



Thursday, August 10, 2017

1:30 pm

Festival Eucharist observance of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and Opening of Convocation

The 2017 Convocation was called to worship by Pr. Myles Hixson. Bishop John Bradosky led worship, and Bishop Fredrick Onael Shoo of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania preached. The service bulletin is attached.

3:00 pm

Call to Order and Break

Bp. Bradosky called the Convocation to order and declared a break to transition from worship.

3:15 pm

Bp. Bradosky called the Convocation back into session.

Adoption of Rules and Procedure

Pr. Melinda Jones moved that the proposed Rules of Procedure be adopted for the Convocation. Proposed Rules of Procedure are attached.

Pr. Carl Johnson moved to amend rule #8 so that the third sentence reads, "The nominees for a second ballot shall include the names of the two persons who have received the highest vote on the first ballot, plus ties," and that the last sentence be deleted.

Seconded and approved.

Approval of Agenda

Pr. Melinda Jones moved that the agenda provided in the Convocation packet be approved. Agenda attached.

Seconded and approved.

Introduction of Lutheran Week Planning Team

Pr. Mark Chavez introduced Pr. Rafe Allison, Planning Team Chair; Dr. Amy Schifrin, NALS President; Pr. Tony Ede, Technology Coordinator; Jessie Phillips, outgoing chair of the Executive Council of the WNALC; Pr. Mark Graham, Chaplain; Pr. Myles Hixson, filling in as Chaplain in Nashville; Pr. Dean Eatman, who provided local volunteers and support; Anne Gleason, Financial Administrator; Pr. Mark Ryman, Communications Coordinator; Becky Seifert, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Staff; Jenny Brockman, Assistant to Dr. Gemechis Buba; Kathy Jacobson, Administrative Assistant. Bp. Bradosky thanked Pr. Chavez for coordinating the team.

Introduction of Committee on Reference and Counsel

Pr. Chavez introduced the committee members: Carolyn Nestingen, member of the Court of Adjudication; Pr. Carl Rasmussen, member of the Executive Council; Wayne



Knerr, Pittsgrove, NJ; Pr. Rolf Bjornstad, Sherwood Park, AB. He announced that resolutions must be given to the Committee by 6:30 pm that evening.

Introductions of NALC Leaders

Bp. Bradosky introduced the NALC Staff, Executive Council, and the Mission District Deans.

Report of Nominating Committee:

Pr. Bert Schultz, Co-Chair of Nominating Committee, presented the report.

Canada Section elections

Affirm election of Julie Eskeland to NALC Canada Section Board.

Moved, seconded and approved.

Executive Council, clergy, four-year term (one to be elected)

Pr. Mark Braaten

Pr. Roy Harrisville

Pr. Ralph Reitmeyer

Moved to close nominations. Seconded and approved.

Executive Council, lay, four-year term (one to be elected)

Ms. Rebecka Andrae

Ms. Pamela Charas

Mr. Brian Sutton

Moved to close nominations. Seconded and approved.

Court of Adjudication, four-year term (two to be elected)

Pr. Jeffray Greene

Pr. Lyle Hollander

Moved to close nominations. Seconded and approved.

First Ballot

Pr. Carl Johnson presented the first ballot, and moved the election of Pr. Jeffray Greene and Pr. Lyle Hollander to the Court of Adjudication by unanimous consent.

Seconded and approved.

Ballots were distributed and collected for Executive Council, clergy, four-year term.

Ballots were distributed and collected for Executive Council, lay, four-year term.

Bp. Bradosky declared the first ballot closed.

Report on Credentials

Pr. Chavez reported registration numbers: Clergy 262, Lay 211, Visitors 183, for a total of 656.

Lutheran World Relief

Ambassador Daniel Speckhard, LWR President, shared about the work of LWR and asked the NALC to join them in their current initiatives.



Report on Lutheran Benefits Plan

Bp. Bradosky introduced Verlyn Hahn of the Hahn Financial Group. Mr. Hahn reviewed the benefits plan. The handout is attached.

Introduction of Ecumenical and Inter-Lutheran Guests

Pr. David Wendel introduced: Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, Anglican Church in North America; Father James Erich Rutten, U.S. Roman Catholic Conference of Bishops; Bishop Fredrick Shoo, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; Rev. Larry Vogel, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; Rev. Dr. Wakseyoum Idosa, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus; Rev. Dr. Marcus Kunz, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Rev. Dr. Al Colver, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; Carmen Fowler LaBerge, Presbyterian Lay Committee; Father Jared Wicks, Pontifical College Josephinum.

