



163rd Regular Session of Synod

November 7 – 8, 2025

SUPPLEMENTARY CONVENING CIRCULAR – Section AA

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Please report, in writing, any errors or omissions in the Convening Circular to:

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By mail: Incorporated Synod of the
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Section A – Amended AGENDA & Updated Nominations

Friday, November 8, 2025

Time	Description	Motion
8:30 am	Registration in Thornhill Room (Closes at 11am)	
9:30 am	Opening Synod Eucharist Bishop's Charge to Synod	
	Scheduled break if Eucharist finishes early	
11:00 am	Call to Order and Welcome Announcements	
11:10 am	App Use and Voting instructions	
11:25 am	Consent Agenda Newland/Kendall	#1
	Introductions	
11:40 am	Since Synod 2023	
11:50 am	Notices of Motions	
	Announcements	
12:00 pm	Mid-Day Prayers/Adjournment for Lunch	
12:15 pm	Lunch / scheduled free time	
1:30 pm	Reconvene, welcome back	
1:35 pm	Call and Response Moment #1	
1:40 pm	Tithe Committee Newland/Kendall	#2
2:10 pm	Constitution and Canons Creal/Hemingway	#3
2:35 pm	Call and Response Moment #2	
	<i>Change Chair and Assessor</i>	
2:40 pm	Members' Time	
3:10 pm	Scheduled Break	
	<i>Change Chair and Assessor</i>	
3:20 pm	Brasilia Presentation	
3:30 pm	Season of Spiritual Renewal	
3:40 pm	Netminders	
4:00 pm	<i>Travel time to get to breakout room</i>	
4:05 pm	Ballroom Doors Close	
4:10 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	
5:00 pm	Adjournment [from breakout sessions]	
6:30 pm	Banquet Dinner in Grand York Ballroom Guest Speaker The Most Rev Shane Parker -Primate of Canada	



Saturday, November 9, 2019

Time	Description	Format
8:00 am	Breakfast (Continental)	
9:00 am	Reconvene	
9:00 am	Morning Prayer/Remembrance Reflection	
9:15 am	Morning Updates	
9:25 am	Areas and Area Council Parker/Mitchell	#4
9:55 am	FaithWorks Presentation	
10:00 am	YMAP	
10:05 am	Priorities and Plans 2025-2027 and Financial Budget Newland/Kendall	#5
	Call and Response # 3	
10:30 am	Scheduled Break	
10:40 am	Elections at Synod Synod Council (5 clergy and 5 lay mbrs) Provincial Synod (4 Lay, 4 Clerical mbrs)	
11:00 am	Regionalization Presentation <i>Change Chair and Assessor</i>	
11:20 am	Members' Time <i>Change Chair and Assessor</i>	
11:50 am	Notices of Motion	#8
12:15 pm	Announce results for Synod Council Provincial Synod	
12:25 pm	Guest Speaker Reflection The Most Rev Shane Parker	
	Election of Hon Secretaries Creal/Hemingway	#6
12:45 pm	Bishop's Wrap up	
	Termination of the meeting Newland	#7
1:00 pm	Closing Prayer	



ELECTIONS FOR SYNOD COUNCIL

Please refer to the Convening Circular, Section A, page 20 and our Synod platform for additional biographies.

Revised Slate of Nominees

Synod Council – Five (5) Clerical Members to be elected

The Rev Deborah Chapman – St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope
The Rev Canon Susan Climo – Holy Spirit of Peace, Mississauga
The Rev. Nicole Critch – St John, Whitby
The Rev Yohan Dumpala – Grace Church, Scarborough
The Rev Molly Finlay – St. John the Baptist, Norway
The Very Rev. Dr. Stephen Hance – St. James Cathedral
The Rev. Graham McCaffrey – St. Dunstan of Canterbury, Scarborough

Synod Council– Five (5) Lay Members to be elected

Lawrence Barker – St. Luke, Burnt River
Sister Elizabeth Ann Eckert – Reverend Mother. St. John's Convent
Matthew Neugebauer – St. John the Baptist, Norway
Susan Schuschu, ODT – St. John, East Orangeville
Eirene Wee – St. Paul, Bloor Street

ELECTIONS FOR PROVINCIAL SYNOD

Please refer to the Convening Circular, Section A, page 24 and our Synod platform for additional biographies.

