

MEDIA *in mission*



LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA

Partnering with YOU in HIS mission! NEWS from Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada and Lutheran Hour Ministries.



New Year, Fresh Start

The beginning of 2022 brought the opportunity to visit with our friends in Nicaragua at **CPTLN- Cristo para todas las naciones** (Christ for all nations). The CPTLN is the local LLL (Lutheran Laymen's League) office in Nicaragua and has been keeping active, sharing the good news of Christ Jesus at schools, and in the streets. They have never stopped their work, equipping the saints of the Lutheran Church of Nicaragua, supplying booklets and leading workshops for the pastors and deaconesses of all the Nicaraguan Lutheran congregations. The people of Nicaragua have been impacted quite severely by the pandemic, and the CPTLN team uses the opportunities they have, to educate and support the communities they serve by sharing public health information and supplies such as hand sanitizer. Led by their director **Ricardo Arguello**, the team continues to expand and increase their reach with the Gospel. Clarin has been working with the team for many years and during our visit we discussed her promotion to Project Director which will provide her with the title to go along with the splendid work she has been and will continue to do in service to the mission of CPTLN.



Photo: Clarin hard at work in her office in León Nicaragua

We Are Better Together

Back here in Canada the doors for travel and face to face interaction began opening in the spring and suddenly we were thrust back into conferences, conventions, and care in the form of workshops and meetings. It was wonderful to see so many of our brothers and sisters in Christ, joining together in prayer, worship, and fellowship once again. All three LWML districts gathered, and we were blessed to be part of their final district conventions. Those inspiring ladies wasted no time, making up for lost months and quickly putting all their might and mites to work





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#YoungOldLutherans

In July we were excited to take part in the **National Youth Gathering** where kids from across Canada met up to study, sing and celebrate their Canadian Lutheran identity as children who look to the cross. Our church is filled with amazing young people who are excited to be together, and just as excited to share the hope they have in Jesus with others. The future of the Church is well cared for, and we look forward to a future with these talented and faithful young people leading us on.



Still a family tradition

The Lutheran Hour continues to be the biggest part of our budget and while Aleta has been managing all the moving parts of broadcast sponsorships, we have also been looking at how to keep Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the Church on so many stations spread out across the Great White North. This year we have had new listeners to The Lutheran Hour tell us that they



began listening to the broadcast after taking over a sponsorship on a local station from their parents or grandparents who demonstrated their faith and stewardship through The Lutheran Hour for many years. Loyal sponsors, make it possible to face the challenge as growth has developed organically and a multi-generational in-reach program is taking place through the faithful witness of long-term listeners to The Lutheran Hour.



Our digital reach to **French speakers** through Facebook in Canada and beyond continues to grow with increasing demand for resources and materials. Thanks to a partnership with MediaChrist.net (*formerly L'heure Luthérienne*) we have been able to offer daily devotions in French on our Facebook page. To manage the content and provide timely, doctrinally sound responses we invited **Philippe Morel** to work with us on a contract basis from his home in Montréal. He is a member of Ascension Lutheran Church in Montréal, receiving guidance from Pastor David Somers. Philippe is a law student and is also taking the theological training program online in French, offered by the Église Évangélique Luthérienne – Synode de France (ÉÉL-SF).

Supporting Little Lutherans, our Young at Heart Lutherans and those in between!

The April **LLL Canada board of directors** meeting agenda is when we look closely at the budget and planning for the upcoming year. This year, the board was trying to understand how we might build on the existing support we provide for children's faith formation through the Kid's Lectionary Learning. We also felt a strong pull to support congregations with vacancies and dual parish needs and were not sure how to tackle such a demand. The board lifted the needs of the Church and those whom we serve up in prayer and left things up to Him who knows. As the summer progressed, we were presented with opportunities that we thought might be an answer to those prayers.

Once again, we partnered with Lutheran Church Canada's Communications Director Alex Steinke in the LCC/LLL

Summer Intern program and had the opportunity to work with two exceptionally talented #young-oldlutherans. Our primary intern, Erika Schroth-Gajdos worked on several projects in the areas of community engagement and fund-raising, most notably helping us apply for Grants to help develop sustainable income.



