

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
CHURCH COUNCIL  
Conference Call – *executive session*  
July 28, 2011

Please note the following information to access the conference calls:

**For Executive Session (10:00 – 10:45 a.m.) – Church Council, liaison bishops only:**

- Dial (866) 311-1127 and use room number \*1312262\*. The star key must be entered before and after the room number.

**For Open Session (10:45 – 11:30 a.m.) – Church Council, liaison bishops, advisors and resource staff:**

- Dial (877) 732-0229 and use room number \*6760258\*. The star key must be entered before and after the room number.

If there are problems during either call, please contact John Hessian at [john.hessian@elca.org](mailto:john.hessian@elca.org) or 800-638-3522, ext. 2607.

**AGENDA**

**Participants**

**Voting Members**

Pr. David Anderson	Pr. Yvonne Marshall
Mr. Baron Blanchard	Ms. Susan McArver
Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke	Pr. Raymond Miller
Ms. Rebecca Carlson	Mr. John Munday
Ms. Deborah Chenoweth	Mr. Mark Myers
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly	Ms. Ann Niedringhaus
Mr. John R. Emery	Pr. Pablo Obregon
Pr. Amsalu Geleta	Mr. Carlos Peña, Vice President
Ms. Karin Graddy	Mr. Ivan Perez
Bp. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop	Ms. Feronika Rambing
Mr. Mark S. Helmke	Ms. Lynette Reitz
Ms. Louise Hemstead	Ms. Sandra Schlesinger
Mr. Bill Horne	Mr. Blaire Smith
Pr. Keith A. Hunsinger	Pr. Jeff Sorenson
Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, Treasurer	Mr. David D. Swartling, Secretary
Mr. Mark E. Johnson	Pr. Kathryn Tiede
Pr. Susan Langhauser	Mr. David Truland
Pr. Steven Loy	Pr. Phil Wold
Pr. Heather Lubold	

**Liaison Bishops**

Bp. Allan Bjornberg	Bp. Gerald Mansholt
Bp. Michael Burk	Bp. Margaret Payne

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Bp. Elizabeth Eaton  
Bp. Murray D. Finck  
Bp. Ralph Jones

Bp. Harold Usgaard  
Bp. Martin D. Wells  
Bp. Herman Yoos

**Advisory Members**

Pr. Jaime Dubon, Latino Community Association  
Ms. Elizabeth Gaskins, American Indian and Alaska Native Association  
Pr. David Keller, Lutheran Services in America  
Ms. Katherine Long, president, European American Association  
Ms. Arielle Mastellar, youth advisor  
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  
Pr. Arthur C. (Chris) Repp, chair, Global Mission program committee  
Mr. Kyle Teague, youth advisor  
Pr. Edmond Yee, Asian and Pacific Islander Association

**Resource People**

**Office of the Presiding Bishop**

Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Administration  
Mr. Kenneth W. Inskeep, Executive for Research and Evaluation  
Pr. Marcus Kunz, Assistant to the Bishop for Theological Discernment  
Pr. Donald J. McCoid, Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Affairs  
Pr. Darrell D. Morton, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Chaplaincy  
Pr. Walter May, Assistant to the Bishop for the Conference of Bishops  
Ms. Myrna J. Sheie, Assistant to the Bishop for Governance  
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

**Unit Executives**

**Program Units**

Pr. Stephen P. Bouman, Executive Director, Congregational and Synodical Mission  
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission

**Separately Incorporated Ministries**

Ms. Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director, Women of the ELCA  
Mr. Doug Haugen, Director for Lutheran Men in Mission  
Mr. John G. Kapanke, President, Board of Pensions  
Ms. Beth A. Lewis, President, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers  
Ms. Eva M. Roby, Executive Vice President for Administration, MIF

**Press**

Ms. Elizabeth M. Hunter, *The Lutheran* magazine  
Mr. Daniel Lehmann, *The Lutheran* magazine

**Ecumenical Guests**

Pr. Mary Ann Neevel, United Church of Christ  
Ms. Lelanda Lee, The Episcopal Church

**PLENARY SESSION ONE – Executive Session**  
**10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

**1.1 Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda**

Agenda items have been distributed electronically. Additional items will be distributed electronically as they are available.

