

2022



Anglican Diocese of
Edmonton

SYNOD CIRCULAR

68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton
October 21-22

TOGETHER

on the way

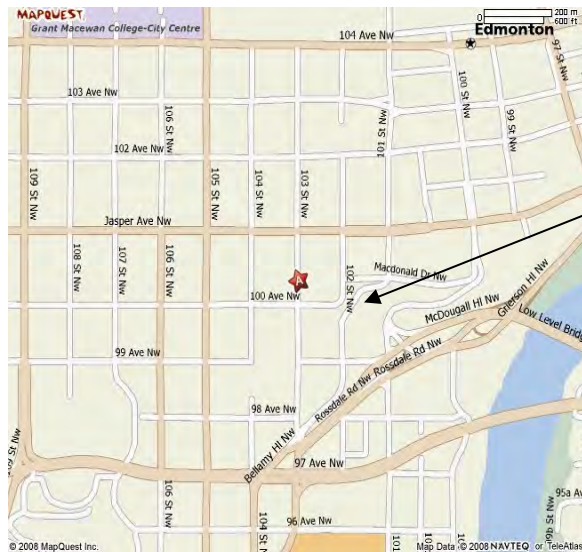


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MAP OF SYNOD FACILITIES

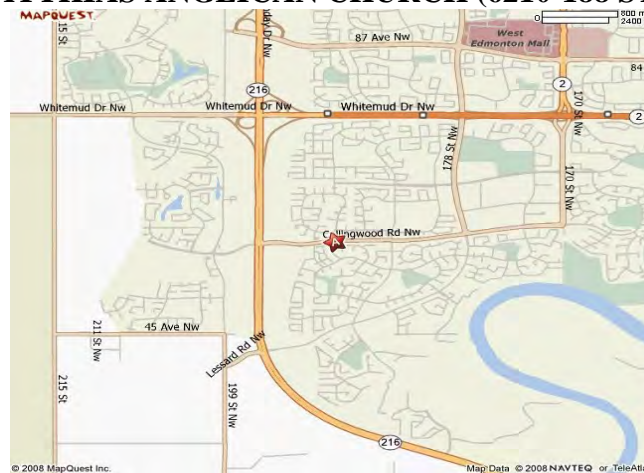
ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL (10035-103 STREET)



The entrances to the parking lot at the Cathedral are located on either 102 or 103 Street.

Parking is free after 4:00 pm with a Synod Parking Permit.

ST. MATTHIAS ANGLICAN CHURCH (6210-188 STREET)



PRAYERS

Please use these prayers over the coming weeks as we prepare for the 68th Synod.

From the Book of Common Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who by thy Holy Spirit didst preside in the Council of the blessed Apostles, and hast promised, through thy Son Jesus Christ, to be with thy Church to the end of the world: We beseech thee to be present with the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton, soon to be assembled in thy Name. Save its members from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice; and of thy great mercy vouchsafe so to direct, govern, and sanctify them in their deliberations by thy Holy Spirit, that through thy blessing the Gospel of Christ may be faithfully preached and obeyed, the order and discipline of thy Church maintained, and the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour enlarged and extended. Grant this, we beseech thee, through the merits and mediation of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the Book of Alternative Services

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in the upcoming Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THEME

Our theme is “Together on the Way.”

The FIVE MARKS of MISSION of the WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

First Mark of Mission: To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

Sentence

Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Prayer

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Second Mark of Mission: To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

Sentence

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.”

Prayer

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Third Mark of Mission: To respond to human need by loving service

Sentence

“I tell you truly just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Prayer

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:

give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Fourth Mark of Mission: To seek to transform unjust structures of society

Sentence

“He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.”

Prayer

God for whom we watch and wait,
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Fifth Mark of Mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Sentence

“God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.”

Prayer

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world’s salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

SYNOD ADENDA

Friday, October 21 ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL

Time	Agenda Item
5:00 – 6:15 pm	Registration and Presentation of Credentials
	Diocesan Familiarization – a time to look at displays and to speak with representatives from Diocesan Committees and Groups A light supper will be served.
6:20 pm	Gather in Cathedral for Eucharist
6:30 pm	Eucharist
8:30 pm	Call to Order
	Greetings from Ecumenical Partners
	Report of Credentials Committee
	Minutes of 66th and 67th Synod
	Reports of Executive Council, Committees and Sub-Committees, and Secretary of Synod
	Appointment of Accounts Examiner
	Appointment of Elections Officer and Scrutineers
	Report of the Nominations Committee
	Balloting Procedure Explained – Elections Officer
	Closing Prayer
	Recess for the Evening
9:30 pm	Elections balloting – balloting closes 20 minutes after the close of the evening proceedings

Please register your vote and deposit your ballot in the boxes in the hall as you depart.

“To help safeguard the integrity of the environment – Please Bring Your Own Mug”
(but maybe not the huge ones!)

SYNOD AGENDA

Saturday, October 22 St. Matthias

Time	Agenda Item
8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration and Presentation of Credentials (for those who did not register on Friday evening)
8:30 - 9:00am	Morning Worship (with music in the Hall)
9:00 - 9:30 am	CALL TO ORDER Report of the Credentials Committee Report of the Elections Committee (results of balloting from Friday evening)
9:30 - 9:45 am	Table discussion (icebreaker)
9:45 – 10:45 am	Report of the Legislative Committee with Constitutional and Canon Changes
10:45 – 11:00 am	BREAK
11:00 – 11:05 am	Worship Song
11:05 am - 12:05 pm	Table discussion: Finding Our Way Goals 1 to 4
12:05 – 12:15 pm	Mid-day Prayer
12:15 – 1:00 pm	LUNCH – to be delivered to the tables. Delegates, please remain seated at your tables to facilitate easy delivery of lunches to your tables. Possible time for directed discussion over lunch.
1:00 – 1:05 pm	Video Montage
1:05 – 2:15 pm	Report of the Resolutions Committee and Debate on Motions
2:15 – 2:30 pm	BREAK
2:30 – 3:30 pm	Table discussion: Finding Our Way Goals 5 to 12
3:30 – 3:40 pm	Youth Charge to Synod
3:40 – 4:00 pm	Final Business Acts of Synod and Bishop's Assent Prorogation
4:00 – 4:15 pm	Closing Worship

GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

for the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton, October 21-22, 2022

Elections will be held for the following positions:

*** Executive Council**

- Executive Council acts like Vestry for the Diocese. It meets about every 2 months, on the third Thursday of the month.
- 1 clerical and 2 lay delegates from each region (Battle River, Cold Lake, Edmonton West, Whitemud, Yellowhead)

*** Court of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton**

- The function of the Court is to hold a hearing of any member of the Clergy charged with any offence relating to discipline. (It has never met in the history of the Diocese)
- 2 clerical and 2 lay delegates (1 to be a member of the Law Society of Alberta)

*** General Synod - June 27 to July 2, 2023, University of Calgary**

- General Synod is the meeting of the Anglican Church of Canada, with lay, clergy and bishop representatives from all dioceses in Canada.
- We send 2 clerical, 2 lay delegates and 1 youth delegate
- Those nominated as youth delegates to General Synod must be between the ages of 18 and 25 at the time of General Synod.
- Those people nominated but not elected at this Diocesan Synod become the alternates in order of number of votes received, and would attend General Synod if any of the elected delegates cannot attend.

*** Provincial Synod – Province of Rupert’s Land (date to be announced)**

- Provincial Synod is the meeting of the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert’s Land (basically Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the Arctic), with lay, clergy and bishops representatives from the dioceses in the Province.
- We send 3 clerical, 2 lay members and 1 youth delegate

- Those nominated as youth delegates to Provincial Synod must be between the ages of 16 and 25 inclusive as of May 1st of the year of Provincial Synod.
- Those people nominated but not elected at this Diocesan Synod become the alternates in order of number of votes received and would attend Provincial Synod if any of the elected delegates cannot attend.

Clerical and Lay Recorders of Synod (for the 69th Synod) (that's the next Synod, not this one)

- The clerical and lay recorders keep minutes of the sessions of Synod and prepare them for the Secretary of Synod to publish.
- 1 clerical recorder and 1 lay recorder

****Please Note: any persons nominated for Executive Council, General Synod, Provincial Synod, and Diocesan Court must be members of our Diocesan Synod.***

We plan to hold the elections on Friday evening, October 21. There will be no nominations from the floor of Synod except with the consent of Synod.

****Please note: Elections for all positions will take place on Friday evening, October 21. Please come prepared to vote on Friday. Following is the list of nominees and their biographies.***

NOMINATIONS LIST

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 68TH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF EDMONTON – OCTOBER 21-22, 2022

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – CLERGY (<i>elect one from each region</i>)			
BATTLE RIVER	RACHAEL PARKER		
COLD LAKE	RUTH SESINK BOTT	ANTHONY KWAW	AARON PARSALL-MYLER
	SANDRA ARBEAU	COLLEEN SANDERSON	
EDMONTON WEST			
WHITEMUD	DANIELLE KEY		
YELLOWHEAD	CLARE STEWART		
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – LAITY (<i>elect two from each region</i>)			
BATTLE RIVER	SHEILA MACKAY	MIKAELA HANLEY	
COLD LAKE	BETTY KAAWHA	CATHY ARMSTRONG	
EDMONTON WEST	DEREK WARE	MARGARET WARWICK	EMILY STEPHEN-GARNEAU
	DAVID HERITAGE		
WHITEMUD	MATTHEW MERCER-DEADMAN	TRICIA LAFFIN	WYNNE WHITTEN-HOLMES
YELLOWHEAD	SHELBY COOK	GREG HEATON	
DIOCESAN COURT – CLERGY (<i>elect two</i>)			
CHRISTOPHER COOK	SANDRA ARBEAU	AKON AKON	
DIOCESAN COURT – LAITY (<i>elect one law society member and one non-law society member</i>)			
OLIVER TRENDALL (non-law society)		RENEE MOORE (law society)	
		ROB REYNOLDS (law society)	

GENERAL SYNOD – CLERGY (<i>elect two</i>)			
DANIELLE KEY	AARON PARSALL-MYLER	JORDAN WARE	RUTH SESINK BOTT
COLLEEN SANDERSON	CLARE STEWART	SANDRA ARBEAU	CHRISTOPHER COOK

GENERAL SYNOD – LAITY (<i>elect two</i>)			
SHEILA MACKAY	OLIVER TRENDALL	MATTHEW MERCER-DEADMAN	ANGEER KUR
IMAI WELCH	WYNNE WHITTEN-HOLMES	CATHY ARMSTRONG	

GENERAL SYNOD – LAITY YOUTH DELEGATE (<i>elect one</i>)			
at least 16 years of age upon the opening of General Synod and under the age of 26			
SHELBY COOK	EMILY STEPHEN-GARNEAU		

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – CLERGY (<i>elect three</i>)			
DANIELLE KEY	RUTH SESINK BOTT	AARON PARSALL-MYLER	CLARE STEWART
SANDRA ARBEAU	AKON AKON	COLLEEN SANDERSON	CHRISTOPHER COOK

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – LAITY (<i>elect two</i>)			
MARGARET WARWICK	SHEILA MACKAY	OLIVER TRENDALL	MATTHEW MERCER-DEADMAN
ANGEER KUR	IMAI WELCH	WYNNE WHITTEN-HOLMES	CATHY ARMSTRONG

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – LAITY – YOUTH DELEGATE (<i>elect one</i>) between the ages of 16 and 25 inclusive as of the first day of May of the year of the regular session of the Synod for which the delegate is chosen			
SHELBY COOK	EMILY STEPHEN-GARNEAU		
CLERICAL RECORDER FOR THE 69TH SYNOD (<i>elect one</i>)			
CHRISTOPHER COOK			
LAY RECORDER FOR THE 69TH SYNOD (<i>elect one</i>)			

NOMINATIONS BIOGRAPHIES

The Rev. Akon Akon

Clerical Delegate to Diocesan Court, Provincial Synod

The Rev. Akon Akon was born in Sudan, now called the Republic of South Sudan. He is rector of the Anglican Parish of St. Mark-Jieng in Edmonton. He had previously served for a year in St. Columba Anglican church in Beaumont. Akon met his current wife Elizabeth in the church, in 1997, as an active youth in the parish's ministry. Akon and Elizabeth served in the same parish at the time. They were married in 2003. They have five loving and healthy children (4 daughters and 1 son). Their elder daughter is starting university in September 2022 at the University of Alberta. God called Akon from the world's darkness to serve God's people and to further spread the word of the Kingdom. He has been an Anglican priest for 16 years now. He is a proud Anglican who loves rich Anglican history, traditions, and beliefs. Akon has a heart and love for humanities. He is currently working as a nurse at the University of Alberta hospital. Among his interests and hobbies are going to the library to read and study; library for readings and studies; attending gymnastics; making home visits to support his community.

The Rev. Sandra Arbeau

Executive Council (Cold Lake), Diocesan Court, General Synod, Provincial Synod

Hello, my name is Sandra Arbeau. I am a member of St. Faith Anglican Church. I am very much involved in the Diocese of Edmonton with my ministry working with the poor, homeless and street people as a volunteer at PrayerWorks, St. Faith's. I started a Ladies Fellowship open to the community which will be held again this fall. I have been involved on a previous Executive Council, Cursillo in various positions on the Secretariat Board and the Anglican Church Women's Diocesan Board. I'm involved with social justice and attended a weekend course with Fr. Michael Lapsley. I've taken courses on evangelism, etc. which have opened my eyes and mind to what is going on in the world and how to take each situation one by one.

Cathy Armstrong

Executive Council (Cold Lake), General Synod, Provincial Synod

I have been a member of St. Mary's, Edmonton since January 1999. At St. Mary's I have served as treasurer intermittently and resumed this position in 2020. I am now in my 11th year as people's warden. I am active in the parish as an administrant, intercessor and reader. I have had the honour to lead a service including a few sermons.

This will be the fifth Diocesan Synod (including the Episcopal Synod), I have attended as people's warden. I have been on the diocesan Executive Council as lay member representing Cold Lake for two terms. I attended Provincial Synod in 2018 where I was appointed as lay person to represent the Diocese of Edmonton on the provincial Executive Council. I will be continuing on PEC for the next three years. I attended General Synod in Vancouver in 2019 as an observer. In 2019, I was elected as one of the lay delegates to represent our diocese at Provincial Synod in Prince Albert SK in late April this year. There I witnessed a continued effort toward true Indigenous self-determination. After listening to Archbishop Justin Welby and witnessing the meaningful gifts bestowed upon him by the Indigenous peoples I came away from Provincial Synod with a renewed hope for the future. I had been selected to be one of the lay delegates to go to General Synod this July. Unfortunately, this was postponed until next year and since another Diocesan Synod is taking place before then, I am putting my name forward again to have the opportunity to attend General Synod in 2023 as a lay delegate.

