

(Partners in Mission and Ecojustice Committee
Hotel La Tour Centre Ville, Montreal, Quebec.
October 1-5 2008

Draft Minutes

Present: Florence Ayban, Elizabeth Beardy, Caroline Chum, Margaret Cornish, Jesse Dymond, Peter Fenty, Paul Gehrs, Peter John Hobbs, Rob Marsh, Iola Metuq, Bill Mous, Nigel Packwood, Jonathan Schmidt, Colleen Sym, Susan Titterington, David Torraville, Jennifer Weiss, Peggy Wilmot, Susan Winn

Regrets: John Brewin, Richard LeSueur,

Guests: Jennifer Janzen-Ball, Meagan Blais, Yves Eugene Joseph, Christopher Lind, Esther Wesley

Staff: Claudia Alvarez, Jill Cruse, Lydia Laku Kiden, Andrea Mann, Maylanne Maybee, Clementina Thomas, Henriette Thompson

Day 1 -- Wednesday, October 1, 7:00-8:15 pm

1. Welcome, Housekeeping, Contextual Overview – Sue Winn

Sue Winn provided an overview of recent changes in Quebec, and particularly Montreal, with regard to English and French relations, culture, language and religion. The May 2008 Bouchard-Taylor report on “reasonable accommodation” revealed anxiety within a segment of Francophone society that French language and culture is under threat, that Quebec society is assertively exclusive. The report recommended the majority work to welcome minorities and religious pluralism, to adjust and integrate different peoples. It recommended addressing racism, taking measures to recognize newcomers’ skills and gifts. Reaction was swift and negative, suggesting non-Francophone peoples ‘fit in or leave’. At the same time there is hope and a growing consensus that Francophone language and culture is not under attack.

2. Brief Check in

Committee members shared personal news and staff gave highlights from the Sept 25 “Walk of Witness” on the Millennium Development Goals in Ottawa, and a Sept 3-4 meeting of Anglican and ELCIC national program staff (Partnerships, PWRDF, ELCIC national office, Canadian Lutheran Relief and Development).

3. Opening Eucharist – Margaret Cornish presided.

Day 2 -- Thursday, October 2

1. Opening, Introductions

- Morning worship – led by Florence Ayban
- Agenda review
- March 2008 minutes – approved
- Christopher Lind – introduced as resource person to lead Friday morning reflection on Ecojustice.

2. Church House overview – Henriette Thompson

a. External events

- Lambeth Conference marked a new turning in our relationship with one another in the Communion.
- Current flux in the global economy is deepening effects of chronic poverty on the poorest and most vulnerable.
- Poverty is not high on the agenda of the Canadian federal election.
- The Millennium Development Goals were featured at a Walk of Witness during Lambeth and “brought home” to Ottawa by Archbishop Fred Hiltz on Sept 25, the date of a special UN session on the MDGs.
- Climate change, with news of melting ice caps, global warming, etc. continues to be a major crisis facing us all.

b. Indian Residential Schools, Truth and Reconciliation Commission

- May 29 Day of Action, Ottawa – The Primate spoke about bringing about meaningful change and effective public policy, standing with the Assembly of First Nations.
- June 1 – TRC was launched and commissioners appointed, with great expectation of the value of a public process for storytelling and listening.
- June 11 – Apology in House of Commons. Chairs of ACIP, National Indigenous Bishop, Primate and others were present on behalf of the Anglican Church of Canada.
- A “Living Apology” web page is now on line, including profiles of 29 Anglican Residential Schools.
- More than 12 General Synod staff from different departments serve on an In House Working Group on Indian Residential Schools: Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Archbishop Terence Finlay; Henriette Thompson, Esther Wesley, Maylanne Maybee (Partnerships); Donna Bomberry (Indigenous Ministries); Michael Pollesel, Joseph Mwai, Dianne Izzard (General Secretary); Sam Carriere, Ali Symons, Brian Bukowski, Nancy Hurn (Archives, Communication/Information Resources).
- The challenge is to integrate the work of the IRS Working Group into PMEJ, as well as emerging transitional justice work, analyzing and sharing globally models of “transitional justice” (e.g. South Africa, Guatemala).
- The TRC commissioners are facing challenges of different visions, especially regarding its independence from Indian Affairs.

c. Anglican Church of Canada/Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada – Sept 3-4 Consultation of program staff responsible for emergency relief, development, and public policy. They resolved:

