



**MNO SYNOD
EXECUTIVE MINUTES**
MNO Synod Office – June 8, 2007

Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod

PARTICIPANTS:

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| Bishop: | Elaine Sauer |
| Vice Chairperson: | Brian Lorch |
| Secretary: | Carol Janke |
| Treasurer: | Don Martin |

1. Bishop Elaine opened with devotions and prayer.
2. Toonie Sundays: We will ask Larry Ulrich to designate dates.
3. Reports:
 - (a) Bishop Elaine:
 - Capital Campaign Committee is preparing a proposal to come to Synod Council in August.
 - Kathy Morris has been appointed by Bishop Elaine as the Strengthening Ministry Coordinator. She will be available to congregations on a fee for service basis to assist in congregational peace building and conflict resolution.
 - Mutual Ministry Committee has been formed for the Bishop and staff as follows:
 - Norm Coull – Chair
 - Erin Kangas (advocate for Rick Scherger)
 - Pam Ring (advocate for Debbie Beyer)
 - Kolleen Karlowsky-Clark (advocate for Larry Ulrich)
 - Bruce Gelhorn (advocate for Bishop Elaine).
 - The committee met with Bishop Elaine and staff. They had discussions about:
 - how they spend time
 - does it match up to goals/visions of the synod.
 - People are free to direct comments / concerns to the Committee Chair through the synod office.
 - (b) Treasurer - the finances of the synod are tracking well against the budget
 - (c) Secretary - The Secretary will communicate with Hilldale Lutheran Church regarding their constitutional amendment

4. (a) Office space search update: We have until August 31st to decide on our lease which is for 5 years. We will continue to explore options.
 - (b) We will ask Larry Skoglund, a member of Synod Council to attend on our behalf the Faith Community Summit on Pandemic Preparedness on June 20 and 21.
 - (c) Committee for Mission and Committee for Youth Ministry budget lines: tabled to next meeting.
 - (d) Faith, Geraldton building update: we are continuing to pursue the selling of the church building.
 - (e) The Synod Office has encouraged all congregations to develop their own policies for the protection of children, youth and other vulnerable people. We also encourage congregations to include a term for updating criminal record documents for clergy and paid professional leaders
 - (f) Synod Convention: staff made a site visit in May and plans are underway.
 - (g) Synod Council update: St. Charles Retreat Centre has been booked for our August meeting.
 - (h) We are exploring the possibility of having a public dialogue around the outcome of the National church's motion of "Same-gender Blessing".
 - (i) Synod Foundation Grants: We will ask Synod Council to review the information package and criteria for the Synod Foundation grants.
5. (a) Appointments:
 - CTEL – awaiting response from nominees.
 - Committee for Mission – information about this exciting opportunity to be put in Crossword.
 - (b) Holy Cross Latvian Church – Bishop Elaine will seek a nominee to serve as a Synod Representative trustee.
6. Next meeting: August 10, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Actions Taken:

MSC Ex-June-07-01 that we approve the May 4, 2007 Executive Minutes.

- MSC** **Ex-June-07-02** ***that Gifts received from Toonie Sundays will be designated to the “Consolidated Synod Appeal” to support synod initiatives.***
- MSC** **Ex-June-07-03** ***that we give permission to sell the lease on the copier and the postage meter in order to reduce overhead.***
- MSC** **Ex-June-07-04** ***that funds in the amount of \$715.36 remaining in “Appropriated Fund – 2005 Foundation Grant” be allocated for refurbishing the University of Manitoba Campus Ministry space.***
- MCS** **Ex-June-07-05** ***that the following be approved as trustees for overseeing the closure of Holy Cross Latvian Church: Ausma Kaktins, Dzidra Ansklavins, Rev. Egil Grislis, Armands Keleris, Ritma Jurevics and a representative of the MNO Synod to be appointed by Synod Council.***

Respectfully submitted
Carol Janke, Secretary