

A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE VOTE OF THANKS COMMITTEE

Rev. Ann Camber, Ven. Linda White, Alicia Sandham, Donna Coulter, Catherine Hazlitt

PEOPLE OF PROMISE... IN ACTION!

- Our roving polling team talked to as many people as we could about what they were thankful for
- We received a lot of feedback
- We promise to share with you the highlights of Synod through your own words!

OUR STORY... IN WORSHIP!

- "I am thankful for the opportunity to gather."
- "I am thankful for a warm, welcome environment that enabled easy interactions."
- "I am thankful for reconnecting with others and meeting new people."
- "I am thankful for a non-competitive atmosphere."
- "I am thankful for feeling like nothing had changed with old friends."
- "I am thankful for feeling very welcomed."
- "I am thankful for feeling loved and being able to love."
- "I am thankful for knowing we are not alone."
- "I am thankful for the opportunity for those from smaller communities to worship in a larger group."
- **"I am thankful for just being together again!"**

OUR STORY... IN LEARNING!

- "I am thankful for the conversation and scripture circles."
- "I am thankful for Bishop Michael's sermon at the opening worship."
- "I am thankful for Archbishop Anne's inspiring charge."
- "I am thankful for the emphasis on lay leaders in Archbishop Anne's charge."
- "I am thankful for the robust round-table discussions."
- "I am thankful for opportunities to discuss ideas presented in breakout sessions."
- "I am thankful for worship resources centred around homelessness."
- "I am thankful for the breakout groups and speakers on Thursday and Friday."
- "I am thankful for the nuances of the liturgy."
- **"I am thankful for lots of learning!"**

OUR JOY... IN MUSIC!

- "I am thankful for the music and worship at the cathedral."
- "I am thankful for the birds that sang along when the opening hymn began at St. Luke's while the doors were open."
- "I am thankful for the music that was uplifting."
- "I am thankful for hearing voices rise together in song and praise."
- "I am thankful for worshipping and singing together with the larger community."
- "I am thankful for feeling closer to God through song as we worshipped."
- "I am thankful that there are so many talented musicians willing to share their gift with the Diocese."
- **"I am thankful for Reverend Norm Blanchard; he's an awesome musician!"**

OUR HOPE... IN THE FUTURE!

- "I am thankful that everyone seemed to be in a great mood."
- "I am thankful for the transparency and honesty in the reports."
- "I am thankful for the youth and their reception on Thursday."
- "I am thankful for the new deacons and that people truly want to go into ministry."
- "I am thankful for the new canons and all their hard work in the Diocese."
- **"I am thankful for the opportunity to look forward!"**



**“I AM THANKFUL FOR
JUST BEING HERE!”**

THANK YOU GOD FOR...

For the amazing tables of information and the friendly faces beside and behind them, we thank the Anglican Foundation, PWRDF, the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, the Mission to Seafarers, the CLAY home team, and the ACW.

For the beautiful opening worship with a choir of angels (we think), we thank St. Luke's Cathedral and the voices from above our heads.

For the wonderful snacks we received after a long journey to make it to orientation, we thank the lovely ladies of the ACW, and St. Andrew's for letting us use their space.

For their dedication to making sure we felt heard, we thank the Response to the Bishop's Charge committee.

For their dedication to making sure we actually were heard (and seen!), we thank EchoTech and the technology team.

THANK YOU GOD FOR...

For parting the main hall like the red sea for the Israelites, and for teaching us much wisdom like Moses, we thank Mitch Case, Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle, Erma Howe, Leila Fiouzi, Canon Jane Mesich, Jennifer Baron, Larry Day, Rob Jordan, Canon Jane Mesich (again), Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle (again), Archbishop Anne Germond, Liz Hamel, and the Social Justice Committee.

For providing wise legal counsel like King Solomon, we thank Canon Garth O'Neill.

For interpreting our dreams like Joseph and making them come true, we thank the Synod Planning committee.

For being such fabulous musical planners and worshippers like the musical Levites, we thank Rev. Norm Blanchard, Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle, and all of our cantors and musicians.

For their dedication to worship and prayer like St. Elizabeth, we thank the Chaplain Ven. Marie Loewen and the fabulous folks keeping vigil in the prayer room.

For a reception worthy of having water turned into wine, we thank Archbishop Anne Germond and Collin Germond (and Rosie!) for opening their Bishophurst home.

THANK YOU GOD FOR...

For inspiring our future and making sure we know we ought to be young at heart like Timothy, we thank the youth, the recently canonized Jane Mesich, Garth O'Neill and Ken Lawson and the recently ordained Deb Everest, Jan Latham and Thomas Ferris.

For being hospitable and diligent like sisters Mary and Martha, we thank the Synod Office staff and all of the committees and people that make Synod possible, both visible and invisible.


For giving us important messages like the angel Gabriel, we thank Will Postma, Scott Brubacher, Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut, Dr. Gailmarie Henderson, Not-Yet-Dr. Ryan Turnbull, Brad Mittleholtz and Beverly Boyd.

For sending us good news and greetings full of love like John the Baptist, we thank Bishop Thomas Dowd and Bishop Michael Pryse.

For being an amazing preacher and contagiously enthusiastic like St. Paul, we thank Bishop Michael Oulston.

For teaching us from his life of travels and being a great companion like Barnabas, we thank Archbishop Francisco Da Silva.

For her amazing leadership and faithfulness like St. Peter, we thank Archbishop Anne.



...and one more person to thank...

YOU!

Every single lay delegate, clergyperson, honoured guest, and observer is important to having created such a remarkable and unforgettable Synod experience.

For your dedication to God in spite of every trial we have faced like Job, we thank YOU!

LET US PRAY...

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of the communities within our diocese, our deaneries, and our parishes. We thank you for the people without whom this gathering would not have been possible. We thank you for the opportunity to share our story, spread our joy, and express our hope. Help us to continue to build on the lessons we have learned this Synod, and bring these stories, joys, and hopes back to our deaneries and parishes, so that our diocese can grow as a people of promise in unity. We ask this in the name of the risen Christ.

Amen.

BLANK PAGES

95-100