My time at all synods has been informative, uplifting, even heartbreaking at times, but always guided by a shared love of Jesus and respect for one another. It's been a very exciting few years and I've loved every minute of it. The more involved I can be within the Anglican Church locally, provincially, and nationally, furthers and strengthens my faith and determination to move forward.

I am retired and am blessed with my loving family (husband, 4 children, 10 grandkids and 2 great grand kids), friends, parish family and all the people I have met through my time at synods and on executive councils. My involvement with a few local charities is very rewarding especially being on the board of the Inner City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM) for the past three years.

Angeer Ayuen Kur ***General Synod, Provincial Synod***

Angeer Ayuen Kur has been a member of the Anglican Parish of St. Mark-Jieng, Edmonton since its inception. He is currently people's warden and a Sunday school teacher. He has decades of work experience in public service including 10 years as an educational assistant for Edmonton Public Schools.

The Rev. Christopher Cook ***Clerical Delegate Diocesan Court, General Synod, Provincial Synod, Clerical Recorder***

Christopher is the rector of All Saints', Drayton Valley, Regional Dean of Yellowhead, Chaplain to the ACW Diocese of Edmonton, and member of the Nominations Committee for this Synod. He has decades of experience in the public and private sector in governance and quasi-judicial bodies. He was a two-term school board trustee with St. Paul Education, where he served on all board committees including collective bargaining and student discipline appeals. He served as a member trustee of the Alberta School Employee Benefit plan, working with his colleagues to oversee \$600M across a variety of asset classes, performance monitoring and hiring of the CEO,

plan design, and chaired its Extended (Long Term) Disability Appeals committee that conducted hearings for covered members. Christopher was appointed to the Health Discipline's Board by the Lieutenant Governor on the recommendation of the Minister of Health to the maximum allowable term. There, he and his colleagues were responsible for the regulated professions under the Health Disciplines Act as well as was available for hearing registration and disciplinary appeals from the regulated health practitioners. He has chaired inter-municipal hearings of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (Town of St. Paul) and currently serves as a member of the Composite Assessment Review Board (County of Brazeau). During his time at the University of Toronto, he was president of the Advanced Degree Students' Association and member of the board of trustees of the Toronto School of Theology. Christopher has a BA in Biblical and Theological Studies (Nyack, NY), MA in Church History (Gordon-Conwell, South Hamilton, MA), a Th.M. (Emmanuel College, Toronto), and is ABD in his PhD. in Systematic Theology (Toronto), where his areas of concentration were ecumenism, biblical interpretation, missiology, and ecclesiology. Christopher is most blessed to have the love and support of Cynthia, his life partner and best friend. His interests include competitive endurance swimming, fine dining, travel, birding, and parrots. About serving God and His people, Christopher says, "I thank God and am so blessed for having a profession and calling of being a parish priest that feeds my soul in a way that is uniquely me and is the reason I am glad to wake up each morning."

Shelby Cook

Executive Council (Yellowhead), General Synod, Provincial Synod

Shelby Cook, a cradle Anglican, is a member of All Saints', Drayton Valley. An active member of her church, she gives Scripture readings and prayers and provides technical support for the live streaming services. This is Shelby's fourth Synod, as she previously attended the Edmonton Diocese's 66th and 67th as well as Rupert's Land Provincial Synod 2022. Shelby, an aspirant to the ordained priesthood, has considered the possibility of becoming the first Canadian-born Archbishop of Canterbury and is honoured to attend and participate in this 68th Diocesan Synod. She looks forward to growing in her love and service of God and His people as she journeys together with the wonderful people of the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton. Although elected to be the youth delegate to General Synod in 2019, Shelby was not able to attend due to its postponement from COVID-19. Shelby has a natural effervescence, love of people, and zest for life. She has participated in a variety of forums and conferences, including the Speak Out initiative of Alberta Education, Mr. Speaker's MLA for a Day program, the Seminar on the United Nations and International Affairs (SUNIA), Encounters with Canada program in Ottawa, and served as the squadron commander with Cadets Canada where she served in both Air (Cold Lake) and Army (St. Paul) Cadets. Shelby is an articulate, tenacious, compassionate, and fearless believer in Jesus Christ. She reflects on the time when she met Chris Hadfield: "I feel a certain kinship with anyone who has served in the Cadet Program. So, I had asked the astronaut colonel what his highest rank was in Air Cadets - not for myself but because I knew that this would be a blessing to others."

Mikaela Hanley
Executive Council, Laity, Battle River

Mikaela is a longtime Anglican who has lived in both rural and urban contexts. She is an experienced municipal engineer and is currently Manager of Infrastructure Planning and Asset Management with the City of St Albert. At St. A's in South Edmonton, she is known as a helpful presence on Altar Guild and vestry, and an expert fire maker for hot dog roasts. Mikaela is wife to John and mother to Isabel, a super awesome crocheter, and a student of Okinawan Karate (think Miyagi-do). She enjoys a good book, particularly reading old Hardy Boys classics to Isabel. She has two furry felines and enjoys gardening and baking.

The Ven. Jordan Haynie Ware
General Synod

Archdeacon Jordan Haynie Ware has served as rector of Good Shepherd for the last five years, where she has grown the congregation and its connection to the neighbourhood. Jordan is particularly proud that Good Shepherd is known as a haven for those seeking food and other pantry supplies. She is passionate about her social justice portfolio, assisting parishes in pursuing justice and intentionally noticing inclusion gaps to remedy them. She has coordinated an interfaith anti-racism conference, as well as convening a diocesan anti-racist book club. Jordan serves on Executive Council, chairs the Social Justice Committee, and has served as a deputy to the Episcopal Church's General Convention prior to joining the diocese.

David Heritage
Executive Council (Edmonton West)

I am currently treasurer of the parish of St. Paul's, Edmonton, and a licensed lay reader. My first experience with Synod was as a youth lay delegate and then a few times as a regular lay delegate. At the last regular Synod I was elected to serve a term on Executive Council. I have also been involved with Cursillo, both leading teams for weekends in its early days in the diocese, and as a member of secretariat a few years ago. I am what is sometimes called a cradle Anglican. In my early 20s, I attended a bible school for a year which I found challenging and where I gained a good understanding of my faith, particularly on what it means to me to be a Christian in the Anglican tradition. My employment has been as an accountant in various positions from a staff accountant to a controller for different organizations in the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors. I was also a board member and treasurer for the local chapter of Crohn's and Colitis Canada a few years ago.

Betty Kaawa
Executive Council (Cold Lake)

Betty Kaahwa, married to Paul Bulamu, grew up in Uganda and is a permanent resident of Canada, residing in Edmonton. I came to Canada on September 12, 2019, since then I have been attending Sunday services at St. Faith's Anglican Church. I started volunteering at the church two years ago. A major perk resulted: I now work as a coordinator of PrayerWorks and Lodgepole Market at St. Faith's every Wednesday, from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm. I also prepare the bulletin for our Sunday services.

I am interested in serving the Lord whole heartedly, loving people unconditionally and helping each and every person without discrimination with Dignity, Respect and Integrity.

My hobbies are singing gospel music, preaching, praying for people in need and cooking.

The Rev. Danielle Key
Executive Council (Whitemud), General Synod, Provincial Synod

The Rev. Danielle Key is rector of Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Old Strathcona and has been active in the Diocese of Edmonton in various roles since 1996 when she moved to Edmonton. Prior to being ordained in 2018, Danielle ran Sunday schools, VBSs, Messy Church, and youth groups throughout the diocese. She has, since being ordained, found great joy in being involved in ecumenical work throughout the diocese and through the Anglican Church of Canada, as well as working with our unhoused, disenfranchised, overlooked, and neglected populations.

The Rev. Anthony Kwaw
Executive Council (Cold Lake)

The Rev. Anthony Kwaw is a native of Ghana, Africa. He received his BA in Biblical Studies, Theology, and Philosophy at Saint Peter University Seminary in Ghana. He also received an MA in Pastoral Studies from Saint Paul University in Ottawa, a Diploma in Management from Université de Moncton, with concentration in Canadian Human Resources Management, and an MBA from the University of New Brunswick with concentration in Strategic and Financial Management.

Before he moved to Canada, Kwaw held positions in various parishes in Ghana and Ivory Coast in Africa. Prior to joining the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton, Rev. Kwaw served as rector in two parishes in the Anglican Diocese of New Brunswick. He was appointed rector of St Timothy's Anglican Church in Edmonton in August 2016. He is currently serving as rector of Emmanuel Anglican Church in Gibbons on a part-time basis. Kwaw is married to Denise, and they live with their two children in St. Albert.

Tricia Laffin

Executive Council (Whitemud)

Tricia Laffin has been a member of St Margaret's, Edmonton Parish for more than 15 years and is a current vestry member. She has been a Sunday school teacher for about 10 years. She is married with two children, ages 11 and 13. She works three days a week as a Radiation Therapist at the Cross Cancer Institute and is passionate about her work there in the palliative and symptom control clinic.

Sheila MacKay

Executive Council (Battle River), General Synod, Provincial Synod

Sheila MacKay was born on Prince Edward Island and spent her younger years on a farm. She attended Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, McGill University, and the University of Alberta. She is married to Jim Clifford, and they have a daughter Anne and a son-in-law Jason. They have a little dog called Sophie Rose Pettipas.

They have travelled to many places, but the Middle East, Britain and Australia are among her favourites.

She is a member of St. Luke's, Edmonton Vestry, and is a lay reader and Sunday school teacher. She is an Education for Ministry graduate and completed a Church Leadership course through Taylor College. She represented the Battle River Region on diocesan Executive Council.

In her leisure time, she likes to read, volunteer, do church work, walk and pick berries.

Matthew Mercer-Deadman

Executive Council (Whitemud), General Synod, Provincial Synod

Matthew Mercer-Deadman is a life-long Anglican, born in the UK, baptised at St. Paul's Cathedral in Regina, and raised in Edmonton, where he now lives with his husband and their corgi Nugget.

Matthew and his family have been members of various parish families across the city, including St. John the Evangelist, St. Patrick's, and now the Holy Trinity, Old Strathcona family. Matthew has had the privilege to serve on vestries and altar guilds at both St Patrick's and Holy Trinity.

Matthew delights in serving as a lay coordinator and the social media coordinator for Equally Anglican, the 2SLGBTQIA+ diocesan affirming ministry based out of Holy Trinity. He hopes to continue to use his gifts to grow the ministry of Equally Anglican to the Glory of God, and the benefit of all 2SLGBTQIA+ Anglicans and their ally friends and family. Matthew is also excited about the possibilities and opportunities to work alongside the laity and clergy of the diocese as we all journey along Finding Our Way, including – but not limited to – Specific Goals 8, 9, and 10.

Renée Moore
Diocesan Court (Law Society Member)

Renée L.T. Moore is the founder of New Beginning Law. She started volunteering to assist families to Do Your Own Divorce clinics in Edmonton before even graduating with her law degree. Renée has been an avid volunteer since childhood. With nine years of university, Renée earned a Bachelor of Commerce (Co-operative), Bachelor of Arts (English major), and her Juris Doctorate of Law while studying in England, Newfoundland & Labrador, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. In 2017, Renée was appointed Federal Crown Agent, and in 2019, she was appointed Legal Representation Counsel for Youth through the Office of the Youth and Child Advocate.

The Rev. Rachael Parker
Executive Council (Battle River)

The Rev. Rachael Parker is rector of St. Mary's, Edgerton and St. Thomas', Wainwright. She is passionate about sharing the Gospel and reaches people far and wide with Church at Home with Rachael on YouTube. She serves on the diocesan administration and finance committee and has served several times on the equivalent of Executive Council in both the Diocese of Huron, and Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island. She would welcome the opportunity to serve the Battle River Region on Executive Council.

The Rev. Aaron Parsall-Myler
Executive Council (Cold Lake), General Synod, Provincial Synod

The Rev. Aaron Parsall-Myler has been rector of St. George's, Fort Saskatchewan since 2020. He was born and raised in London, England. His family members were occasional churchgoers, only attending baptisms, weddings and funerals. When he was 14, he joined the Emmanuel Anglican Church in Croydon, U.K. It was here that Aaron started his Christian journey by becoming a youth leader at 17. When he was 19, Aaron moved to Canada and studied History and English at Cape Breton University in Nova Scotia.

After he graduated, Aaron planned to study and become a teacher. However, he felt that was called to something else and, after moving to Edmonton, understood that he was called to the Church in some way.

In 2015, Aaron was ordained to the diaconate and became a Canadian citizen. On January 25, 2018, he was ordained to the priesthood.

Aaron has worked with youth for many years. In 2014 until 2017, he worked with the Salvation Army in their residential and addiction treatment program as a manager and chaplain. During his time there he learned in the areas of addiction and mental health.

In 2017, Aaron returned to parish work at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, St. Albert. In December 2018, he joined St. Augustine's Parkland, Spruce Grove as the associate priest and as pastor of Auggie's Café.

Rob Reynolds

Diocesan Court (Law Society Member)

Rob Reynolds brings an impressive background in public service and law to Alberta Counsel. Prior to pursuing a career in law, Rob worked on constitutional files in Government of Alberta in the 1980's during the constitutional negotiations. After law school, he worked in private practice and then went on to a career at the Alberta Legislative Assembly as Parliamentary Counsel eventually becoming Clerk of the Assembly. He retired from the Assembly in September 2018 after 25 years of service and joined Alberta Counsel in 2019. Rob's practice focuses on public law issues including administrative, constitutional, Indigenous, and municipal law. Rob has experience drafting Bills and is pleased to assist clients in drafting of bylaws. He is also available to advise clients on statutory interpretation issues which arise often in litigation. Over the course of a decade, Rob taught a course at the University of Alberta Faculty of Law on Legislative Process and Legislative Drafting incorporating many aspects of statutory interpretation. He can draw on his 25 years' experience on the floor of the Assembly to assist Councils and organizations with conducting meetings. As a former senior public servant, Rob is pleased to apply his extensive knowledge of the Alberta public service to help clients navigate Government. Rob has advised and negotiated with senior decision makers, both elected and non-elected, for years and is comfortable in that environment. Rob is originally from Vancouver. He attended university in Ontario but has lived in Edmonton for over 40 years. He is married to Ritu and together they have two young adult sons.

