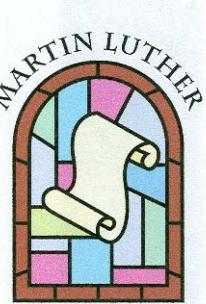


# Congregational newsletter



June - August 2013

LUTHERAN CHURCH  
—Founded 1955 Gegründet—

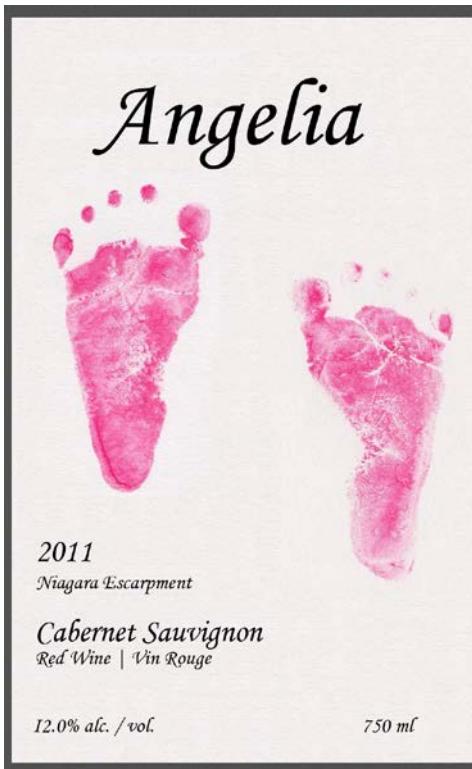
## DEVOTION

*Dear Members and Friends  
of the Martin Luther Church !*

In the beginning of June, I could baptize a baby girl in our church whose name is "Angelia". What a beautiful name "Angelia" – meaning "Angel". Before the baptism celebration, I had visited the family at their place, and I was surprised to be offered a very special kind of beverage. The father produces wine himself, and to celebrate his daughter's birth he had created a special wine – you see the label on this page. The name of the wine is "Angelia", and you can see the foot prints of the little girl which had been scanned. What a wonderful symbolism, I thought. The feet, symbol of the future journey of life. Wine, symbol of human work as well as festive joy. And the name "Angelia", reminding us that each human has their own angel who wants to guide us through life (as Jesus assures us in the Gospel of Matthew 18:10).

Daily work and festive joy – these have also been the two poles in the life of the Martin Luther Church which I and my family have experienced during our six years here. Daily planning, conferring, organizing of congregational work, together with the church council and many dedicated volunteers. And then again and again festive joy – at confirmations when our young

people experience the Holy Communion, the celebration with bread and wine, together with their family and all the congregation. At the Easter Sunrise Service, at the Summer Camp – on so many occasions when we celebrated the presence of our loving and mighty Lord in our midst.



We are very grateful for our six years in the Martin Luther Church. We will always dearly remember so many friendly people, so many good contacts. We feel privileged that we have been able to so closely experience the challenges churches face in North America together this very friendly and open country Canada. For our children, it has been a very special time, they have grown up here, they have enjoyed friends, fun, another world, all this has widened their horizon. Now we are on our way back to Germany, and we look forward to us all being together again, even with our two older

children who have already been back to Bavaria for a while. We are glad that three of our children will be able to study close to Nuremberg, close to us. Our family has expanded which involved a deep pain for us because of the passing away of my wife's sister. Even so, we take the "angelic" names of her two boys as a sign that God's angels will accompany us on our way.

In the Gospel of John 15:5, Christ says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing". This is our wish for the Martin Luther Church, together with the new Pastor's family Ceconi: that you may be deeply connected to our Living Lord, receive out of these roots courage and hope for the way ahead, and bear much fruit within this rhythm of daily work

and festive joy. A heartfelt Thank-You to all of you, may the gracious God bless and guide you! And whenever your travelling brings you close to the nice region of Franconia, welcome at our place in Roethenbach an der Pegnitz!

Your Heike Block-Mielke and Alexander Mielke

### President's News

Warm greetings to all of you. We are looking forward to an event-filled time in our congregational life and hope you will join us by participating in planned activities.

