

MINUTES
SEVENTEENTH BIENNIAL SYNOD CONVENTION

Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

April 26 - 28, 2018

Grace Lutheran Church

Winnipeg, Manitoba

THEME: Bearing Fruit on the Vine: A branch cannot bear fruit by itself.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

Registration was held from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Supper was provided by Neil Bardal Inc. Funeral Centre.

Sitting #1

Chair of Synod Council, Ms. Heather Howdle, chaired the convention.

Chair, Ms. Heather Howdle, opened the convention.

Bishop Elaine Sauer greeted the convention with the words:

“We are Treaty People of Canada. We recognize treaties as sacred covenants involving respect, commitments, and responsibilities by all parties. We affirm that recognizing and implementing Indigenous rights is essential to being the kind of society Canada strives to be. Today and throughout this convention we reside on Treaty ONE territory, the traditional lands of the Metis, Ojibway and Oji Cree nations but our home as a synod also includes Treaty Three and Robinson-Superior Territories Anishinaabe, Dene, Dakota peoples. We endeavor to live out this treaty as faithful people, called to reconciliation and healing for the sake of all who live on this land.”

She welcomed, delegates, visitors, guests and display and organization leaders as well as volunteers.

Bishop Elaine introduced the following to the convention:

- National Bishop Susan Johnson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Rev. Erik Parker, Convention Chaplain

- Rev. Leon Gilbertson, Convention Parliamentarian, and Mr. Russ Skakum, Parliamentarian Intern
- Rev. Dr. William Harrison, President, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon
- Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director. Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) and Rev. Carla Blakely, Communications Director, CLWR.
- Ms. Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director, ELCIC Group Services Inc., and Mr. John Wolff, Chair, GSI Board of Directors *GSI will host Financial Wellness Sessions as well provide Chair Massages with Registered Massage Therapists and consultations with a Registered Dietician Thursday and Friday morning*
- Ms. Caroline Wintoniw, acting Executive Director, Luther Village
- Mr. Wayne Hove, President, Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI)
- The Rt. Rev. Donald Phillips, Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, Anglican Church of Canada (who will be joining us Friday morning.)
- Mr. Byron van Dijk, Leader of the Youth Delegation
- Host Committee: Mr. Richard Rosin, Ms. Jo-Ann Filipowicz, Ms. Karen Colquhoun, Ms. Carla Veldkamp, Mr. Duane Kelln, and Ms. Milees Kelln.

Mr. Richard Rosin, a member of Grace Lutheran Church and chair of the host committee, was introduced and brought greetings.

The following actions were taken as part of the consent agenda.

MSC MNO 17-2018-01 that the convention agenda be approved as amended.

The Synod Council has invited the Rt. Rev. Don Phillips, Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, Anglican Church of Canada, as a guest to our convention.

MSC MNO 17-2018-02 that we grant voice to the Rt. Rev. Don Phillips, Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, Anglican Church of Canada.

MSC MNO 17-2018-03 that all ballots be destroyed following the completion of elections for each office / position.

MSC MNO 17-2018-04 that Synod council be given authority to approve the minutes of this convention.

The Convention Committee appointments were announced:

Committee of Reference and Counsel:

Chair: Rev. Jason Zinko

Ms. Sandy Mandryk

Rev. Lynne Hutchison

Mr. Olaf Hettrick

Committee on Elections:

Chair: Rev. Matthew Diegel

Ms. Vickie Albrecht

Mr. Rob Dojack

Rev. Rebecca Graham

Committee on Registration and Attendance:

Ms. Linda Hettrick

Rev. Daren Gallivan

Ms. Heather Howdle introduced the MNO Synod Bishop, Synod Executive, Synod Council and staff.

The first report of the Committee on Registration and Attendance:

There are 137 eligible voting members.

	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Registered</u>
<u>Lay Delegates</u>		
Representing Congregations	68	39
Synod council members	9	6
Youth	14	12
<u>Rostered Delegates</u>		
Active	42	36
Retirees	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Total: 137 97

Visitors: 20

Quorum required: 33

A quorum was declared

Committee of Reference and Counsel:

There were no petitions received from congregations.

Chair, Ms. Heather Howdle, provided orientation for convention.

Dwelling in the Word: a time of spiritual discernment on the election of a bishop.
Rev. Dave Saude and Rev. Larry Ulrich led the convention in this discernment.