The Rev. Colleen Sanderson

Executive Council, General Synod, Provincial Synod

During the Rev. Colleen Sanderson's 15 years as an ordained priest in the Diocese of Edmonton she has served in both urban and rural hospitals and long-term care settings. She currently serves at St. Michael and All Angels, rector (10 years), and as chaplain at Canterbury Foundation (an Anglican founded senior's residence). At St. Michael's she has encouraged the parish to become more involved in the community through a knitting and reading ministry at a local elementary school, a yearly Vacation Bible School, Messy Church, the development of a community garden and being a regular weekly depot for the Edmonton Food Bank. At Canterbury she provides pastoral care to staff and residents, end of life care of residents, organises weekly bible studies and worship for all faiths, and this year started Camp Canterbury, a week-long summer camp for seniors which was so well received they are already planning next year's event. She is an enthusiastic supporter of camping ministry and served many years in the diocesan Camp Come Alive Program as a lay person (19ish years), and as the resource pastor with Hastings Lake Bible Camp. Rev. Colleen has many years serving on diocesan committees from Executive Council to youth and young adult committees, and currently chairs the Northeast Interfaith Committee. Colleen currently serves as the Regional Dean for the Cold Lake Region. She also attended General Synod in the 1990s as a youth delegate and would love the opportunity to attend again with a new set of eyes hoping for the future of the church community to be blessed with joy, a sense of hope and wonder and filled with healthy community. Colleen is an auntie to two

nephews whom she adores and spends much time with learning about their interests in astronomy, chemistry and engineering. In her free time she enjoys a good cup of tea, a book or movie and visits with friends and family. She can also be found at a piano playing praise, classical, or Broadway musicals.

The Rev. Ruth Sesink-Bott

Executive Council (Cold Lake), General Synod, Provincial Synod

The Rev. Ruth Sesink-Bott grew up all over central Alberta, studied at the University of Toronto and the Institute for Christian Studies and has called Edmonton, particularly the Alberta Avenue neighbourhood, home for the last seven years. She has worked in diverse ministry settings: the university chaplaincy, as a parish rector, PrayerWorks community meal coordinator, and currently as the vicar of All Saints' Cathedral.

As a person who lives and ministers with a chronic illness, Ruth has come to care deeply about nurturing faith communities that not only make space, but that celebrate and center all parishioners, especially those who live with physical, neural, and socioeconomic differences - acknowledging that we as a faith community aren't whole until everyone is present at the table. Ruth believes that the table is widened not only by the full inclusion, discipleship and empowerment of all parishioners, whether they are cradle Anglicans or new to the Anglican church, but by policies and procedures that support churches and parishioners to create communities that are marked by both healthy and welcoming grace.

To this end, she is a part of the diocesan Healing of Memories team and serves on the diocesan policy team that is updating the Safe Church and sexual misconduct/harassment policies.

Emily Stephen-Garneau

Executive Council (Edmonton West) Youth, General Synod Youth Delegate, Provincial Synod Youth Delegate

My name is Emily Stephen-Garneau. I am a 21-year-old recent graduate from Norquest College. I am looking forward to starting my career in health care. I have always been interested in being involved in my church and being a part of the diocese.

I have been an Anglican all my life. I have attended All Saints' Cathedral since I was 9 years old. I am now attending St. Peter's Anglican Church. While attending All Saints', I volunteered for many years helping at Friday Morning Breakfast. I have been a camper and for three years have been a camp counselor for the Anglican Diocese Camp. I hope to continue to volunteer to be a camp counselor next year.

I was a delegate to the 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton in 2019. I was a youth delegate and I look forward to being a youth delegate again this year. My interests lie in social justice causes, such as homelessness in our city, LGBTQ equality, and affordable housing. I look forward to contributing to discussions that will help to move our diocese forward and address the challenges our youth are likely to face in the coming years.

The Rev. Clare Stewart

Executive Council (Yellowhead), General Synod, Provincial Synod

Clare Stewart is the Rector of St. Timothy's in Edmonton. As the spouse of a serving Military Chaplain, I arrived in the Diocese of Edmonton from the Diocese of Western Newfoundland in February 2020 when we were posted to CFB Edmonton.

My home is the Diocese of Niagara, although I spent my adult life in the Diocese of Huron following university. I am a second-career priest. I had a 20+ year career in engineering project management and served as a technical specialist in the hydrogeology and environmental stewardship of land development projects, with a primary focus on waste management facilities. During this time, I was an active lay member of the church, with leadership positions at the parish, deanery, and diocesan levels.

After my son Brett finished high school, I left my career to pursue a Master of Divinity. There I met and married a Newfoundlander and began my ordained ministry the Diocese of Western Newfoundland. Following General Synod 2019, I helped lead the organizing committee for a Special Synod which resulted in a traditional conservative diocese affirming Equal Marriage.

I am currently on the Anglican Church of Canada's Working Group "Creation Matters." I'm working with the Rev. Jonathan Crane to start a similar committee here in Edmonton.

Many people have wondered about my career transitions how one flows logically from the other. There are many invaluable skills I carry from my first profession into my second. Not the least of these is my ability to run a well-planned, efficient meeting. I would bring my attention to detail and analytical thinking to Executive Council. As a representative of the diocese at General Synod, my experience and interpersonal connections in three provinces across the country and at the National Church level would open networking opportunities for our delegates. My understanding of the broader issues facing the church as a whole in Canada are also beneficial.

Oliver Trendall

Court of Diocesan Synod (Non-Law Society Member), General Synod, Provincial Synod

I attend St. Peter's parish in Edmonton, where I currently serve as assistant people's warden. I also serve on the parish vestry, in addition to serving on the newly instated safe space committee. My educational background includes a university certificate in Accounting obtained through Athabasca University. In the future, I would love to achieve an accreditation in the paralegal field, in addition to an education in lay ministry within the diocese. My passions outside of the Church include volunteering within the local LGBTQ+ community, advocating for the agency and rights of people with developmental disabilities, and taking time to indulge in reading whimsical fantasy novels whenever I can.

Derek Ware

Executive Council (Edmonton West)

Derek Ware became a member of St. Peter's, Edmonton, in 2021, and was appointed the Rector's Warden in 2022. At St. Peter's, he is a key volunteer supporting a return to in-person worship, and especially coffee hour. Derek is an experienced church volunteer. As a clergy spouse, he served many behind the scenes roles at Good Shepherd, Edmonton, and All Saints', Fort Worth, Texas. Prior to marrying a priest, he volunteered with the facilities team and the young adult group at Transfiguration, Dallas. Derek works as an Education Specialist at the Telus World of Science.

Margaret Warwick

Executive Council (Edmonton West), Provincial Synod

Margaret Warwick became a member of Good Shepherd, Edmonton in 2017 when she returned to Edmonton to be with her family after spending more than 50 years in the Diocese of New Westminster. Prior to moving 'back home,' she served several years as parish administrator at St. Catherine of Alexandria in Port Coquitlam B.C. until working full time in local government administration. She then became a member of vestry, holding several different positions over the years. Margaret was subsequently elected to the Diocesan Council and was later awarded the prestigious honour of the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster in recognition of her contributions at both the parish and diocesan levels. While at St. Catherine's she was a founding member, in 2002, of the Paul's Place Community Soup Kitchen where she worked tirelessly until relocating back to Alberta. Margaret is also an active member of altar guild and ACW. She was elected to the Good Shepherd Vestry in 2018 as an alternate synod delegate and subsequently synod delegate. She is currently serving as the people's warden and is an active member of the outreach team. Margaret has also served as the national president of the Anglican Church Women of Canada since 2018.

Imai Welch

General Synod, Provincial Synod

Imai Welch is a lay reader and vestry member with Holy Trinity Old Strathcona. He is a co-leader of Equally Anglican, the LGBTQ-affirming ministry of the diocese. He participated in last year's electoral Synod and in a prior synod and has been regularly involved in the life of the parishes he has attended since age 13. An urban planner who works for the City of Edmonton, Imai has a geography degree from the University of Lethbridge. He recently completed a theology diploma with Thorneloe University in Sudbury, and studied for a few years in both English and French in Montreal. Imai is of mixed race and is gay. He strongly believes in the need for equality and acceptance of all people in church. He believes in the future of the Anglican Church of Canada. He will be pleased to work to build up the church as a Provincial or General Synod delegate for Edmonton, if elected.

Fun trivia: Imai walked the Camino de Santiago in 2017 and arrived in Santiago de Compostela on Good Friday after 10.5 days of walking (and riding a horse through the Galician mountains, at one point!).

Wynne Whitten-Holmes

Executive Council (Whitemud), General Synod, Provincial Synod

Wynne Whitten-Holmes is a queer disabled woman who was born in northwestern B.C. and found her way to Edmonton—and Anglicanism—as a young adult. Baptised at Holy Trinity, she trained as a lay reader at St Margaret of Scotland parish in Halifax, Nova Scotia and now serves on the vestry as well as at the altar back home at Holy Trinity. Wynne also contributes to the evolving Equally Anglican ministry, and is especially interested in liturgy, common prayer and the social responsibility of the Church.

BISHOP'S REPORT

for the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

Dear Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton,

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” – Jesus (Mark 1:15)

By the time Synod takes place, I will be the Bishop of the diocese for one year and one month. I still feel fairly new to the job. When I was elected in June 2021, I felt overwhelmed. I was extremely grateful and honoured the Diocese called me to be their next bishop. I was also overwhelmed with the magnitude of the responsibility. We live in challenging times. I had to repeat the same advice to myself which I have given to countless lay volunteers I have encouraged over the years: God equips the called rather than calling the equipped.

What I appreciated most about this diocese is the feeling we are sharing this ministry together. Jesus Christ continues to call us into the kingdom of God which is always present. You and I are labouring together in the vineyard that people may know the love of God in Jesus Christ. To this end, as I started my ministry, one of the first things I did was to create a circle of council for the sharing of this Episcopal ministry which we now call the Episcopate circle. This is a sign of the great Baptismal ministry all of us share. And so, as I worked through my first year, I wanted to make sure we heard from people across the diocese as to what they were experiencing while living out their ministry, and what they say as the themes for the next chapter in our life together.

Starting in September 2021, right after I was consecrated, I went on a pilgrimage across the diocese. I either went to every parish, or talked with the leadership of the parish, to get a sense of where the parish was; I had opportunities to pray in many of our parishes. These were fruitful conversations. I kept hearing many themes about life in the church over and over again. These resonated with questions and themes I had. These in turn resonated with themes and questions Canadian Anglicans have also been talking about at the national level. To judge this discernment, I wrote out my thoughts about the future of the church in the diocese and sent it out across the diocese. This was called *Together on the Way*, and it was meant to be a preparation for our Synod. We asked for responses, and we got them. We had many responses from across the diocese. It was good to see where there was so much commonality in understanding where God is calling us, as well as many invitations to consider items I hadn't thought about in enough depth. Our goal was to pray and think about these responses and create a way forward that was both theological and practical.

The result of this was the document *Finding our Way: Discerning a Strategic Path*. I love this document. It places the Gospel of Jesus Christ at the center of everything we do. From this center, we articulate five primary principles that are our assumptions of what the Gospel calls us to now. And then it lays out **twelve specific goals** that we want to accomplish before the next Synod in three years' time. This document represents the shared ministry for the kingdom of God we all have.

At the end of the first year, I feel I have learned so much. I have gone to the new Bishop school called “Living Our Vows,” but I have also learned from all of you. Thank you so much for this opportunity to serve you and God in this way. All of us are called to be disciples of Christ, to live out the good news of God’s grace very practically in the ups and downs of our lives. If I have one encouragement for us in these days to come, it would be to recommit ourselves to prayer. Prayer, of course, is much more than intercession; it is nothing less than the word describing our living relationship with God. Prayer is how we connect to the Holy One who dwells in our hearts by faith. This is the source and power for everything that we do. Christ has promised to be with us until the end of the age. Let us live deeply into this profound truth.

*Respectfully submitted,
Bishop Stephen London*

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution L-1 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton Constitution Sections 80 and 81 – Social Justice Committee

It will be moved and seconded:

That Section C80 be amended by striking out clause (c) and substituting the following:

- (c) Such other members as appointed under section C81.

And that Section C81 be amended by striking out clause (a) and substituting the following:

- (a) Members as appointed by the Bishop, and

Background

The current Canons require the Social Justice Committee to have between 14 and 18 members. It has proven difficult to recruit that many members. The proposed amendments remove the size requirement while giving the Bishop and the Committee the flexibility to appoint members as required.

Resolution L-2 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton Canon 1 and Constitution Section 2 – Youth Members of Synod

It will be moved and seconded:

That Canon 1.13 be amended by striking out “Young People” and substituting “Youth”; and by striking out “22 years” and substituting “26 years”; and

That Section C2(m) be amended by striking out “young people” and substituting “youth”; and by striking out subclauses i) and ii).

Background

It is difficult to fill youth positions when the permissible age range is only 16 to 21. Youth in that age range often relocate on short notice as they leave home to attend further education. General Synod and Provincial Synod define “youth” as under 26 years. “Youth” is more current terminology than “young people.”

The Constitution provides that youth members of Synod be appointed by the Regional Councils and the Program Committee. These bodies have not existed or functioned for many years. The proposed amendment leaves the appointment to Executive Council.

Resolution L-3 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

Canon 5 – Co-operating Parishes

It will be moved and seconded:

That Canon 5.97b be amended by adding “or an approved ecumenical partner” after “the Anglican Church of Canada”.

Background

Canon 5.97b was added in 2017 to permit formal co-operation between Anglican and Lutheran parishes, given that the Anglican Church of Canada is now in full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The ACC also has partnership agreements with other denominations that do not extend to full communion but do allow for shared ministry. The proposed amendment allows for co-operation with such denominations including, for example, the United Church of Canada.

Resolution R-1 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton – on Reparations

It will be moved and seconded:

That the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton requests the Executive Council, the Property and Planning Committee, and the Administration and Finance Committee – in consultation and collaboration with local Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit partners – to develop for presentation and implementation, no later than six months from the conclusion of the 68th Synod, the following:

- a) Policies and procedures to ensure that future material benefits of the lands and infrastructure our churches occupy are equitably shared with First Nation, Metis, and Inuit partners in accordance with the spirit and intent of the treaties;
- b) Policies and procedures to support parishes and the diocese in giving away generous portions of accumulated savings accounts to fund local Indigenous-led community projects and healing initiatives;
- c) Policies and procedures to support parishes and the diocese in giving away a minimum of 10% of all future sales of diocesan properties, assets, and lands to fund local Indigenous-led community projects and healing initiatives.

Moved by: Travis Enright

Seconded by: Nick Trussell

Background

There is a great imbalance at the heart of our life together as Indigenous, Settler-Colonizer, and Newcomer Peoples on this land. Yet the liberating power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, joined by the wisdom and grace of the First Peoples, can show us a way to break free from those shackles together. This resolution invites our diocese to embrace that way, bringing change to our communities, and creating new and hope-filled relationships at long last.