4:30 pm

Keynote Bible Study I: Dr. James Nestingen, Philippians 2

Bp. Bradosky declared a ten-minute break.

5:00 pm Break

5:10 pm

Bp. Bradosky called the Convocation back into session.

Report of Church and Ministry Task Force

Marianne Yoder, chair of the task force, reviewed the report provided in packet (materials attached). Mrs. Yoder thanked the members of the task force.

Report from Life-to-Life Discipleship Team

Pr. Eric Riesen, chair of Life-to-Life Discipleship Team, reviewed report provided in packet. Pr. Riesen thanked Bp. Bradosky and members of Life-to-Life discipleship team.

Bishop’s Report

Bp. Bradosky shared his report. He distributed a document on discipleship and asked the attendees to work through the handout with others before the end of the Convocation. Report and document are attached.

Recognition of Ordination anniversaries

Bp. Bradosky recognized pastors celebrating anniversaries of their ordination. List of ordination anniversaries is attached.

Recognition of Chaplains

Pr. Lenae Rasmussen, Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent for the NALC, recognized military chaplains. Bp. Bradosky recognized chaplains serving in other contexts. List of chaplains attached.

Recognition of Seminarians

Bp. Bradosky introduced seminarians. List of seminarians attached.



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NALS Greeting

Dr. Amy Schifrin, NALS President, and Dr. Roy Schwarz, chair of the Board of Regents, brought greetings. Dr. Schwarz introduced the members of the Board of Regents. Dr. Schwarz gave a report on the future vision for the seminary on behalf of the Board of Regents. Dr. Schifrin gave an update on her work with the seminary this past year. Written report is attached.

NEXUS Institute

Pr. Russ Lackey, campus pastor at Grand View University, Des Moines, IA, shared about the NEXUS Institute and presented a video about the program.

Recognition of Newly Ordained Pastors

Bp. Bradosky introduced the newly ordained pastors. List of newly ordained pastors is attached.

Recognition of Congregational Anniversaries

Bp. Bradosky recognized congregations celebrating anniversaries. List of congregational anniversaries is attached.

Report of First Ballot

Pr. Carl Johnson provided the report.

Executive Council, clergy, four-year term (one to be elected):

Pr. Mark Braaten – 216 votes – elected

Pr. Roy Harrisville – 138 votes

Pr. Ralph Reitmeyer – 56 votes

Executive Council, lay, four-year term (one to be elected):

Ms. Rebecka Andrae – 122 votes

Ms. Pamela Charas – 94 votes

Mr. Brian Sutton – 191 votes

No election – Rebecka Andrea and Brian Sutton will be on the second ballot.

Second Ballot

Ballots distributed and collected to tally.

Bp. Bradosky declared the second ballot closed.

6:45 pm Bp. Bradosky declared the Convocation in recess until the next day.

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8:15 am Convocation Session II

Call to Order

Bp. Bradosky called the Convocation to order.

Keynote Bible Study II: Dr. Nathan Yoder, Philippians 2



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“Reflections on Martin Luther from a Roman Catholic Perspective” – Fr. Jared Wicks, SJ, Scholar in Residence, Pontifical College, Josephinum

Father Jared Wicks shared his reflections.

“Reformed Perspective of the Lutheran Reformation” – Carmen Fowler LaBerge, Presbyterian Lay Committee

Carmen Fowler LaBerge shared her presentation.

Ecumenical and Inter-Lutheran Guests greetings

Pr. David Wendel introduced Archbishop Foley Beach, ACNA, who brought greetings and encouraged the NALC in their partnership with the ACNA. Pr. Wendel thanked Father Jeff Jones, pastor of Holy Family Anglican Church in Hendersonville, TN, for allowing us to use their chancel furnishings at this year’s Convocation. Pr. Wendel shared about ecumenical statements between ACNA and the NALC, and announced plans for a joint discipleship conference in 2020. He introduced Father Erich Rutten, U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops. Father Rutten brought greetings. Pr. Wendel introduced Rev. Larry Vogel, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Rev. Vogel brought greetings.

