I. ORGANIZATION OF MEETING

A. Voting Members

Officers

Bp. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop
Mr. Carlos Peña, Vice President
Mr. David Swartling, Secretary
Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, Treasurer

Church Council

Pr. David P. Anderson Pr. Heather Lubold
Mr. Baron Blanchard (excused) Ms. Susan McArver
Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke Pr. Raymond Miller
Ms. Rebecca Carlson Mr. John Munday
Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth Mr. Mark Myers
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly Ms. Ann Niedringhaus
Mr. John R. Emery Pr. Pablo Obregon
Pr. Amsalu Geleta Mr. Ivan Perez
Ms. Karin Graddy Ms. Lynette Reitz
Mr. Mark S. Helmke Ms. Sandra Schlesinger
Ms. Louise Hemstead Pr. Michael Schmidt
Mr. William Horne Mr. Blaire Smith
Pr. Keith A. Hunsinger Pr. Jeff Sorenson
Mr. Mark E. Johnson Pr. Kathryn Tiede
Pr. Susan Langhauser Mr. David Truland
Pr. Steven P. Loy Pr. Philip Wold

B. Liaison Bishops

Bp. Michael Burk Bp. Margaret Payne
Bp. Murray D. Finck Bp. Martin D. Wells
Bp. Ralph Jones Bp. Herman Yoos

C. Advisory Members

Youth

Ms. Arielle Mastellar Mr. Kyle Teague

Please note the following information to access the conference calls:

- Dial (866) 311-1127 and use room number *1312262*. The star key must be entered before and after the room number.
- If there are problems during the call, please contact John Hessian at john.hessian@elca.org or 800-638-3522, ext. 2607.
Advisors
Pr. Jaime Dubon, Latino Community Association
Ms. Elizabeth Gaskins, president, American Indian and Alaska Native Association
Pr. David Keller, Lutheran Services in America
Ms. Katherine Long, president, European American Association
Pr. O. Dennis Mims, president, African-American Association
Mr. Fuad Nijim, president, Arab and Middle Eastern Association
Mr. Wayne Powell, ELCA colleges and universities
Pr. Mark Ramseth, ELCA seminaries (*excused*)
Pr. Arthur C. (Chris) Repp, chair, Global Mission program committee
Pr. Edmond Yee, Asian and Pacific Islander Association (*excused*)

D. Resource People

Office of the Presiding Bishop
Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Executive for Administration
Pr. Marcus Kunz, Executive for Discernment of Theological and Contextual Issues (*excused*)
Pr. Walter May, Executive for Synodical and Constituent Relations
Ms. Myrna J. Sheie, Executive for Governance and Institutional Relations

Related Executives
Mr. Kenneth W. Inskeep, Executive for Research and Evaluation
Pr. Donald J. McCoid, Executive for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
Pr. Darrell D. Morton, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries
Ms. Else B. Thompson, Executive for Human Resources

Office of the Secretary
Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Executive for Office of the Secretary Administration
Mr. Phillip H. Harris, General Counsel
Mr. Frank F. Imhoff, Director for Official Documentation
Mr. David A. Ullrich, Associate General Counsel

Program Unit Executives
Pr. Stephen P. Bouman, Executive Director, Congregational and Synodical Mission
Ms. Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director, Women of the ELCA
Ms. Cynthia Halverson, Foundation of the ELCA and Executive Director for Development Services
Mr. John G. Kapanke, President, Board of Pensions
Ms. Beth A. Lewis, President, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission
Ms. Eva M. Roby, Executive Vice President for Administration, Mission Investment Fund
Pr. Howie Wennes, interim Executive Director, Mission Advancement

E. Press
Mr. John R. Brooks, Director, ELCA News Service
Ms. Elizabeth M. Hunter, *The Lutheran* magazine
Mr. Daniel Lehmann, Editor, *The Lutheran* magazine
Ms. Melissa Ramirez-Cooper, Associate Director, ELCA News Service
F. Ecumenical Guests
   Ms. Leland Lee, The Episcopal Church
   Pr. Mary Ann Neevel, United Church of Christ
   Vacant positions: Moravian Church, Presbyterian Church U.S.A., Reformed Church

II. Adoption of Agenda
   Agenda items have been distributed to the members of the Church Council either by mail or by electronic distribution.

