

**MINUTES**  
**77th MEETING OF MNO SYNOD COUNCIL**  
**NOVEMBER 17-18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**First Lutheran Church, 580 Victor Street,**  
**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  
 Rev. Carol Janke - Secretary  
 Tom Brook - Interlake  
 Rhea Galeschuk – Brokenhead  
 Haakon Dagsvik - Cambrian  
 Rev. Jennifer Marlor – At Large  
 Ben Nickel - Agassiz  
 Rev. Matthew Diegel – At Large  
 Rev. Bart Coleman – At Large  
 Jim Mair – Metro  
 Marilyn Grimeau - Aurora

Synod Staff

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

Absent with reason: Ken Schmidt, Westman

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Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Chaplain: Ben Nickel

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

Our chaplain led in Evening Prayer, with the hymn *Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us*.

Brian welcomed our new council member, Jennifer Marlor.

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

## **2. We celebrate our past**

### 2.1 Approval of Agenda

**MSC SC 2011-26 that the agenda is approved as amended.**

### 2.2 Approval of Minutes

**MSC SC 2011-27 that the Synod Council meeting minutes of April 28-29<sup>th</sup> 2011 be approved.**

**MSC SC 2011-28 that the Synod Council e-meeting of October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 be approved as amended**

**MSC SC 2011-29 that the Executive Meetings of June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 be approved.**

### 2.3 Communications and Correspondence

We received correspondence from the Reverend Catherine Giroux requesting the status of retired effective December 31, 2011 This will be dealt with under the secretary`s report.

## **3. We proclaim God`s Word**

3.1 Review of Missional Directions – Brian Lorch directed our attention to these and how we are to use them to inform our work.

3.1.1. Report of the Synod Staff: Bishop Elaine reported on the status of congregations and the synod and answered questions arising.

3.1.2 Report of the Secretary:

**MSC SC 2011-30 that Reverend Cathy Giroux be granted the status of retired, effective December 31, 2011.**

**MSC SC 2011-31 that Reverend Ed Mitchler be moved from Temporarily Without Call to On Leave from Call, effective November 30, 2011.**

The following is noted:

Rev. Jenn-Nian Chen resigned from the roster of the ELCIC and has therefore been removed from the roster of the ELCIC effective October 31, 2011.

Rev. Sabine Milewski was transferred from the MNO Synod to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria effective July 11, 2011 and has therefore been removed from the roster of the ELCIC.

Rev. Leslie Poulin moved from On Leave from Call 1<sup>st</sup> year to On Leave from Call 2<sup>nd</sup> year, effective November 30, 2011.

3.1.3 Report of the Treasurer: Allan Francis gave us an update on the financial status of the synod and then on budget planning for 2012 - 2014. Good discussion followed on how we will fund the mission and ministry of our synod, always looking for where God is leading us.

3.2 Rev. David Saude, our LTS Board representative attended our meeting to give us an update on the seminary.

Confession of Faith – We hear the good news.

The meeting recessed at 9:00 pm

**Friday, November 18th**

#### **4. We Present Our Offerings**

4.1 Chaplain Ben Nickel led us in Morning Prayer. We sang the hymn *There`s A Wideness in God`s Mercy*.

We spent time in bible study and prayer. Bishop Elaine asked us to look at some of the upcoming Advent texts answering the question of how it speaks to our discipleship and the actions that we could be engaged in as a result.

We recessed for refreshments.

## 4.2 Questions on Standing Committees and Board Reports

The following was noted:

Candidacy Committee: The Synod Council affirms the intention to re-introduce the *It's Your Call* program to the synod. This is in order to encourage congregational members to consider a call to rostered ministry.

We recessed for a refreshment break.

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

4.3 Foundation Grants Committee Report: We discussed several foundation grants requests not dealt with by the committee because of delayed submission. As well, discussion followed regarding the reporting-back process for those who have received grants in the past.

## 4.4 Structural Renewal

4.4.1 ELCIC Structural Renewal Task Force Report: There is a commitment to keep the synod council aware of the work of this committee.

4.4.2 Synod National Implementation Team Notes: The team has met with one another and with the Saskatchewan Synod Implementation Team. They are seeking consultation with synod council and congregations, therefore are designing a survey to solicit feedback.

## 4.5 Policy Review Development

4.5.1 Fundraising: The draft policy was presented to the council.

### 4.5.2 Eligibility Rules for Council Members:

A form has been developed in response to CRA's efforts to clean up certain segments of the Canadian charitable sector. This will be given to all members to sign. We will notify our congregations about this new change in the law so they may respond appropriately.

