



May 2018 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God –

Soon we will gather in Convention in Camrose – UofA Augustana Campus – June 14-16, 2018 under the theme based on I Cor. 13:13, **“Faith, Hope, Love: and the greatest of these is love.”** I am appreciative of the work of Wendy Christensen-Grosfield who has again been contracted to serve as Convention Manager. Our Convention Chaplain will be The Rev. Jeff Decelle (Unity Lutheran, Medicine Hat).

Convention highlights will include three keynote presentations and opportunities for conversation facilitated by The Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen (<http://omgcenter.com/about/>). We are planning to video Anna’s presentations which will be made available following Convention.

We will also welcome and hear from our National Bishop Susan Johnson, four guests from The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO): Bishop Atahualpa Hernández Miranda and his wife, Rev. Angélica Bernate Rojas, along with Rev. Diana Carolina Londoño Espinosa and her husband, Óscar Ricardo Niño Durán and ELCA Global Mission Staff, Manager for Relationships, Latin America and the Caribbean, Paulina Dasse, The Rev. Dr. Brian Rude, *En Mision Con El Salvador*: In Mission with El Salvador, the Lutheran Theological Seminary President, The Rev. Dr. Bill Harrison, CLWR, and LCBI.

Convention actions will include a second reading of our Synod Constitution and decision-making related to our Synod By-Laws. Elections for Synod Bishop, Synod Secretary, several Synod Council Positions, Rostered Minister to the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Governors, and Delegates to the 2019 ELCIC National Convention.

I invite your prayers as final preparations are made for the Synod Convention: for Wendy Christensen-Grosfield, for our Convention Chaplain and those preparing for worship; for Anna Madsen as she finalizes her keynote presentations; and for our guests as they journey to be with us. As we gather please be in prayer for each of the elections which will be taking place.

In Christ Jesus –
Shalom,
+Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

*The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15:13