



Report of the Church Council

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Summary of Meetings

August 14, 2011

The seventy-second meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened on Sunday, August 14, 2011, in the Marcos Island and Harbor Beach Rooms of the Orlando World Center Marriott at Orlando, Florida. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 10:29 A.M. (Eastern Daylight Time).

Voted:

CC11.08.47

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

Voted:

CC11.08.48

To recommend the following for adoption by the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

To adopt the following amendments to the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*:

8.30. Relationship with Institutions and Agencies

8.31. Seminaries. This church shall sponsor, support, and provide for oversight of seminaries for the preparation of persons for the ordained and other ministries and for continuing study on the part of ordained ministers and laypersons.

8.31.01. Each seminary ~~shall be a seminary of this church;~~ shall be separately incorporated, and or, if unincorporated, shall be a school, department or unit of a college or university of this church. Whether separately incorporated or not, seminaries of this church shall be governed by its board of directors consistent with policies established by the Church Council upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization. Seminaries may be organized into groupings, known as clusters, for the purposes of cooperation, interaction and support.

8.31.02. 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. Amendments to the governing documents of a college or university of this church that affect the authority or integrity of an unincorporated seminary of this church associated with that college or university shall be submitted, upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization, to the Church Council for approval.

8.31.0203. The board of directors of each separately incorporated seminary shall be nominated and elected to terms as specified in the governing documents of the respective seminaries, and shall consist of ~~20~~12 to 30 members, as follows:

- a. At least one-fifth nominated, in consultation with the seminaries, by the appropriate churchwide unit and elected by the Church Council;
- b. Two members elected by the bishops of the supporting synods from among their number; and
- c. The remaining members elected by the supporting synods, in consultation with the seminaries, with the number to be elected by each synod set forth in the governing documents of the seminary. Elections shall be so arranged that the terms of all directors of any given seminary elected in any year shall commence simultaneously.

- 8.31.0304.** Each unincorporated seminary shall have an advisory council or governing board distinct from the board of directors of the college or university of which the seminary is a school, department or unit. The seminary advisory council or governing board shall relate to the Church Council through the appropriate churchwide unit. The members of the unincorporated seminary's advisory council or governing board shall be elected as specified in the governing documents of the related college or university, and shall consist of 12 to 30 members, as follows:
- a. At least one-fifth nominated by the Church Council upon recommendation of the appropriate churchwide unit after consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board;
 - b. Two members nominated by the bishops of the supporting synods from among their number;
 - c. One member, who shall serve as chair of the advisory council or governing board and as a voting member of the board of directors of the college or university, nominated by the Church Council, upon recommendation of the appropriate churchwide unit after consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board; and
 - d. The remaining members to be from the supporting synods, nominated by the seminary's advisory council or governing board in consultation with the supporting synods.
- 8.31.05.** ~~In accordance with the governing documents of each separately incorporated seminary, the board of directors shall elect the president of the seminary in consultation with the presiding bishop of this church and the appropriate churchwide unit of the churchwide organization as designated by the Church Council; elect and retain faculty and administrative officers, and approve educational policies and programs for persons preparing for public ministry. The board shall exercise all other normal governance functions, including the granting of degrees, holding title to and managing all seminary property and assets, receiving gifts and bequests, establishing salaries for faculty and administrative officers, providing for the financial resources and fiscal contracts required to operate the seminary, appointment of tenured faculty, and shall have authority to recruit students throughout this church.~~
- 8.31.0406.** Each unincorporated seminary shall have a chief administrative officer, such as an academic dean, seminary provost, or vice president, who is on the roster of ordained ministers of this church. In the appointment or election of the chief administrative officer of the seminary, the college or university shall consult with the seminary advisory council or governing board, the presiding bishop of this church, and the appropriate churchwide unit. The college or university board shall exercise all other normal governance functions, including the appointment of tenured faculty, in consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board, and shall have authority to recruit students throughout this church.
- 8.31.07.** ~~The seminaries shall receive churchwide and synodical financial support. The amount of such support shall be determined through a consultation process involving seminaries, synods, and the appropriate churchwide unit of the churchwide organization as designated by the Church Council. ¶8.31.05: To implement financial support by this church, synods shall be assigned to specific seminaries in such manner as to attain equitable distribution of synods. Normally, all synods in a given region will be assigned to one seminary. Churchwide funds shall be distributed according to a formula developed by the appropriate churchwide unit and approved by the Church Council. ¶8.31.06: Seminaries shall provide for their remaining financial requirements through tuition, fees, endowment income, and fund-raising programs. Fund-raising in the congregations of supporting synods, however, shall be conducted only upon approval of the synods.~~
- 8.31.0708.** ~~Aid to students preparing for the ministries of this church shall be administered by the seminaries under guidelines developed by the appropriate churchwide units in consultation with the presidents of the seminaries and adopted by the Church Council.~~
- 8.32.** **Colleges and Universities. This church shall express its responsibility for higher education through its colleges and universities, the appropriate churchwide unit as determined by the Church Council, and its synods. While variation is possible in college or university relationships across this church, this church recognizes the desirability of some degree of uniformity of relationship for colleges and universities within the same region.**
- 8.32.01.** ~~The relationship of this church to its colleges and universities shall be guided by policies fostering educational institutions dedicated to the Lutheran tradition wherein such institutions are an essential part of God's mission in the world; faithful to the will of God as institutions providing quality instruction in religion and a lively ministry of worship, outreach, and service; diligent in their preparation of leaders~~

committed to truth, excellence, and ethical values; and pledged to the well-being of students in the development of mind, body, and spirit.

- 8.32.02.** Colleges and universities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America may relate to this church in various ways, including relationship with the Churchwide Assembly, a synodical assembly, or a corporation whose voting members are, or have been elected by, synodical assemblies, other organizational units (conferences, clusters, etc.), or congregations. Subject to approval by the appropriate synods, a college or university may be owned by a not-for-profit corporation (1) that has voting members, at least 90 percent of whom shall consist of members of the Churchwide Assembly, and (2) that shall hold the meeting of such a corporation in conjunction with the Churchwide Assembly for the purpose of electing or ratifying members of the governing board and approving amendments to the governing documents. At least 60 percent of the members of the governing boards of the corporations that meet in conjunction with the Churchwide Assembly shall be members of this church.
- 8.32.03.** Primary responsibility for recruiting members for its board belongs to each college or university of this church. This responsibility is best exercised when appropriate structures of this church are substantially involved. The college or university and the appropriate synods shall determine how many of the college or university board members are to be elected or ratified by the approved form of relationship as provided in 8.32.02.
- 8.32.04.** The responsibility for initiating changes in constitutional documents rests with each college or university of this church. Each college or university will reach agreement with the appropriate structures of this church as identified in 8.32.02. regarding changes in constitutional documents. This church's participation may range from prior consultation to final approval.
- 8.32.05.** Representation of members of this church on college or university boards, limitation of terms for board members, whether or not college or university presidents shall be members of this church, and representation of bishops of synods on college or university boards shall be determined by each institution and the appropriate synods.
- 8.32.06.** In addition to and consistent with the above provision 8.32. and bylaws 8.32.01. through 8.32.05., colleges and universities of this church where a school, department or unit of that institution is a seminary of this church must comply with all requirements, policies, procedures and standards specified in provision 8.31. and bylaws 8.31.01. through 8.31.08.

Voted:

CC11.08.49

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions to seek a decrease in the percentage of sharing of 2011 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: Metropolitan Chicago; Greater Milwaukee; Southeast Michigan; Southern Ohio; and Caribbean synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to increase the percentage of sharing of 2011 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Arkansas-Oklahoma and Upper Susquehanna synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2011 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries but estimating an adjustment in the estimated amount to be shared: Northwest Washington; Southwestern Washington; Pacifica; Northeastern Minnesota; Southwestern Minnesota; Nebraska; Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast; Central/Southern Illinois; South-Central Synod of Wisconsin; New England; and Southeastern Pennsylvania synods; 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.

Voted:

CC11.08.50

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2012 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: Metropolitan Chicago; Southeast Michigan; and West Virginia-Western Maryland synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to increase the percentage of sharing of 2012 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Alaska; Eastern Washington-Idaho; Sierra-Pacific; Arkansas-Oklahoma; Western Iowa; Southern Ohio; Delaware-Maryland; Virginia; Florida-Bahamas; and Caribbean synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2012 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Northwest Washington; Southwest California; Pacifica; Grand Canyon; Eastern North Dakota; Northwestern Minnesota; Southwestern Minnesota; Minneapolis Area; Saint Paul Area; Central/Southern Illinois; Southeastern Iowa; Greater Milwaukee; South-Central Synod of Wisconsin; North/West Lower Michigan; Indiana-Kentucky; Northeastern Pennsylvania; Southeastern Pennsylvania; Slovak Zion; Northwestern Pennsylvania; Allegheny; and Upper Susquehanna synods;

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; and

To request that the following synods submit their 2012 Mission Support plans: Western North Dakota; Northwestern Ohio; Northeastern Ohio; and Metropolitan New York synods.

Voted: ***CC11.08.51***

To take action en bloc on the following items:

Voted: En Bloc ***CC11.08.52***

To authorize the officers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the continuing members of the Executive Committee to serve as the Executive Committee of the Church Council between the Churchwide Assembly and the November 2011 meeting of the Church Council.

Voted: En Bloc ***CC11.08.53***

To ratify the following appointments of continuing members of the Church Council to Church Council committees for the 2011–2013 biennium:

Budget and Finance Committee: Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth; Mr. John R. Emery; Pr. Amsalu T. Geleta; Ms. Louise A. Hemstead; and Mr. Iván A. Pérez;

Legal and Constitutional Review Committee: Mr. Mark E. Johnson; Pr. Raymond A. Miller; and Mr. Blaire P. Smith;

Planning and Evaluation Committee: Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson; Ms. Karin Lynn Graddy; Mr. William B. Horne II; Pr. Susan Langhauser (chair); Pr. J. Pablo Obregon; and

Program and Services Committee: Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke; Pr. Rachel L. Connelly; Pr. Yvonne I. Marshall; Ms. Susan W. McArver (chair); Mr. John S. Munday; Mr. Mark W. Myers; Ms. Feronika A. Raming; Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede; and Pr. Philip R. Wold.

Voted: En Bloc ***CC11.08.54***

To approve the 2011 revisions to the Church Council Orientation Manual as provided in Exhibit G.

Voted: En Bloc ***CC11.08.55***

To appoint the Rev. Mark N. Wilhelm as lead director for the ELCA on the Board of Directors of Educational and Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc., effective upon the merger of ELCA Risk Management, Inc., with and into Educational and Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc.

Voted: En Bloc ***CC11.08.56***

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran Medical Center to one-year terms expiring in 2012: Mr. John M. Nuzum and Dr. Gabriel Rincon; and

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran Medical Center to a three-year term expiring in 2014: Mr. Randolph Peers.

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.57

To approve the appointment of the following ELCA Audit Committee members to an additional two-year term, beginning August 2011: Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth (chair), Ms. Louise A. Hemstead, Mr. Timothy L. Stephan, and Mr. Philip Bertram.

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.58

To receive the resolution of the Metropolitan New York Synod calling for stability in the financial commitment to campus ministry;

To acknowledge the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America related to Lutheran Campus Ministry as the response of the Church Council to the synod's resolution; and

To request the secretary of this church to inform the synod of this action.

