

The breaking of bread at the opening eucharist. PHOTO: ART BABYCH



THE SPIRIT IS CALLING

'Keep looking outward'

4



LUTHERAN & ANGLICAN PLAY

'I like you... you like me'

6



MORE OUTTAKES PLEASE

Your chance to write the script

12

Instagram—#getcreative

Thanks to those who "handed in" their assignments



Today's Justagram assignment

Your mission is to take photos depicting each day's photo assignment: "Lets eat."

#letseat #jointassembly #anglicanjournal



PHOTO: DEVON GOLDIE



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JOINT ASSEMBLY Daily

is a publication of the Anglican Journal supported by Canada Lutheran

The Joint Assembly Daily is published daily on July 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, 2013, distributed at 8:00 am at the plenary hall door.

An alternate delivery schedule will be observed on July 6.

Extra copies, if available, at the Anglican Journal booth, #112, in the display area.

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or drop your comments off at the Anglican Journal booth

A new and creative thing

Opening eucharist—from beginning to end, it was no ordinary worship service

HE Joint Assembly's worship planning team was asked to come up with "a new and creative thing" for the gathering's opening eucharist.

They delivered. From beginning to end, it was no ordinary worship service.

The liturgy opened with a series of video clips of congregations and individuals from across Canada, projected onto big screens throughout the plenary hall, offering the cus-

'Take the risk of sharing something about your faith.

-National Bishop
Susan Johnson

tomary greeting: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

Then, during the opening hymn, a 12-foot-tall inukshuk was taken apart, its various parts reassembled to create an altar on which the eucharist was celebrated, a font used for a remembrance of baptism and an ambo from which the scripture lessons were read.

The worship planning team's co-chairs said they chose to incorporate an inukshuk, a traditional marker for travellers used in the Arctic, because they were looking for a distinctively Canadian symbol.

"Somehow a big beaver in the room didn't quite cut it," said Lutheran worship co-chair Eric Dyck.

Anglican worship co-chair Catherine Ascah said the inukshuk was a good fit because its shape has "a cross-like feel to it," while also being something highly identifiable and marking off a particular place—in this case, a 35,000 square-foot convention floor she describes as an "airport hanger."

A scripture passage from Acts recounting the baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch by Philip was alternately read by a lector in French and shown in pre-recorded video



Youthful choristers leading the worship. PHOTO: ART BABYCH

The inukshuk transforming into the altar. PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS

clips projected onto the big screens.

The reading was interspersed with a thanksgiving for baptism and a renewal of baptismal vows, capped by a "waterless asperges." Worship assistants trailing long, flowing streams of blue fabric ran between the tables of delegates, invoking the sprinkling rite that often accompanies of remembrance of baptism.

In her sermon ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson exhorted the delegates to take seriously their baptismal commitment to bear witness to God's word in the world, and challenged them to begin here at the Joint Assembly.

"As you make new friends and meet old ones, fight the temptation to talk about the weather, or the length of time it takes to get up the escalators, or any other kind of filler conversation," Bishop Johnson preached. "Instead, take the risk of sharing something about your faith. How have you experienced God's love for the world? What is the faith story that you can share?"

Archbishop Fred Hiltz presided at communion, intoning a eucharistic prayer that was an original composition for the Joint Assembly and will be used again at the closing service. After the bread and wine were consecrated at the altar they were distributed to the dozens of tables where delegates served each other communion.

The liturgy concluded with a hymn, but no blessing or dismissal, which Ascah said is deliberately intended to frame the entire Joint Assembly in prayer.

"We're still praying," she said. "We're still worshipping and we're still praying, and the final benediction is going to come at the closing eucharist."

-Bruce Myers, Anglican Journal

Keep looking outward

'The Spirit is calling us to look out into the world that longs for gospel, peace and justice.'

NGLICAN and Lutheran leaders in a press conference today expressed hope that their historic joint assembly herewill open up possibilities for more partnerships among their churches around areas such as theological education, social justice and mission work.

