

Liberated by God's Grace

2016 BC Synod Convention

April 28 to May 1, 2016

Business Sessions held at the Executive Plaza Hotel, Coquitlam

NOTES TO THE READER

- These minutes remain a draft version until they are adopted by the BC Synod in Convention. When adopted they will become the legal record of the 2016 Convention.
- The dates and days of the week are part of the minutes; however, the time-of-day notations are for reference only and are not part of the minutes.
- Each minute may be identified by the Business Session in which it falls and its letter or combination of letters and number. For example, in Business Session 1 it is recorded in Minute C.1. that Bishop Mohr welcomed those ministers added to the BC Synod Roster who are engaged in Active Service.
- Motions are identified by an alphanumeric system which identifies the BC Synod in Convention, the year, and the motion number. For example, in Business Session 1, Minute H, the convention decided to adopt the final draft of the agenda, recorded as motion *BCSynConv2016-01*.
- A motion to amend receives the same number as the main motion, now with "a" appended; this is because the motion to amend is by definition related and sympathetic to the main motion. All other procedural motions receive their own unique numbers.

Rev. Clifford Reinhardt
Secretary, BC Synod

Thursday, April 28

2:00 pm Business Session #1

- A. The Bishop called the meeting to order. He then acknowledged that the convention was taking place on the traditional lands of the local First Nations, and explained that an elder of a local band had wanted to attend and bring greetings, but could not and had conveyed regrets.
- B. Litany for the Opening of Convention
- C. The Bishop welcomed ministers added to the BC Synod Roster since the 2014 Convention:
 - 1) Active service: Rev. Dorothy Chu, Rev. Carolina Glauster, Rev. David Hunter, Rev. Jennifer Marlor, Rev. Timo Saarinen, and Rev. Katrina Vigen.
 - 2) Retired ministers: Deacon Benedicte Gormley, Rev. Kenneth Herfindahl, Rev. Ronald Nelson, Rev. Wilson Porat.
- D. The Bishop then welcomed Guests:
 - 1) Representing the National Office of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada: National Bishop Susan Johnson, and Director of Communications and Stewardship Trina Gallop Blank.
 - 2) Representing the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon: Acting President Rev. Dr. Michael Nel, Director of Advancement Services Pamela Giles, and Director of Development Joe Stolee.
 - 3) Representing Canadian Lutheran World Relief: Executive Director Robert Granke, and Director of the Community Relations Team Tom Brooke.
 - 4) Representing ELCIC Group Services Inc. (GSI): Executive Director Lisa Thiessen.

- 5) Representing Bishop Melissa Skelton, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster: The Rev'd. Dr. Richard Leggett, Rector, St. Faith's Anglican, Vancouver.
- E. The Bishop conveyed regrets from Rostered Ministers: Rev. Christoph Reiners, Rev. David Lefsrud, Rev. Karen Johnson Lefsrud, Rev. Ed Chell, Rev. Terry Richardson, and Rev. Gerhard Preibisch.
- F. The Bishop called on the Committee on Registration and Attendance to give its first report: as of 1:55 pm – 28 lay delegates, 34 rostered delegates, and 1 youth delegate, for a total of 63 voting delegates. 8 visitors (estimated).
- G. The Bishop brought to the attention of the convention a procedural issue that required resolution. He explained that confusion had arisen in the constituency over the deadline for registration, exacerbated by insufficient communication from the Synod Office, with the result that most congregations had not complied with the Synod's Bylaws governing the procedures for delegate registration. He reported that he had consulted legal counsel who advised that a congregation's right to representation superseded all other scheduling bylaws or policies. The Bishop therefore ruled that those registered as delegates, regardless of when they registered, are the delegates of the 2016 BC Synod Convention, and explained that the convention had the right to challenge his ruling. There was no challenge.
- H. Adoption of the Agenda: **2016BCSynConv-01**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention adopt the Agenda as circulated and then amended in the following way: on Friday morning add the report of CLWR after the report of the National Bishop. **Carried.**
- I. The Bishop thanked all those who had agreed to serve the Synod Convention in various capacities:
- 1) Parliamentarian Rev. John Gram;
 - 2) Standing Committees:
 - a) Elections: Jan Schultz (Chair), Rev. Art McCaughan, Gail Henry, Rev. Jennifer Marlor;
 - b) Reference & Counsel: Karen Lee (Chair), Rev. Marlys Moen, Rev. Katrina Vigen, Martin Bergbusch, Tarynn McKenzie.
 - c) Registration and Attendance: Rev. Dean Andersen (Chair), Karyn Schuler, Elmer Krushel;
 - d) Minutes: Kate McCulloch (Chair), Melinda Luthy, Rev. Dorothy Chu, Rev. Michael Rodgers;
 - e) Report of the Bishop: Rev. Jennifer Wilson (Chair), Grace Shaw, Rev. Thomas Keeley, Judy Bueschkens;
 - f) Nominations: Rev. Brian Krushel (Chair), Rev. Jim Whaley, Rev. Lori-Anne Boutin-Crawford, Rev. Fleming Blishen, Rev. Christoph Reiners, Rev. Carol Dennison.
 - 3) Chaplains: Rev. David Hunter, Rev. Patricia Giannelia.
- J. The Bishop welcomed a new Shared Ministry Congregation in the territory of the BC Synod: Trinity Shared Ministry, Clearwater BC. The Minister of the Shared

