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Subject: ELCIC News: May 6, 2026
Date: May 6, 2026 at 9:16 am
To: oslcospika@gmail.com



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Week of May 6, 2026

1. ELCIC Day of Action
2. Conversations Across the Church
3. Justice Updates
4. Leadership
5. Effective Partnerships
6. ELCIC Sermon Series
7. National Office

Order a T-shirt, Tell Us How You're Involved!
Sunday, May 24
NATI-RETI 2026, Interfaith Letter, More
Call for Nominations
Cycle of Prayer, Peace Messengers Training
Ongoing Now
Canada Lutheran - Subscribe Today

1. Wear Your ELCIC T-Shirt on May 31!



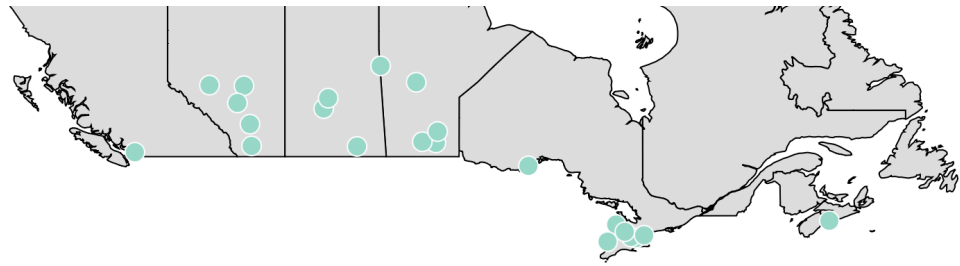


We are a few weeks away from our ELCIC Day of Action on **May 31**! As congregations prepare to engage in acts of service in your communities, *Living out God's grace and unconditional love*, why not show our church's spirit by wearing an ELCIC t-shirt? Everything you need to order online or work with a local t-shirt shop can be found here: [click here](#).

****NOTE:** The online webstore requires at least 10 business days for t-shirt orders! That means NOW is the time to order. Full information is available here: <https://elcic.ca/dayofaction/t-shirts/>

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.

Make sure your congregation is part of the ELCIC Day of Action. Share your plans. Go on the map. (<https://form.jotform.com/ELCIC/DayofActionSubmissionForm>)



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

Download resources and find out more!

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

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

2. Conversations Across the Church - Sunday, May 24

Mark your calendars for **May 24** and join us for our next *Conversations Across the Church* online gathering!

This time together will include a brief time of worship, grounding us in prayer and community as we listen, learn and reflect together.

We'll be joined by voices from our Global Mission partners: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Unida, and Iglesia Luterana del Perú (IL-P). Together, we will reflect on a shared question: *Where do you see life in your church?*

Through these perspectives, we'll hear stories from across our global community—reminding us of the many ways God is at work with and among us.

Join us for this meaningful time of connection and reflection. Come ready to listen, be inspired, and consider where you see signs of life in your own context.

Register now to reserve your spot! <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/s27TUCRVTGS2EUyJJBvLKg>

3. Justice Updates

NATI-RETI 2026: Cross-Border Theological Learning Program



NORTH AMERICA TURTLE ISLAND
REGIONAL ECUMENICAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

NATI-RETI
2026

Where Now for Visible Justice?

The North America-Turtle Island and Regional Ecumenical Theological Institute (NATI-RETI) will convene on **August 3-16** under the theme “Where Now for Visible Justice?” The application **deadline has been extended to May 31**. This is a formational experience for those with an interest in theology, ecumenism, mission, and justice. The program is open to emerging ecumenical leaders, with priority given to those aged 21-35. Nevertheless, people of all ages may consider applying. [Details and application to NATI-RETI are available here.](#)

In addition, prospective applicants are invited to join an **informational webinar on May 6, 3:00 p.m. (EDT)**. This session offers a valuable opportunity to meet the organizing team, ask questions, and learn what to expect from the experience. [Register for this informational webinar today.](#)

Interfaith Letter on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels

ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer offered ELCIC endorsement to a global, multi-faith letter in the lead-up to the First Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels, which will be held in Santa Marta, Colombia on April 28-29. Representatives of over 50 countries were in attendance, making this a vitally important moment. The letter was coordinated by the Faiths for a Fossil Free Future coalition, to which KAIROS belongs. [The letter is found on the Faiths for a Fossil Free Future website.](#)

Practical Climate Action for Church Buildings - Workshop Summary & Questionnaire

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* on 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 some details from the workshop. You are also invited to complete the [questionnaire](#) to share about the needs of your congregation.

4. Call for Nominations - 31st LWF International Theological Seminar for Pastors

Call for Nominations for the 31st LWF International Theological Seminar for Pastors

The 31st LWF International Theological Seminar for Pastors will be held on November 7-21, 2026 at the LWF Center Wittenberg in Germany. This two-week seminar focuses on “Basics of Lutheran Theology - Preaching the Word of God and Celebrating the Sacraments.” Participation fee is 1100 Euros plus travel expenses. Anyone who plans to attend will be responsible to cover these fees. ELCIC’s Continuing Education Plan (CEP) can be availed

and used for this learning event. If you are interested in being nominated for this theological seminar, please contact Deacon Gretchen Peterson at gpeterson@elcic.ca before **May 11**.

5. Effective Partnerships

Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Cycle of Prayer

The following are the prayer petitions for: **Sunday, May 10**

ACC: The Rt. Rev. Susan Bell, Bishop, The Most Rev. Colin Johnson, Assistant Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Niagara

ELCIC: Bishop Ali Tote, the people and rostered ministers of the Saskatchewan Synod

MOR: The Rt. Rev. Douglas Kleintop, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province

Peace Messengers Training Gathers Youth from 23 LWF Member Churches

Lessons from South Africans' struggle against apartheid, alongside ongoing peacebuilding initiatives led by churches and communities in the region feature prominently at The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Peace Messengers training, which took place from April 2 to 25 in Johannesburg. These experiences are designed to connect faith with action and encourage participants to take leadership in addressing conflict and division.

6. The ELCIC Sermon Series Has Begun



From May until October, Bishops and Assistants to the Bishops are once again sharing

From May until October, Bishops and Assistants to the Bishops are once again sharing weekly sermons designed for use in congregations. The first three sermons have been prepared as are now available in the online Box folder for download.

Offered in both written and video formats, each sermon is easy to access and adaptable to your local worship setting. Whether you're navigating the rhythms of vacation season or simply looking to bring a wider church voice into your community, these resources offer a meaningful connection to leaders across the ELCIC.

If you're interested in receiving the full collection of sermons, simply [sign up to access the full set of resources as they become available.](#)

7. From the National Office

Discover the Stories Shaping Our Church

Across the ELCIC, faith is lived out in ways both quiet and bold. *Canada Lutheran* brings these stories together, highlighting communities, voices, and moments that reflect God's work in Canada and beyond.

Each issue offers thoughtful articles and reflections that connect readers to the wider church and invite deeper engagement with faith in everyday life.

Subscribe today: <https://www.simplecirc.com/subscribe/canada-lutheran>

Congregations can access reduced-rate group subscriptions. For details, contact tgallop@elcic.ca.

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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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