

**2010 Circular Letter to the Congregations
Church of the Lutheran Brethren**

May 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord. *Telling His Story: The Good News for All Generations* is the theme of our 2010 Biennial Convention and is what the Gospels, indeed all Holy Scripture, do and the witness to which we have been called. In one sense the theme builds on last year's theme in which the Lord promised to be with His people in making disciples of all nations. The sermon and Bible studies this year will be from the Gospel of John.

Location for the Biennial Convention

We will meet at Bethel Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN, June 20-22, 2009. Please plan to join us as we begin our convention with a picnic for delegates and families at 5:00 PM, Sunday evening prayer service at 6:30 PM, and evening worship at 7:00 PM.

Convention Registration

- **Pre-registration: Please pre-register. It makes the process much easier for both you and our staff. Enclosed is a pre-registration form. Please make copies if you need more forms for delegates.**
- **Delegate registration will be open from 4:00 – 6:30 PM Sunday, at Bethel Lutheran Church. We urge you to sign in at this time, if possible.**
 - Note:** *A Credentials Letter* from the secretary of the congregation should be brought by the elected delegates. Your attention is called to the fact that each congregation is entitled to two delegates for the first fifty confessing members or fraction thereof; and thereafter, one additional delegate for each fifty confessing members or fraction thereof.
 - Also, the Constitution stipulates that congregations attempt to send delegations of at least 50% male delegates.
- Registration will also be open Monday and Tuesday from 7:00 - 7:45 AM and during the normal business sessions.

Saturday, June 19

- The Pastors Continuing Education for active Ministers of the Gospel –Ordained, Licensed, and Commissioned will be held at Hillcrest Lutheran Academy. Sessions begin at 9:00 AM and conclude at 3:00 PM (registration form enclosed)
- The Church of the Lutheran Brethren is encouraging those attending the Pastors Continuing Education to join in Inspiration Point Bible Camp's 50th Anniversary dinner and celebration on Saturday evening. The pastors and missionaries attending the Continuing Education sessions will receive two Inspiration Point dinner tickets for the evening meal and festivities. (I.Point details enclosed)
- Women's Ministries CLB Annual Meeting will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. (WMCLB details enclosed)

Sunday, June 20

- Morning worship at local churches
- 4:00 PM Delegate Registration Desk Opens in the foyer of Bethel Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN
- 5:00 PM Convention Kick-off Picnic for Delegates & their families at Bethel Lutheran Church.
- 6:30 PM Prayer Gathering in the Prayer Room #107
- 6:30-8:30 PM Day Camp for Youth entering 1st – 6th grades in the New Hillcrest Gym. (details & registration form enclosed)
- 7:00 PM Opening Worship: President Joel Egge speaker, *His Story: Unexpected*
- 8:45 PM Refreshments in Bethel Fellowship Hall

Monday, June 21

- 7:00 AM Registration will be open at Bethel Lutheran Church
- 7:00 AM First-Time Delegate Orientation—Archive Room #104-106
- 8:00 AM Scripture and Prayer—A service of Scripture, Song and Prayer in the sanctuary.
- 9:00 AM Session: Convention Opening—Call to Order
- 11:15 AM Bible Hour: Pastor Chris Priestaf, Mt. Bethel, PA, teaching from John chapter four
- 12 noon Youth Leaders Lunch—Bethel Youth Room
- 1:30 PM Joint Seminar, Dr. Eugene Boe, Presenter
- 2:30 PM Seminars (first offering—seminar details to be posted on the blog: www.biennialconvention.blogspot.com & web: www.clba.org)

- 3:30 PM Convention Committees Meet
- 6:50 PM Prayer Gathering—Room #107
- 7:30 PM Evening Worship: Dr. Eugene Boe, Fergus Falls, MN speaker, *His Story: Unique*.
- 8:45 PM Social Gathering – Rachel (Timothy) Ysteboe will sign *We Believe* books.

Tuesday, June 22

- 7:00 AM LB Homes Annual Meeting (breakfast meeting)—Bethel Lutheran Church—Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 AM Bible Hour: Pastor Adam Berge, Westby, WI teaching from John chapter three.
- 9:15 AM Session: Report from the Study Committee on Missional Theology
- 10:45 AM Nominations and Consideration of Bylaw amendments
- NOON—Pension Lunch—Bethel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall—Pension Participants & Spouses are invited.
- 1:30 and 2:30 PM Seminars (two offerings)
- 3:30 PM Session: Elections and Tributes
- 6:50 PM Prayer Gathering—Room #107
- 7:30 PM Evening Worship—Pastor Shawn Bowman, Jamestown, ND speaker, *His Story: Unlimited*.
also: Service of Holy Communion

Lodging Arrangements

All lodging arrangements should be made by each delegate. Please state that you are with the Church of the Lutheran Brethren convention to get the best rate.

