



Martin Luther  
**Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church**

**In This Issue:**

- The 60th Anniversary Book is Now Available
- Wanted:  
Christmas Bazaar Team
- 2017 DELKINA Conference in Toronto
- Wesley Mimico United Church Discerns Its Way Forward
- Welcoming New Confirmands

Office 416 251 8293  
churchoffice@martinluther.ca  
2379 Lake Shore Blvd West  
Toronto, Ontario M8V 1B7  
www.martinluther.ca

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and Partnered with the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD)

# Congregational Newsletter

October • November 2016

## Typical Lutheran: Translating the Bible and Faith

The translation of the Bible by Martin Luther reads like a world record. It only took him 11 weeks to translate the New Testament into German, while he was forced to stay at the Wartburg Castle in the year 1522. Later he also provided a translation of the Old Testament. Thanks to the invention of printing by the Gutenberg brothers, both translations circulated tremendously quickly.

Since that time the original translation has been subjected to revision again and again. A new revision of the German Luther Bible is expected with anticipation at the beginning of the anniversary year of the Reformation. It will come out on October 19th and we will introduce it at Martin Luther Church on this year's Reformation Sunday. The principles of the translation stayed the same: the meaning of the text comes before a literal translation; the language should be powerful and of the people; the texts should be easy to grasp and articulate (e.g. for readings in worship). From now on the new edition of the Luther Bible should be the foundation of the readings for worship.

For a bilingual congregation like the Martin Luther Church, translation work is daily life. We are constantly looking for fitting expressions that work in English as well as in German in order to share the Good News with each other and others. Translating back and forth is so normal for us that we sometimes take for granted what richness this brings. Fulbert Steffensky described this advantage of understanding the Bible and language of faith as follows:

**There is one thing I no longer want to do without: being multilingual. It is wonderful to no longer be defined by language of (a single culture). I have more perspectives. On the one hand, I have less of a home, than I would have had, if I had remained monolingual. But, on the other hand, I am less captive in the home where I live now. I am glad to pay a price for this freedom.**

*(Fulbert Steffensky, translation Dr. Lorellen Nausner)*

We follow the same principles as Martin Luther with our translating: the language should be powerful and down-to-earth. (Luther said, one should look onto the mouths of the people). In so doing, sometimes we struggle for words exactly like Luther who often debated with his friends for days the most suitable translation of a word.

What seems to us to be a tedious task, for example translating the newsletter, is in reality the lifeblood of our faith. Always looking for the fitting word, exploring the world of faith from two (language) perspectives, brings us and our language of faith to life. What a blessing that we have so many opportunities to talk about faith.

Sincerely  
Your Pastor

## President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome back!

Summer is over and slowly everyone is getting back into routines, back to work and back to school. Summer was a time to relax, travel, enjoy cottages, do work around the house and leave the stress of daily life behind. I know that I enjoyed my time away, traveling, visiting with friends and enjoying my week at Camp Lutherlyn. I would like to take a moment to thank the busy bees, who helped with renovations at the parsonage. A big "Thank you!" to Dan Sommerfeld, Mel Zabel, Peter Schweiger and Iris Schweiger. The work you did is very much appreciated.



So, in keeping with my newsletter focus around our mission statement:

### Celebrating Faith

In September we celebrated our Back to School services, where we blessed the children who were going back to school. We also had the opportunity to worship with Pastor Claudia Ostarek, who visited us from the EKD in



Germany. Confirmation is starting up and I look forward to meeting our new group of Confirmands in the upcoming services.

### Serving

October 15th is Fall Clean-up at Camp Lutherlyn. For the first time, we will be sending a team of helpers up to Camp, to help get it ready for the winter. I am looking forward to being able to spend a little more time at Camp Lutherlyn this year.

### Inspiring People

Every time I come to church I leave feeling a little more inspired—inspired by the work we do, inspired by members of our Congregation who have given countless hours to making Martin Luther a place where you want to be. Keep reaching out, keep welcoming others, keep believing and inspiring others.

*Tanya Zielke — President*

## Thanksgiving

We thank the church choir under the direction of Linda Marcinkus for singing at the German Thanksgiving Service again. After that Sunday the choir will begin practices for Advent and the Christmas Eve Services. We also thank everyone for contributing non-perishable food items as well as much needed toiletries (soap, tooth paste/brush etc.) for the Wesley Mimico United Church Food Bank.

