights, was arrested, and sent to jail.

John, maybe you're strong enough stay in the city until he's released. I'm not. I want nothing but the best for both of you, but I can't stay.

Besides, Mark has invited me read his latest novel. It's about Jesse. I think, but not the way you described him in some of your poems. It may take a whole year, and it's not fair to ask you to wait for me. You deserve better than that.

Please forgive me for not telling you this in person. I do appreciate many of the things we did together, and the things you helped me see about myself. But our time has come to an end.

Good bye.

*If you missed it, reread this message as a farewell to our year of reading John's Gospel.*

Peace,

*Pastor Jim Slack*