- To work jointly with more intention on public policy issues and statements, e.g. Sept 25 MDGs Walk of Witness in Ottawa
- To promote more widely among Anglicans and Lutherans that we are in full communion, working not just ecumenically but as full partners, moving beyond concerns of Faith Worship and Ministry into Partnerships program work, national and regional youth initiatives. Sue Winn spoke of the May 2008 Order and Chaos conference in Montreal; Paul Gehrs of the summer youth gathering in Whitehorse, Yukon.
- To map partner relationships with and between ACC and ELCIC, PWRDF and Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), identifying partners, what we are working on, and how we

can work together.

d. KAIROS Consultation with Church leaders – from 12 member churches and organizations, held in June to remind them of the original commitment to justice work and work toward:

- Engagement of church leaders – works best with a specific event or focus, e.g. May 2009 tour of Alberta Tar Sands project.
- Continuing support of churches for KAIROS' work at regional and national level, and as a research and advocacy centre.

e. Vision 2019, General Synod's new 10 year Strategic Plan for 2010 General Synod

- Planning Committee in place to generate discussion on the Church for Mission. Susan Titterton is on the planning committee.
- On line Lenten series in 2009 using Five Marks of Mission – for parish study and reflection, to include Bible studies, images, questions.
- Data gathering in 2009 among Anglicans and Lutherans on “what is mission and how are we a church in mission?”
- Larger mission consultations also planned.
- PMEJC members can help by considering using Lenten series in their parish and diocese, identifying what other mission reflection is happening in their deanery, region, or Province.

f. Financial Resources, 2009 Budget

- Church revenues from offerings and investment income are in decline.
- Management Team will recommend a deficit budget for 2009, 2010 to COGS when they meet in November 2008, along with a financial plan to generate revenues.
- This may require reducing face-to-face committee meetings to once a year. Proposal – that we work with this scenario and have a full discussion on how one annual meeting would work.
- Partnerships budget will be presented with proven principles – face-to-face meetings and exchanges as effective ways of working.
- New Director of Philanthropy has been appointed.

3. Faith Worship and Ministry Consultation on Sexuality -- Sue Winn and Caroline Chum

- Sue reported that six people from each ecclesiastical province were selected to develop and facilitate processes for discussing human sexuality in small groups of women and men, led by two person male/female teams.
- Future of these consultations is not known as there is no budget to support them.
- Caroline reported that an Indigenous group of four met separately. Discussed fact that indigenous communities are not always accepting of two spirited members who often have to leave. Discussed traditional interpretations of the Bible and how communities can interpret the Bible's message of being loving and inclusive of all.

4. Transition of Partners in Mission and Ecojustice Committee – Peter Fenty

- Peter reported on the July 3 meeting of staff and co-chairs of PMEJ (plus John Brewin) to review and assess the merger and the work of the Committee and identify gaps.
- Also planned October meeting, particularly asking PMEJC to evaluate the existing working groups and ask for changes if needed.
- How might we better achieve the work we are mandated to do?

5. Reports from Program Areas

a. Global Relations – Andrea Mann, Claudia Alvarez (Documents #24-05 through to 24-08-10-08)

- Grants to partners for graduate theological education and emerging mission priorities are effective for deepening and developing specific relationships with partners.
- Despite tensions in the Communion, all partners have expressed commitment to strengthening relationships and partnerships in mission with the Anglican Church of Canada.

b. Ecojustice – Maylanne Maybee, Lydia Laku (Powerpoint presentation available upon request)

- Ecojustice work is organized into areas of networking, advocacy, and communication/education.
- Committee members were asked about the most effective ways of networking, sharing information, and engaging Anglicans in advocacy efforts.

c. Personnel and Mission Education – Jill Cruse, Clem Thomas Documents #42-05-10-08)

- Jill described Mission education and resources as areas in greatest transition since integration.
- Works on website development, including posting resources and stories.
- Reviewed Companion Diocese Relations, People Exchange and Partnership Visits program areas, and her role as “midwife” for diocese-to-diocese, parish-to-parish, people-to-people relationships.
- Reviewed work and brochures of Volunteers in Mission and Theological Students International Internship Program. Key issues are short-term mission, need to evaluation the VIM Program.