Revised Slate of Nominees

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four (4) Clerical Members to be elected

The Rev Deborah Chapman – St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope
The Rev. Nicole Critch – St. John, Whitby
The Rev Dana Dickson – Trinity Church, Bradford
The Very Rev. Dr. Stephen Hance – St. James, Cathedral
The Rev. Lucia Lloyd – St. John, Bowmanville
The Rev. Graham McCaffrey – St. Dunstan of Canterbury, Scarborough

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four (4) Lay Members to be elected

Lawrence Barker – St Luke, Burnt River
Finn Keesmaat- Walsh – Redeemer, Bloor Street
Susan Schuschu, ODT – St. John, East Orangeville

Section D – Priorities and Plans 2025-2027 Addendum

See Section D Addendum on our Synod platform or on our website after October 24th, 2025.

Section E - Constitution and Canons Addendum

There will be an additional housekeeping change as listed below. The new change can be noted in yellow.

Housekeeping

The following **nine** revisions are being made to update language and timelines.

The Constitution

The Constitution Section 2(3) delete “Head or Chaplain of a Residential School.”

NOTICES OF MOTION

A Notice of Motion dated October 10th, 2025 was received from the Rev. Lucia Lloyd and the Rev. Bob Bettson. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the October 23, 2025, meeting of Synod Council. The Synod Council forwards the following Notice of Motion to Synod with its support.

Opposition to Christian Nationalism – Motion #8

MOVED by the Rev. Lucia Lloyd and SECONDED by the Rev. Bob Bettson.

Be it resolved that this Diocesan Synod:

Reaffirms that as Christians, our faith teaches us everyone is created in God’s image and commands us to love one another. In our Baptismal Covenant, we promise to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbours as ourselves, and to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being. As Christians, we are bound to Christ, not by citizenship, but by faith. As Canadians, we value our system of government and the good that can be accomplished in our parliamentary democracy.

Expresses our concern about a growing threat to both our religious communities and our democracy — Christian nationalism. Christian nationalism seeks to merge Christian and Canadian identities, distorting both the Christian faith and Canada’s parliamentary democracy. Christian nationalism demands Christianity be privileged by the State and implies that to be a good Canadian, one must be Christian. It often overlaps with and provides cover for discrimination against marginalized groups, which often increases threats and violence against members of those groups.

Encourages individuals, congregations, dioceses, and other communities within the Church to educate themselves about this issue and its negative effects on marginalized groups.

Reaffirms our beliefs that:



- People of all faiths and none have the right and responsibility to engage constructively in the public square.
- Canada has no second-class faiths.
- Patriotism does not require us to minimize our religious convictions.
- One's religious affiliation, or lack thereof, should be irrelevant to one's standing in the civic community.
- Government should not prefer one religion over another or religion over nonreligion.
- Canada's historic commitment to religious pluralism enables faith communities to live in civic harmony with one another without sacrificing our theological convictions.
- Conflating religious authority with political authority is idolatrous and often leads to oppression of minority and other marginalized groups as well as the spiritual impoverishment of religion.
- We must stand up to and speak out against Christian nationalism, especially when it inspires acts of violence and intimidation—including vandalism, bomb threats, arson, hate crimes, and attacks on houses of worship—against religious communities at home and abroad.

Rejects the damaging political ideology of Christian Nationalism and opposes this threat to our faith and to our nation.

Condemns Christian nationalism as a distortion of the gospel of Jesus and a threat to Canadian democracy.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT SYNOD

On the afternoon of Friday, November 7, 2025 members will have the opportunity to attend a Breakout Session at Synod. The following Breakout Sessions have been finalized.

Room	CALLS	<i>Notes</i>
1	1 3	CALLS 1 Enter into a Season of Spiritual Renewal to deepen personal and collective discipleship. 3 Share and use resources to enliven worship, faith formation, spiritual practice, and evangelism. Description: God is inviting us to renew our spiritual lives and share our faith with others. Dialogue about ways congregations are leaning into renewal and the role that worship, faith formation, spiritual practices and evangelism play in this. Facilitators: The Rev. Canon Philip Derr The Rev. Jennifer Schick Ann Copeland Support: The Rev. Canon Dr. Alison Falby
2	2	CALLS 2 Reinvigorate and recommit to children's, youth, family & intergenerational ministries. Description: Leaning into practices that celebrate and encourage meaningful participation and engagement with children, youth, and families enhances the life of the congregation. Share and explore creative modes of ministry to help reinvigorate the intergenerational nature of the church. Facilitators: Elaine Vanderwerf Elizabeth Achiman Support: Constance Kendall, ODT

