

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA  
MINUTES OF NATIONAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2008**

**LAUREATE'S LANDING, ST NORBERT MANITOBA**

**PRESENT:**

Officers:	National Bishop, Susan Johnson Roger Kingsley, Vice-President	Donald Storch, Secretary Ken Hartviksen, Treasurer
Council:	Tom Brook Maaike Froelich Rev Nolan Gingrich Elizabeth Hachborn Rev Roger Haugen Heidi Hesselink Cindy Hoppe	Rev Mark Koenker Rev Dr Peter Mikelic Teddy Pope Rev Doug Reble Rev Trish Schmermund Carl Sorensen Barb Stolee The Rt Rev Colin Johnson, ACC Rep
Synod Bishops:	Rev Cindy Halmarson, SK Synod Rev Ron Mayan, ABT Synod Rev Gerhard Preibisch, BC Synod	Rev Michael Pryse, Eastern Synod Rev Elaine Sauer, MNO Synod
LWF RONA:	Rev Teresita Valeriano	
ELCA Guest:	David Swartling, ELCA Secretary	
Staff:	Rev Paul Johnson, Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical Relations Rev Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Relations Gloria McNabb, Finance and Administration Trina Gallop, Communications Manager Faye Schultz, Executive Assistant to the Office of the Bishop	
Excused:	Rev Claudine Carlson, Judy Kochendorfer	

**Thursday, September 11, 2008**

National Bishop Susan Johnson presided at opening worship assisted by Chaplain Rev Doug Reble.

**Session #1**

Bishop Susan welcomed new NCC member Barb Stolee, new LWF RONA representative, Tita Valeriano, and ELCA Secretary David Swartling.

Council members provided 'check in' comments.

That the agenda be approved as amended. **Carried.**

**CC-08-33** That the March 5-8, 2008 minutes be approved as corrected. **Carried.**

**CC-08-34** That the April 30 email minutes be approved. **Carried.**

National Bishop's Report

**CC-08-35** That volunteer placements of less than 6 months, which do not qualify as Volunteers in Mission placements, be recognized by the ELCIC as "Global Servants placements." **Carried.**

**CC-08-36** That the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) be offered as a volunteer opportunity in the ELCIC. **Carried.**

**CC-08-37** That NCC appoint Rev Roger Haugen, Tom Brook, Carl Sorensen, Barb Stolee, and Rev Doug Reble to the NCC Governance Committee. **Carried.**

NCC directed the development of terms of reference for Faith, Order and Doctrine Committee to the Governance Committee.

Closing prayer led by Chaplain Rev Doug Reble.

**Friday, September 12, 2008**

**Session #2**

Opening prayer led by Chaplain Rev Doug Reble.

Bishop Susan Johnson led a Bible study focusing on the ELCIC five pillars.

Report of the Officers

Report of the Secretary

Report of the Conference of Bishops

Report of the Synod Bishops

**Session #3**

Report of the Synod Bishops cont'd

Report from the Council of General Synod-The Rt Rev Colin Johnson

Report of the LWF Regional Officer for North America-The Rev Teresita Valeriano

Greetings from David Swartling, Secretary of the ELCA

Report from ELCIC Group Services Inc.-Hildy Thiessen, Executive Director

Report from Evangelical Lutheran Women-Ruth Vince, Executive Director

Finance Report-Gloria McNabb

Information on the 2009 Convention; and the unveiling of the new Convention logo.

M/S That NCC move into an In Camera Session. **Carried.**

**Saturday, September 13, 2008**

**Session #4**

Opening prayer led by Chaplain Rev Doug Reble.

Bible study 'Faith Journey Scrapbook' led by National Bishop Susan Johnson.

The NCC resumed open meeting.

Moved into the minutes from the In Camera session of September 12, 2008; INCC-08-11 That the secretary respond to Rev. Ryan Andersen noting that we appreciate his continued commitment to this Church, we acknowledge his pain and distress at being terminated from his position, and that we wish him well in his call to Advent Lutheran in Calgary. We have investigated the concern he raised about use of GHDA funds, and found no evidence of misuse. The Bishop followed current personnel policies in his dismissal and that the policies were currently under review.

