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FINAL DRAFT

Journey. Together: Companions

2018 BC Synod Convention — May 24 to 27, 2018

**Convention Hosts: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Langley, BC
(20097 - 72nd Ave, Langley)**

***NOTE:** Balloting will take place throughout the convention as time and ballot results permit. Balloting will proceed in this order as per the Synod bylaws: Bishop, Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. This will be followed by elections for the Synod Council members from the four Regions, and then elections for the At Large-Lay and At Large-Rostered Synod Council members. The election of Bishop shall be conducted by “ecclesiastical ballot,” wherein each delegate is invited to write down one name on a blank ballot. For all other elections, names will be presented by the Nominating Committee and additional nominations may be made from the floor.*

The Nominating Committee report regarding the election of BC Synod delegates for the 2019 National Convention will be presented Thursday afternoon. At that time, additional nominations may be made from the floor. Similarly, there will be opportunity to make nominations from the floor for the Rostered Minister representative for the Board of Governors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon.

Thursday, May 24

12:00-1:30 pm REGISTRATION begins at **Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Langley**
(Please note that no lunch is being provided.)

1:30 pm

Business Session #1

- Litany: Opening of Convention
- Welcome of Special Guests and new Rostered Ministers
- Convention Procedures
- Table Talk
- Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance
- Adoption of Agenda
- Appointment of Parliamentarian and Convention Committees
- Greetings
- Committee on Elections: First ballot for election of Bishop
- Secretary's Report:
 - Adoption of Minutes from the 2016 BC Synod Convention
 - Report on Synod Roster (for Congregations and Rostered Ministers)
- Nominating Committee Report regarding the Election of Delegates to the 2019 National Convention: call for nominations from the floor

3:00 pm

Refreshments

3:30 pm

Business Session #1 continues

- Bishop's Report, including the reports of the Assistant to the Bishop and the Conference Deans
- Treasurer's Report, including presentation of 2018-2019 budget
- Synod Council Report, including report on significant motions, and recommendation regarding the property on the University Endowment Lands
- Reports from Synod Standing Committees
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
- Announcements

- 6:00 pm Welcome Dinner
(Sponsored by ELFEC: Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada)
- 7:30 pm **Opening Worship Service**
(The offerings received this evening and Sunday morning will be split evenly between the Ishtar Transition Housing Society in Langley and the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering.)

Friday, May 25

- 9:00 am **Prayer for the Start of the Day**
9:15 am **Business Session #2**
- Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance
 - Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
 - Synod Council Report continued, regarding property on the University Endowment Lands
- 10:30 am Refreshment Break
- 11:00 am **Business Session #2 continues ...**
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
 - Committee of the Whole, regarding property on the University Endowment Lands
 - Announcements
- 12:30 pm Lunch
(Please allow Convention Choir members to eat first so that they may attend practice. Reference and Counsel members also may require this courtesy.)
- 1:30 pm **Business Session #3**
- Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance
 - Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
 - Nomination Committee Report, regarding the Election of Delegates to the 2019 National Convention; Balloting ensues
 - Report of the National Bishop; presented by Vice-Chair Sheila Hamilton
 - Proposed Bylaw Amendments
- 3:00 pm Refreshment Break
- 3:30 pm **Business Session #3 continues**
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
 - Synod Council Report continued: recommended motion from its report on the University Endowment Lands property
 - Proposed Bylaw Amendments (if needed)
 - Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
 - Announcements
- 5:30 pm Dinner
(Please allow Convention Choir members to eat first so that they may attend practice. Reference and Counsel members also may require this courtesy.)
- 6:30 pm **Business Session #4**
- Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance

- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
- Committee on the Report of the Bishop
- Reference and Counsel Report on proposed motions
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
- Announcements

8:15 pm **Prayer for the Close of the Day**

Saturday, May 26

9:00 am **Prayer for the Start of the Day**

9:15 am **Business Session #5**

- Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues
- Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelsetter , CLWR's new Executive Director
- Lutheran Theological Seminary
- Group Services, Inc. Report
- Global Mission Companion Report

10:30 am Refreshment Break

- Budget for 2018-2019
- Reference and Counsel Report on proposed motions
- Report from Committee on Elections; balloting continues

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm **RIDING BACKWARDS BIKES with Dr. Michael Binder**
BC Synod Convention continues with our Learning Event

(Refreshments are available throughout the afternoon so there is no formal break)

- Introduction and Dwelling in Word – Acts 16:6-15
- How do we learn new things God wants to teach us?
- Learn through Experience – What might God be up to?
- Learn by Doing – Design Thinking Crash Course
- Reflections: What did we learn from this experience?
- Riding Backwards Bicycles – Making connections to everyday ministry
- Where have we seen God at work today?

5:00 pm **Business Session #6 if required**

- possible report from Committee on Elections

6:00 pm Celebration Dinner
 Entertainment provided by The Seabilllys

Sunday, May 27

TBA **Business Session #7, if required**

10:00 am **Worship Service,**
 including Installation of Synod Council Members and Closing of Convention

(The convention offerings received this morning and those from Thursday evening will be split evenly between the Ishtar Transition Housing Society in Langley and the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering. In addition, donations placed in the regular offering envelopes of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church will go directly to the congregation.)



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Dear Delegates, Visitors, and Volunteers:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! On behalf of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, we are delighted to welcome you to the Township of Langley and the 2018 British Columbia Synod Convention!

The theme of our convention is "Journey. Together: Companions." A theme that reflects the work we continue to engage in as a synod in our missional renewal process. As we grow and learn about what it means to be the church in today's world, we are often reminded how important it is to do this journey together. So, may our time together in convention be one of both celebration for the good work we've accomplished, and of commitment to renewing our mission.

As we continue to learn and grow as a synod we continue to try new ways of doing things together. At our last convention in 2016 we shifted to a learning day opportunity on the Saturday of our time together. This year we shift to a learning afternoon. We are delighted that our guest speaker will be Michael Binder, Pastor of Teaching and Vision at Mill City Church in Northeast Minneapolis, and an adjunct professor at Luther Seminary. We also hope to be joined by visitors that day to take in this excellent opportunity.

Recently identified as Metro Vancouver's fastest growing municipality, the Township of Langley was incorporated in Fort Langley in 1873, and is known as the "Birthplace of BC." A community unlike any other, the Township of Langley is a place where the rich heritage of the past is combined with a vibrant vision for the future. Rural beauty is complemented by an energetic urban atmosphere.

We look forward to having you join us at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church for all parts of convention this year, including a more casual Saturday evening celebration event where we will hear from local musicians *The Seabillies*. We will also celebrate significant anniversaries of ordination, and give thanks for the work of many of our synod leaders.

If you require more information, you may contact Kimberly Bortnak at the Synod Office: 604-524-1318 / email: kbortnak@elcic.ca or Shepherd of the Valley church office: 604-530-1311 / svlc@shaw.ca. We look forward to your arrival and our time together as we meet in convention. May God's Spirit inspire and empower us all as we come to journey together. Companions.

Partners with you in mission,

Rev. Kristen Steele, *Pastor, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church*

Harvey Mitchler, *Council Chairperson, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church*

Tanya Mitchler, *Local Arrangements Chairperson*

A congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada – BC Synod