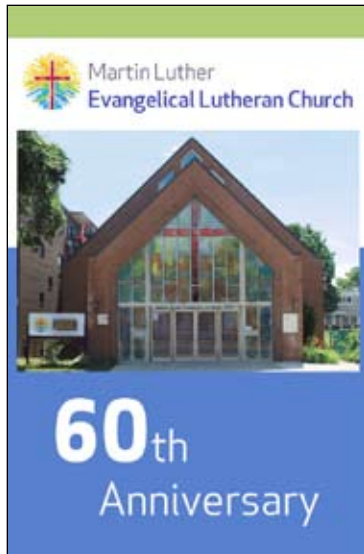
## Stewardship and Sustainability— Planning for the Future and Thinking Green

We in the office have been blessed to connect with many members and friends over the past couple of months. We will continue to reach out to you and confirm that you would like to receive our communications via mail and/or email. Please help us improve and save resources with your feedback.

**Contact:** Marlena at the office, Tel: 416-251-8293, [churchoffice@martinluther.ca](mailto:churchoffice@martinluther.ca)

## 60th Anniversary Book

The Anniversary Book is printed and can be picked up beginning October 2! The cost of the book is \$20. If you haven't already ordered one, you will have the opportunity to buy a finished copy from a limited quantity. Also take a look at your photo in the book. If it was taken by Christiane Böck for the anniversary last year, you may order a digital or printed 5x7 copy for \$5. Many thanks again to the Anniversary team, especially Anniversary Book project leader Sonja Schweiger, for their help producing and distributing the finished product. It's never too late to contact the office if you want to appear in the next book.



## What's Our Intern Luisa Up To?

Luisa's main projects are: Confirmation classes, the Christmas Play, Martin Luther Church Day Care, Moll Berczy Haus (one day a week at both locations) and getting to know the "German Meetup Group". She's also attended a Council meeting, contributed at the Senior's Group and accompanied Pastors Ceconi and Ostarek during their visit with Bishop Pryse.

## Order Your Neukirchener Kalender by October 14

We are accepting orders for the Neukirchener Kalender now. Order forms are available in the church foyer and are also attached. You can also call your order into the church office, Tel: 416-251-8293.

## Fall Cleaning at Camp Lutherlyn on Saturday, October 15

On the heels of a successful spring cleaning and summer camp at Camp Lutherlyn (news about 2017 to follow), we are invited to return for a Fall Clean up. If you are interested, please respond to the church office or Peter

Kaufmann-Buehler. The Martin Luther Church will put together a team of helpers and will organize car-pooling. Planned departure on Friday afternoon and return on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Jobs at the camp include winterizing and, of course, fire wood splitting. All necessary tools are available. Please bring a sleeping bag, pillow, appropriate clothing to be outside during the day and your personal safety equipment, if you want to operate the wood splitter and chain saws. All meals will be provided.

**Contact:** Peter Kaufmann-Bühler, peterkb.243@googlemail.com

## Christmas Play

The Christmas Play team invites you to sign up to act in the play until Thanksgiving. There are roles for everyone! Stay posted for this year's story and rehearsal dates.

**Contact:** Luisa, Tel: 905-717-5937, intern@martinluther.ca, or the church office

## Wanted: Christmas Bazaar Team

Do you like to organize? Maybe you enjoy crafts, baking or cooking? If so, please join the team for an unforgettable Christmas bazaar on the 1. Advent (27th of November 2016).

**Please contact Iris if you are interested.**

Tel: 905-625-9174, iris.g.schweiger@gmail.com

With this in mind, Larissa offers a craft evening each Monday (7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.) at her house to make jewellery for the Christmas bazaar. **Anyone who would like to learn the art of beading, please contact Larissa at** Tel: 416-530-6985, lmattwich@gmail.com.

## Bible Study

Bible study will resume in the new year with a new focus and format.

**Contact:** Christian Ceconi, Tel: 416-567-2487, pastor@martinluther.ca

## Worship Team

All who are interested in continuing to play an active role in worship are more than welcome to join our worship

team, usually meeting the last Tuesday of the month.  
**Next meeting:** Tues. October 25 & November 22 at 7:30pm in the church.

