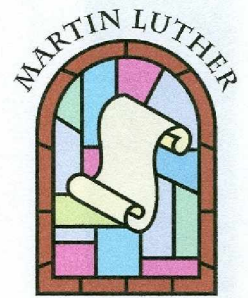


# CONGREGATIONAL NEWSLETTER



LUTHERAN CHURCH  
— Founded 1955 Gegründet —

May and June 2006

## Devotion on the Verse of the Month for May

*Dear Congregation,*

The New Testament has a very particular attitude towards freedom. As people of the 21st century, we think that it is necessary for us to live in a democratic environment, or to have sufficient individual space around us in order to be truly free. We think that money makes us free or that equality of opportunities and certain rights guarantee freedom. I do not say that this is wrong; I only say that the Bible concentrates on something quite different on this point. Freedom is not if someone is totally independent in every aspect. Paul, who wrote the verse of the month, can, in spite of the fact that he sits in prison, declare himself to be free. Democracy did not exist when he lived, and rights and financial security were minute. In his opinion, he is free, who lets himself be freed by Christ from religious regulations. He proceeds afield with his freedom plea against a view that insists: "Follow all laws and commandments, and in the end you will overcome all your sins." He says: The law accuses us, because we cannot follow it anyway. All religious rules, as much as one would try, confront us with merely with our own weakness and inconsequence. Hold fast to the freedom of the law and do not permit that it be laid

**For freedom Christ has set us free;  
stand steadfast therefore;  
and do not submit again  
To a yoke of slavery!**

Galatians 5, 1

back unto your shoulders again like a yoke. Christ has freed us from sin; through him we are reconciled with God, free before God. – That, however, does not mean, as Paul's opponents apparently understood, that Christians can do as they please. We are, in fact free, but only free "in Christ". And that meant

that only there, where God's Spirit is, there is also freedom. We are not only free of something; we have the freedom for something. We can give love where people would face each other really only as enemies. We do not insist on our right, but can be so free as to renounce our right and let mercy come before right. We do not have to repay and be solely concerned with our own well-being, but we

can support others, even though we must put up with difficulties. It is about, as you perhaps understand, an inner freedom, which faith gives. I remember the story where two children who talked about a mouse which had got lost in a cellar once. "Someone let the cat into the cellar, and now it started: The cat jumped on the mouse, missed it, however – but only in play. It knew that it was a sure prey. The mouse flitted from corner to corner in a panic-stricken attempt to save itself, but there was



not way out at all.” – “And then, asked the other, what happened? Was it eaten up?” – “No, father opened the door” – I think this story points out clearly, what Christian freedom truly is: There is

always a door, which the Father in heaven has opened for us”

With best wishes for the months of May and June, I remain with kind regards,  
Your Pastor

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## Special Collection

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We thank already now for all donations which have reached us during the past weeks! We hope that as many members as possible take part in the collection and that we can conclude it by the end of June. It has been quite successful to start with it so early in the year, so that we can complete the projects in time, which were decided during the Annual General Meeting.

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## Our Confirmands

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Another confirmands group approaches confirmation! After more than a year of concentrated instruction, the learning by heart of important texts, which are used in the Church Services of the congregation, the reading of a complete gospel and dealing with our Lutheran traditions, our confirmands, Stephanie Boyce, Allison Ganter, Annika und Ella Rinas, are now looking forward to their big day. On Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, we invite the entire congregation, the confirmands and their parents and families to a Holy Communion Service at the Church at 6:00 p.m. As in the years before, this marks the festive commencement of the

Confirmation. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, the confirmation then takes place in a festive Church Service at 10:00 a.m. We ask you as a congregation, to take part in the Church Services and to be with the confirmands through your prayers. We wish the four confirmands all the very best and God’s blessing on their road through life.