Ministry, Rev. Brian Krushel, brought greetings from Leslie Stirling, an official of the shared ministry. The Chaplain then led the convention in a prayer of thanksgiving.

- K. The Bishop invited the Rev'd. Dr. Richard Leggett, representing Bishop Melissa Skelton of the New Westminster Diocese of the Anglican Church in Canada, to bring a greeting on her behalf. Noting that it was time for the two church bodies to take next steps in light of the Waterloo Accord, established in 2001, he conveyed an invitation from the Diocese of New Westminster:

- 1) For the BC Synod to name a Lutheran observer to the Diocesan Council, and reciprocally for the Diocese to name an Anglican observer to the BC Synod Council;
- 2) For the BC Synod to name two Lutheran members to Anglican Synod and reciprocally for the Anglican body to name two Anglican members to the BC Synod Convention.

Leggett concluded, "There is much for us to be grateful for, and much for us to discover."

- L. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2014 BC Synod Convention: **2016BCSynConv-02: Moved/Second** that the 2016 BC Synod in Convention adopt the minutes of the 2014 BC Synod Convention. **Carried.**
- M. First ballot for election of Secretary: The Bishop explained the procedure for the ecclesiastical ballot, and then called on a Chaplain to lead the convention in prayer. The Bishop instructed the convention to cast the first ballot for the election of Secretary. When all ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.
- N. Nominating Committee Report regarding the Election of Delegates to the 2017 National Convention. The Bishop called on Rev. Brian Krushel to present the report (contained in the Bulletin of Reports). He then declared the floor open for nominations, resulting in two more nominees: Jan Schultz, Southern Interior Lay; Paul Werner, Lower Mainland Lay.
- O. The Bishop declared a recess.

Refreshment break

- P. The Bishop called the meeting to order. He then handed the leadership of the meeting to Vice-Chair Johnson. Johnson asked the Bishop to present the Bishop's Report, including the reports of the Conference Deans.
- 1) Bishop Mohr emphasized that he offered no recommendations in his report, except this: to stay the course, always seeking "what God is up to" in the world.
 - 2) He noted the various developments:
 - a) The initiation of a Lay Academy across the western synods.
 - b) Organization of Area ministries;
 - c) Progress in the preparation and establishment of synodically authorized ministries.

- Q. The Bishop drew attention to the Report of the Deans, and introduced the Deans who were present.
- R. Vice–Chair Johnson called on the Chairs of the Standing Committees to deliver their reports:
 - 1) Faith and Society: Rev. Brenda Nestegard Paul.
 - 2) Missions: Rev. Lori–Anne Boutin Crawford.
- S. The Vice–Chair handed the leadership of the meeting back to the Bishop. The Bishop called on the Committee on Elections to deliver its report on the first ballot for the election of the Secretary:

Andersen, Rev Dean1	Marlor, Rev Jennifer.....1
Blishen, Gene2	Martin, Rev Kathy2
Boutin Crawford, Rev L–A ..1	Moen, Rev Marlys2
Chorney, Angela.....1	Nieman, Dawn1
Eastman, Brenda2	Reiners, Rev Christoph..... 1
Giannelia, Rev Patricia5	Ineligible (spoiled ballot)1
Glauster, Rev Carolina1	Rodgers, Rev Michael1
Gram, Rev John.....3	Solomonson, Joanne2
Keeley, (Rostered) Marie3	Steele, Rev Kristen15
Knight, Craig1	Thompson, Norm1
Krushel, Rev Eric3	Triplett, Skip.....1
Lee, Karen2	Wilson, Rev Jennifer2

