

From: BC Synod - ELCIC bcsynod@elcic.ca 
Subject: Synod Announcements - February 11, 2026
Date: February 11, 2026 at 1:00 pm
To: oslcospika@gmail.com

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British Columbia Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

February 11, 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 **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 **BC Synod 2025-2026 Prayer List for Congregations**, please click [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PRAYER LIST HAS BEEN RECENTLY UPDATED.

It can also be found on our website bcsynod.org under Resources.

Sunday, February 15

Ascension Lutheran in Nelson

Mount Zion Lutheran in New Westminster - Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker

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

Please note the synod office will be closed on Monday, February 16th.

- **NEW** [February is Black History Month](#)
- **Tomorrow Feb 12** ['And It Was So' - National Youth Project](#) Webinar
- Congregations, once compiled, please send your AGM reports to the Synod Office.
- **Feb 12 & 26** [Exploring and connecting in ecumenical shared ministry](#)
- **Feb 15** [Deadline for Mission Fund Applications](#)
- **Feb 22** [Diaconal Sunday](#)
- **Feb 22** [Conversations Across the Church](#)
- **NEW Feb 23** [Forget-Me-Not Cafe, Penticton](#)
- **NEW Feb 24** [Forget-Me-Not Cafe, Kelowna](#)
- **Mar 1** [Deadline for Luther League Legacy Fund Applications](#)
- **March** [World Day of Prayer](#)
- **NEW Mar 1** [Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine](#)
- **Mar 1** Invitation [Installation of Rev. Erik Parker](#)

- [May 4-6 Study Conference Registration Now Open](#)
- [Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026](#)
- [2025 ELCIC Parochial Reports](#)

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

PRAYERS

Prayers for Tumbler Ridge

Our hearts are broken by the horrible tragedy in Tumbler Ridge. Words can hardly express the depth of despair and pain we feel for all affected. We hold in our prayers those who mourn the death of dear loved ones; those injured and those fighting for their lives; those waiting for news; and all who have been traumatized by the events of the day including all residents of Tumbler Ridge.

Please keep them in your prayers over the coming days as well, as the news about the shooting continue to unfold. Pray for comfort to those who have lost loved ones, healing for those injured, and peace for the whole community after this tragic event.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, your own mother looked on when your life ended in violence. Our hearts are pierced with grief and anger at the mass shooting in Tumbler Ridge. We commend the slain to your wounded hands, and their loved ones to your merciful heart, trusting only in the promise that your love is stronger than death, and that even now, you live and reign forever and ever. Amen. (ACS p. 49)

Our help comes from you, O Lord, you who made heaven and earth. In the midst of grief, you are our comfort. In the face of uncertainty, you are our rock. In the wake of tragedy, you are our hope. So even as we weep, we praise you, and place our trust in you. We pray in the name of the one who suffered and died and was raised for us, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. (ACS p. 66)

Chetwynd Shared Ministry is part of the Chetwynd Ministerial and the Ministerial is organizing a Prayer/Candlelight Vigil, for Tumbler Ridge, on Thursday, February 12th at 6:30 pm in Chetwynd's Spirit Park.
You are encouraged to join in prayer wherever you are.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELCIC Mission Fund - Grant Applications

We are inviting applications for grants to fund neighbourhood and community experiments and learning opportunities that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- explore what God is doing in your neighbourhood
- seek to develop relationships with others in your community
- encourage participation in God's mission in the local community
- encourage action and reflection learning

Through these experiments, we will continue to learn from and with each other as we share our stories, experiences, and our learning with the rest of our synod and the wider church. Experiments need not be large-scale or require the

commitment of large dollar amounts. Successful applications are inspired by imagination and a curiosity about what God is up to in our midst.

The application deadline is February 15, 2026.

Applications and information can be found [here](#).

Diaconal Sunday, February 22

Sunday, February 22nd is Diaconal Ministry Sunday. Let us recognize and give thanks to God for all of those who serve as deacons in the regions of this synod and across the world. We are grateful for your ministry!

Deacon Brigitte is the preacher for the Diaconal Sunday resources this year!

Deacons in the BC Synod include:

Deacon Connie Landstrom (retired), Sechelt
Deacon Brigitte Mackenzie, Victoria
Deacon Keirra Maher (retired), Nanaimo
Deacon Denise Pawliuk, Kamloops
Deacon Judy Whaley (retired), Sandspit
Robin Dielissen, Diaconal candidate for ministry

Assistant to the National Bishop, Youth and Leadership:

Deacon Gretchen Peterson

PRAYER FOR DEACONS (from Speak It Plain by Meta Herrick Carlson)

The call is to stand between, in the liminal and fuzzy boundaries where church and world blur, coaxing folks out of stark categories and into real life where proclaiming the gospel and serving the neighbor are never separate. You are ordained for action that embodies God's love on the margins and moves people toward purpose and love that do not require a crucifix, font or altar. Instead you show them how God lived in a body, wrapping a towel at your waist, stooping down to fill a basin with water, washing and drying your neighbor's feet with such care, they are certain they've seen Jesus. Amen

[Resources for Diaconal Sunday can be found here.](#)

Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine





Invitation to the Installation of Rev. Erik Parker

On Sunday, March 1st Rev. Erik Parker will be installed at Saint Paul's Lutheran church in Maple Ridge at 2pm.