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## Congregational Picnic on May 28<sup>th</sup>

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Once again a reminder of the Picnic and the detailed program:

- 9:30 a.m.!**     **THE BUS IS LEAVING FROM THE CHURCH. Please be on time!**
- 11.00 a.m.**    **Church Service for the entire family**  
                  **„The Man, the Way and the Light“**  
                  **with the church choir, brass band and a paragraph from the Acts**
- 12.00 noon**    **Joint Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m.**     **A game for everyone!**
- Followed by**   **Crafts, singing, hiking, playing soccer... Offers for big and small.**
- 4:00 p.m.**     **Joint (brief!) Conclusion**

**Please do not forget to bring your own lunch, plate, cutlery and also a cup for tea or coffee. We want to ask you to stay together during lunch time!**

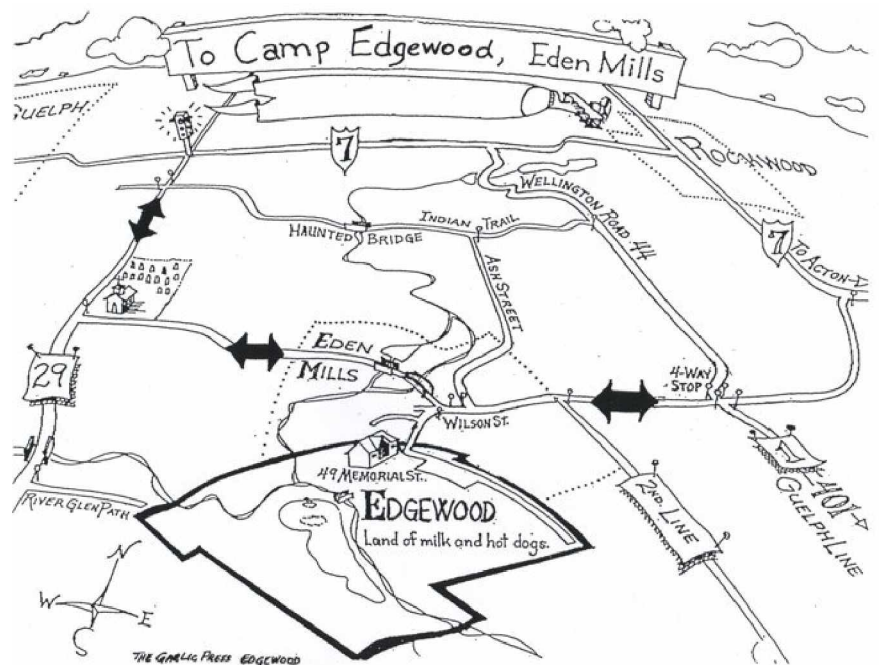
*How you reach the Camp:*

**From Toronto:**

- Highway 401 West
- Guelph Line 1, exit northbound
- Through town of Brookville
- Stay on Guelph Line until you come to a 4 way stop (huge stop-sign)
- Turn left to Eden Mills and follow signs to the Camp

**There is a Bus driving to Camp.**

*Please come and bring along your Family!!!*



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## *A lot of fun in the Seniors' Circle*

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Once again, we want to cordially invite to the Seniors' Circle, which meets every third Tuesday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. At the last meeting we played games, made crafts and carried on conversations, watched a movie of Lutheran Churches and ate together. The circle is intended for all people over 65 years, and its purpose is mainly to bring people together and offer them a few hours of fun. From the beginning, we have included lunch into our meetings, as many people are often alone during meals – and in a group it always tastes better! We would be very happy to have more suggestions and greater attendance. Simply drop in the next time. As you will see, there is a lot of laughter!



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## *Roof Work has begun!*

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Have you also been astonished at the dust on the pews? That is caused by the roof work which has begun recently. The roof pantiles are being exchanged. After many years, leaks have developed. In windy weather, we have always found parts of the old roofing in the playground of the nursery. Finally, something had to be done. The work is not very easy, because we have to protect the surrounding buildings and the nursery children. We are glad, however, that it happened so quickly now, for during this season, roofers are hard to get.

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## *Thanks for Supply Work*

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I also wish to express here in this way my thanks to Pastor Katharina Moeller and Pastor Herbert Harms for supplying during my stay in Germany.