6. Partners in Mission and Ecojustice – A New Committee with a New Mandate (Documents #86-02-10-08 and #03-01-10-08).

PJ Hobbs facilitated discussion toward setting Committee priorities for the rest of the triennium. In reply to the question, “What are the most essential questions regarding the work of PMEJ to date?” Committee members generated the following:

- **What are we trying to do and how will we know when we’ve done it?**
- How does partnership shape justice and vice versa?
- **What have we gained and what have we lost by merging the committees?**
- New name – *Partners: In Mission and Ecojustice*.
- **How do we do oversight, communication, implementation?**
- **What three areas of our work need to be priorities for this triennium?**

- Five priority areas identified: (1) Indigenous Justice; (2) Dynamic communication; (3) Partnerships; (4) Roles and responsibilities of staff and Committee members; (5) Vision, first principles, theological and spiritual foundational values, emerging priorities.

Discussion:

- Should these five areas be the focus of small working groups?
- OR are they criteria for the work of the committee as a whole and each sub group?
- (Discussion to be continued on Day 3.)

The day concluded with Evening Worship led by Nigel Packwood and social time.

Day 3 – Friday, October 3

1. Morning Worship and Ecojustice Reflection– Christopher Lind (Documents #60-14-10-08 through to 50-160-10-08 on green paper distributed at meeting)

a. Presentation

- Chris represented Ecojustice Committee at Mission and Creation Conference, Geneva 2006, organized by Lukas Vischer, international ecumenist, former WCC senior staff. Convinced ecology not integrated into our understanding of mission. Christian teaching largely ignores the care of creation eg. Kyoto: the most polluting countries are historically Christian (with the exception of Japan).
- Conference featured an article by Lynn White Jr. [The Historical Roots of our Ecological Crisis (1967)]. White concludes that Christianity's attitude toward nature tended to legitimize Western culture's domination over nature, esp. in its application of technology. Some 40 years later White's article is widely reproduced and his analysis considered non-controversial.
- Steve de Gruchy, a South African theologian presented a helpful article on “Agency, Sin and Grace : Protestant Reflections on Mission and Creation” focusing on the history of the Enlightenment movement in Europe which highlighted the power of humans to change the world. De Gruchy asks: Hasn't the church adopted the Enlightenment perspective, to convert (or change) the world rather than interpret it?
- De Gruchy analyses the attitudes of 5 mainline churches on mission and creation. In the Anglican Communion, the 5 Marks of Mission is the only place the Communion acknowledges mission and creation, but it has not been taken up and integrated.
- Is the Mission of God and the mission of the church the same or different? If we think they're the same thing, can we be critical of the church's mission?
- The Protestant Reformation also emerged during the period of the Enlightenment. Reformers focused on sin and grace - the persistence of human mistakes and the eternal presence of God, redeeming our mistakenness. De Gruchy urges a recovery of this side of our tradition as a way of responding to our own mission history.
- “Witnessing in a Suffering Creation” was a letter written by members of the Geneva Conference, to Christians, churches and institutions, urging a creation conscious witness, restoring right-relationship with the whole of creation. The letter challenges us to address the dualism in our thinking about humanity and creation, which is not biblically accurate and which we have inherited from European culture. Humanity and creation are both part of the revelation of God.