- T. The Bishop called for the distribution of the second ballot, explained the procedure, and then instructed the convention to vote.
- U. The Bishop returned the convention to the reports of the Standing Committees:
 - 3) CTEL report: Bishop Raymond Schultz
 - 4) Worship: Lorraine Reinhardt
 - 5) Youth Committee: Rev. Kristen Steele

The Bishop concluded these reports with the comment that some of the Standing Committees are inactive at present, although some of the work within their spheres of responsibility was being carried out in other ways.
- V. The Bishop asked Secretary Rev. Clifford Reinhardt to present the Statistical Report.
 - 1) Reinhardt began with an action recommended by the BC Synod Council:
2016BCSynConv–03: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention authorize Faith Lutheran Church, Powell River, to switch its membership from the Vancouver Island Conference to the Greater Vancouver Conference.
Carried.
 - 2) He then presented the statistical report and asked the convention to report errors or omissions; these were numerous. The Secretary thanked the convention for its forbearance.
 - 3) This report included necrology. The Bishop called on the Chaplain to lead the convention in prayer of thanksgiving for those ministers who have died since the last convention.

W. Report from the Committee on Elections: results of the second ballot for the election of the Secretary:

Andersen, Rev. Dean	1	Marlor, Rev. Jennifer	1
Blishen, Gene	2	Martin, Rev. Kathy	1
Boutin Crawford, Rev L–A .	0	Moen, Rev. Marlys.....	1
Chorney, Angela.....	13	Nieman, Dawn.....	2
Eastman, Brenda	1	Reiners, Rev. Christoph	0
Giannelia, Rev. Patricia.....	8	Rodgers, Rev. Michael.....	0
Glauster, Rev. Carolina	3	Solomonson, Joanne	2
Gram, Rev. John	2	Steele, Rev. Kristen.....	38
Keely, Deacon Marie.....	4	Thompson, Norm	2
Knight, Craig	0	Triplett, Skip	0
Krushel, Rev. Eric	1	Wilson, Rev. Jennifer.....	0
Lee, Karen	0		

X. Registration report as of 3:50 pm: 34 lay delegates, 36 rostered delegates, and 1 youth delegate, for a total of 71 voting delegates.

Y. The Bishop instructed the convention to vote for one of the following on the third ballot for the election of Secretary: Rev. Patricia Giannelia, Rev. Carolina Glauster, Deacon Marie Keeley, Rev. Kristen Steele. Once all completed ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

Z. Results of the Third Ballot for the Election of the Secretary: Ballots cast: 71. Spoiled: 1. Needed to elect: 36.

Giannelia, Rev. Patricia.....	8
Glauster, Rev. Carolina	4
Keeley, Deacon Marie	10
Steele, Rev. Kristen.....	48

The Bishop declared Rev. Kristen Steele elected. He explained that this election now constituted a call. He asked her to respond. She said, “Yes.”

AA. The Bishop called on Convention Manager Joanne Solomonson, who introduced the Assistant Convention Manager, Angela Chorney, who then made several announcements.

BB. The Bishop explained that the Convention could now turn its attention to the first ballot in the election of the Vice–Chair, and pointed out that in accordance with the bylaws the convention now had to elect a lay person. He called on the Committee of Registration and Attendance to deliver its report: as of 4:30 pm: 34 lay delegates, 37 rostered delegates, and 1 youth delegate, for a total of 72 voting delegates. The Bishop called on the Chaplain to lead the convention in prayer. The Bishop instructed the convention to cast the first ballot. When all completed ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

CC. The Bishop declared the end of Business Session 1.

5:00 pm Transportation to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

5:30 pm Welcome Dinner at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (sponsor: Canadian Lutheran

World Relief)

7:30 pm Opening Worship Service

(The offerings received this evening are designated for the ELCIC's Reformation Challenge: Scholarships)

9:00 pm Return transportation to Executive Plaza Hotel

Friday, April 29

9:00 am Worship

9:30 am Business Session #2

- A. The Bishop called the meeting to order. He called on Rev. Brian Krushel to present the Report of the Committee on Nominations. Krushel explained that since Rev. Kristen Steele had been elected Secretary, the position of Synod Council – Lower Fraser Valley, Ordained was now open. Rev. Dean Andersen had been nominated.
- B. Report from the Committee on Registration and Attendance: 39 lay delegates, 39 rostered delegates, and 2 youth delegates for a total of 80 voting delegates.
- C. Report from the Committee on Elections: Results of the first ballot for the election of Vice–Chair: 72 ballots cast, 15 spoiled, 43 needed to elect.

