

Confessional Lutherans for Christ's Commission

Convention Proceedings: March 27, 2008

Gene White called the convention to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, March 27, 2008. There were eighteen registered attendees present. Since Pastor Andrew Simcak was unable to attend (due to flight cancellations), Pastor Steve Brockdorf opened with prayer. We sang the hymn "My Hope is built on Nothing Less" and Mrs. Deanna White sang, "Great is Thy Faithfulness."

Business Items

A. Introductions. Gene White introduced the Work Group that has been working since fall 2007 getting CLCC organized. The Work Group was officially disbanded with appreciation for their good efforts.

B. Additions to the Agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

C. Elections. Elections were held. A motion was made (Pastor Hanan) and seconded (Betty Mulholland) to adopt the slate of nominees by consensus, which was totally consistent with the mailed ballots received. The slate of nominees was unanimously adopted by acclamation. Following are the results of the election:

Board of Directors

Clergy:

Rev. Eric Lange
Rev. Andrew Simcak
Rev. Eddie Balfour

Laity:

Mr. Mark Anders
Mr. David Lord

Executive Director

Mr. Leroy Sundbom

Treasurer

Mr. Gene White

Secretary

Mrs. Ginny Valleau

One lay Board of Directors member position and the Assistant Executive Director position are currently vacant.

D. Reports.

1. **Working Group** – Gene White gave a written report which is Attachment # 1 to this report.
2. **Secretary** – Ginny Valleau. There are 22 paid members.
3. **Treasurer** – Gene White gave an accounting of totals for Income and Expenses, as of last week. He will give a full financial report to the Board of Directors. In response to a question about who makes decisions about travel expenses, the plan is to have a travel policy. Regarding the time to get 501(c)(3) status, Gene indicated it can be done by mid-summer 2008. A suggestion was made to go directly to the IRS to get it done faster. It will cost about \$1,800; this includes the attorney fee. We are about \$700 short of funds at the moment, but the lawyer is accepting payment over time.

E. Election Results and Installations. The results of the election are in paragraph C. above. Pastor Brockdorf then installed Board Members and Officers that were present.

F. Constitution Ratification. The constitution was ratified Article by Article with the following changes:

Article II (Confession) – The last sentence of paragraph 3 (“This article is the basis for relationships with all members and associated organizations.”) was made into paragraph 4.

Article VIII (Officers) – The word “monies” was substituted for “moneys” in the first bullet of the Treasurer responsibilities.

Article X (Board of Congregational Services) – There was consensus that the constitution should be clear that women will not teach; therefore, an additional sentence was added to the end of Article X: *All teaching Board Members shall be male.*

Article XI (Standing Committees) – The “shall” in the last sentence of the first paragraph was changed to “may” so that it reads as follows: *Travel and other out of pocket expenses of committee members while doing the work of the committee may be reimbursed.*

Article XII (Committee on Constitutional Issues) – The phrase “super-majority vote” will be followed with “(80%).”

Article XVIII (Dissolving the Corporation) – The phrase “super-majority vote” will be followed with “(80%).”

The Constitution was thus declared adopted and consistent with the e-mail ballots that were received.

[At this point the convention adjourned for dinner and reconvened at approximately 7:10pm. Gene White proposed that discussion on the Bylaws (agenda Item V., G.(Review and Approve Bylaws)) be deferred until after agenda Item K. (Determine Bible Version...). The meeting agreed to this proposal. After dinner, the convention was reconvened by the newly installed Executive Directory Leroy Sundbom.]

H. Membership Fees (Individuals and Congregations). After discussion it was voted that the individual membership fee will stay at \$30.00 per annum and the congregational membership fee will be \$200.00 per annum.

I. Motto and Logo Proposals. The motto was agreed to and passed after minor modification making it now read “Anchored in The Word and the Lutheran Confessions.”

The logo was agreed to and passed with two changes (size and placement of the seal and fixing the reversed perspective of the Bible). A verbal explanation is to be provided for the logo. [Since the convention, the required changes have been made and the final version of the logo and explanation is in Attachment #2 of this report.]

