

Revised November 6, 2013

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHURCH COUNCIL
November 8-10, 2013
Chicago, Illinois

AGENDA

Participants

Voting Members

Mr. Paul G. Archer	Pr. Peder J. Johanson
Ms. Marit Bakken (<i>excused</i>)	Ms. Kayla S. Koterwski
Mr. Nicholas A. Barber	Mr. John W. Lohrmann
Mr. Hans E. Becklin	Mr. Michael Mason
Mr. Allan J. Bieber	Ms. Susan W. McArver
Pr. Wm Chris Boerger, Secretary	Pr. Raymond A. Miller
Ms. Amanda E. Briggs	Pr. Robert G. Moore
Mr. Reid A. Christopherson	Pr. Linda O. Norman, Treasurer
Ms. Christine P. Connell	Pr. Linda Nou
Bp. Jessica Crist	Mr. John M. Pederson
Bp. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop	Mr. Carlos E. Peña, Vice President
Pr. Elizabeth E. Ekdale	Ms. Meri Jo Petrivelli
Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis	Ms. Pamela E. Pritt
Pr. William E. Flippin Jr.	Ms. Feronika A. Raming
Mr. Gary D. Gabrielson	Mr. Clarence M. Smith
Pr. Vicki T. Garber	Pr. Jonathan Splichal Larson
Pr. Amsalu T. Geleta	Ms. Ingrid Sponberg Stafford
Pr. Joyce M. Graue (<i>excused</i>)	Ms. Leslie J. Swenson
Ms. Cynthia M. Gustavson	Mr. Oliver W. Thul
Ms. Louise A. Hemstead	Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede
Pr. Stephen R. Herr	Pr. James H. Utt
Mr. William B. "Bill" Horne II	Pr. William O. Voss
Ms. Maren Hulden	Pr. Michael R. Ward
Mr. James M. Hushagen (<i>excused</i>)	

Liaison Bishops

Bp. Michael Burk	Bp. Stephen Talmage
Bp. Claire Burkat (<i>excused</i>)	Bp. Shelley Wickstrom
Represented by Bp. Wilma Kucharek	Bp Herman Yoos (<i>excused</i>)
Bp. Ralph Jones	Represented by Bp. Felipe Lozada-Montañez
Bp. Marcus Lohrmann	Bp. David Zellmer
Bp. Brian Maas (<i>excused</i>)	

Resource People

Office of the Presiding Bishop

Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Administration
Mr. Kenneth W. Inskip, Executive for Research and Evaluation
Pr. Marcus Kunz, Assistant to the Bishop for Theological Discernment
Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Director, Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations
Pr. Walter May, Assistant to the Bishop for the Synodical Relations
Pr. Donald J. McCoid, Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations

Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Bishop for Governance
Ms. Else A. Thompson, Executive for Human Resources

Office of the Secretary

Mr. Phillip H. Harris, General Counsel
Mr. Frank F. Imhoff, Manager, Official Documentation
Ms. Sue Rothmeyer, Assistant to the Secretary
Mr. David A. Ullrich, Associate General Counsel

Unit Staff

Pr. Stephen P. Bouman, Executive Director, Congregational and Synodical Mission
Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, Executive Director, Mission Advancement
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission
Ms. Antoinette “Toni” Daniels, Director for Relationships and Unit Operations, GM
Ms. Evelyn Soto, Director for CSM Operations and Programs, CSM
Pr. Cherlyne Beck, Program Director, Disability Ministries and Support of Lay Rostered Leaders, CSM
Pr. Peter Perella, Director for Worship Formation & Liturgical Resources, CSM
Pr. Jonathan Strandjord, Program Director, Seminaries, CSM
Pr. Gregory Villalon, Director for Leadership for Mission/Candidacy, CSM

Separately Incorporated Ministries

Ms. Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director, Women of the ELCA
Mr. Doug Haugen, Executive Director, Lutheran Men in Mission
Ms. Beth A. Lewis, President, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Ms. Eva M. Roby, President and CEO, MIF
Pr. Jeffrey D. Thiemann, President and CEO, Portico Benefit Services

Press

Ms. Candice Hill Buchbinder, Mission Advancement
Ms. Melissa Ramirez Cooper, Mission Advancement
Ms. Elizabeth M. Hunter, *The Lutheran* magazine
Mr. Daniel Lehmann, *The Lutheran* magazine

Ecumenical Guests

Pr. Scott Anderson, Presbyterian Church (USA)
Ms. Stephanie Cheney, The Episcopal Church
Bp. Sharon Rader, United Methodist Church (*excused*)
Pr. Christopher Thore, Moravian Church in America
Pr. Lisa Vander Wal, The Reformed Church in America

Thursday, November 7, 2013

- 2:00 p.m. New Member Orientation
- 5:45 p.m. Evening Prayer, 1st Floor Chapel
- 6:15 p.m. **Dinner**, Augsburg Room

Friday, November 8, 2013

- 6:30 a.m. **Breakfast**, Marriott Hotel (Buffet opens at 6:30 a.m.)
- 9:00 a.m. Executive Committee, Full Epiphany
- 10:00 a.m. Board Development Committee, Advent
- 11:00 a.m. Tutorial on Net Community and PDF tutorial, Council
- 11:30 a.m. Tour of the Lutheran Center, meet in reception area 11th floor
- 12:00 noon **Lunch**, Augsburg Room
New members eat with mentors
- 1:00 p.m. **Holy Communion**, 1st Floor Chapel
Presider: Secretary Wm Chris Boerger
Preacher: Pr. Amsalu Geleta
Assisting Minister: Ms. Pamela Pritt
Lector: Ms. Louise Hemstead
- 1:45 p.m. Church Council Choir Rehearsal, 1st Floor Chapel

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PLENARY SESSION ONE

November 8, 2013
2:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

I.A Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda items have been distributed electronically and by mail. Additional items will be distributed at the meeting to the members of the Church Council and invited resource people.