The churches of our diocese are located on traditional lands of Peoples and Nations who were signatories to Treaty 6 and Treaty 8. The Anglican Church played a major role in these treaties, often serving as solemn witnesses to their signing. We are all treaty people, and our diocese has benefited greatly from this land and the resources and privilege we have taken from it and from others. The original spirit and intent of our treaty agreements called us to share this land together in peace (*wîtaskêwin*), being of mutual benefit to one another, while respecting and honouring the integrity of one another (*miyo-wîcêtowin*). However, these commitments have regularly not been kept. A great inequity now exists, due largely to a hoarding of the land and its abundance by one party over against the others. Our churches continue to participate in this day by day, both directly and indirectly.

Our church has been on a journey of reconciliation with the Indigenous Peoples of this land for several decades, both nationally and locally. We have begun to understand the true extent of the injustice and trauma which has occurred in the past, and that is still carried out systemically in

the church and in wider Canadian society as well. We have issued apologies for our part in the physical, mental, and emotional harm perpetrated by the Residential Schools, and for other policies and actions of the churches that effected spiritual abuse. We have sought to repudiate the misguided understandings and beliefs behind colonial Christian project in general. We are now starting to address the truly important work of living these apologies in actions that go beyond mere words.

Reparations, which involve the return of land, money, buildings, and other material goods that have not been fairly distributed since the colonial era, are part of what needs to happen next in order to make things right, to heal, and perhaps to begin again. Yet reparations need not be thought of solely from the perspective of punishment and retribution. At heart, this is not about paying a fine or fulfilling legal obligations so we can all just move on. Genuine kinship and right relations do not emerge from a basis of compulsion and shame, but rather from the recovery of a true spiritual commitment and real desire for newness of life together.

Many of the First Nations and Peoples of the continent of Turtle Island practice a form of spiritual ceremony which involves giving things away. Each nation and language have their own forms and words for such sacred acts, and this is also the case for the Indigenous Peoples of what we now call central Alberta. While differing to some degree from place to place the central purpose is the same: The establishing of bonds of relationship between distinct people groups and a signifying of their mutual interdependence on one another and the Creator. In the nêhiyawêwin language, this practice is known as the give-away ceremony (pakitinâsowin).

With European colonization and the advent of the Indian Act, many Indigenous ceremonies were banned under Canadian law, including various expressions of the give-away ceremony across the land. This is yet another example of the spiritual abuse for which we must make amends. At the time, it was argued that the ‘Indians’ who lived and shared together in this way were being irresponsible with their goods and needed to be taught how to store up wealth for themselves. Yet, while these possession-oriented ways of the Europeans may have allowed them to amass an excess of belongings, this robbery certainly did not make them rich in the true sense. Instead, it was yet another way that they cut themselves off from relationship with the land and the People of the land, thereby providing justification for the disrespect of both.

The great imbalance at the heart of the nation of Canada stems in part from this refusal to share together – from a colonial hostility to the principle of pakitinâsowin in its various forms. It is therefore long past time for the descendants of settler-colonizers to be healed and freed from their bondage to the false idea that things belong to them, and from the impulse to claim and hoard abundance for their own benefit alone. It is well overdue for a return to knowing that true richness comes only when you can give away unjust gains that were never really yours at all. It is time for the church to live into a season of pakitinâsowin.

Resolution R-2 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton – Ecumenical Shared Ministry Circle

It will be moved and seconded:

That the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton request the bishop to pursue, in consultation with other denominational leaders in Edmonton and the Central Alberta region, the creation of a regional Ecumenical Shared Ministry Coordinating Circle. The ESM Circle shall:

- a) Provide advice and recommendations for consideration by the bishop and Executive Council on areas where Anglican parishes might potentially engage in greater sharing of ministry programs, worship services, clergy, staff, buildings, or combinations thereof, with other denominational expressions of church.
- b) Be comprised of members from the Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran, and Moravian churches, each appointed by their respective judicatory bodies.
- c) Be open to membership from other ecumenical partner churches (such as the United, Presbyterian, Christian Reformed, and Mennonite churches, etc.).

Moved by: Scott Sharman
Seconded by: Danielle Key

Background

As various contexts of ministry continue to be impacted by changing membership and resources, many congregations are looking for new models of ministry in order to continue their presence within their neighbourhoods and communities. Within this broad discussion, one option for the continuance of local congregational ministry for Anglicans to consider is that of sharing ministry ecumenically with another church denomination – a model known formally as Ecumenical Shared Ministry (ESM). An ESM is a local expression of church which involves one or more denomination covenanting together to share either programs, worship services, clergy, or buildings – all with the blessing and support of their existing judicatory authorities.

Many dioceses of the Anglican Church of Canada have been involved in ESMs for decades. There are now more than 90 such congregations across the country. This occurs most frequently, of course, with our Evangelical Lutheran full communion partners – including one such joint Anglican-Lutheran community in our diocese in the town of Edson. ESMs are also common with the United Church of Canada, Presbyterians, Moravians, Mennonites, and others.

These kinds of experiments in being church offer a sign of hope for continued Christian ministry presence in places where different churches are struggling to sustain on their own, but which could potentially thrive if they were able to partner together with others. However, such arrangements do not often just evolve naturally or without some challenges. The creation of an ecumenical contact committee with a mandate to maximize opportunities for ecumenical sharing and ministry across the diocese would be of great benefit to this work.

Resolution R-3 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton – on Affirming LGBTQ2SIA+ Persons

It will be moved and seconded:

That the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton:

- a) Affirms that persons who identify as LGBTQ2SIA+ are counted, along with many other groups, as an historically marginalized group of persons;
- b) Recognizes there are vastly different biblical interpretations and theologies regarding LGBTQ2SIA+ persons within the Church, but affirms that as followers of Jesus Christ we are called to hold our differences in tension, never losing sight of the commandment to love your neighbour as yourself;
- c) Acknowledges there is much work to be done in listening and atoning for historical harms to LGBTQ2SIA+ persons at the hands of the Church;
- d) Affirms that LGBTQ2SIA+ persons are beloved children of God, equal participants in the life and work of the Church, and fully worthy of all the Sacraments;
- e) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcopate Circle, to spend time listening to LGBTQ2SIA+ Clergy and Laity to comprehend the spiritual, mental, emotional, social, and physical space in which LGBTQ2SIA+ persons live and their requisite needs;
- f) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcopate Circle, to respond to their time of listening by providing space for wider learning opportunities within the Diocese regarding the historical experiences of, and current needs of, persons who identify as LGBTQ2SIA+;
- g) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcopate Circle to facilitate support to individual Clergy and Congregations as they strive to meet the unique needs of each Parish in their affirming journeys; and
- h) Directs the Bishop together with the Episcopate Circle to report to the next regular meeting of Synod on the steps taken to date on the Diocesan affirmation journey, and outline plans for diocesan policies and training.

Moved by: Matthew Mercer-Deadman

Seconded by: The Rev. Clare L. Stewart

Background

The Episcopate Circle is a leadership group supporting the Bishop, which includes diocesan archdeacons, the dean of the diocese, and the canon to the ordinary.

In a document published by our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Stephen London, in early Summer 2022 entitled “*Finding our Way: Discerning a Strategic Path for the Diocese of Edmonton*” five primary principles and 12 specific goals were outlined. Goal #10 reads:

Affirmation – We will affirm and declare publicly, intentionally, and explicitly our commitment to the welcome, safety, and full access of siblings in the LGBTQ2SIA+ communities within our churches and will support these commitments with requisite diocesan policies and training.

As a point of clarification, the acronym used to attempt to identify, as a single community, persons with varied sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression takes many forms. For simplification, the acronym LGBTQ2SIA+ is used in this resolution to be consistent with that used in the *Finding Our Way* document. Some within the LGBTQ2SIA+ community use “Queer” as an umbrella term that recognises that a single letter of the acronym does not always encapsulate how a person may identify.

In the past several months, conversations have been initiated between queer clergy and laity. These are very much in their infancy stage, best described as occurring at the grassroots level. This motion is designed to act as a first step towards achieving Goal #10 of the *Finding Our Way* document.

Resolution R-4 to the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton – Creating Safe and Affirming Communities

It will be moved and seconded:

- 1) That the bishop request and encourage every parish to communicate through their actions, messaging, and outreach that they are an affirming and safe space for members of the LGBTQ2SIA+ community.
- 2) That the bishop ensure every parish is able to provide welcome, support, and sacramental ministry for members in the LGBTQ2SIA+ community, including full access to celebrations of marriage within the diocese.
- 3) That the Executive Council develop policies, procedures, training, and accountability infrastructure to ensure that all clergy and parishes have the resources to make our actions meet the words declared in the diocesan strategic path document *Finding Our Way*.

Moved by: Derek Ware

Seconded by: Blake Holt

Background/Explanatory Note:

The bishop has called the diocese to "affirm and declare publicly, intentionally, and explicitly our commitment to the welcome, safety, and full access of the siblings in the LGBTQ2SIA+ communities within our churches." To genuinely embody this pledge in actions requires that parish members and clergy/leaders licensed for ministry in the diocese are actively participating in creating and supporting such environments. In some contexts within our diocese, this is already well underway. In others, it would be a new step to take – and maybe a challenging one in some respects. In order to walk together well in this journey, it will be important to develop opportunities for continued study, personal encounters, and wider experience of what being an LGBTQ2SIA+ safe faith community means and requires. The bishop and Executive Council have very important roles to play in this regard.

While no individual priest can be compelled to celebrate a marriage contrary to the discernment of their own conscience, part of our diocesan commitment must mean that any couple, regardless of gender, who approaches the leadership of any parish seeking marriage will be warmly and graciously assured that they are fully welcome and able to enter into the process to receive this sacrament within their home community in this Diocese. This resolution is designed to facilitate precisely this.

REPORT from SECRETARY of SYNOD

As Secretary of Synod since January 2020, I provide the following information as it has been collected from the councils, committees and staff responsible for it.

The minutes of the 66th Synod (October 4-5, 2019) and of the 67th Synod (June 26, 2021) were duly recorded and properly filed in the Official Minutes book of the Diocese. They are included in Appendix 1 of this circular.

I have recorded the minutes of the 18 Diocesan Executive Council meetings since the 66th Synod. The matters related to the business transacted at these meetings have been acted upon. Following the report of the Secretary of Synod is a list of the Council's acts and resolutions undertaken or adopted since the last regular meeting of Synod.

The Diocesan Executive Council usually meets on the fourth Thursday evening at 7:00 pm, every second month, excluding the summer.

Should any parish corporation, clergy or diocesan committee have business they wish to have considered by the Executive Council, please feel free to contact the Bishop, Executive Officer or your Regional Representatives. We would appreciate it if items to be included on the Council agenda are submitted at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

ANNUAL PARISH STATISTICS

Each year parishes are required to complete Annual Parish Statistics and Financial Statistics forms. These figures are compiled into the Diocesan Statistical Return, which is then forwarded to the National Church. These statistics are important in that they give an indication of the growth of the church in our small corner of the Church. The report for 2020 is included in Appendix 5, along with a five-year summary in Appendix 6.

DIOCESAN FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Diocese's Financial Statements for 2019, 2020, and 2021, as reviewed by Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants, have been adopted by Executive Council. These are found in Appendix 4 in the Convening Circular.

Thank you, clergy, wardens, treasurers, vestries and every congregation of the Diocese for your faithful remittance of Apportionment payments which permit us to continue our shared ministries in the Diocese.

DIOCESAN COMMITTEES

Many members of the diocese give of their time and talents in their attendance at committee meetings and in carrying out their responsibilities and functions. Throughout the year various task forces also contribute to the development of diocesan ministries and policies. Many of these committees and groups have provided printed reports to this Synod, and are in this circular.

The Administration and Finance Committee regularly meets to oversee the administrative matters of this diocese. Following the list of Executive Council acts is a list of the essential resolutions adopted by the Administration and Finance Committee since the last regular meeting of Synod.

Without the sacrificial participation of members of these committees, the operation and ministry of the diocese would never be accomplished. Many sincere thanks and may God bless each of you for your involvement in the life of this diocese.

DIOCESAN STAFF

In August 2020 the Ven. Alan Perry, Executive Archdeacon, resigned. The Ven. Lee Bezanson then became the Executive Archdeacon. In June 2022 he resigned.

In April 2021 Bishop Jane Alexander resigned. The Very Rev. Alexandra Meek was appointed Diocesan Administrator during the episcopal vacancy. The Rev. Stephen London was elected Bishop at the Electoral Synod held on June 26, 2021 and was consecrated on September 18, 2021.

Following is a list of the staff of the Diocese:

Diocesan Synod Staff:

Bishop	Right Reverend Stephen London
Personal Assistant to the Bishop.....	Jennifer Alexander
Secretary-Treasurer	Rev. John Gee
Director of Communications.....	Margaret Glidden
Administrative Assistant.....	Shelly King
Canon to the Ordinary.....	Rev. Canon Scott Sharman
Hospital Chaplain.....	Rev. Regula Brandle
Educational Chaplain.....	Rev. Heather Liddell

Indigenous Ministry:

Archdeacon for Indigenous Ministry	Ven. Travis Enright
Priest in Mission (Indigenous Birth Project)	Rev. Lori Calkins

Rural Ministry Initiative:

Rector, St. Mary and St. George, Jasper.....	Rev. Andreas Sigrist
Rector, St. Paul, Leduc	Rev. Robyn King
Rector, St. John the Evangelist, Cold Lake	Rev. Donna Gauthier
Rector, St. George, Fort Saskatchewan.....	Rev. Aaron Parsall-Myler

The staff of the Rural Ministry Initiative are funded through proceeds of the sale of inactive closed rural churches.

Diocesan Development Fund:

Priest-in-Mission (Filipino Congregation).....	Rev. Eric Kregel
Rector, St. Mark-Jieng, Edmonton.....	Rev. Akon Akon
Lay Reader in Charge, Church of the Nativity, Frog Lake.....	Fred Matthews
Aboriginal and Rural Communities Liaison	Fiona Brownlee

COMMUNICATION

Various forms of communication are in place for letting Anglicans and others know what is happening around the diocese.

Synod Scene: A regular feature of the email system is the weekly *Synod Scene*, which highlights events and notes of diocesan interest. If you would like to receive the *Synod Scene* by email, just let the diocesan Communications Director know. The *Synod Scene* is also available on the diocesan website, www.edmonton.anglican.ca.

