



February 24, 2016

Dear Fellow Members of the Body of Christ in the LCC East District,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus, the Suffering Servant of our salvation.



On **Saturday April 23, 2016**, there will be a District-wide Congregational Leaders' Workshop at Bethel Lutheran Church, Kitchener. There will be individual workshops for Chairmen, Elders, Financial Officers, Trustees, Mission/Evangelism Committee members, Church Secretaries, Archivists and Church Historians, Youth Leaders and Counsellors. These workshops will be led by a variety of lay people and church workers from across the district. In addition to current office holders, please consider sending congregation members who

you see having the potential for holding any of these offices in the future.

The day-long workshop will also include plenary sessions in which topics such as the following will be presented with ample time for questions and discussion.

- Outreach strategies for challenging times
- Church buildings – Blessings and Burdens
- Options for shrinking congregations
- Congregational Life in the Digital Age

We will meet together under the theme:

“Zealous, Fervent Servants – Having Hope and Joy in Trying Times.”

The theme is based on Romans 12:5-12 where St. Paul reminds us of the variety of gifts that our Lord gives to His people and how He calls us to put those gifts to use in His service. We will begin and end the day by worshipping together under this Scriptural theme and encourage much prayer together throughout the day.

We are able to assist you with billeting if needed, but other overnight accommodations and mileage will be at each person's own expense. Lunch and refreshments will be provided during the day.

Enclosed with this mailing is a draft agenda for the day and a registration form for you to copy and distribute among your congregation's leaders and potential leaders. We hope that this day will be filled with both practical helps for each of your leaders and encouragement and inspiration for our zealous, fervent, and joyful service together in Christ's kingdom.