



"Some Mohr Jottings"

by Bishop Greg Mohr

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APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP FOR MISSIONAL RENEWAL

With joy I now am able to announce that Rev. Kathy Martin (King of Life, Coquitlam) has agreed to serve as the new Assistant to the Bishop for Missional Renewal. The congregation has most graciously agreed to "share" Pastor Kathy with us and for that we are very grateful. The position for the Assistant to the Bishop for Missional Renewal will be half-time for this fall and into next year, then moving to a 1/3 time commitment.

As I reported back in April prior to leaving on sabbatical, each of the five ELCIC Synods has received a large grant to assist in undertaking substantial mission initiatives within the synod. The Advisory Board for the ELCIC's "Church Extension and Capital Fund" has provided \$200,000 to each synod for a two-year period. The grants are received with the intent that they be used "in support of Canadian mission initiatives to participate in God's mission in our changing context."

I also mentioned that at its spring meeting, the BC Synod Council approved the hiring of an Assistant to the Bishop for Missional Renewal on a part-time basis, with the funds for this position to come from the CECF special grant. Negotiations were still underway at the time I began my sabbatical, so we were unable to announce this prior to my departure.

Synod Council approved a 5-point strategy for the use of the funds from this CECF special grant. This strategy includes the following:

1. To hire a part-time Assistant to the Bishop for Missional Renewal. (The provision for appointing one or more Assistants was made by the Synod in Convention in May 2014.)
2. To continue contracting with The Missional Network.
3. To provide honoraria as needed for additional resource people.
4. To provide travel and accommodation reimbursements for participants in the clergy cohorts and congregational guiding teams.
5. To use the remaining funds for such things as synod-implementation initiatives and experiments, workshops, and related equipment.

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SABBATICAL REFLECTIONS

I want to express my deepest appreciation to the Synod for granting me a 3-month sabbatical. The time away was exceptionally helpful, renewing, and affirming. I also want to express thanks to the other Synod Officers — Rev. Cliff Reinhardt, Darlene Johnson and Stephen Holmes — to the Deans and Assistants to the Deans from the 6 Conferences of our Synod, and to synod office secretary Kimberly Bortnak. They looked after so many things while I was away, and for that I am extremely grateful.

While sabbatical includes a fair amount of time just being away from the mantel of office, it also includes an educational component. To that end, during my sabbatical I undertook an executive leadership review that included a 360 survey and several sessions with a consultant exploring the implications of that survey. I also read books related to leadership and to the missional renewal process.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Pastor Carolina Glauster, whose ordination took place on Sunday, May 24, at Lutheran Church of the Cross, Victoria, with retired Bishop Ray Schultz presiding, and Rev. Lyle McKenzie assisting. (Pastor Carolina interned at Church of the Cross.) Pastor Carolina now serves at the pastor of Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, North Vancouver.

Pastor Katrina Vigen, who accepted the call to Ascension, Nelson, and began her work there in July. Pastor Katrina comes to us from the ELCA. The Installation service for Pastor Katrina will be held on Friday, October 2nd.

Pastor David Hunter of Saskatoon, SK, who has accepted the call to serve Peace, Vernon. He will begin his ministry there on November 1st.

Rev. Dr. Michael Nel, who has been appointed as the Acting President of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, SK

Christ Lutheran Church, Chilliwack, on the celebration of its 75th Anniversary on Sunday, Sept 20

St. Peter's Estonian Lutheran Church, Vancouver, on the celebration of their 65th Anniversary on Sunday, Sept 27

CONGREGATIONS IN CALL PROCESS

Benediction, Delta
Our Saviour, Richmond
Chetwynd Shared Ministry, Chetwynd

IMPORTANT SYNOD DATES FOR 2015 and 2016**Conference Conventions:**

Lower Fraser Valley and Greater Vancouver joint convention
September 19, Good Shepherd, Coquitlam

Southern Interior
September 25-26, Church of St. Paul Shared Ministry, Barriere

Vancouver Island
October 2-3, Grace, Victoria

Synod Council Meetings:

October 29-31, 2015

February 25-26, 2016

Annual General Meeting of the BC Synod:

Thursday, October 29 at 7:30 pm

Spirit of Life Lutheran Church

375 West 10th Ave, Vancouver

2016 BC Synod Convention

April 28 to May 1, 2016, Coquitlam, featuring a Synod Learning Event
with guest presenter and facilitator Rev. Dr. Craig van Gelder

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

Sept	9	Officers' meeting
	11	Missional Renewal Task Force meeting
	12	Anglican Diocese of British Columbia convention (Nanaimo)
	16	Seminary committee teleconference meeting
	16	Meeting: with chair and consultant for Missions Committee
	18	Funeral service for Rev. Henry Erickson
	19	Convention for Lower Fraser Valley and Greater Vancouver Conferences, (Good Shepherd, Coquitlam)
	20	Christ, Chilliwack, 75th Anniversary celebration
	24	Clearwater: Service of Celebration for the establishment of new Ecumenical Shared Ministry
	25-26	Convention for Southern Interior Conference (Church of St. Paul, Shared Ministry, Barriere)
	27	Worship: Church of St. Paul, Barriere
	28	Meeting: Planning Committee for Western Synods' Lay Academy
Oct	2-3	Convention for Vancouver Island Conference (Grace, Victoria)
	4	Worship: Grace, Victoria
	4-5	Committee for Theological Education and Leadership (Victoria)
	7	Meeting re Call Process
	13-16	First Call Program; BC Synod's turn to host (Victoria)
	19-21	Conference of Bishops meeting with Anglican House of Bishops (Toronto)
	24	First meeting of the 3rd cohort of Congregational Guiding Teams for the Missional Renewal process
	27	Meeting with Call Committee (Our Saviour, Richmond)
	29-30	Synod Council Meeting (at Spirit of Life, Vancouver)
29	Annual General Meeting of the BC Synod; 7:30 pm (Spirit of Life, Vancouver)	
Nov	1-3	Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Governors (Saskatoon)
	12	Conference of Bishops (Toronto)
	13-15	National Church Council (Toronto)