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 Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the April 5-7, 2013, July 11, 2013 and August 11, 2013 meetings of the Church Council have been distributed to council members electronically on Net Community. Minutes for meetings held in executive session have been added to the protocol file in the Office of the Secretary.

The minutes of the council's Executive Committee meetings on April 4, 2013, June 10, 2013, July 11, 2013, August 11, 2013, September 25, 2013 and October 25, 2013, have been distributed electronically to members. Minutes for meetings held in executive session have been added to the protocol file in the Office of the Secretary.

Please provide in writing for the Executive for Office of the Secretary Administration any notations or typographical errors in the distributed text of the minutes. Proper corrections will be entered into the protocol copies of the minutes. Such corrections need not be raised in the plenary session in connection with the approval of the minutes.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the minutes of April 5-7, 2013, July 11, 2013 and August 11, 2013 meetings of the Church Council; and

To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the April 4, 2013, June 10, 2013, July 11, 2013, August 11, 2013, September 25, 2013 and October 25, 2013 meetings.

I.C Report of the Presiding Bishop ([Exhibit A, Part 1](#))

I.D Report of the Vice President ([Exhibit A, Part 2](#))

I.E Report of the Executive Committee

I.E.1 Church Council Nomination and Election

The Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D) has nominated Pr. Loren D. Mellum, Moorhead, Minnesota, to replace the resignation of Pr. Laurie Skow-Anderson (3D), to a term ending in 2017. The Western Iowa Synod (5E) has nominated Pr. Carla J. Johnsen, Dunlap, Iowa, to replace the resignation of Pr. Yvonne I. Marshall (5E), to a term ending in 2015. Biographical information is provided in [Exhibit C](#).

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect Pr. Loren Mellum, Moorhead, Minnesota (3D) to the Church Council for a term ending in 2017; and

To elect Pr. Carla Johnsen, Dunlap, Iowa (5E) to the Church Council for a term ending in 2015.

1.E.2 Ratification of Appointments to Church Council Committees

In preparation for the August 2013 meeting of the ELCA Church Council, continuing members of the Church Council were invited to indicate their preferences for service on one of the four standing committees of the Church Council: Budget and Finance; Legal and Constitutional Review; Planning and Evaluation; and Program and Services. Members also indicated interest in other areas of service, including the Board Development Committee. At its August 2013 meeting, the Church Council ratified the provisional membership for the four standing committees.

Following their elections by the Churchwide Assembly, newly elected members were invited to indicate their committee preferences. The Executive Committee reviewed the requests at its September 25, 2013 meeting and made recommendations for ratification by the Church Council during the October 25, 2013 meeting. The recommendations are provided in [Exhibit L, Part 4](#). New members of the Board Development Committee were appointed at the October 25, 2013 meeting, subject to the approval of an amendment to ELCA Constitution 14.41.F07.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To ratify the appointments to the Church Council committees and other advisory responsibilities for the 2013–2016 triennium as detailed in Exhibit L, Part 4.

1.E.3 Process for Election of the Executive Committee

At the first meeting after the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council elects a new Executive Committee. Seven members of the Church Council will serve on this committee for the 2013-2016 triennium, in addition to the four officers of this church and the chair of the Conference of Bishops. Incumbent members of the Executive Committee are eligible for reelection.

The process uses the following pattern:

- a. To facilitate its work between regular meetings by ensuring input and perspective from each of its standing committees, the chairs of the committees are elected to the Executive Committee.
- b. The remaining three members of the Executive Committee will be selected through the following process. The first ballot shall be a nominating ballot for each of the following identified categories:
 - 1). Lay Female
 - 2). Lay Male
 - 3). Lay Female or Male

- c. The second ballot shall be limited to the two people (plus ties) in each category receiving the greatest number of nominations.
- d. Upon completion of the balloting, the Executive Committee (four officers, chair of Conference of Bishops and seven at-large members) shall be deemed constituted. In accordance with the pattern above, the Church Council approved the following action at its August 2013 meeting:

To authorize the continuing members of the Executive Committee to serve as the Executive Committee of the Church Council between the close of the Churchwide Assembly on August 17, 2013 and the November 2013 meeting of the Church Council; and

To declare that the newly elected chairs of the Budget and Finance Committee, the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee, the Planning and Evaluation Committee, and the Program and Services Committee shall be members of the Executive Committee of the Church Council beginning at the close of the Churchwide Assembly on August 17, 2013.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To reaffirm the process for the election of the Executive Committee for the 2013-2016 triennium.

I.E.4 Synod Visits by Church Council Members ([Exhibit L, Parts 1 and 2](#))

Since its November 2005 meeting, the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has committed itself to building relationships between the churchwide organization and synods, congregations, and institutions and agencies.

At its November 2007 meeting, the Church Council voted (CC07.11.65):

To recall that, concerning changes in governance of this church, the 2005 Churchwide Assembly voted [CA05.06.21]: “To encourage greater interaction of members of the Church Council with synodical councils and synodical assemblies in their respective areas”;

To urge members of the Church Council to accept this responsibility and interact with their own synods and their partner synods in various ways, including attending at least one Synod Council meeting per year and participating in Synod Assemblies, especially in years when a synod is considering nominations to the Church Council; and

To note that expenses for attending Synod Council meetings and Synod Assemblies will be reimbursed by the churchwide organization in accordance with the ELCA travel policy.

