

Minutes of the 126th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church

YMCA of the Rockies
Estes Park Center Assembly Hall
Estes Park, Colorado
June 29-30, 2011

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

Wednesday, June 29, 2011
8:30 a.m.

1. MORNING DEVOTIONS

Moderator Robert Bergquist called the business session of the 126th Annual Meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m., beginning with a time of worship. The worship team led a time of singing and John Wenrich, director of congregational vitality for the Department of Church Growth and Evangelism, gave a meditation.

2. OPENING STATEMENT BY THE MODERATOR

Moderator Robert Bergquist explained procedures, issued an opening statement, and introduced the officers and staff on stage.

Wilson Herrera, director of Hispanic ministries for the Department of Christian Formation, announced in Spanish that various agenda items were written in Spanish and available to delegates.

3. GREETING FROM MIDWEST CONFERENCE, SUPERINTENDENT KENNETH CARLSON

Superintendent Ken Carlson greeted the assembly from the Midwest Conference and its churches. Carlson offered a word of prayer for those who have been and will be affected by the flooding.

4. REPORT ON CREDENTIALS AND MOTION

The moderator recognized Andrew Sebanc, chair of the credentials committee, who presented the following motion on behalf of the credentials committee: "Those persons who have currently been registered and certified as delegates with the committee on credentials together with those who shall subsequently be registered and certified in the course of this Annual Meeting shall constitute the official roster of the 126th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church."

The motion carried.

Sebanc then reported that registration thus far included 295 conference/region delegates from 174 churches and 81 general delegates for a total of 376 credentialed voting delegates. Additionally, 182 people had registered their attendance in various non-voting categories, for a total registered conference attendance of 558.

5. ACTION ON THE PROPOSED AGENDA

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who reported that the Executive Board recommended the adoption of the agenda with the following modifications:

Add 35.a Commissioning of New Covenant Resource Papers

The motion carried to adopt the agenda as follows:

Times Certain

WEDNESDAY

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8:30–12:00 p.m. | Morning Business Session with Devotions |
| 1:30 p.m. | Irving Lambert Outstanding Urban Ministries Award |
| 1:30–5:00 p.m. | Afternoon Business Session |

THURSDAY

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30–12:00 p.m. | Morning Business Session with Devotions |
| 9:15 a.m. | T. W. Anderson Outstanding Layperson Award |
| 9:30 a.m. | Clergy Lifetime Service Recognition |
| 9:45 a.m. | Ministerial Credentials |
| 10:30 a.m. | 2012 Mission and Ministry Budget |
| 1:30–3:00 p.m. | Afternoon Business Session |

Reports exceeding the ten (10) minute time limit per Standing Rule 3.a are marked: e.g., (30-min. report)

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

1. Morning Devotions

ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

2. Opening Statement by the Moderator
3. Greeting from Midwest Conference, Superintendent Kenneth Carlson
4. Report on Credentials and Motion
 - a. Credentialing Report #1
 - b. Credentialing Report #2
 - c. Credentialing Report #3
5. Action on the Proposed Agenda *Esta material también se encuentra en Español*
6. Action on the Standing Rules
7. Approval of Honorary Delegates and Resource Persons
 - a. Honorary Delegates
 - b. Resource Persons

MEMBERSHIP IN THE MISSION

8. Churches Applying for Membership in the Evangelical Covenant Church
 - a. Recognition and Prayer (30-minute report)
9. Churches Removed from the Roster
 - a. Recognition and Prayer

STATE OF THE MISSION

10. Report of the President
11. Fiscal Year 2010 Financial Results

SERVANT LEADERSHIP FOR THE MISSION

12. Introduction of Ann P. Wiesbrock, President of Covenant Trust Company
13. Leadership Introductions
14. Report of the Search Committee for President and Dean of North Park Theological Seminary

15. Election of Executive Ministers
 - a. Report of the Nominating Committee for Women Ministries
 - b. Report of the Nominating Committee for Compassion, Mercy, and Justice
 - c. Report of the Nominating Committee for World Mission
 - d. Vote
16. Report of the Board of Nominations and Vote
17. Board of Nominations Election Results
18. Actions to Be Taken from the Ordered Ministry (Time Certain—Thursday, 9:45 a.m.)
 - a. Presentation of Candidates for Transfer of Ordination
 - b. Presentation of Candidates for Commissioning
 - c. Presentation of Candidates for Ordination to Specialized Ministry
 - d. Presentation of Candidates for Ordination to Word and Sacrament
 - e. Approval of Licenses
 - f. Change in Standing

SHAPING THE MISSION

19. Covenant Life Roundtable—Organizing for Mission (60 minutes)

HONORING FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE MISSION

20. Irving Lambert Outstanding Urban Ministries Award (Time Certain—Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.)
21. Recognition of Ruth Y. Hill, Retiring Executive Minister of Women Ministries
22. Recognition of James A. Fretheim, Retiring Superintendent of the Northwest Conference
23. Recognition of Kenneth P. Carlson, Retiring Superintendent of the Midwest Conference
24. Recognition of Rodney J. Sawyer, Retiring Regional Field Director of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska
25. T. W. Anderson Outstanding Layperson Award (Time Certain—Thursday, 9:15 a.m.)
26. Clergy Lifetime Service Recognition (Time Certain—Thursday, 9:30 a.m.)
27. Recognition of Executive Board Members Concluding Term of Service

DIMENSIONS OF THE MISSION

28. Written Reports by Mission and Ministry Leadership President (*Esta material también se encuentra en Español*); Executive Vice-President; Vice President for Finance; Christian Formation; Church Growth and Evangelism; Communication; Compassion, Mercy, and Justice; Ordered Ministry; Women Ministries; World Mission; Covenant Ministries of Benevolence; North Park University; North Park Theological Seminary; National Covenant Properties; Covenant Estate Planning Services/Covenant Trust Company
29. Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence
30. Report from North Park University
31. Mission and Ministry Leadership Response to Delegate Questions

ORGANIZING FOR MISSION

32. Recommendations for Continuation of Commission on Stewardship
33. 2011 Bylaw Amendments Article VII, Section 7.10.d and 7.7.a

FUNDING THE MISSION

34. Presentation and Adoption of the 2012 Mission and Ministry Budget (Time Certain—Thursday, 10:30 a.m.)

LIVING FAITHFULLY IN THE MISSION

35. Recommendation on Covenant Resource Paper: The Evangelical Covenant Church and the Ministry of Compassion, Mercy, and Justice
Este material también se encuentra en Español
 - a. Commissioning of New Covenant Resource Papers
36. Report from Commission on Christian Action and Resolution Survey

PREPARING TO GO FORTH IN MISSION

37. Prayer for the Mission and Ministry of the ECC
38. Close of the Meeting
 - a. Approval of Minutes of 126th Covenant Annual Meeting
 - b. Delegate Evaluation
 - c. Report to Congregations
 - d. Arrangements for 2012 Annual Meeting
 - e. Closing Statement
 - i. Resolution of Sympathy
 - ii. Resolution of Thanks
39. Adjournment
40. Benediction

Annual Meeting Officers

Moderator: Robert V. Bergquist

Vice-Moderator: Beth I. Ernest

Secretary: Peggy M. Wolter

Vice-Secretary: Lynn Tungseth

Parliamentarian

Gregory J. Englund

6. ACTION ON THE STANDING RULES

The moderator recognized Gregory Englund, parliamentarian, who, on behalf of the agenda committee, moved the adoption of the standing rules as follows:

STANDING RULES OF ORDER 2011 COVENANT ANNUAL MEETING

1) Obtaining the Floor

Only persons wearing appropriate credentials as delegates, advisors, or resource persons may be present on the floor of the Annual Meeting or request speaking privileges. With the exception of points of order, points of personal privilege, or other items that require urgent attention, only those persons who approach a microphone shall be recognized by the moderator.

2) Voting

Voting on motions will typically be by voice vote. Any delegate may request voting by ballot on any particular question. This request, when supported by ten percent of the delegates present and voting, will be implemented. The moderator may direct that voting be by ballot on any question.