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.59

To receive with gratitude the resolution of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod related to ELCA Health and Benefits program;

To refer the resolution to the Board of Pensions in consultation with the Office of the Presiding Bishop, Office of the Secretary, and Office of the Treasurer;

To request that a report and possible recommendations be brought to the November 2011 meeting of the Church Council; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.60

To adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in the opinion of legal counsel (Faegre & Benson of Minneapolis), the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act authorizes the Church Council as the board of directors of this corporation to appoint additional officers; and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has authorized execution of various documents, when necessary, by two assistant vice presidents in the absence of the bishop, vice president, secretary, and treasurer (CC90.4.31*); and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has appointed various persons to be assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the previous appointments of assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation (CC90.04.32, CC92.11.103, CC96.11.61b, CC03.11.85, CC07.11.90, CC08.11.52, CC09.03.39) be and are hereby rescinded; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.04.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant vice presidents of this corporation: Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Pr. Marcus R. Kunz, Pr. Walter S. May, and Ms. Jodi L. Slattery; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.04.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant secretaries of this corporation: Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Mr. Phillip H. Harris, Ms. Laura L. Knitt, Ms. Mary Beth Nowak, and Mr. David A. Ullrich.

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.61

To receive the written report of the Office of the Secretary on nominees for the churchwide Nominating Committee;

To note that bylaw 19.21.01. states in regard to the Nominating Committee: "The Church Council shall place in nomination the names of two persons for each position. The committee shall consist of at least one member but no more than three members from any region. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted, but each floor nomination shall be presented as an alternative to a specific category named by the Church Council and shall therefore meet the same criteria as the persons against whom the nominee is nominated. In the materials provided in advance to each member of the assembly, the Church Council shall set forth the criteria applicable to each category that must be met by persons nominated from the floor";

To request, therefore, that the Church Council restrict the tickets to the following: clergy [two positions]; lay female; lay female; lay female (youth or young adult); lay male; lay young adult [two-year term]; and

To request that the Church Council transmit the following slate of nominees to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly:

CHURCHWIDE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Clergy

- A. Pr. Cherlyne V. Beck, Detroit, Mich. (6A)
- B. Pr. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Oshkosh, Wis. (5J)

Clergy

- A. Pr. Theodore W. Asta, Worcester, Mass. (7B)
- B. Pr. Jonathan W. Linman, New York, N.Y. (7C)

Lay Female

- A. Ms. Susan M. Berg, Bothell, Wash. (1B)
- B. Ms. Lori J. Splinter, Palmdale, Calif. (2B)

Lay Female [Restricted to Region 4]

- A. Ms. Stephanie S. Varnum, Dallas, Texas (4D)
- B. Ms. Vernetta I. Wilson, Tulsa, Okla. (4C)

Lay Female [Restricted to Region 8]

- A. Ms. Linda M. Chinnia, Baltimore, Md. (8F) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Jeannette Christensen, Monroeville, Penn. (8B)

Lay Male

- A. Mr. Baron Blanchard, Bismarck, N.D. (3A)
- B. Mr. Ronald C. Tvedt, Bottineau, N.D. (3A)

Lay Young Adult [Two-year term]

- A. Mr. Joe Beasley, Richmond, Va. (9A) (Y/YA)
- B. Ms. Emily Isensee, Vancouver, Wash. (1C) (Y/YA)

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.62

To ratify the following amendments to synodical constitutions:

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

S9.03. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of 12 members.

- a. One member shall be elected from each of the ten conferences to serve for a two-year term, not eligible for reelection. In the absence of an election by the conference, the Synod Council, in consultation with the conference dean, shall appoint a person from that conference to serve on Nominating Committee. ~~(The first five conference members shall be elected for one year and five for two years, thereafter on a rotating basis.)~~

S11.18. Reference and Counsel Committee. See S7.32.11., S7.32.11.A06., and S7.32.11.B06.

S11.51. To promote interdependent relations and to further the total mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and synodical units, this synod shall accord to the Churchwide units the privilege of presenting their causes through reports to the regular Synod Assemblies and shall accord the privilege of representation with voice but not vote at meetings of the Synod Council. Such groups shall include but are not limited to:

- a. The synodical women's organization;
- b. The organizations for men and youth, ~~if and when established as synodical units~~ Lutheran Men in Mission and Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO);

Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)

S7.15. ~~The Synod Council shall determine the time and place for each Synod Assembly, and be responsible for the preparation of its proposed agenda and program. The Bishop, in consultation with the Synod Council, shall determine the time and place for each Synod Assembly and be responsible for the preparation of its proposed agenda, and program.~~

S7.29. ~~Voting membership of the synod assembly shall include six youth representatives from the Lutheran Youth Organization Board. [In the Saint Paul Area Synod, the local expression of the Lutheran Youth Organization is Lutheran Youth Networking for Christ (LYNC).]~~

S8.55. ~~Should the vice president, secretary, or treasurer die, resign, or be unable to serve, the Synod Council shall appoint an interim officer to fill the vacancy for the duration of the term or until the officer is able to serve again. Such a person shall be eligible for regular election to the office by the Synod Assembly. Should the vice president, secretary, or treasurer die, resign, or be unable to serve, the bishop, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Synod Council, shall arrange for the appropriate care of the responsibilities of the officer until an election of a new officer can be held or, in the case of temporary disability, until the officer is able to serve again. The term of the successor officer, elected by the next Synod Assembly, shall be four years.~~

S9.03. Nominating Committee

S9.03.01. ~~There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of seven members who shall be appointed by the Synod Council to serve for each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by the Nominating Committee.~~

S9.04. Election of a Bishop

The bishop shall be elected by ballot by the Synod Assembly. If there is not an incumbent bishop eligible for re-election, Each Conference Assembly shall nominate up to three persons for bishop. Those Conference Assemblies shall be held at least 60 days prior to the Synod Assembly. Each of the nominees shall be contacted by the Synod Vice President to determine willingness to be to be a candidate for bishop. All persons responding affirmatively shall submit background information using a uniform format to the synod office at least 45 days prior to the Synod Assembly. The background information shall be sent to all voting members at least 30 days prior to the Synod Assembly. The first ballot shall be the candidates of the Conference Assemblies and the nominations from the floor of the Synod Assembly. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot.

When the incumbent bishop is eligible and available to serve a second term, the election by the Synod Assembly for the next term shall be by ecclesiastical ballot, without a conference nominating process. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot. If no one is elected, the first ballot shall be considered a nominating ballot.

The second ballot shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of legal votes on the first ballot, and three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.

The third ballot shall be limited to five persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the second ballot, and two-thirds of the legal votes shall be necessary for election.

The fourth ballot shall be limited to three persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the third ballot, and 60 percent of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.

On subsequent ballots a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the previous ballot.

Seconding speeches or statements by the candidates may be permitted before any ballot, according to the rules adopted by the Synod Assembly.

In the event of the death or resignation of the bishop of the synod, the Synod Council shall appoint an interim bishop for the length of the vacancy. This person shall be precluded from candidacy for election as bishop of the synod at the next election.

~~**S9.11.** The Synod Council shall elect or appoint representatives to the steering committee of its region.~~

~~**S9.12:S9.14.** Candidates for election by the Synod Council to the boards of agencies and institutions affiliated with this Synod shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee or by the agency or institution. The Nominating Committee shall nominate persons for election by the Synod Council to the boards of agencies and institutions affiliated with this synod.~~

~~**S9.13:S9.16.** The Nominating Committee shall nominate persons for election by the Synod Assembly to serve as the youth member of the Synod Council. A youth shall be someone who is 14–17 years of age or entering 10–12 grade at the time of his/her election.~~

S10.03. The functions of the Synod Council shall be to:

- a) Exercise trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of this synod.
- b) Recommend program goals and budgets to the regular meetings of the Synod Assembly.
- c) Carry out the resolutions of the Synod Assembly.
- d) Provide for an annual review of the roster of ordained ministers and of other official rosters, receive and act upon appropriate recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and make a report to the Synod Assembly of the Synod Council's actions in this regard.
- e) Issue letters of call to ordained ministers and letters of call to associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers as authorized by Chapter 7 of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

- f) Fill vacancies until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly except as may otherwise be provided in the constitution or bylaws of this synod, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of this synod.
- g) Report its actions to the regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- h) Perform such other functions as are set forth in the bylaws of this synod, or as may be delegated to it by the Synod Assembly.
- ~~i) Appoint members of the Region 3 Steering Committee according to the Region 3 Orders of Governance and the rotation for representation defined by the Steering Committee.~~
- ji) Appoint members to the boards of Partners in Ministry in accordance with the partner ministries' governing documents.

~~S11.05:~~S11.01.02. Should a synod committee member elected by the Synod Assembly die, resign or be unable to serve, the Synod Council shall appoint a replacement until the next Synod Assembly at which time a person shall be elected to complete the term.

~~S11.06:~~S11.01.03. Should a synod committee member elected by a conference die, resign or be unable to serve, the Synod Council shall appoint a replacement until the next Conference Assembly at which time a person shall be elected to complete the term.

~~S11.07:~~S11.01.04. Should a synod committee member elected by the Synod Council die, resign or be unable to serve, the Synod Council shall appoint a replacement to complete the term.

~~S11.20.~~ ~~Synod Council Leadership Teams~~

~~S11.21.~~ ~~A Synod Council Leadership Team is a unit of the synod to which is assigned policy responsibility for an identified portion of the program of the synod. The description of such leadership teams and their functions shall be set forth in the bylaws. The leadership teams shall establish task forces as the Synod Council may from time to time determine.~~

~~S11.40:~~S11.20. Task Force

~~S11.41:~~S11.21. A task force is a temporary unit of the synod which is assigned responsibility for an identified portion of the program work of this synod. Such assignment may be made by the Synod Assembly or by the Synod Council. Normally its term of existence is defined by the unit which establishes it. It is subject to annual review by the initiating unit. Membership is determined by the initiating unit.

Southeastern Iowa Synod (5D)

~~S7.23.~~ ~~All ordained ministers on leave from call, all associates in ministry on leave from call, all deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on leave from call, and all diaconal ministers of this church on leave from call, all of whose names appear on the rosters of this synod, shall have the privilege of voice and vote at all meetings of the Synod Assembly. The presiding bishop of the Evangelical Church in America and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council shall have voice but not vote in the meeting of the Synod Assembly, unless the presiding bishop or other representative is already a voting member of the Synod Assembly under another provision of this constitution or bylaws. The privilege of voice but not vote shall be accorded to those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.~~

~~S7.42.~~ This synod shall be responsible for assembly expenses for persons who are not serving as voting members sent by their congregations, agencies or institutions but whose participation is expected by the Synod Council, such as the four officers of this synod, synod staff, and members of Synod Council. This synod shall also be responsible for assembly expenses for members of this synod's organizational units, boards, committees, ministry teams, and such others whose attendance the Synod Council specifically requests.

North/West Lower Michigan Synod (6B)

~~S8.55.~~ Should the vice-president or secretary die, resign, or be unable to serve, the bishop, with the approval of the Executive Committee of the Synod Council shall arrange for the appropriate care of the responsibilities of the officer until an election of a new officer can be held or, in the case of temporary

disability, until the officer is able to serve again. The term of the successor officer, elected by the next Synod Assembly, shall be ~~four years~~ the unfulfilled term of the previously elected officer.

