

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHURCH COUNCIL
June 24, 2020
1:00 – 2:00 pm CT (Central Time)
Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

To join the online meeting automatically:

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[Learn more about Teams](#) | [Meeting options](#)



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

For assistance

If you need any assistance, please contact IT (773) 380-2472 or HelpDesk@elca.org

Participants

Voting Members

Mr. Kevin Anderson	Pr. Chad Huebner
Bp. Tracie Bartholomew	Mr. Jim Jennings
Ms. Tracey Beasley	Ms. Pat Kluetz
Pr. Marcus Bigott	Mr. David Lenz
Pr. Nick Billardello	Pr. Tara Lynn
Ms. Susan Boxberger	Mr. Keoni Newman
Ms. Lisa Burk	Mr. Joe Nolte
Pr. Bill Callister	Mr. Gary Pederson
Pr. Karn Carroll	Mr. William Rice (<i>nominated</i>)
Ms. Cheryl Chatman	Pr. Ricardo Rivera
Mr. Ismael Danforth	Deacon Sue Rothmeyer, Secretary
Ms. Divine	Mr. Noah Roux
Bp. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop	Ms. Valerie Shaw
Pr. Joanne Engquist	Mr. Loren Solberg
Ms. Lori Fedyk, Treasurer	Pr. Kjersten Sullivan
Pr Dena Gable	Ms. Loni Taylor
Pr. Emily Hartner	Ms. Emma Wagner
Pr. Pamela Hoh	Ms. Sonja Wolfe
Ms. Cherrish Holland	Ms. Merritt Zesinger
Mr. William Horne, Vice President	

Liaison Bishops

Bp. Jon Anderson	Bp. Donald Kreiss
Bp. Sue Briner	Bp. John Macholz
Bp. Jeffrey Clements	Bp. Pedro Suárez
Bp. Barbara Collins	Bp. Shelley Wickstrom
Bp. Guy Erwin	

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. Rhondean Johnson, Executive for Human Resources
Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Ecumenical and
Pr. Walter May, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Synod Relations
Deacon Mary Ann Schwabe, Natural Systems Coordinator
Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Bishop, Governance
Deacon John Weit, Assistant to the Bishop, Executive for Worship
Pr. Roger Willer, Director, Theological Ethics

Office of the Secretary

Mr. Thomas Cunniff, General Counsel
Ms. Aja Favors, Associate General Counsel
Pr. Keith Fry, Assistant to the Secretary
Ms. Marit Johnson, Manager, Official Documentation

Unit Staff

Pr. Philip Hirsch, Executive Director, Domestic Mission (DM)
Ms. Kathy Freeman Summers, Executive Director, Mission Advancement (MA)
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission (GM)
Ms. Evelyn Soto, Director for DM Operations and Programs, DM
Ms. Jocelyn Fuller, Senior Director for Strategic Communications, MA

Press

Ms. Candice Hill Buchbinder, Mission Advancement

I. 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.

II. Church Council Election

The nominating committee has nominated Mr. William “Bill” Rice, Norway, MI, to fill the vacancy of Mr. Philip Wirtanen, Northern Great Lakes Synod [5G], who died in a car accident on February 1, 2020. Biographical information for the nominee is provided [here](#).

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect Mr. William “Bill” Rice, Norway, MI [5G], to the Church Council for a term ending 2022.

III. Report of the Program and Services Committee

The following report is provided by the Program and Services Committee.

A. Proposed Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement

The Proposed Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement was written at the request of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly [CA19.05.29] and authorized by the Church Council [19.11.47w].

[Social messages](#) are teaching documents of the ELCA focused on particular social topics. They are intended to focus attention and urge action on timely, pressing matters of social concern to church and society. ELCA social statements are more comprehensive documents developed via a five-year process led by a task force and adopted at churchwide assemblies. To read more about the upcoming work toward a social statement on church and state, click [here](#).

At its June 19 meeting, Program and Services Committee reviewed and approved the amendments to the [Proposed Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement](#) and now recommends its adoption.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To adopt “Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy” as a social message of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

IV. *En Bloc* Approval of Certain Items

The following en bloc resolution includes agenda items considered 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](#).

If a Church Council member wishes to remove an item from en bloc, they should notify Secretary Sue Rothmeyer by email at Sue.Rothmeyer@elca.org before 12:00 pm CT on June 24, 2020. Any such item removed from the en bloc resolution will be discussed prior to the en bloc resolution vote.

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.

- V. Discussion on November 2020 Church Council meeting**
This is an opportunity for the Church Council to discuss the options of conducting an in-person or virtual meeting for the November 2020 Church Council meeting.

- VI. Updates from Officers and Conference of Bishops (*only as needed and if time allows*)**
 - A. Presiding Bishop**
 - B. Secretary**
 - C. Treasurer**
 - D. Conference of Bishops Chair**

- VII. Adjournment**