


**From:** BC Synod - ELCIC bcsynod@elcic.ca   
**Subject:** Synod Announcements - May 27, 2026  
**Date:** May 27, 2026 at 1:00 pm  
**To:** oslcospika@gmail.com

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**British Columbia Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

**May 27, 2026**

BC Synod announcements are sent out on **Wednesdays**. Do you have an announcement you want to send out? Please send it to [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca) **no later than 9:00 pm on the Sunday prior to the week of first publication**. All announcements may be edited as needed. Thank you.

## Prayer Petitions for This Sunday

To download the **Updated BC Synod 2025-2026 Prayer List for Congregations**, please click [here](#).

It can also be found on our website [bcsynod.org](http://bcsynod.org) under Resources.

Sunday, May 31

*Chetwynd Shared Ministry in Chetwynd*

*Christ Lutheran in Chilliwack*

You are also invited to continue to hold Pastor Kristen Steele in your prayers.

**Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Full Communion Cycle of Prayer**. Please [click here](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- [Upcoming Memorial Services](#)
- [Summer Sermon Series](#)
- **May 31** [Refugee Benefit Concert at Benediction](#)
- **May 31** [ELCIC Day of Action](#)
- **NEW June 4** [Morning Brew and More Leisurely Brew](#)
- **June 6-7** ['We are One Body' Part 2](#)
- **June 14** [Cross-Border Friendship Gathering](#)
- [Charitus Announces Calls for Partner Impact Grant Applications](#)
- **August 10-14** [Camp - Growing in Faith, Friendship and Justice!](#) **Deadline extended to June 8!**

For more details, other announcements, prayer requests and resources, [see below](#).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming Memorial Services

Memorial Celebration for **Walter Baker**, spouse of Pr. Patricia Giannelia, will be held on Saturday, May 30th, at 1:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 250 Gibbs Road, Kelowna with a reception to follow. Everyone welcome.

The service will be livestreamed and can be accessed through the congregation's website, [www.faithlutherankelowna.ca](http://www.faithlutherankelowna.ca), or through their YouTube channel.

Celebration of Life for **Trudy Hergesheimer**, spouse of Pr. Richard Hergesheimer (Pr. Hergy) will be on Sunday, June 7th at 3:00 pm at St. Hilda's Anglican Church, 5838 Barnacle St, Sechelt. Everyone welcome.

Reception to follow.

The service will be livestreamed. You can view it here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85148232565>

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### BC Synod Youth Camp *Growing in Faith, Friendship and Justice*

August 10-14, Loon Lake, Maple Ridge. Everyone welcome. Click the image below to register.

The Financial Aid Application form can be found [here](#)





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## Morning Brew / More Leisurely Brew

**Thursday Morning Brew** (for all rostered leaders)

Meets monthly

Next date: **Thursday, June 4th at 9 am**

[Click here join the Morning Brew by ZOOM,](#)

Or call in by dialing: 778-907-2071

Meeting ID: **811 6876 9079**

Passcode: **926542**

**More Leisurely Brew** (for retired rostered leaders)

Meets monthly

Next date: **Thursday, June 4th at 10am**

[Click here to join the meeting,](#) or contact the synod office if you need to connect by phone.

**\*No Lay Leaders' Gathering this month.**

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## Cross-Border Friendship Gathering

BC Synod and NW Washington Synod

You can download a pdf poster [here](#).

**NEW** - Check out the video here: <https://youtu.be/JtYkxHGn4iE>

Borders are meant to divide us, the lines that have been drawn are meant to keep us apart. But we are one in Christ. To celebrate our shared mission and our oneness across the border, we will gather for a picnic to share food, stories, and joy. Come and meet Lutheran friends from across the border.

The picnic shelter is of limited capacity - please [register here](#) so we can reserve additional space if needed. The deadline for registration is **May 31st**.





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## We are One Body - Part 2



### You Are Invited

We invite you to continue a journey that began last year - a journey of connecting, reflecting, and growing together as we explore the yearnings we share for the future of our church here in BC.