"I'm very hopeful that this assembly is going to rekindle some of the absolute joy that was ours in 2001 when we declared full communion between our churches," said Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. "I'm hopeful that we'll rekindle that in such a way that it finds expression in every widening circle in the life of our churches."

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) National Bishop Susan Johnson said she would like to see churches "come away from this gathering with a commitment to missional focus" and inspired to "begin working in partnership in their communities." Johnson noted that while there are places across Canada where full communion relationships are "alive, well and thriving," there are others where they haven't taken root.



Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada at a Joint Assembly press conference.
PHOTO: ART BABYCH

In response to a question about why there were fewer delegates than had been anticipated from an initial estimate of 800 to about 600 Johnson acknowledged that attendance has been less on the Lutheran side. The assembly is longer than usual for Lutherans with an extra day added and that increased the cost for many parishes, which cover the cost of coming to the meeting, said Johnson. "There are many that are struggling and financially chose not to send a delegate." (Close to 300 Anglican delegates have registered, and about 275 Lutherans.)

Johnson also said the departure of several ELCIC congregations has "also dropped the delegate pool." A number of churches, mostly from the Alberta synod, left the ELCIC when its 2011 National Convention approved a motion allowing pastors to preside at or bless legal same-gender marriages.

Hiltz, for his part, referred to the resolutions committee when asked whether General Synod would entertain a motion that seeks to "prepare and present a motion at General Synod 2016 to change Canon XXI on Marriage to allow the marriage of same-sex couples..."

This motion does not call for a discussion around the marriage canon or the blessing of same-sex unions. If approved, that debate would occur in 2016.

Meanwhile, Hiltz also said he was hopeful that the Joint Assembly would encourage Anglican and Lutheran churches "to keep looking outward," adding that "we've spent a lot of time consumed with our internal life. The Spirit is calling us to look out into the world that longs for gospel, peace and justice." The assembly theme, Together for the Love of the World, "speaks to that," he said.

-Marites N. Sison, Anglican Journal

Guest speaker

Kenneth Kearon, Secretary General, Anglican Communion

 B^{ORN} and educated in Dublin, the Rev. Canon Dr. Kearon served as director of the Irish School of Ecumenics and as chancellor of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. A former member of the Irish Council for Bioethics, he is the author of Medical Ethics: An Introduction and a contributor to volumes on education, family and medical ethics.

In 2005, he assumed the position of general secretary of the London-based Angli-



Kenneth Kearon PHOTO: ACNS

can Communion, which links more than 80 million Christians in 165 countries.

"The Joint Assembly is an ambitious next step in the journey of closer relationships between both the Lutheran and Anglican Church in Canada, and gives the lead to the very many parts of the world where Lutherans and Anglicans have committed to each to travel together in fellowship and mission and increasingly in full communion," says Kearon. "I look forward to seeing how the Joint Assembly works out in practice, as both churches seek to 'do business together' and in front of each other." —Diana Swift

'Something beyond ourselves'

Full communion benefits the world

N a joint address delivered at the opening of the Joint Assembly, the national leaders of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) outlined the ways in which their churches have deepened their 12-year full communion relationship.

The "most hope-filled expression" of full communion has been CLAY, the Canadian Lutheran and Anglican Youth gathering that is held every two years, said Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. Youth are the ones who remind their churches "not to forget" this relationship, he added.

Anglican and Lutheran youth also embark on projects with their respective relief and development agencies, and this has helped inspire the theme of the assembly, Together for the Love of the World, said Hiltz. "Our youth are showing great leadership in our churches."

The theme illustrates that while Anglicans and Lutherans celebrate their relationship, "We are mindful that it must be about something beyond ourselves," added Hiltz. "The fellowship we share must be for the benefit of the world."

Hiltz noted how the agenda of the as-



During their opening address Archbishop Fred Hiltz and National Bishop Susan Johnson share a laugh. PHOTO: TRINA GALLOP/ELCIC

sembly focuses on social issues facing Canada, including the "crisis of homelessness" and clean water in indigenous communities.

