**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**June 27, 2019**  
**Conference Call**  
*For those in the Lutheran Center: Council Room*

**AGENDA**

To join the online meeting automatically: [Join Skype Meeting](https://meet.elca.org/jodi.slattery/RMNRP1DN?sl=1)

To join the audio conference:
Phone Number 773-380-2690  
Conference ID 241294

**For assistance**  
If you need any assistance, please contact Joseph Schmidt (773) 380-2438 or joseph.schmidt@elca.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voting Members</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Hans Becklin</td>
<td>Mr. John Lohrmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Allan Bieber <em>(excused)</em></td>
<td>Mr. Joseph Nolte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Wm Chris Boerger, Secretary</td>
<td>Pr. Linda Nou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Lisa Burk</td>
<td>Mr. Gary Pederson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Cheryl Chatman</td>
<td>Ms. Meri Jo Petrivelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Reid Christopherson <em>(excused)</em></td>
<td>Pr. Ricardo Rivera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bp. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop</td>
<td>Mr. Clarance Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Lori Fedyk, Treasurer</td>
<td>Pr. Jonathan Splichal Larson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Dena Gable</td>
<td>Ms. Ingrid Stafford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bp. William Gafkjen <em>(excused)</em></td>
<td>Ms. Leslie Swenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Joyce Graue</td>
<td>Pr. James Utt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Cynthia Gustavson</td>
<td>Mr. Vernon Veal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. William Horne, Vice President</td>
<td>Pr. William Voss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Chad Huebner</td>
<td>Ms. Emma Wagner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Maren Hulden</td>
<td>Pr. Michael Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. James Hushagen</td>
<td>Mr. Philip Wirtnanen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. James Jennings</td>
<td>Ms. Sonja Wolfe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pr. Peder Johanson</td>
<td>Ms. Man-Hei Yip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Emilee Le Blanc</td>
<td>Mr. Seth Zimmann</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Liaison Bishops</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bp. Suzanne Dillahunt</td>
<td>Bp. Kirby Unti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bp. Guy Erwin</td>
<td>Bp. Pedro Suárez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bp. Richard Graham</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resource People
Office of the Presiding Bishop
Pr. Wyvetta Bullock, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Administration
Ms. Deborah Coe, Executive for Planning Research and Evaluation
Ms. Kathryn Johnson, Director, Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations
Ms. Rhondean Johnson, Executive for Human Resources
Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Ecumenical and Inter Religious Relations and Theological Discernment
Pr. Walter May, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Synodical Relations
Ms. Judith Roberts, Program Director, Racial Justice Ministries
Deacon Mary Ann Schwabe, Natural Systems Coordinator
Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Bishop, Governance
Dr. Mary Streufert, Director, Justice for Women (excused)
Pr. Kevin Strickland, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Worship (excused)
Pr. Roger Willer, Director, Theological Ethics

Office of the Secretary
Mr. Thomas Cunniff, General Counsel
Ms. Aja Favors, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Marit Johnson, Manager, Official Documentation
Deacon Sue Rothmeyer, Assistant to the Secretary

Unit Staff
Pr. Philip Hirsch, Executive Director, Domestic Mission (DM)
Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, Executive Director, Mission Advancement (MA)
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission (GM)
Ms. Evelyn Soto, Director for DM Operations and Programs, DM
Pr. David Wunsch, Director for Unit Operations and Programs, GM
Ms. Jocelyn Fuller, Director for Strategic Communications, MA
Pr. Albert Starr, Director for Ethnic Specific and Multicultural Ministries

Press
Ms. Candice Hill Buchbinder, Mission Advancement

African Descent Lutheran Association
Pr. Lamont Wells, president
PLENARY SESSION ONE
June 27, 2019
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. CT

I.A Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda
Agenda items have been distributed electronically.

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.

I.B Consideration of “A Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent”
At the 2016 Churchwide Assembly, the assembly received the African Descent Lutherans memorial from 10 synods calling for a number of actions related to the ELCA’s observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the commemoration of the United Nation’s International decade of People of African Descent. In response, the assembly requested in part that the Domestic Mission unit staff create a “Declaration to the African Descent Community.” [CA16.05.17]

For the past two years, staff have provided progress updates to Church Council on the development and challenges of the work. At the November 2018 meeting, the Church Council engaged in a “Cleansing and Contemplative Conversation on Racial Justice.” Following that conversation at the same meeting, the Church Council authorized a working group to draft a declaration to the African descent community [CC18.11.23]. Members of the working group are Ms. Emma Wagner, Ms. Sonja Wolfe, Mr. Clarance Smith, Bishop Bill Gohl, and Ms. Donna Matteis. Ms. Judith Roberts, program director for racial justice ministries, Pr. Albert Starr, director for ethnic-specific and multicultural ministries, and Ms. Jodi Slattery, assistant to the presiding bishop for governance, serve as staff resource persons to the group.