Elections: First Ballot for Bishop

National Bishop Susan Johnson assumed the chair and provided instructions for an ecclesiastical ballot.

The Convention Chaplain led the convention in prayer.

There was a service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m., followed by a reception honouring special anniversaries of ordination/consecration and welcoming new rostered ministers to the synod.

Worship Participants

Preacher and Presider: Bishop Elaine Sauer

Lector: Mr. Tom Brook

Communion Assistants: Intern Jeremy Langner, Rev. Erik Parker, Rev. Debra Johnston, Rev. Bruce Gelhorn, Ms. Bev Wahl, Mr. Daniel Corzo and Mr. Haakon Dagsvik

Musicians: Ms. Gudrún Czayka, Grace Lutheran Church Choir

The offering was designated for Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon.

Those celebrating special anniversaries of ordination:

60 years: Rev. Dr. Egil Grislis

50 years: Rev. Stanton Richards

40 years: Rev. Erwin Tipple
Rev. Larry Ulrich

25 years: Rev. Daren Gallivan
Rev. Catherine Giroux
Rev. Lynne Hutchison
National Bishop Susan Johnson
Rev. Leslie Poulin
Rev. Paul Sartison

Those new to the MNO Synod:

Rev. Val From
Rev. Debra Johnston
Rev. Dr. Ann Salmon
Rev. Paul Sartison

Report of the Committee on Elections

Results of First Ballot for Bishop:

96 votes were cast

4 were spoiled

69 needed to elect

Rev. Michael Kurtz	15
Rev. Paul Gehrs	12
Rev. Lynne Hutchison	9
Rev. Jason Zinko	8
Rev. Kathy Martin	6
Rev. Chris Bishopp	5
Rev. Tyler Gingrich	5
Rev. Bart Coleman	3
Rev. Matthew Diegel	3

Rev. Paul Johnson	3
Rev. Erik Parker	3
Rev. Lyle McKenzie	3
Rev. Bruce Gelhorn	2
Rev. Rebecca Graham	2
Rev. Larry Ulrich	2
Rev. Val From	1
Rev. Daren Gallivan	1
Rev. Mark Koenker	1
Rev. David Lowe	1
Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker	1
Rev. Nancy Ringham	1
Rev. Paul Sartison	1
Rev. Trudy Thorarinson	1
Rev. Dennis Hendrickson	1
Rev. Jamie Howison	1
Rev. Sid Haugen	1

No election

A dessert reception provided by Lutheran Theological Seminary followed in the Lower Auditorium.

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**FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018**

Convention Chaplain, Rev. Erik Parker, led us in Morning Prayer

**Sitting # 2**

The report from the Committee of Reference and Counsel  
There were no petitions.

The convention chaplain, Rev. Erik Parker, led us in prayer.

Elections – Second Ballot for Bishop: National Bishop Susan Johnson assumed the chair.

First Ballot for Synod Council

|                     |                                                                    |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Electoral Region #1 | Ms. Linda Hettrick was declared elected                            |
| Electoral Region #2 | Ms. Carol Bilinski was declared elected                            |
| Electoral Region #3 | Ms. Dorleen Dyrland was declared elected                           |
| Electoral Region #4 | Mr. Michael Kvern and Ms. Heather Werboweski were declared elected |
| At-large:           | Rev. Leslie Poulin and Rev. Jason Zinko were declared elected      |

National Bishop Susan Johnson reported to the convention on the work of the National Church and thanked people for their participation in the ELCIC Reformation Challenge. She lifted up a variety of ways the national church is in mission with us, for others. She asked us to always look for ways to continue celebrating the reformation in our lives as God's people.

Ms. Heather Howdle introduced the Rt. Rev. Don Phillips, Bishop of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, Anglican Church of Canada, who brought greetings from the Diocese of Rupert's Land. He highlighted the ways the diocese and synod are in partnership.

Convention Chaplain Rev. Erik Parker led us in prayer giving thanks for the work of Bishops Susan Johnson and Don Phillips

We viewed a video on the work of Lutheran Urban Ministry created by Rick Scherger.