**Contact:** Christian Ceconi, Tel: 416-567-2487, pastor@martinluther.ca

**Mrs Leopoldine(Poldi) Wancar** is now residing in Eatonville Long Term Care at 420 The East Mall, Etobicoke, ON M9B 3Z9. She will be 96 on Oct. 1st, 2016.

She would welcome any visitors or calls. Please note that her phone number was published incorrectly in the last newsletter. It is 647-347-3977.

## Legacy Donations and Lutheran Planned Giving

We would like to thank everyone for their ongoing generous donations to Martin Luther Church. To help fund the future of Martin Luther Church, please consider donating to the church through bequests or gifts of securities in your last will and testament. Martin Luther Church can also be named as a beneficiary of a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) or Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) or of a life insurance policy. In lieu of flowers at a funeral, a request can be made for donations to Martin Luther Church.

**Contact:** Catherine Wolf-Becker, cwolfbecker@gmail.com

## News from ELCIC, EKD and DELKINA

*Our Congregation is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and the Eastern Synod. We are partnered with the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) and member of the Deutsche Evangelisch-lutherische Konferenz in Nordamerika (DELKINA)*

### Message from St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Milverton: Martin Luther Playmobil

Our Sunday school children have embarked on a trip with Martin Luther with the beginning of Church School this fall.

One of our members attended the convention this summer and purchased a Playmobil Martin Luther. She returned to the congregation and showed up at a Sunday school planning meeting with the figurine. After some discussion we decided there was no better time to give the children information about being Lutheran than the 500th

anniversary of the Reformation. After tossing around ideas and plans we thought it would be fun for each child in our church school to receive a figurine. We will spend time sharing Martin's story over the next year, and we will encourage the children to include Martin in their lives, taking him with them on family excursions. They are to take pictures of their adventures with Martin, and make photos available to us to put up on the bulletin board we have set up to share with the congregation. The Martin Luther figurines were handed out to the children Sept.



11th on the first day back for the fall. We are also encouraging the adults to be involved with including Martin in special moments in their lives during the next year. There are plans for Martin to go to Germany, Italy and the Caribbean so far with travelers from our congregation.

The congregation's picture was taken Sept 11 as the first step of our adventures with Martin Luther.

We would like to thank your congregation for helping us to make this possible. Hoping to have lots to share as we celebrate 500 years of being Lutheran.

*Margaret — St. Peter's Lutheran Church*

### **EKD Visit From Pastor Ostarek: "This is How the German Church Works Abroad."**

If finally happened September 16 to 20: Pastor Ostarek, responsible for the North American, Asian and Pacific regions of the EKD, came to Martin Luther Church to visit and advise Pastor Ceconi at the halfway point of his contract. She of course also came to have conversations with church council and the congregation. Her conclusion: "When I'm asked by other congregations how to do good work as a German congregation, I always refer to Martin Luther Church." We couldn't have received better feedback. Many thanks to everyone one who supports the successful work of our congregation and to everyone who helped make it a smooth visit.

### **DELKINA: Save the Date for the 2017 Conference in Toronto**

DELKINA (the German Evangelical Lutheran Conference in North America) will hold their next general assembly in

Toronto. Delegates from around North America will meet in Niagara Falls and Toronto October 10-15, 2017. A special highlight will be a one-day Symposium (on October 14) at First Lutheran Church. Keynote speaker is the renowned Luther researcher Prof. Volker Leppin of Tübingen. The Symposium will be open to the general public so definitely save the date. The closing worship service for the conference will take place at Martin Luther Church on October 15th, 2017.

### **175th Anniversary of St. Paul's Church, NYC**

On the long weekend in September, Pastor Ceconi (with his family) and our President Tanya Zielke had the opportunity to travel to New York City. They had the opportunity to visit the city with congregational members they met at Camp Lutherlyn (Familie Luebbert). On Sunday they celebrated the 175th Anniversary with the congregation of St Paul's Manhattan. It was fantastic seeing new friends and worshipping with them. Congratulations on 175 years!



