

2013 JOINT ASSEMBLY July 3-7, 2013

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*for the **love** of the world*

Bulletin of Reports

Fourteenth Biennial National Convention, July 3–7, 2013

Ottawa, Ontario

2013 JOINT ASSEMBLY July 3-7, 2013
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Ensemble pour l'amour du monde

Dear Delegates, Visitors, and Guests to Joint Assembly,

Greetings and welcome to Together for the Love of the World, the Joint Assembly of the National Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. It is the result of many years of dreaming and planning! As our time together draws nearer, we are looking forward to our Joint Assembly with a spirit of joy and anticipation—and we hope you are too!

As we gather to worship, study, pray, sing, have fun, learn, and do the business of our churches, we pray that God will help us deepen in our discipleship and commitment to God's mission in the world.

Please join us in praying for our churches as we prepare to meet in Joint Assembly. May God bless you and grant you safe travel!

Faithful God,
You loved the world so much
that you gave your only Son to be our Saviour.
We give you thanks
for the Communion we share in the Gospel

Together for the love of the World,
we gather from every corner of this land.

Bless and empower us through your Holy Spirit
that with joy and steadfastness,
we may proclaim by word and deed,
the reign of your love and peace for all people.

As you, O God, are holy, make us holy,
Through the grace of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Fred J. Hiltz
Archbishop and Primate



Susan C. Johnson
National Bishop

A joint gathering of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Assembly Local Arrangements Committee Greeting

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our Nation's Capital!

In our humble opinion, there is no better place to hold the first Joint Assembly of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

We are truly pleased to welcome you to Ottawa for what will be a historic event.

You will know that Ottawa is the home of government organizations such as the Government of Canada, Parliament, the Senate and the Supreme Court of Canada. We also want to point out that nestled on the banks of the majestic Ottawa, Rideau and Gatineau Rivers, Ottawa is one of the most beautiful G8 capitals in the world. The city is also rich in culture and heritage with its many national institutions, parklands, waterways and historic architecture.

The bulk of your time at Joint Assembly will be spent at the Ottawa Convention Centre. Located in the heart of downtown Ottawa, the Convention Centre is situated alongside the Rideau Canal (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) and a short walk from Parliament Hill, museums and other points of local and national interest.

When Joint Assembly is in session, please remember to stop by and visit us at the hospitality desk. Perhaps you need directions to Parliament Hill or would like to find the nearest pharmacy. Or, perhaps you would like to know how to get a Beaver Tail (the deliciously addictive, traditional whole-wheat pastry.... Not the tail attached to a small furry animal)! In all of these cases, we can help.

A Joint Committee of Anglicans and Lutherans has been at work for some time to ensure that your time at Joint Assembly and experience of Ottawa is a happy one. Perhaps someone accompanying you to Joint Assembly would like to help out. If volunteering is of interest, please visit the volunteer page on the Joint Assembly web site: <http://jointassembly.ca/about/volunteering>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at localarrangements@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Joint Local Arrangements Committee

Jamie Tomlinson
Anglican Co-Chair

Carol Christensen
Lutheran Co-Chair

Assembly Worship Planning Committee Greeting

Greetings from the co-chairs of the Joint Assembly Worship Committee

Planning “paperless” liturgy for roughly 1000 people who come from at least two different Christian denominations as we gather in an enormous convention hall has presented the worship team with exciting opportunities to wed the liturgical core we hold in common with innovative expressions of worship. This process had us learning from each other so that together we could develop liturgies that would work for Joint Assembly. Like the theme of Joint Assembly advocates: “Together for the love of the world”, your worship committee has spent much time “together” (for the love of the Assembly)!

And what discussions we had! It might seem obvious on one side, but, oops! Your thoughts? So we had great exchanges. On the role of liturgical ministers: “really? ...the presider takes *that part* in your tradition? Mmmmm, not so much in ours”; or music... “I don’t think we can get away with using that hymn”... “Oh! That one will really work!” or language “I thought a chaplain was...you know...a chaplain”. We knew that this “new thing” which the Primate and National Bishop asked us to do, was going to mean thinking way outside of the box.

It meant starting with the basics: table; font; bread; wine; Word. No matter what our respective worship traditions have been, these are tangible expressions of the unity we share in the midst of our diversity.

It meant stretching our imaginations to transform a space used to hold tradeshow and business meetings, into a space where the church gathers to worship, to pray, to celebrate and to raise its voice in praising the Lord.

Above all, it meant coming together as the community of the baptised “for the love of the world.”

Worship at Joint Assembly is likely to feel a little different than what you would normally experience on a Sunday morning in your own congregation. The notes we have included in the *Bulletin of Reports* and *Convening Circular* can provide some background. But, as with every worship experience prepare to open yourself to the Spirit. Prepare to discover the richness of the worship resources we share. Above all, be willing to recognise that where two or three (okay, a thousand, but who’s counting?) are gathering together to share the Word and the Meal, Jesus will be in our midst.

Looking forward to seeing you in Ottawa!

Your servants in Christ,

Eric Dyck,
Lutheran Co-Chair

Catherine Ascah,
Anglican Co-Chair