### **Sitting #3**

Report of the Second Ballot for Bishop

96 votes were cast

0 were spoiled

65 needed to elect

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Rev. Paul Gehrs      | 17 |
| Rev. Michael Kurtz   | 16 |
| Rev. Lynne Hutchison | 15 |
| Rev. Jason Zinko     | 14 |
| Rev. Kathy Martin    | 7  |
| Rev. Tyler Gingrich  | 6  |
| Rev. Erik Parker     | 5  |
| Rev. Bart Coleman    | 3  |

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Rev. Lyle McKenzie            | 3 |
| Rev. Chris Bishopp            | 2 |
| Rev. Bruce Gelhorn            | 2 |
| Rev. Matthew Diegel           | 1 |
| Rev. Rebecca Graham           | 1 |
| Rev. Paul Johnson             | 1 |
| Rev. Mark Koenker             | 1 |
| Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker | 1 |
| Rev. Larry Ulrich             | 1 |
| Rev. Daren Gallivan           | 0 |
| Rev. Sid Haugen               | 0 |
| Rev. Jamie Howison            | 0 |
| Rev. David Lowe               | 0 |
| Rev. Nancy Ringham            | 0 |
| Rev. Paul Sartison            | 0 |
| Rev. Trudy Thorarinson        | 0 |
| Rev. Val From                 | 0 |

No election

#### Report of the Committee on Nominations

The committee looked at finding ways for having overlap of committee members going forward, particularly since there is a change in the length of terms.

#### Report of Synod Bishop and Staff Report

Bishop Elaine directed us to her written report and told us of the ways the synod has been willing to risk new things in order to move forward as a church. She reminded us that we are a small but unique synod willing to pursue the visioning that has been lifted up by both leadership and laity of the church.

#### Report of the Chair of Synod Council

Ms. Heather Howdle told us of the importance of having both good governance and leadership. She is thankful that this is a reality in the MNO Synod. She is also thankful for the good partnership we share with the National Church and our opportunities to share the Good News

#### Report of the Secretary



Rev. Carol Janke directed the convention to her report and thanked the synod office staff for their excellent help.

#### Report of the Necrologist

Rev. Carol Janke read the condensed obituaries of Rev. John Fullmer, Rev. Ron Grout, Rev. Johann Kunkel, and Rev. Don Miller.

The chaplain led us in a prayer of thanksgiving for the lives of these pastors.

The chaplain led us in a prayer for the calling of a Bishop.

#### Third Ballot for Bishop

National Bishop Susan Johnson assumed the chair. The ballots were distributed and collected.

Bishop Elaine assumed the chair.

#### First Ballot for Chair

Ms. Heather Howdle was declared elected.

#### First Ballot for Treasurer

Mr. Neil Miller was declared elected.

#### First Ballot for NC Lay Delegates

**MSC MNO 17-2018-05 that we suspend the following Bylaw Part V Section 4 Part a. for this convention: At least forty days prior to the opening day of the convention: Part a. " Each congregation shall submit the name(s) and address(es) of its lay delegates to the synod secretary;"**

#### First Ballot National Convention Youth Delegates

#### Report of the Treasurer

Mr. Neil Miller presented the Treasurer's report, gave highlights and answered questions from the floor.

Lunch - *Sponsored by Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada;*  
 There was a presentation by Mr. Jeff Pym

#### **Sitting #4**

Report of the Committee on Elections

Report of the Third Ballot for Bishop

94 votes were cast

1 was spoiled

48 needed to elect

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Rev. Jason Zinko     | 39 |
| Rev. Paul Gehrs      | 35 |
| Rev. Michael Kurtz   | 13 |
| Rev. Lynne Hutchison | 6  |

Youth Delegates to National Convention

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Mr. Adam Luoma     | 49 |
| Mr. Michael Kvern  | 44 |
| Ms. Caitlin Kostna | 33 |
| Ms. Amy Albright   | 28 |
| Mr. Cody Topnik    | 25 |
| Mr. Carter Miller  | 4  |

Mr. Adam Luoma and Mr. Michael Kvern were declared elected.

Lay delegates to National Convention

Region #1: Mr. Len Schieman was declared elected

Region #2: Ms. Lynda Hinrichs was declared elected

Region #3: Ms. Linda Sander was declared elected

Region #4: Ms. Ruth Magnuson and Ms. Karen Colquhoun were declared elected

Mr. Tom Brook and Ms. Jennifer Moroz were both acclaimed as At Large delegates to National Convention.

