



# MINUTES

## 68<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF MNO SYNOD COUNCIL

January 31 to February 1, 2008

Abundant Life Lutheran Church

3486 Raleigh Street, East St. Paul, MB

Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod  
Of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

### PARTICIPANTS

#### **Officers:**

**Bishop Elaine Sauer**

**Brian Lorch** – Vice Chairperson

**Carol Janke** - Secretary

#### **Council Members:**

**Ken Schmidt** - Westman

**Larry Skoglund** - Agassiz

**Marilyn Grimeau** – Aurora

**Audrey Miller** – Brokenhead (*C-TEL*)

**Ernie Dojack** – Cambrian

*(Worship & the Arts)*

**Faye Goranson** – Interlake

*(Church & Society)*

**Wayne Schultz** – Metro (*Luther Village*)

**Trudy Thorarinson** – At Large (*Christian Ed.*)

**Michael Kurtz** – At Large (*Mission*)

**Brian Keffer** – At Large (*Youth*)

*(absent with excuse)*

#### **Staff:**

**Larry Ulrich** – Assistant to Bishop

**Debbie Beyer** – Executive Assistant

**Rick Scherger** – Communications Coordin.

#### **Guests (Thurs. evening & Fri. morning)**

**Kelly Fryer** (Guest Presenter)

**Bishop Susan Johnson** (ELCIC)

**Margie Kvern** (Christian Education)

**David Saude** (Church & Society)

**Marlene Reguly** (Church & Society)

**Rev. Matthew Diegel** (Mission)

**Ms. Kelly Speak** (Mission)

**Bev Wagner** (Mission)

**Ruth Lee** (CTEL)

**Annemarie MacIntosh** (CTEL)

**Kolleen Karlowsky-Clark** (Worship & the Arts)

**Duane Gaukel** (Worship & the Arts)

**Louise Hatch** (Worship & the Arts)

**Melissa Colquhoun** (Youth)

**Kim Scherger** (Luther Village)

**Byron Smith** (Luther Village Board)

**Judy Dikkema** (Lutheran Urban Ministry Board)

**Denise Warren** (Lutheran Urban Ministry)

**Alice Schultz** (Synodical ELW)

#### **Thursday, January 31, 2008**

Opening devotions were led by Bishop Elaine.

Kelly Fryer took us through a process of developing *A Missional Map* (see attached Notes on Kelly Fryer's presentation).

Meeting recessed at 9:00 p.m.

#### **Friday, February 1, 2008**

Larry Skoglund led opening devotions.

Kelly Fryer continued to lead us through a process of developing *A Missional Map* (see attached Notes on Kelly Fryer's presentation).

After recessing for lunch, the Committee Chairs stayed with Synod Council to answer questions on their reports.

Committee chairs were excused from the meeting.

### **Session 1**

#### Adoption of Agenda

**MSC      SC 68-08-01      that we adopt the amended Agenda.**

#### Approval of Minutes

**MSC      SC 68-08-02      that we approve the Synod Executive minutes of September 21, November 16, and December 18, 2007.**

**MSC      SC 68-08-03      that we approve the Synod Council minutes of August 23-24, 2007.**

Business Arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: No business.

#### Report of the Bishop

Bishop Elaine provided an extensive written report and answered all questions arising from same. Assistant to the Bishop, Larry Ulrich, answered questions regarding possible church plants in Sage Creek and Waverley West.

Once again, Bishop Elaine was encouraged to take appropriate rest and relaxation.

#### Report of the Secretary

This report was received with one addition.

Rev. Jane Zinken: Peace, Moosehorn to TWC - February 29, 2008

Review of Financial Statements. Brian Lorch reported the following:

- Benevolence receipts are up \$6,000
- Designated offerings down approximately \$21,500 from last year.
- 42 out of 66 congregations gave 100% or more of their committed benevolence.
- Once final adjustments are made regarding amortization of equipment purchases, the deficit will be significantly reduced.

#### Update on 2008 Convention Planning

All venues in Dauphin and transportation have been booked. All registration material has been sent out to the congregations

A reminder will be given to all convention attendees to bring their Bibles and to arrive having read the Book of Acts. We are all encouraged to “market” the one day renewal event with Kelly Fryer.

### National Office Report

Bishop Susan Johnson reported on the first 5 months in office and answered questions/concerns from the Council. She reminded us we need to reclaim and tell our story of faith, for our Church’s message of grace is a much-needed one for our world.

