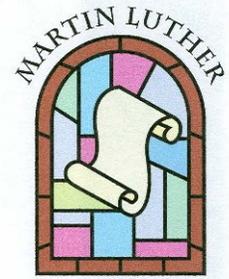


Congregational newsletter



LUTHERAN CHURCH
— Founded 1955 Gegründet —

March 2013

DEVOTION

Dear Fellow Christians !

"Christ our life, you are alive to offer re-creation" – I remember this Easter praise when I look at the picture in the middle. This picture – together with many more – was a big help when I worked in the East African steppe among the Maasai. Sister Katharina Kraus painted these pictures. She was a veterinarian in a Catholic clinic and since she loved painting used this for the Gospel.

Here we see a Maasai woman, in her ordinary blue garment, being surprised by an appearance of Christ. Here I think of Mary Magdalene who is so sad while she walks to the tomb, in her hand the container with the spices, and then discovers that Jesus is alive!

In the middle of her daily life, this Maasai woman is touched by Jesus' word. In her hand, she holds a kibuyu, a traditional gourd, usually filled with milk or water. It symbolizes the pains of the daily life, the daily tasks and difficulties. But Mary encounters the Risen Christ, and this renews her life. The colours indicate this already: her garment is dark-blue, her head is

surrounded by the gloomy purple of Lent. But the Risen Christ radiates in bright white and gold.

"Mary!" – in the moment when Jesus addresses her so individually, she recognizes him. "Master!" – her answer expresses all the happiness of this surprising discovery. Jesus is not dead, no, he is risen, her master is alive! "Go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" These are only a few words of her Master, but they will change everything.



The woman who had just to obey and work in the traditional African society, she now has been sent to share the Good News with the men. She will be a teacher and preacher for the whole community. I felt privileged to witness this change in the Maasai

society, women receiving a new dignity from the Good News.

Kathy Galloway from the Iona Community has praised the Risen Christ with these words.

Christ our life, you are alive
in the beauty of the earth
in the rhythm of the seasons
in the mystery of time and space
Alleluia

Christ our life, you are alive
in the tenderness of touch
in the heartbeat of intimacy
in the insights of solitude
Alleluia

Christ our life, you are alive
in the creative possibility
of the dullest conversation
the dreariest task
the most threatening event
Alleluia

Christ our life, you are alive
to offer re-creation
to every unhealed hurt
to every deadened place
to every damaged heart
Alleluia

You set before us a great choice.
Therefore we choose life.
The dance of resurrection soars and surges
through the whole creation.
It sets gifts of bread and wine upon our table.
This is grace, dying we live.
So let us live.

*Kind regards and blessings,
your Pastor Alexander Mielke*

As we did in the past years, there are German Lent Devotions on Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.

We very cordially invite to another highlight in our Martin Luther Church, the **Easter Sunrise Service**. For this we gather on the shore of the **Lake Ontario** and celebrate the Easter Message while we can see the sun rising over the silhouette of Toronto, an amazing experience! We will be meeting on Easter Sunday, **March 31, at 6:30 a.m.**, at the last parking lot of Humberbay Park West. After that, we continue to celebrate with a delicious Easter Breakfast in the church. Welcome and enjoy pancake and maple syrup! Later, at 10:00 a.m., there is our Festive Easter Service in the church. Very welcome!



ENJOY SACRED MUSIC IN OUR MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH !

On **Palm Sunday, March 24**, the male voice choir "**Harfentoene**" will sing pieces from the mass of Michael Haydn as well as from J.S.Bach in the German service at **11:00 a.m.** Richard Heinzle will direct this performance.

Our congregational choir under the direction of Linda Marcinkus will sing on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

For Sunday, **April 21**, Linda arranges a special musical worship in memory of the famous German composer Heinrich Schuetz (1585 – 1672). In the Joint Service which starts at 11:00 a.m. , the **soloist Caroline Kuehn** will sing.

Unfortunately, our Mount Alverno Retreat was cancelled, after a few took ill shortly before. Instead, we will meet on a Saturday, May 4, for the topic „Great Teachers of Protestantism“.

