BC Synod Council Highlights
May 2025 Meeting

Clergy Housing Assistance Options
- At the meeting it was acknowledged that clergy housing is a major factor in the call process. A lengthy discussion around housing and how the Synod could support the process took place, and council will continue to explore housing options for new rostered ministers.

Build Relationships and Share Resources with the Saskatchewan Synod and CLAY
- The ELCIC mission committee and the BC Synod Executive were able to share the 2023 BC Mission Fund allotment of $98,412 with the Saskatchewan Synod to assist them with their mission/ministry and budget shortfall. It was graciously received. Other synods and congregations have begun to follow this action as well.
- The BC Synod responded to a request from the Conference of Bishops for funding assistance for CLAY, contributing $40,000 out of this year's ELCIC Mission Fund allotment to help support this work with youth into the future.

National Church Council
- ***Facing Today - Dreaming for the Future*** National Taskforce consultation:
National Church Council created this initiative to address the challenges of declining revenues and explore potential changes to the church's organizational structures. As a result, the NCC is establishing a 12-person steering committee representing all synods to consult widely, propose a new church structure, develop a communications plan, and oversee consultancy services, reporting regularly to NCC and synod councils.
However, this group is not only about dealing with budget shortfalls, but about dreaming for the future. It is an opportunity to dream and imagine what kind of church God is calling us to be into the future. Everything is open for discussion.
The BC Synod representatives participating on this taskforce are Karen Lee and Rev. Nathan Fong. Both were present at the BC Synod-wide conversations in March which will inform the conversations with representatives from the other synods and national church.

National Convention
- A large portion of the ELCIC National Convention young adult delegates come from the BC Synod.

Sabbatical
- Council approved the dates for Bishop Kathy Martin's sabbatical from December 2025 - April 2026. This sabbatical was granted previously but was postponed for various necessary reasons. We pray for a rich, restful, and healing time of sabbath for Bishop Kathy.

We Are One Body – Synod-wide Conversations in March 2025
- Synod council intends to reflect on these conversations at the Fall Synod Council retreat.

DEI Working Group
- The Diversity Equity and Inclusion working group is appointed. They begin their work with A2B Rev. Aneeta Saroop.