The Messenger: This newspaper is published 10 times a year and distributed by the *Anglican Journal*. It includes news and events from the dioceses of Edmonton and Athabasca. It is available free of charge to all members of the Edmonton diocese. You can subscribe online to *The Messenger* at: <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe/>

Diocesan Website: The website includes news and events in the diocese, specific information and forms regularly used by clergy, and a section of information and forms for parishes. The What We Do section includes the many and varied activities and programs initiated or supported by the diocese. Overall, the website is a key place to look to find current information on what is happening throughout the diocese: www.edmonton.anglican.ca

Synod Office Email Addresses:

General Office and Communications Director	churched@edmonton.anglican.ca
General Office.....	reception@edmonton.anglican.ca
Bishop	bishop@edmonton.anglican.ca
Secretary-Treasurer.....	treasurer@edmonton.anglican.ca
Personal Assistant to the Bishop.....	assistant@edmonton.anglican.ca
Synod Office Address	10035 – 103 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5J 0X5
Synod Office Telephone Number	780-439-7344
Synod Office Toll-free Number.....	1-877-494-8890
Diocese of Edmonton website	www.edmonton.anglican.ca
Diocese of Edmonton Twitter	@DioEdm
Diocese of Edmonton Facebook Page	facebook.com/anglican.edmonton
Diocese of Edmonton Instagram.....	dio_edm
<i>The Messenger</i>	anglicanmessenger@gmail.com

We hope you will stay in touch with us!

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. John Gee
Secretary of Synod

ACTS of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Since the 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

This report, compiled from minutes of Executive Council meetings taken by The Rev. John Gee, includes only substantive acts and motions adopted or carried by Executive Council. Procedural motions have not been included in the report, thus accounting for the non-consecutive numbering of the motions. The minutes of Executive Council are kept on file in the Synod Office. Anyone wishing to review the full report of the minutes may do so by arrangement with the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee.

Members of Executive Council at September 30th, 2022 are the following:

*The Rt. Rev. Stephen London, Chair
The Very Rev. Alexandra Meek
The Ven. Travis Enright
The Ven. Richard King
The Ven. Jordan Ware
Ms. Lois MacLean, Chancellor
The Rev. John Gee, Secretary-Treasurer
Mr. Toby Ramsden, Appointee
The Rev. Nick Trussell, Appointee
Mr. Brian Jolly (Battle River)
Ms. Sheila Clifford MacKay (Battle River)*

*The Rev. Colleen Sanderson (Cold Lake)
Ms. Cathy Armstrong (Cold Lake)
Ms. Mary-Lou Cleveland (Cold Lake)
The Rev. Cheryl Boulet (Edmonton West)
Mr. David Heritage (Edmonton West)
Mr. Trevor Leach (Edmonton West)
The Rev. Danielle Lepine (Whitemud)
Mr. John de Haan (Whitemud)
Ms. Lynne Reckhow (Whitemud)
Mr. Ian Bowden (Yellowhead)
Ms. Rita Stagman (Yellowhead)*

)

Each region of the Diocese is represented by two lay members and one clergy member, who are elected at the previous Synod. These elected members are encouraged to pass on news from Executive Council to parishes within their region. Parishes are encouraged to send their news to Executive Council via their regional representatives.

Resolution #EC2-20

That Executive Council approve the Diocese of Edmonton Proposed Financial Plan 2020, acknowledging that the budget does not comply with Canon 10.4, as it does not allocate to the (Diocesan Development) Fund “an amount equal to not less than one percent of the aggregate income of all parishes reported for the purposes of apportionment and assessment.” This breach will need to be ratified by the 67th Synod.

Carried.

Resolution #EC4-20

That Executive Council approve the transfer from the Diocesan Development Fund to the General Fund of a loan of up to \$300,000 as necessary to meet the diocese’s financial obligations.

Carried.

Resolution #EC7-20

That the reviewed financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019 be approved.

Carried.

Resolution #EC8-20

That Executive Council approve the purchase of an equity interest in the St. John the Evangelist, Cold Lake trailer/rectory in the amount of \$100,000 and deposit the purchase price in the Consolidated Trust Fund for the benefit of St. John the Evangelist, Cold Lake.

Carried.

Resolution #EC12-20

That Executive Council concur with the disestablishment of the parish of Holy Trinity, Tofield, pursuant to Canon 5-13, notice having been given pursuant to Canons 5-11 and 5-12.

Carried.

Resolution #EC13-20

That the diocesan budget for the 2021 fiscal year be approved as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #EC02-21

That the Very Rev. Alex Meek be appointed Administrator of the Diocese during the upcoming episcopal vacancy.

Carried.

Resolution #EC03-21

That the Electoral Synod be held on June 26, 2021.

Carried.

Resolution #EC04-21

That a request be made for nominations to the diocesan search committee to be submitted in writing by March 11 and considered the meeting of Executive Council on March 18; that all clergy and parish leaders be encouraged to intentionally seek nominations from historically under-represented communities.; that a small working group receive and present the nominations and offer comment; and that Executive Council seek diversity and broad representation in its final selection.

Carried.

Resolution #EC05-21

That a small working group be formed to begin prayerful engagement with parishes across the diocese in order to provide the search committee with pertinent information on the needs of the diocese, so that the search committee can adequately prepare the diocesan profile. The working group will also collect, may provide comment on, and will present all the candidates nominated for the search committee to the executive council. The working group will be comprised of the chancellor, the dean, the archdeacons (which includes the diocesan executive officer), and Lynne Reckhow.

Carried.

Resolution #EC07-21

That an Episcopal Election committee be formed consisting of Ken Holmstrom, Alex Meek, John Gee, Margaret Glidden, Nick Trussell, and Shelly King.

Carried.

Resolution #EC08-21

That the 67th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton to elect the 10th Bishop of Edmonton be held on June 26, 2021 starting at 10 a.m. at All Saints' Cathedral and virtually as necessary due to the pandemic.

Carried.

Resolution #EC09-21

That the Parish of St. Matthias, Edmonton be given approval to proceed with the Upgraded Stormwater Plan as approved by the City of Edmonton and Epcor. The scope of work will be carried out by Rueben Excavation Inc. with an agreed contract value of \$116,079.57(including GST).

Carried.

Resolution #EC10-21

That based on the recommendation from the Administration and Finance Committee, the St. Margaret's building project and contract be approved as presented to A&F on April 20, 2021.

Carried.

Resolution #EC13-21

That the recommendation of A&F to approve the Investment Policy Statement presented by IG Wealth Management be accepted.

Carried.

Resolution #EC14-21

That the draft financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020 be approved as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #EC17-21

That Executive Council accept the recommendation of the Administration and Finance Committee to approve the sale of the Holy Trinity Riverbend property to Mill Woods Pentecostal Assembly for the price of \$1,9 million.

Carried.

Resolution #EC18-21

That the two-phase kitchen and accessibility project at St. Paul's, Edmonton be approved.

Carried.

Resolution #EC20-21

That Executive Council approve the clergy salary grid for 2022 as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #EC21-21

That Executive Council approve the sale of properties in Ashmont and Sangudo.

Carried.

Resolution #EC22-21

That Executive Council approve the budget for 2022 as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #EC23-21

That Executive Council approve the necessary repair work to support a failing foundation for a Precast Concrete Arch Structure at St. Luke's, Edmonton, subject to the availability of financing for the total projected cost of \$106,179.

Carried.

Resolution #EC24-21

That the Administration and Finance Committee be directed to consider the proposed historical designation and that, in the meantime, St. Luke's be given permission to proceed with applying for historical status pending ratification by Executive Council based on the report from A&F.

Carried.

Resolution #EC02-22

That Executive Council commits to support St. Luke's with respect to the repairs which are necessary and required to be done. Executive Council directs the Chancellor to follow up with the City with respect to the terms of the contract for possible Heritage Designation. Executive Council shall also consider options that we (the Diocese) can commit to with respect to bridge financing or other financing options that will not place an undue or unfair financial burden on St. Luke's.

Carried.

Resolution #EC04-22

That Executive Council concurs with the proposed disestablishment of the parish of St. John the Baptist, St. Paul pursuant to Canon 5.13.

Carried.

Resolution #EC04-22

That the sale of the church building of St. John the Baptist, St. Paul be approved.

Carried.

Resolution #EC05-22

That the sale of the rectory of St. Mary, Edgerton be approved.

Carried.

Resolution #EC10-22

That Alison Hurlburt be appointed lay recorder for the 68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton.

Carried.

Resolution #EC011-22

That Executive Council accept the City's proposal for historic designation of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Edmonton.

Carried.

Resolution #EC12-22

That Executive Council approve the Synod's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 as presented.

Carried.

Resolution #EC14-22

That Executive Council approve the St. Thomas accessibility project as proposed.

Carried.

Resolution #EC16-22

That the recommendation of A&F be accepted and that the increase in the salary scale be 3.2% for 2023.

Carried.

Resolution #EC17-22

That the draft agenda for Synod be approved.

Carried.

Resolution #EC18-22

That the report of the Legislative Committee be received.

Carried.

ACTS of the ADMINISTRATION and FINANCE COMMITTEE

Since the 65th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton

This report, compiled from minutes of Administration and Finance Committee meetings, includes only substantive acts and motions adopted or carried by the Administration and Finance Committee. Procedural motions have not been included in this report, thus accounting for the non-consecutive numbering of the motions. The minutes of the Administration and Finance Committee are kept on file in the Synod Office. Anyone wishing to review the full report of the minutes may do so by arrangement with the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee. Please note that the previous month(s) financial statements are received for information at each meeting of Administration and Finance Committee.

Members of Administration and Finance Committee at October 1, 2022 are:

The Rt. Rev. Stephen London

The Rev. John Gee, Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. Scott Belamisca, Investment Sub-committee Chair

Ms. Carol Blair

Mr. Brian Jolly, Property and Planning Sub-committee Chair

Ms. Lois MacLean, Chancellor

Mr. Toby Ramsden, Chair

The Rev. Rachael Parker

Mrs. Margaret Glidden (Recorder)

Resolution AF 21-19

Be it resolved that A&F approve the expenditure for a new phone system and carpet for the Synod Office from the internally restricted reserve.

Resolution AF 03-20

Be it resolved that A&F recommend to Executive Council for approval the Diocese of Edmonton Proposed Financial Plan 2020, acknowledging that the budget does not comply with Canon 10.4 as it does not allocate to the (Diocesan Development) Fund “an amount equal to not less than one percent of the aggregate income of all parishes reported for the purposes of apportionment and assessment.” This breach will need to be ratified by the 67th Synod.

Resolution AF 06-20

Be it resolved that Administration and Finance recommend to Executive Council that the diocese purchases a \$100,000 equity interest in the Cold Lake trailer/rectory and deposit the purchase price in the Consolidated Trust Fund for the benefit of St. John the Evangelist, Cold Lake.

Resolution AF 11-20

Be it resolved that A&F recommends to Executive Council the transfer of a loan up to \$300,000 from the Diocesan Development Fund to the General Fund as necessary to meet the diocese’s financial obligations.

Resolution AF 22-20

Be it resolved that the Diocese of Edmonton subsidize 2020 property taxes for St. Michael and All Angel's, Edmonton.

Resolution AF 26-20

Be it resolved that the apportionment formula be amended to be based on parish revenue from the most recent fiscal year, rather than the average of the last three years, for St. Mary Abbots', Barrhead and St. Timothy's, Edmonton.

Resolution AF 27-20

Be it resolved that the Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for bank signing purposes only are any two of: the Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander, the Dean, the Very Rev. Alexandra Meek, the senior Archdeacon, the Ven. Lee Bezanson, the Personal Assistant to the Bishop, Jennifer Wirun, and the Secretary-Treasurer, the Rev John Gee; except that the Personal Assistant to the Bishop may not sign cheques greater than \$10,000.00.

Resolution AF 37-20

Be it resolved that the draft budget be recommended to Executive Council for adoption.

Resolution AF 08-21

Be it resolved to ratify the Investment Subcommittee's recommendation that IG Private Wealth Management be awarded the responsibility and authorization to act as an "Agent" (as defined in the Alberta Trustee Act), on behalf of The Anglican Diocese of Edmonton with respect to the investment of any funds the A&F Committee so chooses. The effective date to be at the sole discretion of the A&F Committee.

Resolution AF 09-21

Be it resolved that the diocese accept Timber Benefit's proposal for life insurance benefits effective July 1, 2021.

Resolution AF 11-21

Be it resolved to approve St. Margaret's church hall expansion and basement repair based on the contractual document submitted by Scott Watson, dated April 7 as amended.

Resolution AF 12-21

Be it resolved to approve St. Matthias' drainage control project at an expected cost of \$110,000.

Resolution AF 14-21

Be it resolved to approve the request by St. Philip's, Westlock to use up to \$12,000 from its CTF funds for operating expenses, providing the parish send out a stewardship letter.

Resolution AF 17-21

Be it resolved to approve the request from St. Mary's, Edmonton to withdraw \$15,000 from the CTF for parish operating and ministry expenses providing the parish run a Stewardship Campaign in 2022.

Resolution AF 18-21

Be it resolved to approve the request from St. Mary the Virgin, Vegreville to withdraw \$15,000 from the CTF for parish operating expenses.

Resolution AF 20-21

Be it resolved to approve approximately \$7,000 to assist Archbishop Sixbert Macumi with expenses associated with his election as Archbishop of Burundi.

Resolution AF 21-21

Be it resolved to approve a human resource management course for Bishop-elect Stephen London.

Resolution AF 22-21

Be it resolved to approve a two-phase Kitchen and Accessible Washrooms Renovation Project at St Paul's Anglican Church, Edmonton.

Resolution AF 23-21

Be it resolved to approve the request by St. Paul's, Leduc to move forward with the updated Beck's quote for roof work.

Resolution AF 23-21

Be it resolved to approve the request by St. Paul's, Leduc to move forward with the updated Beck's quote for roof work.

Resolution AF 25-21

Be it resolved that A&F recommends to Executive Council that it retroactively approves the sale of the Holy Trinity Riverbend, Edmonton church property (N1/2, S134, 51, 25, W4) to Millwoods Pentecostal Assembly o/a Hope City Church for \$1,900,000 (plus GST) on April 6, 2021.

Resolution AF 27-21

Be it resolved that the Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for bank signing purposes only are any two of: the Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Stephen London, the Dean, the Very Rev. Alexandra Meek, the senior Archdeacon, the Ven. Lee Bezanson, the Personal Assistant to the Bishop, Jennifer Wirun, and the Secretary-Treasurer, the Rev. John Gee; except that the Personal Assistant to the Bishop may not sign cheques greater than \$10,000.

The Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for dealings with the Investment Accounts managed by IG Wealth Management are:

1. Authority to sign documents: any two of the Bishop, Stephen London, the senior Archdeacon, Lee Bezanson, and the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee.
2. Authority to enter trading orders or make withdrawals on behalf of the Diocese: any one of the Bishop, Stephen London, the senior Archdeacon, Lee Bezanson, or the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee.

The Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for cheque signing on the Bishop's Fund are the Bishop, Stephen London, and either the senior Archdeacon, Lee Bezanson, or the Treasurer, John Gee.