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K)

- S7.17.** The synod bishop shall appoint a ~~resolutions~~ reference and counsel committee for each meeting of the Synod Assembly. All resolutions not previously received for inclusion on the meeting agenda shall be introduced to the Synod Assembly for inclusion on the agenda and referred to this committee. The committee shall put resolutions in proper form, eliminate duplication where similar resolutions are offered, and insure that all resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in logical sequence. The Synod Assembly shall approve these appointments.
- S9.05.** The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least ~~two persons~~ one person for vice-president; additional nominations may be made from the floor.
- S9.06.** The Synod Council shall nominate ~~two persons~~ at least one person for secretary; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Southeastern Synod (9D)

- S7.12.b.** If the special meeting of the Synod Assembly is for the purpose of electing a successor bishop because of death, resignation, or inability to serve, the special meeting shall be called by the presiding bishop of this church in cooperation with the Synod Council.
- S7.24.** Ordained ministers under call on the roster of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly so long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the roster of ordained ministers of this synod. Associates in ministry, deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and diaconal ministers of this church serving under call on the roster of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly so long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the official lay roster of this synod. Lay members of the Synod Assembly representing congregations shall continue as such until replaced by the election of new members or until they have been disqualified by termination of membership. Normally, congregations will hold elections prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- S13.11.** When ~~the a~~ a pastor or when an associate in ministry, deaconess, or diaconal minister resigns, the Congregation Council shall receive the letter of resignation, report it to the congregation, and at once notify the bishop of this synod.

Oregon Synod (1E)

- S15.41.** The Oregon Synod Endowment Fund shall be maintained as a ~~restricted~~ clearly segregated fund of the Oregon Synod. *(Remainder is unchanged.)*
- S15.42.** An Endowment Fund ~~Committee~~ Board of Trustees shall direct the activities of the Fund and shall have fiduciary responsibility for the Fund. The ~~Committee~~ Board of Trustees will consist of 9 members elected by the Synod Assembly to three-year, staggered terms. Members may be once reelected. The bishop and the treasurer of this synod will be members ex-officio.
- S15.43.** The Endowment Fund ~~Committee~~ Board of Trustees shall focus on ministry through major gifts and estate planning, working to enhance the practice of Christian stewardship to educate persons in the ministry needs of the Church, and to provide the opportunity to participate in the work and vision of the Church both now and for years to come. Further, the Endowment Fund ~~Committee~~ Board of Trustees shall:
- (a.-b. unchanged)*
- c. submit a budget recommendation annually to the ~~treasurer~~ Synod Council for inclusion ~~without change and clearly segregated from other synod activities~~ in this synod's annual budget pursuant to S15.12. ~~Expenditure authorizations are subject to revision in light of changing conditions by the Endowment Fund Committee,~~
 - d. designate a Custodian and other persons, as necessary, to execute the instructions of the ~~Committee~~ Board of Trustees, and

- e. propose such constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolution changes to the Synod Council for adoption by the assembly and enact such operating guidelines, investment directions and other procedures as may be required for the preservation and orderly management of the Fund.

Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod (1D)

- S9.04.** The bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from among those nominated in the following manner:
- a. Each cluster may submit up to three names of those whom they wish to nominate for the office of bishop and shall submit written vitae for each nominee, said vitae to adhere to a format established by the elections committee; names of said nominees and their vitae shall then be published in the voting members' pre-assembly packet.
 - ~~b. Additional spoken nominations may later be made from the assembly floor, providing written vitae following the established format are then available to the voting members.~~
 - ~~eb.~~ Three-fourths of the votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot.
 - ~~dc.~~ The second ballot shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes on the first ballot, and two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for election.
 - ~~ed.~~ The third ballot shall be limited to the three persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes on the second ballot, and 60 percent of the votes cast shall be necessary for election.
 - ~~fe.~~ Prior to the casting of the third ballot, the three or more persons to appear on the ballot, if they are present, shall be invited to address the Assembly.
 - ~~gf.~~ On subsequent ballots a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of votes on the previous ballot.

Southwestern Minnesota (3F)

~~**S11.20.** — Conference Call Process Teams~~

Voted: En Bloc

CC11.08.63

To acknowledge, in accordance with bylaw 14.21.16. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* and the "Policy on Relationships of Churchwide Units with Independent Lutheran Organizations," the Wartburg Foundation, which will relate to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit.

Voted:

CC11.08.64

To approve the following citation:

To express abundant and abiding gratitude to Mr. John G. Kapanke for his 24 years of service as the first president of the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To recall that he was elected as president of the ELCA's Board of Pensions on June 30, 1987, during the days of the formation of this church, and that he subsequently was reelected five times with his final term as president concluding on September 30, 2011;

To declare gratitude for Mr. Kapanke's commitment to ensuring that the Board of Pensions has operated consistently throughout the years as one of the units within the churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To remember Mr. Kapanke's leadership in guiding the application of the mission, vision, and values of this church and its Board of Pensions to the daily operations of the board in seeking to be faithful to the well-being of members;

To be mindful of Mr. Kapanke's service in working to control the costs within the health plan of this church for the benefit of members, congregations, synods, churchwide ministries, and other sponsoring entities, while also maintaining the quality of such coverage for all members and encouraging steps toward healthier patterns of living to enhance the general well-being of members;

To acknowledge with thanks the ways in which Mr. Kapanke worked to build and maintain relationships with bishops and staff members of synods with clear communication for fostering mutual understanding of needs and concerns;

To be mindful of the steps that Mr. Kapanke initiated through ongoing strategic planning to develop and maintain broadly accessible and efficient service for members and congregations as well as other sponsoring entities;

To underscore the importance of Mr. Kapanke's leadership as president for many years of the Church Alliance in working ecumenically with the leaders of the pension and benefits plans of other churches, including monitoring the impact of federal legislation on such plans; and

To express the hope that Mr. Kapanke will step into a new stage in his life with grand memories of his years of service as president of the Board of Pensions and deep awareness of the gratitude of this church for his leadership.

Voted:

CC11.08.65

To approve the following citation:

To express deep gratitude to Christina Jackson-Skelton for the decade of exceptional service as treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and president of the Mission Investment Fund from February 2002 until August 31, 2011;

To recognize her unwavering commitment to and support of the mission and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To acknowledge her financial expertise, her application of that expertise to this church's life and mission, and her effective stewardship of the financial and physical resources of this church, including accounting, insurance, property management, investment; and money management;

To thank her for reports that provided clarity and transparency about the financial position of this church, but always within the context of being generous and faithful stewards of God's gifts;

To recall her sound judgments and collaborative work with colleagues and partners;

To call to mind the trust of leaders and members of this church that the church's financial resources were being handled with integrity and care;

To remember her commitment that this church work within the available financial and physical resources, always seeking to grow both in our giving and in our capacity to be in mission together;

To celebrate that under her leadership the investments of ELCA members in the Mission Investment Fund have generated growth in the Fund's assets from \$380 million to \$640 million in nine years;

To acknowledge with joy that she will continue to provide leadership within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as executive director of the Mission Advancement unit;

To give thanks to God for her "work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

Upon action of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the *Servus Dei* Medal is conferred upon Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 2002–2011.

The seventy-second meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned Sunday, August 14, 2011, at 3:55 P.M. (Eastern Daylight Time).

November 11–13, 2011

The seventy-third meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 2:13 P.M. (Central Standard Time) on Friday, November 11, 2011.

VOTED:

CC11.11.66

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

VOTED:

CC11.11.67

To approve the minutes of the April 8–10, 2011; May 23, 2011; July 28, 2011; and August 14, 2011, meetings of the Church Council; and

To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the April 8, 2011; July 6, 2011; July 13, 2011; July 28, 2011; and August 13, 2011, meetings.

VOTED:

CC11.11.68

To ratify the appointments to the Church Council committees and other advisory responsibilities for the 2011–2013 biennium as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Pr. Mark S. Hanson, *presiding bishop*
Mr. David D. Swartling, *secretary*
Pr. Linda O. Norman, *treasurer*
Mr. Carlos E. Peña, *vice president and chair*
Pr. Susan Langhauser, *chair of Planning and Evaluation Committee*

[Chair of Program and Services Committee]

[Chair of Budget and Finance Committee]

[Chair of Legal and Constitutional Committee]

[Three at-large members to be elected by Church Council]

AUDIT COMMITTEE

2012: Mr. John Timmer
2013: Mr. Philip Bertram
Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth (*chair*)
Ms. Louise A. Hemstead
Mr. Timothy Stephan

[One to be appointed by Church Council]

Staff: Treasurer Linda O. Norman

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

2013: Pr. Rachel L. Connelly
2015: Mr. William B. Horne II
Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede
2017: Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson
Pr. Stephen R. Herr

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer Linda O. Norman
2013: Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth
Mr. John R. Emery
2015: Pr. Amsalu T. Geleta
Ms. Louise A. Hemstead
Mr. Iván A. Pérez
2017: Pr. Elizabeth E. Ekdale
Mr. Gary D. Gabrielson
Pr. Vicki T. Garber

Liaison Bishops: Bp. Ralph E. Jones
Bp. Margaret G. Payne

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

2013: Mr. Mark E. Johnson
2015: Pr. Raymond A. Miller
Mr. Blaire P. Smith
2017: Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis
Pr. Stephen R. Herr
Staff: Secretary David D. Swartling
Liaison Bishops: Bp. Wm. Chris Boerger
Bp. Harold L. Usgaard
Bp. Martin D. Wells

PLANNING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

2013: Ms. Karin Lynn Graddy
Pr. Susan Langhauser (*chair*)
2015: Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson
Mr. William B. Horne II
2017: Ms. Christine P. Connell
Mr. John M. Pederson
Liaison Bishops: Bp. Michael L. Burk
Bp. Elizabeth A. Eaton

CHURCH COUNCIL TASK FORCES

PRAYER TEAM

Mr. Paul G. Archer
Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke
Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly
Mr. John R. Emery
Pr. Vicki T. Garber
Ms. Karin Lynn Graddy
Pr. Raymond A. Miller
Pr. Robert G. Moore
Mr. John S. Munday
Mr. Blaire P. Smith
Pr. Philip R. Wold

RACIAL JUSTICE WORKING GROUP

Ms. Christine P. Connell
Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis
Mr. Gary D. Gabrielson

PROGRAM AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

2013: Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly
Mr. John S. Munday
Mr. Mark W. Myers
2015: Pr. Yvonne I. Marshall
Ms. Susan W. McArver (*chair*)
Ms. Feronika A. Raming
Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede
Pr. Philip R. Wold
2017: Mr. Paul G. Archer
Pr. Robert G. Moore
Ms. Pamela E. Pritt
Pr. Laurie F. Skow-Anderson
Liaison Bishops: Bp. Gerald L. Mansholt
Bp. Herman R. Yoos III

CHURCH COUNCIL LIAISON POSITIONS

COMMUNAL DISCERNMENT

Pr. Susan Langhauser

CRIMINAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

Mr. John S. Munday

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

[To be appointed by Church Council]

JUSTICE FOR WOMEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ms. Karin Lynn Graddy

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

To be determined

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Mr. Mark W. Myers

VOTED:

CC11.11.69

To reaffirm the process for the election of the Executive Committee for the 2011–2013 biennium; and
To declare that the 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.

VOTED:

CC11.11.70

To acknowledge the commitment of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to have “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.

