

MINUTES

13th Biennial MNO Synod Convention, April 22-25, 2010
Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Winnipeg, MB

THEME: In Mission With Others – LED BY GOD’S WORD

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Registration was held from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The convention was opened with a service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m., followed by a reception honouring special anniversaries of ordination and welcoming new rostered ministers to the synod.

Presiding Minister and Preacher	Bishop Elaine Sauer
Assisting Minister	Rev. Lenise Francis
Acolyte/Crucifer	Saara Vuorela
Torch Bearers	Kristjana Werboweski, Stephanie Schultz
Banner Bearer	Rev. Leslie Poulin
Book Bearer	Luke Filipowicz
Lectors	Ernie Dojack, Gary Horton
Ushers and gift bearers	Ralph Oswald, Jerry Buffie
Communion Assistants	Sharron Arksey, Alan Cann, Faye Goranson, Brenda Hardy, Ed Kraus, Kristina Lies, Ken Steinke, Joe Stolee
Music Director	Duane Gaukel
Flutists	Krista Engel, Rev. Nancy Walker
Convention Choir	Convention Delegates and Area Congregants
Sacristans	Gerda Coull, Gerlinde Berglund

The offering of \$2,028 was designated for *Financial Aid for Seminarians*.

Those celebrating special anniversaries of ordination:

60 years:	Rev. Gordon P. Hendrickson
50 years:	Rev. Leon C. Gilbertson
	Rev. Ingthor Isfeld
40 years:	Rev. Donald J. Engel
	Rev. George Johnson
	Rev. Lanny D. Knutson
	Rev. Ronald J. Long
	Rev. Al Maier
25 years:	Rev. Lynn Granke

Those new to the MNO Synod:

Deacon Michele Barr, Rev. Barry Bence, Rev. Thomas Lee Berry, Rev. Jenn-Nian Chen, Rev. Bart Coleman, Rev. Catherine Giroux, Rev. Peter Lurvey, Rev. Terri-Ann Mattiasson, Rev. Sabine Milewski, Rev. Fran Schmidt, Deacon Kris Taylor
Rev. Erwin Toppel, Rev. Diana Wilde (Anglican)

Friday, April 23, 2010

SITTING #1

Vice Chair of Synod Council, Brian Lorch, chaired.

MSC MNO 13-10-01 that the Agenda be adopted.

Jett Isleifson was introduced and brought greetings on behalf of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, host congregation.

Announcement of Convention Committees:

Committee on Registration and Attendance

Audrey Miller, Chairperson
Rev. Ron Vert, Anne Kurbis

Committee on Minutes

Clyde Loeb, Chairperson
Gerlinde Berglund, Jamie Hall, Claudia Eisbrenner, Don Williamson

Committee of Reference and Counsel

Rev. Matthew Diegel, Chairperson
Debbie Schick, Ernest Bergbusch, Brenda Hardy, Rev. Stacy Moroz

Committee on Conduct of Elections

Rev. Bruce Zinken, Chairperson
Lori-Ann Kaminsky, Rev. Laurel Seyfert, Haakon Dagsvik, Terri Mollot

Rev. Don Engel was introduced as the Parliamentarian.

Rev. Norris Nordin was introduced as the Chaplain.

Brian Lorch, chair gave a brief orientation to convention delegates.

The first Report of the Committee on Registration and attendance:

	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Registered</u>
Rostered Ministers	89	66
Lay Delegates	95	70
Youth	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>
Quorum required:		<u>66</u>

FIRST BALLOT FOR BISHOP

The Report of the Committee on Nominations was presented by Rev. Michael Kurtz.

Nominations for Synod Council:

Aurora Conference: Marilyn Grimeau
Cambrian Conference: Haakon Dagsvik, Laurie Pentney
Metro Conference: Robert Dojack, Jim Mair
Rostered at Large: Rev. Bart Coleman, Rev Matthew Diegel.

Board of Governors, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon: Sandra Tymchyshyn

No nominations were forthcoming from the floor in any of the conferences or categories.

Nominations were declared closed.

Bishop Elaine Sauer assumed the chair and Brian Lorch, Vice-chair, presented the 2nd Reading of the constitutional amendments.

The following editorial changes were made:

Article IV, Section 2b, to read as follows: ordain, *receive*, consecrate, nurture, support and discipline *rostered* ministers

Allan Francis assumed the chair and Bishop Elaine Sauer responded to questions from the floor.

Bishop Elaine assumed the chair and Allan Francis responded to questions from the floor.

Allan Francis assumed the chair and Bishop Elaine Sauer responded to questions from the floor.

MSC MNO 13-10-02 that a division be made for Article XIII, Section 1 from the proposed constitutional changes.

MSC MNO 13-10-03 that the amendments to the constitution as presented on pages 7-16 of the 13th Biennial Convention, MNO Synod Bulletin of Reports (and as shown below with the above editorial changes) be given 2nd reading approval (with the exception of Article XIII, Section 1, in accordance with MNO 13-10-02.)

ARTICLE IV

Mission

- Section 1. As the regional expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and in faithfulness to the Lord of the Church, this synod shall facilitate and advance the mission of this church within its territory. Guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, it shall carry out this mission by shepherding its congregations, ~~ordained ministers and lay diaconal ministers~~ **and rostered ministers** by engaging in other forms of ministry which proclaim God's Word and serve to bring reconciliation to the world.
- Section 2. In seeking to achieve its mission, this synod shall
- b. Ordain, receive, **consecrate**, nurture, support and discipline ~~ordained~~ **rostered** ministers;
 - c. Recruit, approve, supervise and support ministerial candidates **for rostered ministry**;

ARTICLE VI

Congregations

- Section 2. Every parish not represented by a **rostered** minister shall elect a lay delegate to the convention of this church. If a parish has more than eight hundred baptized members two lay delegates shall be elected, unless a ~~pastor~~ **rostered minister** of the parish has been chosen by the conference, in which case one lay delegate shall be elected.
- Section 9. A congregation desiring to withdraw from this church shall require a two-thirds majority vote at any legally called and conducted meeting. **The Bishop shall be notified immediately, in writing, of the results of the vote.** Such decision shall not be effective until at least ninety days after the bishop has been notified and until the initial action has been ratified by a two-thirds majority vote at a subsequent legally called and conducted meeting **held no sooner than ninety days after the bishop has been notified.**

ARTICLE VIII

Lay Diaconal Ministers

- Section 1. The synod shall have a roster of lay diaconal ministers.
- Section 2. The standards of acceptance and continuance on the roster of lay diaconal ministers of this church shall be defined in the administrative bylaws of this church.

ARTICLE IX

Full Communion Provisions

This article was given first reading at the 2006 convention and will be read again at the 2008 convention. All subsequent Articles have been renumbered accordingly.

- Section 1 Ordered ministers of churches with which this church has a full communion agreement, who are serving in this church under the provisions of the full communion agreement, shall have the same rights and privileges as the equivalent order of the ministry of this church.

ARTICLE X

The Conferences

Explanatory Note:

Article X Section 2 is rewritten as shown below. Existing Article IX, Sections 2 – 9 are to be transferred to the By-Laws to become Part II, Sections 4 – 11.

Section 2. The role of the conferences shall be defined in the bylaws of this synod.