Resolution AF 33-21

Be it resolved to make canonical contributions from the operating fund to the Diocesan Development Fund. At 1% of assessable parish income, these should have been \$40,337 for 2020 and \$38,462 for 2021.

Resolution AF 34-21

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council the salary grid as prepared by the diocesan secretary-treasurer.

Resolution AF 35-21

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council the sale of properties in Ashmont and Sangudo.

Resolution AF 39-21

Be it resolved that A&F recommends to Executive Council the 2022 Budget for adoption.

Resolution AF 40-21

Be it resolved that A&F recommends to Executive Council for approval repairs to a failing foundation for a Precast Concrete Arch Structure at St. Luke's, Edmonton. Total Projected Cost of \$106,179 (includes \$10,000 contingency)

Resolution AF 02-22

Be it resolved that A&F approves the Terms of Reference for the Investment Sub-committee with the noted changes/additions.

Resolution AF 04-22

Be it resolved that A&F recommend to St. Luke's that the parish apply to the DDF for its repair funding shortfall.

Resolution AF 07-22

Be it resolved that A&F ask the Investment sub-committee to conduct a Request for Proposal (RTF) process for the appointment of an insurance broker for 2023.

Resolution AF 08-22

Be it resolved that A&F authorizes a one-time transfer of \$16,000 from diocesan reserves to operations for a personnel (severance pay) matter.

Resolution AF 13-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that St. Augustine of Canterbury, Edmonton proceed with a project to replace the flat roof on the church hall for \$39,000.

Resolution AF 14-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that Emmanuel, Gibbons proceed with a project to replace its church roof with an asphalt roof for \$17,700.

Resolution AF 15-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that the diocese approve \$11,422, for St. Georges portion of cost-sharing with the City of Edmonton and Alberta Heritage Fund, to complete the current renovation work on doors and windows.

Resolution AF 16-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that the diocese authorize up to \$10,000 from the internally restricted reserve to hire engineers to investigate foundation/structural issues at St. Faith's and PrayerWorks Hall.

Resolution AF 17-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that the diocese sell the land and buildings held by the diocese in trust for the Parish of St. Matthew's, Viking to the Viking Historical Society for \$1. Be it also resolved that the diocesan solicitor Mark Alexander shall be asked to prepare the necessary documents to complete the sale and transfer.

Resolution AF 20-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that St. Matthias, Edmonton proceed with a washroom accessibility upgrade of \$28,815.

Resolution AF 22-22

Be it resolved to recommend to Executive Council that St. Thomas', Sherwood Park proceed with a its accessibility project as described in the Property and Planning Report.

Resolution AF 23-22

Be it resolved that A&F authorize the investment of 50 per cent of cash and/or cash equivalent funds held in the DDF in long-term bonds.

Resolution AF 25-22

Be it resolved that the Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for bank signing purposes only are any two of: the Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Stephen London, the Dean, the Very Rev. Alexandra Meek, the senior Archdeacon, the Ven. Travis Enright, the Personal

Assistant to the Bishop, Jennifer Alexander, and the Secretary-Treasurer, the Rev John Gee; except that the Personal Assistant to the Bishop may not sign cheques greater than \$10,000.00,

The Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for dealings with the Investment Accounts managed by IG Wealth Management are:

1. Authority to sign documents: any two of the Bishop, Stephen London, the Dean, Alexandra Meek, and the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee.
2. Authority to enter trading orders or make withdrawals on behalf of the Diocese: any one of the Bishop, Stephen London, the Dean, Alexandra Meek, or the Secretary-Treasurer, John Gee.

The Signing Officers of the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton for cheque signing on the Bishop's Fund are the Bishop, Stephen London, and either the Dean, Alexandra Meek, or the Treasurer, John Gee.

Resolution AF 26-22

Be it resolved that A&F recommend to Executive Council that a 2 per cent cost of living increase be applied to the clergy salary grid.

Resolution AF 27-22

Be it resolved to establish a sub-committee to study the issues of salaries and stipends for clergy and other staff to report back to A&F by the spring of 2023.

Resolution AF 28-22

Be it resolved to approve a DDF loan of up to \$25,000 to St. Paul's, Leduc for roof repairs.

Resolution AF 29-22

Be it resolved that A&F delegate the authority to approve projects between \$10,000 and \$25,000 to the chair of the property and planning sub-committee. Projects exceeding \$25,000 will be subject to the approval of A&F.

BISHOP'S APPOINTMENTS for DIOCESAN SYNOD

(Constitution C2.1)

Margaret Glidden
Matthew Mercer-Deadman
Blake Holt
Raelynn Ramage-Muir
Alison Hurlburt

Fiona Brownlee
Renée Moore
Derian Tremblay
Shelby Cook
Abbi Harding

BISHOP'S YOUTH APPOINTMENTS for DIOCESAN SYNOD

(Constitution C2.m)

Gabriel Stephens
Claire London
Christopher Moore
Ella McDade
Emily Stephen-Garneau

REPORTS from GROUPS and COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION and FINANCE

The Administration and Finance (A&F) Committee is a Standing Committee of Executive Council, as set out in the Constitution sections C68 through C78. Its mandate is to manage the funds and properties and administer the business of the synod. Within that mandate, the A&F committee oversees the financial operations of the diocese, regularly reviewing financial reports, presenting a budget to Executive Council for approval, and managing the loan portfolio of the Diocesan Development Fund, and the investment portfolio of the Consolidated Trust Fund. The Committee also provides oversight to its sub-committees – Property and Planning, and Investment Committees. The committee regularly reviews policies with respect to the finances and administration of the diocese, including salary and benefits, travel reimbursement, and apportionment. With respect to parishes, the committee reviews financial health of parishes and requests further information where warranted, and reviews parish project applications exceeding \$10,000.

To ensure transparency, the committee approved further changes to the presentation of financial statements and the segregation of funds held in trust for parishes (Consolidated Trust Fund) from the diocese's funds (General Fund and Diocesan Development Fund). DDF funds are now directly held by that fund, rather than "for" it by the CTF. Invested cash belonging to the General Fund is now held by the DDF rather than the CTF.

2019 marked the end of additional income (just under \$5 million total) for ministry and mission generated by the five-year Reach Campaign. This reality combined with unpredictable apportionment revenue (the apportionment formula was amended to be based on the previous year's income, rather than on an average of three years), the COVID pandemic (a drop in givings due to churches having to close was partially offset by the federal wage subsidy program), and the ever-increasing cost of living has prompted challenging discussions and difficult decisions around, among other things, diocesan support for parishes and ministries, and clergy salaries.

Since the 66th Synod, members of the A&F committee and its subcommittees have worked to respond to the aforementioned challenges while laying the groundwork to help the diocese "Find its Way Forward" financially.

Chaired by Scott Belamisca, the Investment Sub-Committee put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) from potential investment advisors. Brent Seib of IG Wealth Management was awarded a five-year contract to manage the diocese's investment portfolio within the framework of the diocese's investment policy. The committee approved new Terms of Reference (guidelines for governance) for the Investment Sub-Committee. At the sub-committee's recommendation, A&F authorized the investment of 50 per cent of cash and/or cash equivalent funds held in the DDF in long-term bonds.

Brian Jolly was appointed Chair of the Property and Planning Committee with the goal of visiting every parish in the diocese to assess the condition of church properties and make recommendations, re: maintenance, repairs and upgrades. To date, Brian has visited all but 17 parishes. With his experience in the construction industry, he was also able to work with the diocesan chancellor and solicitor to write a contract template, which can be used in the future by parishes when contracting services for construction projects.

After treasurer John Gee had noted inconsistent support from the diocese's previous insurance broker which, he had discovered, had not done parish property valuations in some time, the committee hired Lloyd Sadd as its insurance broker. Ecclesiastical Insurance remains the diocese's insurance provider. Gee also negotiated a new life insurance benefits package with Timber Benefits.

In the past three years, the A&F Committee has seen more turnover in membership. We have received the resignations of the Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander, the Ven. Alan T. Perry, the Rev. Christian Gordon, David Kinloch, the Rev. Robyn King, John de Haan, Ian Harris and the Rev. Robin Walker. We are grateful to those who have served so faithfully in offering their wisdom and expertise in this vital ministry of administration.

We have been pleased to welcome members Scott Belamisca, Brian Jolly, Bishop Stephen London (ex-officio) and the Rev. Rachael Parker.

Members

The members of the A&F Committee are:

The Rt. Rev. Stephen London (ex officio), the Rev. John Gee (treasurer), Margaret Glidden (recorder), Carol Blair, Lois MacLean (chancellor), the Rev. Rachael Parker, Toby Ramsden (chair), Scott Belamisca (chair, Investment Sub-Committee), Brian Jolly (chair, Property and Planning Sub-Committee).

*Respectfully submitted,
Toby Ramsden, Chair*

ANGLICAN MESSENGER

The Messenger endeavours to connect and grow community by sharing the creative and resourceful ways Anglicans in the Athabasca and Edmonton dioceses and the wider ecumenical community use their God-given gifts for the common good.

While not all news is good, *The Messenger* editorial team - comprised of publishers Bishop David Greenwood and Bishop Stephen London, Margaret Glidden (managing editor), Shelly King and Jennifer Wirun (Edmonton Synod Office) and Canon Peter Clarke (Athabasca Editor) - is committed to finding the good in every story.

The paper is produced digitally with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop in the Edmonton Synod Office. It is printed by Webnews Printing in Ontario, and is distributed as a section of the *Anglican Journal*.

The Messenger was able to host the Anglican Editors Association (virtually and in person) in June 2022. The AEA Executive, of which Margaret Glidden is President, is grateful to Bishop Stephen London and the Edmonton diocese for their support of this year's conference.

The conference welcomed presentations by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Brauer, a former priest of this diocese, several members of General Synod Communications, and representatives of PWRDF and the Anglican Foundation.

Anglican Journal Editor Tali Folkins led a discussion around editorial independence, which many say was compromised by the 42nd General Synod's decision, in 2019, to adopt a new editorial and journalistic mandate. This issue received public attention when an alleged breach of confidentiality and privacy issue involving the Anglican Church of Canada, the *Anglican Journal* and survivors of sexual abuse: <https://anglicanjournal.com/off-on-the-wrong-track/> was first brought to light by the #ACCToo movement.

National church communications director Joe Vecsi said there is funding in place for the *Anglican Journal* and diocesan print publications until 2026, though, he added, that funding is diminishing. For more than a year, Vecsi and national church webmaster Brian Bukowski have been working with diocesan editors to create anglicannews.ca, a digital news network for "sharing and promoting information and stories important to the life of the church."

Currently, *The Messenger* is produced both in hardcopy (newsprint mailed as a section of the *Anglican Journal*), and digitally (PDF and flipbook posted to www.edmonton.anglican.ca). Watch the *Synod Scene* and edmonton.anglican.ca for exciting news about the launch of *The Messenger* on the digital network before the end of this year.

The Messenger is many voices! Please send story ideas, picture and article submissions to: Margaret Glidden: anglicanmessenger@gmail.com; or Peter Clarke: seens@telus.net by the first of the month before the month of publication, ie. November 1 for publication in December 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Glidden, Edmonton Editor

ASCENSION HOUSE INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY

Now in its eighth year, the Ascension House Intentional Community continues to provide a welcoming Christian home for young adults. This intentional community offers a residence in the heart of the Oliver Community while providing a structure for Christian formation and growth. Through weekly 'family meals', daily prayer, weekly Bible study and daily living – students at Ascension House are formed and shaped by intentional community and support for each other. Led by volunteers from Christ Church, Ascension House has been a haven of

friendship, learning, challenge and growth. Students who move on from their time at Ascension House often remark on how formative it was for them during their university life.

For the past few years, we have been blessed by the presence of international students from India, Syria and Toronto at Ascension House. Our community has welcomed them, and our leaders have helped them adapt to life here, including teaching them how to drive and how to ice skate. Members of Christ Church have built strong bonds with Ascension House residents, providing mentorship, and helping them grow in their faith. In return, Ascension House has been a site of community and connection for the young adults of Christ Church. Potlucks and Young Adult Group meetings are regularly held there. As we head into year nine of Ascension House programming, we look forward to seeing residents grow and thrive.

Respectfully submitted,
Archdeacon Sue+

ASSOCIATES OF THE SISTERHOOD OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine is “A Monastic Community within the Anglican Church of Canada. Associates and Friends of SSJD in the Diocese of Edmonton are men and women, lay and ordained, who seek to deepen their life in Christ through following a Rule of Life in association with the Sisters.”

Associates and Friends who seek “something more” in their spiritual lives have been deeply blessed in prayer, retreats, inspirational Quiet Days, Worship, and hospitality during the past two years. Covid may have isolated many, but, through Zoom, phone calls, letters, newsletters, and the SSJD website, Sisters at the Convent in Toronto were in touch with Associates from coast to coast to coast, and overseas.

Sadly, many Associates in the Diocese of Edmonton were not able to gather in person for our regular Advent and Lenten Quiet Days due to Covid restrictions. Thanks to Sister Doreen and Dorothy Dahli, an Oblate on Vancouver Island, Associates and parish friends were renewed by prayer and spiritual teaching. Sister Doreen’s thoughtful meditations on Zoom for Advent, Lent, and Pentecost (2020, 2021, 2022) offered hope and vision. Zoom gatherings connected us to associates from Manitoba to Vancouver Island. For those without computer access, Sister Doreen sent her written meditations to many by Canada Post. As well, she, and other Sisters regularly posted meditations and sermons for all on the SSJD website.

At a joyful gathering for Worship on September 8, 2021, on the SSJD Foundation Day and the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Associates gathered at the Anglican Parish of Christ Church to admit Betty Thomson as a new Associate. The Venerable Kathy Bowman presided and preached at the Eucharist. Betty Myles, a longtime Associate presented Betty with a beautiful prayer shawl. As we were still following Covid Protocols, all gathered together in the beautiful church garden with our bag lunches. We give thanks to Venerable Sue Oliver for her hospitality to Associates and friends.

Due to recent Covid outbreaks, and holidays, fewer Associates joined parishioners at the Anglican Parish of Christ Church for worship on September 8, 2022. The Reverend Armand Mercier presided, preached, and offered prayers for SSJD and the Associates, as we were gathering for refreshments after the service, we received the news of the passing of Queen Elizabeth 11 and Reverend Mercier offered prayers and comfort to all.

