
NUMBER TWO

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Joint Anglican/Lutheran Day

Members of Synod joined with the delegates to the National Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. The Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett, co-chair of the planning taskforce for the joint day, welcomed members of Synod and the delegates to the Convention who were seated at more than 100 tables. Anglicans and Lutherans were at each of the tables.

The focus of the day was 'Water' set within the context of an almost day-long Celebration of the Eucharist. Dr. Leggett explained that among the purposes of the Day were learning to speak with each other, to share, learn, and become friends.

Andy Seal updated all present on the progress towards the Augsburg Fortress/Anglican Book Centre amalgamation. He explained that the purpose of the new entity was to serve the two churches and that no funding would be sought from either church. He encouraged all members of the churches to support this new undertaking.

The celebration was marked by prayer, hymn singing, scripture and table discussion groups.

Highlights of the Day

A new hymn written by Keri Wehlander to mark the sixth anniversary of the Waterloo Declaration, *From the Waters of Creation*, was the hymn of the day. Keri was thanked for the contribution of her hymn. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Lutheran Bishop Michael Pryse, (ELCIC) and Anglican Bishop Fred Hiltz, co-

chairs of the Joint Anglican-Lutheran Commission.

Address by Dr. Sallie McFague

Dr. McFague noted that there is an "enormous range" of meanings and significances associated with water.

Among these are life, death, growth, power and beauty.

In this context she addressed the overarching concerns related to global climate change. She suggested that the church is or ought to be "ecological" and quoted Simone Weil to the effect that "Christianity is not catholic if creation is left out." In addition, she noted that the well-known Roman Catholic priest/scientist, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin had taught that "Jesus must be loved as a world." From this exploration she concluded that "God's household is the world."

She called on Christians to adopt a public voice based on embracing the "well-being of all creation here and now as an alternative" to the "redemption of individuals for life in another world." This alternative understanding of salvation would be characterized by observing three economic rules: "Take only your share, clean up after yourself and keep the house in good repair."

"Global warming," she said, "was a public sin."

In the context of the Celebration of the Eucharist in which all were participating, she observed that the Eucharistic banquet is "a faint reflection of the ecological model of planetary living."

The Aboriginal Covenant

June 21 was National Aboriginal Day. The Joint Day concluded with leaders of the major Christian denominations, churches and/or bodies re-committing to *A New Covenant: Towards the Constitutional Recognition and Protection of Aboriginal Self-Government in Canada*.

Evening Sitting

The Primate led members in prayers for the late Joseph Henry (Diocese of Keewatin) and for his wife and family.

Balloting for Prolocutor

Members were given voting instructions. The following names were on the ballot:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews, the Ven. Bruce Bryant-Scott, the Very Rev. Terry Dance, Ms. Heather Dixon, Canon (Lay) Robert Falby, QC, Ms. Suzanne Lawson, the Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett, the Very Rev. James Merrett, the Rev. Rob Towler.

Results of the **First Ballot** were:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews – 79
The Ven. Bruce Bryant-Scott – 15
The Very Rev. Terry Dance – 20
Ms. Heather Dixon – 20
Canon Robert Falby – 59
Ms. Suzanne Lawson – 47
The Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett – 28
The Very Rev. James Merrett – 7
The Rev. Rob. Towler – 18

Bryant-Scott, Dixon and Merrett withdrew from the election.

Results of the **Second Ballot** were:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews – 104
The Very Rev. Terry Dance – 16
Canon Robert Falby – 74
Ms. Suzanne Lawson – 58
The Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett – 21
The Rev. Rob Towler – 13
Dance and Towler withdrew from the election.

The results of the **Third Ballot** were:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews – 131
Canon Robert Falby – 90
Ms. Suzanne Lawson – 60
The Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett – 9

Lawson and Leggett withdrew from the election.

The results of the **Fourth Ballot** were:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews – 156
Canon Robert Falby – 133
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews was declared **elected**.

Ms. Bonnie Anderson, President of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church of the USA, extended appreciation to retiring Prolocutor, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott.

International Partners

Greetings were brought by **the Rt. Reverend Patrick Mwachiko**, Diocese of Masasi, Tanzania. He gave a brief overview of the history of the Anglican Church in Tanzania and also informed members of Synod about contemporary life in the diocese and in Tanzania. He thanked PWRDF and the Partnership Department for their continued support of the Church in Tanzania.

In addition, **the Rt. Rev. Pie Ntukamazina**, Bishop of Bujumbura, Burundi thanked the Canadian Church for its continuing support during times when his country was “in trouble” saying that “a good friend is someone who appears when you are in danger.” **Mrs. Ntukamazina** reported on the work of the Mothers Union which is undertaking educational and medical restoration and recovery work following the civil war.

Resolutions

Resolution A183: Report of the Windsor Report Response Group

The Rt. Rev. Colin Johnson explained that the Windsor Report is primarily about unity and communion in Christ. Wide response to the Report was sought and received from across the Canadian Church. An amendment to the Resolution was **defeated** and the question on the original motion was put and the resolution was **carried**.

Resolution A202: Council of the North Grants was carried.

The evening sitting closed with prayer and song lead by a member of Peguis First Nation, Manitoba, and others.