~~Section 2. The purpose of the conferences shall be to~~

- ~~a. Encourage fellowship among ordained ministers, lay diaconal ministers and congregations;~~
- ~~b. Arrange opportunities for the study of the Holy Scriptures and Christian doctrine;~~

- ~~c. Assist the synod in planning, promoting and implementing the mission of the church;~~
- ~~d. Respond in consultation with the synod to particular needs within its territory;~~
- ~~e. Elect the required number of ordained ministers as delegates to the conventions of this church.~~

~~Section 3. A conference may adopt for itself any rules and regulations not in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the synod.~~

~~Section 4. Each conference shall meet at least once a year at a time and place set by the conference. Conferences shall designate their own quorums.~~

~~Section 5. Each conference shall have the right to petition the synod according to procedures set forth in the bylaws.~~

~~Section 6. Each conference shall elect from its membership a dean, a secretary and at least two other persons who shall constitute a Conference Council. Election shall be for a two-year term. The dean, who shall serve as chairperson, shall be an ordained minister.~~

~~Section 7. The Conference Council shall fill any vacancies in its membership until the next meeting of the conference.~~

~~Section 8. The dean of each conference shall make a written report to the synod through the bishop's report.~~

~~Section 9. The deans of the conferences and the bishop shall meet at least once a year for spiritual renewal and the discussion of programs, plans and problems affecting conferences and the synod. Except where otherwise provided in this constitution and its bylaws, the function of such a meeting shall be consultative and advisory.~~

ARTICLE XI

Conventions

Explanatory Note

1. *Section 1 remains as is. Existing Sections 2 – 11 are deleted. Items stipulated in these sections to be moved to the by-laws, Part III.*
2. *A new Section 2 is inserted as shown below.*

Section 1. The convention of the synod shall be its highest legislative authority.

Section 2 Conventions of this synod shall be held according to times, policies, and procedures as described in the bylaws of this synod.

~~Section 2. The regular convention of the synod shall normally be held either biennially between national conventions or annually at a time that is at least forty-five days before or forty-five days after the biennial convention of this church.~~

~~Section 3. Special conventions for specified purposes may be called by the bishop to be held within ninety days of receiving a request in writing from two-thirds of the members of the Synod Council and shall be called by the bishop at the request of the Synod Council or one-fifth of the synod's congregations and one-fifth of those on its roster of ordained ministers under call.~~

~~Section 4. The secretary shall publish the time and place of each regular convention at least six months in advance. The secretary shall give written notice of a special convention to each congregation, ordained minister and lay diaconal minister shall publish the same at least thirty days prior to the opening date of the convention.~~

~~Section 5. One-third of the eligible voting members shall constitute a quorum.~~

~~Section 6. The eligible voting membership of conventions shall consist of~~

~~a. One lay delegate from each congregation and, from congregations having more than 300 baptized members, one lay delegate for each additional 300 baptized members or major fraction thereof;~~

~~b. Ordained ministers on the roster of this synod.~~

- c. ~~Lay diaconal ministers on the roster of this synod.~~
- d. ~~Lay members of the Synod Council.~~

~~Section 7. The voting membership at a special convention shall be those who were seated in the preceding regular convention provided that they have not been disqualified by termination of membership in the congregation they represented. Vacancies in this voting membership shall be filled according to the constitution or bylaws of the synod.~~

~~Section 8. The bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated by the National Church Council shall have seat and voice in the conventions of the synod. In connection with their reports, like privileges shall be accorded to the chairpersons of synodical committees, to representatives of institutions and agencies related to or officially recognized by the synod, and to the presidents of the synodical units of the official auxiliaries of this church.~~

~~Section 9. All arrangements for worship services or public meetings shall be made in consultation with the bishop.~~

~~Section 10. The secretary shall send out a bulletin of reports to all voting members at least thirty days before each regular convention.~~

~~Section 11. The Synod Council shall prepare the proposed agenda.~~

ARTICLE XII

Synod Council

Explanatory Note

All existing sections of this article are to be deleted and the logistical details contained therein transferred to the bylaws, Part VI. Four new sections of Article XII are shown below.

Section 1. Synod Council is the governing body of this synod and shall carry out all normal functions and responsibilities on behalf of this synod in accordance with the constitution, the bylaws and resolutions of this synod in convention.

Section 2. Synod Council shall consist of the officers of this synod, and members, all of whom shall be members in good standing of

congregations of this synod, elected according to procedures defined in the bylaws of this synod.

~~Section 1. The membership of the Synod Council shall be the officers of the synod together with 10 additional members elected by the convention to serve for four years in such manner that the terms of one-half of the elected members shall expire each biennium. Each conference shall be represented by an elected lay person. The remaining positions shall be filled by ordained persons elected At Large. No elected member shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms.~~

~~Section 2. The officers of the synod shall be the officers of the Synod Council.~~

~~Section 3. The Synod Council shall~~

- ~~a. Plan, coordinate, supervise and evaluate the activities of the synod in carrying out its mission and ministry;~~
- ~~b. Be the directors of the corporation and trustees for the synod;~~
- ~~c. Represent the synod and attend to its business between conventions;~~
- ~~d. Elect executive staff if and when such positions are created by the synod in convention;~~
- ~~e. Issue Letters of Call to ordained ministers who are full-time officers or staff officials of the synod, or who are called to special service;~~
- ~~f. Provide for an annual review of the rosters of ordained ministers and congregations;~~
- ~~g. Determine the time and place for each convention and prepare its proposed agenda and programs;~~
- ~~h. Recommend annual budgets to the regular conventions;~~
- ~~i. Set the salaries of the bishop and staff of the synod;~~
- ~~j. Elect the representatives to the governing bodies of inter-church agencies to which the synod is related;~~
- ~~k. Fill vacancies until the next convention except as otherwise provided, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of the synod according to the procedures in the constitution and bylaws of this church;~~

- ~~l. Report its actions to the regular conventions;~~
- ~~m. Approve candidates for call, ordination and admission to the roster of ordained ministers;~~
- ~~n. Perform the additional duties prescribed in the constitution, bylaws and resolutions of the synod.~~

~~Section 4. The Synod Council shall have at least two regular meetings annually. Special meetings may be called by the bishop of the synod or, in the case of the bishop's death or removal, by the vice chairperson. A majority of the members of the Synod Council shall constitute a quorum.~~

ARTICLE XIII

Officers

Explanatory Note

The proposed revisions remove the description of the duties of each officer from the constitution and transfer them to a new bylaw – Part VII – Duties of Synod Officers.

A new Constitutional Article XIV outlining the Office of the Bishop is shown on following pages.

Section 1. The officers of the synod shall be a bishop, a ~~vice chairperson~~, a chair, a secretary and a treasurer. ~~The bishop shall be on the roster of ordained ministers of this church and shall serve full time in office.~~ At least two of these officers shall be lay members of this church **synod**.

Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be defined in the bylaws of this synod.

~~Section 2~~ **3.** The officers shall be elected by the synod convention for a term of four years according to procedures established in the bylaws. All officers shall serve until their successors assume office.

~~Section 3~~ **4.** Should a vacancy occur ad interim in any of the offices ~~with the exception of the office of bishop~~, the Synod Council is empowered to fill the same until the next regular convention. ~~or to call a special convention to fill the vacancy. Each election by a convention shall be for a full term of office.~~

~~Section 4. The terms of the officers shall begin on the first day of the second full month following election.~~

~~Section 5.~~ **5.** The recall or dismissal of an officer of the synod shall follow the procedure set out in the constitution and bylaws of this church.