3) Time Limits

a) Reports that contain no proposal for action by the meeting shall be limited to ten (10) minutes, including the question period, with the exception of the president's report, the treasurer's report, and items specified in the agenda as longer reports.

b) Debate on any main motion, including its subsidiary motions, shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes, except as otherwise specified in the agenda. No amendment or other subsidiary motion to a main motion shall be allowed until debate on the main motion has ceased or ten (10) minutes have passed.

c) No speech in debate may exceed three (3) minutes unless this period is extended by a majority vote at the request of the speaker.

d) Time limits may be extended for a specific period by a two-thirds vote.

4) Submission of Motions in Writing

All main motions and complex subsidiary motions shall be submitted in writing to the secretary.

5) Items of Business Not on the Agenda

The Bylaws provide in Section 7.8.a.ii that "Items of business that are not on the agenda may be submitted in writing by a delegate to the moderator. If the item submitted is in order, a majority vote of the delegates present and voting shall be required to place that item on the agenda." It is further strongly requested that such items be submitted to the moderator as early as possible in the course of the meeting.

6) Consent Agenda

Items on the Consent Agenda may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any two delegates. Items removed from the Consent Agenda shall be acted upon by the assembly at a place in the agenda determined by the moderator. If the Consent Agenda is not adopted by the unanimous consent of the meeting then each of the items on the Consent Agenda shall be acted upon by the assembly as a separate motion at a place in the agenda determined by the moderator.

7) Nominations from the Floor

A nomination from the floor shall be accepted only if the person nominated has agreed to have his or her name placed in nomination. (Note that the Bylaws provide in Section 7.9.c.v.2 and 7.10.j.ii that a delegate making a nomination may provide descriptive information similar in scope and content to that provided to the Annual Meeting by a nominating board or committee.)

8) Modification of Agenda Order

The moderator shall have the discretion to revise the order of agenda items to accommodate scheduling needs.

Agenda Committee Members

Robert V. Bergquist, *moderator*

Gary B. Walter, *president of the Covenant*

Beth I. Ernest, *vice-moderator*

Donn N. Engebretson, *secretary of the Covenant*

Gregory J. Englund, *parliamentarian*

The motion to adopt the standing rules carried.

7. APPROVAL HONORARY DELEGATES AND RESOURCE PERSONS

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who recommended the approval of the following persons as honorary delegates:

Award Recipients: Marvin and Alice Branstrom, T.W. Anderson Layperson Award recipient and his wife; and Robert Owens, Irving Lambert Urban Ministries Award recipient.

Emeriti: Paul Larsen, president emeritus of the Covenant; Robert and Novella Larson, executive secretary emeritus of church growth and evangelism and his wife; David and Marilyn Noreen, executive secretary emeritus of Christian education and discipleship and his wife; James and Arlys Persson, executive director emeritus of church growth and evangelism and his wife

The motion was seconded and carried.

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who recommended the approval of the following as resource persons:

Ed Delgado, CHET; Marti Burger, Steve Burger, J. Wilson Herrera, Department of Christian Formation; Donald Davenport, Peter Sung, John Teter, Fredrik Wall, John Wenrich, Department of Church Growth and Evangelism; David Husby, Covenant World Relief; Luke Palmerlee, Events Office; Elliott Johnson, Finance Office; Rob Hall, Rollin Persson, National Covenant Properties; Paul Koptak, North Park Theological Seminary; Joseph Jones, North Park University; Carol Lawson, Theresa Marks, Danielle Ng, Department of the Ordered Ministry; Gregory Englund, Parliamentarian; Byron Miller, Paul Carlson Partnership; Cynthia Halverson, Evelyn Johnson, President's Office; Millie Lungren, Resource Center; Meagan Gillan, Toni Schwabe, Department of Women Ministries; Byron Amundsen, Peter Dutton, Ruth Dutton, Karen Hallberg, John Kerl, Letha Kerl, Gwendolyn Mark, L. David Mark, Baxter Swenson, Margie Swenson, Department of World Mission.

The motion was seconded and carried.

8. CHURCHES APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

The moderator recognized David Olson, executive minister of church growth and evangelism, to present the churches applying for membership.

Olson, upon the recommendation of the respective conferences and regions, and on behalf of the Executive Board, moved that the 126th Annual Meeting accept the following churches into membership in the Evangelical Covenant Church:

Church	Approximate Membership	Approximate Attendance
CENTRAL CONFERENCE		
Fountain of Life Ministries, Inc. An Evangelical Covenant Church Madison, Wisconsin	286	225
The Storehouse Evangelical Covenant Church Chicago, Illinois	23	45
GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE		
Morning Star Church An Evangelical Covenant Church Middleville, Michigan	50	70
MIDSOUTH CONFERENCE		
Vox Veniae An Evangelical Covenant Church Austin, Texas	<i>in process</i>	175
MIDWEST CONFERENCE		
Crossroads Church of Greeley An Evangelical Covenant Church Greeley, Colorado	<i>in process</i>	115
Logos Central Chapel An Evangelical Covenant Church Denver, Colorado	<i>in process</i>	125
NORTHWEST CONFERENCE		
The Gallery Covenant Church St. Paul, Minnesota	<i>in process</i>	82
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE		
Bayside Covenant Church of Citrus Heights Citrus Heights, California	<i>in process</i>	900
Nueva Esperanza Covenant Church Antioch, California	140	160
Lighthouse Covenant Church of West Sacramento West Sacramento, California	80	130
Edgewater Covenant Church Pittsburg, California	53	130

Olson introduced Peter Sung, director of church planting, who in turn introduced conference superintendents, associate superintendents, and directors of church planting to introduce pastors and representatives from each church applying for membership.

By individual votes, the churches were accepted into membership of the Evangelical Covenant Church and the moderator declared them to be full members. The

new churches include a significant representation of ethnic diversity reflecting the commitment of the Evangelical Covenant Church to respond to the diversity of our communities.

Sung prayed for the new Covenant congregations.

9. CHURCHES REMOVED FROM THE ROSTER

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who highlighted the legacy of churches that, for a variety of reasons, closed, merged, or chose to end their affiliation with the Evangelical Covenant Church. Engebretson then introduced Howard Burgoyne, superintendent of the East Coast Conference, who shared the story of Covenant Congregational Church of Waltham, Massachusetts, how it came to the difficult decision to close their church, and how its legacy has and will continue to be a significant blessing in the work of God's kingdom.

Engebretson then presented a recommendation from the Executive Board, based on recommendations from the respective conferences, that the following churches be removed from the roster of member churches:

- Korean Central Covenant Church, Northbrook, Illinois (merged)
- Calvary Covenant Church, Cranston, Rhode Island (closed)
- Trinity Covenant Church, Plainville, Connecticut (closed)
- Covenant Congregational Church, Waltham, Massachusetts (closed)
- Tapestry Covenant Church, Tacoma, Washington (closed)
- Vida Abundante, Sacramento, California (withdrawn)

The motion to remove the churches from the roster carried.

Engebretson called upon Ken Larson, pastor of Faith Covenant Church, Farmington Hills, Michigan, who led in prayer, thanking God for the ministry of those churches.

The assembly sang "The Church's One Foundation."

CELEBRATING THE MISSION ITEM – WORD OF WITNESS

A video highlighting a word of witness from Carol Friar, member of Oakdale Covenant Church in Chicago, Illinois, was shown.

10. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The moderator recognized Gary Walter to give his report. President Walter brought greetings from the Covenant Church of Congo, the Japan Covenant Church, the Executive Board, and the Council of Administrators. He noted that we have lost some significant Evangelical Covenant Church leaders recently: Jerry Reed, James Hawkinson, and Willie Jemison.

Walter then highlighted the work of the various departments and affiliate ministries of the Evangelical Covenant Church and outlined the Organizing for Mission process, which delegates would be later participating together in a roundtable discussion on during the afternoon business session.

Rosmarie Anabalon, member of the Executive Board, prayed for Walter and the ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church in Spanish and English.

