



## Minutes

### Sixth Annual Meeting

Monday, September 17, 2012, 11:00 AM

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chapel

#### Opening

President Daniel Balge opened the sixth annual WLS Alumni meeting at 11 a.m. and read 2 Corinthians 4:1-6.

#### Greeting from WLS President Wendland

President Paul Wendland greeted returning alumni and reminded them that the primary purpose for the WLS Alumni is not to preserve a place, but to imprint the gospel on the hearts of future generations of men that they might proclaim the gospel to others.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the September 19, 2011, annual meeting were adopted with two corrections.

#### Elections

The assembled alumni voted to fill vacant positions on the WLS Alumni Executive Committee and Board. President Balge thanked all those who had faithfully served on the board and whose terms had come to an end. The results of the vote are as follows:

- Vice-President: Timothy Dolan (2001)
- Secretary: Nathan Ericson (2002)
- Auditing Committee member: Christopher Doerr (2000)
- Nominating Committee member: Kurt Schaser (2001)
- Membership Committee member: Daniel Heiderich (1998)
- Investment and Grants Committee: Douglas Tomhave (1998)

Following the announcement of election results, President Balge thanked those alumni who had been nominated for office but were not elected.

## **President's Report**

President Balge noted that this meeting marked the fifth anniversary of the founding of the WLS Alumni. He acknowledged the ongoing support of the WLS Mission Advancement staff with thanks. He also thanked Professor John Hartwig for maintaining a WLS Alumni presence on the seminary's website. Although WLS Alumni are not yet self-supporting, the Executive Committee continues to strive toward that goal.

President Balge also reported that WLS Alumni had contributed \$500 toward the *Grow in Grace* gathering held in San Antonio last April. In addition the Alumni would award another two \$1,000 scholarships to seminary students this year.

Members of the WLS classes of the 1961-1970 decade pulled buckthorn from the seminary woods—a project “well-done.”

President Balge announced that since the seminary faculty has appointed its own committee to produce its own 150 anniversary book the WLS Alumni Anniversary Book Committee has dissolved. He thanked everyone who had been involved in the alumni project and rejoiced to note the project would “see daylight.”

The president's report concluded with words of thanks to WLS Alumni officers and committees for their faithful service during the year past.

## **Financial Matters**

Representing the Auditing Committee, Pastor Doerr reported that our financial records were found to be accurate and in good order.

Treasurer Aaron Christie reported that the WLS Alumni began the year with a balance of \$6,456, received revenues of \$3,496, and paid expenses amounting to \$3,796. Net assets at the end of the year totaled: \$6,156. He also drew attention to the sizeable increase in donations over against the previous year.

## **2011 Scholarship Award**

The WLS Alumni awarded two \$1,000 scholarships. The first was to senior Greg Hein; the second was awarded to Philip Hunter from Middleton, WI. Both men expressed appreciation for the generous support.

## **Student Life at WLS during the Breakup of the Synodical Conference 1955-1958 by Professor-emeritus, Richard Balge (WLS 1958)**

Professor-emeritus Richard Balge shared personal recollections about his life at the seminary during the events leading up to the breakup of the former Synodical Conference. At one point he reported that the conflict was so severe that he wondered whether he should return to the seminary. In addition to personally attending one of the pivotal conventions dealing with the controversial issues, Balge said that he had been greatly influenced by a supervising pastor during a time of emergency teaching.

He remarked that the seminary professors at the time “did not discuss inter-synodical matters in classroom.” Most of the information coming to students was provided by issues of “The Northwestern Lutheran.” He mentioned that although he had entertained becoming a “student

under protest," Professor Lawrenz had gently altered both his opinion and course of action. Professor Balge ended his presentation by saying: "I thank God for his grace that kept me in his Word and WELS to this day."

### **Chronicler's Report**

WLS Prof. Brenner read the roll of the 28 WLS alumni who had departed to glory since the 2011 WLS Alumni annual meeting. The alumni then sang "For All the Saints" (CW 551, stanzas 1-3).

**Next meeting:** September 16, 2013

### **Adjournment**

The sixth annual meeting of the WLS Alumni adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Carl Ziemer, Secretary

*This is the amended edition of the 2012 minutes, approved by WLS Alumni on 16 September 2013, submitted by Pastor Nathan Ericson, Secretary.*

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### **Attachments**

- Minutes of the September 20, 2011, meeting
- The Chronicler's Report of WLS alumni who departed to glory since the 2011 annual meeting
- The 2011-2012 WLS Alumni Treasurer's Report