



# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NORTHERN EUROPE AND EURASIA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

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Minutes of the Nordic & Baltic Area Group Online Meeting. Saturday 28 March 2020.

Present: Ingull Grefslie (NO), Hilde Marie Ørgried Movafagh (NO), Per-Endre Bjørnevik(NO), Johanna Lundereng (NO), Karen Brogaard (DK), Ole Birch (DK) Edgars Snieders (LV), Jori Brander (FF), Meeli Tankler (EE) Sarah Tiainen (FS), Robert Tserenkov (EE) Remigijus Matulaitis (LT), Christian Alsted, Kirsten Hastrup.

Item	Minutes
1	<p><b>Opening and approval of the agenda and minutes:</b></p> <p>Christian Alsted read from Pauls letter to the Romans. Then he lead us in prayer for the people in and outside our church who are affected by the corona virus and for the health staff combating this disease.</p> <p><b>The agenda of this meeting was approved.</b></p> <p><b>The minutes from the Area Group meeting October 2019 were approved.</b></p>
2	<p><b>Action items from subcommittees:</b></p> <p>a. Continued Education – No action items</p> <p>b. Development of the connection in the Episcopal Area: No action items</p> <p>c. International and Ecumenical Representation: No action items</p>
3	<p><b>Approval of Financial reports:</b></p> <p>a. Episcopal Fund <b>The report was approved</b></p> <p>b. Area Fund <b>The report was approved</b></p> <p>c. Nordic Theological Means <b>The report was approved</b></p> <p>d. Budget Episcopal Fund 2021 <b>The report was approved</b></p> <p>We had a conversation on the contribution from GCFA to the expenses concerning the bishop's salary and office. They have announced that due to declining apportionments in the US, they will cut their contributions. The European bishops propose that we cut our apportionments to the episcopal fund to 100 % and use the surplus on the episcopal offices. A proposal for this will come to the Central Conference Council.</p>
4	<p><b>Committee on Episcopacy - Episcopal Election</b></p> <p>Per-Endre Bjørnevik og Hilde Marie Øgreid Movafagh presented a proposal that would allow the next Central Conference to re-elect Christian Alsted for and new four years term.</p> <p><b>This was postponed to our October meeting.</b></p>
5	<p><b>Other matters</b></p> <p>Due to the postponement of the General Conference and subsequent postponement of the Central Conference all election periods are prolonged until the Central Conference can be held. This goes for the term of our bishop to.</p> <p>The Roundtable process on human sexuality has been put on hold due to the Corona Virus crisis.</p>