# **CALEDONIA CONNECTOR**

# Serving Anglicans in Northern BC

#### Upcoming Diocesan Events

#### **Prayers @ Mid-day**

Monday - Saturday ~ 12:15 PT

St. Andrew's Cathedral Facebook Page

#### **Compline**

#### Nightly

9:00 PT on the Diocesan Facebook page

#### **Diocesan Service**

#### Sundays

10:00 am PT on Facebook, YouTube, and Vimeo

#### **Diocesan Synod**

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 14 to Saturday, September 16! We will gather at the Cathedral.

# The promise of September

by Bishop David Lehmann

"Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baka, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools."

Psalm 84:5-6

Pumpkin Spice season has started. Halloween and Christmas decorations are up at Canadian Tire. And Staples is playing "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" Yes, September is upon us.

As a child, I loved September. There's a newest and excitement to it. The start of a new academic year. This of course means, new clothes and school supplies. Old friendships being rekindled and new ones being forged. There is a familiar unknown quality to this time of the year. In some ways, 29 years after leaving academia, I miss the start of the school year.

As I reflect on this longing, I remember the excitement about the unknown. Truthfully, I am not a person who enjoys transition times. That's what summer can be, a time of ending one academic year and waiting to start the next. Getting to the fall and into the next chapter, as it were, has some excitement. The anticipation for exploring and connecting, working with others to learn and be community together is part of my excitement for this time of the year.



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#### **Bishop's Travels**

Sept 1-4 Dawson Creek

Sept 10 Cathedral

Sept 14-16 Synod

Sept 17 Nass Valley

Sept 22-24 Provincial Council

Sept 27-29 VST Board meetings.

Oct 1 Nass Valley

Oct 8 Cathedral

Oct 15 BVP & Hazelton

#### **Camp Caledonia**

Summer 2024 Camps are being prepared. Please pray for our Diocesan camp.

www.campcaledonia.ca



It is part of this enthusiasm for communal living and learning that I hope to bring Synod this year. With an early fall date, we can come together from across the diocese to share and learn with each other. To build a common vision for the diocese and our common ministry. With the world ever changing around us, this is an exciting time to gather and be church together.

Yet, I am also mindful that for some seasons of change, like new school years, can be a time of anxiety. The unknown can be scary. For myself, I've viewed anxiety as a sign that I am taking things seriously and needing to pause to be present and reflective. For others, anxiety can be more complicated. This needs to be respected and appreciated.

We are on a pilgrimage. This journey is partly governed by a myriad of calendars - academic being one of them. As pilgrims we take our journeys separately and paradoxically in community. While school days may be far behind some of us, the memories remain. Our prayers for the students and teachers of this day are shaped by our experiences. Our prayers are for those for whom school may have been a negative experience and for those who find the unknown disorienting. May we all find strength in the grace of God and the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### May we pray.

Lord, bless the children and youth as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. Amen.

#### **Ruby's Thoughts**

"By the waters of Babylon, we sat down and wept." (Psalm 137 NIV)

"When the Lord restored the fortunes of Sion, then were we like unto them that dream.." (Psalm 126 NIV)

There are places in the Bible where people show raw emotion. Psalm 137 is one of these. If, in my mind, I sit down beside this Hebrew who weeps by the waters of Babylon I can understand because I also have suffered loss. I have not been a displaced person, but there are other kinds of loss which are just as real. I know that all of you reading this will have your own losses that you have wept over. And yet, as if by a miracle, life does go on. The sequel to this psalm comes in Psalm 126 where again we see strong emotion - this time joy: "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Sion. then were we like those that dream." While in one way the restoration was a miracle; in another way it was a challenge. The psalmist is honest about

# Good News in difficult days

Birthday Celebration!



On Sunday, June 25th, the congregation of St. Mark's in Dawson Creek celebrated Lena Molony's 90th Birthday. Members of her family joined her and the congregation for a potluck and cake. Bishop David was invited to celebrate the Eucharist and be present for this joyous day.

#### Free Theological Education

Members of the Council of the North have access to free theological education! A partnership between Huron University, the Anglican Foundation and the Council of the North allows anyone in the Council to take this training. The Diocese of Caledonia is a member of the Council of the North, if you are interested in



Council of the North

taking a course, please contact the Bishop.