11. FISCAL YEAR 2010 FINANCIAL RESULTS

The moderator recognized Dean Lundgren, vice-president for finance and treasurer, who gave a financial report for 2010. The auditors gave a clean report. There were no audit exceptions, no material weaknesses, no disagreements with manage-

ment. Lundgren thanked the assembly for the privilege and opportunity to serve.

Kim Carlson, chair of the Executive Board finance committee, prayed for Lundgren and the future of Covenant finances.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION—FEAST VIDEO

A video with Feast highlights was shown.

13. LEADERSHIP INTRODUCTIONS

The moderator recognized Gary Walter, president, who introduced the following new and recently promoted leaders in the Evangelical Covenant Church: Harold Spooner, president of Covenant Initiatives for Care; John Teter, team leader for evangelism in the Department of Church Growth and Evangelism; Wilson Herrera, director of Hispanic ministries in the Department of Christian Formation; Curtis Ivanoff, regional field director for the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska; Tammy Swanson-Draheim, superintendent for the Midwest Conference; Mark Stromberg, superintendent for the Northwest Conference; Ann Wiesbrock, president of Covenant Trust Company; Cynthia Halverson, director for advancement for the Evangelical Covenant Church; and Meagan Gillan, nominee for the executive minister of Women Ministries.

12. INTRODUCTION OF ANN P. WIESBROCK, PRESIDENT OF COVENANT TRUST COMPANY

The moderator recognized Ann Wiesbrock, president of Covenant Trust Company, who shared the mission and ministry of Covenant Trust Company, distinguishing the importance of values aligned with their clients.

32. RECOMMENDATION FOR CONTINUATION OF COMMISSION ON STEWARDSHIP

The moderator recognized Ed Lee, chair of the Commission on Stewardship, who highlighted some of the resources of the commission and then recommended, on behalf of the Executive Board, that the Commission on Stewardship be extended for another five years.

The motion carried.

28. WRITTEN REPORTS OF MISSION AND MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Vice-moderator Beth Ernest referred to the reports from leadership in the delegate notebooks and thanked them for their reports.

SECOND BUSINESS SESSION

Wednesday, June 29, 2011

1:30 p.m.

The session was opened with singing camp songs.

20. IRVING LAMBERT OUTSTANDING URBAN MINISTRIES AWARD

The moderator recognized Gary Walter, president, and Debbie Blue, executive minister of compassion, mercy, and justice, to present on behalf of the Commission on Urban Ministries the Irving C. Lambert Award to Robert Owens of New Life Covenant Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Blue gave a history of the award, indicating this is the thirtieth year it is being given, and Walter presented a citation, which high-

lighted various aspects of Owens' ministry and contributions in urban and ethnic ministries.

Owens responded with gratitude for the honor and to each person who has helped to shape his character and allowed him space to grow in his competency. He expressed thanks to the Covenant Church and to his wife, Mary Ann, for her patience, love, and commitment as they have journeyed together.

4b. CREDENTIALING REPORT #2

The moderator recognized Andrew Sebanc for his second report. Registration thus far included 329 conference/region delegates representing 183 churches and 85 general delegates from 12 churches in addition to those represented in conferences/regions for a total of 414 credentialed voting delegates, from 195 churches. Additionally, 183 people had registered their attendance in various non-voting categories, from 29 churches, for a total registered conference attendance of 597 from 224 churches.

15. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE MINISTERS

Report of the Nominating Committee for Women Ministries

The moderator recognized Toni Schwabe, chair of the nominating committee for women ministries, who reported on the process of nomination, highlighted the gifts and character of Meagan Gillan, and then recommended on behalf of the Board of Women Ministries, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, the election of Meagan Gillan as executive minister of women ministries.

The moderator called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Report of the Nominating Committee for Compassion, Mercy, and Justice

The moderator recognized Garth McGrath, chair of the Executive Board compassion, mercy, and justice committee, who reported on the process of re-nomination, highlighted the gifts and character of Deborah Blue, and then recommended on behalf of the Executive Board the re-election of Deborah Blue as executive minister of compassion, mercy, and justice.

The moderator called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Report of the Nominating Committee for World Mission

The moderator recognized Lindsay Small, chair of the Executive Board world mission committee, who reported on the process of re-nomination, highlighted the gifts and character of Curtis Peterson, and then recommended on behalf of the Executive Board the re-election of Curtis Peterson as executive minister of world mission.

The moderator called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

The tellers distributed the ballots and Ken Moore, chair of the tellers, gave instructions.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION—VIDEO ON RACIAL RIGHTEOUSNESS

A video highlighting ministries of racial righteousness from the Department of Compassion, Mercy, and Justice was shown.

19. COVENANT LIFE ROUNDTABLE—ORGANIZING FOR MISSION

The meeting was recessed for one hour to discuss Organizing for Mission. The roundtable was facilitated by Evelyn Johnson, director of special projects, and Gary Walter, president.

The assembly reconvened at 3:18 p.m.

29. CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF COVENANT MINISTRIES OF BENEVOLENCE

The moderator recognized David Dwight, president of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence, who gave the history and legacy of the ministries of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence for the last 125 years. Dwight introduced a video on Covenant Retirement Communities. He thanked the assembly for allowing him to serve on their behalf.

15. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE MINISTERS, CONTINUED

The moderator recognized Ken Moore, chair of the tellers, who reported that Meagan Gillan was elected to a four-year term as executive minister of women ministries by a vote of 354 to 4.

Moore reported that Deborah Blue was re-elected to a four-year term as executive minister of compassion, mercy, and justice by a vote of 357 to 6.

Moore reported that Curtis Peterson was re-elected to a four-year term as executive minister of world mission by a vote of 355 to 3.

Gary Walter, president, led the assembly in prayer.

Walter invited Gillan to speak to the assembly. Gillan thanked the Covenant Church for the call to work together and reflected on her life of ministry together with her husband, Scott.

35. RECOMMENDATION ON COVENANT RESOURCE PAPER: THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH AND THE MINISTRY OF COMPASSION, MERCY, AND JUSTICE

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, and Debbie Blue, executive minister of compassion, mercy, and justice. Engebretson shared the description, background, and process of the paper. Blue spoke on the question “what is justice?” as it relates to not just doing it, but also understanding it. She thanked the assembly for their interaction with and input on the paper over the past two years as it came to its final version.

Engebretson then brought the following recommendation: “The Executive Board of the ECC, with the approval of the Board of the Ordered Ministry, the Council of Superintendents, and the Council of Administrators, recommends to the 126th Annual Meeting that the Covenant Resource Paper: The Evangelical Covenant and the Ministry of Compassion, Mercy, and Justice, be adopted.”

Discussion followed.

The motion carried.

Recommendation of New Covenant Resource Papers

Engebretson reviewed the background of the topics being presented. Engebretson then presented the following motion: “The Covenant Executive Board recommends to the Covenant Annual Meeting the commissioning of two Covenant Resource Papers at the 126th Annual Meeting, The Evangelical Covenant Church and the Great Commission and The Evangelical Covenant Church as a Reflection of the Mosaic of the Kingdom of God.”

The motion carried.

Beth Ernest, vice-moderator, offered a prayer of thanks for the research and commitment in the approved paper and for guidance for the newly commissioned papers.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION ITEM – CHIC VIDEO

A video on CHIC, taking place July 15-20, 2012, was shown.

21. RECOGNITION OF RUTH Y. HILL, RETIRING EXECUTIVE MINISTER OF WOMEN MINISTRIES

The moderator recognized Gary Walter, president, who presented a citation of recognition to Ruth Hill for twelve years of service as executive minister of women ministries.

Hill responded with thanks to God, her supportive husband, strong women leaders, the denomination and its leaders.

16. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF NOMINATIONS AND VOTE

The moderator recognized Peter Ahn, chair of the Board of Nominations, who explained the procedures and task of the board. Ahn then presented the ballot as follows (asterisk indicates incumbent):

EXECUTIVE BOARD

6-year term

Valerie A. Craven

Stacey A. Heimkes

6-year term

Mary J. Cunningham

Shelley L. Richards

6-year term

Christopher D. Call

William A. Davidson

6-year term

Win Jackson Houwen

Carolyn L. Poterek

1-year term

Charles L. Adair

David R. Danielson

BOARD OF NOMINATIONS

East Coast Conference

5-year term

Nancy L. Ebner

Catherine E. Stanley-Erickson

Pacific Southwest Conference

5-year term

Robert H. Anderson

Daniel O. Ferguson

BOARD OF THE ORDERED MINISTRY

5-year term

Pia Pena Restrepo

Mary Lou Sander

5-year term

Thomas C. Glossi

Steven C. Johnson

BOARD OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

5-year term

Kim A. Carlson

5-year term

Merideth A. Randles

BOARD OF WOMEN MINISTRIES

5-year term

*Barbara A. Barnes

5-year term

Cynthia S. Alvarado

Phyllis A. Van

5-year term

Mary Putera

Jo E. Wolfe

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE

6-year term

Jacqueline A. de la Chapelle

6-year term

Jennifer C. Larson

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY

5-year term

Lars P. Anderson

5-year term

*Bruce P. Bickner

5-year term

Jay Carstenbrock

5-year term

Kathryn Edin

5-year term

Calla M. Holmgren

2-year term

D. Darrell Griffin

ANNUAL MEETING OFFICERS FOR 2012 and 2013

Secretary

2-year term

M. Christine McIvor

Sandra E. Norris

Ahn offered a word of prayer for the nominees and the voting process. The tellers distributed the ballots.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION – COVENANT PEOPLE RESPONDING TO JOPLIN, MISSOURI

A video on the tornado in Joplin, Missouri, and the response of a group called Covenant People Responding in the Midwest Conference was shown.

The assembly recessed at 4:41 p.m.

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION

Thursday, June 30, 2011

8:30 a.m.

1. MORNING DEVOTIONS CONTINUED

Moderator Robert Bergquist called the business session to order at 8:30 a.m., beginning with a time of worship. The worship team led a time of singing and John Wenrich, director of congregational vitality for the Department of Church Growth and Evangelism, gave a meditation.

25. T.W. ANDERSON OUTSTANDING LAYPERSON AWARD

The moderator recognized Gary Walter to present the T.W. Anderson Outstanding Layperson Award to Marvin Branstrom, member of Sierra Bible Church in Murphys, California. Walter presented the citation, which included highlights of Branstrom's servant leadership and service to his church and community.

Branstrom responded, accepting the award on behalf of all hardworking lay people. He thanked his wife for being by his side. Branstrom encouraged the delegates to all participate with their different talents, parts and roles.

17. BOARD OF NOMINATIONS ELECTION RESULTS

The moderator called on Ken Moore, chair of the tellers, who reported the following election results (asterisks indicated elected nominee):

EXECUTIVE BOARD

6-year term

Valerie A. Craven (111)

*Stacey A. Heimkes (231)

6-year term

*Mary J. Cunningham (192)

Shelley L. Richards (144)

6-year term

Christopher D. Call (129)

*William A. Davidson (205)

6-year term

Win Jackson Houwen (167)

*Carolyn L. Poterek (171)

1-year term

Charles L. Adair (136)

*David R. Danielson (202)

BOARD OF NOMINATIONS

East Coast Conference

5-year term

*Nancy L. Ebner (174)

Catherine E. Stanley-Erickson (158)

Pacific Southwest Conference

5-year term

Robert H. Anderson (165)

*Daniel O. Ferguson (172)

BOARD OF THE ORDERED MINISTRY

5-year term

*Pia Pena Restrepo (202)

Mary Lou Sander (139)

5-year term

Thomas C. Glossi (152)

*Steven C. Johnson (177)

BOARD OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

5-year term

*Kim A. Carlson (323)

5-year term

*Merideth A. Randles (324)

BOARD OF WOMEN MINISTRIES

5-year term

*Barbara A. Barnes (327)

5-year term

*Cynthia S. Alvarado (178)

Phyllis A. Van (151)

5-year term

*Mary Putera (172)

Jo E. Wolfe (152)

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE

6-year term

*Jacqueline A. de la Chapelle (324)

6-year term

*Jennifer C. Larson (325)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY

5-year term

*Lars P. Anderson (331)

5-year term

*Bruce P. Bickner (328)

5-year term

*Jay Carstenbrock (330)

5-year term

*Kathryn Edin (320)

5-year term

*Calla M. Holmgren (330)

2-year term

*D. Darrell Griffin (331)

ANNUAL MEETING OFFICERS FOR 20121 and 2013

Secretary

2-year term

M. Christine McIvor (132)

*Sandra E. Norris (200)

Moore led in a word of prayer for all those who were on the ballot.

26. CLERGY LIFETIME SERVICE RECOGNITION

The moderator recognized David Kersten, executive minister of the ordered ministry, who offered a word of explanation for this award which recognizes those who have served in credentialed ministry when they turn sixty-five years old. Kersten called those present from the following list forward to be recognized and Gary Walter presented them with plaques of recognition (asterisk indicates those present for the award):

Ray Heinrich Bartel, Renton, Washington
Raymond Gary Burnett, Morganville, New Jersey
Mark Raymond Cairns, Rochester, Minnesota
*Craig Stephen Carlson, Easton, Connecticut
Vernon Brent Carlson, Owatonna, Minnesota
*Wayne Carl Carlson, Elk Grove, California
*Gary Alan Dallman, Spring Valley, California
James Dawson Devine, Gresham, Oregon
David Leonard Dolan, Maple Grove, Minnesota
Gary Williard Downing, St. Paul, Minnesota
Alan Robert Forsman, Sarasota, Florida
James Harry Gaderlund, Mountain, California
Walter Glucklich, Cokato, Minnesota
Bruce Marvin Haight, Kalamazoo, Michigan
*John Omer Hamblen, Kent, Washington
Allan Maurice Holte, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
*Austin Walter Kaufmann, Eagan, Minnesota
*John Dean Kepler, Parchment, Michigan
Jonah Jin Lee, Morton Grove, Illinois
Ann Solveig Maleski, Chicago, Illinois
*Gwendolyn Figatt Mark, Miami, Florida
*Leslie David Mark, Miami, Florida
William L. Merritt, Lakewood, Colorado
Bie-Lim Ong, Wilbraham, Massachusetts

Sherry Milford Peterson, Goleta, California
*Luis Alberto Retamal, Chicago, Illinois
*Jimmy Leon Rucker, Phoenix, Arizona
Marlowe Paul Shoop, North Bend, Washington
Richard Hans Skar, McPherson, Kansas
David Allen Smith, Milan, New Hampshire
*Baxter Roger Swenson, Chicago, Illinois
Clifton Ellis Tidd, Providence, Rhode Island
*Daniel Lester Tourangeau, Pasco, Washington
*Kenneth Paul Wagner, Mount Vernon, Washington
G. Patrick White, Allegan, Michigan
James Ray Ecklund, Galesburg, Illinois

Walter invited the assembly to affirm and bless this group and the larger group they represent by applause and prayed for them.

18. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM THE ORDERED MINISTRY

The moderator recognized Carol Lawson, director of staff ministry, who gathered the candidates being presented for credentialing.

Presentation of Candidates for Transfer of Ordination

Lawson then presented the following motion: “The Board of the Ordered Ministry with the approval of the Covenant Ministerium, recommends that the 126th Annual Meeting approve the following persons’ application to transfer their ordination to the Evangelical Covenant Church:”

Robert L. Bryceson, First Covenant Church, Spokane, Washington, Baptist
General Conference
Michael D. DeLong, Evangelical Covenant Church of Milwaukee, Milwaukee,
Wisconsin, from North American Baptist Conference
G. Peyton Johnson, Lakeview Community Church, Tarpon Springs, Florida,
from Presbyterian Church (USA)
Promise Y. Lee, Relevant Word Ministries, Colorado Springs, Colorado, from
Church of God in Christ
Paul W. McMinimy, All Nations Church, Luxembourg, from Chain of Lakes
Community Bible Church
James J. Stewart Jr., Journey Covenant Church, Redondo Beach, California,
from Sierra Madre Congregational Church, Sierra Madre, California
Raymond W. Wall, Rosebud Community Church, Rosebud, Alberta, from
Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee

The moderator made provision for recording in the minutes the names of those delegates who made requests to second the recommendation of specific candidates for transfer of ordination:

Michael D. DeLong by Karen Hinz
G. Peyton Johnson by Garth Bolinder, Trudy Nutter
Promise Y. Lee by Rick Mylander
Paul W. McMinimy by Owen Youngman
James J. Stewart Jr. by Safy Jacob
Raymond W. Wall by Jeff Anderson, Sally Carlson, Julia Stein

Each candidate was voted upon individually. The motions carried.