~~Section 6. Assistants to the officers, if and when such positions are created by the synod in convention, shall be elected by the Synod Council on nomination by the officer concerned. Such persons may be recalled or dismissed on proper notice by the action of the Synod Council. They shall be ineligible for membership on the council.~~

~~Section 7. The bishop shall~~

- ~~a. Serve as leader and counsellor to the congregations, ordained ministers and conferences of the synod;~~
- ~~b. Convene and preside over conventions of the synod and the meetings of the Synod Council. The bishop may, however, appoint any member of the Synod Council to preside at the synod convention and at meetings of the Synod Council;~~
- ~~c. Be its chief executive officer and oversee the offices of vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer, coordinate the work of all staff of the synod, appoint all committees not otherwise provided for;~~
- ~~d. Ensure that the constitution and bylaws of the synod are observed and that its resolutions are implemented;~~
- ~~e. Visit the congregations and pastors of the synod and confer with them concerning their spiritual and temporal welfare;~~
- ~~f. Ordain, or provide for the ordination of, all candidates accepted for the ministerial office;~~
- ~~g. Install, or provide for the installation of, the pastors of all congregations of the synod and other ordained ministers called to service within the synod; induct into office the other officers of the synod;~~
- ~~h. Be ex officio member of all committees of the synod, its chief representative on the boards of directors or trustees of all institutions in which the synod is entitled to representation;~~
- ~~i. Be the custodian of the seal of the synod and attest all documents as required;~~

~~j. Appoint the synod archivist;~~

~~k. Report and make observations and recommendations to each regular convention of the synod concerning its mission and ministry together with observations and recommendations.~~

~~Section 8. The vice-chairperson shall~~

~~a. In the event of the death, resignation or incapacity of the bishop, convene the Synod Council to provide for the discharge of the bishop's duties pending the election of a new bishop at a regular or special convention.~~

~~b. Perform such additional duties as are set out in the bylaws.~~

~~Section 9. The secretary shall~~

~~a. Keep the minutes of all conventions of the synod, be responsible for the printing and distribution of such minutes and perform such other duties as the synod may from time to time direct;~~

~~b. Keep a roster of the ordained ministers and of the congregations of the synod;~~

~~c. Report to the secretary of this church additions to and subtractions from synodical roster, issue certificates of transfer for ordained ministers who are moving to other synods and enter on the roster of the synod the names of all ordained ministers for whom such certificates of transfer have been received;~~

~~d. Be authorized, in the name of the synod, to attest all documents as required;~~

~~e. Deposit all papers and documents of historical value with the synod archivist;~~

~~f. Serve as statistician of the synod, secure the parochial reports of the congregations, collate the same for annual report to the synod and make the composite figures available to the secretary of this church;~~

~~g. Serve as the Necrologist of the synod.~~

~~Section 10. The treasurer shall~~

- ~~a. Have charge of all the monies and accounts of the synod, its deeds, mortgages, contracts, evidences of claims and revenues, and trust funds, holding the same at all times subject to the order of the synod;~~
- ~~b. Manage the investment of funds owned or held in trust by the synod, as authorized by the Synod Council;~~
- ~~c. Receive, record and acknowledge all offerings, contributions and legacies made to the synod, collect all interest and income from its investment funds, and disburse funds as approved and directed by the Synod Council;~~
- ~~d. Transmit each month to the treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada the funds received by the synod for the general work of the church;~~
- ~~e. Inform each congregation, at least quarterly, of its record of giving to the synod;~~
- ~~f. Keep an account for the conferences of the synod and disburse to them such funds as are budgeted or otherwise appropriated for their use;~~
- ~~g. Present to each convention a detailed and audited report of all receipts and disbursements for the preceding fiscal year;~~
- ~~h. Be bonded under the fidelity coverage provided by this church.~~

ARTICLE XIV

Office of the Bishop

Explanatory Note

This new Article XIV (Office of the Bishop) establishes the Bishop as the Chief Executive Officer of the Synod. Existing Articles XIII through XVIII are renumbered XV through XX.

The duties of Bishop will be incorporated into the bylaws under a new Part VIII – Duties of Synod Officers

- Section 1.** The bishop, as the chief executive officer of this synod, has full authority, responsibility and accountability to discharge all duties and obligations of that office as mandated in the constitution, the bylaws and by resolution of Synod Council.
- Section 2.** The bishop shall provide pastoral leadership and counsel to ordained and diaconal ministers, congregations and conferences of this synod.
- Section 3.** The bishop shall be the chief executive officer of this synod and an ex officio member of all committees of this synod.
- Section 4.** The authority to elect and call a bishop shall rest with this synod at a regular convention or a special convention called for this purpose. Synod Council shall seek the advice and counsel of the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada in the call process.
- Section 5.** The bishop shall be on the roster of ordained ministers of this church or serving as an ordained minister in this church under the provisions of a Full Communion agreement.
- Section 6.** The bishop shall be elected by this synod convention for a term of four years, without limitation, according to procedures established in the bylaws. The bishop shall serve until his/her successor assumes office.

ARTICLE XV

Standing Committees

Explanatory Note

This article was previously numbered XIII. Parts A, B, C of that article are to be deleted with their content to be transferred to the bylaws – Part VII.

The new Article XV will have three sections as shown below.

- Section 1.** *Synod Council shall have authority to establish such committees deemed necessary for the mission of this synod.*

Section 2. Terms of reference for, and membership on, any committee shall be defined in a policy manual approved by Synod Council.

Section 3. The committees shall be accountable to and report to Synod Council.

Sections to be deleted are as follows.

~~A. Program Committees~~

~~Section 1. There shall be program committees working in harmony with this church.~~

~~Section 2. The specific duties and responsibilities of each program committee shall be set out in the bylaws.~~

~~Section 3. Each committee shall have at least one clergy member, and no more than half its membership may be clergy. Members shall be appointed by the Synod Council for terms of four years according to procedures set out in the bylaws. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms. An advisory member may be appointed to each committee by this church. No person shall be a member of more than one committee at the same time.~~

~~Section 4. Each program committee shall submit a report of its activities to each regular convention, with such recommendations as it may desire.~~

~~B. Examining Committee~~

~~Section 1. The Examining Committee shall consist of the bishop, together with one seminary professor, two lay persons and one pastor appointed by the Synod Council, and one pastor appointed by this church. The appointed members shall serve for four-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.~~

~~Section 2. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine candidates for ordination or for reception from other Lutheran churches with whom mutual recognition of ministry has not been established and to present recommendations to the Synod Council.~~

~~Section 3. The committee shall work in close cooperation with the standing committee on Theological Education and Leadership.~~

~~C. Luther Village Management Committee~~

~~Section 1. There shall be a management committee serving as the Board of Directors of Luther Village working to accomplish the mission of this church through outdoor ministry.~~

~~Section 2. The specific duties and responsibilities of the management committee shall be set out in Luther Village bylaws established by the management committee and approved by Synod Council. Additional provisions may be set out in the bylaws of this synod.~~

~~Section 3. The management committee shall make regular reports to the Synod Council and the Synod Convention.~~

ARTICLE ~~XIV~~ XVI

Theological Institutions

Section 2.

- b. The board may propose to the synods an increase in the number of its members, such increase to include an equal number of ~~ordained~~ **rostered** ministers and lay persons. Any proposal for increase in the number of members of the board must have the approval of the synods.

Explanatory Note

Articles XV to XVIII are to be renumbered XVII to XX as follows:

ARTICLE ~~XV~~ XVII

Auxiliaries

ARTICLE ~~XVI~~ XVIII

Financial Matters

ARTICLE ~~XVII~~ XIX

Bylaws

ARTICLE XVIII XX

Amendments

MS	MNO 13-10-04	that the second sentence in Article XIII, Section 1 shall be amended to read ``<i>The bishop shall serve full time in office.</i>``
MSC	MNO 13-10-05	that the amendment to the constitution Article 13, Section 1, as presented on page 12 of the 13th Biennial Convention, MNO Synod Bulletin of Reports be given 2nd reading approval.

Brian Lorch resumed the chair.

A power point presentation highlighting the work of the Committee for Youth Ministry was presented.

Refreshment Break

SITTING #2

A power point presentation highlighting the work of the Committee for Stewardship was presented.

The second Report of the Committee on Registration and Attendance:

<u>Voting Delegates</u>	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Registered</u>
Lay	95	70
Rostered	89	67
Youth	14	3

The first report on the Committee for Elections was given by chair, Rev. Bruce Zinken, on the First Ballot for Bishop.

There were 139 eligible voting delegates. There were 117 votes cast.

Elaine Sauer	91
Michael Kurtz	5
Larry Ulrich	5
Don Engel	3
David Saude	2
Carol Janke	2
Ed Mitchler	2
Bruce Gelhorn	1
Paul Johnson	1
Lynne Hutchison	1
Jaycen Snider	1
Tom Lurvey	1
Mark Tiefenbach	1

Since Bishop Elaine Sauer received the three-quarters votes required, she was declared elected.

MSC MNO 13-10-06 that the ballots be destroyed.

Two copies of the official minutes of the 2008 MNO Synod Convention were signed and confirmed for deposit in the archives.

