

THE FOURTEENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

May 24 - 27, 2012

Augustana Campus, University of Alberta, Camrose, Alberta

Stories of the Great [Co] Mission

Thursday, May 24, 2012

The fourteenth biennial convention of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories began at 2:30 p.m. in the Augustana Chapel with the Order for Opening of Convention and a worship service. Bishop Ronald B. Mayan presided and National Bishop Susan C. Johnson preached.

FIRST SITTING–OPENING

At 3:55 p.m. The Rev. Tim Posyluzny, Synod Chairperson, welcomed delegates, guests and visitors to the fourteenth biennial convention of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

GREETINGS

Dr. Allen Berger, Dean of the Augustana Faculty, welcomed delegates and visitors to the Augustana Campus, and summarized plans for the future of the faculty and the Campus.

Max Lindstrand, Deputy Mayor, brought greetings from the City of Camrose and welcomed delegates to the City.

Other written greetings were acknowledged.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny introduced recording secretary Dave Stolee; Secretary Brenda Visser; Treasurer Stephen Wildfang; Bishop Ron Mayan; Assistant to the Bishop The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer; Colombian guests Bishop Eduardo Martinez Diaz, Yamile Varon, and Zulma Ojeda; National Bishop Susan Johnson; convention chaplain, Pastor Lee Woolery; daily convention news editor, Pastor Bruce Elhert; parliamentarian, Bishop Don Sjoberg; and the local arrangements committee, chaired by Joe Stolee.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny introduced rostered people new to the Synod since the last convention, as well as those who have retired in the past biennium.

Assistant to the Bishop The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer introduced members of Abundant Life Lutheran Church, Calgary.

ABT 12 - 01 MOVED AND SECONDED that Abundant Life Lutheran Church, Calgary, be accepted on to the roster of congregations of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. CARRIED.

TABLE INTRODUCTIONS

Jeremy Doorton, leader of “I Am Second” showed a video and invited delegates to introduce themselves to others seated near them.

ORIENTATION OF DELEGATES

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny provided an orientation to the convention. Convention committees were introduced. Jonathan Mohr outlined procedures related to the Committee on Reference and Counsel.

AGENDA

ABT 12 - 02 MOVED AND SECONDED that the agenda for the convention be adopted with the addition of a report by Pastor Kristian Wold on the Retreat of Our Own; and an open forum time for delegates to ask questions and make observations. CARRIED.

RESTRUCTURING OF THE SYNOD

Stephen Wildfang, chair of the Synod Restructuring Committee, reported on the work of the committee regarding restructuring of the Synod. Further discussion of items related to restructuring were scheduled for later in the convention.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP

Bishop Mayan presented his report as found in the Bulletin of Reports.

FIRST BALLOT FOR CHAIRPERSON

Stephen Wildfang introduced the ecclesiastical process for the election of chairperson. Chaplain Lee Woolery led a prayer. Ballots were collected and balloting was declared closed.

TURTLE AWARD

Dr. Preston Pouteaux described the Turtle Award, which is to be awarded to a ministry that has stuck its neck out in an innovative or creative way.

Pastor Hilde Lorenz from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Calgary nominated their congregation to receive the award for their weekly supper, which serves 65-70 community members each week.

THE BETHANY GROUP CORPORATION MEETING

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny declared the convention in recess at 5:09 p.m. and convened a meeting of The Bethany Group corporation.

Pastor Craig Wentland, Chair of The Bethany Group Governing Board, presented the report found in the Bulletin of Reports, and summarized changes that have taken place since the last corporation meeting. He outlined a resolution that would change the relationship of the Bethany Group to the Synod.

TBG 12-01 MOVED AND SECONDED

In Thankfulness to God

For the Bethany Group's growth and service for 90 years, and

For the way in which The Bethany Group has responsibly operated in and under authority of this Synod,

And in recognition of the fact that under the Bethany Nursing Home of Camrose, Alberta Act, The Bethany Group has full authority to take control of its own governance,

Be it resolved that we the Synod of Alberta and the Territories do hereby relinquish any and all authority over The Bethany Group and pray God's continued blessing on The Bethany Group's ministry through its adherence to its values and to its mission.

