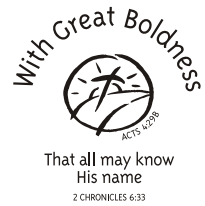


# THE BULLETIN

Lutheran Church–Canada Sixth Convention



Volume 1 - No. 4

Sunday, 9 June 2002

## SCHEDULE

### Today's Events

Morning	Sunday Worship Services
1:30 p.m.	Devotion
1:45 p.m.	Convention Business
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Open Houses (Lutherwood, LBT, East District Office)
8:00 p.m.	Jazz Hymn Festival (Historic St. Paul's)

### Monday

8:15 a.m.	Devotion
8:30 a.m.	Essay
9:30 a.m.	Convention Business
12:30 p.m.	Closing Devotion
1:00 p.m.	Adjournment

### Hotel Checkout

Hotel checkout time is 12:00 p.m. Secure luggage storage is available in Trillium rooms A and B.

...So that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

2 Chronicles 6:33b



(L-r) Youth delegates, Sandi Schollenberg, Paul Ney, Andrea Colson, Nicole Otterman, and Timothy Fischer.

Photo by Chris Bruer, 2002

## CONVENTION YOUTH DELEGATES PONDER THEIR ROLE

by J.A. Sutherland

The Constitution of Lutheran Church–Canada calls for delegates from among our church's youth to attend the synodical convention—two from each district. Joining other delegates from across Canada in 2002 are: Nicole Otterman (Trinity, Fisherville, Ont.); Timothy Fisher (Foothills, Calgary, Alta.); Andrea Kolson (Peace, Winnipeg, Man.); Sandi Schollenberg (Peace, Winnipeg, Man.); and Paul Ney (St. Matthew, Stony Plain, Alta).

Asked about their role, Andrea indicated they were not quite as involved as they had expected in the business sessions. Appointed as advisory delegates, the youth do not have voting privileges. While fully aware of this, other limitations have been unexpected: Paul, rising to speak on a piece of constitutional business on Friday evening, was not allowed speaking privileges by the chairman who, according to the LCC constitution, can make that decision.

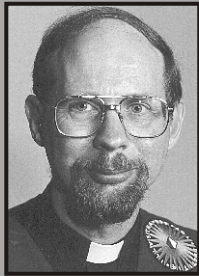
Yet off the convention floor, like any other delegates, the youth enjoy the fellowship and the give-and-take of ideas. The group quickly got to know each other over meals and in late-evening discussions. Motions of special interest—such as those concerning new music in Lutheran worship—weighing the balance of style within an inter-generational service and the limits of appropriate contemporary instrumentation.

See **Youth** page 4

## ESSAYIST

### Rev. Dr. William F. Mundt

Currently serving as Associate Professor of Theology at Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, Ontario, Dr. Mundt has been a member of the East District (formerly Ontario District) since his ordination in 1975. He served at Grace, St. Catharines and Bethel, Kitchener, both English-German congregations, for a total of twenty years. During that time he was frequently an adjunct instructor at the seminary, chiefly in evangelism.



A graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, Dr. Mundt continued his education part-time through Fort Wayne extension courses in St. Catharines and full-time in Muenster, Germany, from 1986-90. In 1995 he completed the requirements for the doctorate at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, for his missiological research into the development of English religious tract societies' outreach to Germans in the early 1800s.

Dr. Mundt has also served the church at large through articles, workshop presentations, on boards and committees, overseas teaching (Thailand), and most recently as chairman of the Board of Directors of Lutheran Bible Translators, Canada. In addition to his teaching and tour host duties (having just returned from Turkey and Greece), he is also the vacancy pastor at Faith Lutheran, Dunnville.

## ELECTION RESULTS

### Commission on Theology and Church Relations

Reverend Duane Peters - Elected

Mrs. Eloise Schaan - Elected

### Board of Directors

Reverend Nolan Astley - Elected

Mrs. Dorothea Korcok - Elected

Mr. Gord Sylvester - Elected

Mr. Ron Fischer - Elected

## Convention gives new meaning to 'pork-barreling'

by Curtis Schafer

Two hundred and sixty-seven people enjoyed an evening of food, entertainment and fellowship last night at the Hubertushaus Oktoberfest hall in Mannheim, a small community just outside of Kitchener. Everyone savoured generous helpings of roast pork, chicken, salads and dessert while the Transylvania Hofbrau Band played German folk songs. When the band played the Oktoberfest toast "Ein Prosit", many stood and sang along. The highlight of the evening, however, was the Alpine Dancers who thrilled the crowd with several traditional German dances. The entire crowd clapped and cheered as the men in the troupe performed a dance with wooden benches. Evaluations from the 1999 convention indicated a need for more fellowship times. The result was this convention's barbecue.

## Changes to Synod's bylaws adopted

by J.A. Sutherland

Saturday afternoon's business session saw the adoption of proposed changes to LCC's Synodical Bylaws—the final part of the changes begun on Friday with a modified constitution and Statutory Bylaws. Saturday's work addressed the functioning of the Synod as an "ecclesiastical bond" of the Canadian member churches.