Bergbusch, Martin – Church of the Cross, Victoria.....	1
Blishen, Gene – Good Shepherd, Coquitlam.....	3
Chorney, Angela – Church of the Cross, Victoria	4
Flamank, Dave –	1
Harvey, Glen – Hope, Nanaimo	1
Johnson, Joanne – Mount Zion, New Westminster	1
Kalinowich, David – Mount Olive, Surrey.....	1
Knight, Craig – Grace, Victoria	2
Lee, Karen – Peace, Vernon.....	2
Little, Nancy – Dunbar, Vancouver	1
Nieman, Dawn – Good Shepherd, Coquitlam.....	1
Park, Brita – Our Redeemer, Penticton	1
Roszmann, Joan – Hope, Nanaimo.....	1
Reinhardt, Lorraine – Spirit of Life, Vancouver	1
Shaw, Grace – Redeemer, Vancouver.....	1
Solomonson, Joanne – Church of the Cross, Victoria.....	12
Thompson, Norman– Hills of Peace, Kamloops	9
Triplett, Skip – Church of the Cross, Victoria	7
Wilson, Linda – Our Redeemer, Penticton.....	1

The Bishop declared no election. He explained to the convention that on the next ballot the delegates could vote for only one of those names generated by the casting of the first ballot. The Bishop asked the stewards to distribute the ballot–forms for the second ballot in the election of the Vice–Chair. When all the completed ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

- D. The Bishop welcomed National Bishop Susan Johnson, and called on her to deliver her Report. She began by acknowledging that the land on which the

convention gathered is unceded territory of the Coast Salish First Nation. She commented on the following points:

- 1) The upcoming 500th anniversary of the Reformation events.
- 2) Her gratitude to the church for responding to the Reformation Challenge appeal: 124 refugees sponsored to Canada; 17 scholarships funded; 17,803 trees planted; \$114,484 donated to the Lutheran World Federation endowment fund.
- 3) The Annual Report of the ELCIC, which was distributed to all delegates.
- 4) Spirited Discipleship: pray, read, worship, study, serve, give, and tell.
- 5) Healthy Church: she sees changes across our church; we're learning to work together. This is evidenced by, for example, the use of the Church Extension Capital Fund for new initiatives in mission.
- 6) ELCIC Orders of Ministry Study.
- 7) Change in convention structure and schedules.
- 8) Compassionate Justice: work with Indigenous peoples.
- 9) Climate Justice: the energies of Jeff Bussey.
- 10) Work on a statement addressing decisions at the end of life.
- 11) Welcoming the Stranger.
- 12) Partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief.
- 13) Effective Partnerships.

Bishop Mohr thanked Johnson for her report and her leadership.

E. The Bishop welcomed Robert Granke, Executive Director of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, and called on him to deliver his report. Granke highlighted the following aspects of CLWR's work:

- 1) Respond to human poverty.
- 2) Response to the refugee crisis.
- 3) International program refocus: now a growing international leader in response to refugees.
- 4) Augusta Victoria Hospital: a leader in providing cancer care to Palestinians.
- 5) Rehabilitation of schools in northern Jordan.
- 6) Iraq – helping with internally displaced people.
- 7) Granke presented to the BC Synod a cheque in the amount of \$765.00, representing the Synod's share of the Gifts from the Heart campaign.

The Bishop thanked Granke for his report.

F. The Bishop welcomed Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director of Group Services, Inc., and asked her to deliver her report. She commented on the following points:

- 1) Strategic Review of benefits and programs.
- 2) Starting in 2017 better support for people suffering disability.
- 3) Emphasis on wellness.
- 4) Addition of a plan for supplemental pay for maternity and parental leave.

The Bishop thanked Thiessen for her report.

