

**From:** BC Synod - ELCIC bcsynod@elcic.ca  
**Subject:** Synod Announcements - February 12, 2025  
**Date:** February 12, 2025 at 2:00 PM  
**To:** oslcospika@gmail.com



[View this email in your browser](#)



## British Columbia Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

**February 12, 2025**

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 and Next Sunday

To download the **BC Synod 2024-2025 Prayer List for Congregations**, please [click here](#). It can also be found on our website [bcsynod.org](https://bcsynod.org) under Resources.

Sunday February 16th we pray for:

*Ascension Lutheran in Nelson*

*Mount Zion Lutheran in New Westminster - Rev. Benedicte Hansen (Interim)*

**Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Full Communion Cycle of Prayer.** Please [click here](#)

### HIGHLIGHTS

Please note the Synod Office will be closed Monday, February 17th

- **Feb** [Black History Month - Resources from the Eastern Synod](#)
- **! Feb 15** [Mission Fund Grant Application Deadline](#)
- **Feb 15** [Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Conference](#)
- **! Feb 22-23** [Global Companion Visit](#)

- **Feb 23** [Diaconal Sunday](#)
- **! Feb 28** [Convention Assessment fees due to the BC Synod office](#)
- **March 1** [An Introduction to All Creation Sings](#)
- **March 1** Applications Due for [Luther League Legacy Fund \(LLLF\)](#)
- **March 15** [Applications due for Compassionate Justice Initiatives](#)
- **March 22-23** [Synod Gathering - One Body: Better Together in Christ](#)
- **March 31** [Parochial Reports Due](#)
- **May 5-7** [Save the Date - BC Synod Study Conference at Loon Lake](#)
- [National Convention - Discernment, Elections and Nominations](#)
- [National Convention - Nominations for ELCIC Leadership Award](#)
- [Annual Report Covers](#)

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

## PRAYERS

### Prayer for Pastor Kristen Steele

Thank you for your continued prayers for Pastor Kristen, her family and the people of Shepherd of the Valley in Langley.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Global Companion Visit

**Saturday, February 22nd, 10am – 11:30am**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1504 Spruce Avenue, Coquitlam

**Sunday, February 23rd, worship 10am with presentation**

Lutheran Church of the Cross, 3787 Cedar Hill Road, Victoria

BC Synod's Global Companion is *Iglesia Luterana del Peru, IL-P*. The two churches have been companions since 2003. The initial agreement between the two churches was signed at BC Synod confirmation camp in Nanoose Bay.

Representatives of BC Synod, IL-P, LaCrosse Area Synod (Wisconsin), and Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod met in the fall of 2023 in Texas. Arising from their conversations, plans were made to visit Lima and other locations in the summer of 2024.

Jennifer Carr, a member of LaCrosse Area Synod, travelled with the group. She has offered to share her stories and experiences in our synod. She will be with us in the last weekend of February, in Lower Mainland and in Victoria. As a synod, we look forward to growing our relationship with our companions as we share ministry together. We hope you will come join us and learn more.

You can download a poster with more information [here](#).



Jennifer Carr

---

## An Introduction to All Creation Sings

# All Creation Sings

hosted by  
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1370 Church Street, Penticton, BC



**Saturday March 1, 2025**

11 am – 4:00 pm

## Introduction to *All Creation Sings*

*(Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement)*

facilitated by Rev Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop

*if you wish, bring your own copy of All Creation Sings*  
Copies will also be available for use

*Lunch and refreshments will be provided*

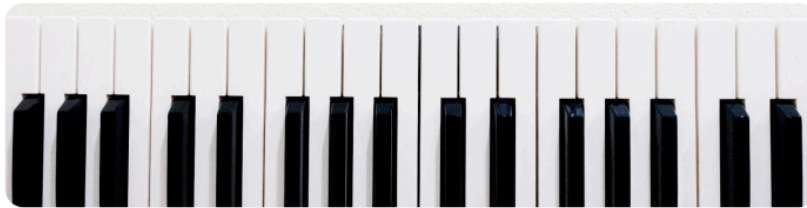


followed by

## Hymnfest: *“All Creation Sings”* and Dedication of Piano

*featuring the musical talent of ORLC and friends*

A freewill offering will be taken -- in order to prepare lunch,  
please contact ORLC by **Monday, February 24** if you plan to attend



For more information, contact Our Redeemer at 250-492-6861 or [orlc@shaw.ca](mailto:orlc@shaw.ca)

---

## Save the Date

This March we will come together to talk about our work together as a synod who are One Body: Better Together in Christ. We will gather at King of Life Lutheran in Coquitlam on March 22-23, for a full day on Saturday and until noon or so on Sunday.