Johnson noted the different areas of cooperation that exist among Anglican and Lutheran leadership from the joint meetings of bishops and councils to her own monthly telephone calls with the primate. The phone calls have been invaluable, said Johnson. The calls have kept them abreast of developments in each other's churches and allowed them to "share our professional and our personal joys and sorrows, she said. The strengthening of their personal relationship "serves to strengthen the relationship between our two churches," said Johnson. On a personal note, she thanked Hiltz for his support and encouragement, "It is part of what has kept me sane in the last six years."

The two leaders also spoke about the challenges facing their churches, including declining membership and diminishing financial resources.

-Marites N. Sison, Anglican Journal

Alyson Barnett-Cowan returns to Canada for Joint Assembly. PHOTO: NEIL VIGERS

Guest speaker

Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Director for Unity, Faith and Order, Anglican Communion

RDAINED in 1978, Canon Barnett-Cowan has served in parishes in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec, and for eight years was co-president of the Henry Budd College for Ministry in the diocese of Brandon. She also served as director for Faith, Worship and Ministry, in which role she was very much involved in the development and implementation of the Waterloo Declaration of 2001.

Moving to the London-based Anglican Communion in 2009, Barnett-Cowan provides staff support and leadership for the Inter-Anglican Standing Commission for Unity, Faith and Order, a well as staffing

for the international ecumenical dialogues with Lutherans, Methodists, Roman Catholics, Orthodox, and, soon, with the churches of the Reformed tradition.

"I was hugely involved with the development of full communion between our two churches, and it is exciting to see this new development, which I think is a first in the ecumenical movement," says Barnett-Cowan. "It will be fascinating to see how it will actually work, as both churches have lots of business to do for their own development, and the time is tight. But doing business together is also an important witness to other churches and to the world." —Diana Swift



Ryan Ramsden of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto building a prayer. PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS

HE 565 members of the Joint Assembly spent an hour on the first afternoon in a community-building session intended to help the Anglicans and Lutherans sitting at each of the 83 tables to get to know each other better.

The Rev. Joel Crouse from St. John's Lutheran Church in Ottawa and Archdeacon Peter John Hobbs, director of mission for the Anglican diocese of Ottawa, set a light-

hearted tone for the session with a comedic introduction. That included a short video appearance as Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, and Bishop Susan Johnson, national bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, with Crouse as a primate in a gorilla mask and Hobbs in a white wig.

They also used the session to test the electronic clicker voting system to be used

throughout the assembly, asking the delegates to vote on fun questions and trivia, and immediately showing the results on screen.

Finally, members were asked to work creatively with their tablemates to create some artistic sculptures that will be displayed later in an installation during the five-day event.

-Leigh Anne Williams, Anglican Journal



Alex McKay, a Lutheran delegate from Alberta and the Territories Synod, puts the finishing touches on his table's creation. PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS



Paula Desrosiers of the Joint Anglican-Lutheran parish Good Shepherd Barr Haven PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

The day in photos

Joint Assembly begins











PHOTO: SIMON CHAMBERS







PHOTO: BRIAN BUKOWSKI

An Aboriginal Welcome

'It's all about relationships'

NNIE Smith-St. Georges, an Algonquin elder and her husband Robert St. Georges officially welcomed the members of Joint Assembly to Ottawa, which is in the territory of the Algonquin First Nation. The evening session also included a reflection from the Rev. Jamie Scott, who has worked to support the United Church of Canada's participation in the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for a decade.

Smith-St. Georges welcomed those who had travelled "from the North, East, South and West to the Algonquin territory, the land of my ancestors." She spoke of how her ancestors had welcomed newcomers to the land with open arms, as she was now doing, but she also spoke of the ways that aboriginal people are still suffering in many ways from the impact of the arrival of the people her ancestors welcomed.