Sometimes it feels like the **Pastor Family Mielke** just arrived and now they have to leave already again. But the 6 years are really over and it is time for us to say Good bye. A special **farewell service will take place on June the 23rd at 2:30pm at our church**. Our Dean Rev Linda Douglas, Rev Guenther Dahle as well as Rev Karen Hamilton from the Canadian Council of Churches will take part. After the service we would like to celebrate in our basement. Please let us know if you can attend so that we can better plan the event.

Next:

As in every year, the **special collection** is under way again. This helps us to cover cost during the summer months when attendance is low. We also need some additional funds for some renovation and repairs at the parsonage. The carpets on stair and the upstairs hallway need to be removed and florino replaced and the whole house needs a paint job. We also greatly appreciate any volunteertime you can give to help in and around the parsonage. In addition, if you would like a personal visit regarding the scope of this special collection, please leave your name and telephone number on the answering machine at the church office or speak with our church secretary in person at (416) 251-8293. Members of the Church Council and the congregation will contact you to arrange a convenient time for the visit. The aim of this special collection is, as you know, not only to collect money for the congregation, but also to expand the contact within the congregation and to foster an exchange of ideas. Of course, we are also very happy if you participate in celebrating our Church Services and remit your special donation during these Church visits. **A special donation envelope is enclosed.**

Something else:

A couple days ago I received a request from Bishop Michael Pryse to our congregation for the annual **Praise Appeal Sunday** (16<sup>th</sup> June). All congregations of our synod are asked to make a donation to reach a goal of \$ 55.000. Please check your pockets for \$5 – 55 that our synod can continue its mission work. Did you know, for example, that the Lutheran World Federation is the second largest provider of refugee services in the world? With your donation, you would support this worthwhile cause.

Thank you:

Heartfelt thanks to Robert for fixing the elevator once again, Mel and Ernst for cleaning the eaves troughs and also Dan and Jocelyn for the sparkling windows in the foyer all the way to the very tip of the en-

trance. A last thank you goes to Alfred, Inge and Philip. All three are looking after the garden and lawn in front of our church.

A blessed summer wishes you Iris Schweiger



*You are Invited  
to a Farewell Service  
in Honour of  
Pastor Alexander  
Mielke and Family*

After many years of service, Pastor Alexander Mielke and his family are returning to Germany this summer. On behalf of the Martin Luther Lutheran Church, we would like to extend an invitation to you and your family to join us in paying tribute to the Mielke family's dedication to our congregation and community, and in bidding them a fond farewell. A special service will be held:

*Sunday June 23, 2013  
at 2:30 in the afternoon*

**Dear Congregational members and friends of Martin Luther Church !**

**THOU SHALT NOT: NOT ATTEND OUR SUMMER CAMP!**

Summer camp is fast approaching and I urge you to submit your forms and payment by July 1st. If you are considering going or sending your children, please let me know of your intentions. I will be accepting campers till the start of camp as long as there is space available and I have enough counselors to properly care for your child. That said, we also need a minimum of 40 people to run a successful camp.

**Date & Price:**

SATURDAY July 27th to FRIDAY Aug 2nd.

Camper: \$288 Group rate: \$250/person (families with 3 or more, aged 8 and up).  
Family Rate: \$452 (1 adult + child, aged 4 to 7) kids aged 0-3 are free, extra child: \$178. Seniors: \$225

All prices quoted herewith are for the full week and contain all applicable taxes.

Daily camp rates are also available for those who cannot stay the week.

Bus rate is \$62/person or \$94/family, single trip or return, availability will depend on demand.

**Important Forms required:**

The registration form is required for everyone attending camp, including adults. The bus form is required if you are taking the bus to/from camp. Where payment for the above is required, please make a cheque payable to MLC.