And by way of passing this motion Section 3 - Membership and Section 4 - Representation of the current bylaws of The Bethany Group be modified to recognize this change.

And in order to implement and give effect to this resolution the Bishop is authorized to sign any and all documents and memoranda as may be required on behalf of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Bethany Group corporation meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny declared the convention in session.

At 5:23 Chaplain Lee Woolery led in prayer and the convention recessed for dinner.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny called the convention back to order at 6:45 p.m.

GREETINGS AND REPORT FROM THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

National Bishop Susan Johnson brought greetings and a report from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. She highlighted activities in the areas of effective partnerships, compassionate justice, diverse faces, focused framework and spirited discipleship.

GREETINGS FROM GROUP SERVICES

Hildy Thiessen, Executive Director of Group Services, Inc., brought greetings and a report.

SECOND BALLOT FOR CHAIRPERSON

Stephen Wildfang called on the Committee on Elections to present the results of the first ballot for

chairperson. 169 ballots were cast; 15 were spoiled. There was no election. The results of the first ballot are as follows:

Gary Aicken 4	Gordon Jensen 1	Rita Roste 1
Dennis Aicken. 4	Larry Kochendorfer 4	Kevin Scott 1
Ryan Andersen 1	John Lentz 3	Darlene Schindel 2
Sean Bell 1	Norman Lentz 1	Joe Stolee 2
Julianne Barlow 4	Max Lindstrand 1	Calvin Skriver 3
Laird Borst 3	Orlow Lund 1	Trish Schmermund 2
Reg Berg 1	Howard Mastin 1	Wayne Street 10
Gail Berg 1	Paul McCormick 2	Kathie Schmitke 2
Terrie Coombs 2	Mic Macintyre 1	Frank Thede 1
Bruce Ehlert 1	Ron Mayan 1	Sharon Villetard 1
David Eriksson 1	Jonathan Mohr 1	Julianna Wehrfritz-Hanson
Brad Everett 8	Hans-Dittmar Mundel 1	3
Ken Fredrick 1	Gary Nickel 1	Stephen Wildfang 5
Peter Grundler 2	Erik Parker 2	Markus Wilhelm 1
James Hendricksen 4	Philip Penrod 1	Kristian Wold 1
Phil Hink 3	Tim Posyluzny 47	Lee Woolery 5
Daranne Harris 1	Kevin Ree 3	

Stephen Wildfang reviewed the procedures for the second ballot. The second ballot was distributed and balloting was declared closed.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny declared the Second Sitting closed at 7:22 p.m.

A worship service followed, including prayers of remembrance for the dead. Pastor Daranne Harris presided and Bishop Eduardo Martinez preached.

A reception sponsored by Canadian Lutheran World Relief, followed the service.

Friday, May 25, 2012

SECOND SITTING-

At 8:50 a.m. the convention gathered in song, led by Dr. Joy Berg

At 9:00 a.m. The Rev. Aaron Schnell presided at Morning Worship, and The Rev. Lee Woolery preached; and at 9:45 Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny called the Second Sitting of the convention to order.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

The Committee on Elections reported the results of the second ballot for Chairperson. 175 ballots were cast, with one spoiled. There was no election, and the third ballot is being prepared. Results of the second ballot are as follows:

Gary Aicken 1	Gordon Jensen 3	Rita Roste 1
Dennis Aicken. 3	Larry Kochendorfer 2	Kevin Scott 1
Ryan Andersen 1	John Lentz 2	Darlene Schindel 1
Sean Bell 1	Norman Lentz 3	Joe Stolee 2
Julianne Barlow 4	Max Lindstrand 0	Calvin Skriver 2
Laird Borst 4	Orlow Lund 1	Trish Schmermund 4
Reg Berg 0	Howard Mastin 2	Wayne Street 10
Gail Berg 0	Paul McCormick 4	Kathie Schmitke 0
Terrie Coombs 4	Mic Macintyre 1	Frank Thede 1
Bruce Ehlert 1	Ron Mayan 1	Sharon Villetard 2
David Eriksson 3	Jonathan Mohr 4	Julianna Wehrfritz-Hanson
Brad Everett 11	Hans-Dittmar Mundel. 3	6
Ken Fredrick 0	Gary Nickel 2	Stephen Wildfang 8
Peter Grundler 1	Erik Parker 0	Markus Wilhelm 1
James Hendricksen 3	Philip Penrod 1	Kristian Wold 4
Phil Hink 4	Tim Posyluzny 55	Lee Woolery 4
Daranne Harris 0	Kevin Ree 2	Spoiled 1

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

The Committee for Registration and Attendance reported the current official attendance as follows:

Rostered delegates 104	Visitors 18
Lay delegates 94	Guests 20
Total delegates 198	

TURTLE AWARD

Pastor Bart Eriksson presented the nomination of All Saints in Calgary for the Turtle Award. The nomination was based on their work with youth.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES

The Committee on Minutes reported that they had reviewed the minutes of the First Sitting and found them to be accurate. They are being printed for distribution.

RETREAT OF OUR OWN

The Rev. Kristian Wold provided background information on the Retreat of Our Own, and highlighted the retreat which will be held in Canmore on September 28-30, with Dr. Samuel Torvend presenting on "Luther and the Hungry Poor".

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

The Committee on Reference and Counsel presented the following petitions:

Petition #12

ABT 12 - 03 MOVED AND SECONDED that the World Mission Committee of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, in cooperation and consultation with Synod Council and Executive, develop a strategy to financially support the work and ministry of Rev. Brian Rude in El Salvador.

The motion was CARRIED

Petition #13

MOVED AND SECONDED that the Synod's Social Justice Coordinators prepare for congregational use educational materials, such as bulletin inserts, including 1) water issues facing Albertans; 2) alternative solutions; and 3) theological considerations.

MOVED AND SECONDED that the motion be amended by inserting the following words at the beginning of the motion: "a designate, in consultation with..."

The motion to amend was CARRIED.

The motion as amended was CARRIED, and reads as follows:

ABT 12 - 04 That a designate, in consultation with the Synod's Social Justice Coordinators prepare for congregational use educational materials, such as bulletin inserts, including 1) water issues facing Albertans; 2) alternative solutions; and 3) theological considerations.

THIRD BALLOT FOR CHAIRPERSON

Stephen Wildfang called for the third ballot for election of chairperson to be distributed. Balloting was declared closed.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee presented Synod Council's nomination of Brenda Visser as secretary for a four-year term ending in 2016. There were no further nominations.

ABT 12 - 05 MOVED AND SECONDED that nominations cease. CARRIED.

GREETINGS FROM LUTHERAN CHURCH OF COLOMBIA

Bishop Eduardo Martinez Diaz brought greetings from the Lutheran Church of Colombia. The Companion Synod Covenant was signed by Bishop Eduardo Martinez Diaz and Bishop Ron Mayan.

The convention recessed for a brief health/refreshment break with coffee gifted to the assembly by the Lutheran Church of Colombia.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: KAREN WILK

Karen Wilk, made a presentation based on her book "Moving from a 'Come and See' to a 'Go and Be' Church".

RECOGNITION OF ROSTERED CHURCH LEADERS - 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

The following rostered leaders were recognized for 25 years of ordained ministry during the last biennium:

David Glawe, Gary Buckley, Doug Giles, John Lentz, Jim Krause, Tim Graff, Marvin Krebs, Richard Reimer, and Lucretia van Ommeren-Tabbert.

Those in attendance were presented with a certificate and synod vest.

Chaplain Lee Woolery closed the Second Sitting with prayer at 12:05 p.m.

THIRD SITTING-

At 1:10 p.m. the convention gathered in song, led by Dr. Joy Berg

Chaplain Lee Woolery led the convention in prayer.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny called the Third Session to order at 1:25 p.m.

