



12:00 - 2:00 p.m. NALC Women's Gathering
12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lutheran Benefits Overview

Thursday, August 11, 2011, 2 – 5 pm

Service of the Word: The 2011 convocation was called to worship at 2 pm by the Rev. Dr. Michael Tavella. The Convocation began with the Right Reverend Ray Sutton, Bishop of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) leading the worship. The service bulletin is attached to the Recording Secretary's minutes.

Bishop Paull Spring, Provisional Bishop of the NALC, welcomed the members and guests to the Convocation at 3:02 pm.

Adoption of rules of procedure, resolution no. 1: The Rules of Procedure were amplified by Bishop Spring on the eligibility of voting members, the timing of the speeches by the nominees for Bishop and the rules governing the procedures for election of Bishop.

Motion that the rules of procedure distributed at this Convocation be adopted as the rules of procedure for the 2011 Convocation was made by the Recording Secretary.

Motioned, seconded and approved

Adoption of agenda, resolution no. 2:

Motion that the agenda proposed for this Convocation be adopted as the agenda for the 2011 Convocation made by the Recording Secretary

Motioned, seconded and approved

Floor nominations: Bishop Spring solicited additional nominations from the floor of the convocation for the offices of Bishop, Executive Council, Committee on Nominations and the Court of Adjudication. No additional nominations were offered.

Bishop Ralph Kempinski moved that the nominations be closed.

Motioned, seconded and approved

Introduction and recognition by the Bishop: Bishop Spring took a few moments to recognize those organizations and persons that have been important to the NALC in the last year and with whom we share future ministries or goals.

1. Partner Ministries. The Convocation recognized the following.
 - Sola Publishing - Pastor Steven King
 - World Mission Prayer League - Pastor Charles Lindquist
 - Youth Encounter - Pastor Larry Johnson

Bishop Spring stated that the NALC will not develop new ministries to replace those ministries for which good and theologically sound ministries already exist.

2. Convention Chairs.
 - Parliamentarian-Reverend Ralph Kempinski
 - Election Chair-Reverend Ken Kimball
 - Nomination committee- Reverend Carl Haynes

- Worship chairs- the Rev. Dr. Michael Tavella and the Reverend N. Amanda Grimmer
3. Ecumenical Guests introduced were:
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Representative - Bishop Donald McCoy
 - Lutheran Churches in Mission for Christ (LCMC) - Pastor Barry Lindstrom
 - Augsburg Lutheran Church (ALC) –Pastor John Rasmussen and others
 - Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) – The Rev. Dr. Berhanu Ofga’a
 - Lutheran Churches – Missouri Synod-Reverend (LCMS) - Joel Lanebauer
 - Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) - Bishop Sutton, Bishop Roger Haynes, Bishop Winfield Mott, T=Reverend Travis
 - Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdioces of North America (AOCANA) - The Very Reverend Olaf Scott, The Very Reverend Edward Hughes, The Very Reverend Gregory Rumer, and Reverend John Fenton,
4. Introduction of Executive Council, NALC staff, and deans of the 2011 NALC church.

Bishop’s Report: The written report of the Bishop is included within attachments to the official minutes. In addition Bishop Spring took a moment to give thanks the members of the NALC for their dedication and for the opportunity they have given him to serve.

Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus: Greetings from the NALC were extended to the Reverend Dr. Berhanu Ofga’a, General Secretary, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. In turn, Reverend Ofga’a brought greetings to the 2011 Convocation from the EECMY and the hope of continued partnership in the work of Christ in the world (Phil 1: 1-16).

- A video vignette of the Oromo Community Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota was shown to highlight the vibrancy of Oromo worship.

Full Communion Agreement with Mekane Yesus Church, Resolution no. 8: Bishop Spring introduced Resolution no. 8, Full Communion Agreement with Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY). A motion was made by the Recording Secretary that the North American Lutheran Church approve a relationship of full communion with the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus; and that congregations of the North American Lutheran Church be urged to ratify this church-to-church relationship in accordance with Section 13.04 of the provisional constitution.

Motion, seconded and approved.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda, Resolution no. 9: Bishop Spring introduced Resolution no. 9, Full Communion Agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda. A motion was made by the Recording Secretary that the North American Lutheran Church approve a relationship of full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda and that congregations of the NALC be urged to ratify this church-to-church relationship in accordance



Documents of the 2011 National Convocation
Upper Arlington Lutheran Church
Hilliard, Ohio 43220
August 11-12, 2011
Minutes of the Recording Secretary

with Section 13.04 of the provisional constitution. No representative of the ELCU was present at the convocation. A small discussion ensued regarding the orthodoxy of the church and the method of their ratification of the document.