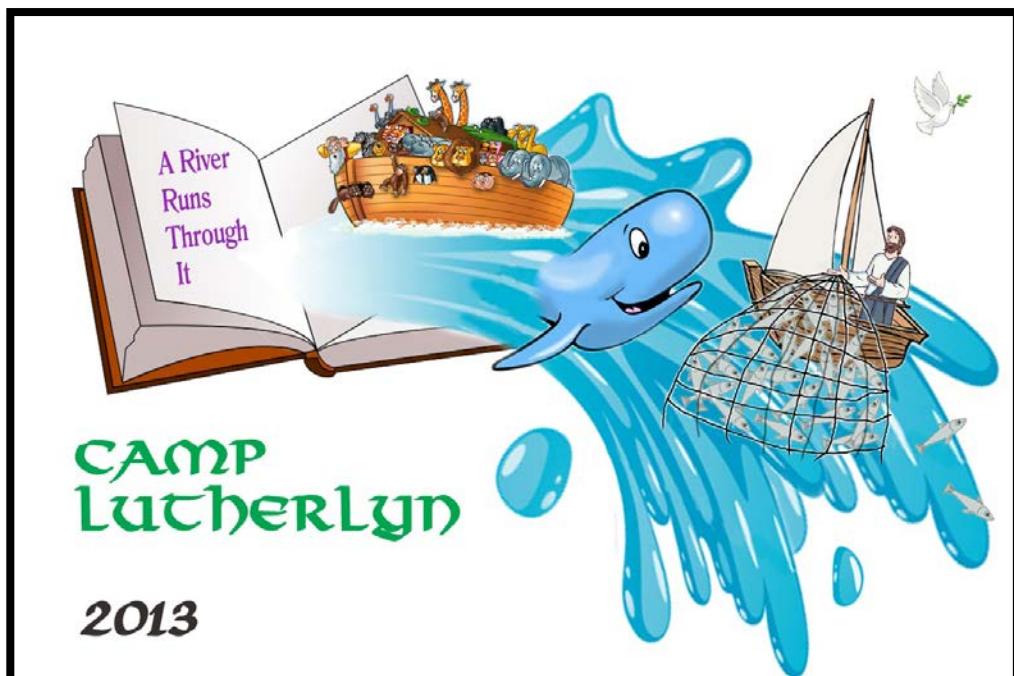
Please sign the Multimedia Release Form, and attach with registration. This form lets us know if you consent to having your picture or video posted on our website or through other media. Failure to remit this form implies consent. You will find copies of all in the Church, or at our website [www.martinluther.ca](http://www.martinluther.ca)

**Final remarks:**

Please make sure your child has money for treats and dinner on the way up Saturday. For those of you driving up, you are welcome to arrive anytime after 2pm, however must provide for your own dinner Saturday evening. The 4-Seasons lodge has a kitchen available for that purpose, Eganville is a 20min car ride away.

Lutherlyn Camp is such a wonderful time of fellowship and Christian spirit (as many of you know). Please keep us in your prayers for the week that we are at camp.

Yours very truly, Dan Sommerfeld



## We are looking forward to Toronto – Greetings from Pastor Christian Ceconi

As of today there will be less than 100 days until we will be leaving for Toronto. The children are full of anticipation since they gain some extra vacation days due to this move. We, the parents, work hard to organize as much as possible in advance.

One day I asked the children, what they look forward to in Toronto:

Emilie, the oldest, who is in grade 3 now, said: "I am excited about the huge Zoo." She hopes to be able to continue to dance ballet. Emilie will also be packing her violin in her luggage.

Anabell, grade 2, known as a great singer in the family, is happy about the big lake: "That is almost like an ocean."

The youngest, Cosima, is four years old and attends kindergarten. She said: "I'm looking forward to my own room with my own desk."

During the preview visit you have probably already met my wife and myself. At the time we were very impressed how energetically everybody supported the congregation and the overall warm atmosphere. Therefore, we are confident that this will be a very good move for our family. Since finishing our higher education we lived in Hannover where my wife worked in the cardiology department of the Medical Faculty. Here I completed my curateship. Since 2003 we have been living and working in Hildesheim: my wife in the Hospital and I in the Markus Church and the Diakonischen Werk.

As a Pastor, I look forward to the new challenges in the Martin Luther Church. I will be using the

first weeks to visit as many of you as possible to get to know you personally. I'm excited to hear about your preferences and expectations and curious to learn more about your congregation and its history.

A guiding principle has been by my side since my ordination. You can find it in 2 Corinthians 1,24: "I do not mean to imply that we lord it over your faith; rather, we are workers with you for your joy, because you stand firm in the faith."

This I wish for during my time at the Martin Luther Church: To share the happiness that our faith brings and to work together with you that this happiness is spread to reach many people.