G. Results of the Second ballot in the election of the Vice–Chair: 80 ballots cast, 3 spoiled, 51 needed to elect.

Bergbusch, Martin – Church of the Cross, Victoria.....	1
Blishen, Gene – Good Shepherd, Coquitlam.....	5
Chorney, Angela – Church of the Cross, Victoria	7
Johnson, Joanne – Mount Zion, New West	1
Kalinowich, David – Mount Olive, Surrey.....	1
Lee, Karen – Peace, Vernon.....	2
Little, Nancy – Dunbar, Vancouver	1
Park, Brita – Our Redeemer, Penticton	2
Reinhardt, Lorraine – Spirit of Life, Vancouver	2
Solomonson, Joanne – Church of the Cross, Victoria	24
Thompson, Norman– Hills of Peace, Kamloops	16
Triplett, Skip – Church of the Cross, Victoria	6

The Bishop declared no election, and specified the following for the next ballot:

- Chorney, Angela – Church of the Cross, Victoria
- Solomonson, Joanne – Church of the Cross, Victoria
- Thompson, Norman – Hills of Peace, Kamloops
- Triplett, Leslie (Skip) – Church of the Cross, Victoria

The Bishop instructed the convention regarding biographical forms and information.

H. The Bishop declared recess.

10:30 am Refreshment break

11:00 am Business Session 2, continued.

- I. The Bishop called the convention to order, and began by consulting the delegates regarding the Agenda, especially with respect to casting ballots for the Election of Delegates to the 2017 National Convention. By way of an informal vote, the convention determined that balloting would occur just before lunch.
- J. The Bishop instructed the stewards to distribute the biographical forms for the nominees for the Delegates to the 2017 National Convention.
- K. Bylaw amendments
 - 1) The Bishop introduced the proposal to amend the Synod’s bylaws, and explained that formatting errors had occurred in the process of uploading to the Synod’s website the proposed amendments to the Synod’s bylaws. The Bishop identified for the convention where the errors had occurred and orally provided corrections, referencing the document as it was projected on the screen.
 - 2) The Bishop then welcomed Joanne Solomonson and Rev. Jim Whaley, members of the Synod Council’s *ad hoc* Constitution and Bylaw Committee, to present the report and offer explanations for the proposed changes, for the information of the delegates. The Bishop then opened the matter for questions and discussion.
 - 3) The Bishop handed the leadership of the convention to the Vice-Chair so that he could rise and address the convention regarding some of the proposed

changes. He explained that the Synod Council deliberately left some parameters vague so as to give the Synod opportunity to discern the nature of its Spirit-driven evolution.

- 4) At the end of the discussion on the proposed amendments to the bylaws, Vice–Chair Johnson returned the leadership of the convention to Bishop Mohr.
- L. The Bishop welcomed Rev. Dr. Michael Nel, Acting President of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, and asked him to deliver his report. He commented on the following:
- 1) The Seminary has developed a mission statement, emphasizing the seminary’s particular role within the broader mission of the church.
 - 2) The Seminary realized a small surplus last year. This is significant, because a few years earlier the institution had declared itself in a state of financial exigency, and needed 3 consecutive years of surplus in order to lift itself out of that state.
 - 3) The Seminary does not have an expenditure problem but rather a revenue problem. The Province of Saskatchewan currently provides a subsidy that exceeds the financial support of the 4 western synods combined.
 - 4) The Seminary has launched the search for a new president.
 - 5) There has been a dramatic increase in enrollment in the 2015–2016 year.
 - 6) In recent years the property had deteriorated, but has now been rehabilitated.
 - 7) The Saskatchewan Synod has relocated its offices to the facility.
 - 8) Nel drew the attention of the convention to the Study Conference, scheduled for the following week.

The Bishop thanked Nel for his report.

Announcements

- M. The Bishop instructed the stewards to distribute the ballots for the election of delegates to the 2017 National Convention. He declared the following elected by acclamation:

Rev. Jim Whaley – North, Rostered;
Rev. Carolina Glauster – Lower Mainland, Rostered.
Rev. Jennifer Marlor – Lower Mainland, Rostered.
Rev. Kathy Martin – Lower Mainland, Rostered.

- N. The Bishop declared the end of Business Session 2.