Since there cannot be two delegates from one congregation there will be a second ballot to choose between two delegates from Electoral Regions 3 and 4 – Mr. George Sawatzky/Ms. Anne Appleby; Ms. Judy Dikkema/Ms. Gale Schultz.

Report from Committee of Reference and Counsel  
No petitions were received

First Ballot for National Convention Rostered Delegates

Introduction of Administrative Bylaw changes  
Synod Council has recommended the following to convention:

- |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MSC SC 17-2018-06</b> | <b>that Part V Section 3 c of the bylaws be amended by inserting "eligible" before "rostered voting delegates".</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>MSC SC 17-2018-07</b> | <b>that 12 baptized youth delegates be appointed by synod council in consultation with areas. Synod Council shall make every effort to appoint at least two youth delegates from each electoral region. If an electoral region is not able to provide a youth delegate, that delegate position may be reallocated on an At-Large basis. A youth delegate is considered ages 16 to 25 years inclusive on the first full day of the convention.</b> |

Questions on Reports of Synod Staff, Synod Council, Synod Executive and Boards/Committees

The Treasurer answered questions arising from his report, assisted by Bishop Elaine.

The chaplain led us in prayer

A second Ballot was held for National Convention Lay delegates At-Large

First Ballot for Secretary

Partner Presentation

Ms. Heather Howdle welcomed Lutheran Theological Seminary President – Rev. Dr. William Harrison who provided a power point presentation.

#### Results of the First Ballot for At-Large Lay Delegates to National Church Convention

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Ms. Anne Appleby    | 59 |
| Mr. George Sawatzky | 33 |

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Ms. Judy Dikkema | 57 |
| Ms. Gale Schultz | 35 |

Ms. Anne Appleby and Ms. Judy Dikkema were declared elected.

#### Results of Election of Synod Council Secretary

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker | 60 |
| Rev. Trudy Thorarinson        | 28 |

Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker was declared elected.

There was a video presentation on the MNO Synod website.

Chair. Ms. Heather Howdle, thanked Rev. Tyler Gingrich for his work in producing the Synod videos.

Refreshment Break – *Sponsored by Gilbert Funeral Home*

#### **Sitting #5**

#### Results of the Ballot for Rostered Delegates to National Convention

##### Region #1

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Rev. Leslie Poulin  | 20 |
| Rev. Laurel Seyfert | 20 |
| Rev. Jim Vickers    | 19 |
| Rev. Debra Johnston | 18 |
| Rev. Rebecca Graham | 16 |

##### Region #2

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker | 39 |
| Rev. Bart Coleman             | 23 |
| Rev. Richard Engel            | 19 |
| Rev. Annemarie MacIntosh      | 11 |

Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker was declared elected

Region #3

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Rev. Jari Lahtinen  | 32 |
| Rev. Nancy Ringham  | 32 |
| Rev. Daren Gallivan | 28 |

Region #4

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Rev. Lynne Hutchison | 64 |
| Rev. Larry Ulrich    | 33 |
| Rev. Jason Zinko     | 33 |
| Rev. Ann Salmon      | 14 |
| Rev. Paul Gehrs      | 12 |
| Rev. Rev. David Lowe | 11 |
| Rev. Murray Still    | 9  |
| Rev. Paul Johnson    | 6  |

Rev. Lynne Hutchison was declared elected

There will be a runoff ballot for Rev. Leslie Poulin/ Rev. Laurel Seyfert; Rev. Jari Lahtinen/Rev. Nancy Ringham

Report from Committee of Reference and Counsel

There were no submissions

The chaplain led us in prayer.

A second ballot for Rostered Delegates to National Convention

Partner Presentations

Rev. Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director, CLWR, reminded us of the relationship we share as we follow our call to care for the refugees and those in need. She reminded us that when we welcome strangers we may have entertained angels without realizing it.

Report of the Synod Council

**MSC MNO 17-2018-08 that the 2019-2021 budgets be approved.**

**MSC MNO 17-2018-09**      **that the financial accounts of this Synod shall be submitted annually for a minimum of a financial review to a professionally designated accountant named by the Synod Council.**

**MSC MNO 17-2018-10**      **that the amended 2019-2021 Employers Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers be approved by the 2018 Synod Convention.**

Ms. Caroline Wintoniw, Interim Executive Director of Luther Village, the only synod-owned camp in Canada, updated us about the events and programs taking place this year.