For about two years, the Etobicoke Lakeshore Faith Communities Leaders Network has been meeting regularly. Our regular meetings will now bear fruit in a special way. On **May 25th and 26th**, our network will take part in **“Doors Open Toronto”**. That means that the MLC has the opportunity to welcome those who set out in connection with this action weekend. In this way, a wider public can become aware of our church and our work; also, we can get to know some neighbours. Please mark this date in your calendar, **we need many volunteers at this time who will be present** and able to give information about our congregation and invite people!

We are looking to replace our Church snow blower that has chewed up too much snow and salt this winter.

If you are moving, selling your home, or just planning to buy a new one and don't know what to do with the old one...

Consider donating it to Church! We are looking for a minimum 10 HP motor with a 24" clearing path.

Regards, Dan Sommerfeld

Please mark your calendar:

Sommer Camp 2013

July 27 – August 2, 2013

"A River Runs Through"



Our new Church Council:

From left to right, front row: Anna Lisa Wienecke (Finance-Team), Darren Wilmer, Martin Haefele (Treasurer), Keith Rabey (Vice President);

2nd row: Iris Schweiger (President), Karl Kriese (Rendant), Irene Zielke, Gisela Wilhelm;

3^d row: Pastor Alexander Mielke, Larissa Mattwich (Finance-Team), Catherine Wolf-Becker, Marlena Mueller, Tanya Zielke; unfortunately not on this photo: Ernie Wienecke.

At the Annual Meeting on Feb 24, it was decided that in the future we would also offer **grape juice at the Holy Communion**. You will find the grape juice in a few extra individual glasses on a small tray. This should be helpful for those youth who are not used to wine as well as for those adults who prefer the non-alcoholic way of celebrating the Holy Communion.

Dear fellow Congregants,

*We would like to try to **coordinate rides for those individuals who would like to attend church**, however are unable to due to lack of TTC in their area or riding the TTC is too difficult, etc. Please leave a message for me, Dina Vanczar at mlcrides@yahoo.com or leave a message at 416-919-2432 (she has voice mail in English and French) with your name, telephone number, home address and how often you wish to attend church, weekly, bi-weekly, English or German or for Joint Services. Dina will call or email you to confirm your information and/or to provide you with your "RIDE" as soon as she can.*

We also ask that those who would be willing to provide rides to contact Dina as outlined above. Please clearly state your name, telephone number and how often you would be willing to provide a ride, weekly, bi-weekly, English, German or Joint Services, etc.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and patience as we try to put this initiative together.

Drive safe, Dina

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Watchword for March 2013:

Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive. Luke 20:38

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 3 <i>Lent</i> 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Installation of the new Church Council Pastor Mielke	4	P. Mielke in <i>Church Office</i> 9:30 – 12:30 6:00 p.m. Congregational Choir	6	6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m. German Contact Circle in Bonhoeffer-Church	8	9
March 10 <i>Lent</i> 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Both with Holy Communion Pastor Mielke	11	P. Mielke in <i>Church Office</i> 9:30 – 12:30 6:00 p.m. Congregational Choir	13	14	15	16
March 17 <i>Lent</i> 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Mielke	18	P. Mielke in <i>Church Office</i> 9:30 – 11:00 6:00 p.m. Congregational Choir	20	10:00 a.m. Faith Communities Network in MLC 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	22	23
March 24 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service with Male Voice Choir "Harfentoene" Pastor Mielke	25	6:00 p.m. Congregational Choir	27	Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. German Service with Holy Communion Pastor Mielke	Good Friday 9:45 Engl. Serv. 11:00 Germ. S. Both with Holy Communion Pastor Mielke With our Choir	30
March 31 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 6.30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Serv HumberBayPark West 10.00 am Festive Joint Serv Engl & Germ With our Choir Pastor Mielke		April 7 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Mielke	April 14 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Both with Holy Communion Pastor Mielke	April 21 11:00 Joint Service, to honour Heinrich Schuetz, with Soloist Caroline Kuehn P. Mielke	April 28 9:45 Engl. Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Heike Block-Mielke April 26-28 <i>Confirmants' Retreat with Pastor Mielke</i>	May 4 Saturday Retreat Day in the MLC "Great Teachers of Protestantism"

Sunday School and Open Nursery during both services !