Presentation of Candidates for Commissioning

Lawson, director of staff ministry, presented the following recommendation: “The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the approval of the Covenant Ministerium, moves that the 126th Annual Meeting grant commissioning of the following persons:”

Phillip E. Beatty, Trinity Covenant Church, Manchester, Connecticut
Julie A. Steel, Mercer Island Covenant Church, Mercer Island, Washington

The moderator made provision for recording in the minutes the names of those delegates who made requests to second the recommendation of specific candidates for commissioning:

Phillip E. Beatty by Diane Stevenson

Each candidate was voted upon individually. The motions carried.

Presentation of Candidates for Ordination to Specialized Ministry

Lawson presented the following motion: “The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the approval of the Covenant Ministerium, moves that the 126th Annual Meeting grant ordination to specialized ministry of the following persons:”

Sarah J. Ago, Hillside Covenant Church, Walnut Creek, California, Family Ministries
Jared M. Baker, Antwerp International Protestant Church, Belgium, Christian Education (all ages) & Administration/ Leadership
Krisann Jarvis Foss, North Pacific Conference, Mercer Island, Washington, Administration/Leadership
Anthony J. Gapastione, Peninsula Covenant Church, Redwood City, California, Adult Ministries
Valeyo M. Garrett, Key Kingdom Ministries Inc., Evergreen Park, Illinois, Christian Formation
Patricia E. Thompson, The Journey Church, Wichita, Kansas, Christian Formation
Ann L. Waterman, Anoka Covenant Church, Anoka, Minnesota, Pastoral Care

The moderator made provision for recording in the minutes the names of those delegates who made requests to second the recommendation of specific candidates for ordination to specialized ministry:

Sarah J. Ago by Brian Gleason, Marianne Mack, Laura Roy
Jared M. Baker by Sally Carlson, Linda Fredenburg, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small
Krisann Jarvis Foss by Sally Carlson, Florence Jarvis
Anthony J. Gapastione by Rodney Toews
Valeyo M. Garrett by Sally Carlson, Lisa Caridine, Jeremiah Hines, Karen Hinz, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small
Patricia E. Thompson by Rick Mylander

Each candidate was voted upon individually. The motions carried.

Presentation of Candidates for Ordination to Word and Sacrament

David Kersten, executive minister of the ordered ministry, presented the following recommendation: “The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the approval of the Covenant Ministerium, moves that the 126th Annual Meeting grant ordination to word and sacrament of the following persons:”

Greg N. Applequist, Bethany Covenant Church, Lyndhurst, Ohio
Matthew R. Braun, Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp, Onekama, Michigan
Dorothy H. Brown, Hillcrest Covenant Church, Prairie Village, Kansas
J. Kevin Butcher, Hope Community Church of Detroit, Detroit, Michigan
Austin J. Calhoun, The Evangelical Covenant Church of Cheboygan,
Cheboygan, Michigan

T. Daniel Clayborne, Evangelical Covenant Church, New Sweden, Maine
Curtis L. Davis Jr., Mount Miguel Covenant Village, Spring Valley, California
Janine N. Davis, The Bridge Covenant Church, Detroit, Michigan
Christopher R. Eltrich, Lettered Streets Covenant Church, Bellingham,
Washington

Guadalupe D. Flores, Iglesia Del Pacto Evangélico “Vida Plena,” Chicago,
Illinois

Christine M. Fossum, Re-entering call process

Robert F. Foster III, Evangelical Covenant Church, Thief River Falls, Minne-
sota

Andrew T. Gates, Bretton Woods Covenant Church, Lansing, Michigan

William J. Goodale, VA Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina

Michael L. Haefner, First Congregational Church, Greenville, Michigan

Sarah R. Hammersborg, First Covenant Church, Portland, Oregon

J. Craig Hancock, Faith Covenant Church, St. Petersburg, Florida

Joan R. Hill, Safety Harbor Covenant Church, Safety Harbor, Florida

Curtis P. Ivanoff, Alaska Christian College, Soldotna, Alaska

Maxie F. James, Kaiser Permanente Hospice and Palliative Care, Palo Alto,
California

Scott B. Jones, Hilltop Covenant Church, Cromwell, Connecticut

Larry E. Kamphausen, Church of Jesus Christ, Reconciler, Chicago, Illinois

Matthew P. Kennedy, North Park Covenant Church, Chicago, Illinois

Daniel G. Larson, Evangelical Covenant Church of Norquay, Saskatchewan

Steven P. Larson, Redeemer Covenant Church, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

Cheryl S. Lavornia, Christ Church Evangelical Covenant, East Greenwich,
Rhode Island

Calvin J. Lindstrom, Mahtowa Covenant Church, Mahtowa, Minnesota

Jennifer A. Lowe, Federated Covenant Church, Dowagiac, Michigan

Robert B. Lowe II, Federated Covenant Church, Dowagiac, Michigan

Arthur T. Matheny, Dundee Covenant Church, Dundee, Oregon

Brian A. McCutchen, Mission Springs Camp and Conference Center, Scotts
Valley, California

Bryan K. Murphy, South Bay Community Church, Fremont, California

Joseph A. Muzzi, Crossroads Community Church, South Lyon, Michigan

Christopher J. Nelson, Oberlin Covenant Church, Oberlin, Kansas

Sharon L. Nelson, Oberlin Covenant Church, Oberlin, Kansas

Tracy S. Nelson-Welker, Life House Covenant, Longmont, Colorado

Beatrice B. Radakovich, Buffalo Covenant Church, Buffalo, New York
Cheryl L. Scherer, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, Illinois
Nathaniel A. Sutton, Bethany Evangelical Covenant Church of North Miami,
North Miami, Florida
Michael K. Washington, New Community Covenant Church, Chicago, Illi-
nois
Kevin T. Wright, First Covenant Church, Peoria, Illinois
Jennifer A. Zerby, Hillcrest Covenant Church, DeKalb, Illinois

The moderator made provision for recording in the minutes the names of those delegates who made requests to second the recommendation of specific candidates for ordination to word and sacrament:

Greg N. Applequist by Rebekah Eklund, Beth Ernest, Kenneth Larson, Stacey Littlefield, Dean Lundgren, Ken Wasmer, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small
Matthew R. Braun by Kyle Small, Lindsay Small
Dorothy H. Brown by Garth Bolinder, Sally Carlson
J. Kevin Butcher by Donn Engebretson, Beth Ernest, Kenneth Larson
T. Daniel Clayborne by Diane Stevenson, Shelly Timber
Janine N. Davis by Beth Ernest
Christine M. Fossum by Timothy Shekleton
Robert F. Foster III by Timothy Shekleton, Kay Sorvik
Andrew T. Gates by Sally Carlson, Beth Ernest, John Larson, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small, Owen Youngman
William J. Goodale by Owen Youngman
Michael L. Haefner by Beth Ernest, John Larson
Sarah R. Hammersborg by Sally Carlson, Lynn Tungeth
J. Craig Hancock by Sally Carlson, Silvia Leeper, Marianne Mack
Joan R. Hill by Shirley Bragdon
Curtis P. Ivanoff by Sally Carlson, Robert Larson, Rodney Sawyer
Scott B. Jones by Dale Comstock, Charlene Sandberg, James Sandberg, Diane Stevenson, Shelly Timber
Matthew P. Kennedy by Ryan Eikenbary-Barber, Karen Hinz, Timothy L. Johnson, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small
Daniel G. Larson by Jeff Anderson, Sally Carlson, Donn Engebretson, David Larson, Florence Larson, Julia Stein
Steven P. Larson by Beth Ernest, Dave Gustafson, David Johnson, Karl Peterson, Susan Peterson
Cheryl S. Lavernia by Diane Stevenson, Shelly Timber
Calvin J. Lindstrom by Kristi Lindstrom, Karl Peterson, Sue Peterson
Jennifer A. Lowe by Sally Carlson, Beth Ernest, William Grabemeyer, Diane Grabemeyer, John K. Larson, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small, Cathy Stanley-Erickson, Diane Stevenson
Robert B. Lowe II by Sally Carlson, Beth Ernest, William Grabemeyer, Diane Grabemeyer, John K. Larson, Kyle Small, Lindsay Small, Cathy Stanley-Erickson, Diane Stevenson
Joseph A. Muzzi by Kenneth Larson
Christopher J. Nelson by Sally Carlson, Karen Hinz, Jean Meloney, Richard Mylander, Tina Perrin

