

## **Bishop's Office Message for September, 2004**

### **Dear Partners in Ministry,**

The Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering, "Listen Up!", has just ended. Over 1600 of our youth, including some Anglican youth for the first time, gathered in Hamilton, Ontario. Listening for God's call was the theme, and it was wonderful to be in that high-energy environment with these fine young people. The planning committee and all who participated in the gathering did an excellent job, Dr. Hardel was first-rate as keynote speaker, the drama team and the music team were excellent. Thank you for all your prayers. The next gathering is in Winnipeg in 2006. I hope we have a large contingent from our synod. It is truly inspiring.

With the Olympics now in full swing, the words of the letter to the Hebrews ring in our ears, "...let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith..." Sometimes as the fall season approaches, we feel like we are very much in a race. God grant you the wisdom to choose your "races" carefully, so that the gifts God has given you will be used most effectively as you seek to serve God through serving others in Jesus' name.

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