Motion, seconded and approved.

NALC Missionaries: Bishop Spring introduced Pastor Diedone Ponzo and his wife, Sarafina; and the Reverend Dr. James and Carolyn Nestigen as our first global missionaries. The Ponzo's will serve in Ecuador, the Nestigen's will serve in Ethiopia. The NALC will provide some support, but individual financial contributions are being solicited. Prayers were offered for their safety and for their success.

Evangelical Lutheran Mission Society (ELMS). Bishop Spring introduced the Reverend Dr. Gemechis Buba to present the ELMS to the convocation (see July Executive Council minutes and attached documents). Pastor Buba spoke powerfully of the need for missionaries and the fervor of the NALC to provide them. He declared registration for pioneer members of the ELMS open at this convocation.

Report of the Treasurer – Ryan Schwarz, 2011 NALC Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report (included in package). All information will be posted on the NALC website, *theNALC.org*. He provided the results of the 2010 finances as audited. Total cash on-hand on December 31, 2010 for use by the NALC was \$1.1 million. 2011 provided a more realistic view of our potential revenue and expenses. The forecast for 2011 projects a net income of +\$73,000. He paused in his presentation for questions from the floor. Receiving none, he continued with the 2012 Budgets (Operations, Theological Education and Fund for the Great Commission) 2012 Budget Proposal, Resolution no. 5, to adopt the budget(s) as presented. Motion that the budgets (general operating expenses, fund for theological education, and fund for the Great Commission), presented at this Convocation, be adopted as the fiscal plan for the North American Lutheran Church for the year 2012 was made by the Recording Secretary, seconded and approved

Prayer for recess was offered by Reverend Donald Allman and the Hymn "Crown Him Lord of All" was sung

Recess was declared at 4:50 pm.

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Prayer for the second session was offered by James Hanson and the Hymn "On Galilee's High Mountain" was sung

Remarks by four nominees for Bishop: The four candidates for the office of Bishop spoke to the Convocation. The order of speaking was determined by drawing lots.

1. J. Larry Yoder



2. John Bradosky
3. James Lehmann
4. Paul A. Schultz

Ballot I to cast votes for Bishop, Executive Council, and Court of Adjudication, was distributed and collected by the Reverend Ken Kimball.

Benevolence Plan, Resolution no. 7. A motion to adopt the Benevolence Plan was made by the Recording Secretary and seconded from the floor. The plan was developed by the Executive Council and is fundamentally a statement of shared conviction. It is not a mandate. A copy of the Benevolence Plan is included in the Treasurer's documents and attached to the official minutes. A brief discussion was held on Item #3 until the item was clarified. The Benevolence Plan as approved is attached to the Recording Secretary's minutes.

Motioned, seconded and approved

Mission Moment: Reformation Lutheran Church, Westminster, California, presented a video of the multicultural church that has blossomed with the influx of Vietnamese members into their congregation.

Presentation to Thomas and Sandra Smith: On behalf of the NALC, Bishop Spring recognized Thomas and Sandra Smith for their generous donation of \$1,000,000 during 2010 to the NALC, and he presented them with a framed memento of our gratitude. After receiving our thanks and recognition, Mr. Smith gave a short talk thanking the NALC for the opportunity to participate in God's kingdom.

Greetings for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese: The Very Reverend Olof Scott of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America brought greetings from the AOCANA along with a brief speech expounding on views in which his church and the NALC are in agreement. As a conclusion, he provided a cautionary warning to avoid schisms within the newly formed NALC.

Amendments to the Constitution A, resolution no.3: Resolution no. 3, that the amendments to the constitution, prepared by the Constitution Task Force, be approved and that these amendments be presented to the congregations of the NALC for adoption was made by the Recording Secretary, seconded and opened for discussion. The suggested amendments are attached to the Official minutes. Bishop Spring introduced James Gale, the leader of the Constitutional Task Force, to present an overview of the proposed amendments and the rationale for their formulation.

Due to time constraints, a motion to defer discussion of these amendments until tomorrow's session was made.

Motioned, seconded and approved

Discussion on a developing situation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda: During the day several disquieting allegations were received concerning the Evangelical Lutheran



Church in Uganda. In light of these allegations, a motion was made and seconded to defer the full union with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda to the research, discussion and decision of the Executive Council.

Motioned, seconded and approved

Introduction to health and pension plan: John Bradosky introduced the representatives of the Hahn Group to provide an overview of the preliminary health and pension plan under review for clergy members of the NALC. This was information only. No action was taken at the convocation.

Recess Prayer was offered by the Reverend Victor Langford III and the Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" was sung.

