

From: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada info@elcic.ca
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ELCIC NEWS

The newsletter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

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1. Earth Week: Together For the Love of Creation

Faith Communities

You are all invited to be part of
Earth Week 2025
and join in a climate justice activity...

PRAYING, LEARNING, ACTING

April 20-27





Earth Week 2025

Together for the Love of Creation

From April 20 to 27, [For the Love of Creation](#) is marking Earth Week 2025 with Together for the Love of Creation. All faith communities are invited to be part of Earth Week and join with others across the country to engage in praying, learning, and advocating for climate justice! This coming Together for the Love of Creation is a way to connect, grow, listen, inspire hope, and affect change. There are already 100 events planned for Earth Week happening all across the country! To check out an event near you, [please click here](#).

Related Items on Climate Justice:

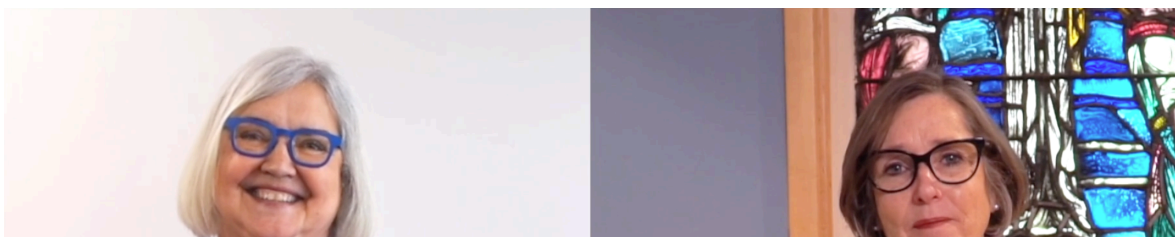
Reflections On A Low-Carbon Life: April Reflection is Here

The ELCIC Task Force on Carbon Neutrality is writing monthly reflections on climate justice to encourage engagement, share resources, and call for prayer, reflection, and learning. The reflection for the **month of April** from Mary Philip aka Joy, PhD (she/her), is now available. To read this month's reflection, [please click here](#).

New Climate Justice Tools "Hope for the Children"

As the [World Council of Churches](#) (WCC) debuted its new resource on legal tools for climate justice, the focus was on hope for children - a hope strongly backed by knowledge on how churches can hold financial actors accountable for their role in perpetuating the climate crisis. To read this article, download this resource and more, [please click here](#).

2. Church Leaders Share Hopeful Easter Message





[Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan Johnson and [Anglican Church of Canada](#) (ACC) Acting Primate Archbishop Anne Germond share a joint Easter message as they reflect on the new world order put in place by Christ's resurrection. ELCIC member congregations are welcome to download and include this Easter message in their worship services. To view and download in various file sizes and formats, [please click here](#).

3. Leaders Speak Out on Al Ahli Hospital Attack



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada**

Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love



The Anglican Church of Canada

ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson and ACC Acting Primate Anne Germond have shared a joint statement following the recent hospital bombing in Gaza City. To read the full statement, [please click here](#).

4. North America - Holy Land Solidarity Visit Statement





Bishops from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land have written a letter following a group solidarity visit to the Holy Land. To read the full letter, [please click here.](#)

5. Join Online Workshops to Learn and Talk About Racism



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) is once again hosting a series of online workshops surrounding themes of racism and racial justice. Led by Carmen Ramirez, Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the four webinars will

Hernandez, Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the four webinars will focus on learning how to start conversations, addressing racism both within the church and in Canadian society as a whole. The four online meetings will take place on **Tuesday evenings beginning on April 29**, and are **free for members of the ELCIC**. The four sessions are intended to be taken consecutively. To find out the dates, times and links for these webinars, please [click here](#).

Related News on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

Register for the Next Engage Difference! Event

Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry (DUIM) is a five-day interactive and engaging program with practical ideas for implementation in your own context. This program is for ministry leaders and community members nurturing cultural relevance, understanding, and awareness in their communities. The next DUIM event is **on May 26-30, 2025** in Mayfair United Church, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. For more information on this event including bursaries and registration details, [please click here](#). You may also download the [event poster](#) and share it with your network!

6. Compassionate Justice

Election Resources for ELCIC Members - *updated*

As we approach Canada's federal election **on April 28**, ELCIC members may use the following resources from our partners. To support informed decision-making, we encourage you to explore these resources.

[KAIROS 2025 Election Toolkit](#)

[CPJ's Public Justice at the Polls: Election Bulletin 2025](#)

[The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Justice and Hope for All: A Federal Election Resource](#)

[The Canadian Council of Churches' 2025 Election Guide](#)

AI in Ministry: Tools You Can Use, Theology You Can Preach

A three-session online course *AI in Ministry: Tools You Can Use, Theology You Can Preach* is being offered to ministers and church leaders on how you can or might use artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance your ministry. As AI tools become more accessible, they're already shaping how we write, think, and relate - within and beyond the church. This series will offer hands-on experience with AI tools relevant to ministry, while creating space for theological reflection on how AI can be at work in prayer, preaching and pastoral care. The instructor Dr. Erin Green is a theologian, writer, and communications professional with experience in academic, church, and NGO contexts. Dr. Erin Green offers this three-part continuing education course **this coming June**. To find out more if you're interested or to share with your network, [please click here](#).

7. Youth Ministry and Leadership

CLAY 2025 Registration - Early Bird Registration Extended to May 15!



Registration for CLAY 2025 opened on February 15. If you and your Home Team haven't registered yet, you can do so now and take advantage of the early bird rates! Please visit: www.claygathering.ca. Stay up-to-date with CLAY news by giving their Facebook and Instagram a follow, and [sign-up for the newsletter](#) today!