Bishop Elaine assumed the chair.

Brian Lorch presented the proposed by-law amendments.

MSC MNO 13-10-07 that the bylaw amendments presented on pages 17-32 of the Bulletin of Reports, 13th Biennial Convention be brought forward for discussion and decision during Sitting #5. Carried unanimously.

Brian Lorch resumed the chair.

There were no petitions received from congregations and conferences.

Bishop Elaine presented the Report of Synod Office.

Bishop Elaine assumed the chair.

MSC MNO 13-10-08 that the Synod express appreciation to outgoing council members, Ernie Dojack, Rev. Michael Kurtz, Wayne Schultz, and Rev. Trudy Thorarinson for faithful and dedicated service to the MNO Synod.

Brian Lorch presented the Report from Synod Council.

Rev. Carol Janke presented the Report of the Secretary.

Rev. Carol Janke presented the Report of the Necrologist, followed by prayer by the Convention Chaplain, Rev. Norris Nordin.

A power point presentation highlighting the work of Luther Village was presented.

Rick Scherger presented the newly designed MNO Synod website.

Brian Lorch resumed the chair.

The Treasurers Report was presented by Allan Francis.

SITTING #3

A power point presentation highlighting the work of the Committee for Christian Education was presented.

Elections

The Chaplain was asked to pray for the balloting process.

The first Ballot voting was called for Synod Council members and LTS Board of Governors.

The first Ballot voting was called for Secretary. Synod Council presented one nomination and Brian Lorch called for nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming. Nominations were declared closed.

MSC MNO 13-10-09 that Rev. Carol Janke be elected by acclamation as Secretary of the MNO Synod.

Questions were received on reports of Synod Committees, Boards and ELW. National Bishop Susan Johnson and Allan Francis gave the report of the Structural Renewal Task Force. This was followed by small group discussions.

The second report on the Committee for Elections was given by the chair, Rev. Bruce Zinken:

118 counted
3 spoiled

Synod Council (Cambrian Conference)

Haakon Dagsvik	61
Laurie Pentney	50
Spoiled	3

Haakon Dagsvik was declared elected.

Synod Council (Metro Conference)

Rob Dojack	53
Jim Mair	61
Spoiled	0

Jim Mair was declared elected.

**MSC MNO 13-10-10 that the following people be declared elected by acclamation:
Synod Council (Aurora Conference) - Marilyn Grimeau
Synod Council Rostered-at-large - Rev. Bart Coleman,
Rev. Matthew Diegel
Board of Governors, Lutheran Theological Seminary,
Saskatoon - Sandra Tymchyshyn.**

A power point presentation highlighting the work of the Committee for Theological Education and Leadership was presented.

SITTING #4

A power point presentation highlighting the work of the Committee for Mission was presented.

The third Report of the Committee on Registration and Attendance is as follows:

<u>Voting Delegates</u>	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Registered</u>
Lay	95	70
Rostered	89	68
Youth	14	3

The Committee for Reference and Counsel brought forward the following motion, which was recommended for adoption:

MSC MNO 13-10-11 that this synod convention encourage each congregation to provide opportunity for members to prayerfully consider the First Draft of an ELCIC Statement on Human Sexuality and communicate views to the Task Force.

Brian Lorch introduced Tom Brook of CLWR and Rev. Kevin Ogilvie from LTS.

MSC MNO -13-10-12 that LTS President Rev. Kevin Ogilvie be given the opportunity to speak to the convention.

Bishop Elaine Sauer introduced Bishop Don Phillips, who brought greetings from the Diocese of Rupertsland.

Brian Lorch invited National Bishop Susan Johnson to report on the work of the National Church. Bishop Susan included the work of CLWR in that report.

Allan Francis presented the 2010-2012 MNO Synod Budget.

MSC MNO 13-10-13 that the revised 2011-2012 budgets be approved as presented.

Orders of the day were called from the floor.

The Chaplain led us in grace.

The convention recessed for supper.

SITTING #5

Two power point presentations highlighting the work of the Committee for Worship and the Arts, and the Cameroon Mission Exposure Trip, were presented.

MS	MNO 13-10-14	that we refer the motion regarding the 2011-2012 revised budget back to Synod Council to find extra money for LTS. Defeated
MSC	MNO 13-10-15	that we approve the 2011-2012 compensation guidelines as presented on pp 77-79 of the Bulletin of Reports.
MSC	MNO 13-20-16	<p>The following appointments were made by the Synod Council:</p> <p><u>Committee for Youth Ministry:</u> Luke Filipowicz, Maure Lackman, Lindsay Byron.</p> <p><u>Committee for Christian Education:</u> Leah-Marie Jantz</p> <p><u>Committee for Mission:</u> David Kaminski, Carol Bilinski, David Chell, Kelly Speak</p> <p><u>Committee for Theological Education and Leadership:</u> Sabrina Buffie, Evelyn Roloff, Annemarie MacIntosh</p> <p><u>Committee for Worship and the Arts:</u> Alan Cann, Lenise Francis</p> <p><u>Committee for Church and Society:</u> Pearl Barz, Rebecca Ulrich</p>

A power point presentation highlighting the work of CLWR was presented.

Report on Registration and Attendance:

<u>Voting</u>	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Registered</u>
Lay	95	70
Rostered	89	68
Youth	14	3

Visitors 21 and 2 youth assembly leaders

The following rostered ministers under call, in an active or interim ministry not in attendance are:

- Rev. Arlene Berg – with excuse
- Rev. Trudy Thorarinson – with excuse
- Rev. Kolleen Karlowsky-Clark – with excuse
- Rev. Mark Koenker – with excuse
- Rev. Stan Richards – without excuse.

18 congregations did not send lay delegates and are the following:

- Emmanuel, Baldur
- Trinity, Winnipeg
- Erickson, Erickson
- Zion, Friedensthal
- Glenboro, Glenboro
- St. Pauls, Green Bay
- Gesthemane, Inwood
- St. John, Lydiatt
- Peace, Moosehorn
- Salem, Pass Lake

Riverton-Hnaua, Riverton
St. John`s, Snow Lake
St. Peter`s, Teulon
Hilldale, Thunder Bay
Christ, Waldersee
Chinese, Winnipeg
Christ, Winnipeg
Prince of Peace, Winnipeg

Allan Francis assumed the chair.

MSC **MNO 13-10-17** **that the bylaw amendments presented on pages 17-32 of MNO Synod 13th Biennial Convention Bulletin of Reports (and as shown below, with editorial changes made in accordance with permission granted by the convention during Sitting #6) be approved.**

PART I

Headquarters

Section 1. The headquarters of this synod shall be located in Winnipeg.

Section 2. All executive offices shall be located at the headquarters. Exceptions may be made by action of the convention upon recommendation of the Synod Council.

PART II

Conferences

(Constitution, ARTICLE IX)

Section 1. The synod shall be divided into seven conferences as follows: Agassiz, Aurora, Brokenhead, Cambrian, Interlake, Metro, Westman.

Section 2. All members of congregations are encouraged to attend conference meetings. The voting membership shall be all ~~ordained~~ **rostered** ministers on the territory of the Conference and two lay delegates from each congregation. Congregations having more than 300 baptized members shall be entitled to an additional lay member for each additional 300 baptized members or major fraction thereof.

Section 3. The bishop of the synod or the bishop's appointee shall attend the conference meetings.

Explanatory Note: Sections 4 – 11 below are transferred from Article IX of the existing Constitution. The term “Rostered ministered” is used to replace the terms ordained and diaconal.

