

**MINUTES**  
**76th Meeting of MNO Synod Council**  
**April 28-29<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**Laureate's Landing, Winnipeg Manitoba**

**Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod of the**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**

**Participants:**

Synod Council

Bishop Elaine Sauer  
 Brian Lorch - *Vice-Chair*  
 Allan Francis – *Treasurer* (Thurs. only)  
 Rev. Carol Janke - *Secretary*  
 Tom Brook - *Interlake*  
 Rev. Bart Coleman – *At Large*  
 Haakon Dagsvik - *Cambrian*  
 Rev. Matthew Diegel – *At Large*  
 Rhea Galeschuk – *Brokenhead*  
 Jim Mair - *Metro*  
 Rev. Ed Mitchler – *At Large*  
 Ben Nickel - *Agassiz*

Synod Staff

Rev. Larry Ulrich -  
*Assistant to the Bishop*  
 Debbie Beyer - *Executive Assistant*  
 Rick Scherger -  
*Communications Coordinator*  
 Sarah Gelhorn -  
*YoungAdult Ministry Facilitator*

Guest

National Bishop Susan Johnson

Synod Council, Absent with Excuse

Marilyn Grimeau – *Aurora*  
 Ken Schmidt – *Westman*

**Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Chaplain: Bart Coleman

**1. Gathering in God's Name**

Bart Coleman, as our chaplain, led in Evening Prayer, with the hymn 'Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory'.

A quorum was declared and Brian Lorch called the meeting to order.

Brian welcomed our new council member - Tom Brook- Interlake, new staff member - Sarah Gelhorn- Young Adult Ministry Facilitator, and National Bishop Susan Johnson.

**2. We celebrate our past**

2.1 Approval of Agenda

**MSC SC 2011-03 that we approve the agenda as amended.**

## 2.2 Approval of Minutes

**MSC SC 2011-04** that the Synod Council meeting minutes of November 4-5, 2010 be approved as amended. (Future Meeting Dates: April 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, not 2010 as recorded)

**MSC SC 2011-05** that the Synod Council e-meeting minutes of January 12, 2011 be approved.

**MSC SC 2011-06** that the Synod Council e-meeting minutes of February 16, 2011 be approved.

**MSC SC 2011-07** that the Executive Meetings minutes of December 9, 2010, March 1, 2011, and April 14, 2011 be approved.

## 2.3 Communications and Correspondence

Chaplain Bart Coleman led us in a prayer of thanksgiving.

Correspondence from Pearl Wintoniw, Confirmation Director, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Steinbach MB, thanking Synod Council and the Foundation Grant Committee for funding for the Faith Inkubators workshop.

Correspondence from Pastor Heimo Bachmeyer asking that we rescind the motion moving him to retirement, as he did not formally request it in writing.

## 3. We proclaim God's Word

### 3.1 Reports

#### 3.1.1 Report of the Synod Staff

Bishop Elaine responded to questions regarding the report.

Bishop Susan Johnson was asked to give an update on the Restructuring process being engaged in by the National Church.

#### 3.1.2 Report of the Secretary

**MSC SC 2011-08** that we move Jane Zinken from On Leave from Call 3<sup>rd</sup> year to retired.

**MSC SC 2011-09** that we rescind motion SC-72-09-04 (that Heimo Bachmeyer be moved from St. Peter's Winnipeg to retired effective September 30, 2009.)

**MSC SC 2011-10** that Deborah Moroz be moved from Temporarily Without Call to On Leave from Call, 1<sup>st</sup> Year, effective May 31, 2011.

**MSC SC 2011-11** that Sabine Milewski be moved From Temporarily Without Call to On Leave from Call, 1<sup>st</sup> year, effective May 31, 2011.

3.1.3 Report of the Treasurer

Synod Council was very appreciative of this report. The report will be posted on the MNO Synod website.

3.2 Discussion of Motion MNO 13-10-22 (re LTS)

Pastor David Saude and Ms. Sandra Tymchyshyn, MNO representatives on the LTS Board, attended our meeting as we engaged in discussion of Convention Motion MNO 13-10-22.

The chaplain led us in Confession of Faith and a prayer.

The meeting recessed at 9:00 pm.

**Friday, April 29**

Chaplain Bart Coleman led us in Morning Prayer.

- 3.3 Bible Study and Visioning re Missional Directions - Bishop Elaine conducted a bible study in which four groups looked at Acts 2, 10, 16 and 18 and shared what God is doing and what might our synod be doing in mission. This was followed by a visioning process which included goal setting.

We recessed for refreshments.

We returned for further work on answering the question of "What is God calling us to do"?

**4. We Present Our Offerings**

- 4.1 Update on Constitutional and By-Law amendments approval process - Brian gave us an update on the constitutional and by-law amendments approval process. NCC Secretary Don Storch informed us that all changes were approved with the exception of Article XIII, Section 4. This is to be re-inserted in order to be consistent with the MNO Synod Bylaw VI, Part 5. Should there be a vacancy in the Office of the Bishop it will be handled in the same way as the rest of the church.

The chaplain led us in a prayer for wisdom and guidance.

We recessed for lunch.

#### 4.2 Policy Review Development

4.2.1 Fundraising - Council reviewed the proposed Fundraising policy that had been circulated. It was referred back to executive for more work and then brought back to the November 2011 meeting.

