



September 14, 2014

Dear friends,

For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven
(Ecclesiastes 3: 1)

Indeed, ours is a season of change. This is not change just for the sake of change. Something marvelous is happening. Something miraculous is unfolding. Right here. Right now. Among us. You and I are a part of something that is unprecedented in our time and place. We are a part of a moment in history that is monumental. As a welcoming, inclusive and compassionate Catholic Communion, you and I are taking another step forward in unfolding our unique way of being church. You and I are enacting something that we have proclaimed is part of our identity – a place where everyone has a say, and every voice is heard! You and I are electing, for the first time, a successor Presiding Bishop.

Every change brings with it opportunities and challenges. Our next Presiding Bishop will be elected at our Synod in October, 2014. Our current and beloved Presiding Bishop, Peter, will complete his term at the end of 2015. This type of overlapping period of transition is common in Catholicism. The new bishop is referred to as a “Coadjutor” bishop. A “Coadjutor” is an assistant who is designated as the successor. At our prior Synod in 2012 we agreed that this type of transition would be advantageous. It would provide the opportunity for the new bishop to have a period of mentoring, provide a smooth transition between the current and next Presiding Bishops, and successfully launch the term of our next Presiding Bishop. Frankly, the primary challenge in this change is one of resources. We do not have sufficient resources to fairly compensate both individuals and provide for the additional ancillary expenses. We need to raise \$ 50,000.00 over the next three months to meet our challenge and position ourselves to seize the opportunities that lie ahead.

So, we are doing what healthy families do when they face challenges. We are turning to our family and friends and asking for help. We know that when families face their challenges together, great things can happen. So, we are reaching out to you and inviting you to be a vital part of our season of change. There are several ways that you can help. First, we ask for your prayers for Bishop Peter, as he completes his unique and fruitful ministry among us. And, we ask for your prayers for the person that you and I will elect to succeed Bishop Peter, that the Spirit will guide and support this individual through this season of change. Also, we ask you to pray that our financial needs will be met.

Finally, we invite you to help us meet our financial challenge. Is there any reason why you couldn't send a donation of \$25, \$50 or \$100, or whatever your budget will allow? Any amount that you feel led to contribute will really help, and will be greatly appreciated! Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

Frankly, when I receive requests like this I am generally moved to respond. And, if I don't respond immediately the letter is set aside and usually gets buried under other things. Are you like me? Let me suggest that if you are like me, respond today! Thanks! You can send your donation today to the following address below.

ECC Appeal
16738 E Iliff Ave.
Aurora, CO 80013

Thank you for your generous support of the ECC!

Peace,

The ECC Leadership Council,

+Peter Elder Hickman
Presiding Bishop
Ecumenical Catholic Communion

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Chair, ECC House of Laity

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