VOTED:

CC11.11.71

To declare the following elected:

- Advisory Committee for *The Lutheran* magazine
 - Region 6, Lay Male [Term 2015] – to fill the unexpired term of John Wagner
Mr. Jack H. Palmer, Defiance, Ohio (6D)
 - Region 4, Lay Male [Term 2017]
Mr. John David Hanna, Topeka, Kansas (4B)
 - Region 5, Clergy [Term 2017]
Pr. Norman Keith Fry, Elgin, Illinois (5A)
 - Region 8, Lay Female [Term 2017]
Ms. Sara Johe Busse, Charleston, West Virginia (8H)

VOTED:

CC11.11.72

To amend the following continuing resolution:

17.20.A11. *Responsibilities of the Board of Pensions*

The Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—also known as Portico Benefit Services—shall: . . . [with the rest of the continuing resolution unchanged]

VOTED:

CC11.11.73

To approve an initial 2012 fiscal year current fund spending authorization of \$64,173,000; and
To approve an initial 2012 fiscal year World Hunger spending authorization of \$18,500,000.

VOTED:

CC11.11.74

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increases in the percentage for the sharing of 2012 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Western North Dakota; Metropolitan New York; and Caribbean;

To affirm the revised 2012 Mission Support dollar estimates for the sharing of Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Northwestern Ohio and Northeastern Ohio;

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synod have led to decisions to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2012 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: Upstate New York; 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.

VOTED:

CC11.11.75

To declare Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth and the Rev. Amsalu T. Geleta elected to the Executive Committee of the Church Council.

VOTED:

CC11.11.76

To declare Mr. William B. Horne II elected to the Executive Committee of the Church Council.

VOTED:

CC11.11.77

To respond to the actions of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly [CA11.04.21] concerning the report and recommendations of the task force on Living into the Future Together: Renewing the Ecology of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (LIFT);

To acknowledge that the assembly called on the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in collaboration with the Church Council and the Conference of Bishops, to provide a means to continue the work assigned to the LIFT task force;

To establish an Advisory Committee to assist the Office of the Presiding Bishop in its collaboration with the Church Council and the Conference of Bishops to continue the work assigned to the LIFT task force;

To appoint the following people as members of the Advisory Committee: the Rev. Robert N. Bacher; Ms. Karin L. Graddy, Church Council; Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth, Church Council; the Rev. Richard H. Graham, bishop of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod; Mr. William B. Horne II, Church Council; and the Rev. Diane H. "Dee" Pederson; and

To request that an interim report be brought to the April 2012 meeting of the Church Council and that a final report and possible recommendations be brought to the November 2012 Church Council meeting.

VOTED:

CC11.11.78

To respond to the authorization of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly that the Church Council, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and the Communal Discernment Task Force, establish a review process of current procedures for the development and adoption of documents addressing social concerns;

To request that the Executive Committee, in consultation with the Program and Services Committee, appoint members to serve on the "Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force" by its December 2011 meeting;

To approve a charter with specific interim reports to the Conference of Bishops and Church Council for the work of the task force; and

To anticipate that the task force will bring a report to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council, which will serve as the basis for a report with possible recommendations to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

The Charter for the Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force is an element of the Report of the Addressing Social Concerns Task Force, which is available in Section VI: Other Assembly-Related Documents of the *Pre-Assembly Report* and the e-binder.

VOTED:

CC11.11.79

To adopt the schedule provided below; and

To request that the Program and Services Committee reassess the revised timeline and question of capacity at its November 2013 meeting and in consideration of the actions of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

Social Teaching Development Schedule Through 2016

	Fall 2011	Winter 2012	Spring 2012	Summer 2012	Fall 2012	Winter 2013	Spring 2013	Summer 2013	Fall 2013	Winter 2014
Criminal Justice	Study		Draft Hrgs	Hrgs	Hrgs	Prop	CC	CWA	Pub	
Justice for Women			TF						Study	Study
Mental Health		Consult	Writing	Draft	CC	Pub				
Genetics*		Pub			Study Guide					

Continued from above	Spring 2014	Summer 2014	Fall 2014	Winter 2015	Spring 2015	Summer 2015	Fall 2015	Winter 2016	Spring 2016	Summer 2016
Criminal Justice			Study Guide							
Justice for Women	Study	Study	Study		Draft Hrgs	Hrgs	Hrgs	Prop	CC	CWA
Mental Health										

Key to abbreviations:

- TF = Task Force begins
- Hrgs = Hearings Cycle
- Prop = Proposed Statement Review Cycle
- CC = Church Council consideration
- CWA = Churchwide Assembly consideration
- Pub = Publish
- * listed for information only

VOTED:

CC11.11.80

To thank the Southeastern Minnesota Synod for its resolution related to the ELCA Health and Benefits Program;
 To receive the report of the ELCA Board of Pensions prepared in consultation with the Office of the Presiding Bishop, Office of the Secretary, and Office of the Treasurer;
 To request that a report from the ELCA Board of Pensions on the impact of participation levels be brought to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council; and
 To request the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED:

CC11.11.81

To refer the third paragraph of the Churchwide Assembly's action on Memorials Category B2: Synodical Ratification Procedure to the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and
 To request that a report and possible recommendations on that action be presented to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: TWO-THIRDS VOTE

CC11.11.82

To approve the *en bloc* amendments to the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* as listed as follows:

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 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.

14.31.B11.

The Church Council may appoint one young adult and two youth, as defined in continuing resolution 6.02.A09., to serve as advisors to the Church Council from the time of appointment through the conclusion of the Churchwide Assembly in 2013.

~~14.32.C10A11.~~ 14.32.A11. *One voting member of the Church Council shall be selected in each biennium to serve as a liaison with voice but not vote on each program committee of the churchwide units. In addition, a member of the Church Council, upon invitation, may serve as liaison for the respective boards of trustees of the separately incorporated ministries.*

17.30.A11. *Operation of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA*

The Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall:

- a. have primary responsibility for the development, administration, ~~and~~ promotion, and sale of Mission Investments;*
- b. develop and administer a loan program, including management responsibilities for the underwriting, legal, accounting, reporting, servicing, marketing, and other related functions;*
- c. provide expertise for management of real property and execute all necessary documents for the acquisition and disposition of such property;*
- d. relate to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, which shall request real estate acquisition for new and existing ministries within the limits of the capital funds available and within established criteria;*
- e. confer with the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit on any loans to developing ministries;*
- f. offer building and architectural consultative services to new congregations entering first-unit construction, to congregations relocating with synodical approval, to other congregations, and to other organizations and institutions that are affiliated with this church;*
- g. offer building and property consultative services to congregations of this church.*

~~19.04.A10.~~ ***Implementation Process***

~~*To implement the transition in the number of program committees, the Church Council shall take the following actions during its November 2010 meeting:*~~

- ~~*a. invite the duly elected members of the program committee related, as of October 2010, to the Global Mission unit to serve the remainder of their terms;*~~
- ~~*b. elect from the members of the program committees related, as of October 2010, to the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit, the Vocation and Education unit, the Church in Society unit, and the Multicultural Ministries unit, sixteen (16) people to serve the remainder of their terms as the program committee of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;*~~
- ~~*c. appoint, in accordance with bylaw 16.12.12., one member of the Church Council to serve as a liaison member of the Congregational and Synodical Mission program committee; and*~~
- ~~*d. request the Conference of Bishops to select, in accordance with bylaw 16.12.12., one bishop to serve as an advisory member of the Congregational and Synodical Mission program committee.*~~

VOTED:

CC11.11.83

To take action *en bloc* on the remaining items listed as follows:

[Actions CC11.11.83a–CC11.11.83bb]

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83a

To receive with deep gratitude the resolution of the Southwest California Synod calling for the adoption of “The Decade of Women” in 2011–2020 within the ELCA by incorporating those successful strategies as exhibited in “The Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence” and “Stand with Africa” and other gender-equality action strategies for congregations;

To affirm and celebrate the many ways individuals, congregations, synods, ELCA-related institutions, and the churchwide office are already engaged in work to affirm and uphold gender equity and justice for women;

To refer a proposal for a decade on women to the upcoming task force for the Justice for Women social statement as a possible implementing resolution;

To encourage leaders and congregations to participate in efforts to support gender equity and justice for women through resources being developed with the Lutheran World Federation’s Women in Church and Society Desk;

To refer congregations to resources on women and gender justice through the ELCA's Justice for Women program, Women of the ELCA, Advocacy, World Hunger, Global Mission, and other ELCA-related organizations, such as Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Cherish Our Children, and other social ministry organizations and schools, as ways to engage in the many areas of justice for women; and

To request the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83b

To receive the background information provided by the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in response to the resolution of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod related to "Human Rights Violations Against the Oromo People";

To authorize a delay in further response until the April 2012 meeting of the Church Council; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83c

To request that the director for racial justice, in consultation with the Congregational and Synodical Mission and Global Mission units, bring to the April 2012 meeting of the Church Council a report on the ELCA activities associated with the International Year for People of African Descent.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83d

To refer Memorials Category A4: Energy Stewardship to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Office of the Treasurer and the Theological Discernment team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and

To request that a report and possible recommendations be presented to the April 2013 Church Council meeting.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83e

To request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in collaboration with the Office of the Presiding Bishop, bring to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council a report on its activities associated with its support of comprehensive immigration reform and the DREAM Act.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83f

To refer the third paragraph of the Churchwide Assembly's action on Memorials Category B2: Synodical Ratification Procedure to the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and

To request that a report and possible recommendations on that action be presented to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83g

To refer Memorials Category C1: Lutheran Campus Ministry to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and

To request that a report and possible recommendations be presented to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83h

To request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, present to the spring 2013 Church Council meeting a report and possible recommendations concerning its activities related to Memorial Category D2: Holy Communion.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83i

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop provide the report on the implementation of the social statement on human sexuality, which is due to the Church Council at its November 2012 meeting, to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly as information.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83j

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, present a report and possible recommendations on Motion B: Perpetual Prayer Vigil to the April 2013 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83k

To refer Motion C: Confronting Injustice in State Immigration Initiatives to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in consultation with the Theological Discernment team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and

To request that a report and possible recommendations, particularly about the designation of “Stand for Welcome Sunday,” be presented to the Church Council at its April 2012 meeting.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83l

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishops’s Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations staff bring a report and possible recommendations on Motion D: Dialogue with the North American Lutheran Church to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83m

To request that the Mission Advancement unit present a report on its activities related to Motion F: Congregational Offerings to the November 2012 Church Council meeting.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83n

To request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in collaboration with the Office of the Presiding Bishop, present a report and possible recommendations on Motion G: Effect of U.S. Ethanol Policy on World Hunger to the April 2013 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83o

To request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit present a report and possible recommendations on Motion H: Youth-Related Matters to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83p

To request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit bring a report and possible recommendations on Motion J: Native Americans and Alaska Natives to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83q

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop present a report and possible recommendations on Motion K: Tree for Luthergarten to the April 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83r

To request that the Mission Advancement unit present a report on its activities related to Motion L: Mission Support to the November 2012 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83s

To allocate for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position to the Alaska Synod (1A), making a total of four voting members, with the provision that the position shall be filled by an Alaska Native person;

To allocate for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position each to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C), making a total of four voting members, and the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H), making a total of five voting members, for an individual of color or an individual whose primary language is other than English;

To allocate for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position for a lay member of the Slovak Zion Synod (7G); the total number of voting members is three; and

To allocate for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly two additional voting-member positions to the Caribbean Synod (9F), making a total of 4, with the provision that these additional voting members shall be people of color or people whose primary language is other than English.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83t

To ratify the following amendments to the Allegheny Synod constitution.

