Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee Meeting April 26-27, 2001

Bethlehem, PA.

The Committee members attended the Moses Lecture Series at Moravian Seminary, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where the Reverend Dr. Truman Dunn of Messiah Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina was the presenter. Between sessions Two and Three the Committee members were invited to have lunch with Pastor Dunn, members of the Faculty of the Seminary and several students.

At the Luncheon Otto Dreydoppel introduced Dr. Frank Couch, beginning July 1, 2001, the new Dean of the Seminary. Dr. Couch is currently the New Testament Professor at the Seminary and will involved in our Committee meetings in the future. Following lunch we attended the final session of the Moses Lecture.

The Committee convened for our meeting with the following in attendance: Bob Hunter, the Facilitator for the meeting, Otto Dreydoppel, Patricia Garner, Ron Rinn, Martha Sheaffer, Darlis Swan and Ron Rinn. Special guest, The Right Reverend Art Freeman, brought greetings to the group. Bishop Freeman was involved with the opening round of the Lutheran/Moravian Dialogue and was co-chair of the Study Group.

Bob Hunter called upon Pastor Sheaffer to offer devotions. Following devotions Hunter set out our Agenda and asked Bishop Burke Johnson of the Northern Province to speak about the discussion with the Canadian Province of the Moravian Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada. Johnson report the possibility for a dialogue between these two bodies grew out of some Lutheran Pastors interviewing in Moravian congregations. Johnson read from a letter he sent to Presiding Bishop of the ELCIC, Telmor Santison, concerning the possibility of some opening conversations between Lutherans and Moravians. Johnson's letter was prompted by contact he had received from Graham Kerslake, President of the Canadian District Executive Board. Darlis Swan tried to clarify the relationship of the ELCA and the ELCIC relative to the Lutheran World Federation.

Otto moved that this Committee encourage; 1) a bilateral discussion between the ELCIC and the Moravian Church in North America and 2) usage of Following Our Shepherd to Full Communion be used as a model for discussion. The motion was seconded and voted yes.

Darlis reported on the the discussion between Dr. Craig Settlage, herself and the Lutherans and Moravians in the Caribbean. Bishop Sosa of the Caribbean Synod of the ELCA and Darlis discussed the resolution from the Caribbean Synod asking to explore dialogue with Moravians in the Eastern West Indies Province and his Synod. The timing may be appropriate as new leadership is in place for the EWIP and Bishop Sosa will not be seeking re-election at the

Caribbean Synod Assembly in early summer. Otto moved that this Committee; 1)encourage a bilateral discussion between the EWIP and the ELCA using Following Our Shepherd to Full Communion as a model for the discussion and 2) the Committee ask the Department for Ecumenical Affairs to facilitate this discussion. The motion was seconded, voted and passed.

Burke Johnson spoke of the discussion begun between the Northern and Southern PEC's and the Presbyterian Church USA. He brings this to us as information. This discussion may lead to a full dialogue but not the discussion is not yet at that stage.

Otto submitted a written report on the Moravian/Episcopalian dialogue. He also asked if we could get Craig Settlage back with us as he made significant contribution to our work.

Patricia Garner handed out a listing of topics and resources she and Craig talked about for mentoring and pastoral care of ministers in each tradition. She will check with someone at Duke Divinity School about making a presentation to our Committee at the Fall meeting on spiritual formation as well as with Pastor Steve Gerhard, Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, on the ELCA First Call Theological Education piece, a three year mentoring program.

The Clergy Exchange document was discussed. This Document has been sent to each Synod Bishop in the ELCA and also the ecumenical persons identified in each Synod. Its primary use would be in assisting Bishops in the Call/Exchange process. The ELCA Office of the Secretary is tracking such exchanges and publishing the information in our ELCA Yearbook. Bob will be sending this Document to the Bishops of the Northern and Southern Provinces. The Document is also on the ELCA web page. Gary Harke and Peg Chemblin from the Moravians will be invited by Darlis to the National Workshop on Christian Unity. Bob Hunter thanked Darlis Swan for the good work on this Document.

The process of compiling examples of the Lutheran/Moravian joint activities was addressed by Darlis Swan. She distributed correspondence she sent to Bishops David Stroble of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, Guy Edminston of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, and Leonard Bolick of the North Carolina Synod. Bishop Edminston responded to her letter by appointing Carolyn Shockley from their Synod to track these joint activities. Martha Sheaffer handed out a form generated by Shockley of the Lower Susquehanna Synod titled, Follow Up on Cooperative Ministries. The form lists the congregations involved and the cooperative ministries. In the North Carolina Synod Pastor Pierson Shaw in Winston-Salem has been identified by Bishop Bolick as the contact person. Ron Rinn will ask Pastor Shaw to contact Patty Garner to help devise a check off form for that Synod and the Southern Province. Perhaps each Province and Synod could encourage/advertise cooperative ministries in their individual newsletters and other communications.

Otto and Bob will explore how the District Offices in each Province could advertise/encourage activities. Each Contact Person from the Synods would promote and highlight activities in their Synods and send the information to Darlis Swan at the Department for Ecumenical Affairs for wider distribution.

The group exchanged some news on activities of which they are aware in their area (see

separate sheet).

The Committee reviewed the Charter of the Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee. In the discussion it appears that we are on track in our assignment after working together for one year.

The next meeting will be held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina at the Bishop's House in Old Salem. October 20th at 11:00 am the meeting will be begin (November 10th) is a back-up date.

Otto referred to his written report on the Moravian/Episcopal meeting held in Raleigh, NC on March 1-3, 2001. This group will meet again November 5-7 in Bethlehem, PA. Currently they are moving along well with various issues of polity, ecclesiastical offices and practices under discussion toward full communion.