

Brief obituary notices for ELCIC clergy and clergy spouses are printed free of charge as space permits. Please send information to editor@elcic.ca.

Obituaries

Rev. Raymond (Ray) Christenson, 93, died Nov 1. He served as pastor at Grace Lutheran in Dawson Creek, BC and as a chaplain in London, ON. Upon his return to congregational ministry, he served Our Redeemer in Penticton, BC and Augustana Lutheran in Vancouver until his retirement to Edmonton, where he continued to support campus ministry.

Rev. Gerald Mitchinson, 93, died Nov 2. His calling as a pastor led him from St. Catharines, ON, where he oversaw the construction of a church, to Northern Alberta with the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP), as well as serving congregations in Yellowknife, NWT and Port Alberni, BC.

Rev. Dr. Carl Duane Onofrio, 84, died Nov 3. He served in campus ministry and at congregations across Canada, the USA, as well as in England and Jerusalem. Passionate about education, he held six university degrees.



40th Anniversary Trivia

Answer:

The first ELCIC National Convention took place in
b. Ottawa, ON

Elisabeth Margaret Kunkel, 93, died Nov 4. Spouse of the late Rev. Johann Kunkel, Elisabeth and Rev. Johann served congregations across Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba. From 1964-72, they served as missionaries in Liberia and West Africa. Together, she and Johann worked to advance peace locally, nationally and internationally.

Rev. Ken Grambo, 76, died Nov 11. He served congregations in Saskatchewan, Alberta and BC. Known as "The Singing Pastor," he travelled to Nashville many times to record gospel albums, sometimes with his daughters.

Judith (Judy) Arlene Kochendorfer, 80, died Nov. 6. Judy served three terms on National Church Council in 2001-05,

2005-09, 2009-13, and was the Lutheran representative to the Anglican Church of Canada's Council of General Synod from 2007-09. She also served on the Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission from 2007-13.

Rev. Gordon Hendrickson, 102, died Dec. 6, 2025. Rev. Hendrickson was ordained in 1949 in Camrose, Alberta. He served congregations throughout Saskatchewan until moving to Manitoba to be the pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Starbuck in 1971. In 1983, he moved back to Saskatchewan to serve the Border Hills Parish, before returning to Manitoba in 1988. He served Christ Lutheran Church, Waldersee and Grace Lutheran Church, Langruth until he retired in 1991.

WORD SEARCH

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