- S7.12. Special meetings of the Synod Assembly may be called by the bishop with the consent of the Synod Council, and shall be called by the bishop at the request of one-fifth of the voting members of the Synod Assembly.
- a. The notice of each special meeting shall define the purpose for which it is to be held. The scope of actions to be taken at such a special meeting shall be limited to the subject matter(s) described in the notice.
 - b. If the special meeting of the Synod Assembly is required for the purpose of electing a successor bishop because of death, resignation, or inability to serve, the special meeting shall be called by the Synod Council after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ~~in cooperation with the Synod Council.~~
- S8.23. In the event of the death, resignation, or disability of the bishop, the vice president, after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall convene the Synod Council to arrange for the conduct of the duties of the bishop until a new bishop shall be elected or, in the case of temporary disability, until the bishop resumes full performance of the duties of the office.
- S8.52. The terms of the officers shall begin on the first day of 3rd calendar month following election or, in special circumstances, at a time designated by the Synod Council.
- S10.06. If a member of the Synod Council ceases to meet the requirements of the position to which she or he was elected ~~be a member in good standing on a roster of this synod, if an ordained minister, or to be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, if a layperson,~~ the office filled by such member shall at once become vacant.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83u

To approve the amendments to the bylaws of the Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as printed below.

The Bylaws of the Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 11–13, 2011, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83v

To approve the following resolution on behalf of the ELCA, the sole voting member of Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York:

WHEREAS, Lutheran Medical Center (LMC), a New York not-for-profit corporation, is an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); and

WHEREAS, the ELCA is the sole voting member of the LMC corporation and the ELCA has the authority to adopt and amend the LMC governing documents; and

WHEREAS, LMC, by action of its Board of Trustees [Exhibit H, Part 3a], has requested that its constitution be amended as indicated in Exhibit H, Part 3b, attached hereto; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Church Council, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, hereby authorizes and adopts the amendment to the Constitution of Lutheran Medical Center specified in Article V, Section 1, hereto.

ARTICLE V
TRUSTEES AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1.

(b) At least 25% of the membership of the Board of Trustees shall be members of a congregation of a Lutheran Church, including the bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who shall be an *ex officio* voting member of the Board, with the understanding that the Nominations Committee and the Board shall make all reasonable efforts to maintain the Lutheran percentage as close to 50% as feasible, recognizing the need to also reflect the diversity of the community on the Board and to recruit Trustees with the skills and resources to support the Corporation. Three members of the Board shall be ~~nominated by~~ comprised of members of the board of directors

of Sunset Park Health Council, Inc. (SPHC), as follows. Following each annual meeting of SPHC for the election of its directors and officers, the President of SPHC, who shall be an *ex officio* voting member of the Board of Trustees, shall nominate for election to the Board of Trustees two additional SPHC directors. Following approval of such nominations by the Board, the SPHC members shall be presented to the sole voting member for election.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83w

To approve the amendments to the bylaws of the Endowment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to read as follows.

The Bylaws of the Endowment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 11–13, 2011, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83x

To elect to the board of directors of Mosaic, Inc., to a three-year term expiring in October 2014: Ms. Lisa Negstad; and

To ratify the election as members of the board of directors of The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society: Mr. David J. Horazdovsky, president [no term limit]; Mr. Neil Gulsvig [term expiring in June 2012]; Ms. Patricia Haugen [term expiring in June 2013]; and Mr. Christopher Johnson [term expiring in June 2014].

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83y

To elect as members of the board of directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to four-year terms expiring in 2015: Ms. Suzanne Moyer, Ms. Lois O'Rourke, Mr. Larry Webber, and Pr. Daniel Yeiser;

To elect as a member of the board of directors of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, for a two-year term expiring in 2013: Pr. Harvard Stephens Jr.; and

To elect as members of the board of directors of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, for three-year terms expiring in 2014: Mr. Gerald Schultz and Mr. J. Arthur Gustafson; and

To re-elect as a member of the board of directors of Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, to a four-year term expiring in 2015: Mr. John W. Marr Jr.; and

To elect as a member of the board of directors of Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota, for a four-year term [beginning July 1, 2012, and] expiring in 2016: Ms. Karis Thompson.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83z

To elect as members of the Committee of Hearing Officers to one six-year term expiring in 2017: Pr. Paul (Chip) Gerhard Gunsten, Ms. Cynthia Eleanor Nance, and Pr. Janice Elaine Nesse; and

To elect as trustees of the Board of Pensions: Ms. Janette E. Drew [four-year term], Ms. Raye Nae Darlene Nylander [six-year term], and Pr. Paul William Stumme-Diers [two-year term].

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83aa

To elect Marjorie B. Ellis to the ELCA Audit Committee for a two-year term beginning November 2011.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC11.11.83bb

To receive and approve the report of the Church Council Audit Committee describing its review of the audited financial statements, management letter, and response of management for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2011.

VOTED:

CC11.11.84

To implement continuing resolution 14.31.B11., the Church Council authorizes the Executive Committee to appoint one young adult and two youth advisors to the council, following consultation with and recommendations from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit.

VOTED: TWO-THIRDS VOTE

CC11.11.85

To approve the following amendments to continuing resolution 16.12.A10. in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*.

16.12.A10. Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit

The Congregational and Synodical Mission unit shall foster and facilitate 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. The Congregational and Synodical Mission unit shall relate to the Deaconess Community, Lutheran Men in Mission, National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc., and Educational and Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc-ELCA Risk Management, Inc.

- a. *The Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is a separately incorporated ministry of theologically trained, professionally prepared women called to ministry and service by congregations, synods, and agencies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Its mission is “Compelled by the love of the Christ and sustained by community, we devote our lives to proclaiming the Gospel through ministries of mercy and servant leadership.” Deaconesses are consecrated by the ELCA and the ELCIC.*
- b. *Lutheran Men in Mission is a separately incorporated, self-supporting ministry whose vision is for every man to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through an effective men’s ministry in every congregation. The purpose of Lutheran Men in Mission is, by God’s grace, to build men’s faith, relationships, and ministry through events, resources, and ongoing leadership development.*
- c. *National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc. is a separately incorporated ministry that helps to provide and support suitable facilities to carry out ELCA campus ministry at state-supported and non-ELCA-related colleges and universities.*
- d. *Educational and Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc. (EIIA) ELCA Risk Management, Inc. (ELCARM) is a separately incorporated ministry that provides risk management and insurance services to church-related colleges, universities, and seminaries including related to the ELCA institutions of higher education.*

VOTED:

CC11.11.86

To appoint Ms. Pamela E. Pritt as an advisory member of *The Lutheran* advisory committee for the 2011–2013 biennium.

VOTED:

CC11.11.87

To appoint Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis and Mr. John R. Emery to the Board of Pensions’s task force on the evaluation of the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits.

VOTED:

CC11.11.88

To approve the revised committee charters as amended.

The seventy-third meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned on Sunday, November 13, 2011, at 1:01 P.M.

February 29, 2012

The seventy-fourth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened Wednesday, February 29, 2012, in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois, and by conference call. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 1:32 P.M. (Central Standard Time).

VOTED: **CC12.02.01**

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

VOTED: **CC12.02.02**

To elect as members of the board of trustees of the ELCA Endowment Fund for six-year terms: the Rev. Charles A. Berdahl, Cherry Hills Village, Colo. (2E); Ms. Kelly D. Brende, Lenexa, Kan. (4B); and Mr. David W. Heise, Flower Mound, Texas (4D).

VOTED: **CC12.02.03**

To elect the Rev. Dean E. Johnson, Willmar, Minn. (3F), to the Church Council for a term ending in 2013.

VOTED: **CC12.02.04**

To approve the 2012 revisions to the *Orientation Manual for Church Council Members* as provided in Exhibit B.

The seventy-fourth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) adjourned Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at 2:07 P.M.

April 13–15, 2012

The seventy-fifth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois. Mr. David D. Swartling, secretary of the ELCA, called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M. (Central Daylight Time). In the absence of the chair, Secretary Swartling asked the Church Council to elect Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson as chairman pro tem by unanimous consent. There being no objection, Presiding Bishop Hanson assumed the chair.

VOTED: **CC12.04.05**

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

VOTED: **CC12.04.06**

To approve the minutes of the November 11–13, 2011, and February 29, 2012, meetings of the Church Council; and

To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the November 10–13, 2011, December 9, 2011, January 18, 2012, and February 23, 2012, meetings.

VOTED: **CC12.04.07**

To elect the Rev. Joyce M. Graue, Raymond, Minn. (3F), to the Church Council for a term ending in 2013.

VOTED:

CC12.04.08

To thank the Conference of Bishops and its Group of Nine for the work it has accomplished in response to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly action [CA11.03.07] related to the report and recommendations of the task force on Living Into the Future Together: Renewing the Ecology of the ELCA;

To appoint Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson and Vice President Carlos E. Peña to a task force on funding the mission of the ELCA;

To authorize Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson, in consultation with Bishop Jessica R. Crist, chair of the Conference of Bishops, to appoint the following people to the task force: a synodical bishop, a synodical vice president, a parish pastor, a Church Council member, and a churchwide organization Administrative Team member;

To affirm the assembly's request that the task force address the following issues:

- propose a pattern or a set of patterns that will allow synods to receive and share financial resources to support the whole ministry of this church;
- build on the Blue Ribbon Committee report of 2007 and include recommendations for renewed, sustainable financial support for the mission and ministries of this church, including funding for theological education; and

To request that a report and recommendations be brought to the October 2012 meeting of the Conference of Bishops to facilitate the conference's fulfilling of the request of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to bring a report and recommendations to the November 2012 meeting of the ELCA Church Council.

VOTED:

CC12.04.09

To express thanks and appreciation to the Corporate Social Responsibility Review Team, and especially to Ms. Patricia Zerega, for its commitment to advocacy and representing this church in a socially responsible way in the corporate arena;

To adopt the process described in the Corporate Social Responsibility Roles and Responsibilities chart as an interim process for addressing functions and issues involving corporate social responsibility until a long-term recommendation is adopted;

To approve the following documents to serve as the basis for ongoing corporate social responsibility work in this church:

- Social Criteria Investment Screens Criteria, as revised;
- Corporate Social Responsibility Issue Paper Policy and Procedures, as revised;
- Boycott Policy and Procedures, as revised; and
- Genetics Issue Paper; and

To encourage the churchwide organization, synods, congregations, members, and affiliated and related institutions and agencies to study documents and information provided by this church concerning issues of corporate social responsibility, to make investment decisions recognizing these principles, and to advocate for socially responsible decision-making in the corporate arena, consistent with the social policies of this church.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES							
TASK	CSR Consultant	CSR Review Team*	CSM Exec Dir.	Conf. of Bishops	Church Council	ELCA-related Organizations **	Review Frequency
Social Screen/ Criteria for investment screening activities	Develop with Portico input (Staff/CSRC)	Recommend	Authorize for consideration	Advise	Approve	Receive and/or implement within fiduciary responsibility	1 per year
Issue papers with boundaries for voting proxies and filing resolutions	Develop with Portico input (Staff/CSRC)	Recommend	Authorize for consideration	Advise	Approve	Receive and/or implement within fiduciary responsibility	3 per year
Shareholder Resolutions	Develop within boundaries adopted by Church Council	Recommend to file	Approve	Receive report annually	Receive report annually	Endorse as appropriate for implementation within fiduciary responsibility	Annual
Dialogues	Develop within boundaries adopted by Church Council	Prioritize and develop work	Receive report annually	Receive report annually	Receive report annually	Receive report annually	Annual
Boycotts	Develop within boundaries adopted by Church Council	Inter-unit review group research & recommend ***	Receive report annually & authorize any potential boycott for consideration	Receive report annually and advise	Receive report annually and approve any boycott	Receive report annually	Annual

*The CSR review team consists of the director for advocacy, director of the Lutheran Office for World Community, CSR consultant, director for studies, other staff of the churchwide organization, and staff of Portico Benefit Services (formerly known as the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). The latter will review screens, issue papers, and proposed resolutions but not make recommendations for these ELCA churchwide responsibilities.