12:00 pm Lunch

1:10 pm Business Session #3

- A. The Bishop called the meeting to order.
- B. Report from Committee on Registration and Attendance: no change since the first report of the morning. The Bishop instructed the stewards to distribute the forms for the third ballot in the election of the Vice-Chair. Once the completed ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

- C. UBC Campus Centre Redevelopment Report: The Bishop called on Rev. Clifford Reinhardt, Chair of the Task Force to Redevelop the UBC Lutheran Campus Centre. Reinhardt distributed a written report chronicling the history of the use and ownership of the property. He commented on the progress since the 2014 Synod Convention, noting delays caused largely by the challenges facing all redevelopment projects in the University Endowment Lands. He then expressed his confidence in the ability of the Task Force to proceed with a rezoning application and the eventual success of the project, so that the BC Synod may once again have a ministry in the environment of UBC and the neighbouring residential area.
- D. Treasurer’s Report, including presentation of Budget for 2016-17: The Bishop asked Stephen Holmes to present the report. He noted the financial crisis that the Synod faces, as well as that faced by congregations.
- E. The Bishop called on Rev. Fleming Blishen for a presentation on the Stewardship of Material Assets, which focussed on property and facilities. The convention noted its asset-wealth, and several delegates rose to offer viewpoints on the church’s stewardship of those assets.
- F. The Bishop welcomed Derrick Gent, a representative of Vancity Community Foundation, and Robert Brown of Catalyst Community Developments Society, to deliver a presentation on Social Purpose Real Estate. They introduced the topic, referred to the project undertaken by Oakridge Lutheran, and called on Rev. Dorothy Chu to tell the story of that project. Brown shared information about Catalyst generally, and more specifically its involvement with Oakridge Lutheran.
- G. Report of the Committee on Elections: Results of Third Ballot on the election of Vice Chair: 70 Ballots cast, 1 spoiled, 36 required to elect.

Chorney, Angela – Church of the Cross, Victoria	10
Solomonson, Joanne – Church of the Cross, Victoria ...	26
Thompson, Norman – Hills of Peace, Kamloops	18
Triplett, Leslie (Skip) – Church of the Cross, Victoria	15

The Bishop declared no election, and instructed the Committee on Elections to distribute a ballot form for the fourth ballot. He then instructed the convention to vote for one of the three people on previous list who had received the most votes – namely, Joanne Solomonson, Norman Thompson, or Leslie (Skip) Triplett. When all the ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

H. The Bishop declared recess.

3:00 pm Refreshment Break

Business Session 3, continued

- I. The Bishop called the meeting to order.
- J. Results of the balloting for the election of delegates for the 2017 National Convention (those elected are indicated by the **bolded text**).

- North – Lay, 2 positions

Bell, Sharon	55
Golinsky, Rosalyn	22
Wilfur, Lana	49

- Southern Interior – Rostered, 2 Positions
 - Giannelia, Rev. Patricia38
 - Hunter, Rev. David54**
 - Vigen Rev. Katrina48**
- Southern Interior – Lay, 2 Positions
 - Day, Grant25
 - Thompson, Norman.....59**
 - Schulz, Jan.....54**
- Vancouver Island – Rostered, 1 position
 - Chell, Rev. Ed.....39**
 - Johnson-Lefsrud, Rev. Karen ..35
- Vancouver Island – Lay, 2 Positions:
 - Campbell, Duncan21
 - Chorney, Angela53**
 - Luthy, Melinda25
 - Roe, Geery 12
 - Saleski, Gerry27**
- Lower Mainland – Lay, 3 Positions
 - Aporta, Dick27**
 - Bueschkens, Judy16
 - Cuthbert, Beverly16
 - Johnson, Anne..... 18
 - Mathiasen, Kristine19
 - Millan, Charrise.....4
 - Reinhardt, Peter53**
 - Santos, Hector de los23
 - Werner, Paul.....29**
- Youth, 1 Position
 - Johnson, Sive42**
 - Marchuk, Aaron29

K. The Bishop welcomed John Wolff to deliver the report of the Surrey Urban Mission Society. Wolff reported the dramatic changes that had taken place, including his decision not to serve another term as Chair. Following his report, the Bishop thanked Wolff for his sacrificial service.

L. Results of the Fourth Ballot for the election of the Vice-Chair: 70 Ballots cast, 4 spoiled, 34 needed to elect.

- Solomonson, Joanne.....33
- Thompson, Norman..... 17
- Triplett, Leslie (Skip)16

The Bishop declared no election, and instructed the Committee on Elections to prepare the fifth ballot for the election of the Vice-Chair. He then instructed the convention to vote for one of Solomonson or Thompson. Once all the ballots had been collected, the Bishop declared balloting closed.

M. Proposed Bylaw Amendments, continued: The Bishop explained that, after consulting the Parliamentarian, he was presenting several options for dealing

with the proposed amendments: (a) As an omnibus motion; (b) As an omnibus motion with exclusions; (c) Bylaw by bylaw.