95 GRATITUDES OF THE SYNOD

Pastor James Hendricksen presented a poster of “95 Gratuudes of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories” to The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Assistant to the Bishop. It was posted on the door of the convention hall.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

The Committee for Registration and Attendance reported the current official attendance is now as follows:

Rostered delegates 108	Visitors 18
Lay delegates 94	Guests 21

GREETINGS FROM LUTHERAN COLLEGIATE BIBLE INSTITUTE

The Rev. Roger Haugen, President, brought greetings from Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute, and drew attention to their report which is included in the Bulletin of Reports.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee presented nominations for Synod Council as follows:

Southwest Conference	Lay	Terrie Coombs Kristin Jakobson
East Central Conference	Rostered	Paul McCormick
Northern Conference	Lay	Michael Harmon
Southern Conference	Lay	Wayne Street
West Central Conference	Lay	Mark Ree
West Central Conference	Rostered	Gary Aicken

The Nominating Committee presented the nomination of Maria Mulloy for election to the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Directors.

There was a call for further nominations from the floor.

ABT 12 - 06 MOVED AND SECONDED that nominations for Synod Council and the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Directors, cease. CARRIED.

ELECTION OF SYNOD CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY

The Committee for Elections reported that 182 ballots were cast on the third ballot for Synod Chairperson, with one spoiled. The results were as follows:

Stephen Wildfang 20
Brad Everett 25

Wayne Street 24
Tim Posyluzny 112

Stephen Wildfang declared The Rev. Tim Posyluzny re-elected as Synod Chairperson. Stephen Wildfang also declared Brenda Visser elected as Secretary.

YOUTH DELEGATES

Dorina Brown, Ryan Cameron and Anna Ree reported on behalf of the youth delegates attending the convention.

WORKSHOPS

At 1:55 p.m. the following workshops were presented with delegates, visitors and guests invited to choose one:

- Telling God's Story with our Canadian Voice, and Telling God's Story Around the World
- What Happens at Camp ... Goes Everywhere!
- Telling Our Stories: Landscapes of Campus Ministry
- What are the Resources to Help Our Congregation
- What in the World are Lutherans Doing?
- ELCIC Pension and Benefits Seminar
- Lutherans in Mongolia, and Stories of God at Work in Colombia
- Youth Ministry
- Renewing Our Mission with Justice

The convention reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

ELECTION OF SYNOD COUNCIL

Ballots were distributed for election of a lay Synod Council member from the Southwest Conference. Balloting was declared closed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

The Committee for Reference and Counsel presented Petitions 1 and 2, which were included in the Bulletin of Reports.

Petition #1

ABT 12 - 07 MOVED AND SECONDED to add the words “or the rostered minister” to the last sentence in Bylaw III.5.f.i, so that it reads:

Upon the request of the congregational council or the rostered minister; or on receipt of a petition signed by at least one-third of the voting members of a congregation, the bishop shall appoint an advisory committee to investigate.

The motion was CARRIED.

Petition #2

ABT 12 - 08 MOVED AND SECONDED that Synod Bylaw, Part IX. Section 1.b be editorially amended by adding the words italicized:

b. Ordain *or consecrate* approved candidates for *rostered* ministry.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Committee also presented petition #14.

Petition #14

ABT 12 - 09 MOVED AND SECONDED that Synod conventions be scheduled in a month other than May.

The motion was CARRIED.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES

The Committee on Minutes reported that they had reviewed the minutes of the Second Sitting and found them to be accurate. The minutes were distributed.

Some editorial corrections were noted. The final version of the minutes will reflect these changes.

ABT 12 - 10 MOVED AND SECONDED that the minutes of Sittings One and Two be approved as distributed, with the amendments noted.

The motion was CARRIED.

RECOGNITION OF ROSTERED CHURCH LEADERS - 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

The following rostered leaders were recognized for having served 40 years of ordained ministry during the last biennium:

Vern Begalke, Gary Nickel, Darryl Roste, Luke Mak, Jes Schienbein, and Rolf Nosterud.