Scott's reflection expanded on that theme. "I suspect that like me, many of you didn't learn anything about Indian Residential Schools in the classroom. There has been a great silence in this country



Algonquin elder Annie Smith-St. Georges and her husband, Robert St. Georges.
PHOTO: ART BABYCH

about them," he began. "But for the past 10 years I have had my heart broken and broken open by listening to the experiences of former students and their families," he said describing the damage former students suffered when as children they were torn away

from their families, lost their language and culture and many were abused emotionally, physically and sexually. "So many lives devastated by experiences of humiliation, rejection, trauma, loss, confusion, fear anger and despair, how can we possibly make this right? he asked. But Scott's ministry has focused on reconciliation, and he said two fundamental teachings have guided him. His friend and mentor Laverne Jacob's advice that "it's all about relationships." And the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 5:23-24 that people should reconcile with their neighbours before offering gifts at an altar.

As the TRC nears the end, he asked if the churches will make a long-term commitment to healing and right relations? Time is short to create the foundation for a new relationship between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people, he said. And he urged the churches not to miss the opportunity to play a redemptive role in the healing of the nation. "For it is in the transformation of our relationships with those that we have hurt, that we become whole," he said.

-Leigh Anne Williams, Anglican Journal

Guest speaker

Martin Junge, General Secretary, Lutheran World Federation



Martin Junge

BORN in Chile and educated in Germany, the Rev. Dr. Junge is the first Latin American general secretary of the Geneva-based Lutheran World Federation (LWF). He served as a pastor in Santiago, and as president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile, in which role he engaged in several ecumenical and interfaith initiatives. Junge has worked for the LWF in Latin America and the Caribbean on problems related to economic globalization and illegitimate external debt. He also completed advanced studies in the management of non-profit organizations at Fribourg University in Switzerland. He will speak to Joint Assembly on behalf of LWF's 145 affiliated churches and 70 million-plus members in 79 countries.

"Anglicans and Lutherans globally have greatly benefited from theological work and relationships of trust that were built in several parts of the world. Canada's Waterloo Declaration is one of them," says Junge. "This declaration has significantly shaped further international dialogues, which have allowed us recently to receive the report To Love and Serve the Lord," Junge continues. "Now, we are looking into practical ways of supporting each other as we participate in God's mission around the world. I am grateful to be part of the Ottawa Joint Assembly, which is one of these concrete manifestations of how much we can actually do and achieve together as Anglicans and Lutherans." —Diana Swift, Anglican Journal

Church must critique 'self-centredness'

Start with a mission and the church will be found.

N eminent South Indian theologian on July 3 challenged Anglicans and Lutherans to "de-centre" themselves and their churches so that they can truly serve the world. "Part of the mission of the church is to critique the fundamental basis of self-centredness," said the Rev. Dr. Christopher Duraisingh, who gave the keynote speech at the first day of the Joint Assembly of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), at the Ottawa Convention Centre.

The experiences of marginalization, including those experienced by Canada's First Nations people, "is a consequence of that culture, that greed borne out of self-centred selves," said Duraisingh.

Duraisingh, who is professor at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass., said the Joint Assembly was one example of how "by bringing two diverse groups of people together...the wisdom of God in its rich diversity will be made known to the world."

Touching on the theme of mission, Duraisingh urged about 600 Anglicans and Lutherans gathered here to revisit the fundamental reason for being a church in the world. Mission is the church's raison d'être or reason for existence, he said; it is not simply a function of the church. "Start with a mission and the church will be found," said Duraisingh.

He urged the assembly to think of the



The Rev. Dr. Christropher Duraisingh challenges the delegates at Joint Assembly. PHOTO: ART BARYCH

theme Together for the Love of the World, not as an invitation "to grow bigger and better" and not as a project, but as "a major calling to nurture and nourish an alternative consciousness," one that would involve, like Jesus, "a solidarity plunge into the anguish, hopes and aspirations of his people."

Jesus' baptism was "not for the forgiveness of sin...not sin management," but rath-

er "an identification with the world, with the hopes and aspirations of the poor and the oppressed," said Duraisingh.

Reacting to Duraisingh's reflections, ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson said the theologian's worlds were "a pacemaker jolt to the heart." She said that Duraisingh interpreted the assembly's theme "in ways that I haven't even imagined."

