

Minutes of Special Convention
Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
October 27, 2012
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Red Deer, Alberta

The Special Convention of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories began at 11:30 am in the nave of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd with the Order for Opening of the Convention and a worship service.

Convention was chaired by Rev. Tim Posyluzny, Synod Council Chair.

FIRST SITTING:

WELCOME AND OPENING

Rev. Marc Jerry, host pastor, welcomed all rostered and lay delegates, guests and visitors to the Special Convention and thanked members of the congregation for their assistance.

Rev. Tim Posyluzny extended a welcome to all delegates and visitors. He introduced National Bishop Susan Johnson; Rev. Dr. Gordon Jensen, Bible study presenter; Rose Good, recording secretary; and Frank Thede, parliamentarian for the convention.

WORSHIP

Conference Chaplain, Rev. Lee Woolery, led a homily based on the alternate text for Pentecost 22.

FIRST BALLOT FOR BISHOP

National Bishop Susan Johnson chaired the election process for a new bishop of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. She described the election process as set out in the Synod Bylaws (Part V) with particular mention of the fact that those rostered members with whom we are in “Full Communion” (of the Anglican Church of Canada) have the same rights and privileges as ELCIC rostered ministers.

Ballots were distributed, cast and balloting closed.

PRESENTATION OF GIFT TO BISHOP RON MAYAN

Rev. Tim Posyluzny thanked Bishop Ron Mayan for his work, noting his giftedness, his dedication and commitment as Bishop of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. Bishop Mayan was presented a “Book of Gratitude” from the constituency and a painting by Colleen McGinnis named “Solitare” (Psalm 18:1-2; hope for the future, appreciation for the past).

The assembly recessed for lunch, served by members of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, at 12:30 p.m.

SECOND SITTING

The assembly reconvened at 1:30 pm

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

The official attendance was noted as follows:

Rostered delegates:	108
Lay delegates	77
Total number of delegates	185
Visitors.	15

(A quorum required 67 delegates)

REPORT OF THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

National Bishop Susan Johnson announced that the Elections Committee reported 187 ballots were cast. Since there were only 185 voting delegates and there were 187 ballots cast, the first ballot is invalid.

ABT 12-23 **MOVED AND SECONDED** that the first ballot be treated as a nominating ballot and the Convention proceed to the second ballot if unanimous consent is given by those present.

The motion was carried.

National Bishop Susan Johnson announced the results:

Dennis Aicken	4	Kevin Powell	2
Gary Aicken	1	Tim Posyluzny	12
Ryan Andersen	1	Kevin Ree	1
Laird Borst	3	Rita Roste	1
Bart Eriksson	1	Trish Schmermund	1
Brad Everett	8	Aaron Schnell	2
Peter Grundler	3	Calvin Skriver	1
Gordon Jensen	3	Kirk Tastad	1
Larry Kochendorfer	115	Doug Hanson Torwalt	1
John Lentz	1	Marty Tuer	1
Michael Macintyre	2	Michael Wellman	1
Howard Mastin	1	Markus Wilhelm	1
Stewart Miller	1	Lee Woolery	10
Eleanor Ness	1	Tim Wray	1
Rolf Nosterud	1		
Kevin Ogilvie	1		
Tom Peterson	2		

ELECTION OF BISHOP – SECOND BALLOT

National Bishop Susan Johnson called for the second ballot to be distributed. Pastor Lee Woolery offered a prayer; votes were cast; balloting closed.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. GORDON JENSEN

Pastor Gordon Jensen led a Bible study based on the text from Luke 10:1 – 24. Small groups, imagining that they and a friend “*were asked to go door-knocking in your community to invite your neighbours to come to church*”, discussed the following questions -

1. Would you go? Why or why not?
2. What training would you need?
3. What would you bring with you?
4. What would you say?
5. What would you do if they were rude to you?
6. How would you feel, once you were finished for the day?

The session closed with singing “I Love to Tell the Story”.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Rev. Tim Posyluzny introduced Stephen Wildfang, the synod treasurer, who, on behalf of the Synod Council, presented two constitutional amendments for consideration by the assembly.

The amendments (mandated by the May, 2012 Synod Convention) would accommodate a move towards a triennial convention rather than a biennial one.

ABT 12 – 24 MOVED AND SECONDED that Article XII. Section 2 be amended so that it shall read:
Synod Council shall consist of the officers of the synod, and members elected and appointed according to procedures defined in the bylaws of the synod. Synod Council may appoint a replacement member to fill a vacancy between conventions.

The motion was carried.

ABT 12 – 25 MOVED AND SECONDED that Article XII. Section 3 be amended so that it shall read:
The officers shall be elected by the synod convention according to procedures defined in the bylaws of the synod. All officers shall serve until their successors assume office.

The motion was carried.

ELECTION OF BISHOP – REPORT OF SECOND BALLOT

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared the second balloting invalid as more votes were cast than registered delegates.

A roll call was taken of all the voting delegates. Those who were voting but whose names were not called were asked to meet with the Registration Desk and the Elections Committee.

ELECTION OF BISHOP - Re-vote of Second ballot

Ballots were distributed; a prayer was offered by chaplain, The Rev. Lee Woolery; ballots were cast. Balloting was declared closed.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. GORDON JENSEN

The second Bible Study was presented and concluded with the singing of “The Church’s One Foundation”.

Rev. Tim Posyluzny thanked the Rev. Dr. Gordon Jensen for his presentations.

ELECTION OF BISHOP – REPORT OF (Re-cast) SECOND BALLOT

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared that the election is valid and that the results were as follows:

Dennis Aicken	3	Howard Mastin	1
Gary Aicken	1	Tom Peterson	1
Ryan Andersen	1	Tim Posyluzny	12
Laird Borst	1	Kevin Powell	1
Bart Eriksson	1	Aaron Schnell	2
Brad Everett	11	Lee Woolery	4
Gordon Jensen	1	Tim Wray	3
Larry Kochendorfer	143		
John Lentz	1		

The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer was declared elected the fourth Bishop of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. Bishop-Elect, The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer expressed how deeply humbled he was, thanked everyone for their prayers, gave a brief biography of himself and invited delegates to enter into a covenant. The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer accepted the position of bishop.

WELCOME TO ORDINATION

Ordination of the Bishop-Elect will be held on January 26, 2013 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Edmonton.

ABT 12-25 MOVED AND SECONDED that all ballots be destroyed.

The motion was carried.

CLOSING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

The Rev. Lee Woolery presided at the closing service; The Rev. Marc Jerry assisted and National Bishop Susan Johnson preached.

Chairperson, The Rev. Tim Posyluzny led in the closing of convention and adjourned the assembly at 5:00 p.m. .