
Session Six – Saturday, July 12, 2008, 8:30 a.m.

A service of Holy Communion was held at 8:30 a.m.

Bishop Pryse called the session to order.

Jeff Pym was called upon to share information about the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada which was created in 2007 and is now “open for business” for endowment funds.

Rev. Erich Schultz, the archivist of the Eastern Synod for the past 37 years, spoke of the work related to archives; he shared information about the kind of records that are received into the archives and encouraged congregations to remember the archives regarding their historical documents.

Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel

Rev. Mark Van House, chairperson of the Committee, presented the next to last report of the Committee.

ES 08-25 MSC that the assembly ask the Synod Council & WLS Board of Governors to examine the process of nominating members to the WLS Board of Governors, focusing on skills and needs of the board.

ES 08-26 MSC that the Assembly expresses its thanks to the Rev. Guenter Dahle, Convention Manager, to the Rev. Jeff Smith, chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee, to the members of the Local Arrangements Committee, to the Registrar and registration team, to the scores of stewards and volunteers, and to the synod office and technical staff, for the enormous amount of work that has gone into the planning, conduct, and warm hospitality of this Assembly;

And that this Assembly express its thanks to the ELW of the London Conference who provided hospitality and food services at the receptions;

And that this Assembly express thanks to the Worship Design Team (Debbie Lou Ludolph, Jennifer Famme, Rev. James Brown, Robb Wilson), sacristan (Susan Climo), our worship participants, dancer (Lindsay Eitzen), crafter of the intercessions (Paul Bosch), keyboardist (Jane Kristenson), choristers and musicians, for the love and talent that have gone into the planning and carrying out of the Assembly’s worship life;

And that this Assembly express our thanks to our Bishop, Rev. Michael Pryse, to his assistants, Rev. Guenter Dahle and Rev. Mark Harris, and to the synod office staff, Connie Davison, Christine Archer, Cathy Caron, and Lynn Becker, for their tireless partnership in ministry.

Rev. Guenter Dahle introduced the local planning committee for the Assembly and thanked them for their work, and asked the delegates to express their appreciation. A special thanks was offered for Rev. Jeff Smith.

Report of Synod Council

Keith Myra, Treasurer of Synod, was called upon to present further synod council motions for adoption.

ES 08-27 MSC that the 2006 Special Project Fund be allocated for “The Gathering Place” at Trinity Village Care Centre.

ES 08-28 MSC that the 2007 Special Project Fund be allocated to fund the Every Congregation Visit Program being conducted by the Resource Development Committee.

ES 08-29 MSC that the General Investment Fund policy be amended as follows:

- i) An amount between 80-100% of the annual investment income shall be allocated for the synod's operating budget from each fund. The officers of the Eastern Synod shall determine the exact amount.
- ii) An amount of up to 20% of the annual income from each of the funds may be allocated for a specific project by the ~~Synod in Assembly upon recommendation of the Synod Council~~.
- iii) An amount of up to 20% of the annual income from each of the funds may be retained as an "emergency fund" as determined by Synod Council.

The bishop welcomed all the rostered people who have been received into the synod since the last Assembly. Each person briefly introduced themselves.

After a break, the assembly reconvened with song.

Jackie Nunns, Ministry Director of Learning Ministries, spoke and reminded everyone that all people of God are invited and encouraged to use their gifts to grow in faith and increase in daily ministry.

Report of Synod Council

Bishop Pryse called upon Keith Myra, Treasurer of the synod, to present the budget for the next biennium, including some revisions to the budget for 2008. (See Section 7).

ES 08-30 MSC that the Level 1 and 2 budgets for 2008-2010 be adopted.

Rev. Phil Heinze, Ministry Director for Public Policy and Service, addressed the assembly of its baptismal responsibility to proclaim Christ in word and deed, to serve all people and strive for justice in all the earth.

The Session was closed with some announcements regarding the banquet and the conclusion of business sessions, and with a prayer.