

Convention Chronicles

29th Convention – CLC 50th Anniversary

Issue 3

Thursday, June 24, 2010

2nd Essay: Hope for the Future

Pastor Todd Ohlmann of Manchester, MO, presented “Hope for the Future,” the final essay of the convention. Pastor Ohlmann directed our thoughts to events of the past to learn how it is that we can have any hope for the future. He examined the experiences of people in the Bible – Noah, Abraham, Hannah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Paul, Joseph, and Peter. In each case God proved faithful in fulfilling His promises, even when, from a human perspective, it seemed impossible.

Ohlmann also reviewed the experiences of our synod over the last 50 years. Time and time again God has blessed and sustained us in the face of what seemed to be insurmountable challenges - beginning a new synod; operating a synod high school, college, and seminary; supporting foreign mission work; and surviving doctrinal controversies.

Our hope for the future is a sure hope because it is found in the promises God already kept. For the future hope of eternal life in heaven “we look to our Savior, His perfect life, His sacrificial death on the cross, His empty tomb, and the faithfulness of our God as we rejoice in promises made and promises kept...” Because of Jesus, our future as His followers is full of hope.

Gifts

Missionary Koenig presented to Bruce Naumann (former Mission Board Chairman) and Todd Ohlmann (current Mission Board Chairman) Burmese Trekking Sticks as gifts for their labors in the cause of CLC missions. This gift symbolizes the “passing of the torch” of Mission Board leadership.

Pastor Jeremiah Issangya of Tanzania addressed the assembly, congratulating the CLC on its 50 year Jubilee. A gift is planned to be presented to commemorate this Jubilee at the next convention.

Elections

Board of Trustees - Pastor James Sandeen
- Mr. Tom Lentz

Memorial Service *Living Stones*

Nigerian Pastor/Professor Essien (1913-2010)
Pastor/Professor Lester Schierenbeck (1917-2009)
Pastor Egbert Albrecht (1921-2009)
Pastor Bertram Naumann (1931-2009)
Pastor/Professor Michael Sydow (1941-2009)
Pastor Eugene Rutz (1942-2009)

Pastor Mark Gullerud of Bowdle, SD, conducted the 29th Convention’s memorial service using Joshua 4:1-7 as his sermon text. In order to commemorate the opening of the Jordan River by the LORD to allow the Children of Israel to pass into the Promised Land, they erected a monument of twelve stones. These stones would serve as a reminder of the power and compassion of the true God. Those CLC servants memorialized were living stones, “His own special people,” called out of darkness to proclaim His praises. Through tireless preaching of the Word these servants prepared people for the ultimate goal of “crossing over” into that Promised Land of eternity.

The service concluded with the singing of a hymn written by the departed B.J. Naumann entitled “For Fifty Years of Grace, Dear Lord.”

Communion Service

The Jubilee Convention communion service was held at Messiah Lutheran Church with a near capacity crowd attending.

Liturgist – Pastor Aaron Ude
Guest Speaker - Pastor Terrel Kesterson
Organist – Dr. Dan Sullivan
Choir Director – Prof. Paul Schaller

Pastor Kesterson addressed the assembly using Luke 4:16-21 as his text. Jesus was in His home town in the synagogue and read from Isaiah a prophecy of Himself. He was the Anointed One who would preach the gospel to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and restore sight to the blind.

His message was not welcome in His home town, but praise God that His message was for us as well. We are poor, destitute sinners in need of comfort and enlightenment. We rejoice in the freedom from Satan, sin, death, and hell – our “cruel jailors” won by Jesus’ sacrificial death. May we find joy and peace in our Savior in our year of jubilee.

Much singing was interspersed throughout the service, including the convention choir’s Hallelujah Chorus.

LIVING STONES

*Living Stones of God’s creation
Serving God His will to do
Passing on the Truth, life-saving
To the generations new.
Gathered in the name of Jesus
To remember saints of old,
Now whose vict’ry is completed –
Saved by Christ’s redeeming blood*

*“Hope for the Future” can be found
Looking back where we began,
As Noah, Abram, and Hannah
In confidence took a stand.
Oh, we of little faith in God
Step out of the ‘boat’ of doubt,
And rest your ‘hope’ on God’s FREE GRACE
This is what HOPE is about.
- Anonymous*

Doctrine

The Board of Doctrine recommended that Richard Kanzenbach be declared eligible for the clergy roster of the CLC.

RESOLVED:
that fellowship be declared between the CLC and Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession, and that fellowship be declared between the CLC and the Church of the Lutheran Confession of Myanmar.

Missions

We rejoice that Live Oak, FL, and Ascension of Batavia, IL, have become self-supporting congregations.

We fully agree with Board of Missions in making it their major objective to train indigenous pastors for work among their own peoples.

We greatly regret that “due to the lack of financial resources” there are several outreach opportunities that we have not been able to seize.

Regents

RESOLVED:
that the CLC President appoint an ILC Professorage Committee comprising three qualified individuals who will work under the Board of Regents.

Ho, Ho, Ho

Feel free to approach Missionary David Koenig any time this week to tell him what you want for Christmas.

- Anonymous

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Convention Cuisine

Thursday Lunch
Pork roast
Mashed potatoes
Green bean casserole
Stuffing

Thursday Supper
hotdish
leftovers

Thursday's Weather



Mostly sunny

High : 80 Low: 59

Precip chance: 10% daytime; 0% night

Humidity: day- 53%; night-77%

Sunset – 8:56 PM

Thurs. sunrise – 5:21 AM