*You are cordially invited to
attend the Installation*

of

Rev. Erik Parker

*Sunday, March 1, 2026
2:00 pm*

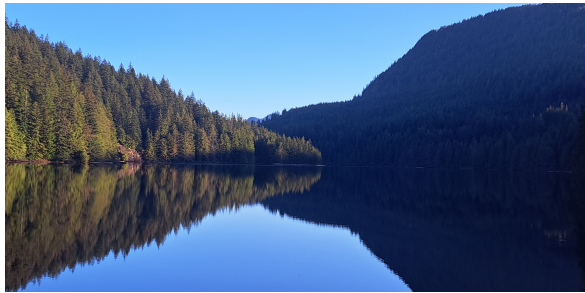
*St. Paul's Lutheran Church
12145 Laity St
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 5A7*

Rostered Ministers are invited to vest.
The liturgical color is Purple.

Registration Now Open for Study Conference

2026 BC Synod **Rostered Leaders Study Conference**
May 4 to 6, 2026 - Loon Lake Lodge in Maple Ridge

[Register Here](#)



The conference will be held from **Monday May 4 - Wednesday May 6, 2026, at Loon Lake Lodge in Maple Ridge.**
Plan to arrive at 3 pm on Monday and depart at noon on Wednesday.

Early Bird Rates (registered before March 31, 2026)

Active Rostered Leader under Call - \$675
Specialized Ministry, Chaplain, Retired rostered leader, Deacon - \$325
CTEL Students – \$0, registration cost covered by the Study Conference budget
Spouse (covers meals and accommodations) - \$175 (children staying with parents stay at no cost)

Forget-Me-Not Cafe, Penticton



11:30am - 1:30pm (\$5.00/ person)

Enjoy lunch, music, arts,
conversation & laughter

Pre-register for the Forget-Me-Not
Cafe by:

- Calling 250-492-6861 (Tues/Thurs 9-12) or
- Emailing: pentictondementiacafe@gmail.com

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*
1370 Church Street, Penticton

*Accessible Back Entry

Forget-Me-Note Cafe, Kelowna



FORGET-ME-NOT
Café
KELOWNA

A friendly café welcoming
those with dementia and
their family and caregiver

**Tuesday,
February 24
from 11:30am to 1:30pm
(cost \$5 per person)**

Enjoy a healthy lunch,
chair yoga, arts & crafts,
and music

Please pre-register:



ELCIC NEWS

February is Black History Month

February is Black History Month, a time where we recognize and give thanks for the history, heritage and contributions of People of African Descent in Canada and other places around the world. It is a time to learn about the stories, achievements and experiences that have shaped our communities, and to acknowledge the ongoing work toward dignity, justice and equal opportunity for all. You are invited to listen, learn, and reflect and to value the gifts given by People of African Descent in our communities.

The following are resources that you can use:

Racial Justice Committee - Black History Month 2026



The Eastern Synod's Racial Justice Committee invites communities to engage through resources that highlight culture and community. These resources include four recipes connected to African/Black communities in Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, along with complementary liturgical materials. The recipes can be used at home or in group settings such as lunch-and-learns, offering a simple way to learn about the stories and significance behind each dish. All recipes, background notes and liturgical resources are available on the [Black History Month page](#) of the Eastern Synod website.

Other Resources to Check Out:

[Moravian Church's Resources for Black History Month](#)

[ELCIC Resources on Racism, White Supremacy and Racial Justice Issues](#)

[Eastern Synod Resources on Racial Justice](#)

[The United Church of Canada Black History Month Resources](#)

Luther League Legacy Fund: Call for Applications



Join This is your chance to submit an application for the [Luther League Legacy Fund](#) (LLLF). If you are 30 years of age or under, and looking to be involved in a leadership development opportunity or looking to plan a project that would benefit people 30 years of age and under, please check out our application guidelines when you click on the button below. Deadline for applications is fast approaching **on March 1, 2026**.

World Day of Prayer

The [World Day of Prayer](#) (WDP) is generally celebrated on the first Friday of March with a different country writing the service materials each year. For 2026, the writing committee is WDP Nigeria and the theme is "I Will Give You Rest: Come" Matthew 11:28-30.

[Videos are available](#): Full-service World Day of Prayer Nigeria video. Country background video on Nigeria. Service promo video. Music video. 25-minute WDP service video.

Please add your service details to the [online map](#) to promote your local observances.

