

## Bishop's Office Message For July

Dear Partners in Ministry,

The eleventh biennial convention of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories is now history. Meeting under the theme, Jesus Calls Us - In Mission for Others, we spent time in worship, Bible study, prayer, business, and fellowship. We elected a Bishop, Pastor Ron Mayan, Good Shepherd, Red Deer, who will take office on September 1. Since Pastor Mayan was the chair of the synod, Pastor K. Glen Johnson, Ascension, Calgary, was elected Synod Chairperson to fill out the remaining two years of Pastor Mayan's term. Pastor Julianne Koivisto, Pastor Julianna Wehrfritz-Hanson, Wayne Street, and Marilyn Murray, were newly elected to Synod Council. Pastor Bill Bulger and Brenda Visser were re-elected for a second term on Synod Council. Pastor Bart Eriksson was elected to serve on the board of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, for a four-year term.

Please keep these people in your prayers as they respond to God's call to service through the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. I ask you to pray specifically for Pastor Ron and Dianne Mayan in the massive transition in their lives that they are going through right now, and for the congregation of Good Shepherd, Red Deer, as they will be seeking a new pastor in the coming months. Jane and I have been buoyed by your prayers for twelve years, for which we are very thankful. I urge you to remember all expressions of our church - congregation, conference, synod, national - in your prayers individually, in your family devotions, and in your public worship. I know that this convention was well-supported in prayer. It was obvious in the conversations on the floor, in the actions that were taken in our business sessions, in the elections, and in the fellowship around food and during breaks. What a privilege it is to be a part of Christ's Church! God grant all of you joy and refreshment as the summer season begins.

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