Members of the Church Council now make the commitment, as available, to be in contact with specific synods during the triennium. Current commitments are listed in [Exhibit L, Part 1](#) of the Church Council materials for the November 2013 meeting. A summary of reports of these contacts is printed in [Exhibit L, Part 2](#). In addition, a notebook including the full texts of reports submitted will be made available on the materials distribution table.

Members of the Church Council will be invited to make commitments during the November 2013 meeting. When the process is complete, [Exhibit L, Part 2](#) will be revised and distributed.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To acknowledge the commitment of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to have “greater interaction of members of the

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Church Council with synodical councils and synodical assemblies in their respective areas”;

To urge members of the Church Council to accept this responsibility and interact with their own synods and their partner synods in various ways, including attending at least one Synod Council meeting per year and participating in Synod Assemblies, especially in years when a synod is considering nominations to the Church Council; and

To note that expenses for attending Synod Council meetings and Synod Assemblies will be reimbursed by the churchwide organization in accordance with the ELCA travel policy.

I.F Executive Session

I.F.1 Election of Executive for Administration

The Executive for Administration is the chief administrator of the churchwide organization and one of the three executive assistants to the presiding bishop.

According to ELCA 15.12.A10.: “The executive for administration shall be elected by the Church Council upon nomination of the presiding bishop and shall serve coterminous with the term of the presiding bishop.”

Information related to the nomination by the presiding bishop of the Rev. Dr. M. Wyvetta Bullock as executive for administration will be provided in executive session.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect the Rev. M. Wyvetta Bullock as the executive for administration for a term coterminous with the term of the presiding bishop, as provided in churchwide continuing resolution 15.12.A10.

I.F.2 Election of editor for *The Lutheran* magazine

According to bylaw 16.12.D11.d. of the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, “An advisory committee for *The Lutheran* shall have the responsibility for the church periodical. The advisory committee, in consultation with the presiding bishop of this church, shall nominate the editor for the church periodical...”

Further, bylaw 16.12.D11.a. indicates that “The Church Council shall elect the editor of the church periodical by a two-thirds vote to a four-year term.”

The nomination of Daniel Lehmann as editor of *The Lutheran* comes from the advisory committee for the magazine in consultation with Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

CC ACTION (*Two-thirds vote required*)

Recommended:

To re-elect Daniel J. Lehmann as editor of *The Lutheran* magazine for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2014.

I.F.3 Legal Briefing, Phil Harris

4:00 p.m. Reception for Church Council with Churchwide Staff, Augsburg Room

PLENARY SESSION TWO

November 8, 2013

5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

II.A Dwelling in the Word, Robert Moore

II.B Primer on Congregational and Synodical Mission (CSM)

The Board Development Committee occasionally recommends primers so that Church Council members will have a better understanding of a particular matter. For this meeting, the executive directors of the three program units have been asked to provide primers on the work of each of the units.

The following report is provided by Stephen Bouman, executive director for Congregational and Synodical Mission. The Congregational and Synodical Mission unit is constitutionally responsible for “fostering and facilitating the work of synods, congregations, and partners in making congregations vital centers for mission and in creating coalitions and networks to promote justice and peace. Its work includes creating and revitalizing congregations; leadership development; providing worship and liturgical resources; enhancing discipleship; supporting multicultural ministries and the commitment of this church to inclusivity, fostering relationships with educational partners; facilitating the engagement of this church in advocacy; and related activities that serve the evangelical mission of synods and congregations.” (ELCA Constitution 16.12.A13.)

The CSM report can be found in [Exhibit K, Part 1](#).

II.C Primer on Always Being Made New Campaign

The 2013 Churchwide Assembly approved the first comprehensive fundraising campaign for ministries throughout this church. With a goal of nearly \$200 million, the five-year campaign is designed to increase this church’s capacity to renew congregations and start new ministries, develop leaders, bolster its global mission efforts and expand the impact of its relief and development work. Voting members also approved two additional campaign initiatives -- encouraging and forming lay youth and young adult leaders and support for disability ministry. Action related to the additions to the campaign will be taken later in this Church Council meeting.

Christina Jackson-Skelton, executive director for Mission Advancement, will provide background on the campaign.

II.D Report of the Secretary ([Exhibit A, Part 3](#))

II.E Process Observation

II.F Announcements

II.G Hymn and Closing Prayer

6:30 p.m. **Welcome Banquet**, Augsburg Room
Wine and beer available (\$5.00 donation)

Saturday, November 9, 2013

6:30 a.m. **Breakfast**, Marriott Hotel (Buffet opens at 6:30 a.m.)

7:30 a.m. Stewardship conversations with new members (*as assigned*)

8:00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**, Church Council Room

8:15 a.m. Committees meet, includes orientation to committee
Budget and Finance, Epiphany
Legal and Constitutional Review, Advent
Planning and Evaluation, 10th Floor Training Room
Program and Services, Pentecost

12:00 noon Lunch, Augsburg Room
Stewardship conversations with new members (*as assigned*)

12:00 noon *Deadline for Removal of Items from En Bloc*
Deadline for New Business

PLENARY SESSION THREE

November 9, 2013
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

III.A Bible Study, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

III.B Church Council Nominations and Elections

III.B.1 First Ballot for 2013-2016 Executive Committee

III.B.2 Other Elections

Between meetings of the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council has the responsibility of electing people to fill terms on churchwide boards and certain advisory committees. Biographical information is provided in [Exhibit C](#).