2025 ELCIC Parochial Reports

By this time, congregations should already have received an email invitation to complete their 2025 ELCIC Parochial Reports. If you haven't received it yet and would like to complete it now, please use either of the following:

[2025 Online Parochial Report](#)

[2025 Parochial Report \(Downloadable PDF\)](#)

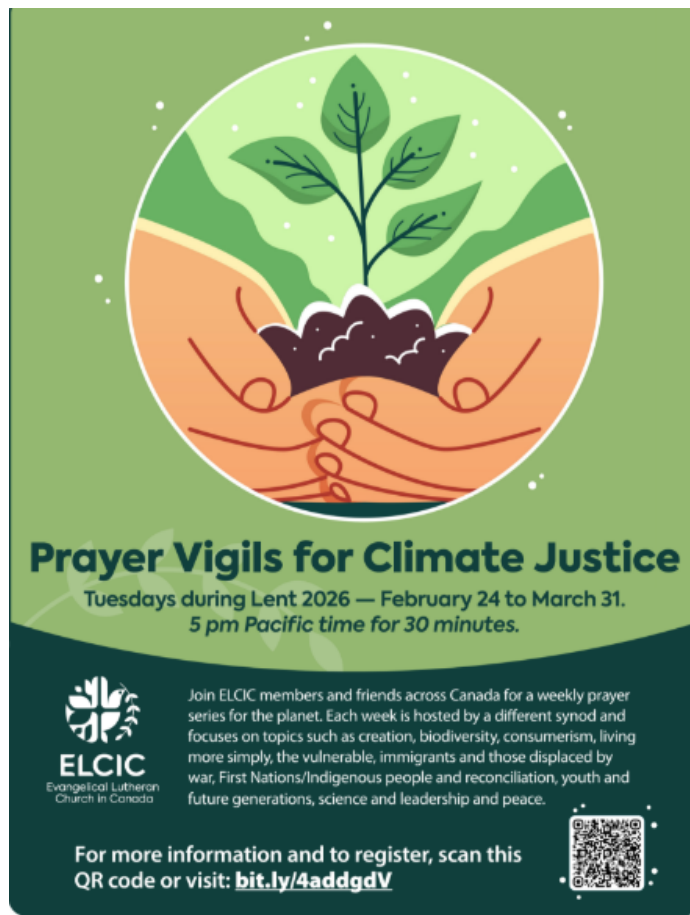
Parochial Reports are to be completed with year-ending December 31, 2025. Please contact Peace Anthony-Idoko, Director, Finance and Administration via [email](#) if you have any questions or would need help in completing the form.

Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026

Click [here](#) to download a poster

Each Tuesday evening during Lent, 7:00-7:30 pm, Central Time, the ELCIC and its synods are hosting a *Prayer Vigil for Climate justice*. Feb. 24, and March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31.

Please [register here](#) to join the vigils live and/or to receive a link to the recording.



Join Us for Conversations Across the Church - February 22

Mark your calendars for February 22 for our second *Conversations Across the Church* online event!

2026 is a milestone in the life of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada as we mark 40 years since the formation of our church. Join ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer as we begin our Lenten journey and reflect on this 40th anniversary milestone: where have we been, where are we today, and how is God calling us forward as we seek to be a church *Living out God's grace and unconditional love* for the next 40 years. To register for this online event, please click on button below:

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

‘And It Was So’ - National Youth Project

Join with leaders from CLWR, Alongside Hope and Canadian Food Grains Bank to learn more about the current National Youth Project! The webinar takes place February 12, beginning at 6:00 pm EST and is open to youth and youth leaders who want to learn more about this project. Register here:

[National Youth Project | Alongside Hope](#)

AND IT WAS SO

NATIONAL YOUTH PROJECT

Please join us for an upcoming webinar
where you'll learn more about the
National Youth Project

FEBRUARY 12TH 2026

6:00 - 7:00 PM eastern time

This is a great opportunity to connect,
ask questions, and explore ways to
engage youth in your community.

REGISTER HERE



Visit the Alongside Hope website to get
more information:
<https://alongsidehope.org/national-youth-project-2025/>

Exploring and connecting in ecumenical shared ministry

Two online sessions in February will offer opportunities to explore and connect around local congregational partnerships. On Feb. 12, a learning session introduces newcomers to ecumenical shared ministry. On Feb. 26, a networking session supports those already serving in partnerships. Both sessions are hosted by the Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Commission via Zoom and will include special guest speakers.

[Register for the Feb. 12 Ecumenical Shared Ministry Learning Session...](#)

[Register for the Feb. 26 Ecumenical Shared Ministry Networking Session...](#)

You can download the PDF poster [here](#).



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada**
Living Out God's Grace & Unconditional Love



The Anglican Church of Canada



**The Moravian
Church**

Transitions in Ministry

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

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

Durga Pandithurai (Administrative Assistant - Synod Office) - bcsynod@elcic.ca

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

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

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

eTransfers are linked to the office email address: 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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