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

ZOOM TELECONFERENCE MEETING

OCTOBER 24, 2020

9:00AM

**M I N U T E S**

1. **Call to Order 9:06am President Carolyn Foster**
2. **Prayer and Devotions Randall Foster**

Focus Hebrews 10:32. This has been a unique year of change. Qualities such as compassion have been shown as well as being enlightened by changes and possibilities. Looking forward we give thanks for endurance and perseverance for the days ahead.

1. **Welcome and Attendance**

Present: Carolyn Foster, Pr. Peg Schultz-Akerson, Randall Foster, Judith Tutt-Starr, Mary Shipp, Stanley Williams, Enid McGraw, Kathleen Chillison, Robert Chillison, Willa Glover, Andrea Clarke, Brenda Johnson, Valerie Shaw, Zetta Robinson, Debra Bowie, Mayomey Lawson, Gavin Curry, Marquita Curry, and Gwen Jackson. Guest, Barbara Browning.

1. **Approval of Agenda** Agenda approved with one addition to Open Discussion, item E. **MSA**
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes August 22, 2020**

Mayomey Lawson listed twice in attendance. Agreed to strike out her name nearest the bottom of the list. **MSA**

1. **Treasurer’s Report** Written Report Submitted B. Johnson Moved, E. McGraw 2nd. **MSA**
2. **Region ll Report** Gwen Jackson, verbal report. Meeting with former Region ll Rep Washington, for help in clarifying duties.
3. **SWCA VP Report** Written Report submitted

* Bp. Finck has begun his duties as Interim Bishop.
* Assessment of Synod through Zoom meetings
  + Report will provide protocol for nominating a Bishop
  + Synod Council is looking at an effective way to have a virtual Synod Assembly
  + Elections to Synod Council will be 18 opportunities for service
  + New Vice President to be elected
  + 6 persons from throughout Synod will be elected to Churchwide Assembly for 2022

Acceptance of report Andrea Clarke, moved, Pr. Peg Schultz-Ackerson, 2nd **. MSA**

1. **Old Business**
2. Dr. Nelson W. Trout Chapel Update

Funds have been submitted to the Synod for naming rights of the Synod Chapel.

Donor wall plaque with names of donors will be finalized on November 1st.

Chicago ADLA Chapter gave a donation of $360.00 toward chapel.

Willa Glover thanked ADLA for the unique and thoughtful thank you card to donors, which was created by Andrea Clarke, ADLA VP.

1. All ongoing initiatives continue; e.g., eyeglasses and pull tabs during the pandemic!
2. God’s Work, Our Hands: Sunday, 9-13-2020. Recipient participation was minimal at the site (ALC) on the day of distribution, however, a team travelled on 9-27-2020 to Church of the Nazarene on San Pedro & 6th Street. There, we distributed about 100 hygiene kits to men and women.
3. Congregational Parochial Reports – thanks to all who checked or reminded a responsible church leader to get the reports completed and submitted to the Synod Office.
4. **New Business**
5. National Election – Vote and encourage others in and outside of your circles to VOTE!
6. Support was extended to My Friends House with Pie Kit’s for Distribution during Christmas season.

Motion to support Mary Shipp moved, Enid McGraw 2nd**. MSA**

1. Thanksgiving Community Distribution with Jackson Limousine, People’s Independent Church and My Friends House.

* Unique opportunity to join in partnership and serve 10,000 community members with complete thanksgiving boxes. Tuesday, November 24th 10am to 6pm. On-call could be as early as 6:30am. Many details to be ironed out. ADLA will be kept up to date via emails from President Foster. Would like a cadre of volunteers from ADLA and MFH to participate. Members - Starr’s x’s 2, Foster’s x’s 2, Curry’s x’s 2, D. Bowie, Chillison’s x’s 2, Andrea C., Pr. Peg, Brenda Johnson. and Enid McGraw, expressed interests in volunteering.

1. Holiday Hygiene Kits Distribution

It was agreed that we’d make kits and try to coordinate with the Pastor for a distribution/delivery date during Christmas and New Year’s. Starr, Foster’s and Andrea expressed interests in delivering them downtown. More info upcoming.

1. Endowment Honoring Dr. Trout

* Purpose: *“To memorialize Rev. Dr. Nelson Trout in our Synod, keeping his legacy alive and his passion for promoting and developing leaders of faith communities.”*
* Initial Investment for the endowment would be $25,000.
* Pres. Foster had phone conversations with Rev. Albert Starr, Director for Ethnic Specific and Multi-Cultural Ministries and Program Director, African Descent Ministries and Ms. Rahel Williams, Mission Funding Director of the Mission Investment Fund (ELCA). She will continue to seek advice and guidance in this endeavor from them and others.
* Endowment Objectives: *“The Endowment could create an annual leadership conference.*
* *The endowment could contribute to lectures at the Trinity Seminary, Columbus, Ohio and elsewhere.”*

**Motion**: To establish an endowment in Dr. Trout’s name, managed by ADLA-LA. Moved by Mayomey Lawson, 2nd by Valerie Shaw**. MSA**

**Motion**: To begin the fund with an initial investment of $2,000.00. Moved by Robert Chillison, 2nd by Judith Tutt-Starr**. MSA**

1. **Open Discussion**
2. Recovery Bibles – lacking a fundraiser, ADLA-LA was still proud to forward the funds for Bibles to be purchased by Hope Lutheran as in past years.
3. Collaboration among congregations – The pandemic may be hampering physical attendances, we can, however, continue to enjoy each other’s worship services, concerts and Bible studies by Zoom or Facebook Live. All such events and opportunities for praising the Lord should be shared such that others can be made aware.
4. January 17, 2021 - The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Worship Service.

This will be a virtual service with choir and a dynamic preacher. Please listen for ways for folks in your congregation to be a part of this service. Service should be about 90 minutes.

1. February 27 & 28 2020 - Black History Weekend. Plans are still being made for a person-to-person worship experience. Should that change, the association will be notified. The plans include:

* Dedication of The Rev. Dr. Nelson W. Trout Chapel, Synod Office, Glendale
* Worship Service @ Community Lutheran, Los Angeles

1. Pr. Peg Schulz-Akerson suggested/invited others to join LCofM as they begin studying ‘Luther’s Small Catechism: *With Reflections of African Descent Pastors’*. This will be virtual. Randall Foster said he would be glad to participate in the studies. Such interest was generated with this discussion that it was agreed ADLA would order 20 books. Persons requesting a book should contact or reaffirm Pres. Foster has their name on the list.
2. Kathleen Chillison reminded all that Thrivent Action Team funds are still available, request must be sent before December 15th.
3. NCP Annual Fall Fundraiser will be a virtual Jazz Concert in December. All are encouraged to support with their virtual presence, be ready for the raffles and other ways to celebrate NCP that day. More info coming through flyers.
4. **Dates to Remember**
   1. ADLA Biennial summer 2022, Ohio
   2. SWCA Synod Assembly June 2021 – Virtual
5. **ADLA Meeting Hosts for 2021**

February - ASCENSION; April - FIRST CARSON; June - COMMUNITY; August - HOLY TRINITY; October - CHAPEL OF PEACE; and Olivet - GROWN WOMEN REAL TALK (date tba).

Adjournment @ 10:38AM. Moved by Gwen Jackson, Willa Glover 2nd**. MSA**

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tutt-Starr

Judith Tutt-Starr, Recording Secretary