

**Territory of the People**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Assembly – May 27-29, 2022**  
**St. Paul's Cathedral Kamloops BC**

**Archbishop Lynne McNaughton** provided a response to Bishop Jane Alexander's Charge:

- "Behold I do a new thing." Yesterday was filled with an excitement and joy as a response to Bishop Jane's challenge. "How do we respond to this challenge?"
- It is exciting to see new leadership emerging within the Territory.
- As delegates part of your responsibility is to go home and talk about the challenge, talk about the Assembly. Make sure there is time on your parish council to discuss this challenge and the work of this weekend.
- Time was created in this agenda to be together and talk together. To get to know each other and share with one another.
- Responding to the challenge of having few youth in our parishes. This is an ongoing piece of work for each person, in parishes we are called to call upon new leaders.
- Part of the weekend has been the gift of slowly putting the spirit back into our bodies, recovering from the many layers of trauma, the readiness of an election for a bishop: there is tension between being ready and not being ready yet.
- Between now and November we will keep working towards healing in anticipation of slowly beginning the work to prepare for an election.
- Parish leaders need to go home and discover what your parish needs for healing.
- We need space for lament, there is still lamenting to be done. To lament together, to provide space and process for people to express lament.
- The Territory has a large capacity of sadness, we may be being called upon one more time to expand our capacity for sadness, one more time so we can honour all that happened in 2021 and take that alongside us and allow God to make us stronger.
- "What a great opportunity!" was repeated in Bishop Jane's charge: take a deep breath and respond to this opportunity even if there is fear.
- Demographic realities... this is the case across the church, we are not alone. We can hold that knowledge but then move and enter into the challenge. To support a 10% growth increase over the next two years.
- What is the new thing that God is up to? Keep telling those stories within your parish and between parishes. Engage in an appreciative inquiring mentality – keep sharing stories.
- Michael Harvey will be coming to the Territory this fall to support us to learn how to invite those who may not otherwise come into church.
- How do we move from maintenance/survival mode to discipleship?
- Climate change: Seasons of Creation, the liturgical season in September/October. The provincial ecological justice group is taking all the readings for that time and will be sending out a resource in June for a walk through your community. Watch for this and anticipate incorporating this into your parish life this fall.
- What are the necessary conversations you need to have in your community? How do we support you in those necessary conversations? When we tell the truth peoples response is often relief. From there we are freed to action.
- Ecumenical partnerships: we need to be exploring how we share with one another.

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- New leadership: it is the work of all of you to call people to new leadership. God calls people and the church says, "have you ever thought about this?" Think about how you got involved? Someone tapped you on the shoulder and told you what gift they saw in you... How do we call new leadership? The courage this takes is to have the grace to let go of new people doing things differently.
- Delegate comment: "We can't change the past but we can learn from it and move forward from it" – thank you for this.
- We want to be with God in doing something new.
- From what you have learned from being the Territory – you are showing the world. The province has realized we need to be working on equipping people for emergency response, especially in the midst of climate change. There is work being done to prepare people for emergency response in parishes.
- How do we take what we have learned and prepare our communities to be hospitable and welcome: ready to provide a space for others? The Territory has experience to share with this committee.
- Now the work is over to you: what do you take back to your community and engage with your community?
- Turn to your neighbour and tell them three things you will be taking home with you. Write down the three things you will be taking back with you. May these be a reminder to you to share with your local community.

Three people were invited to share what they are taking back to their parishes with them, which included the following:

- Messy Church
- Michael Harvey
- emergency response toolkit
- why we are deferring the election of a bishop
- Pauline Michell's story
- learning to breath again
- 10% growth,