Until we meet again in person in August we send you blessings.  
Heartfelt greetings,  
Pastor Christian Ceconi and Family

**Please mark your calendar:  
Service with Installation of Pastor Christian Ceconi and Welcome for Family  
Ceconi on Sunday, September 22, 3:00 p.m.**



On April 21, we celebrated a festive service to honour the famous composer Heinrich Schuetz (1585-1672). Invited by Linda Marcinkus, the soloist **Caroline Kuehn** came who already knew our church from earlier contacts. She sang pieces by Schuetz, J.S.Bach and Weatherly/Adams which was delightful for all those attending this joyful worship.

In the middle of April, the **EKD North America Conference** took place in Ottawa. Alexandra and Friedrich Demke (left) were our friendly hosts. For the first time, Olaf Wassmuth and Cordula Schmid-Wassmuth (right) from Washington attended. All the others now have to say farewell. Caren and Frank Kopania (centre) from Miami will return to Hesse in the fall. **OKR Paul Oppenheim** is retiring in June, we do thank him very much for all his friendly and continuing commitment to the relationship between the EKD and the Martin Luther Church, God's blessings for him together with his family!





On May 2, the confirmation class and the youth group had a joint meeting. Members of "**Science for Peace**" let them experience and discuss the actual dangers of international armament, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as our responsibility of Christian Peace Commitment.



*Celebration of Confirmation  
on Pentecost Sunday, May 19*



On May 25 & 26, our Martin Luther Church participated for the first time in "**Doors Open Toronto**". Many volunteered before and during this event, thank you so much! At the entrance, banners invited into our church, these had to be picked up at the City, then to be installed. In the windows, explanations about the rich symbolism could be explored. Twice Linda Marcinkus was performing organ recitals. On the hour, visitors could watch a short film about Lutheranism. A big Thank-You to Gisela Wilhelm and our DOT Committee! On Saturday we had 50 visitors, on Sunday some 30, a good number of people who got into contact with our church, - which shows it could be worthwhile taking part in this event next year again!

In May, one of our members could experience a once-in-a-lifetime event. Christine Rabey who is active in our youth group as well as in the choir was invited to sing at the **Rolling Stones Concert** in Toronto, as a member of the choir of Cawthra Secondary School. The photo shows her with her proud parents – and her awesome Rolling Stones T Shirt!



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## Baptisms

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Leighanne McKenzie, Alexis & Aleah Palacios  
on April 20, 2013

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.  
*Galatians 3:26*

Angelia Sykes  
on June 2, 2013

Jesus says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."  
*Gospel of Matthew 28:19*

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## Funeral Services

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Rudi Hermann Schneider, at the age of 84 years  
on April 29, 2013

Christ says, "I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live."  
*Gospel of John 11:25*

Hilde Haassengier, at the age of 90 years  
on May 30, 2013

God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.  
*Revelation of John 21:4*

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Homepage and List Administrator: Mona Frantzke; Mailing List: Anita Ratz

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## Sunday Services of the Martin Luther Church in summer 2013

June 9: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Alexander Mielke

June 16: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Alexander Mielke

June 23: 2:30 p.m. Farewell Service (with Holy Communion)  
for Pastor Mielke and Family, followed by reception

June 30: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Alexander Mielke

July 7: 9:45 a.m. English, 11:00 a.m. Germ. Service – Pastor Harry Oussoren (WesleyMimicoUnitedChurch)

July 14: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Joachim Knaack

July 21: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Gerhard Hille

July 27 – August 2, Saturday – Friday, Summer Camp at the Golden Lake

July 28: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Gerhard Hille

August 4: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Gerhard Hille

August 11: 9:45 a.m. Engl., 11:00 a.m. German Service (both Communion) – Pastor Gerhard Hille

August 18: 11:00 a.m. Joint Service –  
Pastor Christian Ceconi & Pastor Gerhard Hille

August 25: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Christian Ceconi

September 1: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Christian Ceconi

September 8: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Christian Ceconi

September 15: 9:45 a.m. English Service, 11:00 a.m. German Service – Pastor Gerhard Hille

September 22, 3:00 p.m.: Installation of Pastor Ceconi & Welcome for his Family