

**AFRICAN DESCENT LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION (ADLA) - LOS ANGELES CHAPTER**

**Olivet Lutheran Church 2506 W. Imperial Hwy. Hawthorne, CA.**

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**

**9:00AM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Carolyn Foster, President, Randall Foster, Teem Candidate Mary Ann Harrison, Dn. Tempie Beaman, Janice DeMar, Mynasha Gray, Debra Bowie, Mary Shipp, Dale Washington, Lurlean Towns, Rev. Rod Hines (ZOOM), Rev. Maurice Ingram, Willa Glover, Renee Brandt, Pr. Peg Schulz-Akerson (ZOOM), Connie Chaney, Valora Starr (ZOOM), Thomas McKee, Enid McGraw, Keith Youngblood, Jeanne Armstrong, Beverly Pate, Gavin Curry, Marquita Curry, Andrea Johnson, Judith Tutt-Starr, Rev. Chryll Crews, Rev. Tracy Williams, Tyra Dennis, Dn. Gwen Jackson

**Excused:** Valerie Shaw, Bp. Brenda Bos, Paul Chatman, Rev. Scott Adams, Desta Goehner, Phoebus Lee, Rita Lee, Rev. Marsha Harris.

- I. **Call to Order** 9:03am Carolyn Foster, Pres.
- II. **Prayer and Devotion** EASTER CODE Enid McGraw  
Salvation is about grace. Presence, a constant reminder of a Lord who says: "I am always with you."
- III. **Welcome.** Introductions by all
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** Motion by Tempie Beaman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gwen Jackson. MSC
- V. **Approval of Minutes** 25 October 2022 with two corrections. Judith Tutt-Starr and Tyra Dennis were present. Motion by Connie Chaney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tempie Beaman. MSC
- VI. **Election of Officers** Vice President Andrea Johnson guided this process.  
Carolyn Foster was elected with a unanimous vote for a 4<sup>th</sup> term. (See \*explanation below)  
Andrea Johnson was reelected to the Vice-president position for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term (see reference below)  
Randall Foster was unanimously voted to the Recording Secretary position.  
Thomas McKee was reelected to the Treasurer position for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term (see reference below)  
*\*Explanation of president option –The President having served three terms could only be considered for reelection if no one presented themselves for due consideration of the position (B11.3.A19)*

By-law Reference: B11.3.A19 - *Only in cases as identified above and only by a ¾ vote of the assembled for a constitutionally authorized ADLA organizational meeting can an existing candidate have completed two consecutive full terms be allowed to re-enter the election process as a candidate. Such an approved action is to be properly*

*recorded in the ADLA meeting minutes, documenting the “special circumstances” for which this action was approved and subsequently taken.*

- VII. **Treasurer’s Report** – Written report submitted for Oct 19, 2022 – March 24, 2023. One correction, available balance on March 24, 2023, increased by \$5,000. Motion to accept by Tempie Beaman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rev. T. Williams. MSC
- VIII. **Region II Report** – Dn. Gwen Jackson reported the ADLA Biennial will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on July 7 – 9. There is a ministerium on July 6<sup>th</sup>. She also reported that Rev. Donna Allen from the Oakland area sent correspondence that she will be unable to join at this time.
- IX. **Synod Update** – Rev. Chryll Crews brought kudos acknowledgements from the Synod Office especially regarding the Rev. Nelson Trout Chapel Ceremony naming and luncheon as well as the worship service at Community the following day. Also noted was the book signing event with Rev. Kenneth Wheeler, one of SoCal’s own. She felt she had learned a lot about the Southwest Synod’s history and many of its key persons that weekend. Spoke of removing SOC’s that were not active. Her responsibilities include garnering ideas - perhaps yoking ministries, sharing pastors and more. Encouragement to send ideas to [ccrews@socalaynod.org](mailto:ccrews@socalaynod.org)
- X. **Synod Update** - Youth Coordinator and Organizer Tyra Dennis presented several handouts with upcoming opportunities for youth in our Synod. Advocacy at the Capitol in Sacramento , May 17, 2023, 5 scholarships are available for this, the Youth Symposium held at the Synod Office will be May 20, 2023, cost is \$20., Western States Youth Gathering is July 4-9, 2023 at California Lutheran University, cost range from \$385 - \$585 per person (And the is a multicultural component ), and she brought news of LRCC Camp newly launched “You choose what you pay”. Reminder to send updates to the Synod with updates by Tuesday for the SYNEWS.
- XI. **African Descent Strategy Planning Team (ADSPT).** Randy F provided a written report. \*The report is included with the minutes in total. Highlighted Dn. Cecelia Travick-Jackson’s desk is structured to be inclusive of seniors and the importance of them in synodical life.
- XII. **Old Business**
  - a. National Assessment Goals - *Deferred*
  - b. MFH2 @ HTELC – combined ministry goals are paying off, more people in that immediate community are being served.
  - c. PLTS – Black History Month at CLU – many ADLA participants enjoyed worship there, made new friendships and pledged support for the following year. PLTS is an ADLA member.
  - d. The Rev. Wheeler book signing, and talk was a huge success at the Synod Office.
  - e. Trout Chapel Dedication and Worship Service. All agreed that it was very moving and successful.
  - f. Eyeglass collection – ongoing
  - g. Aluminum pull tabs – ongoing

### **XIII. New Business**

- a. Current Membership - 93 members
- b. Grown Women Real Talk - The Executive Committee will reach out to Pr. Jester to secure a date and possibly engage on the campus of CLU and invite the young women there. Motion by Judy Starr, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Beaman. MSC
- c. End of Summer Gathering - Conversation ensued hoping to let the community know of AA churches in the area and connect with them. Those willing to be the committee for the new event will be Willa G. Tempie B. Myeshia, Carolyn, Beverly and Rev, Rod.
- d. ADLA Sub-committees for 2023 - Pr. Rod, Pr. Tracy wish to join ADSPT which meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month via ZOOM
- e. Trout Endowment – Still need more donations to be able to offer scholarships. Endowment goal is set at \$25,000. Approximately \$11,000 has been raised.
- f. Volunteers for Synod Assembly @CLU are MaryAnn H., Enid McGraw., Carolyn F., Connie C., Randall F., Mary S., Gwen J. and Renee and Jeff Brandt.
- g. ADLA Biennial is scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta, Georgia
- h. God’s Work, Our Hands - Group to engage in discussion of the execution are Tyra D., Myeshia, Gwen J., Debra B., Connie C., Dale W., and Maryann H.

### **XIV. Open Discussion (New Items)**

- a. ADLA Representation on ELCA Committees - Robert Chillison has just finished tenure with the Mission Investment Fund and Randall Foster has just been appointed to the MIF board.
- b. ELCA Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church - Randall Foster was nominated. Those assigned will be notified in mid-April.
- c. Synod Council does have open positions, including Synod VP.
- d. Fundraising - Hopes are to have a Fundraising bus trip so that we can continue to provide Recovery Bibles for Hope Lutheran and continue to engage more with Cal Lutheran and PLTS.

### **XV. Dates to Remember**

- a. Next ADLA meeting is June 24, 2023 @ 9am at Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church with devotions offered by Jeanne.
- b. ADLA’s August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at First Lutheran, Carson
- c. Chapel of Peace in October will host Gateway Housing Dress for success (women’s clothing will be needed).
- d. Holy Week schedules were shared.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:55AM

Respectfully submitted,

## Judith Tutt-Starr

Judith Tutt-Starr, Recording Secretary