Applications for Advanced Study Grants for 2025 Now Available

The Advanced Study Program provides awards to [Continuing Education Plan \(CEP\)](#)

The **Advanced Study Program** provides grants to [Continuing Education Plan \(CEP\)](#) members who are engaged in a study program that leads to an advanced degree or to a diploma. Grants are awarded through an application process and are evaluated by the Program Committee for Leadership for Ministry (PCLM). Their evaluation is based on how the proposed program of study will provide growth for effective ministry and will support the ELCIC's mandate to be a church in mission for others. For more information, please visit our [website](#). We encourage that you apply using our easy online form! This is available on the [GSI website](#). Applications must be received **by May 15, 2025**.

Charitus Pym Legacy Fund Grant: Planting the Seed

[Charitus](#) is offering a grant to congregations, ELCIC Synods and other Charitus stakeholders to apply for the Charitus Pym Legacy Fund Grant: Planting the Seed for CLAY 2025 - Rooted and Rising. This fund is designed to support youth attendance at CLAY 2025 in Saskatoon; the funding of \$500 is being offered to each congregation or group to support fundraising initiatives aimed at assisting youth with the financial commitments necessary to attend and/or register for CLAY 2025. For more information and to learn how to apply, [please click here](#).

DOTAC Seminar Series: Mondays in May

This year, the [Diakonia of the Americas and the Caribbean \(DOTAC\)](#) Education Committee is holding their fifth annual "**Mondays in May: DOTAC Seminar Series on Diakonia.**" The focus this year will be on the publication *Diaconal Studies: Lived Theology for the Church in North America*. Many former Mondays in May presenters have contributed to the 21 chapters in the volume. DOTAC wants to do one section of the book in each of their four Mondays in May, and have one presenter from that section lead our time together. Scheduled dates in May include **May 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. CDT**. For more information on this seminar series including the book and study guide to be used, please [click here](#).

8. Effective Partnerships

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for **Sunday, April 20**:

ACC: The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Algoma

ELCIC: The congregations of the Southern Manitoba area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

TOGETHER: Climate justice and healthy relationships with the earth

AON Update: Easier Insurance Solutions for ELCIC Member Churches

Good news! AON has made changes to better serve congregations within the ELCIC.

They now operate through a centralized management system, with AON's Affinity Group as the new go-to contact and with Matthew Bowden as manager. One big improvement - churches can now send rental groups directly to Affinity Group for insurance instead of requiring them to find their own. The Affinity Group will handle billing and coverage separately, making the process hassle-free. They also offer special event and smaller church policies to meet your needs. These are just a few ways the Affinity Group is making insurance simpler. For more details and contact information, [please click here](#).

9. 2025 ELCIC National Convention

Register for Our National Convention - *Deadline is April 30*

Are you a delegate to the 2025 ELCIC National Convention? The [2025 National Convention](#) of the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) is open for registration for delegates as of April 1st. The Registration Information Package and Agenda are both available online at: <https://elcic.ca/national-convention/>. Please also visit this webpage for updates on our 2025 National Convention. Other pieces of information will be uploaded as they become available. For any questions on the registration process, please contact the convention manager, Peace Anthony-Idoko at nationalconvention@elcic.ca. **Deadline for registrations is on April 30th.**

10. From the National Office

Summer Sermon Series 2025



For the sixth year in a row, the ELCIC bishops and assistants to the bishops have agreed to provide sermons for congregational use **from April to September 2025**.

Resources include both text and video files of the sermons for each week. These are downloadable files that may be used as part of your congregation's worship in whatever works best for your context.

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As sermons are submitted and edited, they will be posted publicly to the online folder and made available for download.

Not only are the sermons helpful to use if you need to cover vacation leave over the summer but they are a wonderful way to introduce members of your congregation to our bishops and assistants to the bishops from across the ELCIC.

[To access these resources, please complete the following form by clicking here.](#)

Job Opportunity: Eternity for Today

The ELCIC is looking for a new editor for its quarterly devotional publication, *Eternity for Today*. [View the full job description here.](#) The remote editor's role would begin on July 1, 2025. For more information or to apply for the posting, please email tgallop@elcic.ca or pwall@elcic.ca. The deadline for applications is **May 15, 2025**.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY --> *Canada Lutheran* and *Eternity for Today*

To our current ***Eternity for Today*** subscribers - by now you should have received your **April-May-June issue**. We've been advised of potential printing issues with this edition. Please take a moment to check for any errors, such as missing or misordered pages. If you notice any issues, kindly let us know as soon as possible (email info@elcic.ca or call our office at [204-984-9150](tel:204-984-9150)) and we will ensure you receive a correct copy asap! Thank you for your support of our national publication - we appreciate you!

ELCIC congregations are encouraged to complete their **2025 renewals** as soon as possible so they don't miss out on any upcoming issues. If you need a link to your online renewal form, please contact us at office@elcic.ca.

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--> Eternity for Today subscription form: <https://www.simplecirc.com/subscribe/eternity-for-today>

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Encourage them to [sign up for ELCIC NEWS today.](#)

ELCIC News is an electronic Newsletter full of information and resources from the ELCIC National Office.

Please share this information widely.

Forward this email to others in your congregation.

Items can also be copied and pasted into worship bulletins, calendars and announcements.

Follow the ELCIC on social media by following the links below:



Contact us:

ELCIC News
400-185 Carlton St,
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3J1
info@elcic.ca

Some of the resources mentioned in ELCIC News are available from the ELCIC National Office. If you prefer to order those materials in print, phone 1.888.786.6707 ext 177 or 204.984.9177; email orders@elcic.ca; or fax your order to 204.984.9185 "Attn Orders Desk". Be sure to fully describe the item and tell us the quantity you need. You will be invoiced when the order is filled.

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