Sharon L. Nelson by Sally Carlson, Karen Hinz, Rick Mylander, Tina Perrin
Tracy S. Nelson-Welker by Rick Mylander
Beatrice B. Radakovich by Beth Ernest, Karen Hinz, Kyle Small, Lindsay
Small
Cheryl L. Scherer by Sally Carlson, Donn Engebretson
Nathaniel A. Sutton by Karl Helvig
Jennifer A. Zerby by Sally Carlson, Steven Larson, Nort Richards

Each candidate was voted upon individually. The motions carried.

Kersten called upon Ed Delgado, president of CHET, to pray for all of the candidates.

The moderator led the assembly in singing “The Servant Song.”

Approval of Licenses

David Kersten referred the assembly to the list of applications for licensure and presented the following recommendation: “The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the approval of the Covenant Ministerium, moves that the 126th Annual Meeting grant ministerial license as follows:” The list included ministry license, bi-vocational ministry license, and licensed theological student. The names of those with ministerial license appears in the roll of ministers in the *Covenant Yearbook*, 2011–2012 edition.

The motion carried. Kersten prayed.

Change in Standing

Kersten presented the following reports:

“The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the concurrence of the Covenant Ministerium, reports to the 126th Annual Meeting that the ministerial standing of the following ministers has been moved from active to inactive: Todd Anderson, Brian Brown, Jill O. Johnson, Kim Kerchal, David Pope, Jon Robertson.”

“The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the concurrence of the Covenant Ministerium, reports to the 126th Annual Meeting that the ministerial standing of the following ministers has been moved from inactive to active: Julia Carr, Carl DeLine.”

Kersten prayed.

“The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the concurrence of the Covenant Ministerium, reports to the 126th Annual Meeting that the following individuals have resigned their ordination standing and requested that their names be removed from the roster of Covenant ministers: Robin Swieringa, Paul R. Anderson (Crown Point, Indiana).”

Kersten presented the following recommendation:

“The Board of the Ordered Ministry, with the concurrence of the Covenant Ministerium, recommends to the 126th Annual Meeting the dismissal of the following persons from the ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church and that their names be removed from the roster of Covenant ministers: Kevin Brintnall, Gabriel Quiroga, Thomas Walker.”

The motion carried.

Kersten prayed.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION – VIDEO ON COVENANT WORLD RELIEF

A video on Covenant World Relief was shown.

34. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE 2012 MISSION AND MINISTRY BUDGET

The moderator recognized Dean Lundgren, vice-president for finance, who gave a presentation on the mission and ministry budget for fiscal year 2012 and a proposed mission and ministry budget of \$21,356,000.

Lundgren presented the following motion: “The Executive Board recommends to the 126th Covenant Annual Meeting a Mission and Ministry Budget of \$21,356,000 for the fiscal year of 2012. The Mission and Ministry expense budget is as follows:”

Budget	Proposed 2012	% of 2012
World Mission	\$ 9,582,000	44.9%
Compassion, Mercy, and Justice	\$ 4,087,000	19.1%
Church Growth and Evangelism	\$ 3,554,000	16.6%
Ordered Ministry	\$ 1,719,000	8.0%
Christian Formation	\$ 1,274,000	6.0%
North Park University (and Seminary)	\$ 1,140,000	5.4%
TOTAL	\$ 21,356,000	

The motion carried.

Paul Ziemer, member of the Executive Board finance committee, prayed.

30. REPORT FROM NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY

The moderator recognized David Parkyn, president of North Park University, who highlighted various ministries and awards the University has received over the last year.

Parkyn then introduced a video on the \$42 million Campaign North Park, the central feature of which is a new 90,000 square foot building dedicated to providing space for sciences and co-curricular learning across the campus. He indicated that \$30.3 million has already been committed by people across the country, leaving \$11.7 million needing to be raised before construction can begin.

Bob Bergquist, moderator, prayed for Parkyn and North Park University.

14. REPORT OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF NORTH PARK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Parkyn reported that the search committee for the president and dean of North Park Theological Seminary continues and the interim senior leadership team of Linda Cannell, academic dean; Deb Auger, dean of students; and Timothy Johnson, director of field education, will continue for another year.

24. RECOGNITION OF RODNEY J. SAWYER, RETIRING REGIONAL FIELD DIRECTOR OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF ALASKA

The moderator recognized Gary Walter, president, who presented a citation of recognition to Rodney Sawyer for his lifetime of service to the church and dedicated leadership as regional field director of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska from 2002 to 2011.

Sawyer responded, sharing his love for and gratitude to the Covenant for leaving a huge footprint in his life. He thanked the Evangelical Covenant Church, the Council of Superintendents, and the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska.

23. RECOGNITION OF KENNETH P. CARLSON, RETIRING SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Walter then presented a citation of recognition to Kenneth Carlson for his lifetime of service to the church and dedicated leadership as superintendent of the Midwest Conference from 1995 to 2011.

Carlson thanked his wife, Nancy, for forty-two years of ministry together. He expressed that God's grace, the wonderful partnership with staff, gifted servants of God, boards that have supported them over the years, and members of local churches have made his ministry possible. He looks forward to what God is going to do in the Evangelical Covenant Church in the future.

22. RECOGNITION OF JAMES A. FRETHEIM, RETIRING SUPERINTENDENT OF THE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

Walter then presented a citation of recognition to James Fretheim for his lifetime of service to the church and dedicated leadership as superintendent of the Northwest Conference from 2003 to 2011.

Fretheim thanked God for calling him to ministry. He expressed gratitude to the executive board, his conference, and the churches he and his wife, Kathy, have been able to serve and learn from. The joy of the Lord is their strength.

36. REPORT FROM COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN ACTION AND RESOLUTION SURVEY

The moderator recognized Liz VerHage, chair of the Commission on Christian Action, who reported on the task of the commission and referred the assembly to the questionnaire found in the delegate notebooks, encouraging them to fill out the survey. VerHage gave an update on the current resolution in process and the response of the local churches to the Resolution on Criminal Justice that was approved last year.

33. 2011 BYLAW AMENDMENTS ARTICLE VII, SECTION 7.10.D AND 7.7.A

The moderator recognized Peter Ahn, chair of the Board of Nominations, who reviewed the rationale behind the proposed amendments and then, on behalf of the Executive Board, presented the following amendments to the Bylaws:

Proposed Amendment to Bylaws Article VII, Section 7.10.d

Current wording: "Except for positions to be filled by persons who meet the criteria of the ECC policy on ethnic representation, two candidates shall be nominated for each position to be filled on the Executive Board, the Board of Nominations, the Board of the Ordered Ministry, and the Board of Women Ministries. One candidate shall be nominated for each position to be filled on the Board of Directors of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence, the Board of Trustees of North Park University, and the Board of Pensions and Benefits. For positions to be filled by persons who meet the criteria of the ECC policy on ethnic representation, either one or two candidates may be nominated."