- Section 4. The role of the conferences shall be to**
- a. encourage fellowship among rostered ministers and congregations;**
 - b. arrange opportunities for the study of the Holy Scriptures and Christian doctrine;**
 - c. assist the synod in planning, promoting and implementing the mission of the church;**
 - d. respond in consultation with the synod to particular needs within its territory;**
 - e. elect the required number of rostered ministers as delegates to the conventions of this church.**
- Section 5. A conference may adopt for itself any rules and regulations not in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the synod.**
- Section 6. Each conference shall meet at least once a year at a time and place set by the conference. Conferences shall designate their own quorums.**
- Section 7. Each conference shall have the right to petition the synod according to procedures set forth in the bylaws.**
- Section 8. Each conference shall elect from its membership a dean, a secretary and at least two other persons who shall constitute a Conference Council. Election shall be for a two-year term. The dean, who shall serve as chairperson, shall be a rostered minister.**
- Section 9. The Conference Council shall fill any vacancies in its membership until the next meeting of the conference.**
- Section 10. The dean of each conference shall make a written report to the synod through the bishop's report.**
- Section 11. The deans of the conferences and the bishop shall meet at least once a year for spiritual renewal and the discussion of programs, plans and problems affecting conferences and the synod. Except where otherwise provided in this constitution and its bylaws, the function of such a meeting shall be consultative and advisory.**

PART III

Conventions

(Constitution, new ARTICLE XI, previous ARTICLE X)

Explanatory Note

Changes to this bylaw concerning conventions are the result of items being transferred to the bylaws from Article X of the Constitution as well as the adoption of the term "rostered ministers".

Section 1 Convening

- a. The regular convention shall be held biennially in those years when the regular National Convention is not held. **Special conventions for specified purposes may be called by the bishop to be held within ninety days of receiving a request in writing from two-thirds of the members of the Synod Council and shall be called by the bishop at the request of the Synod Council or one-fifth of the synod's congregations and one-fifth of those on its roster of ordained ministers under call.**
- b. Arrangements for the conventions of the synod shall be made by the officers or by a committee named for that purpose by the Synod Council, acting in conjunction with a local committee.
- c. **Notice of the time and place of the convention shall be given by the secretary to each rostered minister and the secretary of each congregation of the synod at least four months before the opening day of the convention. The secretary shall give written notice of a special convention to each congregation, rostered minister and shall publish the same at least thirty days prior to the opening date of the convention.**
- e. Each congregation or employing agency shall pay the registration fee of its delegate(s). In the case of a ~~pastor~~ **rostered minister** serving a multiple-congregation parish, such expenses shall be borne by the congregations pro rata on the basis of baptized membership. In the case of ~~retired pastors on the Clergy Roll of Synod~~ **rostered ministers of the synod**, such expenses, including travel on the territory of Synod, shall be borne by the Synod. Those ~~pastors~~ **rostered ministers** serving under a call issued by the Synod Council, and serving in agencies which do not allow funding of Synod convention costs, shall apply to the Synod Council for permission to attend at Synod expense.
- f. ***The secretary shall send out a bulletin of reports to all voting members at least thirty days before each regular convention.***
- g. ***The Synod Council shall prepare the proposed agenda***

Section 2. Representation

Explanatory Note:

Items (a) to (e) shown below are transferred into this bylaw from Article X of the Constitution. Previous items (a) and (b) are re-labelled (f) and (g). Items (h) and (i) were added to the bylaws at the 2006 convention.

- a. One-third of the eligible voting members shall constitute a quorum.**
- b. The eligible voting membership of conventions shall consist of**
 - i. One lay delegate from each congregation and, from congregations having more than 300 baptized members, one lay delegate for each additional 300 baptized members or major fraction thereof;**
 - ii. Rostered ministers of this synod.**
 - iii. Lay members of the Synod Council.**
 - iv. Members of the Synod Youth Assembly**
- c. The voting membership at a special convention shall be those who were seated in the preceding regular convention provided that they have not been disqualified by termination of membership in the congregation they represented. Vacancies in this voting membership shall be filled according to the constitution or bylaws of the synod.**
- d. The bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated by the National Church Council shall have seat and voice in the conventions of the synod. In connection with their reports, like privileges shall be accorded to the chairpersons of synodical committees, to representatives of institutions and agencies related to or officially recognized by the synod, and to the presidents of the synodical units of the official auxiliaries of this church.**
- f. Each congregation shall submit the name(s) and address(es) of its delegate(s) to the synod secretary at least sixty days prior to the opening day of the convention.**
- g. Delegates to the synod convention shall be paid travel costs at a rate to be determined by the Synod Council. This information shall be sent with the convention notice.**

- h. The youth assembly shall consist of fourteen youth from the seven conferences. Each conference is eligible to appoint two youth as their representative.
- i. Youth shall be baptized members between the ages of 15 and 21 on the first full day of the convention.

Section 3 below is modified by the deletion of the Committee on the Report of the Bishop. 3ai is deleted and remaining items renumbered. 3b is deleted and remaining sub-parts relettered.

Section 3. Procedure

- a. During the first sitting of each regular convention, the bishop shall announce the appointment of the convention committees as follows:
 - ~~i. Committee on the Report of the Bishop~~
 - i. Committee of Reference and Counsel,
 - ii. Committee on Nominations,
 - iii. Committee on Minutes,
 - iv. Committee on Registration and Attendance,
 - v. Committee on Elections.
- ~~b. The report of the bishop to each regular convention shall be referred to the Committee on the Report of the Bishop, which shall study it, make appropriate comments and transmit to the convention the recommendations of the bishop together with any additional recommendations that it considers appropriate.~~
- b. Petitions from congregations and conferences shall be submitted to the secretary of the synod prior to the convention for referral to the Committee of Reference and Counsel.
- c. The Committee of Reference and Counsel shall
 - i. Receive and study petitions submitted to the secretary by congregations and conferences, as well as those referred to it by the convention or a delegate, and report to the convention its recommendations together with the original petitions;
 - ii. Recommend special orders for the hearing of representatives;
 - iii. Grant or deny permission to distribute printed matter not issuing from the office of the secretary; and
 - iv. Give such assistance to the bishop **or his/her designate** as this officer may desire in the course of the convention.
- d. All reports published in the bulletin of reports shall be received by the convention by virtue of that fact without vote.

Previous letter (f) below has been moved to Part VII – Committees. Previous items (e) and (f) re-lettered as shown.

~~f. Committee on Nominations~~

~~i. At the first meeting following the regular convention of the synod, the Synod Council shall appoint a Committee on Nominations consisting of four members--two men and two women.~~

~~ii. The Committee on Nominations shall invite the Congregational Councils, ordained ministers and synodical committees to suggest names for the vacancies to be filled at each convention and for which the Committee on Nominations is to propose candidates.~~

e. Bourinot's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this Synod, except as otherwise provided in its Constitution and Bylaws.

f. All arrangements for worship services or public meetings shall be made in consultation with the bishop.

PART IV

Nominations and Elections

Section 1. The Committee on Nominations shall nominate two persons for each position to be filled by election except for the officers of the synod and the three governors of the seminary nominated by this church. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which the nominations are made by the Committee on Nominations.

Section 2. All elections shall be by ballot. In all elections, except for the officers of the synod, a majority of the votes cast on any ballot shall elect.

Section 3. The election of bishop and ~~vice-chairperson~~ **chair** of this synod shall proceed in this order without oral nominations. If the first ballot does not result in election, it shall be considered a nominating ballot.

Section 4. The nomination of the secretary and treasurer shall be made by the Synod Council. Additional nominations may be made from the floor

Section 5. On the first ballot for an officer, three-fourths of the votes cast shall be required for election. Thereafter only such votes as are cast for persons who have received votes on the first or nominating ballot shall be valid. On the second ballot, two-thirds of the votes cast shall be required for election. On the third

ballot, the voting shall be limited to the four persons receiving the highest vote on the second ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall elect. On the fourth ballot the voting shall be limited to the three persons receiving the highest vote on the third ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall elect. On the fifth ballot the voting shall be limited to the two persons receiving the highest vote on the fourth ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall elect.

Section 6. In all other elections the names of the persons receiving the highest number of votes but not elected on a preceding ballot shall be entered on the next ballot to the number of two for each vacancy unfilled.

Section 7. The result of each ballot in every election shall be announced in detail to the convention.