Advisory Committee for *The Lutheran*

Region 1, Clergy Female [Term 2019]

- a. The Rev. Susan M. Halvor, Anchorage, Alaska (1A)
- b. The Rev. Barbara R. Rossing, Leavenworth, Washington (1D)

Region 2, Lay Female [Term 2019]

- a. Ms. Karen A. Peters, San Rafael, California (2A)
- b. Ms. Lynn M. Bullock, Agoura Hills, California (2B)
- c. Ms. Marguerite B. Spencer, Greeley, Colorado (2E)

Region 7, Lay Male [Term 2019]

- a. Mr. Neal F. Fischer, Penn Yan, New York (7D)
- b. Mr. Andrew Merritt, Needham, Massachusetts (7B)

III.C Report of the Treasurer ([Exhibit A, Part 4](#))

III.D Report of the Budget and Finance Committee ([Exhibit F](#))

The following report is provided by the Budget and Finance Committee. Additional items or revised actions may be distributed following the committee's meeting. *En Bloc* items can be found in [Exhibit D](#) and will be acted upon later in the meeting.

III.D.1 Interim Financial Statements

A. Operating Results

The Report of the Treasurer summarizing the eight month period ending September 30, 2013 financial results can be found in [Exhibit F, Part 1a](#). The current fund operating results for the period are presented in [Exhibit F, Part 1b](#). Operating results for ELCA World Hunger and the ELCA Malaria Campaign are in [Exhibit F, Part 1c](#).

B. Statements of Financial Position

The Statements of Financial Position for the period are reflected in [Exhibit F, Part 1d](#).

C. Capital Expenditures

The year-to-date report of capital expenditures is found in [Exhibit F, Part 1e](#).

III.D.2 2013 Expenditure Authorization

No change to the current 2013 spending authorization is being proposed. The revised Mission Support projections used in establishing the spending authorization in April have not met budget, but there have been positive variances to budget in Bequests and Trusts income that should enable us to meet remaining spending commitments for 2013.

III.D.3 2014 Income Estimate and Expenditure Authorization

[Exhibit F, Part 2a](#) reflects income estimates that have been revised since the August 2013 Churchwide Assembly. The total current fund and World Hunger income estimates and expenditure authorizations remain at assembly-approved levels, so no Church Council action is requested. However, there are significant balanced adjustments described below.

Mission Support is anticipated to decrease from the assembly-approved income budget of \$49,850,000 to \$48,000,000, a decrease of \$1,850,000 or 3.7 percent. The initial 2014 current fund budget included the mission support estimate of \$49,850,000, an estimate that represented approximately a 1 percent increase from the 2013 mission support estimate of \$49,400,000 and an anticipated recovery of mission support to a 2012 level of approximately \$49,900,000. Unfortunately, current trends indicate further decline in mission support revenue, potentially ending the year with an unfavorable variance to budget of \$(500,000) - \$(700,000). After review of 2014 revised synod mission support plans, listening to bishops' assessment of the current environment and discussion with the Administrative Team, the mission support estimate was adjusted to \$48,000,000 for 2014.

2014 Mission Support Plans from synods total approximately \$50,600,000. With synod reporting and accounting for historical trends, we have applied an approximately 95 percent confidence level to determine the revised mission support estimate.

Income estimates for current fundraising activities (Vision for Mission, Global Church Sponsorship and Unit Designated Gifts) have remained unchanged from the assembly-approved budget. In consideration of the significant positive variances to budget in recent years, the income estimate for bequests and trusts has been increased by \$250,000. Investment income is decreased by approximately \$132,000, based on updated market projections and activity from mineral rights. Endowment distribution and rental income estimates have also been refined, resulting in a net decrease of approximately \$52,000. The ELCA Mission Investment Fund (MIF) has agreed to increase its grant in support of new congregations by \$300,000 for 2014. In 2015, the MIF grant is scheduled to return to its historical level of \$1,500,000.

Adjustments in other fund sources include additional designated funds released, primarily from funds in support of Radio and Digital Media, Congregational Development and the ELCA Foundation. Additional restricted funds released are anticipated to support congregations. It is also anticipated that the equivalent of one year's distribution from the Mission Development Fund will be utilized to support churchwide priorities.

25th Anniversary Campaign projections for 2014 are not anticipated to increase current fund or World Hunger income estimates for 2014. The current fund income estimate remains at \$70,541,740. There is also no change in the \$19,000,000 income estimate for World Hunger.

[Exhibit F, Part 2b](#) reflects revised 2014 unit allocations anticipated by the Office of the Presiding Bishop. Increases for the three offices and units include distribution for average salary increases of 2.0 percent, as well as adjustments for missionary compensation increases. The Strategic Initiative Fund has been decreased to offset these increases. Offsetting adjustments have also been made to allocations for the Office of the Treasurer and the Mission Advancement Unit to reflect team reconfigurations.

Although not part of the budget approval process for the Church Council, it is noted that the ELCA Malaria Campaign anticipates raising \$2,000,000 in 2014.

III.D.4 Church Council Designated Funds

The established method for funding the mission plans of the churchwide organization is through the operating budget. The operating budget, developed after review of potential income sources, is used to establish approved spending levels for the various units of the churchwide organization as they provide programs or support outlined in the ELCA governing documents.

The Church Council is asked occasionally to establish designated funds for support of certain programs or events that may not be included in the regular yearly operations of the churchwide organization.

Designated funds are managed through the ELCA treasury as designated funds to be used for specific activities within a given time frame. [Exhibit F, Part 4a](#) is a summary exhibit of all active Church Council designated funds, exclusive of those “functioning as endowments.” [Exhibit F, Parts 4b-4e](#) includes reports for each of the active Church Council designated funds.