The working group have reviewed previous apologies from the ELCA as well as from other ecumenical partners and begun drafting the apology. The Executive Committee has received updates on its progress and the Church Council provided feedback on a rough draft at its April 2019 meeting. At its June 2019 meeting, the Lutheran World Federation Council adopted a resolution titled “Commemorating the 2019 Quad-centennial of the Forced Transatlantic Voyage of Enslaved African Peoples to the Americas – Human Beings Not for Sale!” This resolution is timely as the Church Council considers a similar action.

At this meeting, Church Council will review and discuss the proposed declaration. There will be approximately 25 minutes for this discussion and action.

Upon adoption by Church Council, the apology would be shared at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.

CC ACTION
Recommended:
To adopt “A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to the People of African Descent” as a statement of apology for this church’s complicity in the legacy of slavery;

To thank the African Descent Lutheran Association for their 2015 biennial assembly resolution asking for a declaration of the ELCA to the people of African descent;

To call this church into a time of study and to request the Office of the Presiding Bishop to consider developing educational resources to support the apology and encourage congregations, synods and the churchwide organization to find ways to share this apology broadly;

To request Planning, Research and Evaluation to measure and report progress on the discriminatory treatment within the call process and to urge Portico to assist with providing
information to the churchwide organization to measure and report progress on inequitable
compensation of clergy of color by the November 2021 meeting of the Church Council;

To request the presiding bishop to name a Day of Repentance for congregations, synods and
churchwide organization to observe annually and to request the Office of the Presiding Bishop
worship team develop a liturgical resource of lamentation and repentance to accompany this
annual Day of Repentance; and

To affirm the June 2019 Lutheran World Federation Council resolution "Commemorating the
2019 Quad-centennial of the Forced Transatlantic Voyage of Enslaved African Peoples to the
Americas - Human Beings Not for Sale!" and, in particular, LWF’s call to engage in anti-racism
and racial justice work, work toward economic justice (including the study of reparations), and
work to address and end modern forms of slavery and human trafficking.

I.C Consideration of Governance Policy Manual
At the November 2018 meeting, the Church Council approved a Preface and Part 1 of the
Governance Policy Manual [CC18.11.15]. More recently, at the April 2019 Church Council meeting,
the Ad Hoc Governance Policy Committee presented an addition to Part 1 and a draft of Part 2.
Church Council requested a final Governance Policy Manual be presented no later than the August
2019 Church Council meeting [CC19.04.06]. An executive summary of the changes from the April
2019 version can be found here.

The ad hoc committee has completed its work and will be presenting a final manual for Church
Council’s consideration. There will be approximately 25 minutes for this discussion and action.

CC ACTION
Recommended:

To approve the ELCA Church Council Governance Policy Manual as a whole (including the
addition to Part 1 and Part 2);

To authorize the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in consultation with the Office of the
Secretary, to make any necessary corrections for accuracy;

To request the Board Development Committee, in consultation with the Office of the Presiding
Bishop, to review and revise the “Orientation Manual for Church Council Members” in accordance
with the Governance Policy Manual; and

To request the Executive Committee and Board Development Committee to revise their
committee charters to reflect each committee’s governance function as noted in the Governance
Policy Manual, consistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

I.D En Bloc Approval of Certain Items
The following en bloc resolution includes agenda items that will be considered at the end of the
Church Council meeting. Inclusion of these items in the en bloc action reflects a judgment that these
items are relatively non-controversial in nature and may not require plenary discussion and a separate
vote.

Each of the items is noted as [En Bloc] in En Bloc Items. Please notify the chair of any items to be
removed from en bloc consideration to discuss separately. The chair will not call for a discussion or
separate vote on those items that are not removed from the en bloc resolution.

CC ACTION
Recommended:

To take action En Bloc on the items listed in En Bloc Items.

I.E Adjournment