

## **Session Six – Saturday, June 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.**

The session began with Morning Worship. Worship included memorials for those synodical leaders who have died, and those congregations who have closed or resigned in the past biennium.

Bishop Pryse called the meeting to order.

### ***Presentation of Rostered Ministers and Congregations received into the Synod since July 1, 2012***

St. Mark's Anglican Lutheran Church in Midland, Ontario was welcomed as a full member congregation of the Eastern Synod.

Bishop Pryse invited all those who have been received into the Synod since July 1, 2012 to the podium. They introduced themselves to the assembly and delegates warmly welcomed and received them.

### ***Report of the Committee on Elections***

The second ballot for synod council was held.

Lay

David Wilk was elected for the term 2014-2018.

Clergy

Norine Gullons was elected for the term 2014-2018.

### ***Bible Study (The Rev. Douglas Reble)***

Doug led the second of the bible studies, with the focus upon Gospel Based Discipleship. Doug pointed out the open Bible on the lectern in the assembly's midst, as a focus of the community's study and if necessary, a correction for reminding us of our identity and purpose.

*16 Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. 17 At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' 18 But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' 19 Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.' 20 Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.' 21 So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' 22 And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' 23 Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.*

Luke 14:16b-23

What word(s), idea(s), or sentence(s) stand out for you in this Gospel reading?

What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?

What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do?

### ***Report of Synod Council (Continued)***

Bishop directed the delegates to Appendix E of Section 6, Our Vision for Mission 2014-2016.

#### **ES 14-13 MSC that Our Eastern Synod Vision for Mission 2014-2016 be adopted.**

Bishop Pryse invited Bob Granke, CLWR, to respond to questions and conversation from delegates.

A short presentation about Outdoor Ministry was made by Nathan Mantey.

### ***Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel (Continued)***

Mike Schuster, chairperson of the committee, continued their report.

#### **ES 14-14 MSC that the following motion about the criminal justice and corrections systems be adopted:**

**That the Eastern Synod in Assembly petition the National Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to develop a social statement or policy resolution to address concerns related to the criminal justice and correctional systems in Canada.**

#### **ES 14-15 MSC that the following motion for solidarity with the people of the Holy Land be adopted:**

- 1. That the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC voice its solidarity with those working for a peaceful two-state solution to the current conflict in Israel and Palestine; and**
- 2. That the Public Policy Director of the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC develop a resource and speakers lists for use by individuals and congregations for the purpose of education and information; and**
- 3. That the Public Policy Director of the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC utilize an electronic avenue of communication, such as an email list, to notify members of the Eastern Synod of opportunities to act in advocacy and solidarity with the Palestinian people, including those whose homes, lands and livelihood have been impacted by the Israeli military occupation; and**
- 4. That the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC request that the National Church Council develop and circulate a similar means of communication for all member congregations in the five synods; and**
- 5. That the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC enter into discussions with the National Church Council and our sister synods to develop and implement a strategy to press the Canadian government to adopt a balanced approach to the conflict and support efforts toward a two-state solution that will insure the security of the Israeli people and the sovereignty of an independent Palestinian state.**

#### **AmendedSC to add:**

- 6. That the Public Policy Director consult with the office of the Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land in developing synodical policies and practices.**

### ***Report of the WLS Board of Governors***

Rev. Dr. David Pfrimmer, Principal-Dean, and Marge Watters-Knebel, chairperson of the Board, and friends presented the report of the seminary. Marge offered a report of some of the seminary's direction; she gave thanks for the supporters of the seminary and acknowledged the Board, faculty, staff and students. David spoke of the vision and future of the seminary. He introduced two "students" from Liberia who spoke of their context and work and how the seminary's program is helping them promote their ability to continue serving in their own land.

A closing prayer of song was prayed and delegates adjourned for lunch.