We also, remember with sorrow the Associates who have died these past three years, and give thanks to God for their faithfulness: Reverend Maude Parsons-Horst; Dr. Peggy Anne Field, Reverend Pauline Tiffin, Mrs. Margaret Adamson. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

We are grateful to those who have coordinated events and gatherings for Associates: Thanks to Elizabeth Jolly, Coordinator and her dedicated committee members, Beth-Anne Exham, and Genevieve Ashwell for organizing Quiet Days, and demonstrating the beauty of prayer and love and support for the ministry of the SSJD. In October 2022 we welcome Betty Thomson to the organizing committee.

We look forward to days when we can meet again.

*Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Crerar*

BASE CAMP

This spring we began planning for Base Camp 2022. Shelly King at the Synod Office booked the Marten River group site for the first week of July. Margaret Glidden put together a web page advertising the camp online and on the diocesan social media platforms, and in the *Synod Scene* and *The Messenger*. We advertised for staff volunteers.

This was to be my last camp as director- my resignation was given to the Bishop this spring.

Although we did not have any new volunteers come on board, Susan and David Daniel returned as cooks, Heather Liddell put together a Christian education program, and Jamie and Jess Sherburne returned as counsellors.

Despite the planning, the effects of COVID loomed over us this year. There has been less in-person contact and networking across society for the past two years. A two-year hiatus since the last camp meant that there were few or no returning campers signing up. (Most previous campers would have aged out in the interval). Some prospective campers would not have had the required two vaccinations. With two years of masking, distance learning, COVID precautions, and ongoing COVID, there are parents and campers who did not feel comfortable with the away-from-home camps concept (and I note that so far this summer three Quebec overnight/sleepaway camps have had to close due to COVID). Disposable income to send children to camps and overall economic uncertainty may also have played a role (despite offering

subsidies). With these and other factors, we did not have the required 12 registrants: and so, with regret the camp was cancelled two weeks before it was to happen.



















I have enjoyed my years of directing Base Camp and working with an awesome group of staff persons. It has been a privilege. I hope and pray that the camping ministry will evolve and grow again in the years ahead, to promote personal growth, fellowship, community and walking with Christ.

*Respectfully Submitted,
In Christ and with thanks,
Dr. Mark Armstrong*

CANTERBURY FOUNDATION CHAPLAINCY

March 2022 began my first year as Chaplain with Canterbury Foundation, Chaplain for Seniors living in independent, supportive and memory care at Canterbury. To learn more about our community at Canterbury please visit our website at www.canterburyfoundation.com or visit our Facebook or Instagram pages (search Canterbury Foundation and befriend us).

Highlights of the past six months

-  Provide a warm welcome to new residents
-  Arrange monthly worship services provided by United, Lutheran and Anglican Congregations
-  Provide Monthly Non-denominational services
-  Provide Monthly worship service in the memory care unit
-  Worship in June with Guest Preacher, and Smudge to commemorate Indigenous Days
-  Worship in October with Guest preacher, and Smudge to remember Truth and Reconciliation Day
-  Yearly remembrance of residents and staff that have passed, with interfaith participation
-  Weekly Bible Studies in the Manor.
-  Weekly Bible studies in the Court
-  Individual pastoral visits
-  Pastoral Support of Staff
-  Provide grief support to staff upon a resident's death
-  Participated in weekly Covid meeting and provide spiritual support and encouragement to staff.
-  Provide on call support of residents and their families, and staff
-  Participate in Resident and Family Centered Care Conferences
-  Provide assistance to residents and families in difficult yet crucial conversations
-  Participate in Open House
-  Attended Dementia Training

It has been my honour and pleasure to journey along side the residents, families, and staff of Canterbury. This ministry with our Seniors and their families is important at crucial junctures in

lives. Our Seniors have much to teach us about their lives, faith, and community. This ministry happens with the prayers, volunteers, kindness and support of many individuals and organizations.

Canterbury continues to lead the way senior's care with our Capital Project in its final stages. Our state-of-the-art Dementia Care Loop (Canterbury Lane) is now fully open. The safe, secure area now holds 53 residents (from a previous 20) and immerses residents in sights, smells and sounds familiar to them. The space enables people to travel the wandering loop to three unique cottage spaces, each with a dining and activity area, a secure outdoor garden and programming that encourages daily routines and can keep couples who are aging on different paths together. The same is underway in the Enhanced Supporting Living space. 18 rooms will provide end of life care, treatment areas, and a beautiful rooftop garden for moments of reflection for families/caregivers during this difficult journey. Palliative care in-suite has always been a part of Canterbury's continuum of care, but now we are able to provide an extension of this complex compassionate care. Residents can stay in their familiar home during this vulnerable time. Inspiring this extraordinary renewal requires new sources of funding. As a not-for-profit, Canterbury offers the opportunity to partner with donors considering a transformational gift. To join our family of donors, visit CanterburyFoundation.com or contact Margo Buckley, CFRE via email: margob@canterburyfoundation.com

Thank you for remembering us in your prayers.

*Respectfully submitted,
Yours in Christ, Rev. Colleen Sanderson*

CHILDREN, FAMILY and YOUTH MINISTRY

Children and youth, with all the energy and holy chaos they bring, are invaluable gifts to our communities. It has been my pleasure over the past year to equip our Diocese and its parishes with the resources we need to make sure our youngest members are welcomed and engaged. In my role as Archdeacon, I have enjoyed the opportunity to preach at the Cathedral about the importance of children's ministry, as well as meeting one-on-one with clergy and Sunday School teachers who are looking for resources, ideas and encouragement. Looking back on the past year, there is much to celebrate. Despite challenging circumstances, we have seen new opportunities, new resources, and new relationships flourish.

This past month saw the launch of a major new children's initiative: the Diocese of Edmonton Children's Choir. Generously funded by an Anglican Foundation grant and hosted at Christ Church, this choir will bring together children and youth from across the Diocese to sing, play, and worship together. In the interest of inclusivity, the choir is free and has no audition to join. It is conducted by accomplished musician and choral leader Laura Hawley. The choir will travel to various parishes to share the joy of song. But as excited as we are about the music the children will make, we hope the choir will also do more. By bringing young people together who might otherwise never meet, the choir will be a place where lifelong friendships can begin to grow. The

choir will plant seeds of future relationships that with time may become a launch pad for further Diocesan youth initiatives.

For the past few years, much of our child and youth ministry across the Diocese has been shaped by the pressures of the Covid-19 pandemic. We have responded with creativity and commitment! Twice this year, I offered a virtual in-service to children's ministry leaders to brainstorm ideas around how to engage young people in a pandemic. A range of urban and remote/rural parishes were represented, and there was much excitement about finding opportunities to connect.

The conversations we had at those in-services lead me to develop a Lenten Sunday School program based around the recent film *Encanto*. Children from various parishes were able to join an online *Encanto*-themed Sunday School. For parishes meeting in person, I developed resources for leaders to offer the same content with a more hands-on approach. The program was a huge hit with kids and adults alike as people came together with creative energy to make the film come alive and share messages about God's many gifts.

As we continue to slowly emerge from pandemic conditions, more opportunities are unfolding. We are forming a steering committee for youth ministry in our diocese and investigating future options for youth camps. I look forward to having opportunities to gather this winter and next summer as youth in the Diocese.

All these activities are expressions of the vital importance of child and youth ministry. When young Anglicans are actively and warmly included in our worship and in our church communities, we gain so much. Children and youth are a part of our faith family. When they're not at the table, our family is not complete. Their genuine faith, creativity, joy, and energy give light to our parishes. They are both a vital part of our present life and the future of our church. I look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit will lead us—adults and young people—to be ever more welcoming of childlike Holy Chaos in our midst.

Respectfully submitted,
Archdeacon Sue+

COMPANION DIOCESE OF BUYE

The partnership between the Diocese of Edmonton and the Diocese of Buyé, Burundi, dates from 2008 when Bishop Jane Alexander met Bishop Sixbert Macumi of Buyé at the Lambeth Conference. Over the 14 years since then, the relationship has continued to flourish as each diocese discovers the unique gifts and strengths of the other.

Highlights of the partnership during the past two years include the following:

- In 2021 Bishop Sixbert Macumi was elected Archbishop of the Province of Buyé. This is the first time the Archbishop has been from a diocese other than the capital, Bujumbura, and that presents some challenges. There are extra costs which are difficult to cover given that Burundi is one of the poorest countries in the world. The Diocese of Edmonton and

the Anglican Church of Canada have assisted by contributing funds toward a new van for the Archbishop.

- As we have since 2014, the Diocese of Edmonton continued to support the Diocese of Buyé Bible College which trains catechists, deacons, and priests. Our funding has allowed the college to continue in operation after its previous funder withdrew.
- When she stepped down in 2021, Bishop Jane asked for donations in lieu of gifts to build improved water springs in the Diocese of Buyé. Approximately \$24,000 was raised which financed the construction of 12 springs. Burundi has abundant natural groundwater, but contaminated springs result in the spread of disease. The modest investment of about \$2000 per spring ensures a permanent supply of clean water for an entire village.
- In 2018, the Revs. Danielle Lepine and Rebecca Harris instituted the “Five Dollars Five Ways” project to purchase medical cards for seniors and families in Buyé. At a cost of \$1, each card provides a person with free access to medical care for a year. (Fees are charged for most medical services in Burundi.) This project has been repeated every year since then.
- The work paid for by Reach through PWRDF continued through 2020 with a project to enhance food security. It provided training, goats, and improved seeds to 250 families in Mwumba district. The project came in under budget, and the leftover funding was used for training to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our financial assistance makes a big difference, but the relationship between the two dioceses consists of much more than money. Travel has been limited because of security concerns in Burundi, but we hope to do more extensive exchanges soon. Bishop Steve enjoyed talking with Archbishop Sixbert at the Lambeth Conference this summer. Most parishes in the Diocese of Edmonton now have partner parishes in Buyé with whom they exchange news and prayers. Everyone here who has been involved in the partnership has felt enriched by the vibrant faith and resourcefulness of the people of Buyé.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. John Gee*

DIOCESAN ADVISORY AND RESPONSE TEAM (DART)

The DART Committee was established many years ago as an advisory committee whose members are responsible for advising the Bishop with respect to any allegation of abuse within the diocese. The committee’s responsibilities have evolved over the years, and now include two separate functions. The first is an educational function, which involves encouraging parishes and diocesan programs to establish practices and procedures which reduce the risk of any potential abuse from occurring. The second function is the traditional advisory function, which involves advising the Bishop or parish clergy on how to respond to any particular situation which may arise. The committee members are appointed by the Bishop and include both lay and clergy members.

As a church community we want to encourage active participation in ministry programs and activities. We also want to ensure that both the program participants and any staff or volunteers are safe, secure, and protected as much as is possible in any given circumstance. Some activities, such as the diocesan camps involve inherent risks, and in such circumstances, we work to reduce the risks as much as possible, while recognizing the importance of the programs to the spiritual lives of the participants.

Over the past year, under the direction of Bishop Steve, a review of our ‘safe church’ policies and practices has been initiated. The working group who has begun this valuable work is being led by Archdeacon Susan Oliver, and includes Anne Smith, Ted Huck and Rev. Ruth Sesink-Bott.

Clergy and wardens are always welcome to consult with the Bishop and the members of DART if they have issues or concerns. DART also provides materials to parishes on best practices, how to establish job descriptions, how to conduct police checks, and on the identification of high-risk issues.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lois MacLean, On behalf of DART*

ECUMENICAL and INTERFAITH

The years since our last regular meeting of Synod – much of them under the cloud of the global pandemic – have been challenging for local ecumenism, just as they have been for the whole of our church. Many of the usual occasions and projects and meetings that bring us together in fellowship and collaboration with our partner churches were either put on pause or had to adapt to very different ways of doing things that just did not quite seem to work as well as what we had been used to. Some of the longstanding institutional instruments that have carried the work for a long time may not be able to return in the same way. However, just as we discovered in other aspects of church life a latent creativity and resiliency through this time, so to have the challenges and readjustments of this period drawn out new ecumenical opportunities and avenues for positive renewal and change.

One thing I would like to highlight in this report is the far greater attention which has been given to the model of Ecumenical Shared Ministry (ESM) as a potential way for parishes to consider as a means of continuing viable ministry and witness to the Way of the Gospel in neighbourhoods and communities across the diocese. I am convinced that our future as a church cannot be a solo-Anglican future, but one which will call upon us to find ways to work closely alongside of and to share openly with our siblings in Christ in the Lutheran, Moravian, United, Presbyterian, Reformed, Mennonite, and other church traditions. Our strategic path document, *Finding Our Way*, reflects this interest as well, making specific reference to the importance of ESM in goal 6. For this reason, educational and informational resources about ESM are beginning to be shared more widely in our diocese. Workshops on ESM have been offered at the diocesan level, as well as individual consultations with parishes who want to know more. Regular meetings between staff of the Anglican Diocese and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod are taking place to explore

collaboration at that level as well. The proposed resolution to this synod to create an ESM Circle would enhance such support and resourcing further, and I hope it will find affirmation.

I would also like to underscore the importance of ecumenical relationships in connection with our responsibility to seek justice and right relationships with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples and communities. The colonial project was not just an Anglican or a Catholic or Presbyterian course of action, but one which European Christendom sought to advance together. Therefore, the churches must now work together to uncover truth, advance healing, and make reparations for the damage that has been and continues to be done as a result. We are seeing this in our diocese in a variety of ways, including joint work by various churches that has taken place before and after the visits of Archbishop Justin Welby and Pope Francis to Canada in the summer of 2022, and in the ecumenical partnerships that have led to the creation of the Pakitinâsowin Reparations Fund through the King's University, just to name two examples.

Ecumenical relations are not just a small side area of church life which some peculiar segment of people might happen to become interested in because they like arcane matters of church history or the subtleties of inter-church polity and politics. Rather, they are an essential part of the puzzle in what it means to be disciples of Jesus in this era; followers of Jesus who understand that the Way of Christ today calls us to be ambassadors of the ministry of reconciliation, learning to build bridges and to facilitate gift exchange with those who are different from us, but nevertheless, by the Spirit of God, have become our relatives. For that reason, it must continue as a priority for our diocese in the years ahead. Indeed, it may be that this season of uncertainty and change in the church in so many ways means that a new ecumenical springtime is not far off. May it be so.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman*

EQUALLY ANGLICAN

Equally Anglican is a ministry created by and for 2SLGBTQIA+ [initialism which names many segments of sexual and gender minorities but is not exclusively restricted to the groups highlighted by individual letters] Anglicans and Allies, open and welcoming to all. Our ministry is based out of Holy Trinity – Old Strathcona, but we are diocesan-focused.

We host services and events throughout the year, and advocate for full, affirming participation and the sacramental equality of all Anglicans, without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Though we are Anglican by tradition, we welcome all who are open to helping us throw open the “doors” of the Church to any who have felt shut out.

We are also advocates for social justice issues pertaining not only to 2SLGBTQIA+ people but for other intersectional realities, affirming and promoting the dignity of all beloved children of God.