   CC ACTION
   Recommended:
   To adopt the agenda and to permit the chair to call for consideration of agenda items in the order the chair deems most appropriate.

III. Items for Information and Discussion
   A. Updates from the Officers
      1. Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson
      2. Vice President Carlos Peña
      3. Secretary David Swartling
      4. Treasurer Christina Jackson-Skelton

   CC INFORMATION

   B. Update on the Redesign of the Churchwide Organization
      Executive for Administration M. Wyvetta Bullock will provide an update on the redesign of the churchwide organization. This is available in Exhibit A.

   CC INFORMATION

   C. Update on Churchwide Assembly Recommendation: Governing Documents
      Secretary David Swartling will provide an update on amendments to the governing documents of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The update will include information about discussion by the Conference of Bishops related to proposed revisions to the termination process for congregations described in bylaw 9.62, and a preview of possible additional bylaw amendments for consideration by the Church Council at its April 2011 meeting.

   CC INFORMATION
D. Update from the Ad Hoc Committee

At its November 2010 meeting, the Church Council received the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and voted [CC.10.11.63]:

To receive with gratitude the report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee in response to the resolutions of the Minneapolis Area, Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast, Southwestern Minnesota, South Dakota, Upstate New York, La Crosse Area, Greater Milwaukee, New Jersey, and Northern Illinois synods related to the ELCA Board of Pensions annuity funding:

To authorize one-time payments from the Special Needs Retirement Fund (SNRF) as soon as realistically possible in 2011 to those most adversely affected by the reduction in annuity payments, drawing both from Church Council funds already designated for SNRF and undesignated funds received by the BOP and allocated to SNRF

To request that, in order to make these payments, the BOP, in consultation with the Managing Committee of SNRF, develop criteria based on need and a process for distribution of available funds to those most adversely affected by the reduction of annuity payments;

To provide for the expansion of the criteria for eligibility to SNRF and make provision for the possibility of more frequent reviews of eligibility, including periodic comprehensive reviews, to address the needs of plan members in light of economic realities;

To authorize that the membership of the SNRF Managing Committee be increased to include one representative from the Conference of Bishops and one from the Church Council;

To authorize periodic offerings and appeals designated for SNRF;

To anticipate the development of a process for regular review of SNRF by the Church Council;

To authorize the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work, to monitor the implementation of these recommendations and to bring a report and possible recommendations to the April 2011 Church Council meeting;

To request that the Board of Pensions:

1. Enhance communications to and the education of annuitants and prospective annuitants regarding the ELCA Participating Annuity and Bridge Fund (PABF) and any new annuity products. In so doing:
   a. Consider and develop additional ways to be proactive in such communication and education efforts; and
   b. Continue and increase emphasis on assisting members in understanding the aspects of a defined contribution retirement plan, including members’ responsibilities and role in decision-making;

2. Consider developing a fund, within SNRF or separate from it, to make available payments to plan members in situations of extraordinary economic distress and develop a process to authorize payments in such cases and to make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council;

3. Enhance communications to and the education of members and sponsors regarding SNRF; work to ensure that synodical bishops and staff are knowledgeable about SNRF and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council;

4. Explore possibilities for voluntary regular contributions by sponsors and members to SNRF, in addition to special gifts from members and sponsors; make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council;

5. Explore other options for providing funds to SNRF and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council;

6. Consider amending the name of the BOP to reflect that it is providing retirement income through annuity payments and investment fund(s) distributions, not providing pension payments, and to reflect more accurately the other services it provides; make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council; and

To request the secretary of this church to inform the synods of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee and this action.
At this meeting, updates about the implementation of the Church Council’s action will be provided by Vice President Carlos Peña, chair of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Rev. Robert Berg, Board of Pensions.

**CC INFORMATION**

### E. Post-Church Council Commitments

At its November 2010 meeting, the Church Council participated in several Café Conversations and discussions that Presiding Bishop Hanson described as “deep, honest and clarifying.” In response, the Administrative Team identified a series of commitments that grew out of the conversations. The Church Council will discuss the commitments during the conference call.

- **Executive Committee:** Church Council members will be notified when Executive Committee materials (agendas and exhibits) are placed on Net Community. Following each meeting, the secretary will distribute a summary of the decisions of each meeting.