3	4 5 13	CALLS <i>4 Recognize and act on opportunities to participate in God's healing work in the world.</i> <i>5 Make explicit connections between following Jesus and working for justice and peace.</i> <i>13 Enable and celebrate the work of ministries focused on service to the world.</i> Description: The Holy Spirit, active in the world, is calling us to participate in God's care for all people, seeking justice and peace and celebrating ministries that are outward focused. Consider what encouraging faith in action looks like in various contexts and how to support these calls as people learning to follow Jesus. Facilitators: The Ven. Kyn Barker The Rev. Deb Wilson Support: Elin Goulden
4	6	CALLS <i>6 Strengthen Indigenous ministry; engage non-Indigenous Anglicans in reconciliation work.</i> Description: Working to strengthen Indigenous Ministry in the Diocese and continuing to call non-Indigenous Anglicans to deeply engage in reconciliation work is essential for the life of the church across Turtle Island. Let us listen to one another and consider how we can walk the Good Road of Creator Sets Free (Jesus). Facilitators: The Rev. Samantha Caravan The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor Support: The Rev. Leigh Kern

5	7 10	CALLS <i>7 Take, sustain and communicate actions that promote diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism.</i> <i>10 Better reflect the diversity of our communities in both congregations and clergy.</i> Description: We live in a beautifully diverse Diocese and are called to embrace this diversity and faithfully live out equity, inclusion and anti-racism in our churches and neighbourhoods. What might it look like to be more intentional in our actions as people of faith to ensure all have a seat at the table? Facilitator Asks: Andre Lyn, ODT Donna Scantlebury Support: TBC (Deb Journeaux or HR Team member)
6	8	CALLS <i>8 Intensify advocacy and action in response to the climate crisis.</i> Description: We live and move and have our being in this world that God created and loves, and yet we find ourselves in a time of acute climate crisis. How might we not only care for creation, but actively respond to this crisis and advocate for all of creation? Facilitators: The Rev. Susan Spicer The Rev. Paige Souter Support: Tina George, ODT
7	9 15 16	CALLS <i>9 Actively embrace collaboration among congregations and innovation in new forms of ministry.</i> <i>15 Introduce and use new ways to measure and nurture congregational health and effectiveness.</i> <i>16 Cultivate an understanding of the diocese as a dynamic net of shared relationships.</i> Description: We are all one church, one body in Christ. Working across parish boundaries and exploring new forms of ministry in collaboration with one another makes us more diverse and nimble in our hope of sharing God's love with one another and those around us. Let's talk about how our shared relationships help us to

		grow, explore examples of what collaboration looks like, and consider how best to define success and nurture these efforts. Facilitators: Deb Whalen The Rev. Canon Simon Bell Support: Canon Janet Marshall
8	11 12 14	<i>CALLS</i> <i>11 Understand the changing needs of lay leaders in congregations and support them in their work.</i> <i>12 Continue and enhance support for all ordained people.</i> <i>14 Rethink clergy discernment, formation, and deployment for the church of the future.</i> <i>Description:</i> Leadership in ministry is shared among both lay and ordained leaders. Supporting the specific needs of leadership is essential to encourage health and vitality in our congregations. How do we facilitate deep partnerships in leadership, and what might need to look different as we raise and deploy new leaders moving forward? Facilitators: The Rev. Canon Andrea Christensen The Rev. Canon Mark Regis Support: Canon Mary Conliffe

9	17 18 19 20	CALLS <i>17 Continue assessing recent diocesan leadership changes and adjust as necessary.</i> <i>18 Adopt an integrated, theologically-formed approach to property management.</i> <i>19 Ensure follow-through on the Cast the Net report, including implementation method and metrics.</i> <i>20 Invest in the vision with existing and new resources, using sound Christian stewardship principles.</i> Description: It is important that the systems, structures and resources of the Diocese support its vision. Explore areas of growth that aim to support the diocese as a whole, and talk about the ways that they are impacting the Archdeaconries, Deaneries and Parishes. Facilitators: Major The Rev. Canon Brad Smith John van Gent Support : Mac Moreau
10	(from calls 2 & 3)	CALLS <i>Digital Ministry and Technology, (extrapolated from calls 2 & 3)</i> Description: Live streaming, social media and hybrid ministry have become vital components of ministry for many of our congregations. As we engage more fully in these new forms of ministry, there is much to learn from one another. Let's talk about all things digital & technology and see where God is at work in this emerging landscape. Facilitator Asks: Cynthia Majewski, ODT Tim Ralph, ODT The Rev. Gerlyn Henry Support: The Rev. Yohan Dumpala

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