We encourage you to start planning whom to send in your congregations. We hope to see two to three lay leaders from each congregation, and their rostered leader, together for conversation and consultation. All costs will be covered by the synod. More information and registration details will follow very soon!

---

## ELCIC Mission Fund Grant Applications

We are inviting applications for grants to fund neighbourhood and community experiments and learning opportunities that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a) explore what God is doing in your neighbourhood
- b) seek to develop relationships with others in your community
- c) encourage participation in God's mission in the local community

d) encourage action and reflection learning

Through these experiments, we will continue to learn from and with each other as we share our stories, experiences, and our learning with the rest of our synod and the wider church. Experiments need not be large-scale or require the commitment of large dollar amounts. Successful applications are inspired by imagination and a curiosity about what God is up to in our midst.

Grants are funded by the ELCIC through the ELCIC Mission Fund and are given on a one-time basis and are not intended to subsidize ongoing funding needs of regular church programming. Grant recipients will be invited to submit the "faith story" of their missional experiments, which will be shared with the synod and the communities and be asked to give an accounting of how the grant money is spent, and to return any unused funds.

**The application deadline is February 15, 2025.**

Applications and information can be found [here](#)

Please note that all congregations and groups that receive funding must complete the reporting form when their experiment is complete. This allows us to reconcile funds and report to the National Church, which is a requirement of our committee. It also gives you a chance to reflect with your team and share your experience with us. The updated reporting form contains both reflection questions and a space for financial reconciliation, and is available in word or pdf format here: <https://bcsynod.org/resources/funds-grants>

---

## **BC Synod Study Conference**

Plans are underway for our BC Synod Study Conference at **Loon Lake in Maple Ridge, BC from May 5-7, 2025.**

### **UPDATED FEES**

The registration costs are: for rostered leaders in a call **\$650**, for retired rostered, deacons, and those in specialized ministry **\$300**, and for students **\$250**.

Bursaries will be available.

Spouses and family are welcome.

More information will follow.

---

## **BC Synod delegate fees for National Convention**

The 2025 ELCIC National Convention will take place July 10 – 13, 2025 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Of the 150 delegates attending the National Convention, 20 will be from the BC Synod, comprised of 12 lay delegates (which include 8 younger delegates aged 16-30) and 8 rostered delegates. The selection of these delegates took place at the June 2024 BC Synod Convention.

For more information on the fees and the breakdown please click [here](#).

Thank you.

## ELCIC NEWS

### **Black History Month: Resources and Events**

#### **Celebrate Black History Month with a Video Series and a Sunday Service**

Black History Month is a time for all of us to both celebrate and uplift the achievements and contributions of African Canadians, as well as recognizing and learning more about the historic and systemic challenges people of African descent were and are still faced with in Canada. To that end, the Racial Justice Committee of the [Eastern Synod](#) will be releasing a **series of videos** over the next three weeks to provide you with opportunities to learn more about Black History Month and listen to racialized perspectives from across the Synod. Finally, the Racial Justice Committee and Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Waterloo, invite you to conclude the month by joining Mt. Zion's **Black History Month Service**, either in person or by live stream, **on Sunday, February 23 at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)**. To learn more, [please click here](#).

### **Diaconal Sunday is on February 23**

The last Sunday of February is Diaconal Ministry Sunday - a day to celebrate the witness expressed through service (diakonia). Through our baptism all Christians are called to share God's word and to serve our neighbours in Christ's name. It is also a day to recognize and give thanks to God for all of those who serve in official calls as deacons in our church. [Resources for Diaconal Sunday can be found here](#).

### **Luther League Legacy Fund: Call for Applications**

This is an opportunity to submit an application for the Luther League Legacy Fund (L.L.F.)

This is your chance to submit an application for the Luther League Legacy Fund (LLLFF).

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 by [clicking here](#). Deadline for applications is fast approaching **on March 1, 2025**.

---

## Compassionate Justice Initiatives - Synod Antipoverty Grant 2025

The ELCIC and CLWR work in partnership to foster sustainable development in communities around the world, including here in Canada. This work includes challenging the causes and responding to the consequences of injustice and poverty through Compassionate Justice Initiatives. The BC Synod is accepting applications for funds for such initiatives. The application deadline is March 15, 2025. You can find out more here. (hyperlink to <https://bcsynod.org/news/compassionate-justice-initiatives>)

---

## Parochial Reports Due by March 31

Now is the time of year when ELCIC congregations are asked to complete their **Parochial Reports for 2024**. Congregational contacts should have received a copy of the form via email, but the form can also be accessed [by clicking here](#).