In September **Rev. Cody Cooper** joined our team, meaning that the creator of Kid's Lectionary Learning could now help us provide resources beyond the broadly used activity pages. Immediately an additional Teaching Supplement was added to the weekly Canada-wide distribution and is being used for Sunday School instruction, at home review, and in one case is even being used

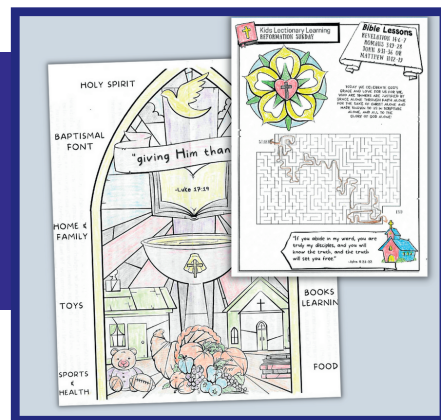
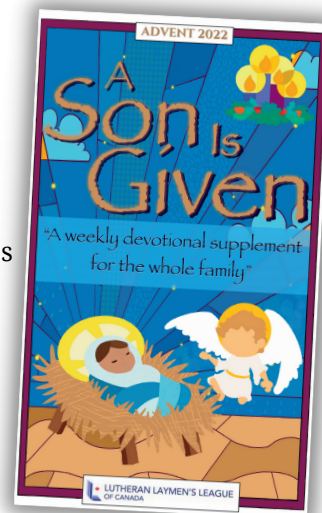
as an educational supplement following worship.

The following feedback came to us from a congregation that does not have a full-time pastor and provided us with assurance that what we are doing may be answering at least some of the needs we were unsure about filling when the board met back in April.



I just wanted to let you know how much the Lectionary learning pages are appreciated by our entire congregation. On Reformation Sunday I was so inspired by the supplement explaining Luther's Rose! So inspired that I spontaneously used it as a "lesson" after the service for everyone attending. It helps to bring the old language of the bible & forgotten catechism lessons to everyone in a way that is easy to absorb. We currently have one child attending services, so there is no Sunday School. This was a way to incorporate a little bit of Sunday School into the service yet not be too childish for the adults. My "lesson" was so well received that I have been asked to add this lesson to every Worship service from now on! Thank-you for helping us reach out & connect to our entire congregation, you are awesome!

As we head into Advent, Rev. Cody has also created a devotional supplement to accompany the Lutheran Hour Ministries Advent Devotion series: **A Son is Given**. The addition provides opportunity for children to take part in their own, targeted devotional life. Weekly colouring pages are also being posted online, so that congregations who offer mid-week services can print them off and make them available for families at worship.



Illuminated Catechism

Due to the positive reception and requests for copies of **The Illuminated Catechism** for new catechumens, we continue to send copies across Canada, in both **English** and our Canadian **French** language version. It is a joy to be able to offer this gift, welcoming newly confirmed children (*and some adults*) into the LCC (*Lutheran Church Canada*) family.



We Are Better Together

In October, several workshops and events that had been perpetually postponed finally took place. I had the pleasure of spending time in devotion and retreat at the BC Church Worker's and Alberta Church Worker's conferences. I also joined a welcoming group in Warman Saskatchewan as we made our way through some of Lutheran Hour Ministries' resources, tackling both ***The Spiritual Conversation Curve***, and ***Households of Faith*** in an intense and focused day of study.



During the same trip out west in October, the newly elected board of directors were installed at the **Annual General Meeting**, hosted by Foothills Lutheran Church in Calgary. Attendees got to hear news from the events of the past year, as well as inspiring updates from **Rev. Cody Cooper**, and **Ron Ludke** (*our Development Officer*) who is working to ensure we have a personal contact with our members and donors.



LLL Canada Board members hearing from staff member Rev. Cody Cooper

NEW Website!

Our website has gotten a much-needed facelift. You can now easily find links to download the Weekly Kid's Pages, get the **latest news** and updates, order and pay for booklets, make donations. Go to **LLL.CA** to check it out!



LLL Canada's mission is to assist in the proclamation of the Gospel by creating, distributing and promoting resources through various media and equipping Christians for outreach.

Board of Directors: President, Joel Haberstock, Coldstream, AB; Treasurer, Stephen Braaten, Regina, SK; Secretary, Brian Wardle, Kitchener, ON; Directors: Joshua Gadjos, London, ON; Ken Schoepp, Surrey, BC; Helga Danielson, Spruce Grove, AB; Rev. Mark Danielson, Spruce Grove, AB; Jane Jacob, London, ON; Pastor Keith Haberstock (pastoral advisor), Fort MacMurray, AB.

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