

ELCIC + Renewing Worship ~ 4

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Welcome to ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP! The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada is a participant in RENEWING WORSHIP, a multi-year, five-phase process, undertaken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, designed to produce the generation of worship resources to succeed the *Lutheran Book of Worship*.

As part of the RENEWING WORSHIP process, a number of Consultation Groups, Development Panels and Editorial Teams have been busy on various aspects of the project.

PRINCIPLES FOR WORSHIP

Throughout 2001 four consultation groups met around the following topics: language, music, preaching and environment for worship. Guided by the ELCA's *The Use of the Means of Grace* (1997) —broader and more detailed than the ELCIC's *Statement on Sacramental Practices* (1991)— the consultations developed *Principles for Worship* for study and response.

Approximately 100 people were involved in this consultation phase. Most were members of the ELCA with additional participation of four ELCIC members and several ecumenical representatives. The ELCIC representation included André Lavergne (language), Karen Johnson-Lefsrud (music), Jann Boyd (preaching) and Lawrence Haave (environment for worship). *Principles for Worship* is now available online at www.renewingworship.org/publications/Principles_for_Worship/ and in book form from Augsburg Fortress. This document makes a terrific study resource for congregational worship teams, councils and adult study groups.

EDITORIAL TEAMS & DEVELOPMENT PANELS

From 2001 through early 2005 small editorial teams are revising and developing proposed worship materials in a variety of areas including (1) Holy Baptism and related rites, (2) rites related to life passages, (3) new hymnody, (4) Holy Communion and related rites, (5) propers and seasonal rites, (6) daily prayer, psalms and canticles and (7) liturgical music. Each editorial team relies on input and response from larger development panels made up of people from across the church who have particular interest or expertise in the area on which the teams are working. Several of the editorial teams and development panels have begun their work.

HOLY BAPTISM AND RELATED RITES

Pastor Donald Johnson, CWA (Victoria, BC), Pastor Paul Johnson (Winnipeg, MB) and Mr. Clement Mehlman (Halifax, NS) serve on the development panel. A trial-use volume called *Holy Baptism and Related Rites* is now available from Augsburg Fortress. Material will also be available at www.renewingworship.org.

rites related to life passages

Pastor Thomas Graham (Saint John, NB) and Pastor Andrew Paulsen (Cambridge, ON) serve on the development panel. Work in this area actually began prior to the ELCIC's joining the RENEWING WORSHIP project. A trial-use *Life Passages* volume will be available in late 2002.

new hymnody

The editorial team includes Pastor Karen Johnson-Lefsrud (Victoria, BC) while Ms. Margaret Harms, CWA (Calgary, AB), Ms. Debbie Lou Ludolph & Pastor Fred Ludolph (Eden Mills, ON) and Mr. Jonathan Mohr and Ms. Robyn Mohr (Camrose, AB) serve on the development panel.

The editorial team recently concluded an appeal for new hymns. ELCIC response was most gratifying. The team is now sifting through thousands of hymns gleaned from published and unpublished sources in the United States, Canada and around the world. A trial-use *New Hymnody* resource is expected next summer (2003).

An earlier trial-use resource called *Congregational Song* is already in print and available from Augsburg Fortress. This volume includes *traditional hymns* having revised texts, texts wedded to new tunes, etc. Much of the *Congregational Song* material is available, copyright-free, online at www.renewingworship.org/publications/Congregational_Song/.

holy communion and related rites

The editorial team includes Pastor James Brown (Waterloo, Ontario) while Pastor Jann Boyd (Saskatoon, SK), Pastor Volker Greifenhagen (Regina, SK), Pastor Harry Maier (Delta, BC) and Bishop Michael Pryse (Kitchener, ON) serve on the development panel. The editorial team has recently begun taking account of the shape and content of the proposed rite and is securing input from members of the development panel. A call for the submission of new eucharistic prayers is expected in the months to come. A trial-use resource will follow in 2004.

trial-use resources

This September, upon the recommendation of the Program Committee for Worship, the ELCIC's National Church Council will be invited to authorize RENEWING WORSHIP trial-use resources for use in the ELCIC. These will include *Congregational Song* and *Baptism and Related Rites* (already available) and *Life Passages* (available late 2002). ELCIC congregations and communities will be encouraged to make use of, and to evaluate, authorized RENEWING WORSHIP trial-use resources. All trial-use resources—web-based and print—come with detailed requests for feedback and response.

helpful web site

For complete details related to the ELCIC's participation in RENEWING WORSHIP, look to the ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP page at the Lift Up Your Hearts www.worship.ca website.

ELCIC + RENEWING WORSHIP COORDINATORS

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