



**Lower Susquehanna
Synodical Women's Organization
31st Convention Minutes
St. Paul Lutheran Church
201 W. Louthier Street
Carlisle, PA**

Saturday, August 18, 2018

The formal opening of the Convention began at 11:05 a.m. The Hymn "Shine, Jesus, Shine" was sung.

Chaplain, Rev. Nancy Easton (Associate Pastor for Visitation), St. Paul Lutheran, Carlisle, welcomed attendees.

President Joyce Ray introduced the following guests:

Lisa Plorin – CWO Representative – President of the Women of the ELCA
Jennifer De Leon – Region 8 Representative and Director of Justice, Women of the ELCA
Pastor Robert Moore – Pastor of St. Paul
Pastor Nancy Easton – Chaplain
Bishop Dunlop and his wife Connie

Introduction of the Convention Committee:

Patti Kistler - Convention Chair
Gale du Pont – Worship
Gertrude Kampmeyer - Parliamentarian
Donna Greifzu - Displays and Bulletin of Reports
Nancy Nelson and Anna McPherson – Registration
Bill Hemminger – Organist
Marlene Shilling – Pianist

Big Thank You to everyone!

Corrections to the Bulletin of Reports (BOR):

Page 22 – Add Joyce Ray to retiring board members

Nancy Nelson reported from the Committee on Credentials;
Voting Members 15 Officers/Board Members 10
Participants 21 Guests 11 Total 57
The quorum has been met.

Gertrude Kampmeyer was appointed Parliamentarian.

Committees of the Convention were Appointed:

Committee on Credentials

Board Liaison: Lois Rode
Chair: Nancy Nelson
Voting Member: Patti Kistler

Committee on Minutes

Board Liaison: Christine Todd
Chair: Gale du Pont
Voting Member: Johnnetta Miller

Committee on Claims (Offerings)

Board Liaison: Peggi Norman
Chair: Janet Doherty
Voting Member: Kathy Kauffman

Committee on Elections

Board Liaison: Sandy Bingaman
Chair: Lissy Weirich
Voting Member: Dorothy Wissler

Committee on Reference and Council (Resolution)

Board Liaison: Susan Lyons
Chair: Deborah Johnson
Voting Member: Marlene Shilling

Joyce introduced the current SWO Board:

Vice President – Susan Lyons

Secretary – Christine Todd

Treasurer – Peggi Norman

Board Members: Ellie Bauerle, Sandra Bingaman, Barbara Bullock, Donna Greifzu, Linda Lubold, Karen Poe, Lois Rode

There were 8 first time attendees at Convention this year.

Lisa Plorin, President of the Churchwide Women of the ELCA told attendees how she became involved in the Women of the ELCA. She told everyone about how she was asked many, many times to become involved and her answer was “No”. She was asked to attend a Triennial Gathering in Spokane, Washington and she said, “she took it all in” and wanted to be a part of the Women of the ELCA. Lisa was elected Churchwide President of the Women of the ELCA at the 2017 Triennial Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Executive Board Recommendation #1 - Adoption of the Rules of Procedure was moved by the Synodical Board and approved.

Executive Board Recommendation #2 - Adoption of the Agenda was moved by the Synodical Board and approved.

The report of the Nominating Committee as reported by Chairperson Sandra Bingaman

President – no nomination

Treasurer – no nomination

Board Member for 2 Year term – Carol A. Woods

Rules of Procedure: Donna Greifzu – 2 years

Carol Woods – 2 years

Barbara Bullock – 1 year

Chaplain Nancy Easton gave the Luncheon prayer and St. Paul served a delicious lunch to attendees.

Jennifer De Leon told everyone about her W/ELCA calling and becoming the Director for Justice.

Jennifer presented attendees with a challenge: “How can we bring women into the Church?”

Chaplain Nancy Easton prayed for Election Guidance.

Joyce Ray told attendees about her experiences as being President of the LS SWO.

A nomination by Joyce Saeger was submitted to add Lois Ann Griffiths to voting process for President.

Ballot #1 – President (2 Year Term)

Votes Cast = 22

Invalid Votes = 2

Votes needed to elect = 13

Total votes cast = 20

Lois Ann Griffiths is declared President.

Jennifer De Leon gave a presentation on Racial Justice Education and how to contact our Representatives to push the Bills to help victims of sex trafficking and not prosecute them.

Jennifer said October is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

A nomination by Dorothy (Jean) Reed was submitted to add Kathy Kauffman to voting process for Treasurer.