J. Appointments to Board of Congregational Services. Since sufficient members elected to the Board of Directors were not present, it was not possible to make appointments to the Board of Congregational Services. It was agreed that this should be accomplished at the earliest possible time so the Board of Congregational Services can go

about its work. (A prototype seminar was already scheduled for March 30, 2008, at Zion Lutheran Church in Morris, MN; other seminars are in the pipeline for later in the year.)

K. Determine Bible Version/Translation and Other Confessional Documents. The meeting agreed and passed a motion to defer this action to the Board of Directors where a more deliberative and professional approach can be taken.

G. Review and Approve Bylaws. The Bylaws were considered Article by Article, with many changes. In the voting all Bylaw motions carried unanimously except one motion, which had one dissenting vote. Because the changes are numerous and some are rather minute (punctuation and spelling), all of the agreed upon changes are included in Attachment #3 of these proceedings.

L. Other Business. There was no further business.

Following a prayer led by Rev. Al Jeske and the hymn "God's Word is Our Great Heritage," the convention closed at 10:15 pm. Thanks were expressed for the hard work done by the Working Group.



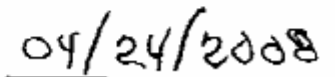
(Ginny Valleau, Secretary, CLCC)



Date



(LeRoy Sundborn, Executive Director, CLCC)



Date

Working Group Report (by Gene White)

As unofficial spokesman for the Working Group, I first would like to introduce the original members, and as I do so, ask those present to stand. Rev. Andrew Simcak, Rev. Al Jeske, Rev. Robert Jarvis, Rev. Steve Brockdorf, Rev. Thomas Queck, Deaconess Betty Mulholland, Ginny Valleau, David Lord, and myself.

I would like to publicly thank them for their work and involvement in the creation of this organization we have come to know as CLCC. It was this working group that hung in there after the January 16, 2008, meeting in Ft. Wayne, IN, to bring us to this point. Several members of that Working Group are also running for office, a couple more would like to, but can't. This group has worked hard to bring CLCC to the level of maturity that enables us all to be here today. Ginny and I have served as Secretary and Treasurer, Pro Tem, respectively, for the past two months to help make this happen. Email is a wonderful thing.

I would like to briefly recap what has taken place:

1. The Constitution has matured to being provisionally adopted, including an email vote. Final adoption will be today.
2. The Bylaws have been developed and coordinated and if deemed mature, will also be adopted today.
3. An accounting system has been set up to track finances in a professional way.
4. CLCC has been incorporated as a non-profit corporation in the State of Oregon, where the checking account is located.
5. It has an IRS EIN assigned.
6. Paperwork is progressing with the IRS to file as a 501(c)3 organization. This is an expensive, but necessary process. This is being handled by a lawyer, as was incorporation.
7. Pre-convention elections for the 10 elected positions has been completed, final voting will be accomplished today.
8. We have provided documentation to anyone requesting it and have taken advantage of news releases to *Christian News*.
9. We have established a general mailing list for those interested in CLCC, who have, as yet, not become members. That list holds over 100 names.
10. Thanks to member David Schulz we have a basic web site designed and a provider identified. Once the Board of Directors authorizes the expenditure of funds it will proceed.
11. We have a draft letterhead designed and is awaiting a decision on motto and logo, which will also be used on the web site. Good work from Linda Jeske on the letterhead and logo design.
12. Ginny Valleau and Betty Mulholland have put our convention preparation, registration and materials together. Thanks, ladies.

That is my report. Any questions?

Now the torch is passed to the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee to perform the responsibilities and functions laid out in the Constitution. They also have the responsibility to appoint the first members of the Board of Congregational Services. That board will carry out the important work of our teaching efforts. There is much to do and a small number of volunteers to carry out this important work. We have provisions for augmenting our supporting staff with volunteers should the need arise. Ladies and gentlemen, the torch has been passed.

At this time the working group is disbanded with our hearty thanks for their hard and productive work. Thank you.

Attachment #2 (Logo and Motto) to CLCC Convention Proceedings, March 27, 2008



The logo is a visual representation of the CLCC motto, “Anchored in The Word and the Lutheran Confessions”

The Bible represents the Word and Luther’s Seal represents the Lutheran Confessions, which are the sum total of the CLCC confessional statement.