## **Theological Background**

### **To Everything There is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven**

July 27th, 2016 was the closing date for the sale of the building that housed Wesley Mimico United Church. The building was sold to a holding company representing Phoenix Montessori School. The money, of course, will be held in trust until all the bills of Wesley Mimico Place are settled and the remainder will continue to be held in trust as Wesley Mimico United Church discerns its

way forward. What lies ahead for Wesley Mimico United Church? For we are not a building, rather Wesley Mimico United Church is a community of faithful.

Some things remain the same. Rev. Joan Smith continues to bring her dancing spirit to meaningful worship each Sunday at 10:30 am at Mimico Centennial Library. The choir sings as enthusiastically as ever under the musical direction of Marion Abbott. Congregational life is supported by the caring community of faithful which

has always been so much a part of Wesley. We continue to finance and staff the weekly Community Lunch and Food Bank which is held at Martin Luther Evangelical Church on the Lakeshore every Sat. at noon. Their ministry of hospitality in housing our food ministry is deeply appreciated.

Some things are changing. We remain always grateful to Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church for agreeing to house our church's office for a period of time while our building renovations were completed. Now that project has been discontinued Council voted to lease the office space that Wesley Mimico Place had been renting. Our secretary, Donna Marie Batty and minister, Joan Smith have moved into this space over the summer. There is a room for meetings and Bible study as well as space for each member of staff to have an office. Members of the congregation and public will be able to drop by during office hours. As we reflect on how we are to continue to be a part of the Lakeshore community it seems fitting to establish our own space. The address of the church office is now 2405 Lake Shore Blvd. W., no. 403. The phone no. remains the same: 416-251-5811.

The Council has also established a Going Forward Committee. We will begin meeting in September and will work with the congregation to make clear both a vision and a plan for our future. These are practical and rewarding aspects of our life as a congregation.

However, as Joan and I prepared the job description for the Going Forward Committee I began to understand the multiplicity of tasks we have ahead of us and I feel some fear. With each time I tell someone about our congregation having to discontinue our project it seems I feel a deeper sense of loss, both for myself and for our community. I am feeling somewhat vulnerable and

defenceless about beginning again. How shall we learn to live again?

Part of that learning will be understanding how to heal. What does "a time to heal" look like? Joan Chittister writes that healing requires us to go out of our way to choose what we would not choose to do: healing requires us to reach out to something that gives us new life, new hope, new pleasure.

Part of healing is telling our story, over and over and over again until even we are bored with it. This helps us desensitize ourselves to the hurt and loss. So I encourage you to tell our story as often and to as many as possible. Harry Oussoren went to the York Community Council and told our story in his usual articulate way. As those of us who share the story, in our collective woundedness, we can become healers for each other since we are all so aware of our loss and know how to hold each other in our hearts.

As Joan Chittister writes, healing requires us to want to be well. To look for new joy to replace the fear of abandonment that is also surely part of what is in the emotional mix we may be feeling. We must put our hope, yet again, in risk and find it challenging, in ourselves and find our strength, in newness and find it enough.

Healing comes when we can begin to trust that there will be something else that can emerge for us.

And surely healing is a matter of time itself and we can come to peace with the fact that healing and new life take time. It is a matter of learning to not flee the fears and losses, vulnerability and hurt but to understand as Oscar Wilde wrote that "Where there is sorrow, there is holy ground."

*Charlotte Sharkey — Chair of Council, WMUC*

## **We Mourn...**

At the age of 88 on August 17, 2016, **Violet Gross** passed away. We said goodbye to her at a service celebrating her life on September 1.

At the age of 81 on August 30, 2016, **Ilona Frenz** passed away. We said goodbye to her at a service celebrating her life on September 3.

**So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.  
God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.**

*(1 John 4:16)*

## Save the Date: Summer Camp 2017 August 19-25



### Welcoming New Confirmands

On Sunday September 25, we welcomed the new confirmands together with their families during the services. They will meet for a retreat October 28-30 and help with the Community Lunch on Sat. November 19.



*Willem, Thomas, Victoria, Holden and Erik at the lake with past Confirmands (Yannik, Basti and Ida), Pastor and Luisa*

### BMO Mimico's 100th Anniversary Celebration in Mimico Square

Congratulations! We are grateful to work as partners in support of the community. Iris attended the celebration and presented branch manager, Marc, with a Martin Luther Playmobil figurine.



