



2013 JOINT ASSEMBLY July 3-7, 2013
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אָנגליקאַנער און עוואַנגעלישע
ללוֹ וואַרלט־נאַסטאַנץ וואַרלט־אַסאַמבלי
Ensemble pour l'amour du monde

April 2013

**Welcome to the Joint Assembly, "Together for the love of the world",
Incorporating the 40th Session of the General Synod.**

Dear General Synod Delegates,

In just over two months, we will gather with delegates to the National Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada during "Together for the Love of the World", the Joint Assembly of our two churches in full communion.

It has been a privilege to join with others to plan this event with you in mind, and in light of our call to venture with God into mission in and for the world. We will worship, pray, listen and speak, eat, visit, and learn about the wonderful things that God is up to in the world, and the wonderful ways that our two churches are participating in that work.

I encourage you to visit the Joint Assembly Website, www.jointassembly.ca, where information and documents for delegates from both churches can be found. In the course of the meeting, each church will have an opportunity to meet for its own national business meeting. Ours, the General Synod, has been meeting at more or less regular intervals since 1893. A delegate *from* your diocese or other jurisdiction, once you arrive, you become a member *of* this national body, with deep roots in the gospel and the land, and with a long history of responsiveness to the call into God's mission.

This year's meeting is a historic convergence; the national community of disciples that gathers in Ottawa will be larger than usual, and include not just our Anglican Church, but also our full communion sisters and brothers from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. In fact, among us will be a Lutheran pastor serving in an Anglican congregation and elected by an Anglican synod. We are indeed growing into full communion.

And that communion is *for the love of the world*. It is a communion of people sharing deeply in God's transforming work in the world, and in the worship, prayer, learning, and *koinonia* out of which that work is nourished in the power of the Spirit and by the grace we receive in Jesus our redeemer. I look forward to all that we will encounter together of God's presence among us and God's purpose before us.

Yours faithfully,

The Ven. Dr. Michael Thompson
General Secretary