- Americinn Lodge & Suites—218-739-3900 / 866-736-5452
- Best Western—218-739-2211 / 800-293-2216
- Comfort Inn—218-736-5787
- Fergus Inn—218-739-3311 (formerly Days Inn)
- Super 8—218-739-3261
- Motel 7—218-736-2554
- Hillcrest Lutheran Academy— 218-739-3371 (rooms available at the Sletta/Strom Building, contact: Wayne Stender)
- M State Fergus Falls—218-736-1635 (apartments available, contact: Diane Ihrke)

Other Options to check into around the Fergus Falls area:

- Swan Lake Resort—218-736-4626 / 800-679-4626
- WesLake Resort—218-826-6523 / 800-258-9056
- Ten Mile Lake Resort—218-589-8845

Items of Convention Business

- Consideration of Bylaw amendments brought by the Council of Directors (see below)
- The Report from the Study Committee on Missional Theology
- Convention Committee Reports
- Election of Synod President, Council of Directors, and Committee members

Annual Reports

The Annual Reports are being prepared and will be mailed shortly. They include reports from all the departments and the nominations for offices that are open this year.

Extra Copies: Please make extra copies of this letter as needed for your delegates and attendees.

Sincerely in Christ,



Joel R. Egge, President
Church of the Lutheran Brethren

Enclosure: Amendments to the CLB Bylaws

Notice re: Proposed Amendments to the CLB Bylaws by the Council of Directors.

In contrast to Articles of the Constitution which can only be amended if notice is given at a previous synodical convention, Bylaws may be amended at any synodical convention if the proposed amendments are presented in writing to the President prior to the opening of the Convention. *These By-Laws can be amended only at the Biennial Convention. Such amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Synodical President by a member congregation or by the Council of Directors. It must be in the hands of the Synodical President previous to the Biennial Convention. Its adoption requires a two-thirds majority vote.* –Church of the Lutheran Brethren Bylaws, Article V Amendments.

The Council of Directors is recommending the following amendments be adopted. A brief explanation presents the reason for the recommended amendment.

1. Because this information is stated in the Constitution Article III.C and to simplify the Bylaw, the Council of Directors moves to amend Bylaw I.D by deleting the words following, “Each delegate is allowed one vote...”, and inserting “Congregation” prior to the word “Delegates” at the beginning of Article I. paragraph D.
 - D. Congregation Delegates: Each church is allowed two delegates to the Biennial Convention for the first fifty adult confessing members or fraction thereof, plus an additional delegate for each additional fifty adult confessing members or fraction thereof. ~~Each delegate is allowed one vote. In addition, rostered Ministers of the Gospel and the Board of Lutheran Brethren Seminary members are allowed one vote each.~~To read:
 - D. Congregation Delegates: Each church is allowed two delegates to the Biennial Convention for the first fifty adult confessing members or fraction thereof, plus an additional delegate for each additional fifty adult confessing members or fraction thereof.
2. Because the Council of Directors believes the Secretary of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren should be a voting member of the Council, it moves to amend Bylaw I.A.3.e. by striking “non-“ in “non-voting.”
 - e. He shall be a ~~non~~-voting member of the Council of Directors and shall take minutes and maintain continuity of files, records and data for the Council of Directors.To read:
 - e. He shall be a voting member of the Council of Directors and shall take minutes and maintain continuity of files, records and data for the Council of Directors.
3. Because the Council of Directors believes the Board of Lutheran Brethren Seminary would be strengthened if it had the option of electing the member from Canada from a larger group than those Canadian members on the Theological Council, it moves to amend Bylaw I.B.3.b. regarding the Board of Lutheran Brethren Seminary as follows:
 - b. It shall fill vacancies on the Board from the slate of nominees prepared by the Council of Directors, with the directive that ~~there shall always be three members of the Theological Council on the Board one of whom~~ one shall be a representative of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Canada and there shall always be three members of the Theological Council on the Board.To read:
 - b. It shall fill vacancies on the Board from the slate of nominees prepared by the Council of Directors, with the directive that one shall be a representative of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Canada and there shall always be three members of the Theological Council on the Board.

Notice re: Report of the Study Committee on Missional Theology

The paper on Missional Theology will be mailed under separate cover. It will be considered at the Convention.