### News from the Day Care

Our children really enjoyed the summer program with the trips and new experiences, like at the zoo accompanied by day care teachers, supervisor, administrator and parents. The group looked so lovely in new red T-shirts which clearly identified them in public. The programs

were running at full capacity. Currently, with the beginning of the new school year, we have vacancies in both programs (preschool and school-age) at the church location; please spread the word.



There is light at the end of tunnel in regards to the reopening of the day care at 5 Superior Ave. We have received the license and we can accept full-fee toddlers and preschoolers. Next we await the City for quality inspection and for subsidies.

**Contact:** Margarete Kaufmann-Buehler,  
Tel: 416-259-2861, daycareoffice@bellnet.ca

### **Syrian Family Update**

Our support for the Resto and Rosto families continues. Ritta has been working one job and Mary two jobs all summer. Mary's brother has joined her family from Germany. All three plan to attend Seneca starting in November for a college-preparatory program. Ritta's parents are still awaiting a visa so as to come to Canada. Our support team leaders have been close at hand: Greg was able to replace two of their bikes in the summer, and Anneli is once again offering tutoring assistance. Many thanks to Joan and Karen at Wesley Mimico United Church who keep our team informed about workshops and resources for settlement support in the Etobicoke community.

## **Groups and Contacts**

### **Altar Flowers**

Sign up on the list in the church entrance. Arrange to have flowers delivered or drop them off before the services on Sunday. You can also donate to the flower fund. Please notify the church office of your plans. You and the person(s) you are donating for will be included in the church announcements.

**Contact:** Church office, Tel: 416-251-8293,  
churchoffice@martinluther.ca

**Bible Study** Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30pm

### **Resumes in January**

**Contact:** Pastor Ceconi, pastor@martinluther.ca

**Choir** Practice every Tuesday at 6 pm for the First of Advent and Christmas Eve

**Choir Director:** Linda Marcinkus, Tel: 416-255-2612

**Worship Team** Usually the fourth Tuesday of the month.

**Next meetings:** October 25 & November 22 at 7:30 pm

**Contact:** Pastor Christian Ceconi, Cell: 416-567-2487,  
pastor@martinluther.ca

### **Welcome Team**

**Next meeting:** TBD

**Contact:** Iris Schweiger, Tel: 905-625-9174

### **Senior's Group**

2nd Wednesday of the month at 11 am at church.

**Next meetings:** October 12 & November 11, 2016

**Contact:** Daina Wienecke, Tel: 905-939-2601

### **Summer Camp Planning Team**

**Next meeting:** TBD

**Contact:** Anna Lisa Wienecke, Tel: 905-939-7494

### **Sunday School Team**

Sunday School every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

**Next meeting:** October 11 at 4 pm

**Contact:** Tanya Zielke, Tel: 416-622-7032,  
sundayschool@martinluther.ca

### **Website Team**

**Next meeting:** TBD

**Contact:** Marlina Muller, churchoffice@martinluther.ca



**Church Coffee Team****Contact:** Waltraud Laser, Tel: 416-766-9373**Youth Group****Next Meeting:** TBD**Contact:** Sonja Schweiger, Tel: 905-625-9174,  
youthgroup@martinluther.ca**Confirmation Classes****Retreat:** October 28–30**Volunteering with Community Lunch:** November 19**Next class:** December 3–4**Contact:** Pastor Christian Ceconi

Cell: 416-567-2487

pastor@martinluther.ca

**Martin Luther Church Daycare Office****Contacts:** Margarete Kaufmann-Buehler (Administrator),  
Teresa Kurek (Supervisor), Tel: 416-259-2861,  
daycareoffice@martinluther.ca**Martin Luther Church Daycare Board****Contact:** Heidi Jonuschies, ralphie12@sympatico.ca**Support Team for Syrian Families****Next Meeting:** October 6, 8:30 pm**Contact:** Greg and Anneli Andre-Barrett,  
anneliandrebarrett@gmail.com**Translation Team****Contact:** Church office, Tel: 416-251-8293,  
churchoffice@martinluther.ca**Community Partners****Wesley Mimico United Church****Community lunch** 12–1 pm every Saturday and  
**Food Bank** 11–1 pm (except for the last Saturday  
of the month).**Contact:** Kim, Tel: 647-677-5628**Drum Circle** every Wednesday at 10 am**Contact:** Iris Schweiger