- Restoring right relationship is another way of speaking about justice.
 - **Ecojustice** comes from the Greek word Oikos meaning household.
 - **Economy** comes from this same word and means household management.
 - **Ecology** comes from this same root and means understanding the household of the earth.
 - **Ecumenical** also comes from this root word and refers to the household of God.
- While we commonly use the word Ecumenical to mean relationships among Christian denominations, and sometimes relations among religions faiths, in WCC circles it has increasingly come to mean relations with the whole inhabited earth. Those relations need to be relations of Justice - right relationships. Ecojustice is an inclusive concept, covering both social and environmental justice.
- When General Synod met in Niagara Falls in 1968, there was a protest by anti-poverty activists, marking the beginning of the church's anti-poverty witness and leading to the creation of many ecumenical social justice coalitions including PLURA (now part of Kairos). There were also voices of concern about social and racial injustice, about pollution and the environment, about the limits of the earth's carrying capacity. But anti-poverty and racial injustice voices in the Church prevailed at the time over voices of environmental concern. 1975 WCC Assembly in Nairobi had the theme of a "Just, Participatory and Sustainable Society".
- 1983 WCC Assembly in Vancouver had the theme of "Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation". The principles of solidarity, sustainability, sufficiency, socially just participation (Equity) were beginning to be articulated through these meetings and events.
- 1972 UN began to work on economic and environmental issues, and by 1987 the Brundtland Commission released its report "Our Common Future" which tried to define sustainability. The UN then began preparations for the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro 1992. The Earth Summit was unable to pass a proposed Charter of Rights for the Earth.
- In 1994 Maurice Strong and Mikhail Gorbachev began organizing an independent movement and in 2000 the Earth Charter was released with 16 Principles. It is growing in non-governmental circles globally, though not enough in the churches.
- Norman Habel, a biblical scholar from Australia who started the Earth Bible Project, has now edited 5 volumes in The Earth Bible series. This involves Biblical scholars from around the world rereading scripture from the perspective of the Earth. You can learn about this project by going to <<http://www.webofcreation.org>> on the Internet.
- The Earth Bible Project uses 6 principles of interpretation (hermeneutics). Those principles are:
 - Intrinsic worth
 - Interconnectedness
 - Voice
 - Purpose
 - Mutual custodianship
 - Resistance.

b. Committee questions and comments

- Responsibility for ecojustice lies within humanity and earth: both are responsible. Do we care for creation or does creation care for us?
- Iola - This way of living is my culture's [Inuit] way of living. The historical church and state has not recognized it and has in fact condemned it as evil. But it is coming back. We all only understand this through our culture.
- Humanity originally violates creation, leading to the fall of humanity. What is creation's role in this, if any?
- We are becoming more aware of environmental issues in the west/north, but not how our advocacy impacts human life in other parts of the world, and here.
- "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" and other hymns in which creation praises God, lead to reflection on how our actions impact on creation's song.
- How does creation resist? Cyclones, hurricanes, rainfall deluge, drought.

2. **Excursions** -- Committee members divided into groups to visit St. Michael's Mission, Tyndale-St. George's Community Centre, St. James United Church/Montreal City Mission. Upon return later in the afternoon they shared their observations and learnings.

3. Visit to Diocese of Montreal Synod Office and Christ Church Cathedral

- Committee members were welcomed by the bishop of Montreal, the Rt. Rev. Barry Clarke. They gathered with others for a Eucharist followed by lunch in the main hall with members of the diocese Partners in Mission and Companionship Committees.
- Bishop Clarke and Nicholas Pang reported on their experience of Lambeth.
- The Rev. Glynnis Williams spoke briefly about the work of Action Refugees.
- The Rev. Mark Rogers and Ms. Maida Vanderdorpe gave a presentation on a recent visit of a delegation from the diocese of Montreal to their Companion Diocese of Masasi, Tanzania.
- The Rev. Bill Mous gave a presentation on the work of the PMEJ Committee. (Powerpoint presentation available upon request).

4. Partners' Reflections

a. Florence Ayban

- Have been touched and inspired by all that I see and experience. Programs here help me consider what we can do at home. We are talking about creation, of which we are part, which is true.
- The destruction of creation is a manifestation of the fallenness of human beings, and mirrors our behaviour and attitude in the oppression of people. This committee is responding to the oppressed and oppressors.
- I ask of myself: Am I living out the 5 marks every day, am I fulfilling the mandate of this committee in my work, and what of the MDGs? I am asking this of myself, and invite you to do the same.

b. Jonathan Schmidt

- Thank you for being the Canadian Churches Forum for Global Ministry (CCFGM), for working with others on matters of mission and justice, for Partnerships grants to CCFGM, and Partnerships staff serving on program committees
- Edinburgh 1910 marked the beginning of the realization the church was global, and the beginning of the ecumenical movement. Will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in Edinburgh 2010. Recognizing their own experience, Canadian churches will take the lead in reflecting on mission and power to offer Edinburgh 2010. Resources will be produced and distributed in next few years. The theme of the Canadian Theological Students Conference 2009, will be on Mission and Power: (Document #42-04-10-08), featuring a dialogue among three guests.
- PMEJC is doing a good job of challenging itself at this meeting. Note for additional consideration: short term mission trips. Why is this activity attractive for more and more people? What can we contribute to preparing people for this activity? How do these trips support the structures that are part of the problems of lack of social support and community care, government responsibility to common good?
- I challenge you to stick with holistic mission and justice, right relationships with God, one another and creation, of which we are a part. Residential leaders tour and apology was fine, but I challenge you that saying 'I'm sorry isn't enough': to apologize is to be transformed. How much has the apology transformed the Anglican Church of Canada; not just residential schools? Will the church's apology to indigenous people be a model of what we haven't yet expressed, for example to people of colour, gay and lesbian people. The ACC has a long history with power, empire...what are there other apologies that need to happen?