Friday, August 12, 2011

7-8:30 Deans Breakfast Meeting

8:00-8:45 Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:15 Lutheran Benefits overview

Friday, August 12, 2011 8:30am – 12 pm

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Paull Spring at 8:30 am. An opening Prayer was offered by Reverend James Lehmann and the Hymn "The Church's One Foundation" was sung.

Report of Ballot I: Reverend Ken Kimball provided the results of the first ballot. The results were:

- Elected as Bishop of the NALC = John Bradosky
- Elected to the Court of Adjudication = all nominees elected as presented
- Elected to the Executive Council – Jim Hanson (Lay-1 year), Carol Lattier (Lay-2 years), Ryan Schwarz (Lay-4 years)
- 5 positions on the Executive Council will require a second ballot.

Bishop-Elect John Bradosky gave a short acceptance speech (included in the official minutes).

- Ballot II to cast votes for members of the Executive Council was distributed and collected by the Reverend Kimball.

Nominating Committee: A motion was made that pursuant to Article 10.03 of the Provisional Constitution, the Executive Council's appointment of David Baer, Carl Haynes, Chris Nevins, Michael Tamoria and Rachel Sosebee to the Nominating Committee be ratified. Their appointment is to run through the 2012 Annual NALC convocation (August 2012).

Motioned, seconded and approved

Introduction of seminarians, ordinands, and the newly ordained Bishop Spring introduced seminarians, ordinands and the newly ordained to the Convocation. The persons he presented were: Julia Badigo, Cindy Bisser, Kris Brower, Dennis DiMauro, Heidi Holst, Jean-Claude Janvioun, Dan Kerr, Joshua Ong, Christopher Porter, Mark Ryman, John Scheusner, Michael



Sletto, Jill Torgerson, Pamela Thorson, Tsena Dinassa, and Lyle Belleque.

Greeting: Reverend Larry Lindstrom, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), brought greetings from our sister organization.

Mission Moment: A video highlighting the current work at Iglesia Luterana San Pedro, Miami, Florida, pastored by the Reverend Eddy Perez, Miami, Florida, was presented to the convocation. Pastor Perez's introductory remarks began with a scripture verse, Joel 2:21.

Amendments to the Constitution A, Resolution no.3 (continued): The Convocation began discussion on the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

- A motion was made and seconded to change section 9.09 [substitute language] Change to read: "The Executive Council is empowered to suspend the Bishop by a three-quarters vote of all members, excluding the Bishop for cause as outlined in the provisions for discipline in Section 14.01, in consultation with the Court of Adjudication and the Joint Commission on Theology and Doctrine. The Executive Council will appoint an interim Bishop to exercise the office until the next annual Convocation. The next annual Convocation may subsequently remove the suspended Bishop by a two thirds vote and set in motion a process for the election of a successor according to Article 8. In case of death or disability precluding the exercise of the office, the Executive Council may appoint an interim Bishop to serve until the next annual Convocation." *Motioned, seconded and approved*
- A motion was made and seconded to change section 10.06 09 [substitute language] change to read: "The Executive Council is empowered to suspend any member of the Executive Council by a three-quarters vote of all members for cause, in consultation with the Court of Adjudication and the Joint Commission of Theology and Doctrine. The Executive Council may appoint an interim replacement until the next annual Convocation. The Executive Council is empowered to suspend or remove any other elected office by a three-quarters vote of all members." *Motioned, seconded and approved*
- A motion was made to remove section 17.03, but not seconded. *The motion was not approved*
- A motion was made and seconded to retain section 4.05 [original provisional constitution]. *Motioned, seconded and approved.*
- A motion was made and seconded to include the Lutheran Confession in section 2.05. *The motion was not approved.*

Motion to accept the constitution as presented by the Executive Council and amended by the Convocation was made, seconded and passed.

Consideration of geographical subdivision title. The Convocation discussed titles for the geographical subdivisions in the NALC. Suggestions from the floor for the subdivision's title were:

- Mission District

- Deanery
- Mission [without the District addition]
- Mission Cluster

Mission District was declared the title for the geographical subdivision by voice vote.

Statement on Ecumenism, resolution no. 4

A motion that the Statement on Ecumenism, prepared by the Committee on Ecumenical Relationships and reviewed by the Commission on Theology and Doctrine, be adopted made by the recording secretary, seconded and opened for discussion. The Reverend David Wendell presented the statement and the rationale used to formulate it.

