

From: BC Synod - ELCIC bcsynod@elcic.ca 🇨🇦
Subject: Synod Announcements - February 25, 2026
Date: February 25, 2026 at 1:00 pm
To: oslcospika@gmail.com



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British Columbia Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

February 25, 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, March 1

Our Redeemer Lutheran in Penticton

Trinity Anglican + Lutheran Church in Port Alberni

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

- [February is Black History Month](#)
- [Resources for Lent](#)
- [CLWR's Journey Through Lent](#)
- **NEW** [Our Conversations Across the Church Recording is Now Available](#)
- **Mar 1** [Deadline for Luther League Legacy Fund Applications](#)
- **March** [World Day of Prayer](#)
- **Mar 1** [Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine](#)
- **Mar 1** Invitation [Installation of Rev. Erik Parker](#)
- **NEW Mar 5** [Morning Brew / More Leisurely Brew / Lay Leaders' Gathering](#)
- **Mar 7** [Coffee House, Penticton](#)
- **NEW** Deadline **Apr 30** [Karren Stinson Bursary for Lutherans and Anglicans](#)
- **May 4-6** [Study Conference Registration](#)
- **NEW** [Charitus Announces Calls for Partner Impact Grant Applications](#)

- [Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026](#)
- **July 2-5** [Whitehorse Worship Arts Festival & Contemplative Retreat](#)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resources for Lent

The season of Lent invites us to reflect on some of the more challenging sides of life. Lent acknowledges the heaviness and weariness - especially fitting this year, it seems.

[From Dust, Still Holy: Lutherans Connect](#)

Lutherans Connect is a seasonal devotional by Deacon Sherry Coman from Eastern Synod
Daily devotionals are published on Facebook, or they're available over email

Prepare Your Heart for Easter

Daily prayers sent to you by email, created by Rev. Bruce Ehler (Saskatoon, SK). [You can subscribe here.](#)

*Other resources can be found [here](#)



Prayer Service for Peace in Ukraine

A 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.

Morning Brew / More Leisurely Brew / Lay Leaders' Gathering

Thursday Morning Brew (for all rostered leaders)

Meets monthly

Next date: **Thursday, March 5th 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, March 5th at 10am**

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

Lay Leader Gatherings

Meets monthly

Next date - **Thursday, March 5th at 7pm**

* This month we will have a conversation about family ministries (Sunday school VBS, etc.)

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

Coffee House



Coff House
featuring:

Kyle
A N D E R S O N
Entertainer

W H E N
Saturday March 7th, 2026
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

W H E R E
**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*
1370 Church Street, Penticton

ENTRY & REFRESHMENTS
BY DONATION

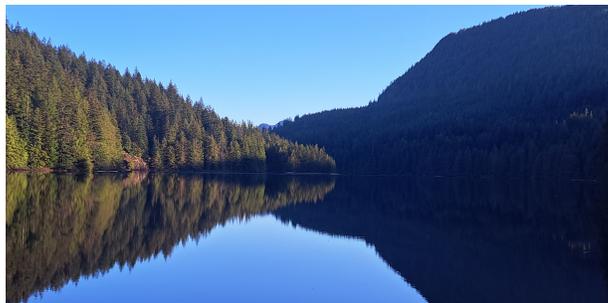
**An Accessible Facility*



Registration 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)

KARREN STINSON BURSARY for Lutherans and Anglicans based in Western Canada

The Karren Stinson Bursary Fund celebrates the life of a parish worker at Lutheran Church of the Cross, **the late Karren Louise Stinson**. She was stricken with an aneurysm and died on August 13, 1990, at the age of 32 years. Karren contributed significantly to the life of the congregation, especially in areas of parish education, congregational programming, youth work, and Evangelical Lutheran Women's ministry. She also served on committees at the conference, Synodical, and national levels of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Karren resigned this position after six years to attend the University of Victoria to pursue a degree in social work, with the goal of full-time church service.

The **purpose** of this Bursary Fund is to give **financial assistance to Lutherans and Anglicans based in Western Canada** who are currently involved in post-secondary education leading to a vocation of service. The first Bursary was awarded in 1991.

We now invite applications for a bursary of \$1500. The deadline is 30 April 2026.

For more information and to download the application please click [here](#).

ELCIC NEWS

Our Conversations Across the Church Recording is Now Available



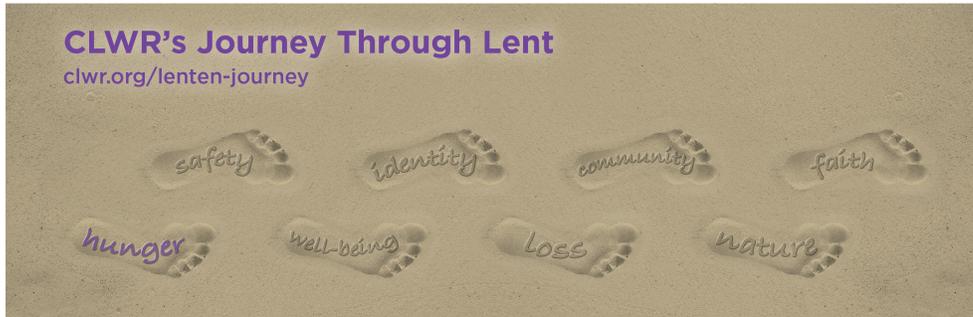
The recording of our second Conversations Across the Church event held on February 22 is now available! Thank you to everyone who joined us! We are grateful for the time you've given to gather in worship and reflection with our wider church community! You can watch the video

recording on our website when you [click here](#).

Journey Through Lent

This Lent, CLWR invites you to come along with us on a Lenten journey of reflection, action and hope. Each of these short studies will focus on a theme — Hunger, Safety, Well-Being, Identity, Loss, Community, Nature and Faith — and reflect on how these issues shape our lives, our communities, and our world. They can be done individually or as a small group.