** ELCA-related organizations include, but are not limited to, separately incorporated ministries (Portico, the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA, the Publishing House of the ELCA [Augsburg Fortress, Publishers], Women of the ELCA, the Endowment Fund of the ELCA), and other related organizations and agencies (e.g., ELCA seminaries, ELCA colleges and universities, Lutheran Services in America, and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service).

*** CSR review team with addition of expert staff from issue areas of concern.

VOTED:

CC12.04.10

To recognize, in accordance with the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly [CA11.05.36], the rich history of the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) and affirm the work that it has accomplished since 1987;

To acknowledge the dissolution of the Lutheran Youth Organization in its current form at the churchwide expression; and

To receive with gratitude the plan for new directions in youth ministry in the ELCA.

VOTED:

CC12.04.11

To approve a revised current fund spending authorization for fiscal year 2012 of \$65,498,135; and

To approve a revised total World Hunger spending authorization for fiscal year 2012 of \$19,900,000.

VOTED:

CC12.04.12

To approve Church Council designated funds for the support of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly in the amount of \$400,000, if required.

VOTED:

CC12.04.13

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions to seek a decrease in the percentage of sharing of 2012 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: Nebraska; Upstate New York; and Northeastern Pennsylvania synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to increase the percentage of sharing of 2012 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Western North Dakota; South Dakota; Southern Ohio; New England; Metropolitan New York; and Caribbean synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2012 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries but estimating an adjustment in the estimated amount to be shared: Northwest Washington; Rocky Mountain; Northeastern Minnesota; Minneapolis Area; Southeastern Minnesota; Central States; Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana; Southeastern Iowa; Western Iowa; Northwest Synod of Wisconsin; La Crosse Area; Indiana-Kentucky; Northwestern Ohio; Northeastern Ohio; Virginia; South Carolina; and Florida-Bahamas synods; 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.

VOTED:

CC12.04.14

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions 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 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: Arkansas-Oklahoma; Southwestern Pennsylvania; and North Carolina synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to increase the percentage of sharing of 2013 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Northwest Washington; Southwestern Washington; Oregon; Montana; Sierra Pacific; Southwest California; Western North Dakota; Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana; Southwestern Texas; Western Iowa; Northern Great Lakes; Southeast Michigan; New England; Slovak Zion; Delaware-Maryland; Virginia; and South Carolina synods;

To acknowledge with thanksgiving the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2013 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Alaska; Eastern Washington-Idaho; Pacifica; Grand Canyon; Rocky Mountain; South Dakota; Southwestern Minnesota; Minneapolis Area; Southeastern Minnesota; Nebraska; Central States; Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast; Central/Southern Illinois; Southeastern Iowa; Northeastern Iowa; Northwest Synod of Wisconsin; East-Central Synod of Wisconsin; Greater Milwaukee; South-Central Synod of Wisconsin; La Crosse Area; North/West Lower Michigan; Indiana-Kentucky; Northwestern Ohio; Northeastern Ohio; Southern Ohio; New Jersey; Upstate New York; Northeastern Pennsylvania; Northwestern Pennsylvania; Allegheny; Lower Susquehanna; Metropolitan Washington, D.C.; Southeastern; Florida-Bahamas; and Caribbean synods;

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; and

To request that all synods submit their 2013 Mission Support plans prior to their 2012 Synod Assemblies.

VOTED:

CC12.04.15

To request that the Mission Advancement unit provide resources to be used by members of the Church Council in their role as advocates to sustain and increase Mission Support.

VOTED:

CC12.04.16

To appoint Ms. Pamela E. Pritt and Pr. Robert G. Moore as advisory members to the task force developing the social statement on justice for women.

VOTED:

CC12.04.17

To elect to the Portico Benefit Services board of trustees to a term expiring in 2013: Ms. Diana Goudelock Haywood;
To elect to the Lutheran Medical Center board of trustees to terms expiring in 2015: Ms. Brenda Grandell, Dr. Genevieve Go, Ms. Miriam Katowitz, Mr. Darin McAtee, Mr. George Renert, Mr. Vincent Rohan, and Mr. Danny Tsoi, and Ms. Kathryn Wylde;

To elect to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg board of directors to a term expiring in 2016: Mr. Steve Gunderson;

To elect to the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago board of directors to terms expiring in 2015: Ms. Kathryn M. Hasselblad-Pascale and Mr. Marvin J. Lofquist;

To elect to the Trinity Lutheran Seminary board of directors to terms expiring in 2016: Mr. Gerald (Gary) H. Philpy, Ms. Elizabeth Baer, and Pr. Frederick D. Fritz; and

To elect to the Wartburg Theological Seminary board of directors: Pr. Stephen J. Cornils (term expiring 2018), Pr. Nelson C. Meyer (term expiring 2019), and Dr. Joel Streng (term expiring 2017).

VOTED:

CC12.04.18

To delegate to the Executive Committee of the Church Council (excluding the presiding bishop and secretary), together with the chair of the Conference of Bishops, responsibility for (1) review and evaluation of and recommendations for Part 16 of the draft Rules of Organization and Procedure for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, particularly the assembly discernment process, and (2) consideration of a potential pre-assembly process to facilitate discernment throughout this church in anticipation of officer elections at the assembly; and

To bring to the Church Council recommendations for Part 16 of the Rules of Organization and Procedure for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly and for a potential pre-assembly discernment process no later than the November 2012 meeting.

VOTED:

CC12.04.19

To take action *en bloc* on the following items.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19a

To receive the report and recommendation of the Congregational and Synodical Mission (CSM) and Global Mission (GM) units;

To acknowledge with gratitude the church's ongoing work and consultation with global companion church bodies in addressing the longstanding concern for human rights violations against the Oromo people; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19b

To receive the report and recommendation from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;

To request the Public Policy Procedures Group convened by the Office of the Bishop to recommend to the Presiding Bishop an appropriate response which supports the request for positive action as based on the related Social Policy Resolution passed by the 1995 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19c

To receive the report from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in consultation with Mission Advancement, Global Mission, Women of the ELCA, Lutheran Men in Mission, Augsburg Fortress, and Portico Benefit Services in response to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly action related to the implementing resolutions for the social statement, *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*; and

To express with appreciation the ongoing work of the churchwide organization, synods, institutions, agencies, and congregations in implementing the substance and spirit of this statement as the response of the Church Council to the Churchwide Assembly action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19d

To receive with gratitude the report from the Director for Racial Justice Ministries;

To recognize with deep appreciation the collaborative work of the Director for Racial Justice Ministries and the Director for African Descent Ministries in recognizing the International Year for People of African Descent; and

To acknowledge the many ways the church has lifted up the International Year for People of African Descent and encouraged participation in prayer, ministry, forums, and presentations, as well as artistic, cultural, and worship expressions that affirm the gifts of people of African Descent as the response of the Church Council to the Churchwide Assembly action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19e

To receive the report from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in consultation with the Theological Discernment team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop related to state immigration initiatives;

To acknowledge with gratitude the communication of this motion to the U.S. President and Congress by the presiding bishop and synod bishops and the subsequent news releases to the media;

To approve information regarding the deep engagement and commitment to this issue with the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) as the Church Council's response to the Churchwide Assembly action; and

To anticipate a possible designation of one day each year for "Stand for Welcome Sunday" by the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19f

To acknowledge the value of planting a "sister" tree in the Luthergarten to recognize the quincentenary of the Protestant Reformation;

To receive the report and response from the Office of the Presiding Bishop; and

To acknowledge with gratitude the financial contribution from the Northeastern Ohio Synod to plant the Horse Chestnut tree in the Luthergarten.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19g

To approve the amended and restated articles of incorporation and bylaws of Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa; and

To approve the amended bylaws and continuing resolutions of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries.

The Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of Wartburg Theological Seminary, Bylaws of Wartburg Theological Seminary, and Amended Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of April 13–15, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19h

To approve the revised charter and bylaws of Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, North Carolina.

The Revised Charter and Bylaws of Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, North Carolina, are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of April 13–15, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19i

To appoint the Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Executive Director of the Mission Advancement unit as a committee having the authority of the Church Council in the management of the business and fiscal affairs of any trust for which the ELCA is acting as trustee to authorize and approve, on behalf of this corporation as trustee, transactions to which such trust is a party;

To appoint the Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Executive Director of the Mission Advancement unit as a committee having the authority of the Church Council to authorize and approve establishment of any gift annuity agreement for which ELCA is guarantor, on behalf of this corporation as guarantor; and

To request that said committee annually report transactions so authorized as information to the Budget and Finance Committee of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.04.19j

To acknowledge and affirm the ongoing work of the Public Ministry Consultations Planning Team; and

To anticipate a report and possible recommendations to the November 2012 meeting of the ELCA Church Council.

The seventy-fifth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned Sunday, April 15, 2012, at 3:17 P.M.

September 18, 2012

The seventy-sixth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois, and by conference call. Its purpose was to consider two proposed actions regarding amendments to the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Trust and the Restated ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 4:11 P.M. (Central Daylight Time).

VOTED

CC12.09.20

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

VOTED

CC12.09.21

To receive the Proposal for Providing Health Care Benefits to Faculty and Staff of ELCA Seminaries as recommended by the Portico Benefit Services (Portico) board of trustees and endorsed by the presidents of the separately incorporated ELCA seminaries;

To thank and commend Portico and the seminaries for engaging in discussions of issues that are complex and difficult for this church and for society as a whole;

To approve proposed amendments to the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan, as reflected below, and to authorize a pilot program for providing health care benefits to staff and employees of ELCA seminaries that provides greater flexibility in plan design, contribution policy, and eligibility and cost-sharing options;

To commit that the Church Council will prepare proactively to address the challenges of health care reform and will encourage constructive discussion regarding the implications of health care reform among Portico plan members, congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, and agencies and institutions of this church;

To invite and encourage Portico and the seminaries of this church to engage in further conversations in order to search for imaginative solutions that recognize the evolving terrain of health care reform and economic realities; to explore and develop options that provide greater flexibility in plan design, contribution policy, eligibility, and cost-sharing options; to balance the sometimes conflicting considerations that exist in providing health care coverage and in delivering health care services within the expressions and institutions of this church; and to recognize the ongoing commitment of this church to healthy leaders and healthy institutions; and

To request that Portico and the seminaries present an interim report on the progress in implementing the pilot program at the April 2013 Church Council meeting and to provide a report and recommendations regarding implementing plan changes as the result of health care reform at the November 2013 Church Council meeting.

VOTED

CC12.09.22

To approve proposed amendments (1) to Section 11.06 of the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan to provide additional Medicare supplement benefit options for members, as reflected below, and (2) to the Restated ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Trust, as reflected below, to clarify that payments for wellness-related programs and activities can be made for members of the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program.

The Amendments to Section 11.06 of the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan
and to the Restated ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Trust are included
in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of September 18, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

The seventy-sixth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was adjourned at 4:51 P.M. on Tuesday, September 18, 2012.

November 9–11, 2012

The seventy-seventh meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 3:31 P.M. (Central Standard Time) on Friday, November 9, 2012.

VOTED: **CC12.11.23**

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

VOTED: **CC12.11.24**

To approve the minutes of the April 13–15, 2012, and September 18, 2012, meetings of the Church Council; and
To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the March 26, 2012, April 13, 2012, May 23, 2012, June 27, 2012, July 27, 2012, August 20, 2012, September 26, 2012, and October 24, 2012, meetings.