Proposed wording: "One candidate shall be nominated for each position to be filled on the Executive Board of the ECC, the Board of Nominations, the Board of the Ordered Ministry, the Board of Women Ministries, the Board of Directors of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence, the Board of Trustees of North Park University, and the Board of Pensions and Benefits."

Proposed Amendment to Bylaws Article VII, Section 7.7.a

Current wording: “The Annual Meeting shall elect the following officers for a two-year term from a ballot prepared by the Board of Nominations: a moderator and a vice moderator in even-numbered years, and a secretary in the odd-numbered years. These officers are not eligible to succeed themselves. In the event of resignation, incapacity, or death of any elected officer of the Annual Meeting, the Executive Board is authorized to appoint a person to fill the unexpired term.”

Proposed wording: “The Annual Meeting shall elect the following officers for a two-year term from a slate prepared by the Board of Nominations: a moderator and a vice moderator in even-numbered years, and a secretary in the odd-numbered years. One candidate shall be nominated for each position. These officers are not eligible to succeed themselves. In the event of resignation, incapacity, or death of any elected officer of the Annual Meeting, the Executive Board is authorized to appoint a person to fill the unexpired term.”

Discussion followed.

The motion to accept the resolution carried.

CELEBRATING THE MISSION – YOUNG ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

A PowerPoint on Young Adult Discipleship was shown.

27. RECOGNITION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS CONCLUDING TERMS OF SERVICE

The moderator recognized Gary Walter, who expressed appreciation on behalf of the Evangelical Covenant Church to Christian Breuninger, Kim Carlson, Marc Eix, and Rebekah Eklund for their service on the Executive Board and presented them with gifts on behalf of the Executive Board.

31. MISSION AND MINISTRY LEADERSHIP RESPONSE TO DELEGATE QUESTIONS

David Olson, executive minister of church growth and evangelism, and Doreen Olson, executive minister of Christian formation, responded to questions that had been submitted the previous day regarding their ministry areas.

4c. FINAL CREDENTIALING REPORT

The moderator recognized Andrew Sebanc for the final report from the credentialing committee, which is as follows:

Representing	Delegates	Churches
Conferences/Regions		
Canada	4	3
Central	70	35
East Coast	24	15
Great Lakes	27	14
Midsouth	7	5
Midwest	48	25
North Pacific	33	19
Northwest	68	36
Pacific Southwest	33	22
Southeast	14	9

Alaska	4	3
Total Delegates from Conferences/Regions	332	186
General		
Officers of the Covenant	3	0
Executive Board	27	6
Council of Administrators	11	1
Annual Meeting Officers	4	1
Board of Nominations	1	0
Covenant Ministerium	2	1
Assoc. of Cov. Camps and Conf. Centers	2	0
Commission Delegates	1	0
World Mission Fields	10	0
Regional Conferences	23	3
Regions Mission Organizations (ECCAK)	1	0
Total of General Delegates	85	12
TOTAL CREDENTIALLED DELEGATES	417	198
Honorary Delegates	9	2
Advisors from Covenant Institutions	1	0
Advisors from Non-member Churches	5	3
Resource People	36	3
Registered General Conferees	92	20
Exhibitors	24	0
Support Staff	39	2
Total Additional Attendees	206	30
Total Registered Conference Attendance	623	228

CELEBRATING THE MISSION ITEM—WE HAVE A STORY TO TELL THE NATIONS/WORLD MISSION

A video from the Department of World Mission was shown.

The meeting recessed at 11:54 a.m.

FOURTH BUSINESS SESSION

Thursday, June 30, 2011

1:31 p.m.

37. PRAYER FOR THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE ECC

The moderator opened the floor to delegates to pray for the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church. Parliamentarian Greg Englund closed.

38. CLOSE OF THE MEETING

Approval of Minutes of 126th Covenant Annual Meeting

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who presented the following recommendation: “The minutes of the 126th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church shall be reviewed and corrected by the officers of the Evangelical Covenant Church and approved by the Executive Board.”

The motion was seconded and carried.

Completion of Delegate Evaluation

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, executive vice-president, who gave instructions for completion of the 2011 Annual Meeting evaluation forms that will be emailed to delegates.

Report to Congregations

The moderator recognized Don Meyer, executive minister of communication, who expressed appreciation to the Department of Communication for their work during this Annual Meeting. Delegates were encouraged to bring a report to their churches by using the document that will be emailed to them. He introduced a video and pointed delegates to the website CovChurch.tv.

Closing Statement

The moderator recognized Donn Engebretson, who presented the following resolution of sympathy:

We praise God for the following partners in ministry whom God called to himself since last we met. Their names will be read in remembrance and gratitude within the Memorial Prayer during the celebration of Holy Communion at our Wednesday Evening Worship Service.

RESOLVED, that the 126th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church express its sympathy to the families of the Covenant pastors, missionaries, and pastors' spouses who have gone to be with the Lord, and that those families be presented with a program of the Wednesday Evening Worship Service in which a prayer of remembrance and thanksgiving will be given for their lives and ministry.

The following Covenant pastors, missionaries, and pastors' spouses died prior to June 5, 2011.

Pastors

Barbara A. Woolverton, April 27, 2010, Sherwood, Oregon
Werner E. Lemke, July 5, 2010, Rochester, New York
Donald C. Frisk, July 20, 2010, Batavia, Illinois
Emmet W. Swanson, August 18, 2010, Rockford, Illinois
William C. Mays, September 28, 2010, Spring Valley, California
Berner V. Swanson, November 2, 2010, Golden Valley, Minnesota
Benjamin L. Larson, November 13, 2010, Ely, Minnesota
Dulcie A. Gannett, November 24, 2010, Chicago, Illinois
E. Lincoln Pearson, January 8, 2011, Batavia, Illinois
Franklin G. Hagberg, February 12, 2011, Venice, Florida
David A. Peterson, February 16, 2011, Cromwell, Connecticut
Jonathan A. Collins, February 22, 2011, Shoreview, Minnesota
Daniel L. Dungan, March 2, 2011, Auburn, Washington
Frank O. Ashley, March 17, 2011, Portland, Oregon
Paul V. Bjorklund, March 23, 2011, Mercer Island, Washington
Jerold F. Reed, April 10, 2011, Spring Valley, California
Gerald D. Alger, April 26, 2011, Walker, Minnesota
James R. Hawkinson, May 24, 2011, White Bear Lake, Minnesota
Willie B. Jemison, June 5, 2011, Chicago, Illinois

Missionaries

Lorraine V. Gibson, September 19, 2010, Mishawaka, Indiana
Dorothy M. Olson, October 29, 2010, Westminster, Colorado
Glen M. Enos, December 8, 2010, St. Paul, Minnesota
Franklin D. Lindquist Sr., January 23, 2011, Fargo, North Dakota
Margaret Zylstra Davidson, March 15, 2011, Vancouver, Washington

Pastors' Spouses

Priscilla Afreth, (Frank Poole, Jr.), June 4, 2010, La Mesa, California
Evangeline D. Sundberg, (Nathan L.) July 13, 2010, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Alice E. Stejskal, (Arthur J.) August 8, 2010, Plantation, Florida
Anita M. Jacobson, (Selmer T.) September 25, 2010, Duluth, Minnesota
Gloria E. Swensen, (Norman E.) October 7, 2010, Ashford, Connecticut
Douglas L. Brown, (Dorothy H.) October 16, 2010, Leawood, Kansas
Elizabeth A. Krause, (Donald B.) November 28, 2010, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Marilyn A. Lundgren, (Richard L.) December 11, 2010, Turner, Oregon
Sally Olsson, (Karl) January 23, 2011, Columbia, Maryland
Lyla Sveiven, (Roy) March 12, 2011, Santa Barbara, California
Dorothy M. Lake, (D. Bruce) March 22, 2011, Richmond, Virginia
Margaret Markuson, (Aaron) April 1, 2011, Mercer Island, Washington
Elaine Swanson, (Harry) April 2, 2011, Jamestown, New York
Gladys Fryhling Wickman, (Paul Fryhling, Marden Wickman) May 24, 2011,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The motion was seconded and carried.