This gathering is an opportunity to continue a journey that began last year - a journey of connecting, reflecting, and growing together as we explore the yearnings we share for the future of our church here in BC.

**We will gather June 5-7, 2026, at King of Life Lutheran Church, Coquitlam**

### Important Notes

This gathering builds on the foundation laid in 2025, but it is not simply a status report. It is an invitation to continue co-creating the future of our church through Spirit-led collaboration rooted in genuine passion and shared responsibility. BC Synod will cover the costs of the event (gathering program and on-site costs).

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If you have registered and are travelling from a distance, please contact the synod office regarding your travel plans. We will try to find ways to share rides / rental cars / carpool, etc. Please let us know if you can help with rides, or if you'd need a ride.

**Registration**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Benefit Concert at Benediction**



**PLENTY OF HOPE**  
Refugee Benefit Concert

*Featuring the Gospel Sounds of*

**MARCUS MOSELY  
& FRIENDS**



**SUNDAY MAY 31, 2026  
1:30 PM**

BENEDICTION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
5575 6TH AVE  
TSAWWASSEN

*Also featuring*



**CHRISTINE MAGEE**

**BUY TICKETS ONLINE AT:**  
[benedictionlutheran.tickit.ca](http://benedictionlutheran.tickit.ca)  
Adults: \$30  
Seniors: \$25  
or email: [benediction@eastlink.ca](mailto:benediction@eastlink.ca)

**Tickets are also available at the door**

*Presented by*  
BENEDICTION LUTHERAN & TSAWWASSEN UNITED CHURCH

## ELCIC Sermon Series



Bishops and Assistants to the Bishops are once again offering weekly sermons for congregational use, available from May through October.

Each weekly sermon includes both written and video formats, ready to download and use in ways that best fit your worship context. These resources are especially helpful during vacation season and offer a meaningful way to connect your congregation with leaders from across the ELCIC.

Interested in using these sermons? [Sign up to access the full set of resources.](#)

**\* Please note it may take a couple of days to receive access.**

**An invitation to a shared Box folder will come from Carter Brooks in the ELCIC National Office.**

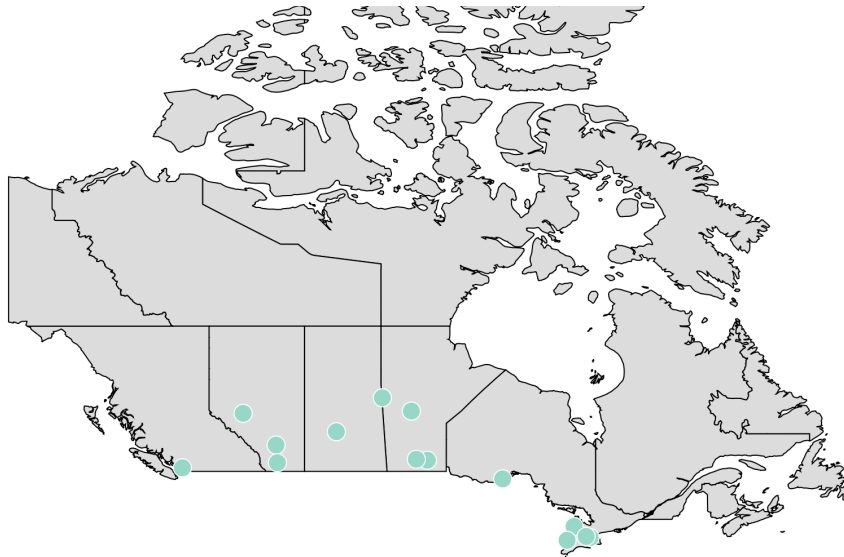
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## ELCIC Day of Action -

This year marks 40 years in the life of our church! This milestone not only invites us to remember our story, but also to reflect on who we are today and how God is calling us forward as a church *Living out God's grace and unconditional love.*

**Let's Add Your Congregation to Our Interactive Map Today!**





Let's get every ELCIC congregation **on the map** for the ELCIC Day of Action!