4.5.3 E-meeting protocol: Council was apprised of the new method of doing minutes.

4.5.4 Policy review process: Work will be done on developing a committee to oversee the timely review of all policies.

4.5.6 Small Grants Policy Review: Work will be done on this policy aligning it to our practises, regarding eligible applicants. This will be brought to the next synod council meeting for approval.

Following the singing of grace, we recessed for lunch.

## 5. We Take Time to Learn

5.1 Governance re Luther Village, LUM, LTS and the MNO Foundation: Allan Francis gave us an overview of our relationship with and the governance model of these organizations.

Our chaplain led us in Thanksgiving for Baptism.

## 6. Convention 2012 Planning Report

6.1 Convention Theme: *Receive the Spirit! Be The Witness* from Acts 1:8

6.2 Convention Agenda: A draft agenda was presented for approval.

**MSC SC 2011-32 that the 2012 MNO Synod Convention agenda be approved subject to minor modifications from Synod Executive.**

6.3 Convention Budget: Information received at a recent Synod Convention planning meeting resulted in some changes to the projected budget. Yet we able to maintain the projected budget totals.

**MSC SC 2011-33 that we approve the 2012 Synod Convention budget.**

6.4 Travel reimbursement:

**MSC SC 2011-34 that the travel reimbursement and hotel policy for the 2012 Synod Convention be as follows:**

- Delegates residing more than 100 km. From Beausejour shall be entitled to a paid convention hotel room (double occupancy)
- Delegates driving to convention where their residence is more than 100 km from Beausejour shall be entitled to travel compensation of \$0.20 for the driver for each kilometer driven over 100 km (each way), and \$0.03 per passenger (the passenger must be a registered delegate)
- Delegates traveling by air to convention will be entitled to reimbursement of economy airfare

#### 6.5 Delegate Fees:

**MSC SC 2011 35 that the following registration fees be set for the 2012 MNO Synod Convention :**

**\$380 – Lay and Rostered delegates**  
**\$125 – Visitors**  
**\$ 25 - Late Registration Fee**  
**\$ 35 – Banquet only**  
**\$ 25 – Renewal Event only**

#### **No charge for:**

- Youth Delegates
- Retired Rostered Ministers not serving interim appointments
- Rostered Ministers On Leave From Call
- Rostered Ministers Temporarily Without Call
- Rostered Ministers in special calls where the calling agency is not responsible for fees

We recessed for a coffee break.

## **7. Annual meeting of MNO Synod Foundation for Mission and Ministry**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
of the  
Members of MNO Synod Foundation for Mission & Ministry Inc.  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
First Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, MB**

Present: Allan Francis, Haakon Dagsvik, Bart Coleman, Marilyn Grimeau, Brian Lorch, Bishop Elaine Sauer, Carol Janke, Matthew Diegel, Rhea Galeschuk, Jenn Mitchler, Ben Nickel, Jim Mair, Tom Brook.

**MSC Nov-Foundation-11-01**      **that we adopt the agenda as presented.**

**MSC Nov-Foundation-11-02**      **that adopt the minutes of November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting.**

The minutes of the Board of Directors meetings on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 were received.

The financial statements for the year ended December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 were received.

**MSC Nov-Foundation-11-03**      **that we appoint OnBusiness Chartered Accountants Inc. to perform a review engagement for the year ending December 31st, 2011.**

**MSC Nov-Foundation-11-04**      **that the following persons be appointed as directors: Allan Francis for a two year term ending in 2013, and Jim Zinko for a three year term ending in 2014.**

**MSC Nov-Foundation-11-05**      **that the Annual Meeting be adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Janke, Acting Secretary

## **8. Items requiring Action**

### **8.1 In Camera Session:**

The council went in camera

The council came out of camera

### **8.2.1 Financial Enabling Motions regarding 2011**

**MSC SC 2011 36** that the Sage Creek Mission Development Fund be re-named the MNO Canadian Mission Site Fund. The purpose of the Fund shall be to support the development of Canadian Mission Sites on the territory of the MNO Synod.