-Marites N. Sison, Anglican Journal

THE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION (AFC)

invites you to answer a daily question for some nifty prizes. Get a ballot from **Booth 205**, fill in the answer and place in the basket at the AFC display table.

YESTERDAY'S QUESTION: Name the lay member at the 1954 Anglican Congress in Minneapolis whose speech was the catalyst for the creation of The Anglican Foundation of Canada. **Answer:** Reginald Soward

Winner: Sister Heather Broadwell

(Pick up your prize at booth 205)

Drinks and appetizers for two at D'Arcy McGees Pub in Ottawa (Sparks & Elgin Streets)



THE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION QUESTION FOR JULY 4:

Who was the Primate at the time of the creation of The Anglican Foundation of Canada in 1957?

(Answer in the next JOINT ASSEMBLY

Daily. Prize: One night weekend stay for 2 at The Airport Hilton Hotel, Toronto. (includes breakfast & parking)

Homelessness: a Canadian reality

"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." —Luke 9:58

n the first evening of Joint Assembly, attendees viewed a dramatized presentation on homelessness and housing issues. Narrated by the Rev. Laurette Glasgow and Matthew Brown, "Putting a Face on Homelessness—Giving a Voice to the Homeless" contrasted the time-honoured picture of the sanctity of the home with the stark reality for the 400,000 Canadians who lack a healthy place to live—and the 1.5 million who pay an unsustainable more than 30 per cent of their income for the housing they have.

Glasgow is special adviser for government relations for the Anglican Church of Canada; Brown is youth formation and vocation missioner for the diocese of Ottawa.

The ease with which people can descend into homelessness emerged graphically in "Six Stories in Search of a Homecoming." In Jennifer's story, a 35-year-old engineer is living in shelters after 10 years of battling schizophrenia. Alone and embittered, Pierre, a hard-to-employ 53-year-old middle manager has lost his job, house and family. A couple in their late 60s, distraught over the future of their autistic son when they can no longer shelter him, leave him on the doorstep of a government agency. A 17-year-old girl has resorted to living on the mean streets of Vancouver because she can't find work to pay the rent.

These all-too-common stories and others like them have prompted the Anglican and Lutheran churches to bring forward the Joint Declaration on Homelessness and Affordable Housing. Both denominations will work together to transform the declaration into a living document and end the deplorable conditions that so many call home.

Interspersed with relevant biblical texts and guitar segues, "Putting a Face" also explored the unforgiving economic and demographic forces that promote rising rates of homelessness.

The presentation closed with a special prayer written by the Rev.

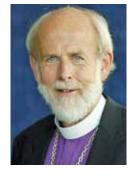


A homeless man sitting on the street with his dog, asking for help. PHOTO: ANTON OPARIN/SHUTTERSTOCK

Ray Simpson to capture the essence of the two churches' joint commitment to addressing the needs of others. The prayer invokes the "Heavenly One who, although homeless at your birth, made your home with us on earth."

Other participants included guitarist Zack Ingles and storytellers Lisa Chisholm-Smith, Ron Chaplin, Daniela Gunn-Doerge, Noel Platte, the Rev. Linda Privitera and Shannon Cottrell.

-Diana Swift, Anglican Journal



Bishop Mark Hanson, in office since 2001
PHOTO: ELCA

Guest speaker

Mark Hanson, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

First elected in 2001, the Rev. Dr. Mark Hanson is the third—and the longest-serving—residing bishop in the Chicago-based Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). A former president of the Lutheran World Federation and chief pastor to the ELCA's more than four million members, Hanson has been a strong global voice in ecumenical relations and ministries of justice and reconciliation.

As he reflects on Joint Assembly, he says: "It is out of our shared commitment to be engaged in God's

reconciling love for the whole creation that we join together as Lutherans and Anglicans.

At a time when too often the most vocal religious voices seem to be those of harsh and polarizing judgment, we seek to celebrate the gifts of unity in diversity."