Engbretson then presented the following resolution of gratitude:

RESOLVED, that the 126th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church express its gratitude to those who have envisioned, planned, served and executed this meeting with excellence and a deep commitment to Christ and His work in and through the Evangelical Covenant Church and to being In It Together:

To the Midwest Conference and Conference Superintendent, Ken Carlson, together with his marvelous staff, David Benedict, Rick Mylander, Lori Anderson and Reva Neal. We are all grateful for the gift of a "light for our path" given by the Midwest Conference to each of us at registration. In particular we want to thank Rick Mylander for connecting the Annual Meeting planning team with volunteers and resources from the Midwest Conference that immeasurably blessed our time together.

Thanks to a superlative group of volunteers who welcomed us with enthusiasm, guided us to our places, served as ushers, and generally made our visit to the Rocky Mountains absolutely wonderful. Special thanks to family members of Covenant Offices Staff who served above and beyond the call of duty to share the volunteer work of this great meeting, Paul and Britta Burger, Scot Gillan, Trix Carlson, Alicia Vela, Mark Olson, Debbie Swanson, Annie Booker, and Julie Wenrich.

To Covenant Ministries of Benevolence who, in the celebration of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Covenant Home of Mercy, which is the spiritual beginning for the expansive ministries of CMB, blessed our meeting with: the marvelous gift of coffee breaks for our deliberation;

with wonderfully cool 125th anniversary coffee mugs that will grace our coffee breaks for years to come; and by sponsoring our fellowship together to honor new and former Covenant leaders at our Wednesday evening reception.

To National Covenant Properties for their generous gift of sponsoring the Thursday evening reception as we gathered together to celebrate pastors and staff receiving holy orders in the church and the great gift of our fellowship together.

To the Association of Covenant Camps and Conference Centers who provided our lanyards and name badge holders so that we did not in fact have to retire to the craft cabin and make our own as so many of us did in years before when we were forever changed by the love and grace of Christ though the ministry of our camps.

To North Park University for the gift of water bottles to keep us hydrated in the crisp mountain air and to remind us of the ministry of our school leading our young people into lives of significance and service.

To Steve Burger, director of children's ministry, and local coordinator Diane Borden, Fort Collins Children's pastor, together with Katie Isaza, Christian Formation projects manager and their hardworking and faithful team of wonderful volunteers: Jenna Brand, Faye Spieker, Shelley Kurth, Joyce Norman, Kristen Rae Nelson, Sarah Sosa, Mike Borden, Karin O'Connor, Judi Fowler, Pat Anderson, Alicia Kurth, Mirielle Nauman, Wesley Borden, Olivia Borden, and Luke Sheldon. You cared for our children and led them into deeper understanding of living the new life in Christ as they gave service in the name of Christ and provided us with a profound example for what it means to faithfully follow the heart of our God into the world.

To our moderator, Robert Bergquist; vice-moderator, Beth Ernest; parliamentarian, Greg Englund; secretary, Peg Wolter; vice-secretary, Lynn Tungseth; and backup secretary, Tricia Cisneros, who actually is the highly competent glue that holds almost everything in this Annual Meeting business session together; these faithful servants, filled with diligence and the deeply evident joy of the Lord led us in the deliberations that will help form and guide our service to Christ.

To Kerry Staurseth who served as recruiter, trainer and guide for the credentials, tellers and sergeants-at-arms committees and countless other critical tasks assisting the Covenant Events Office team.

To the tellers chair, Ken Moore, together with Roger Lautz, Don Homertz, Elizabeth Bilynskij, Will Dykstra, Ryan Eikenbary-Barber, Richard Theilen, Tom Patiucci, Dan Shelton, Bret Widman, James Sutton, Erika Whittington, John Whittington, and Dennis Kasprovicz who guided us through the process of choosing leaders to guide our faithfulness in Christ; the sergeants-at-arms chair, Steve Hoden, together with Mike DeLong, Susan DeLong, Nancy Good, Rachel Hickok, Scott Jones, Bob Walla, Patti Walla, Barry Steel, Steven Larson, Greg Applequist, Joline Schultz, Catherine Gilliard, and Kay Sorvik who kept us faithfully supplied with all the things we needed to make our decisions well; to the committee on credentials under chair Andy Sebanc, together with Greg Mesimore, Jonathan Wilson, Barb Coslow, and Patty Hansma who counted us and counted us well.

To our worship planning team leader, Matthew Anderson who, together

with worship planners Josef Rasheed and Melissa Wall, led the entire process of our worship with excellence, sensitivity and great creativity together with the worship team, Daniel Sesay, Dave Greco, Mike Perez, Ingrid Olson, Jen McDonald, Randall Wilkens, Philip Ulrickson, and Dave Lunn, who with great care and grace filled imagination guided us to worship our God with reverence and joy. Special thanks to Greg Mesimore who coordinated the servers for our service of Holy Communion.

To Tim Peterson who, along with the production team of Jamaal Curry, Ashley Peterson, Duane Bailey, and John Peterson, managed production for both worship services and business sessions with grace, wisdom, and innovation.

To the team who opened God's word for us with grace, clarity, and challenge and reminded us with power why we in the ECC have always been and always will be people who seek to be faithful followers of Christ as guided by God's holy word: Ruth Hill, John Wenrich, Juan Martínez and Efreem Smith.

To Crossroads Covenant Church in Loveland, Colorado for the use of their cross to grace our worship area and remind us of the sacrifice of Christ for us.

To Lina Herrera who reminded us that we are truly all in it together by doing the work of translating material from the 126th Annual Meeting into Spanish.

To Daniel Anabalón, Mezтли Gonzalez, and Flor Retamal, who did the intensive and challenging work of translating our worship services into Spanish with joy and grace.

To Warren Dillaway and Karina Whitmarsh who took great pictures of the amazingly photogenic Covenant people so to record our gathering and its impact for many years to come.

To the great team who managed communications so that many individuals beyond attendance at this meeting might be blessed by the abundant good news of God's work that we have together shared: Don Meyer, Stan Friedman, Evy Lennard, Joshua Havens, Luke Johnson, Ben Eash, Sarah Johnson, Steven Vélez Luce, Cathy Norman Peterson, and Jon McFadyen.

To Kevin Kempe who managed the on-site Covenant Bookstore for our Annual Meeting allowing us access to great resources for personal growth in Christ and greater effectiveness in mission and ministry.

To Kirsten and Jaron Burdick who transported an endless variety of those items essential for an Annual Meeting from 8303 W. Higgins Road in Chicago to Estes Park, Colorado, and back again.

To the Covenant Events Office staff: events manager, Luke Palmerlee; events coordinator, Katie Burzynski; events operations assistant, Jorden Meyers; events registrar, Jill Ulven; and events intern, Jordaan Williams, who planned, negotiated, contracted, arranged, detailed, managed, counted, prepared, displayed, developed, equipped, and both in general and in particular worked tirelessly and with both grace and excellence to bring us an outstanding 126th Covenant Annual Meeting.

And most of all, warm thanks to all of the Covenant Church delegates, general conferees and Covenant visitors from the Front Range area who gave of their time, their energy and devotion to deliberate on the trajectory of our future and celebrate our commitment to seeing more disciples among more populations in a more caring and just world.

RESOLVED, that the Covenant Annual Meeting express its appreciation to those who offered Christian witness, service, skill, organizational excellence, hospitality, and good humor to this 126th Covenant Annual Meeting.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Arrangements for 2012 Annual Meeting

The moderator recognized Luke Palmerlee, events manager, who announced that the 127th Covenant Annual Meeting would be held in Irvine, California, June 21-23, 2012.

Engebretson also announced that the 128th Annual Meeting will be held in Detroit, Michigan in 2013.

39. ADJOURNMENT

The moderator declared the 126th Covenant Annual Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

40. BENEDICTION

The assembly ended in benediction.

Annual Meeting Officers

Moderator: Robert V. Bergquist

Vice Moderator: Beth I. Ernest

Secretary: Peggy M. Wolter

Vice Secretary: Lynn Tungseth

Parliamentarian

Gregory J. Englund