The anchor represents the strength of being held fast, or anchored in a place, that being The Word and the Lutheran Confessions.

The Bible is placed at the lower fluke of the anchor as this the “working end” of the anchor when tilted in this position and the primary point of attachment and strength.

The seal is placed at the upper fluke as a point of secondary attachment and strength for holding fast.

Attachment #3 (Changes to Bylaws) to CLCC Convention Proceedings, March 27, 2008

[All occurrences of the word “laity” were changed to “layman” or “laymen” as appropriate. Both nouns are gender neutral.]

Article III (Organization Structure) – Passed with the addition of the incorporation details: “CLCC is incorporated in the State of Oregon. The organization’s address is 230 Evelyn Street, Roseburg, OR 97470.

Article IV (Membership & Relationship with Other Entities) - Passed with minor changes to subparagraph E. E.,2. (Annual fees for Associated Organizations) was deleted and E.,1. (Individual Fees) and the new paragraph E.,2. (Congregational Fees) includes the agreed to fees of \$30.00 and \$200.00, respectively.

Article V (Duties, Terms and Qualifications of Elected Officers) – Article V passed with multiple motions. The first sentence of the first paragraph passed after replacing “organizing meeting in Ft. Wayne, IN” with “first convention.” In the third line, “decides a replacement is” was changed to “decide replacements are.” The words “to the same office” was added to the last sentence. The first paragraph now reads as follows:

The initial officers shall be elected by the members during the first convention and serve in office for a term of four years or until the Board of Directors decide replacements are needed based on the performance criteria cited in these Bylaws. An officer may be reelected one time. A waiting period of four years must pass before being eligible to stand for election again to the same office.

A. Executive Director

1. Inserted an “a” before “male” and changed “laity” to “laymen.” The sentence now reads: *The Executive Director shall be a male layman.*
3. In the second to last line changed the period to a semi-colon following “conventions”; make the “A” in Accountability lower case. The sentence will read as follows:
He shall ensure that all officers are acting in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the conventions; accountability, however, shall remain with the Executive Director.
7. In paragraph c), third line changed “know” to “known”.
8. In the last line changed “for reworking” to “to be reworked” and the last word was changed from “resubmission” to “resubmitted”. The sentence will read: *Any such memorials shall be returned to the originator to be reworked and resubmitted.*
9. In the first line capitalize “proceedings.”

B. Assistant Executive Director

1. Inserted an “a” before “male,” and change “laity” to “laymen”; deleted the remainder of the sentence. The paragraph now reads: *The Assistant Executive Director shall be a male layman.*

C. Secretary

1. Inserted an “a” before “male” and changed “laity” to “laymen.” The sentence now reads: *The Secretary may be a male or female layman.*
4. In the second line, following the word “election,” inserted “six months before convention.” The sentence now reads:
The Secretary shall publish (via surface or electronic mail) to all CLCC members the slate of candidates 30 calendar days before election (six months before convention) and shall give instructions on voting.

D. Treasurer

1. Inserted an “a” before “male or female” and changed “laity” to “layman”. The sentence now reads: *The Treasurer may be a male or female layman.*
 - a) Changed “moneys” to “monies.”
2. b) In the fourth line made “conflict” plural.

Article VI (Board of Directors)

A. Functions and Responsibilities

1. In the fourth line changed “over” to “of.”
5. In the third line changed “they” to “it.”

B. Meetings

1. The end of the first sentence was changed to “two meetings annually.” The sentence now reads: *The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of two meetings annually.*
Following a discussion on the number of participants for a Board of Directors quorum, the last sentence was agreed on as follows: *A quorum for a meeting shall consist of two clergy members and two lay members.*
2. In the first line “records” was changed to “minutes” and “made” was changed to “recorded.”

