



# LUTHERAN CHURCHES of the COMMON CONFSSION

*An Association for Mission and Ministry in the 21st Century*

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LC3 website: [www.commonconfession.net](http://www.commonconfession.net)

LC3 email address: [LC3@charter.net](mailto:LC3@charter.net)

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Dear Friends in Christ,

We would like to introduce you to an informal association of churches within the ELCA called **The Lutheran Churches of the Common Confession (LC3)**. We represent a broad center of traditional Lutheran churches who seek to connect *what we believe* with *what we do* -- in a way that serves to build up the church and reflect the integrity of our Lutheran heritage.

## **What We Believe**

First and foremost, LC3 is a group of churches who publicly covenant with each other around classic Lutheran beliefs. It is our desire to let the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions shape the corporate witness and action of our congregations. Our faith statement, the *Common Confession*, serves as a summary of “teaching points” to highlight the confessional beliefs that we believe are being challenged or confused within the church today. We offer the *Common Confession* as an opportunity for congregations to join us in making a clear and brief statement of what they believe.

To assist churches, pastors, and lay leaders in studying some of the key teachings of the traditional Lutheran faith, we have created a Bible Study on the seven articles of the *Common Confession*. It is available free to download from our website: [www.commonconfession.net](http://www.commonconfession.net). The study can also be used as a way of introducing the *Common Confession* to your congregation for possible adoption. Other free educational resources are available on the website as well.

## **What We Do**

By signing on to the *Common Confession* and adopting it as a congregational statement of faith, LC3 churches are in a position to partner with other churches who share that same faith. The ultimate goal of LC3 is to encourage congregations to engage in cooperative ministry and mission, based on common perspectives and goals.

This is where LC3 takes on a local flavor. Some LC3 churches have decided to become more involved with missionary sponsorships or the development of mission congregations. Some have organized teaching events for lay and clergy. Some have joined with our partner organization, Lutheran CORE (Coalition for Reform), to help the work of positive renewal in the ELCA. Others have simply agreed to meet and pray together, in collegial support.

We write this letter in the hope that you might want to become more familiar with LC3 and our effort to renew our Lutheran teaching and mission. You can be added to our email news list, simply by sending a request to: [LC3@charter.net](mailto:LC3@charter.net). We also hope and pray you will consider joining LC3 by having your congregation or church council sign on to the *Common Confession*.

The time has come for a bold and public witness to shape the future of Lutheranism in America. By calling us to be clear about what we believe and how we will serve the gospel of Jesus Christ, we trust that God will bring life and renewal to our churches in their common ministry together.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Steven E. King  
LC3 National Coordinator

***“A Big Tent for Traditional Lutherans”***