Many of the modifications reflect the church's newly recognized diaconate. Other noteworthy changes were flagged for delegates by Rev. Nolan Astley, chairman of the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure (CCMS). These included references to

educational institutions 'established' rather than 'owned' by LCC (for legal liability reasons) and a requirement for congregations seeking membership in LCC to declare their willingness to sever relations with any heterodox bodies with which they are affiliated. Removed from the new document was the description of responsibilities of the former Board for Higher Education (now exercised largely by the new church Board of Directors). In another change, a new 'restricted' status for pastors and deacons was introduced. This covers instances where Christian ministry and conduct is in question, but where circumstances may not merit expulsion from Synod.

## Time To Go...

If you're using Airways Transit for return transportation to the airport, please check the reminder card given to you at registration for your departure time. Be sure to arrive at the hotel lobby by at least ten minutes prior to your scheduled pickup time.

## Bold Service Recognized

Delegates adopted a motion of thanks to God for the service of outgoing treasurer Allan Webster, who has served as Acting Treasurer and Treasurer since 1997. Also recognized for long-time service was Vice-president

Dennis Putzman who has served as a vice-president since 1990. The president paid tribute to the members of the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure for their considerable efforts in re-working the LCC's Handbook.



First Vice-president Dennis Putzman (r) with Synod President Ralph Mayan.



Allan Webster receives plaque in recognition of many years of service to LCC.

## Convention Chuckle

Q: Why didn't Noah go fishing?

A: He only had two worms.

# WHAT WE DID

## Session 3

- LCC will recommend a comprehensive mission and ministry "Plan for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".
- LCC will provide leadership for an autonomous Canadian "Lutherans for Life" organization.
- ELCIC's invitation to "interim Eucharistic fellowship" was declined. Doctrinal discussions between Synods to continue.
- LCC will update a comparison of Lutheran beliefs and practices in Canada.
- An overture dealing with the public reading of the Word is referred to the CTCR for response and direction. This includes questions about the role of women.
- LCC will actively reinforce the doctrine of justification by grace through faith for Christ's sake, and exhorts all Lutherans to communicate this more as well.
- LCC will reaffirm the scriptural definition of marriage, and exhorts all Lutherans to do the same.
- The Convention recognizes the blessing of God on Concordia University College of Alberta, and gives thanks for its dedicated faculty and staff.

## Session 4

- The Council of Presidents was called upon to lead the church in ministry, with particular regard to financial stewardship.
- The Three-Year Work Program was received.
- Concordia Lutheran Mission Society was established as an auxiliary of LCC.
- Districts were exhorted to examine their provisions for educational debt relief and financial planning for pastors.
- In addition, LCC Financial Ministries (LCCFM) was amalgamated with the Central District's Church Extension Fund; the joint fund will administer investments from church members of more than \$22 million.

## Information Sessions

by Elaine Stanfel

*Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary (CLTS) & Concordia Lutheran Seminary (CLS)*

CLS president Dr. Arthur Bacon outlined the seminary's primary mission: "Servants for Jesus' sake; pastors and laity," and stressed that more must be done than "just keep pace with vacancies." CLTS acting president Dr. Roger Humann, noted that the seminary is more than just a "preacher factory." Synod's RSV church worker recruitment initiative was discussed with some concerns raised about the small percentage of congregations participating.

*Concordia University College of Alberta*

President Richard Kramer presented a visual overview of the school's campus and activities peppered with "testimonials" from graduates and some staff members.

*International Lutheran Laymen's League*

With the vision that "by 2010 we will be a worldwide, grass-roots based, Christian communications organization proclaiming the gospel of Christ Jesus and connecting people to Lutheran congregations," the presentation by LLL showcased the activities both in Canada and around the world made possible by partnership with Lutheran Hour Ministries and LCC.

Photo by Chris Bruer, 2002



Jean Schmitt of LWML

*Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada*

Several representatives were on hand to describe LWML's organization, mission projects and future goals. Development of the next seminar, "Reflecting the face of Christ," is well underway.

*Worker Benefits*

New and existing plans and benefits were reviewed and discussed.

*Districts*

All three district presidents presented abbreviated "state of the district" reports and answered questions.

*Canadian Lutheran World Relief*

The presentation opened with the distribution of candies(!) to demonstrate the distribution of wealth among the nations of the world. After a visual presentation of CLWR's work in various regions, the participants formed groups to discuss their expectations of the organization's efforts and take part in various group activities designed to illustrate world needs.



Photo by Chris Bruer, 2002

Pastor James Schnarr, Pilgrim Lutheran, Hamilton enjoys some free time in the hotel pool.

## Youth continued from page 1

The youth delegates are quick to praise their acceptance by others at the convention, but questioned their ability to represent the church's youth in the convention's business sessions. Already though, they have been working to bring the church's view into better focus on issues that touch them nearly. In the resolutions to be presented

on sexual relations before marriage, Nicole and the others hope to correct the impression that all teens at the recent LCC Youth Gathering held the unbiblical views attributed to them, and to support an amendment to that effect.

As the convention draws to its close, we wish these young people the Lord's blessing, and thank them for being here this weekend.

**THE BULLETIN** Lutheran Church-Canada  
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