III.D.5 Synod Mission Support Plans

The ELCA Church Council has responsibility for reviewing and taking action on synod mission support plans as an interdependent partner with congregations and synods in implementing and strengthening the financial support for the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA Constitution, 8.15 and 10.71). [Exhibit F, Part 5b](#) shows the actual mission support received from each synod for 2012 with plans and any revisions for the 2013 and 2014 fiscal years.

A. Revisions to 2013 synod mission support plans

Since the August 2013 Church Council meeting, we have received revisions for 2013 mission support plans from one synod.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To acknowledge that circumstances in the following synod has led to the decision to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2013 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide

ministries; to encourage the synod to continue to work to grow mission support in the synod; and to request that the synod develop a plan, in consultation with the churchwide organization, to restore or surpass the previous level of mission support sharing: Northwestern Minnesota Synod; and

To thank the bishops and synod leaders of every synod as they strive to be faithful to shared commitments within the ELCA, and to direct synod and churchwide staff, including the directors for evangelical mission, to deepen their partnership in efforts to strengthen financial support for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

B. Revisions to 2014 synod mission support plans

Since the August 2013 Church Council Meeting, we have received revisions for 2014 mission support plans from one synod.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To acknowledge that circumstances in the following synod has led to a decision to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2014 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries; to encourage each synod to continue to work to grow mission support in the synod; and to request that each synod develop a plan, in consultation with the churchwide organization, to restore or surpass the previous level of mission support sharing: Northwestern Minnesota Synod; and

To thank the bishops and synod leaders of every synod as they strive to be faithful to shared commitments within the ELCA, and to direct synod and churchwide staff, including the directors for evangelical mission, to deepen their partnership in efforts to strengthen financial support for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

C. Mission Support Funding Process Pilot Study Update

At the November 2012 Church Council meeting, Mission Investment Fund (MIF) was requested to explore the development of a remittance process system to improve the process for transmitting mission support and other funds.

Representatives from MIF and the Office of the Treasurer have visited Region 1 and two of its synods where a financial services office (“FSO”) currently processes all mission support and other remittances from congregations to synods within the region. In addition to this specific function, the FSO also efficiently handles all accounting related activities for the synods within the region: cash management, accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, general ledger accounting and reporting. There are no specific accounting personnel in any of these synods.

Following are several observations and comments that require further study and consideration:

- This process works in Region 1 partially because of the long-term trusting relationships among the synods and the efficient, reliable, and customer centered services performed by the FSO.
- It may not be of sufficient help to synods to consider only the function of mission support receipts processing.
- Does this concept require a regional organization, or could it be applied to any set of synods?
- The Region 1 data processing system is probably not scalable to larger organizations – consider IT and human resources necessary for pilot and further implementations.
- Concern relative to privacy of information

Next steps are to: visit other regions and several additional synods of varying size and complexity; evaluate availability of human, financial and systems resources; evaluate and plan scope of pilot projects; and formalize summary of benefits and challenges to successful implementation. Conclusions relative to the pilot study are expected in early 2014.

III.D.6 Always Being Made New Campaign (25th Anniversary Campaign)

In response to the proposal of the Mission Funding Task Force that the ELCA consider a comprehensive campaign to coincide with its 25th anniversary, the Mission Advancement unit undertook work to prepare a campaign proposal. In October 2012, staff of the Mission Advancement unit presented a first proposal for a campaign to the Conference of Bishops and synodical vice presidents. Further analysis of the proposal and consultation were undertaken, including ongoing dialogue with the Conference of Bishops, as well as fundraising counsel and other partners, leaders, and ELCA members.

At its November 2012 meeting, the Church Council endorsed the campaign in concept and authorized further work in anticipation of action at its April 2013 meeting to forward a recommendation to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, which is required to authorize a churchwide appeal in accordance with ELCA bylaw 11.41.06. The Church Council action in November 2012 [CC12.11.36] provided as follows:

To receive with appreciation the report of the Mission Funding Task Force and the proposal of the Mission Advancement unit regarding a potential

campaign for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on the occasion of its 25th anniversary;

To thank the Conference of Bishops, the Bishop's Advisory Council, and synod vice presidents for their feedback and suggestions on the specific opportunities lifted up in the campaign and for their advice on the scope, process, and possibilities for the campaign;

To endorse in concept a 25th anniversary campaign for the ELCA, subject to finalizing a proposal and budget, further consultation with the Conference of Bishops, recommendation by the Church Council, and approval of the Churchwide Assembly in 2013;

To authorize the Mission Advancement unit to continue development and finalization of a comprehensive campaign proposal and to begin work related to the campaign, specifically the preparation of resources, hiring of staff, solicitation of individual donors for leadership gifts, and collaboration with synods for anticipated fundraising engagement following the 2013 assembly;

To encourage conversations among members and in congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization regarding ways that an ELCA campaign can be developed and implemented to take advantage of synergies among all expressions of this church; and

To request that a refined proposal be brought to the Conference of Bishops at its March 2013 meeting and a final proposal be considered by the Church Council at its April 2013 meeting, in order for a recommendation to be forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly in August 2013.

Based upon the action of the Church Council, the Mission Advancement unit prepared a case statement and continued work on plans to undertake the campaign, subject to Churchwide Assembly approval.

Following further consultation with the Conference of Bishops and others, the proposal for the 25th anniversary campaign was presented to the Church Council in April 2013. It reviewed the goals for the campaign, the case statement prepared by the Mission Advancement unit, and other materials and voted to bring a recommendation for a 25th anniversary campaign (a.k.a. "Always Being Made New Campaign") to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly [CC13.04.14].