Those in attendance were presented with a certificate and a synod vest.

OPEN FORUM

Delegates were invited to express their concerns, opinions, or pose questions about issues relevant to the Synod.

Chaplain Lee Woolery closed the Third Sitting with prayer at 5:10 p.m.

FOURTH SITTING-

The Fourth Sitting began with singing led by Dr. Joy Berg and was called to order by the Chair, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny at 6:40 p.m.

TURTLE AWARD

Margaret Sadler nominated John Campbell for the Turtle Award.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

The Committee on Elections reported the results of the elections of a lay member from the Southwest Conference for Synod Council. 149 ballots were cast, with two spoiled. Results were as follows:

Terrie Coombs 84

Kristin Jakobson 63

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny declared Terrie Coombs elected to the position of lay representative from Southwest Conference, Synod Council. Other members of Synod Council were declared elected by acclamation as follows:

East Central Conference	Rostered	Paul McCormick
Northern Conference	Lay	Michael Harmon
Southern Conference	Lay	Wayne Street
West Central Conference	Lay	Mark Ree
West Central Conference	Rostered	Gary Aicken

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny also declared Maria Mulloy elected by acclamation to the Board of Directors of Lutheran Theological Seminary.

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON RESTRUCTURING

Stephen Wildfang, Chair of the Synod Implementation Team, introduced the presentation of the report on restructuring of the Church. Bishop Susan Johnson, The Rev. Kathy Martin and Wayne

Street, members of the National Implementation Team, participated in the presentation. Delegates were given an opportunity to discuss in small groups their views about working together in areas. The small groups recorded their ideas, which will be helpful to Synod Council in future deliberations.

Resolutions related to restructuring will be presented by the Committee on Reference and Counsel in the Fifth Sitting.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny declared the Fourth Sitting closed at 8:30 p.m.

A service of Prayer and Healing Around the Cross was held in the Chapel at 8:30 p.m. . Pastor Larry Kochendorfer presided and Bishop Eduardo Martinez Diaz of the Lutheran Church in Colombia preached.

Saturday, May 26, 2012

FIFTH SITTING-

The Fifth Sitting gathered at 9:00 a.m. with singing led by Dr. Joy Berg

The Rev. Hilde Lorenz presided at the Morning Eucharist Service and Pastor Lee Woolery preached.

DESTRUCTION OF BALLOTS

ABT 12 - 11 MOVED AND SECONDED that all ballots cast at this convention be destroyed.
CARRIED.

REPORT OF THE NECROLOGIST/ARCHIVIST

Pastor Gary Nickel, Synod archivist/necrologist, presented his report, and emphasized the importance of maintaining and preserving congregational records.

His written report in the Bulletin of Reports included the names of rostered persons and spouses of rostered persons who have died in the last biennium and at one time, served in this Synod. This includes: Elinor Rasmussen, The Rev. Henry Trawny, The Rev. Vernon Swenson, The Rev. Arthur Ernest Dahlen, Una Haugen, The Rev. Mark Innes, The Rev. Osborne (Ozzie) Olsen, The Rev. Stefan Radke, The Rev. Conrad Knoch, Frieda Eugene Sturdy Wilke, The Rev. Don Hall, Howard Berg, The Rev. Del Christensen, The Rev. John Anderson, Martin Groote, The Rev. Joe Rostad, The Rev. Brian Patterson, Sister Frieda Kiel, The Rev. Wallace Bergman, The Rev. Gordon Hanson, and The Rev. Eric Pedersen.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

The Committee for Registration and Attendance presented their fourth report as follows:

Rostered delegates 111
Lay delegates 97
Total delegates 208

Visitors 20
Guests 21

TURTLE AWARD

Mary-Ann Stushnoff, nominee for the Turtle Award, presented information about her mission work in Kenya. The convention recessed for a short refreshment break.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORT OF THE BISHOP

Pastor John Lentz reported on behalf of the Committee on the Report of the Bishop. They expressed thanks to Bishop Mayan for his faithful service during a difficult time. Delegates expressed their support for Bishop Mayan with standing applause.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

The Committee for Reference and Counsel presented the following petitions:

Petition #8

ABT 12 - 12 MOVED AND SECONDED that the Synod of Alberta and the Territories be directed to develop amendments to the Synod Constitution and Bylaws in order to implement aspects of restructuring, especially in regards to synodically recognized ministries, areas, electoral regions and synod conventions, and report to the 2014 Synod Convention.