The results of the second ballot for Rostered Delegates to National Convention

Region #1

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Rev. Leslie Poulin  | 36 |
| Rev. Laurel Seyfert | 50 |

Rev. Laurel Seyfert was declared elected

Region #3

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Rev. Jari Lahtinen | 38 |
| Rev. Nancy Ringham | 46 |

Rev. Nancy Ringham was declared elected

Region #4

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Rev. Larry Ulrich | 53 |
| Rev. Jason Zinko  | 33 |

Rev. Larry Ulrich was declared elected

Evening Prayer

Farewell Dinner for Bishop Elaine

Adjournment at 9:45 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018**

Morning Prayer

**Sitting #6**

National Bishop Susan Johnson invited the candidates for the office of Bishop – Rev. Paul Gehrs, Rev. Michael Kurtz, and Rev. Jason Zinko to make their presentations.

Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel

The following motion was brought to the floor of convention with no recommendation:

that Synod Council explore the feasibility of funding an additional full time pastoral call for each of the Brokenhead shared ministry and Interlake Regional Shared Ministry to develop lay ministry funding to be drawn from internally or externally restricted funds, for a period not exceeding three (3) years; and that Synod Council proceed with call processes if satisfied sufficient funds exist.

**MSC MNO 17-2018-11**

Discussion followed in support of the motion.

We viewed a video on the work of Truth and Reconciliation done in our synod.

Fourth Ballot for Bishop

National Bishop Susan Johnson assumed the chair. The ballots were distributed and collected.

Ballot for National Convention At-Large Rostered Delegates

We viewed a video about the work of the Lay Academy

General Announcements were made from the convention floor.

Report from the Committee on Elections

Report of the Fourth Ballot for Bishop

96 votes were cast

0 were spoiled

49 needed to elect

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Rev. Jason Zinko   | 63 |
| Rev. Paul Gehrs    | 33 |
| Rev. Michael Kurtz | 0  |

Rev. Jason Zinko was declared elected

Bishop Elaine thanked Rev. Carol Janke for her 12 years of service as Synod Secretary. She was presented with a Shelmerdine's gift certificate.

Rev. Carla Blakely from CLWR provided a presentation on their work in the world on our behalf.

Lunch - *Sponsored by Canada Lutheran World Relief*

Sitting #7

Chair, Ms. Heather Howdle, declared the new Bishop of the MNO Synod as Rev. Jason Zinko

Report from the Committee on Registration & Attendance

|                            | <u>Eligible</u> | <u>Registered</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Lay Delegate               |                 |                   |
| Representing Congregations | 68              | 40                |
| Synod Council              | 9               | 6                 |
| Youth                      | 14              | 11                |
| Rostered Delegates         |                 |                   |
| Active                     | 42              | 36                |
| Retirees                   | 4               | 4                 |
|                            | <u>137</u>      | <u>97</u>         |

Visitors: 22



The following rostered ministers under call, in an active or interim ministry not in attendance are:

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Rev. Richard Engel    | excused |
| Rev. Lenise Francis   | excused |
| Rev. Terry Gudmundson | excused |
| Rev. Paul Johnson     | excused |
| Rev. Stacy Moroz      | excused |
| Deacon Kris Taylor    | excused |

The following 19 congregations did not send lay delegates:

Grace, Ashern  
 Immanuel, Baldur  
 Trinity, Bergland  
 Redeemer, Brandon  
 Emmanuel, Emerson  
 Zion, Fort Frances  
 Zion, Friedensthal  
 Glenboro, Glenboro  
 Gesthemane, Inwood  
 Bethesda, Kenora  
 Grace, Langruth  
 Peace, Moosehorn  
 Church of the Cross, Morris  
 Salem, Pass Lake  
 Riverton-Hnausa, Riverton  
 Evangelical, Selkirk  
 Lutheran United Church, Thompson  
 Christ, Waldersee  
 St. Stephen and St. Bedes, Winnipeg

MNO Synod Council Members

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Diana Fosty  | Absent with reason |
| Yolanda Yobb | Absent with reason |

## Report from the Committee on Elections

### At-Large Rostered Delegates to National Convention

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Rev. Bart Coleman        | 64 |
| Rev. Annemarie MacIntosh | 36 |
| Rev. Richard Engel       | 34 |
| Rev. Debra Johnston      | 33 |
| Rev. Leslie Poulin       | 32 |
| Rev. Jason Zinko         | 32 |
| Rev. Jim Vickers         | 30 |
| Rev. Daren Gallivan      | 26 |
| Rev. Paul Gehrs          | 25 |
| Rev. Murray Still        | 21 |
| Rev. Ann Salmon          | 16 |
| Rev. David Lowe          | 13 |
| Rev. Rebecca Graham      | 11 |
| Blank Ballots            | 4  |

Rev. Bart Coleman, Rev. Annemarie MacIntosh, Rev. Richard Engel, and Rev. Debra Johnston were declared elected.