Through scripture, discussion, and action, we will consider how God calls us to respond with justice, compassion, and hope. Join us for our Journey Through Lent at clwr.org/lenten-journey.



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.

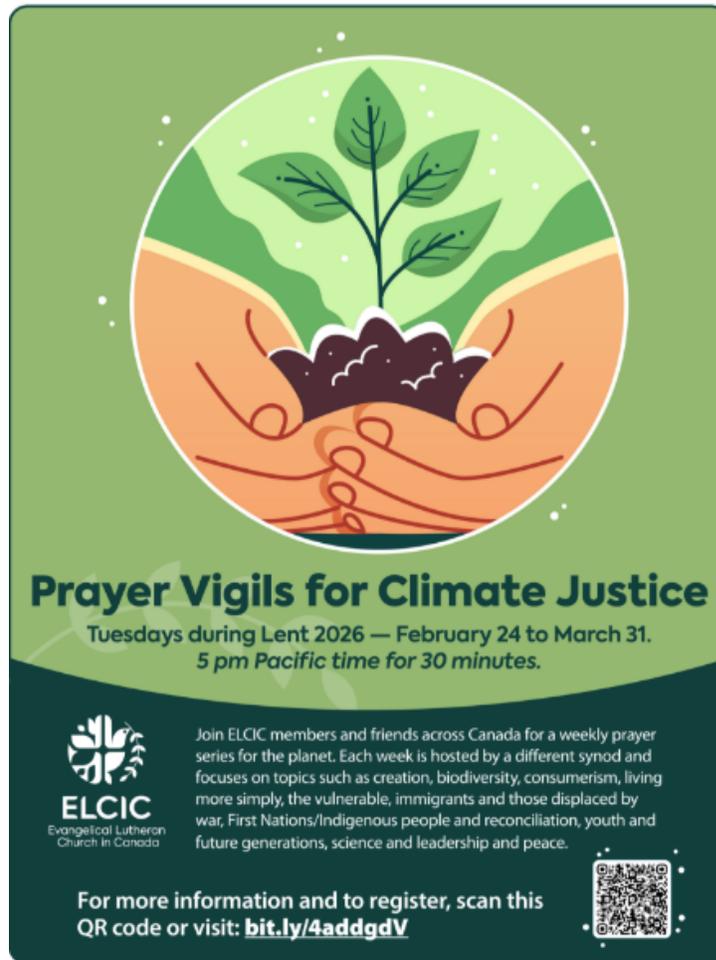
Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026

Click [here](#) to download a poster

Each Tuesday evening during Lent, 7:00-7:30 pm, Central Time, the ELCIC and its synods are

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.

A vertical poster with a green background. At the top is a circular illustration of a green plant with three leaves growing out of a pair of hands cupped together, holding dark soil. The background of the circle is light green with small white dots. Below the illustration, the text reads: "Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice" in a bold, dark green font. Underneath that, in a smaller font: "Tuesdays during Lent 2026 — February 24 to March 31. 5 pm Pacific time for 30 minutes." At the bottom left is the ELCIC logo, which consists of a stylized white cross with four leaf-like shapes extending from it, above the text "ELCIC" and "Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada". To the right of the logo is a paragraph of text: "Join ELCIC members and friends across Canada for a weekly prayer series for the planet. Each week is hosted by a different synod and focuses on topics such as creation, biodiversity, consumerism, living more simply, the vulnerable, immigrants and those displaced by war, First Nations/Indigenous people and reconciliation, youth and future generations, science and leadership and peace." At the bottom right is a QR code.

Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice
Tuesdays during Lent 2026 — February 24 to March 31.
5 pm Pacific time for 30 minutes.


ELCIC
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada

Join ELCIC members and friends across Canada for a weekly prayer series for the planet. Each week is hosted by a different synod and focuses on topics such as creation, biodiversity, consumerism, living more simply, the vulnerable, immigrants and those displaced by war, First Nations/Indigenous people and reconciliation, youth and future generations, science and leadership and peace.

For more information and to register, scan this QR code or visit: bit.ly/4addgdV



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:

Elimination of Poverty: Projects like low-income meal programs, food distribution, and essential items assistance.

Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples: Initiatives to promote awareness, education, and community engagement, such as healthy meals, cultural camps, and work programs.
Sustainable Environmental Practices: Ideas such as energy-efficient lighting upgrades, water conservation measures, or rain barrel installations.

This is an opportunity for your congregation or Synod to receive financial support for projects that make a tangible difference. Applications are open to all Charitus partners and congregations supported by their Synod. The deadline for submission is May 31, 2026. For more details or to apply, visit [Charitus Apply for a Grant](#).

Whitehorse Worship Arts Festival & Contemplative Retreat

July 2–5, 2026 | Whitehorse, Yukon

Join us in the Yukon for a four-day immersive gathering designed to heal and inspire. A partnership of the Anglican, Lutheran, and United Church traditions, this practice-forward retreat offers a restorative balance of deep contemplation and vibrant, embodied worship.

Register at www.worshipartsfest.ca. (*Early Bird pricing of \$250 ends March 15*)

Travel Discount: Fly with our official festival sponsor **Air North** and save 15% using code **MERTON**.

Partners & Support: Presented in partnership with Christ Church Cathedral Vancouver, alongside local hosts Christ Church Cathedral Whitehorse, Whitehorse United Church, and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Made possible with support from the Synod of Alberta Mission Initiative Fund.

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://British Columbia Synod (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) -
msef@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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BC Synod - ELCIC
80 East 10th Ave.
New Westminster, BC V3L 4R5
Canada

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