**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.**

**1.2 Nominations and Elections**

**1.2A Election of the Executive Director for the Mission Advancement Unit**

According to bylaw 14.21.21. of the ELCA Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions: "Unless otherwise specified in this constitution and bylaws, the Church Council shall elect the executive director for each churchwide program unit to a four-year term in consultation with and with the approval of the presiding bishop of this church. Nomination of a candidate for election shall be made by the presiding bishop...."

Adoption of the following continuing resolution will allow for the election of an executive director of the Mission Advancement unit.

The Church Council will meet in executive session to receive a nomination from Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson for the executive director for the Mission Advancement unit.

**CC ACTION**

**Recommended:**

*Two-thirds vote required*

**14.21.A11. Election of an Executive Director for Service Units**

*Unless otherwise specified in this constitution and bylaws, the Church Council shall elect the executive director for each churchwide service unit to a four-year term in consultation with and with the approval of the presiding bishop of this church. Nomination of a candidate for election shall be made by the presiding bishop. The*

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*presiding bishop, as chief executive officer, shall arrange within the policy of this church for an annual review of each executive director. A unit executive director shall be eligible for reelection. The employment of the executive director may be terminated jointly by the presiding bishop of this church and the Executive Committee of the Church Council.*

**CC ACTION**

**Recommended:**

**To elect Christina Jackson-Skelton to a four-year term as executive director of the Mission Advancement unit, beginning September 1, 2011.**

**1.2B Election of the Treasurer (Executive Session)**

Section 13.50. of the ELCA constitution describes the position, responsibilities, and process for election of the ELCA Treasurer. According to provision 13.52., "The treasurer shall be elected by the Church Council to a six-year term and shall be a voting member of a congregation of this church." Churchwide bylaw 19.31.01.d. specifies "The treasurer shall be elected by a two-thirds vote of the Church Council." The term of the treasurer, elected at the July 2011 meeting of the ELCA Church Council, will begin on October 1, 2011.

In accordance with provision 13.51, "The treasurer of this church shall serve under the presiding bishop of this church," Bishop Hanson will bring a nomination for consideration by the Church Council. Additional information related to the interview process and recommendation will be provided in executive session.

**CC ACTION**

**Recommended:** *Two-thirds vote required*

**To elect [to be provided] to a six-year term as treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, beginning October 1, 2011.**

**PLENARY SESSION TWO**  
**10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**2.1 Welcome**

**2.2 Report of Actions in Executive Session**

**2.3 Updates from the Officers**

**2.3A Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson**

**2.3B Vice President Carlos Peña**

**2.3C Secretary David Swartling**

**2.3D Treasurer Christina Jackson-Skelton**

**2.4 Authorization of Background Check and Screening**

Continuing resolution 19.31.A09 indicates that “Background checks and screening shall be required and completed for persons nominated as churchwide officers prior to their election, if possible, or as soon as practical after their election. The specific procedures and timing of background checks and screening shall be determined by the Church Council.”

**CC ACTION**

**Recommended:**

**To authorize and direct Human Resources staff in the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in accordance with continuing resolution 19.31.A09, and churchwide practices and policies, to conduct the appropriate background checks and screening on candidates for the position of treasurer of the ELCA.**

**2.5 Approval of *En Bloc* 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 [Exhibit A](#). At the beginning of the Council meeting, the chair will provide an opportunity for members to indicate whether they wish to discuss separately any of the items listed in the en bloc resolution; any such item will be removed from the en bloc resolution and discussed at the appropriate point in the agenda.

The chair will not call for a discussion or separate vote on those items that are not removed from the en bloc resolution by the end of the first day of plenary sessions. The

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items remaining in the en bloc resolution normally will be considered as the last item of council business.

*NOTE: The resolutions in Exhibit A were approved by synod assemblies as memorials, but were received as resolutions by the Office of the Secretary because they direct specific units or offices of the churchwide organization to take action. A report on these actions will be provided to the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.*

**CC ACTION**

**Recommended:**

**To take *En Bloc* action on the items listed in Exhibit A.**

**2.6 Adjournment**