There is a function in the form to save unfinished work. A link will be emailed to you which can be used to continue your work. This link can also be shared to allow others to contribute to filling out the form, as long as people save the form when they are done editing it. Please remember to submit your report when completed.

Please complete and submit your form **by March 31, 2025**.

---

## 2025 National Convention News

### Spiritual Discernment on the Election of a New National Bishop

At the 2025 ELCIC National Convention, delegates will elect a new National Bishop. The ELCIC's National Church Council invites members into a discernment process leading up to the election. Further information about the discernment process is available on the [ELCIC website](#). As of January 2025, a form is now available for individuals to complete when they are ready to formally identify someone they feel has the skills and gifts for the call to serve as national bishop. Supporting materials and the form are available on the [2025 ELCIC National Convention](#) section of the ELCIC website. If you have questions about the process, please submit them via

email to [discernment@elcic.ca](mailto:discernment@elcic.ca) .

### Nominations for Elections Held at the 2025 ELCIC National Convention

Elections will be held at the 2025 ELCIC National Convention for vacant positions on the National Church Council and Court of Appeal. A list of vacancies and the process for nominations is available on the [National Convention section](#) of the ELCIC website.

Please note that the deadline for submission of Nominations Committee is **Friday, February 14, 2025**. Also note that during convention, the opportunity shall be given for nominations from the floor.

### Nominations Are Open for the ELCIC Leadership Award

Worship discipleship Give  
Spirited mission rostered/lay Life  
Supporting contribution Service  
Outstanding NOMINATION  
congregation Community active church Ministry

Do you know someone, rostered or lay, who should be recognized for their outstanding contribution in service to the wider church? Nominate them for the **ELCIC Leadership Award**! This award will be presented at the 2025 National Convention to an individual committed to advancing the mission and ministry of the ELCIC and who has demonstrated leadership. This award was most recently presented at Assembly 2023 in July to Pat Lovell. To find more information including **downloading the Nomination Form**, [please click here](#). All nominations must be postmarked or emailed **by February 28, 2025**.

---

## Annual Report Covers

You can download a digital copy here: <https://elcic.ca/stewardship/>

**MORE NEWS**



## Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Conference

Saturday, February 15th, 2025

Kerrisdale Presbyterian Church, 2733 West 41st Ave, Vancouver

This conference provides a forum for church groups involved in refugee sponsorship and resettlement to share their collective experiences and form new connections. Churches without prior refugee experience are welcome. Finding ways to exchange information and work collaboratively to support refugees will be a key goal of the conference.

For details and registration: <https://sites.google.com/view/kpc-refcon24>

## Transitions in Ministry

Transitions, Vacancies and Call Processes in the BC Synod can be found here:

[Transitions in Ministry | Resources | British Columbia Synod \(bcsynod.org\)](https://www.bcsynod.org/resources/transitions-in-ministry)

## 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 \(bcsynod.org\)](https://www.bcsynod.org)

### Contact us:

Office phone: 604-524-1318

Bishop Kathy Martin - [kmartinbcsynod@gmail.com](mailto:kmartinbcsynod@gmail.com)

Rachel Genge (Administrative Assistant + BC Canada Lutheran editor - remote) - [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Durga Pandithurai (Administrative Assistant - Synod Office) - [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Rev. Elina Singh (Assistant to the Bishop + Executive Administrator - Synod Office) - [esinghbcsynod@gmail.com](mailto:esinghbcsynod@gmail.com)

Rev. Matthew Senf (Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations -

deployed) - [msef@elcic.ca](mailto:msef@elcic.ca)

Rev. Aneeta Saroop (Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion -  
deployed) - [asaroop@elcic.ca](mailto:asaroop@elcic.ca)

Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer (Assistant to the Bishop for Special Service - remote) -  
[lkochedorfer@elcic.ca](mailto:lkochedorfer@elcic.ca)

eTransfers are linked to the office email address: [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto: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](#)

*Copyright © 2025 BC Synod - ELCIC, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you are on our contact list or because you have asked to receive our announcements.

**Our mailing address is:**

BC Synod - ELCIC  
80 East 10th Ave.  
New Westminster, BC V3L 4R5  
Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).





---

---

---

---