



Asian and Multicultural Ministries in Canada

A MINISTRY OF THE ANGLICAN NETWORK IN CANADA

April 9, 2015

Dear Bishops, clergy, evangelists, and lay leaders:

Greetings in our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (John 20:21)

We are all sent out by Christ for his mission. And when Jesus’ disciples returned from the mission, Jesus taught them and now us, ***“Do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”*** (Lk10:20)

The upcoming AMMiC mini-conference (May 26-28) is the third conference for clergy and lay leaders since 2014. The purpose is to give us fellowship, equipping, challenges, and mutual support in the context of growing visible minorities in Canada and, of course, also in the US. So, the mini-conference is a time of learning; of listening to one another; of being inspired; and of finding a way to further build up our team in the Anglican family. Equally important, therefore, is to never lose sight of our life as the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church while we devote ourselves to building up local churches and church-plants. How can we, and our congregations, avoid falling prey to egoism, individualism, isolationism, consumerism, narcissism, and being entangled in a web of inside conflicts? This is what I see the present pressing challenge before us.

Let me highlight a few things in the upcoming mini-conference. I have invited **Sherman Chan** from Mosaic BC to give us his professional view on the needs of ethnic immigrants in Greater Vancouver as a case study to understand the present challenge we are facing. **Bishop Charles Masters** will give a theological critique towards the legislation on euthanasia recently passed in Canada. **Dr. Joyce Chan** will open up a window by presenting a concept of ministry to two generations in the ethnic church in order to avoid the 2nd generation exodus. This is an area AMMiC has been working on for several years already. Here, I will introduce AMMiC's first full-time ministry staff, **Valerie Yiu**, the Children's Ministry Director, who will cast a vision and call for partnership in ministry in AMMiC and beyond. **Bishop Ron Ferris**, with his rich experiences and long years in Episcopal ministry, will offer his insight and wisdom towards reducing conflicts in the church/church plant. I will do biblical teaching on “Beyond face-shame: a life of freedom with the Father’s acceptance.” And there are other inspiring

presentations which will enrich and widen our horizon. Please see the attached schedule for details.

I thank AMMiC churches in the Greater Vancouver area to take up the conference cost so to allow those outside BC to come to the conference, only paying for their own travelling costs. It worked out perfectly last time. We will try our best to find billeting for you if you are in need. But you have to register as early as possible (email conference@ammic.ca and phone 778-713-8691), and contact Nona Tong-Leung for further information. We wish to confine the maximum number of participants at 50 to ensure that we can have deep fellowship and good interaction. Therefore, first come first served. The conference is held at [AMMiC Center](#), #160-4611 No. 6 Road, Richmond, BC.

I am looking forward to meeting you. I have devoted myself to you in this conference week. I know that a few of you have registered to attend Simeon Trust Preaching Conference (May 20-22, at Good Shepherd Vancouver [GSV]; if you still wish to join, contact Rev. Eric Thurston of Artizo, eric.artizo@shaw.ca). If you are in Vancouver in the weekend before mini-conference, my pastoral team is pleased to orientate you on the parish work of GSV if you want to understand how we build up a Christian community for fellowship and mission. Just let us know your date and time of arrival and we will be in contact with you.

This will be a great time of revival for team spirit and Anglican fellowship. Trust that God will bless us in the power of his risen life.

In His peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Stephen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rt. Rev. Stephen Leung
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