Ballot #2 – Treasurer (2 Year Term)

Votes Cast = 23

Invalid Votes = 0

Votes needed to elect = 12

Total votes cast = 23

Kathy Kauffman is declared Treasurer.

Greg Hartman from United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg gave attendees an overview of how our In-Gathering helps students/families at United Lutheran. He whole-heartedly thanked everyone for their outpouring of donations of soup, cloth bags (for families to carry food from pantry) and gift cards.

The In-Gathering offering collected during Worship went to Carlisle Cares (Homeless shelter, etc).

Sue Lyons read the President's Report and it was approved.

Ballot #3 – Board Members (2 for two-year terms) and (1 for one-year term)

Votes Cast = 24

Invalid Votes = 0

Votes needed to elect = 13

Total votes cast = 24

Results: Barbara Bullock – 1 year
Donna Greifzu – 2 years
Carol A. Woods – 2 years

Report of Committee on Reference & Counsel - Chairperson Deb Johnson announced that they had received a Resolution from St. Bartholomew.

Resolution #1 – submitted by Marlene Shilling, St. Bartholomew, Hanover, PA

Whereas: St. Bartholomew Church, Hanover, PA, has established a visionary committee, which has helped our church move from death to life and meet the needs of younger people;

and Whereas: The Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA recognizes the need to reach younger women in our churches;

Therefore, be it Resolved: It is proposed that the LS SWO Women of the ELCA, appoint a committee to investigate ways to simplify our organizational structure, which is no longer needed for the small group we are. Ideas may generate from such a committee to help us regroup and grow.

Recommendation of Committee: Meet as a committee to look at simplifying organization structure. LS SWO Board to simplify and still hold to constitution.

Voted to form a committee to consider simplification of organizational meetings, etc. and send to Triennial Convention. Approved

Barbara Bullock gave the report for the In-Gathering (United Lutheran Seminary) and the Quilt Project:

United Lutheran Seminary:

98 cans of soup
153 bags
\$2,055.00 – Gift cards

Quilt Project:

815 Quilts
28 Sewing Kits
818 Health Kits
1,779 School Kits
142 Layettees
298 Bars of Soap
112 Shawls

Total of 3,992 items

Baby Quilts – Sue Lyons donated 9 baby quilts (5 Girls/4 Boys) – The quilts will be given to the Life Line Pregnancy Center in Millersburg, PA

Executive Board Recommendation #3 - The Report of the Treasurer & the Audit Report was moved by the Synodical Board and approved.

Executive Board Recommendation #4 - The Adoption of the Ministry Budget for 2018-2019 was moved by the Synodical Board and approved.

Lisa Plorin gave an overview of the Churchwide Organization after introducing us to her family on the screen, husband Steve and daughters Brooke and Kortni.

Lisa said Churchwide is setting up an Exploratory Committee comprised of 11 women throughout the United States. “How to let things go”. More information will be coming out in October 2019.

Lisa explained how the Women of the ELCA is set up:

Unit – Church units
The Synodical Organization – works with Congregational Units
Churchwide – works with everyone
21 members – Churchwide Board
12 members – Staff

Put on your calendars – Triennial Gathering, Phoenix, Arizona, July 2020

Ways to keep informed of things going on:

Gather, Café, Interchange, Bold Connections
Daily Grace, www.womenoftheelca.org

Lisa was presented with a gift of bombas socks and shirt (Oh, Shift!) and a handmade fabric basket (Peggi Norman). Lisa loves to ride bicycle and during the first week in August, Lisa participated in a seven-day bicycle trip that covers more than 400 miles.

Report on Claims: Janet Doherty gave the report

Ingathering Offering (Carlisle Cares)	\$2,000.00
Convention Offering	<u>2,189.00</u>
Total	\$4,189.00

Update to Report on Claims:

Convention Ingathering	\$ 260.00 previously collected <u>1,840.00</u> collected at Convention \$ 2,100.00 Total
Convention Offering	\$ 405.00 previously collected <u>1,784.00</u> collected at Convention \$ 2,189.00 Total
Total Offering	\$ 4,289.00

Joyce Ray recognized two out-going Board Members: Peggi Norman (Treasurer) and Karen Poe (Board Member). She thanked them for their time and support while on the LS SWO Board.

Chris Todd brought everyone up to date on the Camp Hebron Retreat to be held November 2-4, 2018. Due date for Registration is post mark date of Monday, September 10, 2018.

Lisa Plorin installed the Board Members.

Closing Hymn was "Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"

The 31st Convention of the Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization closed at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Todd
Board Secretary, LS SWO