Grace and peace to you from our faithful God and Father who gives us His Spirit that we may believe and speak of His mercy and grace. Amen.

INTRODUCTION:
This is the first of three pre-convention bulletins sent to pastors, deacons, and congregations of the East District of Lutheran Church–Canada. These bulletins contain important information for pastoral delegates, lay delegates, and advisory delegates attending the 2015 East District convention. Please keep them for future reference.

CONVENTION PURPOSE:
Members and workers of LCC, East District, will gather at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 105 King St. E., Kitchener, on May 3-6, 2015 to hear reports about the work of the church in our District and Synod; to direct our future work together as a District; and to elect and direct officers, boards and committees of the District. Along the way, we hope to gain some knowledge and inspiration while growing deeper in our faith.

CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS . . .
Host Circuit: Kitchener
Host Congregation: Historic St. Paul’s, Kitchener
Host Pastor: Rev. Larry Gajdos
Convention Manager: Mr. Darryll Holland
Local Arrangements Committee Chair: Mr. Stephen Klinck
District Worship Committee Chair: Rev. Dr. Kenneth Voege
Nominations Committee Chair: Rev. Richard Juritsch

A FEW CONVENTION DETAILS . . .
WHEN: May 3-6, 2015
WHERE: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 105 King St. E., Kitchener
THEME: 1Thessalonians 5:16-18
“God’s Will for Us: Rejoice Always, Pray without Ceasing, and Give Thanks in All Circumstances.”
DUE DATES:
Nominations: Nov. 14, 2014
Delegate Credentials: Jan. 31, 2015
Workbook Reports: Feb. 1, 2015
Overtures: March 10, 2015

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT: Remember to include the congregational assessment for the upcoming District Convention in your 2015 budget. The preliminary assessment is set at $5.16 per communicant member. (subject to change)
2015 East District Essayist

Dr. James Gimbel, B.A., M.Div., Ph.D., President of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton, AB has agreed to be Essayist for the 2015 East District Convention speaking on the convention theme.

Dr. Gimbel is a native of Minnesota. His education is from Concordia College, St. Paul, MN (B.A. Educational Psychology 1981); Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (M.Div. 1985); Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA (Ph.D. Social Psychology/Organizational Leadership 2002).


Married to Jill for 36 years, with three adult children, Pastor Andy (Laura and three grandchildren in St. Louis), Dr. Abby (Physical Therapist, Olympia WA), and Jo (Gavin) in St. Paul, MN. Jim and Jill live in the Rundle park area of Edmonton.

Delegates: Each parish elects one lay delegate and one alternate delegate who is neither clergy nor deacon. Multi-point congregations are regarded as one parish and shall be entitled to only one lay delegate vote (7.30D). Active parish pastors are automatically considered voting delegates. Congregations with pastoral teams must designate one of the pastors as the voting delegate.

Any questions about voting may be directing to the President’s Office. The official Delegate Credential forms must be signed by two congregational officers.

Non-voting clergy and deacons are considered advisory delegates (eligible to voice but not vote at the convention and eligible to serve on floor committees, if appointed).

Congregations: Please take note (approved March 1, 2014) . . .

7.30 C. Congregations which have not notified the Secretary of the Corporation of their Delegate election by January 31st of the convention year shall not be entitled to vote in official meetings of the District unless accepted by a special committee of the President, a Vice President, and the Secretary who will adjudge any credentials submitted after the deadline.