

JOURNAL OF LUTHERAN Mission

December 2015 | Vol. 2 | No. 5

Special Issue

Table of Contents

SERMON FOR INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL—2015 WORLD CONFERENCE, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA BY HANS-JÖRG VOIGT	2
AUGSBURG CONFESSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: CONFESSING THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS BY ALEXEY STRELTSOV	5
CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL REPORT BY HANS-JÖRG VOIGT	12
STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL ON THE DOCUMENT “FROM CONFLICT TO COMMUNION:” LUTHERAN—CATHOLIC COMMON COMMEMORATION OF THE REFORMATION 2017	17
SERMON ON ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS (LUKE 10:20; REV. 12:11) BY ALBERT B. COLLVER III	20
OUR CONFESSION IN AUGUSTANA IV–VI BY SERGIO ADRIÁN FRITZLER	22
DEVOTION ON MATTHEW 6:24–34 BY LAWRENCE R. RAST, JR.	36
AUGUSTANA VII: THE CHURCH AND FELLOWSHIP BY ALBERT B. COLLVER III	38
BRINGING THE REFORMATION TO THE WORLD: THE MEANS OF GRACE BY HANS-JÖRG VOIGT	45
FAITH, ETHNICITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE THOUGHTS AND WORK OF PASTOR VLADISLAV SANTARIUS BY MARTIN PIĘTAK	52
BOOK REVIEW: <i>MISSION SHAPED BY PROMISE: LUTHERAN MISSIOLOGY CONFRONTS THE CHALLENGE OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM</i> BY JOHN T. PLESS	62
BOOK REVIEW: <i>CALLED TO WITNESS: DOING MISSIONAL THEOLOGY</i> BY JOHN T. PLESS	64
BOOK REVIEW: <i>GNOSTIC AMERICA: A READING OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN CULTURE & RELIGION ACCORDING TO CHRISTIANITY’S OLDEST HERESY</i> BY CARL ROCKROHR	66
BOOK REVIEW: <i>CHURCH ORDER FOR BRAUNSCHWEIG-WOLFENBÜTTEL: HOW DOCTRINE, CEREMONIES, AND OTHER CHURCH-RELATED MATTERS SHALL (BY GOD’S GRACE) BE CONDUCTED HENCEFORTH</i> BY ALBERT B. COLLVER III	68

© 2015 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
Reproduction of a single article or column for parish
use only does not require permission of *The Journal
of Lutheran Mission*. Such reproductions, however,
should credit *The Journal of Lutheran Mission* as the
source. Cover images are not reproducible without
permission. Also, photos and images credited to
sources outside the LCMS are not to be copied.

Published by The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod.
Please direct queries to
journaloflutheranmission@lcms.org.
This journal may also be found at
www.lcms.org/journaloflutheranmission.
Find the *Journal of Lutheran Mission* on
Facebook.

Editorial office:
1333 S. Kirkwood Road,
St. Louis, MO 63122-7294,
314-996-1202

Member: Associated Church Press Evangelical Press Association (ISSN 2334-1998)
A periodical of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Offices of National and International Mission.



PREFACE

by Robert Bugbee

THE INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL (ILC) is growing. That was clear at the Council's most recent World Conference, held Sept. 24–27, 2015, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where the ILC rejoiced to receive new member church bodies from places like Russia, Norway and Nicaragua. One must freely admit that the new member churches are not overly large, statistically speaking, but they form just a portion of the steady stream of Lutheran churches and leaders expressing new interest in involvement with the ILC. Beyond that, the Buenos Aires meetings included guests holding leadership posts in some of the largest Lutheran groups in the world from places like Tanzania and Ethiopia. The common theological convictions and fraternal warmth that bound both member churches and guests leads me to imagine that these contacts will expand significantly in the next several years.

The ILC is growing. This is not only true from the perspective of membership numbers and statistics. There is a rising urgency within the Council to become more vigorous in its goal of extending the reach of a truly confessional Lutheran witness to additional places throughout the world. The Council's leadership is currently grappling with concrete plans to bring that about.

The ILC is growing. It was a special joy in Buenos Aires to be welcomed both by the Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Argentina (IELA) and by its Seminario Concordia. Not only were ILC World Conference participants privileged to visit the seminary campus — also building and

growing, by the way! — but Argentine professors were very active in providing Bible study opportunities and lectures on the conference program. The Lord of the Church is blessing confessional Lutheran seminary education as it is being carried out, not just in a few countries with a longtime Lutheran and academic heritage, but in fresh places where scholarship is deepening and the zeal of those involved is a needed encouragement to us all. You will find some of their contributions in this issue of the *Journal*.

The ILC is growing. If this growth had only to do with a human agency, its structures, personnel and funding, it would be of little moment to those who care deeply about the mission of Christ's church in the world. For us, the happiest news flash is the one St. Paul identified long ago when he wrote his friends of "the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing" (COL. 1:5–6). That's the real story, the one that laid hold of the hearts of the Colossians, the confessors of Luther's day, and of a

new generation of confessing followers of Christ in our own time.

The Lord bless our efforts to bring that glad, saving Good News to the far corners of the earth!

Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee,
PRESIDENT, LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA
AREA REPRESENTATIVE—NORTH AMERICA
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL

There is a rising urgency within the Council to become more vigorous in its goal of extending the reach of a truly confessional Lutheran witness to additional places throughout the world.