#### General Synod 2023

General Synod 2022 was delayed a year due to CoVid 19. It met in a joint Assembly with our Lutheran partners in Calgary. Several historic events occurred during this gathering. The Moravian Church was welcomed into the full-communion that exists between the Anglican Church of

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this. He says "the Lord hath done great things for us already; whereof we rejoice," but he follows that with "Restore our fortunes, O Lord." Coming back after trauma is not easy. It takes time and work. And there may be a time of waiting as there was for the Hebrews before the returning home could begin. If you are one of those people waiting to return, you may want to take these two psalms into your heart. They have helped me to know that I have company on my journey.

Ruby McBeth is a retired Lay Reader in the North Peace Parish

#### Social Media

Please look for the Diocese on

Facebook @dioCaledonia

Vimeo by searching for the Diocese of Caledonia or vimeo.com/user110118524

YouTube Channel - Diocese of Caledonia



Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The Sacred Circle's adoption of the Covenant and Way of Life were celebrated by General Synod. The more controversial decisions were to not extend the term of the Primate past their 70th birthday, authorizing a liturgy for



Transgender name changes, addressing the issue of Israel and Palestine. The meetings took place at the University of Calgary. Bishop David addressed the Synod with a report from the Council of the North. He was elected to the Council of General Synod as the Bishop representing the Province of BC and Yukon.

### **Gospel Based Discipleship**

Attached are the Gospel readings for September. Read the Gospel three times asking 1. what words jump out, 2. what is Jesus saying to me, and 3. what is Jesus calling me to do? The Gospel Based Discipleship book may be found at www.anglican.ca



## **Gospel Based Discipleship—September 2023**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Day</u>                              | <u>Gospel</u> | <b>Colour</b> |
|-------------|---|---------------|---------------|
| 1           | Friday                                  | Mt 25:1-13    | Green         |
| 2           | Saturday                                | Mt 25:14-30   | Green         |
| 3           | Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost       | Mt 16:21-28   | Green         |
| 4           | Monday                                  | Lk 4:16-30    | Green         |
| 5           | Tuesday                                 | Lk 4:31-37    | Green         |
| 6           | Wednesday                               | Lk 4:38-44    | White         |
| 7           | Thursday                                | Lk 5:1-11     | Green         |
| 8           | The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Lk 1:26-33    | White         |
| 9           | Saturday                                | Lk 6:1-5      | Green         |
| 10          | Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost        | Mt 18:15-20   | Green         |
| 11          | Monday                                  | Lk 6:6-11     | Green         |
| 12          | Tuesday                                 | Lk 6:12-19    | Green         |
| 13          | Wednesday                               | Lk 6:20-26    | Green         |
| 14          | Holy Cross Day                          | Jn 3:13-17    | Red           |
| 15          | Friday                                  | Lk 6:39-42    | White         |
| 16          | Saturday                                | Lk 6:43-49    | Green         |
| <b>17</b>   | Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost        | Mt 18:21-35   | Green         |
| 18          | Monday                                  | Lk 7:1-10     | Green         |
| 19          | Tuesday                                 | Lk 7:11-17    | Green         |
| 20          | Holy Cross Ember Day                    | Jn 17:6-19    | Violet        |
| 21          | Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist   | Mt 9:9-13     | Red           |
| 22          | Holy Cross Ember Day                    | Jn 17:6-19    | Violet        |
| 23          | Holy Cross Ember Day                    | Jn 17:6-19    | Violet        |
| 24          | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost      | Mt 20:1-16    | Green         |
| 25          | Monday                                  | Lk 8:16-18    | Green         |
| 26          | Tuesday                                 | Lk 8:19-21    | Green         |
| 27          | Wednesday                               | Lk 9:1-6      | Green         |
| 28          | Thursday                                | Lk 9:7-9      | Green         |
| 29          | Saint Michael and All Angels            | Jn 1:47-51    | Red           |
| 30          | Saturday                                | Lk 9:43b-45   | Green         |
| 30          | Saturday                                | Lk 9:43b-45   | Green         |



# THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH

## LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY COHORT

Huron University's Licentiate in Theology Program
is pleased to announce its new Council of the North Theology Cohort!
In partnership with the Anglican Foundation of Canada,

The Anglican Diocese of Brandon and the Anglican Council of the North, all students within these dioceses/territories are able to enroll in our Licentiate courses free of charge (both audit and for-credit options).

To explore your theological learning possibilities, visit: https://huronatwestern.ca/programs/theology/life-long-learning/

**OUR CALLING IS TO EQUIP YOU TO ANSWER YOURS!** 