Congregations across the church are stepping out in bold and creative ways — now it's your turn.

#### **Have you planned your ELCIC Day of Action activity?**

[Tell us what you're doing](#) and make it visible! When you share your plans, your congregation will be added to the interactive map — helping inspire others across the country and showing the collective impact of our church in action.

#### **Not sure what to do yet?**

Explore the map and spark an idea. Whether it's something big or small, every act of service matters.

On Sunday, May 31, we're inviting every congregation to step beyond their walls and into their communities, *Living out God's grace and unconditional love*. As part of our journey during the ELCIC's 40th anniversary year, this is our moment to show up through service in Christ's name.

**Make sure your congregation is part of it. [Share your plans. Get on the map. \(https://form.jotform.com/ELCIC/DayofActionSubmissionForm\)](https://form.jotform.com/ELCIC/DayofActionSubmissionForm)**

#### **Download resources, find out about t-shirts and more!**

Visit the [ELCIC Day of Action website](#) - You will find a toolkit, information on ordering t-shirts and frequently asked questions.

**\*\*NOTE:** our online website requires at least 10 business days for t-shirt orders! That means NOW is the time to order. There are two ways to order t-shirts for your congregation (if you choose to order locally, you may be able to get them much quicker). Full information is available here: <https://elcic.ca/dayofaction/t-shirts/>

[Information Session](#) - Want to know more about what the ELCIC Day of Action is all about, resources available to you to organize a Day of Action in your congregation, information about t-shirts, ideas on what your congregation can do on May 31 and more? A [video recording of our information session is now available](#).

[Video Invitation](#) - Hear from our national and synod bishops, and take part of our ELCIC Day of Action. Please share this video during worship. [Download here](#).

[Let us know how your congregation is getting involved!](#) Let's get your congregation on the interactive map!

We are looking forward to hearing how you and your congregation are getting involved in the ELCIC Day of Action on May 31.

## MORE NEWS

### **Charitus Announces Calls for Partner Impact Grant Applications**

Charitus has launched its 2026 Partner Impact Grant Program, offering matching grants to ELCIC congregations and institutions for projects addressing social and environmental needs in both church and broader community contexts. Grants of up to \$3,000, covering up to 75 percent of project costs, are available to support impactful initiatives under three key objectives:

The deadline for submission is May 31, 2026. For more details or to apply, visit [Charitus Apply for a Grant](#).

### **Transitions in Ministry**

Transitions, Vacancies and Call Processes in the BC Synod can be found here:

[Transitions in Ministry | Resources | British Columbia Synod \(bcsynod.org\)](#)

## BC Synod Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

BC Synod staff work a variety of hours in various locations, including from home offices. To better serve you, please contact the synod office before dropping by to ensure someone is present to receive you.

**Website:** [British Columbia Synod \(bcsynod.org\)](http://bcsynod.org)

### Contact us:

Office phone: 604-524-1318

Bishop Kathy Martin - On Sabbatical until May 2026

Rachel Genge (Administrative Assistant + BC Canada Lutheran editor - remote) - [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Durga Pandithurai (Administrative Assistant - Synod Office) - [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Rev. Elina Singh (Assistant to the Bishop + Executive Administrator - Synod Office) -

[esinghbcsynod@gmail.com](mailto:esinghbcsynod@gmail.com)

Rev. Matthew Senf (Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations - deployed) -

[msenf@elcic.ca](mailto:msenf@elcic.ca)

Rev. Aneeta Saroop (Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - deployed) - [asaroop@elcic.ca](mailto:asaroop@elcic.ca)

eTransfers are linked to the office email address: [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Auto Deposit has been enabled. No password is required.

The message field of the eTransfer should explain what the payment is for. (It is like the memo field of a cheque, but with more space). If a congregation is doing their monthly congregation remittance, then the remittance form can be emailed or mailed separately at the same time that the transfer is done.

Do the church council and members of your congregation receive the  
Synod Announcements directly?

We encourage you to forward this email to them so that they can  
[sign up for The Synod Announcements](#)

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New Westminster, BC V3L 4R5

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