**MSC SC 2011 37** that the Closure Zion Thunder Bay Fund be distributed as follows:

Salem Lutheran Church, Pass Lake	\$2,500
Our Saviour`s Lutheran Church, Thunder Bay	\$20,500
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Thunder Bay	\$10,500
Hilldale Lutheran Church, Thunder Bay	\$23,000
Lutheran Community Care Centre	\$ 5,000
Shelter House – Thunder Bay	\$ 2,500
George Jeffrey Children`s Centre	\$ 2,500
Crisis Homes Inc. – Faye Peterson Transition House	\$ 1,580
Lutheran Community Care Centre – Street Reach	\$ 5,000
MNO Synod – Internships	\$13,920
MNO Synod – Companion Synod Projects	\$13,920
Luther Village – Building Fund	\$ 5,220
Lutheran Theological Seminary, Global Mission Exp.Trips	\$27,000
MNO Synod – MNO Canadian Mission Sites Fund	\$11,000
ELCIC National Church	\$ 5,500
 MNO Synod – Mission as Hope Appeal	 Remaining balance after any final expenses. (Balance expected to be approx. \$24,360.)

**MSC SC 2011 38** that Synod Executive be authorized to pay up to the full \$25,000 of National Church benevolence, notwithstanding that the required levels of congregational benevolence have not been reached, provided that it does not result in the Synod going into a deficit position for 2011.

**MSC SC 2011 39** that, since the Young Adult Ministry initiative is now fully funded from other sources, the Synod no longer fund this program from its operating budget, effective in 2011.

**MSC SC 2011 40** that the following year-end actions be taken on the Synod`s restricted funds:

<b>FUND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Amount as of Sept.30.11</b>
<b>Study Conference Fund</b>	<b>Fund year-end deficit general revenue</b>	<b>\$341 (expect small deficit by year end)</b>
<b>Young Adult Ministry Fund</b>	<b>Transfer balance to Young Adult Ministry (Externally Restricted)</b>	<b>\$2,273</b>
<b>“Refurnish” U of M Campus Office Fund</b>	<b>Transfer balance to Young Adult Ministry Fund</b>	<b>\$256</b>
<b>Sage Creek Mission Consultant Fund</b>	<b>Transfer balance to MNO Canadian Mission Site Fund</b>	<b>\$400</b>

**MSC SC 2011 41** That onBusiness Chartered Accountants Inc. be appointed as auditor for the year ending December 31, 2011.

#### 8.2.2 2012-2014 Synod Budget

**MSC SC 2011 42** that the 2012-2014 Synod Budget be approved as presented.

**MSC SC 2011 43** that Synod Executive be authorized to make interim payments of the 2012 Column B amounts during the 2012 year, if they are satisfied that the revenue will be sufficient to support the Column B commitments.

#### 8.3 Foundation Grants

**MSC SC 2011 44** that 2011 Foundation Small Program grants be awarded as follows:

**\$2,000 to Anglican/Lutheran Women`s Bursary**  
**\$4,000 to Committee for Mission – sending people to Cameroon**  
**\$2,000 to LUM – Building Relationships**

**\$4,000 to Committee for Missions – bringing people from Cameroon**

#### 8.4 Faith Lutheran Church Donation

**MSC SC 2011 45 That the remaining balance of the Faith donation be distributed as follows:**  
**\$1,800 for Training for Web conferencing**  
**\$5,000 for Lutheran Community Care Centre**  
**\$5,000 to LUM**  
**The remaining balance for Social Media Training (expected to be approximately \$1,800)**

The information in the above motion will be communicated to Faith Lutheran Church with our thanks.

#### 8.5 Diaconal Event

**MSC SC 2011 46 that funding for a diaconal event be made available to the Candidacy Committee as follows:**  
**Sophia Fund - \$511**  
**Mission as Hope New Initiatives Fund - \$300**

#### 8.6 Bishop Compensation

**MSC SC 2011 47 that the Bishop receive a 2% increase for 2012 for salary and housing allowance.**

#### 8.7 Mission as Hope New Initiative Re-allocation

**MSC SC 2011 48 that the Mission as Hope New Initiative Fund Re-allocations be as follows:**

<b>Small congregation consultation for Back to Church Sunday follow up with rural event</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Women's Training in Cameroon</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>Women's Leadership (Canada Trip)</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>2012 Convention DVD</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>2012 Convention – Renewal Event</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Synod Implementation Team</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>

#### 8.8 Policies

**MSC SC 2011- 49 that we adopt the policy on Fundraising.**

8.9 Nomination for Treasurer

**MSC SC 2011-50 that Allan Francis be nominated for the position of Treasurer for 2012 - 2016 term.**

8.10 Other Business:

Our next meeting will be held on March 1-2, 2011 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 600 Cambridge Street, Winnipeg.

The chaplain for our March meeting will be Pastor Jennifer Marlor

**MSC SC 2011-51 that the Mission as Hope 2012 Information package be approved.**

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

Meeting adjourned at 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Carol Janke, Secretary