

NUMBER FIVE

Feast of St. John the Baptist
June 24, 2007

The Eucharist

The presider at the Eucharist was the Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley, Suffragan Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and the homilist was the Rev. Lily Bell from Old Masset, Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands).

In her homily, she addressed the assembly in the Haida language as “good people.” Referring to her Aboriginal people and the hurt and pain they have experienced she wished that her people could have that understanding of themselves. The words of Isaiah, she said, seemed to be addressed particularly to her people. They are words of caring.

She then told the assembly that so many are looking to the Synod – “you are called to care.”

Nominations Report #1

The Rt. Rev. Sue Moxley presented the report which would be available in hard copy to all members.

Resolutions

Resolution A186: Blessings of Same Sex Unions – Core Doctrine of ACC **debate resumed**

Motion to close debate; two-thirds majority required. The motion was **defeated** in both the house of clergy and laity in the order of bishops.

Motion to defer Resolution A186 to 2010 Synod. A simple majority required to pass: **carried** in the order of bishops and **defeated** in the house of clergy and laity. Debate continued.

Amendment: insert after the word “doctrine” the words “(in the sense of being credal)”

Motion that the question of the amendment be put. **Carried** in both the order of bishops and in the house of clergy and laity.

The **amendment** was **carried** in both the house of clergy and laity and in the order of bishops.

Motion that the question on the amended main motion be put: **carried** in both the order of bishops and in the house of clergy and laity.

On the **main motion:** **carried** in the house of clergy and laity and in the order of bishops.

Resolution A187: Blessing of Same Sex Unions. Discussion was suspended until the afternoon.

Noon Reflections were led by the Most Rev. John Sentamu, Archbishop of York. After reflecting on the nature of the Body of Christ and its various “members” he requested Synod members to say to each other, “I could not live without you.”

Information dialogues were held during the lunch break.

Afternoon Session

The Very Rev. Peter Wall introduced the National Bishop elect of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Susan Johnson.

Residential Schools Report

Dr. Ellie Johnson, Director of Partnerships began by telling the Synod that the work in which she is engaged is for the benefit of former residential school students. She began by updating the Synod on the current state of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. Full details of the IRSSA are available on the internet at www.residentialschoolssettlement.ca.

Healing Fund Coordinator, Esther Wesley, presented the work of the Healing Fund which was the Church's response to the legacy of the residential schools. The Fund has financed a variety of programs – healing programs, vocational and other training and history research programs.

Maylanne Maybee, Ecojustice Coordinator outlined the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which will administer \$60 million and will be administered by an advisory board.

Nancy Hurn, General Synod Archivist, outlined the archival support and assistance which will be provided relating to residential schools and the former students, especially in locating former students.

Resolution A187: (continued)

Amendment: delete “committed same sex unions and replace with “civil same-sex marriages.” The **amendment** was **defeated** both in the house of clergy and laity and in the order of bishops.

Accepted a friendly **amendment** to delete the words “with the concurrence of its bishop” and insert the following “a) with the concurrence of the diocesan bishop, and b) in a manner which respects the conscience of the incumbent and of the parish.”

Debated was closed by the seconder of the motion. A vote by orders was requested. The **motion** was **carried** in the house of laity and in the order of clergy and **defeated** in the order of bishops.

First Report of the Nominations Committee

Bishop Moxley presented the report which was distributed to all members.

Partner Reflections

Partners were presented by Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan.

From the United Church of Canada – Dr. Gail Allen presented the greetings.
From the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops – Dr. Susan Brown presented greetings.

From the Episcopal Church of the USA – The Rev. Canon Petero Sabune presented greetings.

Rendezvous Rupert's Land

Dinner and farewell to Archbishop Hutchison at the Radisson Hotel.