

## REFLECTION FOR 2016-2018

We acknowledge that the land and water we live on is gifted to all from God-Creator who cares for all Creation. We are Treaty People with our Creator.

As Canadian citizens, we are also Treaty People with First Nations peoples from coast to coast to coast. As people particularly of the Two Rivers Ministry Area we are learning much about our First Nations neighbours, and we desire to better understand Traditional and Treaty Territory.

Our Ministry Area includes the Traditional Territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and the Attawandaron "Neutral" Nation, but is primarily comprised of the land referred to as the "Haldimand Tract" set aside for the Six Nations of the Grand River. We are in conversations with our neighbours regarding how they wish us to Acknowledge Traditional and Treaty Territory.

Agreements about lands, resources and sharing that we need to better understand include the [Two Row Wampum Agreement of 1613](#), the [Great Peace of 1701](#) signed at Montreal and Albany, [the Royal Proclamation of 1763](#) and [Treaty of Niagara](#) of 1764. At the Treaty of Niagara Conference, two-thousand five hundred Chiefs and Delegates from twenty-five nations gathered to meet as the United Nations on North American soil.

Following the American Revolution, large scale treaties were signed to allow for Loyalist settlement and "Upper Canada" border protection. Land-use for our Area was secured from the Missisaugas Nations arranged through the [Between the Lakes Purchase and Collins Purchase, No. 3](#) initiated May 22, 1784. On October 25, 1784 later-named Governor General [Haldimand proclaimed](#) a land commitment for the Six Nations from Treaty 3 along the Grand River for six miles either side of the river from mouth to head.

In [2014 the Treaty of Niagara was commemorated](#) by Ontario First Nations Chiefs and the Crown to [polish the Covenant Chain](#) of agreements to share land and resources.

We have much to learn and unlearn. We are grateful for the generosity of the First Nations who welcome our questions and are helping us learn and change.

## Resources Available at

[luthersynodseminary.com](http://luthersynodseminary.com)

[http://luthersynodseminary.com/2016\\_treaties\\_histories\\_of\\_the\\_land\\_and\\_peoples](http://luthersynodseminary.com/2016_treaties_histories_of_the_land_and_peoples)

History of the Land and Peoples Resource for each congregation organized by Ministry Area

Interim Acknowledgement of Treaty Territory by Ministry Area

Reflection for 2016-2018 for use with Ministry Areas and Confederacy Neighbours

[http://luthersynodseminary.com/my\\_life\\_indigenou\\_s\\_rights/mapping\\_lutherans\\_and\\_first\\_nations](http://luthersynodseminary.com/my_life_indigenou_s_rights/mapping_lutherans_and_first_nations)

Ministry Area Maps with First Nation Contact Info Updated with Residential School Data

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory by Ministry Area

### **Coming in 2017:**

500 Year timeline of ELCIC and First Nation History in Canada

## **Two Rivers Ministry Area**

### ***Interim Acknowledgement of Treaty Territory***

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*Agreements we need to better understand include the Two Row Wampum Agreement of 1613, the Great Peace of 1701 signed at Montreal and Albany, the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and the Treaty of Niagara of 1764.*

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