a. Paul Gehrs – Update on the Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada (ELCIC)

- In every expression of the ELCIC we are challenged to make our witness effectively.
- The National Council recently decided on five priorities: (1) effective partnership (call to ecumenical mission); (2) compassionate justice; (3) diverse face; (4) spirit of discipleship; (5) focused framework/restructuring (change/finance)
- We participate in four key partnerships: (1) The Anglican Church of Canada; (2) The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA); (3) The Lutheran World Federation (LWF); (4) KAIROS.
- We are proposing to work on public policy with ACC, on world mission with ELCA, and that CRD and PWRDF collaborate. The September 3-4 ELCIC/ACC meeting was helpful for discussing these proposals further. Also through Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission.
- Anglican-Lutheran work is closer than ecumenical, we're family together. Bishop Susan is very excited about this, especially
 - more sharing in public witness
 - sharing staff, networks and working together toward better work and greater cost effectiveness
 - listening to indigenous people in Anglican church.
- I appreciate PMEJC focus on relationship – naming challenges, working on how to be in right relationship, priority of partnership. Appreciate theological reflection on our work. Appreciate our newness, our being a sower of seeds. The PMEJC is a tremendous pool of talent and resources. I urge you to be the committee that God and the church have called you to be.
- My dream is to bring a couple more Lutheran volunteers to this table; to speak, reflect, and then go back into the ELCIC with what is happening here.

5. Partners in Mission and Ecojustice – A New Committee with a New Mandate, Part II: How to implement five priority areas.

a. Committee ideas:

- Re-group into small groups according to priorities, disband existing groups. Five priorities are big topics. We need to identify what's doable based on capacity, time and cost.
- Designate committee members and staff to all priorities in this meeting, with clear follow up for the next meetings leading to an operational plan by General Synod 2010;
- Clarify staff and committee roles and responsibilities, what and when, recognizing that one model of roles will likely not fit all groups/themes;
- Strategic regional meetings to decentralize the work;
- Monthly check ins of all small groups;
- If we have to eliminate something from Partnerships budget, let's reduce to one meeting rather than eliminate staff, though partnership will be diminished if we move to one meeting or only regional meetings;
- Communication between meetings is important and need to figure out time zones, internet communications;
- Questions – Where and how do we add new work and issues? Does the primary work of this PMEJC involve transition and planning for the next triennium, or is it to plan and implement these priorities now? With five new priorities, what happens to existing staff and committee work not included in these priorities?

b. Next action:

Agreed to request staff to recommend an approach and bring it back for consideration on Sunday morning.

Day 4 -- Saturday, October 4

Anti-Racism Training

Esther Wesley, Indigenous Healing Fund Coordinator, the Rev. Yves-Eugene Joseph, priest from the diocese of Montreal and participant in the Anti-Racism Implementation Group, and Maylanne Maybee Ecojustice Coordinator, were resource persons for a day of training on anti-racism and racial justice.

Committee members enjoyed an evening off, including a meal in Old Montreal and a hockey game for some.

Day 5 -- Sunday, October 5

1. Partners in Mission and Ecojustice – A New Committee with a New Mandate, Part II: How to implement five priority areas.

a. Staff Recommendation:

- Organize PMEJC work around existing program areas: Ecojustice, Global Relations, Personnel and Mission Education, plus three functional groups: Dynamic Communications; Vision/Theology/Worship; and Oversight.