- 1) **2016BCSynConv-04:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention deal with the bylaw amendments in an omnibus motion.
 - a) **2016BCSynConv-04-a:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention amend the motion by adding the following words: “with the exception of those matters dealing with term limits for the office of Bishop and Synod Council positions.”
 - b) **2016BCSynConv-04-b:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention amend the previous motion by adding the words, “and the office of Dean.” The Bishop ruled this motion out of order; his ruling was not challenged.
 - c) **2016BCSynConv-04-a:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention amend the motion by adding the following words: “with the exception of those matters dealing with term limits for the office of Bishop and Synod Council positions.” **The vote:** 30 in favour, 24 opposed. The Bishop declared that the motion to amend had **passed**.
 - d) The convention now gave its attention to the motion: **016BCSynConv-04-a:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention deal with the bylaw amendments in an omnibus motion, with the exception of those matters dealing with term limits for the office of Bishop and Synod Council positions.
 - **2016BCSynConv-04-b:** Moved/ Seconded that the BC Synod Convention amend the motion *2016BCSynConv-04-a* by adding the words, “and with the exception of the proposed Bylaw 8.” **The vote:** 35 in favour, 33 opposed. The Bishop declared that the motion amend **passed**.
 - e) The convention now gave its attention to the twice-amended motion: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention deal with the bylaw amendments in an omnibus motion, with the exception of those matters dealing with term limits for the office of Bishop and Synod Council positions, and with the exception of the proposed Bylaw 8.
 - The convention expressed confusion over the nature of the preceding motion: was it substantive or procedural in nature? After consulting with the Parliamentarian and other officials, the Bishop ruled that the motion was a procedural motion; his ruling was not challenged. He recommended that the convention defeat the twice-amended motion. The convention **voted** and **defeated** the motion.
- 2) **2016BCSynConv-05:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention adopt the proposed bylaw amendments as presented and corrected.
 - a) **2016BCSynConv-05-a:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention amend the motion by adding the words, “with the following

change in Bylaw 12, Section 1, ‘the Bishop shall be elected for a 6-year term, with a limit of 3 consecutive terms.’” Debate: The debate included discussion of ecclesiology; recent decisions in National Conventions of the ELCIC; discussion about the value of number of terms and the health of the church.

b) **2016BCSynConv-06:** Moved/Seconded that the debate cease. **Carried.**

The convention gave its attention to motion *2016BCSynConv-05-a*. The motion was **defeated**.

c) **2016BCSynConv-05-b:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention amend the motion by changing the wording in Bylaw 8, Section 1, by adding the words, “and approved by the Synod in Convention.” **Carried.**

3) The convention gave its attention to the **amended motion:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention adopt the proposed bylaw amendments as presented and corrected, with the following addition to the wording in Bylaw 8, Section 1: “and approved by the Synod in Convention.” Vote: 66 in favour, 2 opposed. The motion **carried** with a 90.2% majority, thus satisfying the requirements of the BC Society Act for a special resolution to amend bylaws.

N. The Bishop called on Amber Santorelli and Rev. Kristen Steele to provide a report on the National Youth Project: *Right to Water*. They told of that Project, and of the upcoming National Youth Gathering, *Not for Sale*. They also informed the delegates of opportunities to support youth ministry.

O. Results of the Fifth Ballot for the election of the Vice Chair: 73 Ballots cast, 1 spoiled, 37 required to elect.

Solomonson, Joanne - Church of the Cross, Victoria.....49

Thompson, Norman - Hills of Peace, Kamloops.....23

The Bishop declared Solomonson elected, and asked her for her response. She said, “Yes.”

P. The Bishop called on Rev. Brian Krushel to present the Report of the Committee on Nominations.

1) Krushel reported that the Committee had received only one nomination, Rev. Dean Andersen, for the position on Synod Council – Lower Fraser Valley, Ordained. The Bishop declared Andersen elected by acclamation.

2) The Bishop called for nominations from the floor for the position on Synod Council – Vancouver Island, Lay. Leslie (Skip) Triplett was nominated.

3) The Bishop called for nominations from the floor, for the position on Synod Council – Peace River, Lay position. Joan Beek was nominated. There were no other nominations; the Bishop declared Joan Beek elected by acclamation.