MOVED AND SECONDED THAT the vote on this resolution be by secret ballot.

The motion to vote by secret ballot was DEFEATED.

The motion was CARRIED.

On the basis of comments from delegates the chair called for a straw poll to determine whether delegates would be in favor of merging with the B.C. Synod at some time. A simple majority voted in favor.

Petition #9

ABT 12 - 13 MOVED AND SECONDED that the Council of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories be directed to conduct a test project by provisionally implementing some of the aspects of the Synod Implementation Team's restructuring plan with regards to areas and area leadership teams, and present a feasibility report to the 2014 Synod Convention.

The motion was CARRIED.

Petition #10

MOVED AND SECONDED that the Council of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories engage in further conversation with the ELCIC National Church Council, the British Columbia Synod, the Saskatchewan Synod and the Manitoba Northwest Ontario Synod, to develop options for the structure of the Church in order to achieve our goals in mission and ministry in the 21st century.

MOVED AND SECONDED that the Eastern Synod be added to the resolution, following Manitoba Northwest Ontario Synod. The amendment was CARRIED.

The motion as amended was CARRIED and reads:

ABT 12 - 14 that the Council of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories engage in further conversation with the ELCIC National Church Council, the British Columbia Synod, the Saskatchewan Synod, the Manitoba Northwest Ontario Synod and the Eastern Synod to develop options for the structure of the Church in order to achieve our goals in mission and ministry in the 21st century.

Petition #11

ABT 12 -15 MOVED AND SECONDED that the Synod of Alberta and the Territories continue to look for opportunities to work together with the British Columbia Synod.

The motion was CARRIED.

Petition #15

ABT 12 - 16 MOVED AND SECONDED that the Synod work in cooperation with seminaries, other synods, and other churches to:

1. Research within and beyond the ELCIC
 - a. Examples of effective engagement in mission and spiritual formation in our postmodern context;
 - b. Examples of thriving congregations;
 - c. Examples of structures that effectively initiate and support mission and renewal;
 - d. From these examples, identify processes and themes that can guide our own renewal;
1. Make this information available and provide, based on this knowledge,
 1. Workshops;
 2. Coaching for congregations or groups of congregations in how to implement what is learned;
 3. Publications; and

that funding for this research and teaching come from our reserve fund and/or interest from this fund.

The motion was CARRIED

Chaplain Lee Woolery closed the Fifth Sitting with prayer at 11:56 p.m.

SIXTH SITTING-

The Sixth Sitting began at 1:00 p.m. with singing led by Dr. Joy Berg and Cathy Kochendorfer. Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny called the Sixth Session to order at 1:15 p.m.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES

The Committee on Minutes reported that they had reviewed the minutes of the Third and Fourth Sitzings, which had been distributed. Editorial corrections were noted and will be reflected in the final version of the minutes.

ABT 12 - 17 MOVED AND SECONDED that the minutes of the Third and Fourth sittings be accepted with the corrections noted.

The motion was CARRIED.

ABT 12 - 18 that the minutes of sittings Five and Six be referred to Synod Council for adoption.

The motion was CARRIED.

REPORT FROM LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Ogilvie, President of Lutheran Theological Seminary, presented his report. A written report was included in the Bulletin of Reports.

REPORT OF SYNOD COUNCIL

Brenda Visser, Synod Secretary, introduced the Report of Synod Council that was included in the Bulletin of Reports and invited questions and comments.

MISSION RESOURCE PRIORITIES

Synod Councillors The Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow, Gail Berg and Wayne Street reviewed the Mission Priorities for 2010-2012 as found in the Bulletin of Reports.