It is Hanson's wish that "our time together will deepen our resolve to work together for the healing of the world and for proclaiming the gospel of God's love in Christ that the world deserves to hear." **–D.S.**

Youth leadership flowing

Clean water the issue for Parliament Hill

HE 36 youth delegates who have come to participate in Joint Assembly from Anglican and Lutheran parishes across the country will also help to lead a prayer gathering on Parliament Hill on Saturday morning.

The focus will be on the need to provide access to clean water, particularly to aboriginal communities.

Judy Steers, the Anglican Church of Canada's co-ordinator for youth initiatives, says the event is intended to be prayer rather than protest. "Yes, we are about awareness of social justice issues, but prayer is central to what we do, so to gather together in a very public place and to pray together, I think, is a really powerful witness." She added that the Right to Water is the current national youth project of the Lutheran and Anglican Churches.

Speaking to the Anglican Journal after a July 2 orientation session and a very rainy walk-through on the Hill, Kayla Fish, 20, an Anglican delegate from Peachland, B.C., said the youth delegates will be on the Hill early Saturday morning to greet participants, gather them into groups of 12 and lead each group through some liturgy and discussion intended to make the gathering



Anglican and Lutheran youth delegates prepare for the July 6 prayer event on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. PHOTO: MATTHEW BROWN

a more personal experience. Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, and Bishop Susan Johnson, national bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, will lead other parts of the service in the large group.

Heather Werbowski, 17, a Lutheran delegate from Winnipeg, said that the orientation gave her a sense of solidarity with

other youth delegates and helped her feel that she was not "isolated or alone."

Fish replied that she, too, is interested in learning how the Lutherans do things, particularly their shorter synods. "Ours tends to run long. We tend to talk more and rehash a lot of the same things, whereas you guys keep things pretty short."

-Leigh Anne Williams, Anglican Journal



Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori PHOTO: ART BABYCH

Guest speaker

Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, Episcopal Church

A LICENSED pilot, a PHD in marine biology and a former oceanographer, the Most Rev. Dr. Jefferts Schori was serving as bishop of Nevada when she was elected the first woman primate in the Anglican Communion in 2006. Today she is chief pastor to more than 2.4 million Episcopalians in 16 countries, including 1.2 million members of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America

A champion of global stewardship and Christian inclusiveness and outreach, Jefferts Schori says: "Our focus must be outward, and our focus inward only insofar as it supports that mission in the larger world.

"Increasingly, we must see ourselves as a multinational, multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-linguistic church in a relationship with other bodies such as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Moravian Church, the Anglican Church of Canada and other churches in the world Anglican Communion.

The Joint Assembly fits well with her vision. "This presents an opportunity for the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to learn from Canada's example of greater collaboration, as well as to celebrate the increasing evidence of our full communion." —Diana Swift, Anglican Journal



Today's Justagram assignment

Here's how it works:

We will post the photo assignments (with the corresponding hashtag) each day in the Joint Assembly Daily.

Your mission is to take photos depicting each day's photo assignment: Today's mission: "Lets eat."

#letseat #jointassembly #anglicanjournal



Write the caption

Each day we provide a picture and look to you for a caption. Visit the Anglican Journal booth to enter your caption, or email it to editor@anglicanjournal.com. A prize is awarded each day and the winning caption will be featured in the next Joint Assembly Daily. Given the events of yesterday, how could we resist.



Wednesday's winning caption

"Father, son and swinging spirit."

Winning caption by Calvin Skriver, a rostered Lutheran delegate from Lac La Biche, Alb. (Calvin, pick up your prize at the Anglican Journal booth). We recieved 45 very funny responses.

Yesterday's poll results

If a Lutheran: have you ever attended Sunday worship in an Anglican church?

If an Anglican: have you ever attended Sunday worship in a Lutheran church?

78% Yes 22% No

of the Day

"People are physically, spiritually and emotionally hungry, and we have food to share."

-Alex Starr, diocese of New Westminster youth delegate in response to the question, "Why is the Church relevant?"



Poll of the Day

Have you ever refused the monetary request of a homeless or street person?



☐ YES ☐ NO



Vote at the Anglican Journal display booth, or email **yes** or **no** to editor@national.anglican.ca. Results will be published here tomorrow.