At the Churchwide Assembly, the proposed action recommended by the Church Council was amended in two respects on the assembly floor. One amendment added \$4 million for youth and young adult involvement in the ministries of this church; the other added \$4 million for disability ministries. The action approved by the Churchwide Assembly [CA13.05.18] was as follows:

To approve the 25th Anniversary Campaign for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a major fundraising effort of this church, its synods and congregations, its affiliated and related ministries, and individual members in order to grow the resources of this church to support congregations, leadership, relief and development, and global mission;

To thank the members of this church for their ongoing stewardship and generosity through regular offerings that support the breadth of ministry across the ELCA and beyond;

To invite every congregation, synod, related ministry, and individual member of this church to make a contribution toward the 25th Anniversary Campaign for the ELCA in order to achieve its goal of \$190 million over the next five years (2014–2018);

To instruct the Church Council to add an additional campaign priority of encouraging, recognizing, and forming lay youth and young adult leaders, and to add an additional \$4 million to the campaign goal specifically for the formation, recognition, and encouragement of lay young adult and youth leaders;

To call on the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to form an advisory team, funded out of the campaign, to seek out and support the networks and efforts of lay young adult and youth leaders, to include among those on that team lay young adult leaders recommended by ELCA congregations, ELCA campus, youth, and outdoor ministers, as well as leaders from ELCA affiliated and/or associated organizations at the discretion of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, to charge that same team with searching for new ideas and fresh voices emerging in the church, and to charge that same team with assisting in the acquisition of and advising on the allocation of funds received as part of the additional \$4 million dollars of the campaign goal seeking to re-imagine the ministries of the ELCA through the eyes of lay young adults and youth leaders in the body of Christ;

To add a goal of \$4 million for disability ministries, to advocate for inclusion of persons with disabilities in the life of this church, to train leaders both clergy and lay so that they would be equipped to work with persons with disabilities, to work with synods to create local committees for disability ministries, and to equip persons living with disabilities for lives of leadership and service in this church;

To encourage conversations among members and in congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization regarding ways that the 25th Anniversary Campaign can be implemented to take advantage of synergies among all expressions of this church;

To request that the Church Council monitor and evaluate the implementation of the 25th Anniversary Campaign for the ELCA on an ongoing basis and that reports be submitted annually to the Church Council and to each Churchwide Assembly through the completion of the campaign; and

To thank God for 25 years of interdependent ministry in the ELCA and to step forward boldly in order to seek to reach more communities with the good news of Jesus Christ, train more leaders who will become missionaries, pastors, and lay leaders, and contribute to the alleviation of hunger and poverty.

Neither the amendment for lay youth and young adult ministries nor the amendment for disability ministries was considered in the development of the case statement for the campaign or by the Conference of Bishops or Church Council. Nor did the amendments address the development of the fundraising budget or goal feasibility, timeline, staffing, or funding recipients of the campaign. Thus, the impact of developing strategies for implementation of these amendments and integrating them into the campaign remain to be accomplished.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To refer to the Congregational and Synodical Mission and Mission Advancement units, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, **ELCA Youth Ministry Network**, ministry partners, and others as they deem appropriate, the actions taken on the floor by the Churchwide Assembly to amend the Campaign for the ELCA to add \$4 million for formation, recognition, and encouragement of lay young adult and youth leaders and \$4 million for disability ministries, for the purpose of evaluating how to implement and integrate these amendments into the campaign (including an assessment of the goal feasibility, budget, staffing, timeline, programs to be supported, and other impacts of the amendments); and

To request that a report and possible recommendations relating to these issues and an update on the campaign as a whole be brought to the April 2014 meeting of the Church Council.

III.D.7 Enterprise Risk Management Update

The Office of the Treasurer and Office of the Secretary have been coordinating an enterprise risk management (ERM) initiative for the churchwide organization. Although a formal program has not yet been launched, significant foundational work has begun. The Administrative Team endorsed the initiative in 2012 and ERM principles have been introduced to senior leaders throughout the organization. Drawing upon input from executives, senior leaders and other staff, an initial risk map has been developed ([Exhibit F, Part 14](#)). Several of the risks relate to activities overseen by the Budget and Finance Committee, and thus we have shared the risk map for the committee's reference and feedback. Next steps for this initiative will be seeking endorsement from new leadership, developing risk mitigation strategies for high-risk items and, if advisable, creating a proposal for a formal ERM program.

III.E Primer on Mission Advancement

The following report is provided by Christina Jackson-Skelton, executive director for Mission Advancement. The Mission Advancement unit is constitutionally responsible for coordinating this church's communication, marketing, public relations, mission funding, major gifts, planned gifts, and constituent data management." (ELCA Constitution 16.12.C11.)

The Mission Advancement report can be found in [Exhibit K, Part 3](#).

III.F Church Council Joys and Concerns

3:00 p.m. Health and Wellness Break

PLENARY SESSION FOUR

November 9, 2013
3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

IV.A Report of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

The following report is provided by the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee. Additional items or revised actions may be distributed following the committee's meeting. *En Bloc* items can be found in [Exhibit D](#) and will be acted upon later in the meeting.

IV.A.1 Update on Ecclesiology of a Global Church Task Force

The ELCA Church Council approved the creation of the Ecclesiology of a Global Church Task Force at its fall 2012 meeting. Its work includes reviewing the nature and ecclesiology of this church in light of the past twenty-five years of significant developments in its ecumenical and global self-understanding and relationships. It will also review the governing documents for the purpose of addressing how this church can affirm and strengthen its self-understanding as part of the Lutheran World Federation.

The report can be found in [Exhibit H, Part 2](#).