Since the time since the last Diocesan Synod, Equally Anglican entered a time of renewal and introspection. Our organizing committee met to examine the road so far, and where our ministry was being called to by the Spirit. It was a month or so after the last organizational meeting that we hit March 2020, and the pandemic put many things on hold. Equally Anglican went largely dormant, and within the past few months has emerged from our time away with a reinvigorated purpose.

We are heartened by the Bishop's guiding document, *Finding Our Way*, and are eager to see how our path unfolds as we help parishes, and the diocese as a whole, in not only helping to walk alongside in the processes surrounding Specific Goal 10 (Affirmation), but in building Collaborative Partnerships that help to heal and reinforce connections with All Relations.

Our primary intention in the short term is to help bring education on 2SLGBTQIA+ foundational knowledge, affirming processes, issues, and culture to our siblings in Christ in the diocese, as well as assist in being a bridging resource to connect with various resources. As we all move to be more familiar and intentional with what it means to be *affirming*, we pray that it will help to open eyes and hearts to opportunities to further outreach within our larger communities, and beyond the boundaries of the Diocese of Edmonton.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Mercer-Deadman

GREATER EDMONTON ALLIANCE (GEA)

The Greater Edmonton Alliance is an inclusive non-profit, non-partisan, multi-issue organization that unites a diverse group of faith, community and labour organizations and serves as a vehicle for them to become stronger and more effective in their larger mission to serve the common good. Its mandate is to:

- surface and support the development of untapped or under-utilized leaders to act inside their organization and through GEA to advance that Common Good mission;
- build “power with” by developing public, accountable relationships with and among individuals, institutions, networks and decision makers;
- research common issues to discover opportunities for action;
- take disciplined, organized action to build resilient institutions and communities and a more just and equitable Greater Edmonton Region;
- engage in ongoing evaluation and reflection.

An extensive listening and research-action process engaged hundreds of people from GEA member and exploratory member organizations to develop the current city focused Agenda for a Better Edmonton. City councillors and others are being asked to take action in the following areas:

- Living Wages / Quality Jobs – 1) Securing commitments from local governments and private employers to pay living wages to all employees and contractors and 2) establishing city bidding requirements for infrastructure projects requiring all contractors and sub-contractors to pay prevailing wages by craft; contribute to retirement programs; meet apprentice utilization targets; and prioritize hiring of local, low-income, and indigenous workers.
- Mental Health / Addictions – 1) Asking the city of Edmonton to adopt the Canadian Standard for Psychological Safety in the Workplace and 2) establishing a fund that will subsidize mental health first aid training and support community-based organizations conducting education, outreach, and peer-to-peer support initiatives.
- Truth and Reconciliation - Listening to the personal stories of First Nation peoples, Metis and Inuit and having their leaders identify issues that we can act on so that GEA can become a more equitable and inclusive organization for all citizens of our communities.

The Diocese of Edmonton is a member of GEA and makes a significant financial contribution annually. This and other contributions recently enabled GEA to hire a paid community organizer, Gary Savard. One parish, St. Augustine of Canterbury, is also a GEA member, and other parishes in the diocese are encouraged to join. The cost need not be large because the Diocese is already a dues-paying member. GEA is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) which has been organizing and training churches and other non-profit organizations for over 70 years. IAF's methodology has proven success in increasing organizational capacity and surfacing new leaders.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. John Gee*

HOSPITAL VISITORS

Like so many other ministries, hospital chaplaincy was very much affected by the COVID 19 pandemic over the last 2.5 years.

In Fall 2019 I started to connect with our diocesan lay hospital visitors after this responsibility had been handed over to me. Needless to say, after our very first meeting in February 2020, the ministry was almost completely shut down by the outbreak of COVID 19 just a month later! Even I, in the capacity as Anglican hospital chaplain, was denied regular entry into the hospitals from mid-March 2020 till July 2022. However, I was called in for end-of-life situations about once/month during those 2+ years under pandemic restrictions.

The University Hospital, Mazankowski Heart Institute and Stollery Children's Hospital just opened for regular pastoral visits again this July, and in mid-September I should also be back on regular duty at the Royal Alexandra hospital. It seems that I am slowly able to resume this beautiful ministry as we knew it prior to March 2020.

I imagine that while you are reading this, I will be in the middle of re-establishing the lay hospital visitors' ministry, besides cherishing every single opportunity I have to bring the hope, comfort and truth of our Lord Jesus Christ to those who are in need of medical interventions at our hospitals in Edmonton.

If you read this report and you are interested in knowing more about how to become a lay hospital visitor, please connect with me in person at the Diocesan Synod, or e-mail me at revregula@edmonton.anglican.ca

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Regula A. Brandle*

INDIGENOUS MINISTRY

Tansi. The Indigenous Ministry team is grateful to share this update with all the members of the Synod. Like all in the diocese we have had to pivot our work to deal with the pandemic and find new ways of doing the work we have been given by God. We have found new and exciting ways to live out reconciliation in the world today. Here are some highlights:

Church of the Holy Nativity, Frog Lake

This Anglican community has come back to life with the leadership of local elders and lay reader-in-charge, Fred Matthews. The community worships in the Roman Catholic church as the former Anglican church was condemned and torn down. The hope soon is for a multi-use community building to be built with space for the parish. For the moment, they are enjoying being together, baptising new members and growing in their faith together. In the early summer of 2021, Fred invited members of the diocese to join him for an educational day and to spend part of it at the Frog Lake Pow Wow.

Remember the Children Weaving Project

Do you remember hearing the news in May 2021? The news of the unmarked graves of children at the Residential School site in Kamloops B.C? During Truth and Reconciliation Commission meetings, Survivors of Residential Schools had shared with us all the news of children buried at the schools across Canada. Ali Hurlburt, lay reader and lay evangelist, mulled this for a number of months. She came up with the idea of a weaving project that members of the diocese could participate in. The loom went around to five parishes in the spring of 2022 and Ali wove pieces to record the numbers of graves. The finished weaving was dedicated during a service at All Saints' Cathedral on National Indigenous Peoples Day, June 21, 2022.

Teaching Circles

Archdeacon Travis Enright arranged for Elder Russell Auger to lead several teaching circles about the Nehiywah/Cree viewpoint of the natural world and spiritual teachings. These circles brought together First Nation and settler people. Participants expressed they learned a great deal and were especially grateful for the friendships they formed.

Ribbon Skirt Workshops

In the summer of 2021, we had our first Ribbon Skirt workshop. It was led by Roxanne Tootoosis who gave a group of lay and clergy Anglican women teachings about Ribbon Skirts and then assisted all in the production of their skirts. Since the making of the skirts, the clergy who took part wore them during Bishop Stephen London's consecration. In the spring of 2022, we had our second workshop. Noella Steinhauser gathered us all in circle and shared teachings about Ribbon Skirts. Tracy Bradley assisted the women with making their skirts. These skirts were red and to be used for remembering Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, previously known as Orange Shirt Day, has allowed the diocese to come together by doing prayers around the day, participating and leading annual walks in their communities, wearing orange shirts on the day, and by sharing the truth of residential schools with others.

Hiy, hiy,

Fiona Brownlee

Travis Enright

Fred Matthews

INVESTMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

The Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton 2022 Investment Sub Committee to Admin & Finance Report of activities since 2021:

In the fall of 2021, the Investment Sub-Committee was reconvened with new members: Scott Belamisca (Chair), Dianne Lougheed Keefe, Grant Kvemshagen and John Gee (Secretary-Treasurer, Anglican Diocese of Edmonton). At this time, Admin & Finance's request to the Investment Sub-Committee was to revisit the current investment strategy of the various funds held by the Diocese with the intent to review the current mandate of the committee along with the development and implementation of a new Investment Policy Statement (IPS).

After our initial review and assessment, the committee agreed to establish a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for Investment Management. We engaged three major firms within the Edmonton Market to respond to our RFP including the current firm/individual managing the Diocesan funds. All three firms were interviewed by the Sub-Committee and assessed on the following criteria: Professionalism/Preparation, IPS development support, Accreditation, Additional Value Added and Fees. After thorough consideration, the RFP was awarded to IG Wealth Management who have worked closely with John Gee and the Committee over the past 16 months.

Following the RFP process and the implementation of the Investment Policy Statement, the work of the Sub Committee continue with rewriting of the term of reference for the Committee to formalize Purpose, Membership, Duties and Responsibilities and Meeting Frequency. This process was finalized in January of 2022.

Into the Spring and Summer of 2022, the Committee has started the process of re-evaluation of the intent and focus of other funds held by the Diocese other than externally restricted trust funds and is currently working on individual IPS for such funds as the Diocesan Development Fund, General Fund and Funds Held for Parishes. Also, at the request of A&F, the Committee began a review of Insurance Policies of the Diocese with the intent to replicate the RFP conducted for Investments applied to Insurance.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Belamisca, Chair of the Investment Sub Committee

LAY EVANGELISTS

At our last Synod in 2019, we had just commissioned our first three lay evangelists. This year, as we meet again in Synod, our second group of three has just completed their formation course and hopefully will be commissioned soon. The intention is for each evangelist to work as part of the ministry team in their parish to spread the good news of Jesus, equip congregations to live and share Christ's love with those who have not yet come to know him, help new disciples take their first steps of faith, and help their parishes engage with their neighbourhoods and build bridges for the sharing of the Gospel.

Of course, the pandemic had a massive impact on our formation program. We had completed four of our twelve modules when Covid-19 hit. For a couple of months, we put everything on hold, hoping it would be over soon, but when it became evident that it would not, we began to experiment with new ways of doing things: having pre-recorded videos that people could watch ahead of time, and then coming together on Zoom for questions and discussion. However, things slowed down considerably, and the two-year formation process actually took three years for us to complete.

Going forward, we plan to take a different approach. In 2023 we will offer two courses in relational evangelism for anyone, whether or not they feel a call to a ministry of lay evangelism: 'Faith Pictures' (<https://churcharmy.org/resources/faith-pictures/>), and 'Faith Shared' (<https://churcharmy.org/resources/faith-shared/>). These courses will stand alone, but they will also be prerequisites for a ten-session course for trainee evangelists, 'Faith Empowered', (<https://churcharmy.org/growing-faith/faith-empowered/>), which we hope to run in 2024. These are courses created by the Church Army in the UK.

*Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Tim Chesterton, Warden of Lay Evangelists*

PROPERTY AND PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

The purpose of Property and Planning is to assist the Administration and Finance Committee in the management of the properties of the Diocese, in accordance with the policies established by Executive Council.

The Property & Planning S-C shall:

- a) ensure, in consultation with the parishes of the diocese, that proper records of Synod properties are maintained, including details of mortgages, loans, by commitments and guarantees;
- b) review and advise A&F of proposed purchases and sales of Synod Property;
- c) develop a plan of future property acquisitions and sales of the Synod, paying particular attention to demographic changes within the Diocese;
- d) develop a plan of future property acquisitions and sales of the Synod, paying particular attention to demographic changes within the Diocese;

- e) review and advise A&F Chairperson of proposed building plans involving Synod Property on an as need basis;
- f) one week prior to each A&F meeting, circulate to members of A&F a written record of current Property and Planning activities;
- g) advise all Parishes of the Diocese of meeting dates well in advance;

Note: The original Role Statement was in place prior to Covid. Since Covid, the Committee as such has not operated for several reasons. Hence, the foregoing Role Statement reflects the current property and planning status.

The current Property & Planning business is being carried out by the Chairman with the help of one member of the committee when he needs assistance.

There is also a document that parishes may have in their possession. It is called “Property and Planning, Requirements for project submission.” This document is under review and will be re-issued upon completion.

*Respectfully submitted,
Brian Jolly, Chair, Property and Planning Sub-Committee*

SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Social Justice Committee has been busy since the last Synod in 2019. It is our responsibility to support the diocese in three of the Five Marks of Mission:

1. To respond to human need by loving service;
2. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation;
3. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

In the last three years, we have supported the diocese through the creation of resources that will support parishes seeking to live out these Marks of Mission. Namely, we have video series that help parishes begin conversations about justice for prisoners, as well as an interfaith series speaking out against domestic and intimate partner violence. Through the ministry of ICPM, we have created written devotions for Indigenous History Month (originally for Advent, and still very applicable to that season!) based on Bob Joseph’s *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act*. Podcasts are available about the season of Creation, exploring ways the land wants us to live differently here. These resources are available via the diocesan website, and members of the Social Justice Committee will be very happy to share them with your parish. As the bishop requested, we have been connecting with parish vestries to let them know all the resources already available - from us, from PWRDF, from End Poverty Edmonton and more - on our website.

The bishop has also requested that the Social Justice Committee take leadership over Specific Goals 8, 10-12 from Finding Our Way. These commitments to Beloved Community, Affirmation, Accessibility, and Renewing the Earth line up with the direction we had begun to take by building up specific sub Working Groups that are able to focus on specific areas of

injustice that need to be rectified in our community. The anti-racism team has already been hard at work, recommending anti-racism training be mandatory for the clergy (the first training is coming up in February 2023!), and circulating a survey on diversity & inclusion that received nearly 200 unique responses from 32 identified parishes. The LGBTQ2S+ working group was formed in September, and aims to coordinate and support the diverse work already being pursued by the many affirming communities around the diocese, such as Equally Anglican, based out of Holy Trinity Old Strathcona, the work beginning at St. Mary's Highlands, as well as efforts at St. Timothy's, St. Peter's, and more. Disability inclusion is just beginning to get its start - if you feel called to serve as part of that working group, we would be very grateful for you! The same is true for the environmental justice working group, which had its first planning meeting in June.

Of course, this report would not be complete without acknowledging the sad loss of our original chair and champion, Dorothy Marshall. Dorothy's tireless efforts for justice, especially around food security, environmental justice, support for farmers, and PWRDF made us who we are today. When I joined in 2020, it was as co-chair, and I am very sad to labour on without the partnership of my incredible teammate. This committee wishes to pay tribute to Dorothy and honour her memory as we continue her legacy. May God bless our efforts.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Ven. Jordan Haynie Ware
Archdeacon for Social Justice and Community Connection*

*On behalf of the Social Justice Committee:
Rob Betty, St. John the Evangelist,
Edmonton
The Rev. Jon Crane, St. Augustine,
Edmonton
Jim Gurnett, Inner City Pastoral Ministry
Matthew Mercer-Deadman, Holy Trinity,
Old Strathcona
Michelle Nieviadomy, Inner City Pastoral
Ministry
Rosebell Asiri Opiyo, Good Shepherd,
Edmonton
The Rev. Mark Vigrass, St. Patrick,
Edmonton
Anwar Abdi, Refugee Resettlement
Coordinator*

APPENDICES Coming Soon...