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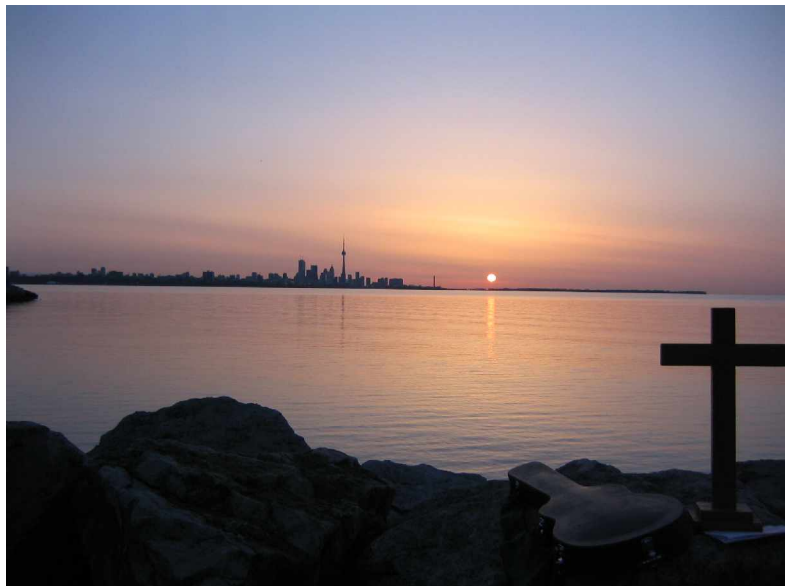
## A Glance back to Easter 2006

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Almost 80 participants celebrated the “Easter Sunrise Service“. The weather was perfect As Easter was quite late this year, it was not excessively cold, when we gathered at 5:30 a.m. at the lake. This year, the theme “Light” has accompanied us through the Easter Season. Our Service began at a cross, illuminated by torches, on which we lit our candles. We have focused on the fact that the cross indeed had not been the end of the story of Jesus, but a new beginning. The women discover at the grave that the stone had been rolled away and that God makes the way free for a life in the hope of the resurrection. After that, we have given out stones, which should remind us that whenever we think

that something lies in our way, we can trust that God helps us to remove these hindrances. As we proceeded on our way, we thought of the Emmaus disciples and of how they recognized Jesus in his breaking of bread, when they sat down at the table to eat with him. God has communion with us – we celebrated this by the breaking of bread and distributing it. The conclusion with prayer and song and the rising of the sun has shown us: Even though paths begin in darkness, God’s light expels all darkness. – After breakfast, which had been prepared by Dan Sommerfeld and Keith Rabey, we have celebrated a joyful Easter Service, which was about the question, where the Easter Bunny originated and what can be the fitting symbol for resurrection. Into a grave built with stones in the altar room, a candle was placed – the light, which Christ is for the world, cannot even be extinguished by death. On the following Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Family Service with baptisms, we have taken the light out of the grave and reflected on how we can spread it in the world; for, after all, Jesus has said that we are the light of the world. The Church Service, too, was, because of the extraordinary large participation, a joyous feast, where we once again truly celebrated the Easter message. To all who participated, once again, cordial thanks. It was a truly successful Easter.



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## *Important Dates*

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### *A cordial invitation to the Mother's Day Church Service*

On **Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**, it is Mother's Day again! On this day, there will be a joint Service at 11:00 a.m. with the traditional luncheon prepared by the men of the congregation. The men will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the church! We would be very glad to have a great number take part.

### *Church Service on Christ's Ascension Day*

As in the past year, there will be a joint Church Service with the other Lutheran congregations. It will take place on **Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**, at our church at 7:00 p.m. Following the Service, we invite to a cup of coffee. Afterwards, the German Cluster Circle of the Lutheran Churches meets.

### *Congregational Picnic on May 28<sup>th</sup> at Camp Edgewood*

We want to draw your attention to our Congregational Picnic at this time already. Please note down May 28<sup>th</sup>. This year again, a terrific program for all ages awaits you! We begin with a Family Service at 11:00 a.m.! As last year, a bus drives from the church to the camp at 9:30 a.m. Please bring something to eat! Coffee will be prepared – we ask for cake donations.

### *Summer Camp*

The date for the summer camp is confirmed. This year, it will take place from July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>.