- **CC Meeting Preview:** At least two weeks prior to each Church Council meeting, the presiding bishop will prepare and distribute to you a brief letter highlighting the key actions for the meeting.

- **Evaluations:** Following each meeting of the Church Council, the Executive Committee will review the evaluations from the meeting and follow up as appropriate.

- **Café Conversations Follow Up:** The Executive Committee and Board Development Committee are committed to taking the input from the Café Conversations and suggesting positive next steps for our shared life together.

- **Use of Technology:** Beginning in January 2011, we will use WebEx technology for Executive Committee and Church Council meetings formerly held by conference call. Church Council committees will determine the technology to be used for their meetings.

  [NOTE: subsequent conversation with ELCA Information Technology suggested that use of WebEx begin with the Executive Committee early in 2011 and expand to the full Church Council at a later date.]

- **News Releases:** John Hessian will provide information to Church Council members about signing on to receive ELCA news releases.

**CC DISCUSSION**
IV. Items for Action

A. Board of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Incorporated

At the request of Stanley N. Olson, the executive director of the Vocation and Education unit, the Church Council elects members of the board of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc., as described in ELCA bylaw 14.21.22., “The Church Council shall arrange the process for all elections . . . to assure conformity with established criteria.”

The Vocation and Education unit is responsible for relating to and assisting “ministries, organizations, programs and movements that support members of this church in discerning and practicing their callings under the Gospel; and thereby . . . foster, in coordination with synods, campus ministries at public and non-ELCA colleges and universities, in accordance with the established campus ministry policies and procedures . . . .” Nominations to the board are made by the board of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc., in coordination with unit staff.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect to the Board of Directors of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc., in accordance with Article III, Section 3.2 of NLCM’s amended bylaws, “The directors shall be nominated by a nominating committee (consisting of the ELCA Director for Campus Ministry or his or her designee, and two members of the Board of Directors) and elected by the ELCA Church Council…”: Mr. Wayne Hanson to a four-year term ending in 2015.

B. Election of a Church Council member

Between meetings of the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council has the responsibility of electing people to fill unexpired terms on churchwide boards, steering committees of churchwide commissions, and certain advisory committees.

The New England Synod (7B) has nominated Ms. Feronika A. Rambing to replace the resignation of Judith Barlow-Roberts, Bloomfield, Connecticut (7B) to a term ending in 2015. Biographical information is provided below.

Ms. Feronika A. Rambing
New England Synod (7B)
1) Congregational membership
   Imanuel Indonesian Lutheran Church, Newington, N.H.
2) Experience relevant to this position
   I was a pastor in Indonesia for 3 years;
   Worked with women's groups in Indonesia and in Newington, N.H.
3) Church-related service
   Christian educator for women and children at Imanuel ILC;
   Asian-Pasific Islander Church Planting team;
   Mission Planning team for pre-organization of Imanuel ILC
4) Education
   B.D., Indonesian Ch. Univ. in Tomohon, Indonesia;
   coursework, International Th. Sem, Los Angeles, Calif.
   coursework, University of Indonesia, Indonesia
5) Occupation
   Homemaker
6) Community service
   Indonesian communities in N.H.;
PEO (Philanthropic, education organization for women) in Maine and NH;
Librarian in Indonesia

7) Year of birth
   1962
8) Primary language
   Indonesian

Why do you believe you would serve well as a member of the Church Council?
Could work with wider ministerial and racial backgrounds, to make all the procedures and programs more clearly and fully understood by all church members.

Are there particular perspectives that you would contribute as a Church Council member?
I am a first-generation immigrant woman from Asia. As first generation immigrants, we usually meet many differences in our practical lives than what we were used to back in our home country. This could lead us to culture shock, especially for the women. These are things that the church does not see more clearly and fully as a problem that the first Asian women generation are facing today. I could be of help for them, as I went through this kind of experience before.

What, in your judgement, is the most important responsibility of the Church Council?
The most important responsibility of the Church Council is to review all the procedures and programs, and to make the right decisions concerning them, so the congregations can implement them in their ministries to help members grow physically, emotionally, and faithfully in their new lives here in the US.

CC ACTION
Recommended:
To elect Ms. Feronika A. Rambing, Somersworth, NH, of the New England Synod (7B) to the ELCA Church Council for a term ending in 2015.

V. Adjournment