



**Assembly 2002  
Eastern Synod  
ELCIC**

**In Christ | a future with hope**  
**101 rue Lyon Street, Ottawa, Ontario**  
**July 10 – 14, 2002**

The Ninth Biennial Convention of the Eastern Synod will continue in the spirit of ASSEMBLY 2000, focusing on the assembly of God's people for worship, education, spiritual growth, fellowship and fun as we do the business of the church.

The Opening Session of ASSEMBLY 2002 will begin at 2:00 P.M. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 101 rue Lyon Street, only a few blocks from Parliament Hill, St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Ottawa.

All Eastern Synod clergy and those lay delegates whose congregations have submitted a *Lay Delegate Credential Form* should have received registration information packages by now. Anyone who is considering attending Assembly 2002 as a Visitor may request a registration package by contacting the Synod Office.

**Prime Minister Invited:** The Eastern Synod invited Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to address the assembly expressing the hope that either he or one of his Cabinet Ministers would be able to accept our invitation. We have heard that the Prime Minister is not able to be with us but that he has forwarded our invitation to the Honourable John Manley, Deputy Prime Minister.

**Special Growth Events:** On Thursday afternoon, delegates will be able to attend two panel discussions on significant public policy issues. The first will focus on "The Church and the Future of Health Care in Canada." Our guest speaker will be Nuala P. Kenny, OC, MD, FRCP(C), Professor and Head of the Department of Bioethics at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS. Responding to her presentation will be Frances Arbour from the Canadian Health Care Coalition based in Ottawa.

The second presenter will be Rolland Pangowish, the Director of Land Rights for the Assembly of First Nations. "Remembering the Land – Aboriginal Land Rights in Canada" will be the focus of his presentation. Mr. Ed Bianci, a staff person with the new KAIROS ecumenical coalition who serves in the area of Aboriginal Rights will respond to the presentation.

**Elections:** Assembly 2002 will also feature elections for the Officers of Synod, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Board of Governors and Synod Council. Bishop Pryse, Vice President Dorothy Frook and Treasurer Keith Myra have all indicated their willingness to serve again if they are re-elected. Secretary Ron Leonard has indicated that he will not be standing for re-election.

**Guests and Ecumenical Observers:** We are pleased that our ELCIC National Bishop Raymond Schultz will present with us as will the Rev. Roy Thakurdial, President of our Partner Synod, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Guyana. There will be Ecumenical Observers present with us from both the Anglican Church of Canada and the Canadian Roman Catholic Church community. They will participate with us at assembly and offer their observations as partners with us in ministry.

**Hearing From the Delegates:** *“What are the issues and opportunities concerning the life of our Church that you feel passionate about and wish to explore with other people?”*

Synod Council expects this question could open up very profitable avenues for discussion and action. That is why an extended assembly session will be devoted to facilitating that discussion through a process called *“Open Space Technology.”* Assembly delegates often feel that there are limited opportunities to actively contribute to convention proceedings. The Open Space time will serve as a way to create an open space where the spirit can move; where participants can discover their shared passions and mobilize themselves to do the things that matter most. It will also enable Synod Council to “hear” what the delegates are passionate about. This in turn, will provide guidance regarding new ministry emphases synod might take in the short and long term.

**Fuller Youth Participation:** Youth delegates from each conference will again form the assembly youth delegation. These young people will have full voice and vote. In addition, for the next two years they will work together with the synod Youth Working Group as a Synod Youth Council to develop a synod youth ministry strategy for presentation to ASSEMBLY 2004.

**Worship Services:** Two convention worship services will be at Christ Church (Anglican) Cathedral, 439 Queen Street, Ottawa. The **Opening Worship Service** begins at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10 and the **Ordination Service** on Friday, July 12, also begins at 7:30 p.m. The assembly **Closing Service** will be at the hotel at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 14. The Rev. Bart Beglo, Pastor of St. Peter’s, Ottawa is the assembly chaplain.

**Members of local congregations are encouraged to attend all of these services.**

**Assembly Banquet:** Delegates, visitors, friends and members of our church are invited to attend the assembly banquet on Saturday evening, July 13. Registered delegates and visitors receive a banquet ticket as part of their registration fee. Tickets for guests are \$35 each. To purchase tickets, make your cheque payable to Eastern Synod and forward it to the Eastern Synod with your request for tickets. This year will be the inaugural year for the presentation for the new, **Synod Leadership Awards**.