

## NLSAM BUSINESS MEETING NUMBER ONE:

The National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting 2013 has come! The Vice President of Administration, Carolyn Hawkins began the meeting with the honor of introducing the 2013 NLSAM Co-chairpersons Watson Ray and Beverly Abt. Watson introduced and thanked Cindy Lamerson as the Director of Community Events. Ms. Lamerson introduced William Fleming as President of Palm Beach Atlantic University. Mr. Fleming welcomed the Via de Cristo delegates to Palm Beach Atlantic University by blessing the delegates with a reading of Ephesians 3:16.

Ed Broestl, President of the National Luther Secretariat welcomed everyone! Mr. Broestl announced that we have a quorum; therefore we can conduct a business meeting. He announced that he is excited for be here for a few reasons: Worship, Friendship, and Leadership. Ed is excited about the incredible worship experiences to come. He is excited for the friendships that are coming together over the course of the next few days. He is excited for the leadership of the Holy Spirit of God who will give us His revelations and course directions for the NLS in the year to come.

Mr. Broestl introduced the remainder of the Board as follows: Vice President of Administration, Carolyn Hawkins; Nancy Peterson, Executive Director; Magdala Ray, Secretary; Steve Barnett, Treasurer; Steve Gielda, Vice President of Outreach; Pastor John Bradford, Spiritual Director.

Following the introduction of the Board, Secretary Magdala Ray seated 93 delegates who are representing 34 of the 44 secretariats at this National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting.

The Board members primarily noted that their reports can be found in the binders that were distributed to the delegates. Various Board members gave highlights of their reports.

Carolyn Hawkins, for example, highlighted that the host committee for the 2014 NLSAM still needs to be made known. She encouraged the Secretariat members, above all, to listen as the Holy Spirit calls and respond in obedience. If He is speaking to you; you need to speak to Carolyn. On that note, Magdala Ray spoke on stepping up to become the host. She noted that there are two essentials the Annual Meeting. The first is to conduct business. The second is to encourage, learn and share from each other. God proves to prevail as sovereign and successful over every challenge and need to bring about the Annual Meeting.

On a personal note, Magdala expressed a heartfelt thank you for the last two years of service as NLS Secretary. She has been called to be Assistant Lay Director for Gold Coast Via de Cristo and is putting all over efforts to that call.

Steve Gielda, Vice President of Outreach highlighted Rediscover and Recommit. He noted that there are 10 regional coordinators working in 7 regions across the country. In 5 of those regions, 7 workshops for Rediscover and Recommit are being conducted. In areas such as Virginia Beach, we are seeing the fruits of those workshops coming to life and transforming lives.

Pastor John Bradford gave his Spiritual Directors report. Mr. Bradford highlighted his admiration that this is a lay led movement. He noted his admiration for the NLS Board: "They love God; they love the church, and they love Via de Cristo. This Board is in constant and daily prayer for every person here and every secretariat in America," he said.

Steve Barnett distributed the Financial Statement and gave the Treasurer's report. Pastor Gerry Olson made a motion to approve Treasurer's report and Financial Statement for the Fiscal year ending May 31, 2013. Mark Carson seconded. Delegate discussion ensued and Mr. Barnett answered the delegates' questions. Pastor Gerry Olson called the question to end discussion. Unanimous passed. Motion was presented to be approved as presented and it was unanimously passed.

Nancy Peterson noted that the nominating committee came together in May, 2013. Six candidates were presented for the open Executive Committee positions which are President, Secretary, and Vice President of Outreach. Carolyn Hawkins is accepting applications. Nominations from the floor will be presented in morning meeting; voting on nominees will commence in the afternoon business meeting.

Ms. Peterson also noted that Executive Director task force was formed during this past year. They have been working on the Executive Director Job Descriptions and creating the NLS Leadership Endowment Fund. An overview of the fund activities, process and progress from the Executive Committee Task Force was presented by Raleigh Sandy. Carolyn Hawkins noted that changes to the Constitution and the Endowment Fund information is at the registration desk for those to pick up who have not yet received a copy.

Ed Broestl noted that if there are items you as delegates would like to have addressed or discussed, please pick up a 3x5 card. The cards will be collected by Carolyn throughout the course of the weekend.

Carolyn Hawkins also noted that the terms for various positions have expired and are now up for nominations. The forms for nomination, titled Consideration for Appointment, are available at the registration desk. The available positions are as follows: Regional Coordinators, Archivist, and two different Executive Director related task force positions related to hiring and to capital campaigning. With a prayer and blessing for the evening, the meeting was recessed.