

## Session Two - Thursday, June 21, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Jeff Smith gave a couple of announcements.

### *Special Order*

The Rev. Dr. Susan C. Johnson, ELCIC National Bishop, addressed the Assembly (cf BR Section 3-1 ff). She recalled the past years' commemoration of the Reformation, the Reformation Challenge, and offered appreciation to the synod for its witness and work. Bishop Johnson spoke of the national church's strategic plan. She noted the pastoral letter she sent to the Prime Minister's office regarding the treatment of refugees and minors. She related a story of one of our partner churches in Peru as an example of the global work that the Synod and ELCIC supports. She offered thanks for the many partnerships in the synod and church and for the common work and witness in the church's mission.

### *Report of Canadian Lutheran World Relief*

The Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter was introduced in her new role as Executive Director of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). She offered her thanks for the support by the Synod to CLWR, and focused specifically on the state of refugees in the world and in Canada, and our stand #withrefugees.

### *Report of the Committee on Elections*

Bishop Johnson assumed the chair for the report. Iris Schweiger, Chairperson for the Committee on Elections, presented the results of the first ballot for the election of Bishop.

Ballots cast	189
Spoiled	6
Valid ballots	183
Required to elect	138

Bishop Johnson declared Rev. Dr. Michael Pryse to be elected as Bishop of the Eastern Synod, for the term of 2018-2024.

- First Ballot - Election of Officer - Vice-Chairperson. The ballot was distributed; Bishop Johnson led in prayer; delegates voted, the ballots were collected, and balloting was declared closed.

The first ballot for the election of delegates to the ELCIC National Convention in 2019 took place using the clickers and the large screens as ballots.

### *...to be Neighbour I*

Neighbours from diverse religious traditions.

With the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-39, as background for being neighbour, the assembly was led in reflection by song, prayer and video.

Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson offered a few points of biblical and exegetical interpretation of neighbour with respect to the parable of the Good Samaritan, and asked delegates to discuss at their tables questions related to how we speak of and to our neighbours.

Bishop Pryse introduced a round table panel discussion with Mr. Chattar Ahuja, Dr. Sarah Shafiq, and Dr. Sarah Chen, with moderator Rev. Dr. Brice Balmer. Each of the guests spoke of neighbour from their own perspective and experience. The evening concluded in prayer, song and scriptural readings from all our traditions.

### *Welcome Reception*

A welcome reception was held at the end of the day for Delegates and Visitors to Assembly.