4.2.2 Inter-charity giving - CRA has changed some of its regulations regarding flow through giving. Therefore organizations with tax numbers who are sharing funds (e.g. National Church, synods, and congregations) need to provide documentation that will allow for this to continue.

### 5. Council Education Component

5.1 Governance re Luther Village and LUM - Deferred to future meeting

Our chaplain led us in Thanksgiving for Baptism.

### 6. Partner Reports

#### 6.1 Report from National Church

Bishop Susan reported on the upcoming National Convention which will gather under the theme: Covenant People: In Mission for Others. She told us of the places where the National Church is working on our behalf, and encouraged us to consider the seven areas of spiritual practices being uplifted by the National Church: Pray, Read, Worship, Study, Give, Serve, Tell. This is also the year of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Full-Communion with our Anglican partners and there will be combined worship in various places. As well, congregations are encouraged to plan worship with neighbouring Anglican congregations.

#### 6.2. Standing Committee liaison updates

Jim Mair reported on the work of Church and Society, Bishop Elaine on Candidacy, Larry Ulrich on Youth Ministry, Ed Mitchler on LUM, Rhea Galeschuk on Luther Village.

### 7. Items Requiring Action

#### 7.1 In Camera Session

The council went in camera

The council came out of camera

7.2 Requests from Standing Committees: none

### 7.3 Standing Committee Appointments

**MSC SC 2011-12** that Stephen Sauer, Lyle Nay, and Jordan Klprat be appointed to the Luther Village Management Board.

**MSC SC 2011-13** that we appoint Pastor Jason Zinko, Audrey Miller, Susan Pearce and Brian Lorch to the Foundation Grants Review Committee.

**MSC SC 2011-14** that Tom Packham be appointed to the Worship and the Arts Committee, term to be completed in 2012.

**MSC SC 2011-15** that Sister Ginger Patchen be appointed to the Nominating Committee.

7.4 Action re MNO 13-10-22 – Deferred to later in the meeting

7.5 Scheduling of Capital Campaigns and Appeals

**MSC SC 2011-16** that Luther Village be granted access to MNO congregations to conduct a capital fundraising campaign during the period of September - November, 2011.

**MSC SC 2011-17** that Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon be granted access to MNO congregations to conduct a capital fundraising campaign during the period April – June 2012.

7.6 Synod Executive enabling motions – none required

7.7 Arrangements for November Council Meeting  
Our next meeting will be held on November 17 -18, 2011 at First Lutheran Church on Victor Street, Winnipeg.

7.8 Luther Village Bikeathon  
In this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bikeathon, Brian Lorch and Bishop Elaine asked permission to approach the synod, inviting support from people who may not have a congregational member participating in this event. Council gave approval.

## 7.9 Other Business

### 7.9.1 Motions resulting from Staff Report

#### 7.9.1.1 Examining Committee

**MSC SC 2011-18** that Jim Vickers be approved for placement on the ELCIC roster pending receipt and acceptance of a call.

**MSC SC 2011-19** that Terry Gudmundson be approved for placement on the ELCIC roster pending receipt and acceptance of a call.

#### 7.9.1.2 Mission as Hope - New Initiatives

**MSC SC 2011-20** that the \$3,500 'Rural Ministry Workshop' Mission as Hope new initiative monies be re-designated to subsidize the attendance of five people (four lay and one clergy) to Eldership Unleashed Conference, May 26-29 in Grande Prairie, AB.

## Refreshment Break

### 7.9.1.3 Staff Sabbaticals - Bishop Elaine and Assistant to the Bishop Larry Ulrich have requested sabbaticals.

**MSC SC 2011-21** that Assistant to the Bishop Rev. Larry Ulrich be granted a sabbatical for spring/summer 2012 for a maximum of three months with up to 5 weeks vacation added on; at full salary.

**MSC SC 2011-22** that Bishop Elaine Sauer be granted a sabbatical for spring/summer 2013 for a maximum of 3 months with up to 4 weeks vacation added on; at full salary.

Jim Mair announced that NEST (North End Sponsorship Team) will be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary at an event to be held on June 12<sup>th</sup> at Grace Lutheran Church. As well their organization has just received the City of Winnipeg's Mayor Award.

7.9.2 Action re MNO 13-10-22 - LTS

Discussion followed regarding the meeting with our LTS representatives.

**MSC SC 2011-23 that MNO Synod Council and MNO representatives to the LTS board members request that the seminary administration provide for facilitated conversation with delegates to the 2011 National Convention. The purpose of this conversation is to seek to improve the relationship between seminary and congregations.**

**MSC SC 2011-24 that we invite the Chair of the LTS Board to our November 2011 meeting as follow-up to our April 2011 conversation.**

3.3 (continued) Bible Study and Visioning re Missional Directions

The visioning begun at our morning's bible study continued with 4 groups fleshing out the four initiatives.

1. Strengthen all God's people for discipleship.
2. Embrace passionately a call to spiritual renewal through: prayer, study, scripture, worship, give, tell, service.
3. Celebrate the abundance of God's gifts.
4. Nurture relationships with neighbouring congregations and the community at large.

The chaplain for our November meeting will be Ben Nickel.

Our chaplain led us in prayers of thanksgiving and intercession and in going out in thanks.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Carol Janke, Secretary