

Worship and the Arts Ministry Team

"Many and great, O God, are your works . . . with you are found the true gifts that last." ELW 837

Our synod's Worship and the Arts Committee, which usually meets twice a year, currently has three members:

Bishop Larry Kochendorfer (Synod office)
Colleen McGinnis (Wetaskiwin) – secretary; editor of the *Adoramus* newsletter
Carolyn Ethier (Lethbridge) – chair; ABT representative on the ELCIC National Program Committee for Worship

This year following our 2016 Synod Convention has been one of collaboration with other ministry teams.

- We partnered with C.A.RE to create worship resources, including liturgy, music and sermon, for use by congregations observing **Mental Health Sunday** in 2017.
- We assisted Leadership Development in designing the March **Congregational Life Event**, which included workshops with some of the people who helped shape our last convention worship: Proclamation with Power: Proclaiming the word of scripture with intentionality and authenticity – *Rev. Dr. Laura Holck*; Words for Worship – *Rev. Daranne Harris*; This is the Night! [Easter vigil] – *Robyn Simpson-Mohr and Rev. Kristian Wold*; plus a worship resource table – *Carolyn Ethier*

We celebrate, too, the many worship events planned by others beyond our group. As part of this year's Reformation 500 commemorations, ecumenical expressions of the **Liberated by God's Grace** hymn festival have been hosted around the synod. Lutherans and others also came together for the excellent **Music that Makes Community** workshop that took place in Calgary this summer.

A new *Adoramus* newsletter is in the works, as is 2018 **weekly diary of prayers and intercessions** for congregations and ministries of the Church, which will again be available on the synod website. Congregations are invited to include these public intercessions in their weekly worship. We are looking forward to coordinating worship planning for the 2018 Synod Convention.

We also want to highlight three items from the national church:

- We are eagerly awaiting details of the **National Anglican/Lutheran Worship Conference** to be held **July 16-19, 2018 in Victoria, BC**. Keep an eye on the National Worship Conference website for details: <http://www.nationalworshipconference.org/>
- To assist congregations in preparing **Sunday worship bulletins**, the ELCIC now produces our church bulletin series, available through <http://churchbulletins.ca/> As this Reformation year featuring door images closes, a new **call for images** has been published. You are invited to contribute images of doors and windows that look out and see in, evoking the mission we all share, which will be used on the bulletin covers for the 2017-2018 liturgical year. Details are posted in Wednesday's Word.
- Finally, through the work of the ELCIC's Program Committee for Worship, a **sermon-sharing program** developed by the BC Synod is being expanded for use by congregations without a full-time minister. Information will be available through the synod office.

As always, you are invited to share through our synod website the ideas and worship resources being created in your own communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Ethier
on behalf of the committee