IV.B Report from Portico Benefit Services

The Rev. Jeff Thiemann, president of Portico Benefit Services, will provide an update regarding changes connected to the Affordable Health Care Act. The report can be found in [Exhibit P, Part 2a](#).

IV.C Church Council Nominations and Elections

IV.C.1 Report of previous ballots

IV.C.2 Second Ballot for 2013-2016 Executive Committee

IV.D Report of the Executive for Administration ([Exhibit A, Part 5](#))

IV.E Report of the Planning and Evaluation Committee

The following report is provided by the Planning and Evaluation Committee. Additional items or revised actions may be distributed following the committee's meeting.

IV.F Dwelling in the Word with John Pederson

IV.G Process Observation

IV.H Announcements

5:00 p.m. **Evening Prayer**, 1st Floor Chapel

5:30 p.m. **Dinner**, on your own

Sunday, November 10, 2013

6:30 a.m. **Breakfast**, Marriott Hotel (Buffet opens at 6:30 a.m.)

8:30 a.m. **Holy Communion**, 1st Floor Chapel
Offering: Fund for Leaders in honor of the Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Installation of the Church Council Class of 2019 and recently elected members

Presider: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Preacher: Pr. Kathryn Tiede
Assisting Minister: Vice President Carlos Peña
Lector: Mr. Bill Horne

PLENARY SESSION FIVE

November 10, 2013
9:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

V.A Report of the Conference of Bishops ([Exhibit A, Part 6](#))

V.B Church Council Nominations and Elections

V.B.1 Report of previous ballots

V.B.2 Third Ballot for 2013-2016 Executive Committee

V.C Dwelling in the Word with Christine Connell

V.D Primer on Global Mission

The following report is provided by Rafael Malpica Padilla, executive director for Global Mission. The Global Mission unit is constitutionally responsible for “providing integrated support of this church’s work in other countries and be the means through which churches in other countries engage in mission to this church and society. The Global Mission unit shall build capacity and provide support for mission in the following areas:

- a. *Global Community*: maintaining church-to-church relationships and mutual endeavors for evangelical witness, leadership development, sharing of mission personnel, and collaborative work;
- b. *Mission Formation and Relationships*: mutual learning and growth with companion churches and ELCA synods and congregations in the accompaniment model for mission, companion synod relationships, young adults in global mission, relationships with independent Lutheran organizations related to global mission, and mission efforts for full communion partners;

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- c. *Diakonia*: meeting human need and working collaboratively with partners toward the flourishing of human community through engagement in international development and disaster response.” (ELCA Constitution 16.12.D11.)

The Global Mission report can be found in [Exhibit K, Part 2](#).

V.E Report of the Program and Services Committee

The following report is provided by the Program and Services Committee. Additional items or revised actions may be distributed following the committee’s meeting. *En Bloc* items can be found in [Exhibit D](#) and will be acted upon later in the meeting.

V.E.1. Update on Word and Service Task Force ([Exhibit J, Part 1](#))

As the Word and Service Task Force works on creating a single, unified lay roster, the question of ordination of this new roster has received significant attention. The Word and Service Task Force believe that this question is beyond the scope of its responsibilities. However, it asks that the Church Council appoint a working group to deal specifically with the matter of ordination and its implications and bring recommendations to the 2016 Churchwide Assembly. This working group should include representation from the Church Council, the Office of the Presiding Bishop, the Conference of Bishops, the Word and Service Task Force, and the Association of Teaching Theologians.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To thank the Word and Service Task Force for their ongoing work to manage the transition from three lay rosters to one unified word and service roster;

To receive the request of the task force to appoint a separate working group to consider the question of ordination for this roster;

To request the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and Office of the Presiding Bishop, to identify possible individuals, including bishops to serve on a working group and to provide those names to the Executive Committee;

To authorize the Executive Committee to appoint a working group to consider the question of ordination of the unified word and service roster; and

To request that the working group bring progress reports to Conference of Bishops and Church Council beginning in fall 2014.

V.E.2 Social Teaching Documents ([Exhibit K, Part 4](#); [Exhibit J, Parts 5 and 6](#))

The Theological Discernment Team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop provided an update on the recent adoption and consideration of this church’s social teaching documents. [Exhibit J, Part 5](#) is a response to a resolution from the ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice: One in Christ requesting a social message development project on kinds of violence correlated with gender.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

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To thank the ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice: One in Christ for directing the attention of this church to the levels of gender-based violence in U.S. society and globally;

To authorize staff of the Theological Discernment Team, in accordance with "Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns (2011)," to initiate an ELCA social message development process on gender-based violence with council action to be taken at the November 2014 Church Council meeting.

V.E.3 Update on the 500th anniversary observance ([Exhibit J, Part 2](#))

The Theological Discernment Team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop also provided an update on the ELCA observance of the 500th Anniversary of the Evangelical or Lutheran Reformation.

V.E.4 Category A4: Same-Gender Couples and Their Families (CA13.03.12)

To receive with the gratitude the memorials of the Eastern North Dakota, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, Saint Paul Area, Sierra Pacific, Northwest Washington, Metropolitan Chicago, Minneapolis Area, Metropolitan New York, Northeastern Pennsylvania, Indiana-Kentucky, Southwestern Minnesota, Southwestern Pennsylvania, and Metropolitan Washington, D.C., synods regarding Conversations about Ministering to Same-Gender Couples and Families;

To affirm the commitment made in the social statement Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust for "pastoral responsibility to all children of God," recognizing "familial relationship as central to nurturing and sustaining trust and security in human relationships and to advocate for public policies that support and protect families" (pp. 19, 24);

To invite and encourage conversations and resource sharing among this church's congregations, rostered and lay leaders and the Conference of Bishops on changing family configurations and their impact on society and the ministry of this church; and

To request the Church Council, in keeping with the recommendations of the Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force, to authorize a group to explore this concern and to bring a report and possible recommendations to the fall 2014 meetings of the Conference of Bishops and Church Council regarding appropriate next steps in carrying out these commitments to pastoral care for same-gender couples and their families.