Treasurer’s Report

Ryan Schwarz presented a final report on 2016 finances, and a forecast for 2017 (materials attached).

2018 Budget

Ryan Schwarz moved the proposed budget for 2018. (Handout attached)

Discussion of the budget.

Pr. Henry Pawluk moved that the budget be amended to increase the Convocation expense line item by \$20,000.

Seconded and discussed. The question was called and the Convocation approved closing discussion.

Motion to amend the proposed budget was approved.

Discussion on budget continued.

The proposed budget as amended was approved.

Report of Second Ballot

Executive Council, lay, four-year team

Rebecka Andrea – 125 votes

Brian Sutton – 204 votes – elected

11:05 am Bp. Bradosky declared a break.

11:30 am

Bp. Bradosky called the Convocation back into session.

Report of Bishop’s Election Task Force

Pr. Carl Rasmussen, chair of the task force, presented the report. He thanked the task force and reviewed the materials provided in the Convocation packet (materials attached), and presented the proposed amendments.



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Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Pr. Melinda Jones, on behalf of the Executive Council, moved the approval of the amendments. Bp. Bradosky yielded the chair of the Convocation to Pr. Chavez.

Discussion followed.

The question was called and the Convocation approved by show of hands to close discussion.

Vote on the main motion by voice vote and show of hands was uncertain.

Ballots distributed.

Bp. Bradosky resumed chairing the Convocation and declared a recess.

12:15 pm Lunch break and workshops

1:45 pm Convocation Session III

The Convocation was called to order by Bp. Bradosky.

Report on ballot for proposed Constitutional amendments

Pr Carl Johnson reported: Votes for: 172 Votes against: 179

The amendments were not approved.

Report of Stewardship Task Force

Pr. Eugene Grimm shared on behalf of the Stewardship Task Force. He encouraged congregations to make use of the task force's new materials, which can be found on the NALC website. Referred to resolution found in the packet (materials attached).

Adopted

Report of NALC Structure Task Force

Brian Sutton, Chair of the Structure Task Force, reported on the work of the task force.

"Holy Families" Report

Pr. Steve King shared about the "Holy Families" materials that are available at holysfamilytime.com.

Lutherans for Life

Pr. Scott Licht presented on the work of Lutherans for Life and the resources they have available.

Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel

Pr. Chavez announced there were no resolutions submitted.

Women of the NALC Report

Jessie Phillips, outgoing chair of the WNALC Executive Council, presented this year's registration numbers: 50 delegates, 18 visitors, 50 congregations represented. Ms. Phillips gave a report on this year's gathering and introduced the new WNALC council for 2017-2018: Linda Brower, Robbie Conley, Pat Dittrich, Jacqui El Torro, Lane Magera, Marcella Nelson and Clyde Sanders.

NALC Disaster Response

Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator, shared the work of the NALC Disaster Response team and encouraged more congregations to get involved.



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Missions Report

Pr. Gemechis Buba, assistant to the Bishop for missions, gave his report. Report is attached.

Ministry Partners

Pr. Chavez introduced and thanked the NALC Ministry Partners: Awakening Lives to World Missions, China Service Ventures, East European Missions Network, Friends of Madagascar Missions, India Transformed!, Life Together Churches, Lutherans for Life, Lutheran Lay Renewal, Sola Publishing, World Mission Prayer League, and Lutheran CORE.

Water Mission

Doug Stafford, regional director of stewardship for Water Mission, shared a video about the work of Water Mission and thanked the NALC for their partnership.

Announcement of 2018 Pastors Conference

Pr. David Wendel announced the 2018 Pastors Conference will be Jan 30th-Feb 1st in San Antonio, TX. The theme will be *Discipleship, Leadership and the NALC Pastor*.

Announcement of 2018 Canadian Rockies Theological Conference

Pr. Phil Gagnon and Pr. Karl Johnsen announced the 2018 Canadian Rockies Theological Conference will be April 10-13 in Canmore, AB. The theme will be *When Myth Made History*. Malcolm Guite and Steve Bell will be presenters.

Announcement of Location for 2018 Convocation

Pr. Chavez announced the 2018 Convocation will be in Denver, CO at the Crowne Plaza Denver Convention Center, August 13-17.

3:45 pm Installation of elected officers and close of Convocation

4:00 pm Bp. Bradosky declared Convocation closed.