VOTED: **CC12.11.25**

To elect Mr. Nicholas Barber, Erie, Pennsylvania, to the Church Council for a term ending in 2015.

VOTED: **CC12.11.26**

To approve the Protocol for Churchwide Officer Background Checks and Screening, Biographical Nomination Forms for Churchwide Officers, and the Disclosure Forms below.

The Protocol for Churchwide Officer Background Checks and Screening,
Biographical Nomination Forms for Churchwide Officers, and the Disclosure Forms
are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: **CC12.11.27**

To encourage conversation and discernment throughout this church regarding the churchwide officer elections at the 2013 Churchwide Assembly;

To affirm the use of the proposed agenda below to facilitate conversations regarding the election of churchwide officers during orientation meetings with voting members to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, and for use in other contexts as deemed appropriate;

To request the Executive for Synodical Relations to share the document below with the Conference of Bishops and synod vice presidents, and other networks as appropriate.

A Conversation Regarding the Election of Churchwide Officers,
for use during orientation meetings with voting members to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, August 2013,
is included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: **CC12.11.28**

To approve an initial 2013 fiscal year current fund spending authorization of \$69,006,305; and
To approve an initial 2013 fiscal year ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$19,000,000.

VOTED: **CC12.11.29**

To affirm the revised 2012 Mission Support dollar estimates for the sharing of Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Pacifica; Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast; Metropolitan Chicago; Central/Southern Illinois; Greater Milwaukee; Upstate New York; Northeastern Pennsylvania; Southeastern Pennsylvania; and Metropolitan Washington, D.C., synods.

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2012 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: Alaska; Southern Ohio; and North Carolina Synods.

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.

VOTED:

CC12.11.30

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increases in the percentage for the sharing of 2013 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: South Dakota; Northeastern Ohio; Metropolitan New York; Upstate New York; and Florida-Bahamas synods.

To affirm the revised 2013 Mission Support dollar estimates for the sharing of Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Montana; Eastern North Dakota; Northwestern Minnesota; Saint Paul Area; Metropolitan Chicago; Northern Illinois; Central/Southern Illinois; Northeastern Ohio; Southeastern Pennsylvania; Allegheny; and Upper Susquehanna synods.

To acknowledge with sadness that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions to seek a decrease from prior levels in the percentage of sharing of 2012 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: Alaska; West Virginia-Western Maryland; and North Carolina synods.

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.

VOTED:

CC12.11.31

To receive and approve the memorandum of Secretary David D. Swartling on elections and the transition to a triennial Churchwide Assembly, and to forward it to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, in response to continuing resolution 12.31.A11;

To endorse the recommendations in Secretary Swartling's memorandum regarding nominations for the Church Council and the boards of trustees of Portico Benefit Services, The Publishing House of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and to recommend to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly adoption of amendments to the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, in order to implement these recommendations; and

To instruct the churchwide Nominating Committee to bring to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly nominations for 11 or 12 positions on the Church Council, in addition to positions nominated by synods, and nominations for the boards of trustees of Portico Benefit Services, The Publishing House of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in accordance with Secretary Swartling's memorandum.

Secretary Swartling's Memorandum on Elections and the Transition to a Triennial Churchwide Assembly
is included in Section VI of the 2013 Pre-Assembly Report and e-binder.

VOTED:

CC12.11.32

To receive with gratitude the Mission Funding Task Force report and to express appreciation for the diligent and thoughtful work of the members of the task force;

To thank the Conference of Bishops for careful consideration and review of the work of the Mission Funding Task Force in the fulfillment of its consultative role;

To recognize the need for and encourage ongoing discussion and analysis among synods and the churchwide organization on strengthening Mission Support for the benefit of this whole church;

To encourage and invite synods to partner on a regional basis or in groupings of synods to pilot ways to strengthen and build Mission Support, including development of approaches that emphasize stewardship, promote lateral accountability among synods and their leaders, and enhance collaboration with the churchwide organization;

To request that the Mission Investment Fund explore the development of a remittance process system that would improve the process for transmitting Mission Support and other funds designated for synod and churchwide ministries, strengthen financial controls, enhance financial reporting and access to timely information, and to invite and encourage synods to explore the possibility of participating in such a system; and

To request that the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council monitor the pilot programs established by synods and the development of a remittance process system for synods by the Mission Investment Fund for the purpose of making a report and possible recommendations to the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED:

CC12.11.33

To encourage the churchwide organization and synods to continue to build on Mission Flowing from God's Abundance, the 2007 Report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding, and the 2011 LIFT report, recommendations, and implementing resolutions;

To request that the churchwide organization, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, continue to build the case for the support of a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace, including creating a comprehensive strategy for growing stewardship and increasing awareness of all the ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To encourage this church in all its expressions to identify and leverage all networks within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to assist in the interpretation of and financial support for its ministries, and to endorse the proposal to develop a major comprehensive campaign on the 25th anniversary of the ELCA, focused on giving to mission and ministry; and

To request that the churchwide organization, the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council continue to evaluate and respond to the diverse realities of this church's communities of faith, including the following: the growing number of small-membership congregations, the financial challenges facing these congregations, and the need for releasing assets for ministry; the optimal size, number, role and function of synods and ELCA seminaries; and the role and function of the churchwide organization and its relationship to synods; and to further request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council to bring a progress report to the November 2013 meeting of the Church Council addressing these subjects.

VOTED:

CC12.11.34

To request the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in response to the recommendations of the Mission Funding Task Force relating to theological education and in recognition of the changing landscape in this church regarding leadership development, theological education, candidacy and call, and the rosters of this church, to consult with seminary presidents, the Conference of Bishops, the Word and Service Task Force, and other leaders and to bring a report and recommendations to the Church Council at its April 2013 meeting regarding next steps to address these issues in a holistic manner.

VOTED:

CC12.11.35

To express appreciation and thanks to the staff and board of Portico Benefit Services for providing leadership, education, and advice to this church regarding the provision of benefits to plan members, especially in light of the complexities of addressing potential health care reform;

To encourage Portico to continue its leadership in providing timely and important education and advice to plan members, congregations, other employers, and those involved with preparing for and implementing health care reform;

To recognize that Portico has appointed a Philosophy of Benefits Task Force to undertake the process of revising Portico's Philosophy of Benefits in such a way that recognizes the historic principles of providing benefits to clergy, rostered laypersons, and church employees, the realities of societal changes, both within and outside this church, as well as pending health care reform, with the expectation that a report would be submitted to the Church Council meeting in November 2012;

To acknowledge that the Church Council appointed Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis and Mr. John R. Emery to serve on the Philosophy of Benefits Task Force;

To recognize that complexities and political uncertainties militate against revising Portico's Philosophy of Benefits until there is greater clarity regarding the political landscape and the form of health care reform;

To authorize deferring the submission of a report and recommendations of the Philosophy of Benefits Task Force until the Church Council meeting in April or August 2013; and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to add additional members to the task force to include other stakeholders and to provide such other liaison and assistance as may be necessary for the Portico task force to complete its report and recommendations no later than August 2013.

VOTED:

CC12.11.36

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 synodical 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.

VOTED:

CC12.11.37

To receive with appreciation the proposal from staff of the churchwide organization to observe the 500th anniversary of the evangelical (Lutheran) Reformation;

To endorse the proposal detailed below and to authorize the Executive Committee to appoint a steering committee, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, to continue planning; and

To request that a progress report be brought to the Conference of Bishops at its March 2013 meeting and to the Church Council at its April 2013 meeting, in order for a report to be forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly in August 2013.

A Proposal for Observance in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America of the 500th Anniversary of the Evangelical (Lutheran) Reformation is included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED:

CC12.11.38

To receive with gratitude and thanks the interim report of the Word and Service Task Force, convened in response to Church Council action [CC10.11.64] taken in November 2010;

To offer profound appreciation and thanks to persons who serve as associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers on the lay rosters of this church;

To affirm the preliminary conclusion of the Word and Service Task Force that this church should move toward creation of a single, unified lay roster of Word and Service ministry, subject to further review and recommendation by the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council and approval by the Churchwide Assembly;

To authorize the Word and Service Task Force to continue its work in order to facilitate the creation of such a unified roster, to develop a process outlining how the existing lay rosters would be closed, and to provide a process for transition of existing associates in ministry, diaconal ministers, and deaconesses into such a new roster, and, in

collaboration with the Office of the Secretary, to consider and propose possible amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* to accomplish its recommendations;

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to expand the membership of the Word and Service Task Force;

To acknowledge the recommendation to form a task force to review the study “Together in Ministry” and to recognize that the subject of this request will be addressed by the Office of the Presiding Bishop in conjunction with the report and recommendations on theological education that respond to the report of the Mission Funding Task Force; and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to act as necessary to facilitate the work of the Word and Service Task Force, including the authority to authorize additional expenditures.

VOTED:

CC12.11.39

To adopt “The Body of Christ and Mental Illness,” as amended, as a message of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The social message, “The Body of Christ and Mental Illness,” is included in
Section VI of the 2013 Pre-Assembly Report and e-binder.

VOTED:

CC12.11.40

To receive with gratitude the progress report of the Living Into the Future Together (LIFT) Advisory Committee and to thank the members of the committee for their conscientious work in providing ongoing advice and evaluation regarding the LIFT report and recommendations and actions taken by the Churchwide Assembly in 2011 regarding LIFT;

To affirm that implementing the actions of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly regarding LIFT remains a work-in-progress and that the LIFT Advisory Committee should continue to provide important consultation and evaluation, as well as serving as a catalyst for missional planning and for conversations across all expressions of this church regarding issues raised by LIFT;

To authorize the LIFT Advisory Committee to continue to fulfill these important roles in moving forward on the LIFT report and recommendations and the implementing resolutions adopted by the 2011 Churchwide Assembly, and to refer to it hereafter as the “LIFT II Committee”;

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to adjust as necessary the size of the LIFT II Committee in order to facilitate its ongoing work; and

To request that the LIFT II Committee continue to provide periodic progress reports to the Church Council regarding the implementation of the LIFT report, recommendations, and implementing resolutions and the work of the committee.

VOTED:

CC12.11.41

To receive with thanks and appreciation the recommendation of the Conference of Bishops regarding the creation of a task force to review the governing documents of this church, including but not limited to Chapter Three of the ELCA constitution, for the purpose of addressing how this church can affirm and strengthen its self-understanding as part of the Lutheran World Federation;

To authorize the creation of a task force to review the governing documents of this church for the purpose of addressing how the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America can affirm and strengthen its ecclesiology and its self-understanding as part of the Lutheran World Federation, and to request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in consultation with the Office of the Secretary and the Liaison Committee for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations of the Conference of Bishops, recommend to the Executive Committee of the Church Council persons to serve on such a task force;

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to appoint the members of the task force, which will be known as the Ecclesiology of a Global Church Task Force, and which will undertake the responsibility of reviewing the nature and ecclesiology of this church in light of the past 25 years of significant developments in its ecumenical and global self-understanding and relationships;

To request that Ecclesiology of a Global Church Task Force submit interim reports on at least a yearly basis to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council and submit its final report and recommendations to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council in sufficient time for possible action at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED:

CC12.11.42

To adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared November to be National Native American Heritage Month, and November 23, 2012, as National Native American Heritage Day; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has a commitment to justice and inclusion for all peoples; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA maintains its commitment to American Indian and Alaska Native peoples through congregations, associations and staff; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Church Council at its November 2012 meeting join synods and congregations in greeting the tribes who originally inhabited the North American continent, apologizing for injustices rendered in the past, and pledging to work together in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Church Council inform the synods and congregations of the ELCA during the month of November, and issue a press release regarding this action.