PART V

Election of Delegates to the National Church Convention

Section 1. The synod secretary shall inform each of the conferences of the number of ~~pastors~~ **rostered ministers** to be elected to the National Church Convention.

Section 2. ~~Ordained delegates and alternates shall be elected at least seven months before the National Church Convention, after which the synod secretary shall inform those parishes eligible to elect lay delegate(s). Lay delegates and alternates shall be elected at least five months before the convention.~~

The new Section 2 below is being recommended by NCC so that the MNO bylaws are consistent with newly adopted bylaws of the National Church
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Section 2. Each member parish shall be entitled to be represented by at least one delegate at each Convention. Such delegates shall be elected as follows:

- a) 200 rostered ministers shall be elected not earlier than eighteen months and not later than seven months before a Convention by the Conferences as allocated by the National Church Council on the basis of baptized membership:
- b) a delegate who is a lay person shall be elected not earlier than 12 months and not later than 4 (changed from 5) months before a Convention by each member congregation which is not represented by a delegate who is a rostered minister elected by a Conference;
- c) an additional delegate who is a lay person shall be elected within the time specified in clause(b) above by each member congregation with more than 800 baptized members; and
- d) an alternate delegate who is a lay person may be elected within the time specified in clause (b) above by each member congregation, to be available

to represent the congregation in the event that a delegate position specified in clause(a), (b) or (c) above becomes vacant less than 4 (changed from 5) month before a Convention.

A member congregation with a membership of less than 800 baptized members which has been represented by a rostered minister elected by a Conference for two consecutive biennial Conventions shall not be represented by a rostered minister at the following biennial Convention

The secretary of the Synod shall advise the secretary of the names and addresses of the delegates elected by the Conferences and the delegates and alternate delegates elected by the member congregations of that Synod within **15 (changed from 30)** days following each such election.

No changes may be made to the list of rostered delegates after November 30. Should a rostered delegate on this final list be unable to attend, the position may be filled by a lay delegate or alternate lay delegate elected as specified in clause (b) and (d) above. If any delegate position becomes vacant less than **4 (changed from 5)** months before a Convention and the member congregation has not elected an alternate lay delegate as provided in clause (d) above, the position shall remain vacant." "To amend Article 29 of the Corporate Bylaws as follows:

PART VI

Synod Council

(Constitution, new ARTICLE XII, previous ARTICLE X)

Explanatory Note

Previous Section 1 becomes Section 2 with various items being amended / deleted as noted below to reflect the transfer of provisions from the constitution (Article X) to the bylaws.

Previous Section 2 becomes item (b) of new Section 1.

New sections added: 1, 3, 4 & 5

Section 1 Membership

- a. The membership of the synod council shall be the officers of the synod together with 10 additional members elected by the convention to serve for four years in such manner that the terms of one-half of the elected members shall expire each biennium. Each conference shall be represented by an elected lay person. The remaining positions shall be filled by rostered ministers of the synod elected At Large. No elected member shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms.**

- b. **An elected member of the Synod Council shall not be eligible to serve on a synodical standing program or management committee.**
- c. **The terms of office of all council members shall begin the first day of the third month following their election.**

Section 4 2. ~~In addition to the duties and functions set out in the constitution,~~ The Synod Council shall:

- a. ~~appoint the Editor(s) of the synod periodical, on nomination by the Committee on Communication;~~ **Plan, coordinate, supervise and evaluate the activities of the synod in carrying out its mission and ministry;**
- c. ~~establish personnel policies for the synod; and~~
- d. ~~revise the synodical budget as may be required.~~
- c. **Be the directors of the corporation and trustees for the synod;**
- d. **Represent the synod and attend to its business between conventions;**
- d. ~~Elect executive staff if and when such positions are created by the synod in convention;~~
- e. **Issue Letters of Call to rostered ministers who are full-time officers or staff officials of the synod, or who are called to special service;**
- f. **Provide for an annual review of the roster of rostered ministers and congregations;**
- g. **Determine the time and place for each convention and prepare its proposed agenda and programs;**
- h. **Recommend annual budgets to the regular conventions and revise the synodical budget as may be required between regular conventions.**
- i. **Establish personnel policies for the synod and set the salaries of the bishop and staff of the synod.**
- j. **Elect the representatives to the governing bodies of inter-church agencies to which the synod is related;**
- k. **Fill vacancies until the next convention except as otherwise provided, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of the synod according to the procedures in the constitution and bylaws of this church;**
- l. **Report its actions to the regular conventions;**

- m. Approve candidates for call, ordination, consecration and admission to the roster of rostered ministers;**
- n. Perform the additional duties prescribed in the constitution, bylaws and resolutions of the synod.**

Section 3. The officers of the synod shall be the officers of the synod council.

- Section 4.**
- a. The synod council shall have at least two regular meetings annually. Special meetings may be called by the chair of the synod or the bishop or when a request in writing signed by a majority of council members is received by the secretary of the synod. A majority of the members of the synod council shall constitute a quorum for any regular or special meeting of the council.**
 - b. Notice of each regular meeting shall be given to each member of the council at least 10 days prior to the time appointed for holding such a meeting. Such notice shall specify in reasonable detail the matters, other than those of a routine nature, which are to be considered at the meeting.**
 - c. Notice of each special meeting shall be given to each member of the council not less than three days prior to the time appointed for holding such a meeting. Special meetings may be held at any time without formal notice if all members of council are present or those absent have waived notice or have signified their consent in writing, either before or after, to the meeting being held in their absence.**
 - d. Regular or special meetings may be conducted by audio conference, video-conference and other acceptable electronic means. Protocol for holding such meetings shall be outlined in a policy manual.**

Section 5. Synod council shall appoint an ordained minister to assume the duties and responsibilities of the bishop in the event of the resignation, incapacity, or death of the bishop, pending the election of a new bishop at the next regular or specially called synod convention.

Section 6. Synod council, through enabling motions, may delegate its authority to the executive committee to act on its behalf between meetings of the council.

PART VII

Standing Committees (Constitution, New ARTICLE XV – previously Article XIII)

Explanatory Note

Section 1 is amended to add a title – Program Committees. Items (a) through (i) are unchanged. An Item (j) is added to Section 1.

Sections 2 – 7 currently describe the terms of reference for existing program committees. These sections are to be deleted. Descriptions of committee responsibilities will be transferred “as is” to a policy document. This document may be amended by Synod Council as needs arise.

A new Section 2 is created and titled – Other Committees. In this section, provisions are made for the newly formed Western Synods Examining Committee and management boards for Luther Village and Lutheran Urban Ministry.

Section 1.

- ~~a. There shall be program committees for this synod working to accomplish the mission of this church.~~
- ~~b. The committees shall be appointed by the Synod Council in such a manner that approximately one-half of the members are appointed biennially. Nominations shall be invited from the congregations and conferences. All terms shall begin immediately following the Synod Convention.~~
- ~~c. After each Synod Convention each committee shall elect a chairperson and a secretary.~~
- ~~d. Any committee member who is absent from two consecutive meetings without valid excuse shall be replaced by Synod Council.~~
- ~~e. The committees shall have power to appoint advisory members, as well as representatives to task forces and sub-committees.~~
- ~~f. Each committee shall make regular reports to the Synod Council and to the Synod Convention.~~
- ~~g. The committees shall meet at least once a year and a majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.~~
- ~~h. The committees shall prepare budgets for presentation to the Synod Council.~~
- ~~i. Salaried Staff for committees, if and when such positions are approved by the Synod Council or Convention, shall be elected by the Synod Council upon nomination of the Committee concerned. While serving in these positions they shall be ineligible for~~

~~membership on committees responsible for their work. Such persons may be recalled or dismissed by the Synod Council upon the recommendation of the committee concerned.~~

Section 1 Program Committees

- a. Synod council may establish program committees to assist it in meeting the missional directions of the synod.**
- b. Normally, the Nominations Committee will be requested to provide Council with names of individuals willing to be appointed to program committees.**
- c. The mechanism for establishing a program committee and its terms of reference shall be defined in a policy manual approved by Synod Council.**
- d. In preparing the agenda for the synod convention, the council shall make allowances for the work of its program committees to be reported to the convention.**