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### *The last Word*

**Inner freedom is the ability,  
to laugh about oneself.**

**Before others do that.**

(Peter Amendt)

Lutherlyn is in Eaganville on Golden Lake. Please contact Dan Sommerfeld (905-274-6602) or Pastor Wolf (Email: [fralupus@rogers.com](mailto:fralupus@rogers.com); 416-456-2487), so that we can send you information and a registration form. At the same time we ask all, who want to come along as helpers, to contact Pastor Wolf immediately. As last year, we will hire a bus for the drive there and back.

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### *Just a few tickets left*

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Whoever wants to take part in the visit to the theatre in Niagara-on-the-Lake on **October 21<sup>st</sup>** needs to hurry! There are only a few tickets left for the play by George Bernard Shaw "Arms and the Man. A ticket costs \$ 58. Please contact Hans Vetter, Telephone: 416-367-0378.

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### *We buried*

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**Heidi Strachan**

**Lisa Rettka**

**Eugenie Helene Zirke**

**Do not fear, for I redeemed you;  
I have called you by your name,  
You are mine. - Jesaja 43, 1**

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### *We Baptized*

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**Sabrina Victoria Bauman**

**The Lord is my Light and my Salvation.  
Psalm 27:1**

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### Contact Information

Martin Luther Church

2379 Lakeshore Blvd. West

Toronto, ON, M8V 1B7

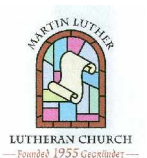
Telephone: 416-251-8293, Fax: 416-259-2889

Pastor Wolf

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## May 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jubilate</b> <b>7</b> 09:45 Engl.Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Wolf	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
	19:00 Confirmation Group I	16:00 Literary Circle 18:00 Nursery Board	19:00 Women's Group 19:00 Church Council		19:30 Church Choir	
<b>Mother's Day</b> <b>14</b> 11:00 Joint Church Service followed by lunch Pastor Wolf	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	19:00 Confirmation Group II	11:00 – 13:00 Seniors' Circle	09:00 Mission Circle  13:00 German Bible Discussion Group	19:00 English Bible Discussion Group	19:30 Church Choir	
<b>Rogate</b> <b>21</b> 09:45 Engl.Service 11:00 German Service Holy Communion in Both Services Pastor Wolf	<b>Victoria Day</b> <b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Christ's Ascension</b> <b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
			09:00 Mission Circle	19:00 Church Service, followed by German Cluster	19:30 Church Choir	
<b>Exaudi</b> <b>28</b> <b>PICNIC CAMP</b> <b>EDGEWOOD</b> 11:00 Service (see Article!) Pastor Wolf	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
	19:00 Confirmation Group I (Church)		09:00 Mission Circle  18:30 Board of Directors Moll Berczy House			

Every Sunday there is Sunday School during the Church Services!

## June 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>18:00 Holy Communion Service on the Eve of Confirmation</b> Pastor Wolf
<b>Pentecost Confirmation 4</b>  <b>10:00 Confirmation Service</b> Pastor Wolf	<b>5</b>  19:00 Confirmation Group II	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  09:00 Mission Circle	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  19:30 Church Choir	<b>10</b>
<b>Trinity 11</b> 09:45 Engl.Service 11:00 German Service Holy Communion in both Services Pastor Wolf	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  16:00 Literary Circle 18:00 Nursery Board	<b>14</b>  19:00 Ladies' Group 19:00 Church Council	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  19:30 Church Choir	<b>17</b>
<b>1. Sunday after Trinity 18</b>  09:45 Engl.Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Wolf	<b>19</b>  19:00 Confirmation Group II	<b>20</b>  11:00 – 13:00 Seniors' Circle	<b>21</b>  09:00 Mission Circle  13:00 German Bible Discussion Group	<b>22</b>  19:00 English Bible Discussion Group	<b>23</b>  19:30 Church Choir	<b>24</b>
<b>2. Sunday after Trinity 25</b>  09:45 Engl.Service 11:00 German Service Pastor Wolf	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  09:00 Mission Circle  18:30 Board Meeting Moll Berczy House	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  19:30 Church Choir	

Every Sunday there is Sunday School during the Church Services!



## Notes