Announcements

Q. The Bishop declared the end of Business Session 3.

5:30 pm Dinner

6:40 pm Business Session #4

- A. The Bishop called the meeting to order.
- B. The Bishop granted the privilege of voice of Norma Houde, the local committee's liaison with the hotel staff. She conveyed compliments from the staff.
- C. Report of the Committee on Registration and Attendance: no change from the morning.
- D. The Bishop instructed the Committee on Elections to distribute ballots for Synod Council Positions: Greater Vancouver, Lay; and Vancouver Island, Lay. He also instructed the Committee to distribute ballots for one position on the Board of Governors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon.
- E. The Bishop handed the leadership of the meeting to the Vice-Chair Johnson. She called the Chair of the Committee on the Report of the Bishop, Rev. Jennifer Wilson, and Committee member July Bueschkens, to present the report of the Committee. The Committee noted that the report of the Bishop focussed on the Missional Renewal process, and quoted a particular paragraph.
- F. Budget for fiscal 2017. The Bishop called on Treasurer Stephen Holmes to present the budget. Holmes pointed out that the budget projected a \$19,000 deficit, in spite of every effort to curtail expenditures, and emphasized that the problem was on the revenue side of the ledger. He concluded by noting that the budget belonged to the congregations, since it is they that fund it. The convention briefly discussed the consequences of synodical financial exigency and possible remedies.
 - 1) **2016BCSynConv-07:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention adopt the Fiscal 2017 Budget as presented. **Carried unanimously.**
 - 2) **2016BCSynConv-08:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention direct the Synod Council to research the model of congregational apportionment, in consultation with the congregations of the Synod, in order to alleviate the funding crisis faced by the BC Synod. **Carried.**
- G. Results of ballots for election to 2 positions on Synod Council:
 - Vancouver Island, lay: 70 Ballots cast, 2 Spoiled.
 - Macauley, Andrew 17
 - Triplett, Leslie (Skip) 51The Bishop declared Leslie (Skip) Triplett elected.
 - Greater Vancouver, lay: 70 Ballots cast, 3 Spoiled.
 - Berger, Gail..... 26
 - Eastman, Brenda 41The Bishop declared Brenda Eastman elected.
- H. Results of ballots for election to one position to the Board of Governors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary: 70 Ballots cast, 1 Spoiled.
 - Gerry Saleski 45
 - Sheila Seidemann 24The Bishop declared Gerry Saleski elected.
- I. **2016BCSynConv-09:** Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention direct the Committee on Election to destroy all the ballots. **Carried.**

- J. The Bishop called on Karen Lee, the Chair of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, to present its report.
- R&C #1 – **2016BCSynConv-10**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention direct its Bishop to send a letter to the Honourable Minister Carolyn Bennett, in support of the federal government’s action regarding an inquiry into the case of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. **Carried.**
 - R&C #2 – **2016BCSynConv-11**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention encourage its congregations and leaders to pray for a peaceful and just resolution to the conflict surrounding the building of the Site C Dam. **Carried.**
 - R&C #3 – **2016BCSynConv-12**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention direct its Bishop to send a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Premier of British Columbia, Christy Clark, to call for the cessation of the work at the Site C Dam until the concerns raised by various parties opposed to the project have been heard and judged by the courts. **Carried.**
 - R&C #4 – **2016BCSynConv-13**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in Convention direct the Synod Council to oversee the creation of a guideline for congregations and the Synod Office congruent with the Baby-Friendly guidelines of WHO and UNICEF. **Carried.**
 - R&C #5 – **2016BCSynConv-14**: Moved/Seconded that the Synod Council be directed to perform Synod-wide consultation in fulfilling the mandate of Bylaw 14, Section 1. **Defeated.**
 - R&C #6 – **2016BCSynConv-15**: Moved/Seconded that the BC Synod in convention express its thanks to all speakers, presenters, exhibitors and sponsors; the staff and management of Executive Plaza Hotel, Coquitlam; the congregation and clergy of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church; worship leaders and planners; all those who served on committees; the departing BC Synod Council members; Bishop Susan Johnson and staff of the National Church; convention chaplains; the Synod Convention Manager and Assistant Convention Manager, the Local Arrangements Committee; Bishop Greg Mohr and Synod Office staff; and the many, many volunteers who so generously gave of their time and talents. **Carried with applause.**

Announcements

- K. The Bishop declared the close to Business Session 4 and the entire Business component of the convention.

8:30 pm Worship