

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from Him who is the Light of the world!

Congregations throughout Lutheran Church—Canada will be setting aside next Sunday, the Second Sunday in Epiphany, to celebrate Synod’s Recruitment Initiative Sunday. The season of Epiphany is a good time for such a celebration. Epiphany is about light—the Light of the world. And it’s about bringing that Light, the Light of God’s grace and love in Jesus Christ to people who still live in darkness. But

*“How will they hear without someone preaching to them?”*

Through these words, St. Paul reminds us that Epiphany, by extension, is also about those who share the message. It’s about pastors and deacons and other church workers, about all those whom God calls to servant ministry in the Kingdom. It’s also about identifying those gifts of God and preparing them for service in the Church.

This coming Sunday you will have the opportunity to participate in this Epiphany task. We will ask you to consider whether there are any in your church family whom you believe God may be calling to serve as a pastor or church worker. We want you to share the names of these individuals with your pastor. After discussing the opportunities of ministry with them, he will, with their permission, pass their names on to me so that together as congregation, pastor and Synod we can nurture and God willing, prepare these individuals for service.

Please join me in praying that God will bless next week’s special Recruitment Sunday. May He give us the eyes to see His future gifts in our midst. And may He continue to use all of us no matter what our calling so that the Epiphany message of His grace and love is shared with the world.

In Christ,



Rev. Ralph E. Mayan, president  
Lutheran Church—Canada