Please see page 25 for Recommended Action.

V.F Committee of the Whole: Church Council Retreat

The Board Development Committee will lead us in a conversation about board governance, leadership and our upcoming Church Council retreat to be held at Camp Carol Joy Holling, Conference and Retreat Center in Ashland, Nebraska next August 15-17, 2014.

11:30 a.m. **Lunch**, Augsburg Room

11:30 a.m. Executive Committee, Pentecost

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PLENARY SESSION SIX

November 10, 2013

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

VI.A Dwelling in the Word with Susan McArver

VI.B Update on Declaration on the Way

The Rev. Donald McCoid, Assistant to the Bishop and Executive for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations, will present a report on the “Declaration on the Way” with Catholic and ELCA members. The first extensive meeting is scheduled for January.

VI.C Report of the Board and Development Committee

The following report is provided by the Board Development Committee. Additional items or revised actions may be distributed following the committee’s meeting.

VI.D Consideration of Items Removed from *En Bloc*

Please see page 24.

VI.E *En Bloc* Approval of Certain Items

The following en bloc resolution includes agenda items that will be considered on the last day 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 B](#) and [Exhibit D](#). On the first day 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 items remaining in the en bloc resolution normally will be considered as the last item of council business.

CC ACTION (Two-thirds approval required)

Recommended:

To approve the *En Bloc* continuing resolution amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* as listed in Exhibit D.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To take action *En Bloc* on the remaining items listed in Exhibits B and D.

VI.F Church Council Joys and Concerns

VI.F Report of CWA Actions

Planning for ELCA Churchwide Assemblies is a cooperative endeavor involving the Office of the Presiding Bishop, the Office of the Secretary, churchwide units, the host synod(s), and many volunteers. The presiding bishop of this church is responsible for the preparation of the agenda for the assembly, as well as the assembly worship and program (ELCA 12.31.04). The secretary is responsible for the management of the physical arrangements for the assembly, for the preparation and distribution of the *Pre-Assembly Report*, and for the establishment, in consultation with the presiding bishop, of committees that “may be necessary to facilitate the planning for and operation of the assembly” (ELCA 12.31.03. and 12.31.05.). Churchwide units assist the officers to carry out their responsibilities. A local arrangements committee helps to coordinate the use of volunteers in close cooperation with the host synod. An assembly planning committee helps to plan for and coordinate this complex partnership.

The Church Council plays an important role in the development of agenda items for the Churchwide Assembly, since it reviews all recommendations from churchwide units that are to be considered by the Churchwide Assembly (ELCA 14.21.03.); the council also proposes a budget for consideration by the assembly, upon recommendation by the presiding bishop. In carrying out its review of unit proposals, the Church Council works closely with the boards and churchwide units. Throughout the triennium, the council is in regular communication with the boards and churchwide units as actions are being shaped.

VI.F.1 Evaluation of 2013 Churchwide Assembly

The report of the evaluation of the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly is printed in [Exhibit Q](#). At the council’s November 2013 meeting, members who attended the assembly will have an opportunity to share their perspectives on the assembly, which will inform those who already are planning for the 2016 Churchwide Assembly, which will be held August 8-14, 2016, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

VI.G New Business

VI.H Evaluation and debriefing

VI.I Process Observation

VI.J Closing Prayer

3:00 p.m. Adjournment

VI.C Items Removed from En Bloc (Continued from page 22)

Legal and Constitutional Review Committee (Originally Exhibit D, Part IV.C)

IV.C Amendments to Seminary Governing Documents

Bylaw 8.31.02. describes the process for making amendments to seminary governing documents. "Amendments to the governing documents of each separately incorporated seminary and each seminary cluster shall be submitted, upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization, to the Church Council for approval."

The amendments are detailed in the bylaws of Luther Seminary found in [Exhibit H, Part 3](#).

~~CC ACTION [EN BLOC]~~

~~Recommended:~~

~~To approve the amended bylaws of the Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota as detailed in Exhibit H, Part 3.~~

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the amended bylaws of Luther Seminary, with the exception of amendments to Articles IV and V; and

To recommend that the Church Council authorize the Executive Committee, in consultation with the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee and the appropriate churchwide unit, to approve any changes to the seminary bylaws that are submitted prior to the spring 2014 Church Council meeting.

V.E.4 Category A4: Same-Gender Couples and Their Families (CA13.03.12)
(Continued from page 22)

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To affirm the 2013 Churchwide Assembly action to invite and encourage conversations and resource sharing among this church's congregations, rostered and lay leaders and the Conference of Bishops on changing family configurations and their impact on society and the ministry of this church;

To authorize a working group to explore this social concern and to bring recommendations regarding appropriate next steps in carrying out these commitments to pastoral care for same-gender couples and their families;

To request a sub-group of the Program and Services Committee of the Church Council, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and Office of the Presiding Bishop, to identify and recommend individuals to serve on a working group, with voices representing the breadth of viewpoints identified in the Social Statement, *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*, and including, specifically, representation by members of the LGBTQ community;

To authorize the Executive Committee to appoint a working group; and

To request that the working group bring progress reports to Conference of Bishops and Church Council beginning in fall 2014 and for a final report and possible recommendations be brought to the November 2015 Church Council meeting.