ABT 12 - 19 that the current Mission Priorities of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories be extended from 2012 to 2014.

The motion was CARRIED.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Stephen Wildfang, treasurer, added comments to his written report which was included in the Bulletin of Reports. He presented the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011.

ABT 12 - 20 MOVED AND SECONDED that the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 be adopted.

The motion was CARRIED.

The treasurer also highlighted the proposed operating budgets for 2012-2013 as included in the Bulletin of Reports.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS

Attention was drawn to the program committee reports included in the Bulletin of Reports. Delegates were invited to ask questions about the work of the committees and about their reports.

REPORT FROM CANADIAN LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Robert Granke, Executive Director of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, thanked delegates for their support, highlighted aspects of their work, and responded to questions. There was also a written report included in the Bulletin of Reports.

RECOGNITION OF PASTOR BRIAN RUDE

Bishop Susan Johnson thanked Pastor Brian Rude for his 23 years of service as a missionary in El Salvador, and presented him with a gift.

The convention recessed for a short refreshment break.

TURTLE AWARD

Dr. Preston Pouteaux reviewed the creation of the Turtle Award at the last convention to encourage discussion of innovative, creative, positive things happening in the Synod. He recognized Mary-Ann Stushnoff as runner-up for this convention, and presented the award to The Rev. Hilde Lorenz of Shepherd of the Hills, Calgary.

BUDGET APPROVAL

ABT 12 - 21 MOVED AND SECONDED that the Synod operating budget for 2012-2013 be adopted as presented in the Bulletin of Reports.

The motion was CARRIED.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

Jonathan Mohr, chair of the Committee for Reference and Counsel presented the following petition:

Petition #16

ABT 12 - 22 MOVED AND SECONDED that Synod Council be directed to take the appropriate steps to send the amount of \$53,500 (representing a tithe of our surplus and future reserve funds) to Lutheran Theological Seminary at Saskatoon as part of the Faithful for the Future campaign with the intent of funding the planned creation of a faculty position in the area of Congregational Leadership and to request that the faculty undertake a study of how the ELCIC might learn from other constituencies how best to organize for mission in the present context.

The motion was CARRIED.

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS

Thanks were expressed to Jonathan Mohr and members of the Committee on Reference and Counsel for their good work.

Thanks were expressed for those who provided refreshments for the convention, including Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Theological Seminary, and members of the South West Conference. The Rev. John Lentz expressed thanks to Joe Stolee, members of the Local Arrangements Committee, and Sharon Villetard, Convention Manager. Delegates expressed their thanks with applause.

Dave Stolee was thanked for acting as recording secretary. It was noted that he has taken minutes at most Synod conventions, beginning in 1985. The convention expressed appreciation to Dave by presenting him with a synod vest.

WELCOME TO THE NEXT CONVENTION

The Rev. John Lentz, Dean of the West Central Conference extended a welcome to the fifteenth Synod Convention which will be held at the Augustana Campus in Camrose on June 19-22, 2014.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny thanked delegates for their participation in the convention, and declared the convention adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

A banquet followed at the Camrose Regional Exhibition. The following rostered persons were honoured for serving this church for fifty years: Ron Weatherington, Laverne Hoveland, and Don Scott. Honoured for sixty years of ordained ministry were Harold Eriksson, Paul Eriksson, Allen Severson, Sid Nelson, Ed Rostad, Milton Rude, Stanley Rude, and Ted Becker.

Those honourees who were in attendance, were presented with a certificate and a synod vest.

A brief video presentation of the work of The Rev. Brian Rude was viewed. He described some of his work and expressed appreciation for the relationship that he has enjoyed with the members and congregations in the Synod. The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer presented him with cards and financial gifts in support of his continuing ministry in El Salvador.

Sunday, May 27, 2012

A service of Holy Communion was celebrated at 10:30 a.m. in the Augustana Chapel, with National Bishop Susan Johnson presiding and Bishop Ron Mayan preaching.

Bishop Ron Mayan led the Order for Closing of Convention.