C. Membership, Qualifications and Membership Terms

5. Changed the last word to “to the same office.” The sentence now reads: *A waiting period of four years must pass before being eligible to stand for election to the same office.*

E. Election and Terms

3. Changed the last word to “to the same office.” The sentence now reads: *A waiting period of four years must pass before being eligible to stand for election to the same office.*

Article VII (Board of Congregational Services)

A. Membership - Paragraph A. passed by changing “laity” to “laymen” in the second line.

C. Responsibilities –

1. In the second line, made “Conventions” lower case and replaced “including, but limited to” with “such as.” The sentence now reads: *The Board shall conduct local (congregation, circuit) and regional seminars between conventions, such as the following topics.*
 - e. Changed “laity” to “laymen.”
4. Deleted the last sentence regarding the length of time a team would spend with a congregation asking for assistance.
5. Paragraph 5 was eliminated (regarding CLCC providing assistance to congregations about doctrinally sound church music and hymns); the old paragraph 6 was then renumbered to new paragraph 5. “Laity” was changed to “laymen,” “confessions” was capitalized and “practice” was made plural.

Article VIII (Committee on Constitutional Issues) – The article passed after “laity” in paragraph A. was changed to “laymen” and the last sentence in paragraph B (regarding mail ballots) was deleted.

Article IX (Ad Hoc Committees) – The article passed after changes were made to paragraph B; in the third line, everything after “purpose” was replaced with “it shall be dissolved.” The sentence now reads: *After an Ad Hoc Committee has served its purpose, it shall be dissolved.*

Article X (Advisory Committee) – The article passed after extensive changes.

- A. Ended the sentence after “unity.” The sentence now reads: *The purpose of the Advisory Committee will be to advise on matters of adiaphora so that churches will be encouraged to practice doctrine in unity.*
- B. Replaced the first sentence of the second paragraph with: *Clergy and male laymen in good standing from any congregation may be nominated.*

In the second sentence, replaced “slots” with “positions” in three places and made all titles lower case. The paragraph now reads:

Clergy and laymen from any congregation in good standing may be nominated. Positions on the Committee, one each, shall be allocated among various groups that exist in congregations, such as youth, young singles, teachers and seniors, plus one position for clergy and one position for a male lay leader.

- C. In the third line made “half for two years and half for three years” a parenthetical statement. In the second paragraph, changed the beginning of the first sentence to read “Those appointed may be reappointed at...” and

changed the end of the next (last) sentence to "...eligible for appointment." The second paragraph of C. now reads as follows:

Those appointed may be reappointed at the completion of their term for one additional term. A waiting period of four years must pass before being eligible for appointment.

Article XI (Conventions and Meetings) – This article passed by correcting a typo in the third line of paragraph C; "changes" was corrected to "change(s)".

Article XIII (Finances) – This Article passed after changing the "48 hours" in the last sentence of the second paragraph to "21 days." This refers to the time limit between receiving funds and depositing them.

The last paragraph was re-written as follows: *The Treasurer and the Executive Director shall have sole authority to pay all budgeted and approved expenditures in a timely matter.*

Article XIV (Parliamentary Authority) – This Article passed with a change to the end of the last sentence; "...when there is a conflict with *Roberts Rules of Order*" was changed so the sentence now reads: *Christian love and concern, and a servant attitude shall prevail should a conflict arise.*

Article XV (Dissent) – This article was discussed and a decision was made to remove the article and add it back after better wording has been agreed upon for the last paragraph. Pastor Al Jeske's suggested rewording of the last paragraph of old Bylaw Article XV (Dissent) follows.

"Unrepentant (unresolved) cases shall be brought before the next convention at which time the unrepentant party or parties shall be expelled from membership if there continues to be no repentance. The congregation in which said unrepentant is a member shall be informed of his/her status and shall be urged to deal with the member or members. If the unrepentant party or parties are a member of a CLCC Member Congregation, and if that congregation does not carry out discipline in a timely manner, it shall be advised that its membership is in jeopardy (subject to expulsion)."

Old Article XV (Dissent) will be considered at the next convention.

Article XVI (now XV) (Dissolving the Corporation) – This passed after adding details for the organization to be 501(c)(3) qualified: "charitable" was changed to "501(c)(3)" and "organization" was changed to "organization(s)." The paragraph ends after "Directors." The paragraph now reads:

In the event the organization is dissolved per Article XVIII of the Constitution, all remaining monies and assets shall be given to a 501(c)(3) organization(s) approved by the Board of Directors.