

Minutes of the Third Annual Meeting

WLS Alumni

Monday, September 21, 2009, 11:00 a.m.
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chapel

Opening

Chairman Dan Balge opened the meeting by reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17.

He then led the assembly in a prayer asking our Lord to bless our Seminary and all those who teach and train there. The alumni joined to sing "God of the Prophets" (CW 543).

Seminary Professor Richard Gurgel welcomed the alumni. He reminded alumni that the seminary's twofold purpose is to prepare new servants of the Word and to stand next to those already trained. (President Wendland was unable to greet the alumni since he was on a ministry trip.)

Minutes

The minutes of September 22, 2008 were adopted as presented (posted on the WLS Alumni website).

Departed to Glory

Pastor Kenneth Brokmeier read the roll of WLS Alumni who departed to glory since the 2008 annual meeting. The assembly sang verses of the hymn: "For All the Saints" (CW551, vv. 1-3). Discussion followed regarding the details of several of those included in the roll. The Executive Committee will look into several of matters which were questioned.

Elections

The WLS Alumni Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates to fill the following vacant positions: President; treasurer; auditing Committee member; Nominating Committee member; Membership Committee member and Investment and Grants Committee member. The election results are as follows:

- **President: Dan Balge**
- **Treasurer: Aaron Christie**
- **Auditing Committee member: Christopher Doerr**
- **Nominating Committee member: Kurt Schaser**
- **Membership Committee: Daniel Heiderich**
- **Investment and Grants Committee member. Douglas Tomhave**

President Balge thanked those who had faithfully completed terms on WLS Alumni committees.

President's Report

President Balge then read the WLS Alumni President's Report which highlighted activities and matters of concern which the WLS Alumni Executive Committee had addressed during the year past. His full report is attached to these minutes.

Financial Matters:

Auditing Committee Report

Pastor Christopher Doer reported WLS Alumni financial records had been audited and were found in order. The WLS Alumni accepted the report of the Auditing Committee as presented.

Treasurer's Report

WLS Treasurer Aaron Christie read the WLS Alumni Treasurer's Report. After he fielded a number of questions, the assembly approved the report.

Report on 150th Anniversary Book

Pastor Joel Pless reported for the WLS Alumni Anniversary Book Committee, outlining their progress toward publication of a book detailing the Seminary's 150 years of history.

Communication from and to *WLS Alumni*

President Balge invited alumni present to fill out the evaluation forms included in the annual meeting folder and to return them to the Executive Committee.

Open Discussion:

The following questions/topics were discussed:

- What are the continuing objectives of WLS Alumni? While scholarships are always welcome, we want to focus on providing continuing education opportunities.
- Only 43 WLS alumni submitted gifts during the past 12 months. Discussion centered on why and how the Alumni plan to improve the level of financial support in the future.
- The Thrivent Matching Funds Program may NOT be continued. The body was encouraged to therefore submit their gifts with matching funds applications as early in the year as possible.
- A question of casuistry was posed to the body while it awaited election results.

Next meeting of WLS Alumni: September 20, 2010

Adjournment: The second annual meeting of the WLS Alumni adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Attachments:

- Minutes of the September 22, 2008, WLS Alumni annual meeting
- The Chronicler's Report of WLS alumni who departed to glory since the 2008 Alumni annual meeting.
- The WLS Alumni Treasurers Report for 2008-2009
- The report from the WLS Alumni Anniversary Book Committee that is working to publish a book commemorating the 150th anniversary of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (Chairman Joel Pless).