1. Motion was made to elucidate the names of the Holy Trinity found on Initial Affirmations, page 2, Item #1. New wording to read: “The NALC will **urge** our congregations to welcome participation in our celebration of Holy Communion all who are baptize in the name of **the Father, Son and Holy Spirit** and who believe in the real presence of Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine will be welcomed to Holy Communion. *Moved, seconded and passed.*
2. Motion to change bread and **wine** to bread and **cup**, seconded, and discussion allowed. *The motion failed.*

The statement on Ecumenism was adopted as amended.

Additional Action on Full Communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uganda: In light of continuing information being received during the Convocation, a motion was made and seconded to rescind the action on full communion with the ELCU and to refer it to the Executive Council.

Moved, seconded and approved.

ELMS signup at the Convocation: Dr. Buba thanked the convocation for the response to the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Society (ELMS) enrollment at the convocation. He thanked the many people already signing to serve as Charter Members of the Society. He also highlighted the upcoming conference in Asheville, North Carolina.

Report of Ballot II: Reverend Ken Kimball provided the results of the second ballot. The results were:

- Elected to the Executive Council = (Lay 3 years – Kay Weaver, Clergy 3 years – Rebecca Heber and Clergy 4 years – James Lehmann)
- Ballot III to cast votes for members of the Executive Council was distributed and collected by the Reverend Kimball.

A Prayer before recess was offered by Carol Lattier and the Hymn “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life” was sung.

12:00 - 1:15 p.m. NALC Women’s Gathering
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Friday, August 12, 1:30 p.m.

An opening prayer was offered by Kay Weaver and the Hymn "Sing Praise to God the Highest Good" was sung.

Greeting: Reverend John Rasmussen of the Augsburg Lutheran Churches brought greetings to the NALC. In addition he elucidated the agreements with his church body to the convocation. The agreements he highlighted were:

- Agreement to work with the NALC to provide chaplains for military services,
- Agreement to continue the ability to dually roster pastors
- Agreement to continue to engage in conversations on way to broaden and deepen our mutual fellowship while preserving the distinctive flavor of both churches

Report of Ballot III: Reverend Kimball provided the results of the third ballot. The results were:

- Elected to the Executive Council = (Clergy 1 year - Victor Langford III, Clergy 2 years – N. Amanda Grimmer).

This completes the voting of the convocation. The Convocation has elected our Bishop, Court of Adjudication and Executive Council.

Greeting: Father William Ferguson, representative of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus, brought greetings on behalf of Bishop Frederic Campbell.

Mission Moment: Living Water Lutheran Church, South Dayton, Ohio, pastored by Reverend Todd Kornrahens, presented a summary of their first year and introduced a brief video celebrating all that they have accomplished.

Implementation of Geographical Subdivisions, resolution no. 6: A motion was made by the Recording Secretary that the Executive Council be authorized to develop and implement a design for the formation and initial ministry of Mission Districts [formerly called Deaneries] for the North American Lutheran Church.

Moved, seconded and approved,

Honoring Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, Hilliard, Ohio: A motion was made and seconded to honor Upper Arlington Lutheran Church, our host church for the 2011 convocation, as a way of showing the gratitude of the NALC for all of their efforts on our behalf. The NALC presented Reverend Paul Ullring, Senior Pastor of UALC, with a framed award as a token of our gratitude.

Moved, seconded and approved.

Point of privilege (Reverend N. Amanda Grimmer): Reverend N. Amanda Grimmer asked for a point of privilege in order to thank the many workers, choir members, musicians and worship servers involved in the services during the 2011 convocation.

Honoring Bishop Paull Spring: Reverend Vic Langford III asked for a point of privilege in order to introduce a resolution honoring Bishop Paull Spring for his many gifts and blessings to the NALC during the provisional year we were under his guidance and direction. Bishop Spring and his wife were presented with a crystal award as a memento. Bishop Spring surrendered the



podium during this session.

- A second motion was made and seconded to honor Bishop Spring with the title of **Bishop Emeritus** of the North American Lutheran Church. It was passed by acclamation.

Moved, seconded and approved.

2012 Convocation and Theological Conference: Bishop-Emeritus Spring announced the dates selected for the 2012 convocations and the theological conference. They are:

- August 14, 2012 for the Core Convocation
- August 15-16, 2012 for the Theological Conference
- August 16-17, 2012 for the NALC Convocation.

The site for all events will be provided at a later date.

At 3:15 pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the 2011 NALC Convocation.

Moved, seconded and approved.

Installation of the Bishop and Officers: At 3:30 pm a Service of Holy Communion was held. Bishop Emeritus Paull Spring was the officiant and preacher and Bishop-Elect John Bradosky was installed as Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church. In addition, all members of the Executive Council and the Court of Adjudication were installed.

Respectfully submitted for review and approval,

Carol H. Lattier

Recording Secretary of the 2011 Provisional Executive Council