~~Section 2. The Committee for Mission shall consist of six members and shall~~

- ~~a. provide guidance and assistance to congregations and pastors in programs of evangelism and witness;~~
- ~~b. seek new fields for Canadian Mission development and recommend them to the Synod Council;~~
- ~~c. assist in planning, establishing and supporting new congregations and special ministries, and in organizing new congregations;~~
- ~~d. review and recommend grants and loans to, and special appeals for congregations with special needs;~~
- ~~e. suggest strategy for mission work in developing special interest, isolated, urban, rural, and town and country ministries;~~
- ~~f. promote the work of Canadian Mission in the congregations and conferences of the Synod;~~
- ~~g. promote the work of World Mission, and encourage support for World Mission in the congregations and conferences of the Synod, through missionary conferences, visits by missionaries, and provision of resource materials; and~~
- ~~h. assist this church in identifying, recruiting and selecting prospective missionaries for service.~~
- ~~i. cooperate with other churches to provide Christian ministry at universities and colleges not related to this church;~~
- ~~j. provide direction, supervision, moral support, spiritual care and opportunity for service to the university and college chaplains of this synod;~~
- ~~k. appoint local campus ministry representatives to provide Christian ministry to educational institutions where there is no other formal Lutheran ministry; and~~
- ~~l. promote the colleges and universities of this church and assist them in student recruitment.~~
- ~~m. appoint advisory members, as well as representatives to task forces and subcommittees as necessary~~

- ~~n. make regular reports to Synod Council and to the Synod Convention.~~
- ~~o. prepare budgets for presentation to Synod Council.~~
- ~~p. ensure positions are filled on committee and work with Nomination Committee in cases of vacancy.~~

~~Section 3. The Committee for Church and Society shall consist of four members and shall use a biblical and theological perspective to~~

- ~~a. assist this church in examining and addressing social problems, relating to social service agencies on the territory of the Synod, and developing and supporting specialized ministries;~~
- ~~b. develop and maintain a network of people who have interest and expertise in the areas of social ministry, justice and peace, and extended care ministry;~~
- ~~c. research and study social problems and justice issues of concern to this synod, and refer those of national and international scope to the National Church;~~
- ~~d. encourage in congregations a greater awareness of social and justice issues.~~
- ~~e. address the various levels of governments and institutions concerning social and justice issues.~~
- ~~f. assist the social and health care agencies and institutions of this synod and its congregations to achieve the highest standard of care.~~

~~Section 4. The Committee for Worship and the Arts shall consist of four members and shall~~

- ~~a. provide guidance and assistance to congregations, conferences and pastors in programs of worship and the arts, through workshops, institutes, newsletters and consultations;~~
- ~~b. plan and facilitate worship at official synod events;~~
- ~~c. encourage the training and development of organists, choir directors, worship assistants and musicians;~~
- ~~d. promote and assist the development of the arts in worship.~~

~~Section 5. The Committee for Christian Education shall consist of four members and shall~~

- ~~a. promote the importance of Christian education for the life and mission of the church;~~
- ~~b. assist congregations and pastors in the training of teachers and administrators for adult, youth and children's education; and~~
- ~~c. introduce and promote educational materials and programs approved by this church, and provide curriculum consultation.~~

~~Section 6. The Committee for Youth Ministry shall consist of six members, three of whom shall be youth, and shall, in consultation with the National Youth Ministry Committee~~

- ~~a. promote youth ministry which is centered in congregations and complemented by conference, synod and national gatherings and programs;~~
- ~~b. plan and promote biennial synod youth gatherings;~~
- ~~c. promote and facilitate youth participation in synod conventions, conference conventions, and other synod events;~~
- ~~d. provide leadership training for youth and adults working with youth; and~~

- ~~e. encourage opportunities for youth in ministries of worship, learning, witness, service and support.~~

~~Section 7. The committee for Theological Education and Leadership shall consist of six members and shall~~

- ~~a. select and endorse candidates for the ordained ministry and lay diaconal ministry according to the policies established by this church;~~
- ~~b. recruit and support qualified candidates for the ordained ministry, lay diaconal ministry, and professional lay work;~~
- ~~c. work closely with the Examining Committee and the bishop;~~
- ~~d. provide continuing education and support for the ordained ministers, lay diaconal ministers, and professional lay workers through workshops, seminars, conferences and retreats;~~
- ~~e. cooperate with the bishop to provide workshops and seminars to help prevent personal crisis, manage conflict and provide support to ordained ministers, lay diaconal ministers, and professional lay workers and their families; and~~
- ~~f. appoint an autonomous Care Committee of three persons to provide counseling and resources to ordained ministers, lay diaconal ministers and professional lay workers and their families who are experiencing personal crisis or conflict.~~

Section 2 Examining Committee

- a. The Synod shall have a Synod Examining Committee and shall participate in the Western Synods Examining Committee. Further terms of reference for, and procedures of, the Examining Committee shall be defined in the Candidacy Manual of this church.**
- b. The Synod Examining Committee shall be a standing committee of this synod.**
 - i. The Synod Examining Committee shall be accountable to synod council and report to synod council through the Office of the Bishop.**
 - ii. The Synod Examining Committee shall consist of the bishop, a seminary professor appointed by Lutheran Theological Seminary, two lay persons and two rostered ministers appointed by synod council. The committee will be chaired by the Bishop. The committee will name a secretary.**
 - iii. The appointed members shall serve for four year terms staggered so that no more than half are replaced at any one time.**
 - iv. When the Western Synods Examining Committee is not meeting, it shall be the duty of the Synod Examining Committee to examine candidates for ordained and diaconal ministry, for reception from other Lutheran churches with whom mutual recognition of ministry has not been established, and for reception from other Christian**

- churches. The committee shall present its recommendations to synod council.
- v. The committee shall work in close cooperation with the committee for theological education and leadership.
- c. The Western Synods Examining Committee shall be the usual body to examine candidates for ordained and diaconal ministry.
- i. The Western Synods Examining Committee shall serve the Synods of British Columbia, Alberta and the Territories, Saskatchewan and Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario.
 - ii. Annually, at the fall meeting, the Synod Council shall appoint one lay person and one rostered person from the Synod Examining Committee to the Western Synods Examining Committee, making a total of eight persons appointed from the four participating synods. Of the four rostered persons appointed, at least one rostered person shall be a diaconal minister, with that position assigned to one of the synods by agreement of the synod bishops.
 - iii. Lutheran Theological Seminary shall annually appoint two faculty members.
 - iv. The synod bishops shall serve ex officio on the Western Synods Examining Committee.
 - v. This committee shall meet annually in Saskatoon in February at a time determined by the synod bishops and by the arrangement of the Saskatchewan Synod.
 - vi. Each examination shall be conducted by a sub-committee of the Western Synods Examining Committee comprised of at least one member from each synod, including one faculty, two lay persons, two rostered persons, and the bishop of the candidate's synod. When a diaconal candidate is being examined, the sub-committee shall include a diaconal minister.
 - vii. It shall be the duty of this committee to examine candidates for ordained and diaconal ministry and candidates for reception from other Lutheran churches with whom mutual recognition of ministry has not been established. The committee shall report its recommendations to the synod council of the synod where the candidate is registered.