iris.schweiger@sympatico.ca

**Stonegate Ministry & Great Finds**

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**Store hours:** M–Th: 9:30 am–5:30 pm; Fri: 9:30 am–6 pm**Contact:** Carol-Anne, Tel: 416-255-6282,  
2358 Lakeshore Blvd. West Toronto M8V 1C3**Delmanor Prince Edward Retirement Home**Services by Pastor Ceconi with Holy Communion  
the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am at  
4180 Dundas St W, Etobicoke**Next services:** October 19 & November 16 at 10:30 am**Lakeshore Lodge Long-Term Care**Services on Sunday every few months at 2 pm,  
3197 Lake Shore Blvd West, Toronto**Next service:** December 18, 2016**Moll Berczy Haus Senior's Home** German services the  
second Tuesday of the month at 11 am, and the last  
Wednesday of the month at 10 am, 1020 McNicoll Ave,  
Scarborough **Next service:** October 25 at 10 am**We're Here For You****Pastor Christian Ceconi**

Cell: 416-567-2487, Email: pastor@martinluther.ca

**Office Hours and Visits:** by appointment. Please call or  
send a short email.**German Radio Devotion****Sundays 9:30 am on AM 530****Church Office: Marlena Muller**

2379 Lake Shore Blvd. West, Toronto, ON M8V 1B7

Tel: 416-251-8293, Fax: 416-259-2889

Email: churchoffice@martinluther.ca

**Office Hours:** Tues., Wed. and Fri. from 9:30–12**Church Newsletter Publisher:**

Martin Luther Church, Pastor Christian Ceconi

**Email Distribution:** Mona Frantzke**Mailing:** Marlena Muller **Design:** Karen Hoffmann

## Worship Service Plan

Oct. 2, 2016	<b>20th Sunday after Pentecost German Thanksgiving</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service—Both with Church Choir	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 9, 2016	<b>Thanksgiving</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service Both with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 16, 2016	<b>22nd Sunday after Pentecost</b>		11:00 am Joint Service	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 19, 2016			10:30 am Service at Delmanor Prince Edward Retirement Home with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 23, 2016	<b>23rd Sunday after Pentecost</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 25, 2016			10:00 am Service at Moll Berczy Haus Senior's Home	Pastor Ceconi
Oct. 30, 2016	<b>Reformation Sunday</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service	Pastor Ceconi
Nov. 6, 2016	<b>All Saints Sunday — We Remember All Who We Have Lost</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service Both with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi
Nov. 13, 2016	<b>26th Sunday after Pentecost</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service	Pastor Ceconi
Nov. 16, 2016	<b>Buß- und Betttag</b>		10:30 am Service at Delmanor Prince Edward Retirement Home with Holy Communion 6:00 pm Buß- und Betttag with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi
Nov. 20, 2016	<b>Christ the King</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service	Pastor Ceconi
Nov. 27, 2016	<b>First of Advent</b>		11:00 am Joint Family Service with Church Choir, followed by Christmas Bazaar	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 3, 2016	<b>Second of Advent</b>		9:45 am English Service 11:00 am German Service	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 10, 2016	<b>Third of Advent</b>		11:00 am Joint Service with Christmas Play	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 13, 2016			10:00 am Service at Moll Berczy Haus Senior's Home	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 18, 2016	<b>Fourth of Advent</b>		11:00 am German Service 2:00 pm Service at Lakeshore Lodge 7:00 pm Candlelight Service	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 21, 2016			10:30 am Service at Delmanor Prince Edward Retirement Home with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 24, 2016	<b>Christmas Eve</b>		4:30 pm German Service 6:00 pm English Service—Both with Church Choir	Pastor Ceconi
Dec. 25, 2016	<b>Christmas Day</b>		11:00 am German Service with Holy Communion	Pastor Ceconi



Sundays with the Sunday School symbol have Sunday School take place at the same time as the worship. The children meet in the Church and have their own program after Children's Time.