### 2008-2010 Draft Budgets

The draft budget was presented by Brian Lorch.

## **Session II**

### Report and Future Direction of Lutheran Urban Ministry –

Judy Dikkema and Ministry Manager, Denise Warren, presented the urgent need for support of *the Urban* in order for them to continue ministry on our behalf.

### Policy

Constitutional Review Update – Ernie Dojack presented a summary of amendments to Constitution and By-laws of the MNO Synod.

<b>MSC</b>	<b>SC 68-08-04</b>	<b>that we recommend the draft Constitution to be presented to the MNO Synod Convention in 2008.</b>
<b>MSC</b>	<b>SC 68-08-05</b>	<b>that the Ad Hoc committee struck to create the draft Constitution and draft By-laws be allowed to make editing changes as necessary.</b>
<b>MSC</b>	<b>SC 68-08-06</b>	<b>that we recommend that the convention be given notice of the proposed by-law changes to be introduced at the 2010 convention.</b>

We received as information and reviewed the proposal from the Saskatchewan Synod regarding a Joint Examining Committee for the Western Synods.

<b>MSC</b>	<b>SC 68-08-07</b>	<b>that we leave two positions vacant on the Examining Committee at the present time.</b>
------------	--------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**MSC                    SC 68-08-08                    that we support in principle the creation of a single examining committee for the four Western Synods.**

### Lutheran Urban Ministry

Discussion took place regarding the feasibility of continuing this ministry. We recognized the hard work and vision of the LUM Board and support their decision to “forge ahead ... for at least one more year”. Synod Council is unable to give any extra funding to this ministry. However, we will raise the issue at the Metro Conference Area Strategy Meeting.

### **Session III**

#### Actions related to Standing Committee Reports

##### Committee for Church & Society:

1. Synod Executive was asked to make recommendations to Council on an appropriate transportation cost reimbursement rate for committee members traveling to committee meetings.
2. The names given for consideration for representation on the Committee will be referred to the Nominating Committee.
3. The recommendations to redefine the mandate of the Committee will be taken into consideration when creating our Policy Manual.

##### Committee for Christian Education:

1. Direction with respect to by-laws is referred back to the Committee.

##### Committee for Mission

1. Synod Council has redirected the 2007 “Youth Ministry Programme” budget allocation of \$1,000 to Committee for Youth Ministry for 2008.
2. Committee for Mission Motion MSC CM 07-11-07 to appropriate 2007 unspent budget of \$1,500 for Urban/LCCC Street Ministry Consultation is denied.

**MSC                    SC 68-08-09                    that Barret Miller be replaced as a member of the Committee for Mission, in accordance with MNO Synod By-Law Part VII, Section 1(d).**

- MSC SC 68-08-10** that we approve the following to three year terms on the Luther Village Board: Luther Chell and Jordan Klapat.
- MSC SC 68-08-11** that the Executive be given authority to approve the audited financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2007.
- MSC SC 68-08-12** that Synod Council recommends to the 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial MNO Synod Convention the proposed compensation guidelines for 2009 and 2010.
- MSC SC 68-08-13** that we present a balanced budget to the Synod Convention based on the following changes to the proposed revised 2008 budget:
- Adjust:**  
**Committee for Youth Ministry line to \$4,150**  
**Committee for Church & Society to \$5,500**  
**Congregational Benevolence to \$654,520**  
**Consolidated Synod Appeal to \$18,350.**
- MSC SC 68-08-14** that we present to the 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial MNO Synod Convention the proposed 2009 and 2010 budgets showing a 3% increase each year, over the amended 2008 budget .

It was recommended that we provide to the convention a supporting document showing the current benevolence amounts and the suggested amounts with some kind of interpretive document.

- MSC SC 68-08-15** that the following persons be appointed to the Foundation Grants Committee:  
**Brian Lorch**  
**Sabrina Buffie**  
**Susan Pearce**  
**Shirley Barrow .**
- MSC SC 68-08-16** that, because we are in the process of revisiting our visioning process, the designation of the gift received from Faith Lutheran Church be deferred to the August Synod Council meeting.

Next meetings of Synod Council:

- April 24, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at Dauphin First United Church (convention site)
- August 21-23, 2008. (Note: St. Charles Retreat Centre will be approached to see if space is available)

Audrey Miller led the closing devotions

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Janke, Secretary