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Week of June 3, 2026

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1. One Church. Many Stories.



**ELCIC Day
of ACTION**
MAY 31, 2026



MAY 31, 2026

The ELCIC Day of Action may be over, but inspiring stories of hope, compassion and service continue to pour in from across the church.

We would like to thank everyone who participated and gave their hearts, time and energy to the ELCIC Day of Action! As of the time of this writing, stories continue to arrive from congregations across the church. Please keep sharing your stories on social media, online and directly with us. These stories reflect acts of service, compassion and care that not only touched your congregations, but also the communities you serve. If you haven't shared your story yet, we invite you to do so today.

READ ABOUT THE ELCIC DAY OF ACTION:

From neighbourhood clean-ups and community barbecues to fundraisers, food donations and acts of service, congregations across the ELCIC came together on May 31 for the first ever Day of Action. Learn about two congregations in particular that hosted a classic car parade and a sidewalk fiesta below!



Read that story here:

<https://elcic.ca/2026/06/02/elcic-day-of-action-brings-communities-together-across-the-church/>

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your ELCIC Day of Action photos and highlights here:

<https://form.jotform.com/ELCIC/elcic-day-of-action---our-stories>

WHAT'S NEXT

Plans are underway for a Zoom gathering for ELCIC Day of Action participants and organizers to meet together and hear highlights from the national event. We would also love to hear your feedback. Please watch for more details on this soon.

2. National Bishop Calls for Prayer Following Detention of ELCJHL Youth

National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer is inviting the church to join in prayer and advocacy following an urgent request from Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL).

In a June 3 letter to the church, Bishop Kochendorfer shared Bishop Haddad's concerns regarding Natalie Abuddayeh, a youth member of the ELCJHL, who was detained alongside three other women from her student apartment in Birzeit. Abuddayeh is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Beit Jala, a graduate of Talitha Kumi Lutheran School and a media and journalism student at Birzeit University.

"Our prayers and actions for justice are always intertwined," Kochendorfer wrote. "We join in prayer for our siblings in Christ."

The ELCIC invites members to read Bishop Kochendorfer's full letter to the church, join in prayer for the ELCJHL and consider contacting their Member of Parliament and/or the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

[Read Bishop Kochendorfer's letter to the church](#)

[Read Bishop Kochendorfer's letter to Minister Anand](#)

3. Conversations Across the Church With Our Global Mission Partners





The recording of our third Conversations Across the Church event held on May 24 is now available!

We were joined by our Global Mission partners: Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), Pastor Mariela Pereyra, President of Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Unida (IELU), and Pastor Ofelia Davila, President of Iglesia Luterana del Peru (IL-P), who reflected on the question: Where do you see life in you church?

Thank you to everyone who joined us! We are grateful for the time you've given to gather in worship and reflection with our wider church community. You can watch the video recording by clicking here. Did you attend? Please share your feedback with us here.

The next Conversations Across the Church event will take place on Sunday, September 13, 2026. Visit our website to register. Further details on timing will be made available in the coming months.

4. The Month of June

National Indigenous History Month

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June 21





Image courtesy of the Government of Canada

June is National Indigenous History Month - a time to honour the histories, cultures and contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples in Canada. **June 21** is National Indigenous Peoples Day and 2026 will mark the 30th anniversary of the celebration.

This coming month, we take time to reflect on reconciliation and commit to truth, justice and healing. We are invited to learn from Indigenous voices - through books, films, conversations and events. Attend a National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration on or around Sunday, June 21, visit a local friendship centre, or explore whose land you live on and the treaties that shape it. This month, let us listen, learn and walk together in respect and relationship. You can find additional resources here:

[The Anglican Church of Canada](#)

[The Presbyterian Church in Canada](#)

[The United Church of Canada](#)

Pride Month - Get Involved!





Photo courtesy of Ascension - Nelson, B.C.

June is Pride month. Looking for your nearest Pride parade or other Pride events? The task force on Affirming Grace: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for All has prepared a [list of events across the country \(and throughout the year\)](#).

Are you or your congregation participating in any Pride events within your city or community? If so, [we'd love to hear from you!](#)

Resources

On the ELCIC website, you'll find tools and resources for congregations and faith communities for further engagement as we journey together, *Living out God's grace and unconditional love*. [Learn more and view those resources here.](#)

World Refugee Day and Webinar Event

June 20 is World Refugee Day, a time to bear witness to the needs of people forced to flee their homes, and a time to ask ourselves how we are to respond.

What does a Christian response to hunger look like for those forced to flee? A webinar titled **Food Security and Forced Migration: A World Refugee Day Webinar** is going to be held **on Wednesday, June 17 at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. In this webinar, we will explain the connection between forced migration and food security, what makes a resilient food system and how we can support people forced to flee their homes around the world through learning, giving, prayer, and advocacy. This webinar event is hosted by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB). To register, please [click here](#).

5. Justice Updates

ELCIC GHG Inventory Calculator

The ELCIC has developed a Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory Calculator for Congregation to assist faith communities in monitoring GHG emissions. There is also a User Manual for the GHG Inventory Calculator. If you would like to learn more about the GHG Inventory Calculator, contact Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop at pgehrs@elcic.ca.

Practical Climate Action for Church Buildings - Workshop Summary

The ELCIC Task Force on Carbon Neutrality and the Eastern Synod Climate Justice Committee co-hosted *Every Square Foot Counts: Practical Climate Action for Church*

Buildings last April 16. We heard from Beth Lorimer ([KAIROS Canada](#)), Stephen Collette ([Faith & the Common Good](#)), and Rafael Rodriguez ([Eastern Synod Climate Justice Committee](#)), and learned from one another's experiences. Please check-out the summary if you missed the event or the details from the workshop. You are also invited to complete the [questionnaire](#) to share about the needs of your congregation.

WCC Ecumenical Decade of Climate Justice Action

The World Council of Churches (WCC) invites churches and disciples to join the Ecumenical [Decade of Climate Justice Action \(2025-2034\): *Moving Together in Ecological Metanoia for Transformation*](#). This movement supports people in answering the prophetic call to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with those who suffer most from climate injustice

ELCIC Greening Faith Communities

The [Greening Faith Communities](#) form is an invitation to document your goals for the stewardship of creation on an annual basis.

6. Partnerships

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for: **Sunday, June 7**

ACC: The theological colleges and training programs within the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario: Canterbury College, Huron University College, Renison College, the Anglican Studies Program at Saint Paul University, Thorneloe University, Trinity College, Wycliffe College

ELCIC: Luther College at the University of Regina and Luther College - High School

MOR: The School of Theology at Moravian University (formerly Moravian Theological Seminary and Lancaster Theological Seminary) in Bethlehem, PA.

Do the officers, council and members of your congregation receive ELCIC News directly? From information and resources, to upcoming events -- ELCIC News keeps you connected!

Encourage them to sign up for ELCIC NEWS today.

ELCIC News is an electronic Newsletter full of information and resources from the ELCIC National Office.

Please share this information widely.

Forward this email to others in your congregation.

Items can also be copied and pasted into worship bulletins, calendars and announcements.

Follow the ELCIC on social media by following the links below:



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada**

Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love

Some of the resources mentioned in ELCIC News are available from the ELCIC National Office. If you prefer to order those materials in print, phone 1.888.786.6707 ext 177 or 204.984.9177; email orders@elcic.ca; or fax your order to 204.984.9185 "Attn Orders Desk". Be sure to fully describe the item and tell us the quantity you need. You will be invoiced when the order is filled.

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