



"Some Mohr Jottings"

by Bishop Greg Mohr

September 2013

BC Synod - 80 East 10th Ave, New Westminster BC V3L 4R5
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Truth and Reconciliation National Event: A Walk for Reconciliation

On Sunday, Sept 22, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will be sponsoring a 4 km walk in downtown Vancouver. As I mentioned in an earlier communiqué, I encourage all of you to pray for the events of the week-long Truth and Reconciliation sessions as well as for the walk on Sunday. I hope that congregations in the lower mainland and from Vancouver Island will ensure that delegations from their churches participate in the walk.

Please accept my apologies for providing inaccurate information in the last communiqué. The starting and ending points for the walk were incorrect. Please go to <http://reconciliationcanada.ca> where you will find more information as well as detailed maps. Click on "Walk With Us." The walk starts at the Queen Elizabeth Plaza near the Vancouver Public Library. It ends close to Science World.

9:00 to 10:00 am	Opening Ceremony
10:00 am	Walk begins
11:00 am	Closing protocol begins

The following quote comes from the website:

"Why We Walk"

The Walk for Reconciliation is designed to transform and renew the very essence of relationships among Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians. It sounds so simple, but just the act of gathering and walking and sharing our stories can join us all in a shared commitment to creating a new way forward in our relationships with each other. It's time to move past apologies and politics and money. It's time to move forward. Together.

Our future depends on being able to simply get along, respecting each other for the unique gifts we bring. The time is now to show our children, our neighbours and even other countries that Canada knows how to get it right. Join us.

ELCIC Praise Appeal

Some congregations already have held their annual ELCIC Praise Appeal, but if your congregation has not yet done so, I strongly encourage you to participate in this important appeal. Earlier this year, Synod Council passed a motion designating October as the month to promote the ELCIC Praise Appeal.

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The Praise Appeal is one way by which each of us can give praise to God for the ministry of our church. The financial gifts received provide important support for various ELCIC initiatives. Resources for a Praise Appeal Sunday can be found on the ELCIC website at <http://www.elcic.ca/praiseappeal/resources.cfm>

Synod Council On the Road

This fall's Synod Council meeting will take place in Victoria from October 3 to 5. Council also will participate in portions of the Vancouver Island Conference convention which takes place on the 4th and 5th. Many Synod Council members will stay through to Sunday, which allows them to visit our Lutheran congregations in the area and to speak briefly about our common ministry in the synod.

The Annual General Meeting of the Synod is required to be held in conjunction with the Synod Council meeting. All members of our Synod are eligible to attend. It will take place on Saturday, Oct 5, at 11:30 am at Lutheran Church of the Cross, Victoria (3787 Cedar Hill Road). The primary item of business is the presentation of the audited financial statements of the synod. As per the bylaws of the Synod, a notice has been sent to each congregation for posting.

Renewal and Redevelopment: Next Round Begins January 2014

Keep January 2014 in mind. That's when the next group of congregations and rostered ministers will begin their journey in the Renewal and Redevelopment initiative of our synod. Application forms will be available soon. The clergy intake group will meet on Friday, January 24, while the new Congregational Guiding Teams will meet on Saturday, January 25.

In the meantime, check out the resources on our synod website www.bcsynod.org. Click on "Events" and peruse the videos and print resources that are there.

I cannot urge you strongly enough to participate in this process. As we struggle in our ministries and as we ponder what it means to be a church in this day and age, a process such as this one will help us be attentive to what God is up to in our neighbourhoods and in our congregations. Journeying together is an important element in this process as well.

Upcoming Events

First Call Program for Rostered Ministers (in first 3 years of initial Call)
October 15-18
Edmonton, AB

Study Conference for Rostered Ministers and Lay Professionals
March 9-12, 2014
Charis Camp, Chilliwack, BC

BC Synod Convention
May 29 to June 1, 2014
Prince George, BC

(Note: To assist with congregational budgeting, registration fees for lay and rostered delegates will be set at the October 2013 meeting of Synod Council.)

National Worship Conference (Lutheran and Anglican) "Wearing Strands: Liturgy for Living"
July 20-23, 2014
Edmonton, AB

CLAY (Canadian Lutheran and Anglican Youth Gathering) "Worth It"
August 14-17, 2014
Kamloops, BC

Bishop's Schedule for Fall 2013

Sept	4	travel day to Winnipeg
	5-7	National Church Council meetings; Winnipeg
	12	Constitution committee meeting
	12	Renewal and Redevelopment meeting
	15	Worship: Our Saviour, Richmond
	16	Meeting with BC Anglican bishops
	17	Renewal and Redevelopment Task Force meeting
	17	Lutheran Theological Seminary telephone conference meeting
	20-21	Convention, Southern Interior Conference; Vernon
	22	Truth and Reconciliation march, Vancouver
	25	Synod Officers' meeting
	26	Synod Convention planning meeting
	27	Communication strategy task force meeting
	28	Joint Convention: Lower Fraser Valley and Greater Vancouver Conferences
	28	Renewal and Redevelopment Guiding Teams meeting
	29	Worship: Dunbar, Vancouver
Oct	3-5	Synod Council meeting in Victoria
	4-5	Convention: Vancouver Island Conference; Victoria
	6	Worship: Hope, Nanaimo
	7-14	last week of holidays
	15-18	First Call Program, Edmonton
	24	Worship: Anglican Church, Gibsons; Installation of Rev. Ian Nestegaard Paul
	25	Grand Opening of SUMS new facility
	26-29	Conference of Bishops; joint meeting with Anglican bishops; Quebec City
Nov	3-5	Lutheran Theological Seminary, Board of Governors meeting; Saskatoon
	7	Meeting: Emmanuel, Surrey