The annual evaluation for Bishop Johnson was completed in the In Camera session of September 12, 2008. The evaluative comments were very favourable, were very positive and supportive of the ministry and work of the Bishop.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee Report

That NCC authorize the Finance Committee to tender for investment services.

Amended motion: **CC-08-38** That NCC delegate to the Finance committee the authority to tender for investment services and return to NCC with recommendations in March 2009. **Carried.**

That NCC approve the revised Relationship Description for the Finance Committee.

Amended motion: **CC-08-39** That the revised relationship description for the Finance Committee be referred to the Governance Committee and report back to NCC in March 2009. **Carried.**

**CC-08-40** That once the legal due diligence is completed, NCC give the Finance committee authority to remove the suspension of the sale of LIFE certificates and issuance of LIFE mortgages and restart promotion of LIFE program. **Carried.**

**CC-08-41** That NCC approve that legal counsel conduct an investigation to review all applicable current securities laws to verify exempt issuer requirements. **Carried.**

**CC-08-42** That NCC table the approval of the revised policies of the LIFE Program to the NCC Meeting, March 2009. **Carried.**

**CC-08-43** That NCC restrict the remainder of the Benefits Reserve Fund for use in pension deficiency. **Carried.**

**CC-08-44** That NCC refer to the Officers the approval of the revised ELCIC Travel Expense Policy, for a subsequent email vote by NCC. **Carried.**

**CC-08-45** That the revised Interim Investment Policy Statement for the sole purpose of calling for proposals from prospective Investment Managers be referred to the Officers, followed by an email vote by NCC. **Carried.**

#### Audit Committee Report

**CC-08-46** That NCC approve the 2007 audited financial statements as presented. **Carried.**

#### Constitution Committee Report

**CC-08-47** That NCC approve the new Article IX of the ABT Synod Constitution (Full Communion Partners). **Carried.**

#### Governance Committee Report

Approved documents to be inserted in the ELCIC Governance Manual

**CC-08-48** That NCC approve the amendment to the ELCIC Governance Manual with the insertion of GS-2.12 Faith, Order and Doctrine Committee/Council Relationship Description. **Carried.**

NCC Officers to recommend members to the FOD Committee.

**CC-08-49** That NCC approve the disbandment of the NCC Communication and Public Policy Committees. **Carried.**

**CC-08-50** That NCC defer the amendment to the Governance Manual insert GS-2.11 Governance Committee/National Church Council Relationship Description to the March 2009 meeting. **Carried.**

**CC-08-51** That NCC approve the amendment to Governance Manual GS 2.7 which allows each committee to name their own chairperson. **Carried.**

**CC-08-52** That NCC allocate funds for the Governance Committee to meet in January 2009. **Carried.**

#### Correspondence

**CC-08-53** That the Bishop circulate through the constituency the vacancy for LWF General Secretary, and that written nominations including CV's be sent to the officers, who will after consultation with their Synodical Bishop, set up an email vote of NCC prior to January 15, 2009. **Carried.**

**CC-08-54** That NCC approve a joint Convention with the Anglican Church of Canada's General Synod in 2013. **Carried.**

**CC-08-55** That NCC support a joint meeting with ACC COGS and NCC in March 2010, and that the Bishop be charged with making the arrangements. **Carried.**

**CC-08-56** That NCC approve the Call to Special Service for Pamela Pederson as a full time Protestant Chaplain for Corrections Canada to the Kent Institution in Agassiz BC. **Carried.**

**CC-08-57** That National Bishop Susan Johnson send a letter to the CRTC in opposition to the channel dedicated to pornography, and that coordination with the Primate of ACC be considered. **Carried.**

Four members of NCC to be involved in the March meeting's Bible study using the ELCA Church Council format "Dwelling in the Word".

Closing worship led by Bishop Susan Johnson and Chaplain Rev Doug Reble.

#### Meetings and Chaplains

March 5-7, 2009	Chaplain-Rev Nolan Gingrich
June 24-28, 2009	Convention, Vancouver BC
September 10-12, 2009	Chaplain-

The meeting was adjourned.