Section 3 Luther Village Management Committee

- a. **There shall be a management committee serving as the Board of Directors of Luther Village working to accomplish the mission of this church through outdoor ministry.**
- b. **The specific duties and responsibilities of the management committee shall be set out in Luther Village bylaws established by the management committee and approved by Synod Council. Additional provisions may be set out in the bylaws of this synod.**
- c. **The management committee shall make regular reports to the Synod Council and the Synod Convention.**

Section 4 Nominations Committee

- a. **At the first meeting following the regular convention of the synod, the Synod Council shall appoint a Committee on Nominations.**
- b. **The Committee shall have a membership of four. In making these appointments, synod council shall make every effort to achieve a gender balance in the membership of this committee. consisting of four members--two men and two women.**
- c. **Committee members may serve no more than two consecutive terms.**
- d. **The Committee on Nominations shall invite the Congregational Councils, ordained ministers and synodical program committees to suggest names for the vacancies to be filled at each convention and for which the Committee on Nominations is to propose candidates.**

Part VIII

Duties of Officers

(Constitution, new Article XIII, previous Article XII)

Explanatory Note

This is a new bylaw. It incorporates duties of officers previously described in Article XII of the constitution. The one significant change is the transfer of duties related to the chairing of conventions and meetings from the bishop to the chairperson. It also makes formal provision for an Executive Committee.

A provision has been added to allow the chairperson to delegate the national bishop to chair a convention when the convention is in the process of electing a bishop.

Section 1 The terms of office of all officers shall begin on the first day of third month following election.

Section 2 Executive Committee

- a. The officers of the synod shall form an executive committee.
- b. The executive committee shall have no authority except as specifically delegated to it from time to time by synod council.
- c. For the purpose of conducting business delegated to the executive committee by council, a quorum shall be a majority of members.

Section 3. The Bishop shall

- a. Serve as spiritual leader and counsellor to the congregations, rostered ministers and conferences of the synod;
- b. Ordain approved candidates for ministry, consecrate approved candidates for lay diaconal ministry and provide for the installation into office;
- c. Oversee the call process as outlined in the Call Process Manual;
- d. Attest to all official documents of the synod as may be required;
- e. Ensure that the constitution and bylaws of the synod are observed and that its resolutions are implemented;
- f. Visit the congregations and pastors of the synod and confer with them concerning their spiritual and temporal welfare;
- g. Discipline staff and program committee members in keeping with Biblical principles and the policies of this synod;
- h. Install, or provide for the installation of, the pastors of all congregations of the synod and other ordained ministers called to service within the synod; induct into office the other officers of the synod;
- i. Be ex officio member of all committees of the synod, its chief representative on the boards of directors or trustees of all institutions in which the synod is entitled to representation;
- k. Be the custodian of the seal of the synod and attest all documents as required;
- l. Appoint the synod archivist;
- m. Report and make observations and recommendations to each regular convention of the synod concerning its mission and ministry together with observations and recommendations.

- n. Have the authority to hire staff, if and when such positions are created by synod in convention. Such staff persons are ineligible for membership on synod council or any committee of synod council.
- o. Shall be responsible for all synod staff and staff committees.
- p. May delegate responsibilities to synod staff and staff committees.
- o. Perform other duties as prescribed in the constitutions and bylaws of this church and the synod, and the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Section 4. The Chair of this synod shall:

- a. Convene and preside over conventions of this synod, meetings of synod council and meetings of the executive committee. The chair may appoint any other member of synod council to preside at a convention or synod council meeting. The Chair may appoint the national bishop to preside over a synod convention when that convention is in the process of electing a synodical bishop.
- b. In consultation with the bishop and other officers, set the agenda for synod council meetings.
- c. Convene and preside over meetings of the executive committee. In his / her absence, the Chair may delegate another member of the executive committee to preside over an executive committee meeting.
- d. Perform additional duties as prescribed in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Section 5. The secretary shall:

- a. Keep the minutes of all conventions of the synod, be responsible for the printing and distribution of such minutes and perform such other duties as the synod may from time to time direct;
- b. Keep a roster of the ordained ministers and of the congregations of the synod;
- c. Report to the secretary of this church additions to and subtractions from the synodical roster, issue certificates of transfer for ordained ministers who are moving to other synods and enter on the roster of the synod the names of all ordained ministers for whom such certificates of transfer have been received;
- d. Be authorized, in the name of the synod, to attest all documents as required;

- e. Deposit all papers and documents of historical value with the synod archivist;
- f. Serve as statistician of the synod, secure the parochial reports of the congregations, collate the same for annual report to the synod and make the composite figures available to the secretary of this church;
- g. Serve as the Necrologist of the synod.
- h. Perform additional duties as prescribed in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Section 6. The treasurer shall:

- a. Have charge of all the monies and accounts of the synod, its deeds, mortgages, contracts, evidences of claims and revenues, and trust funds, holding the same at all times subject to the order of the synod;
- b. Manage the investment of funds owned or held in trust by the synod, as authorized by the synod council;
- c. Receive, record and acknowledge all offerings, contributions and legacies made to the synod, collect all interest and income from its investment funds, and disburse funds as approved and directed by the synod council;
- d. Transmit each month to the treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada the funds received by the synod for the general work of the church;
- e. Inform each congregation, at least quarterly, of its record of giving to the synod;
- f. Keep an account for the conferences of the synod and disburse to them such funds as are budgeted or otherwise appropriated for their use;
- g. Present to each convention a detailed and audited report of all receipts and disbursements for the preceding fiscal year;
- h. Be bonded under the fidelity coverage provided by this church.
- i. Perform additional duties as prescribed in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Part IX

**Bylaw Amendments
(Constitution, new Article XIX, previously Article XVII)**

This is a new by-law that simply cross-references the mechanism for amending the bylaws.

Section 1 The bylaws of this synod may be amended in accordance with provisions described in Article XIX of the Constitution.

Bishop Susan Johnson and Allan Francis invited the convention to give their personal opinions regarding the information received on the Structural Renewal Task Force.

The chair called for amendments and/or omissions to the minutes of Sitzings #1 and #2. They were noted.

MSC MNO 13-10-18 that the minutes of Sitting #1 and Sitting #2 be adopted.

A power point presentation highlighting the work of Lutheran Urban Ministry was presented.

The Youth Assembly made a presentation to the convention.

The chair ruled that a report from Reference and Counsel be added to the agenda for Sitting #6. The ruling went unchallenged.

Lutheran Theological Seminary President Rev. Kevin Ogilvie gave his report.

The Final Report of Reference and Counsel

MSC MNO 13-10-19 resolved that we express our thanks to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, its interim pastor Ted Chell, and its members, and to the assisting congregations from the Metro Conference for your hospitality in hosting the 13th convention of the MNO Synod. You have embraced us as brothers and sisters in Christ. In this holy space we have celebrated our common mission as resurrection people. Renewed by God's Word, we go out to give glory to God.

MSC MNO 13-10-20 resolved that we, as a convention express our thanks for the faith-led leadership of our Bishop Elaine Sauer, the Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Larry Ulrich, Communications Coordinator, Rick Scherger, and Executive Assistant, Debbie Beyer.

MSC MNO 13-10-21 resolved that we give thanks for the gifts of ministry shared with the synod by our Chair, Brian Lorch, our

Secretary, Rev. Carol Janke, and our Treasurer, Allan Francis.

The convention recessed.

Saturday, April 24, 2010

SITTING #6

The following motion from Reference and Council:

MSC MNO 13-10-22 that this convention request the Synod Council to engage the Lutheran Theological Seminary in dialogue, to address synodical concerns including the lack of ministry candidates from this synod, and to report back to the 2012 convention.

Reference and Counsel adopts this motion.

MSC MNO 13-10-23 that the 13th Biennial convention thank the Parliamentarian, Rev. Don Engel, for sharing his wisdom, gracefully moving us through the intricacies of parliamentary procedure.

MSC MNO 13-10-24 that the 13th Biennial convention thanks the keynote presenter for the Day of Renewal, Rev. Tim Wray, for all those leading small groups, and for all who have worked this day to bring us together in mission.

Brian Lorch asked for the permission of the convention to fine tune the bylaws correcting all places where errors were found.

The Chaplain led us in prayer.

The convention recessed.

Sunday, April 25, 2010

SITTING #7

MSC MNO 13-10-25 that the minutes of Sittings #3, #4 and #5 be approved.

A worship service was held at 10:30 a.m. by the host congregation, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba with Bishop Susan Johnson preaching.

The newly elected Synod Council members were installed.

The convention was declared closed.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Carol Janke, Secretary