### Report from the Committee of Reference and Counsel

There was no report

Table discussions on our Theme: **Bearing Fruit on the Vine: A branch cannot bear fruit by itself. Individual table and general assembly reports were collected for the Council's information and discernment.**

The newly elected Bishop, Rev. Jason Zinko, addressed the convention and accepted the call to be Bishop.

Chaplain, Rev. Erik Parker, led the convention in prayer for our newly elected Bishop and family, and for thankfulness for outgoing Bishop Elaine Sauer and her family.

We viewed a video on the work of ALIGN – Anglicans and Lutherans In God's Neighbourhood

Presentation of the MNO Synod Council Leadership Award.

These awards are given to one lay and rostered member of our synod who have shown outstanding leadership. Bishop Elaine presented the awards to Mr. George Sawatzky and Rev. Jack Frederick.

The final report from the Committee of Reference and Counsel

- |                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MSC MNO 17-2018-12</b> | <b>that the MNO Synod gathered in convention extend their thanks and gratitude to Grace Lutheran Church, its pastor, Rev. Bruce Gelhorn, its members and volunteers for welcoming the 17th Biennial Convention of the MNO Synod, and for their ministry to its delegates and visitors.</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>MSC MNO 17-2018-13</b> | <b>that we, as a convention, express our thanks for the faithful leadership and ministry of Bishop Elaine Sauer, Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Tyler Gingrich, Financial Assistant, Ms. Debbie Beyer, Administrative Assistant, Ms. Colleen Dacquay, Ministry Coordinators, Rev. David Saude and Rev. Larry Ulrich, and Convention Coordinator, Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker.</b> |
| <b>MSC MNO 17-2018-14</b> | <b>that we, as a convention, express our thanks for the faithful leadership and ministry of the MNO Synod Executive – Chair, Ms. Heather Howdle, Secretary, Rev. Carol Janke, and Treasurer, Mr. Neil Miller</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>MSC MNO 17-2018-15</b> | <b>that we, as a convention, express our thanks for the faithful leadership and ministry of our chaplain Rev. Erik Parker</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>MSC MNO 17-2018-16</b> | <b>that we, as a convention, recognize that the colour white brings life and hope during the season of Easter. As such, a ‘whiteout’ is the appropriate</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

**liturgical colour for National Hockey League  
playoffs. Go Jets Go!**

Closing Worship

Preachers and Presiders: Bishop Elaine Sauer and National Bishop Susan Johnson  
 Assisting Minister: Ms. Caitlin Kostna  
 Lector: Mr. Ken Patzer  
 Prayers of the People: Youth Delegates  
 Communion Ministers: Rev. Matthew Diegel, Ms. Andrea Grozli, Mr. David  
 Kaminski, Ms. Allysa Houde, Rev. Courtenay Reedman  
 Parker, Rev. Jason Zinko, Rev. Erik Parker  
 Musician(s): Mr. Jeremy Langner, Ms. Gudrún Czayka

Ms. Heather Howdle was installed as the new Chair of Council, Mr. Neil Miller was installed as the new Treasurer of Council, Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker as the new Secretary of Council, and Rev. Leslie Poulin, Rev. Jason Zinko, and Ms. Linda Hettrick, were installed as members of Synod Council. Council members: Ms. Carol Bilinski, Ms. Dorleen Dyrland, Mr. Michael Kvern, and Ms. Heather Werboweski were not in attendance.

There was a prayer of blessing and thanks for outgoing Synod Council members: Rev. Carol Janke, Mr. Jim Mair, Mr. Tom Brook, Mr. Haakon Dagsvik, Rev. Matthew Diegel, and Rev. Bart Coleman.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Carol Janke, Secretary  
 MNO Synod Secretary