- PMEJC members self-select into one program area, and one functional group if personal time and capacity permit.
- Staff consult with PMEJC groups and recommend relevant work for committee members according to program priorities
- PMEJC members sign up for a group(s) by end of meeting, and meet with staff to set up a conference call before Christmas. All groups are to review PMEJ mandate, GS resolutions. Staff identify needs and expectations regarding committee support. Members identify skills, interests, networks for doing the work

b. Response from PMEJC:

- Question -- What is work of Oversight group? Response - Oversight group will work with chairs on coordination, clarification of roles, agenda for upcoming meetings, keeping 'eye on all the pieces', terms of reference, identifying emerging issues, ensuring flexible program development, acknowledging need to reduce program breadth or depth.
- Feel very good about the proposal. Please let absent members know ASAP.
- Sue will e-mail all committee members inviting them to reflect on things we didn't have a chance to discuss, and coordinate replies in a little newsletter.
- This has clarified how to bring the committee together.
- Suggested name, *Partners: In Mission and Ecojustice*, can be a working name but needs time to be changed in GS canons.
- Does work relating to Peace, Indigenous Justice, Justice Camps now go into Ecojustice basket?
- Do the new groups use the five identified priorities/principles in all work? Yes – five principles need to be defined and specified by Oversight group.
- David Torrance congratulated the committee. His concern about vagueness has not resolved entirely, but level of trust and commitment to staff, passion for work is high. Good to be part of a group where trust, commitment is high, and building relationships with one another and the work.

c. Decision:

Agreed by consensus that all are in favour of the proposal recommended by staff. The chair thanked PJ for his animation of this work.

2. Self-selection Process

Committee members self-selected onto one or two working groups each and met with staff for ten minutes to discuss tasks and set conference call dates.

- **Global Relations** -- David Torrance, Peter Fenty, Rob Marsh, John Brewin, Florence Ayban. Andrea Mann and Claudia Alvarez, staff.
- **Ecojustice** -- Sue Winn, Peggy Wilmot, Paul Gehrs, PJ Hobbs, Colleen Sym, Caroline Chum, Elizabeth Beady, Jennifer Weiss, Iola Metuq. Maylanne Maybee and Lydia Laku, staff.
- **Mission Education and Personnel** -- Margaret Cornish, Susan Titterton, Nigel Packwood, Bill Mous, Jill Cruse and Clementina Thomas, staff.
- **Dynamic Communications** -- Peggy Wilmot, Iola Metuq, Rob Marsh, Jennifer Weiss, Jesse Dymond. Jill Cruse, Clem Thomas, Andrea Mann, staff.

- **Vision/Theology/Worship** -- Jonathan Schmidt, Colleen Sym, Margaret Cornish, Susan Titterington, Nigel Packwood, John Brewin, Bill Mous. Maylanne Maybee, Claudia Alvarez, staff.
- **Oversight** -- Peter Fenty, Sue Winn, PJ Hobbs, Caroline Chum, Florence Ayban, Paul Gehrs. Henriette Thompson, staff.
- **To be determined** -- Richard Le Sueur

3. Future PMEJC Meetings

Oversight group will decide about next meetings – when, where, how many – following COGS decision re 2009 budget at November meeting.

4. Partners' Reflections

- Jonathan.** Is it the role of this committee to do or to facilitate the work of ecojustice, global relations, and personnel/mission education? Thank you to Sue Winn for taking care of us. Her attention to meals and hospitality helped attend to our requests for a 'greener' meeting. Last time I said "I really like hanging out with Anglicans". This time, I can say, "I really like hanging out with each of you as people."
- Florence.** I regret not being able to actively participate, and understanding your culture is still a struggle. I am learning a lot and feel challenged to bring ideas back to ECP as suggestions for our church. ACC grants to Episcopalian Church of the Philippines, though fully autonomous, are still helping parishes become self-sustaining. I ask PMEJC to write a letter to the three big Canadian mining companies operating in the Philippines and taking our resources. Some would say, "The grants we receive from Canada are not their money but ours, a repayment for what they've taken from the mines".
- Paul.** Partnership, Mission, Ecojustice are big words that aren't clear in and of themselves. Remember this when sharing your story with others. The church is the church gathered. Dioceses and parishes also partners. Reality of cuts is a profound call to the church's senior leadership to discern the church's proclamation, first principles, vision. I affirm the good energy and spirit in this committee; let it amplify. ELCIC has only made minor recognition of anti-racism, so will report on yesterday to them.

5. Thanks and Closing Eucharist

- Peter Fenty in the chair expressed thanks to our partners for their presence and reflections, to committee members for their commitment and concreteness, to staff for their work, to Sue Winn for hosting us, and to resource people who presented, facilitated, and led us in worship.
- The meeting ended with a closing Eucharist at which Jonathan Schmidt presided.