VOTED:

CC12.11.43

To authorize the Board Development Committee to plan a retreat for the Church Council in August 2014;

To establish a designated fund of up to \$35,000 for the purposes of the retreat, where the monies would come from current fund income over (in excess of) budget; and

To request that the Board Development Committee bring a final plan for the retreat for approval to the April 2013 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED:

CC12.11.44

To take action *en bloc* on the items listed below, except for [in item T] the proposed amendments to bylaw 12.41.11. in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44a

To receive with gratitude the resolution of the Northeastern Ohio Synod related to global climate change;

To acknowledge the continuing efforts and commitment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to address environmental issues as part of its call to justice, sustainability, and solidarity with affected communities, in conjunction with partners across this church; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44b

To receive the response and report from Portico Benefit Services on the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America health and benefits program;

To express appreciation to the Southeastern Minnesota Synod for sharing the concerns and challenges faced by synods and congregations brought on by the departure of many former ELCA congregations;

To affirm the recommendation of Portico Benefit Services that clergy plan members who have left the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America not be removed from the health and benefits program of this church; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44c

To acknowledge and affirm the ongoing work of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;

To anticipate a full report and possible recommendations to the November 2013 meeting of the Church Council; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44d

To receive with gratitude the resolution of the Southwestern Washington Synod requesting modifications to the *Model Constitution for Congregations* regarding electronic notifications for congregations;

To receive the response of the Office of the Secretary to the synod for the modifications and acknowledge the potential amendments proposed to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*; and

To request the secretary inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44e

To receive the response provided by the Office of the Presiding Bishop related to the resolution of the Southern Ohio Synod regarding a call for a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Iran;

To request the Office of the Presiding Bishop continue with the recommendations proposed by the Public Policy Procedures Group; and

To request the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44f

To receive with gratitude the responses of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit and Lutheran Men in Mission regarding bullying, harassment, and related violence;

To acknowledge the reports as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synods of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44g

To receive with gratitude the response of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit on its activities associated with its support of comprehensive immigration reform and the DREAM Act;

To acknowledge this report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44h

To receive with gratitude the response from the Office of the Presiding Bishop regarding ways that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in all its expressions, is exploring existing and new means of discussions and decision-making;

To encourage congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization to continue to engage in opportunities for further study and discussion of matters important to the mission of this church;

To acknowledge this report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44i

To receive with gratitude the report of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in response to the memorial of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly related to Lutheran Campus Ministry;

To acknowledge this report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synods of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44j

To receive the response from the Office of the Presiding Bishop;

To forward the report on the implementation of the social statement, *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*, received in the April 2012 meeting of the Church Council to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly; and

To request the secretary of this church inform the synods of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44k

To receive the report of the Office of the Presiding Bishop in response to the memorial of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly on the dialogue with the North American Lutheran Church; and

To acknowledge the report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44l

To receive with gratitude the report of the Mission Advancement unit in response to the memorial of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly on congregational offerings; and

To acknowledge the report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44m

To receive the report of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in response to the memorial of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly on youth-related matters;

To recognize with deep appreciation the ways that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit maintains and strengthens a youth-led faith formation and leadership development organization at the churchwide expression; and

To acknowledge with gratitude the work of the church to actively involve youth and young adults in governance structures at the churchwide and synodical expressions, and to receive the report as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44n

To receive the response from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit; and

To postpone the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit report with possible recommendations to the April 2013 meeting of the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44o

To receive with gratitude the report of the Mission Advancement unit in response to the memorial of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly on Mission Support; and

To acknowledge the report and recommendations of the Mission Funding Task Force regarding the deep engagement and commitment to this issue as the response of the Church Council to the action of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44p

To appoint the members of the Memorials Committee for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:

1. Ms. Susan W. McArver (9C) – co-chair
2. Pr. Stephen R. Herr (8D) – co-chair
3. Mr. Mark E. Johnson (1B)
4. Ms. Christine P. Connell (7C)
5. Bp. Elizabeth A. Eaton (6E)
6. Bp. Ray Tiemann (4E)
7. Pr. Jane A. Buckley-Farlee (3G)
8. Pr. Kendra A. Mohn (4D)
9. Pr. Arhiana S. Shek (5E)
10. Sister Krista M. Anderson (3D)
11. Ms. Arielle Mastellar (3F)
12. Mr. Anthony (Tony) Rhodes (1B)
13. Mr. Charles R. Pietscher (5D)
14. Mr. Mark L. Winzler (7B); and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to appoint additional members to the Memorials Committee for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly as needed.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44q

To appoint the members of the Committee of Reference and Counsel for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:

1. Mr. William B. Horne II (9E) – co-chair
2. Ms. Louise A. Hemstead (5L) – co-chair
3. Mr. Paul G. Archer (6A)
4. Pr. Vicki T. Garber (6C)
5. Bp. Martin D. Wells (1D)
6. Bp. Jon V. Anderson (3F)
7. Pr. Randy Skow-Anderson (3D)
8. Pr. Glen A. Vanderkloot (5C)
9. Mr. Charles E. Poston (9A)
10. Mr. Carl A. Teinert (4E)
11. Ms. Yolanda A. Tanner (8F)

- 12. Ms. Susan M. Berg (1B)
- 13. Ms. Amanda A. Briggs (2A)
- 14. Ms. Addie J. Butler (7F); and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to appoint additional members to the Reference and Counsel Committee for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly as needed.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44r

To ratify the following amendments to the Oregon, Southwest California, Western North Dakota, Southwestern Minnesota, Southeastern Minnesota, Southwestern Texas, Greater Milwaukee, Southwestern Washington, New Jersey and Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana synod constitutions; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synods of this action.

R1. Oregon Synod (1E)

S9.03. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of ~~a representative of each cluster in this synod~~ no fewer than five members to serve for each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

R2. Southwest California Synod (2B)

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of mission settings formed with the intent of becoming ~~chartered~~ organized congregations and authorized worshiping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under Evangelical Lutheran Church in America bylaw 10.02.03., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21. Authorized worshiping communities, acknowledged under criteria, policies, and procedures approved by the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.

S8.22. The vice president shall chair the Synod Council and represent the synod in required meetings.

~~**S9.11.** The Synod Council shall elect or appoint representatives to the Coordinating Council of the Region.~~

S10.03. The functions of the Synod Council shall be to:

- ...
- f. ~~After missing three meetings per year, fill~~ Fill vacancies until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly except as may otherwise be provided in the constitution or bylaws of this synod, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of this synod.

~~**S12.20. Coalitions**~~

~~**S12.30. Clusters**~~

~~**S14.21.** All ordained ministers under call shall attend the meetings of the Synod Assembly, Conference Assembly and Clergy Collegium to which the congregation in which they hold membership belongs.~~
All rostered leaders under a call shall attend meetings of the Synod Assembly, and the pastors of congregations shall also attend the meetings of the conference, cluster, coalition, collegium or other area subdivision to which the congregation belongs.

~~**S15.41.** This synod shall have an Endowment Fund~~ endowment fund named the Mission and Ministry Fund (hereafter referred to as the Fund). ~~This Fund shall be named The Mission and Ministry Fund.~~ It shall not be a separately incorporated entity, but shall be a separate ~~Fund~~ fund of this synod.

~~**S15.42.** The Mission and Ministry Fund shall continue in existence and shall be used as hereinafter provided, (unless earlier revoked); so long as the synod shall continue to exist. If the synod should cease to exist, then the assets~~

of the Fund shall become the property of a successor synod. If there is no successor synod, then the assets of the Fund become the property of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or its successor body. Furthermore, should the synod dissolve it shall, at the time of dissolution, have the right to determine, in consultation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a successor synod that qualifies as an exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

R3. Western North Dakota Synod (3A)

S9.11. The Nominating Committee shall nominate persons to be elected by the Synod Assembly to serve on the Luther Seminary Board; and the Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota Board ~~and the North Dakota Campus Ministry Board~~. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

R4. Southwestern Minnesota Synod (3F)

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of congregations under development and synodically authorized worshipping communities of the synod, under ELCA bylaw 10.02.03., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21. Such congregations under development and synodically authorized worshipping communities, acknowledged under criteria and procedures of the ELCA Division for Outreach and the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.

R5. Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

S9.05. The Synod Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for vice president; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

S9.13. The Synod Nominating Committee shall nominate person for election by the Synod Assembly to the boards of agencies and institutions of the church according to their respective constitutions.

S9.14. The ~~Synod's Lutheran Youth Organization~~ Synod Nominating Committee shall nominate person(s) for election by the Synod Assembly to serve as youth member(s) of the Synod Council.

S9.16. The Synod Nominating Committee shall nominate seven persons for the Committee on the Election of a Bishop who shall be elected by the Synod Assembly.

S11.11. This synod shall in its bylaws or by continuing resolution establish a process to ensure that the members of its ~~teams~~ tables, committees, and other organizational units will be persons possessing the necessary knowledge and competence to be effective members of such units, and to meet the requirements of †S6.04. With the exception of ordained ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod, each member of a board or committee of this synod, or any other organizational unit created by this synod, shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod.

R6. Southwestern Texas Synod (4E)

S9.03. There shall be a Nominating Committee composed of nine persons appointed by the Synod Council. One of the appointees shall be a youth or young adult who shall be appointed for a two-year term. Other members shall be appointed for six-year terms. The appointees shall reflect the male/female and lay/clergy representation guidelines for the Synod, consisting of one member from each conference, and one youth member (age 15-20) ~~to serve for each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly~~. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by the Nominating Committee.

R7. Greater Milwaukee Synod (5J)

S7.34. Unless otherwise specified in the bylaws, each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly shall be held during April, May, June, or July.

R8. Southwestern Washington Synod (1C)

~~S9.03.~~ There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of ten members whose election and duties shall be defined by the bylaws. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by this committee.

S10.03. The Synod Council shall have as its primary responsibilities matters of policy for this synod; fostering of coordinated goals, and mutual mission; and in pursuit thereof shall:

~~Procedural concerns shall be delegated to the boards: Fiscal, Leadership Support, Outreach, Congregational Ministries, Church in Society and Mission Endowment Fund, each of which shall have representatives from the Synod Council.~~

~~These boards, together with the Executive Committee, shall be responsible to oversee and respond to the continuing mission of the synod.~~

~~a.~~ Each synodical board shall be responsible to, and shall regularly report to, this Synod Council and the Synod Assembly.

~~b.~~ Each synodical board shall meet at least twice each year to carry out its assigned responsibilities. Subcommittee(s) may be established by a board with the approval of the Executive Committee.

~~c.~~a. Exercise trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of the synod.

~~d.~~b. Provide for an annual review of the roster of ordained ministers and of other official rosters, receive and act upon appropriate recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and make a report to the Synod Assembly of the Synod Council's actions in this regard.

~~e.~~c. Issue letters of call to ordained ministers and letters of call to associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers as authorized by Chapter 7 of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

~~f.~~d. Provide for an annual review of the roster of ordained ministers and the roster of associates in ministry and make appropriate recommendations to this synod regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of ELCA.

~~g.~~e. Issue letters of call to ordained ministers and letters of appointment to associates in ministry, consecrated deacons and deaconesses, commissioned teachers, and certified or commissioned lay professionals as authorized by Chapter 7 of the constitution and bylaws of ELCA.

~~h.~~f. Fill vacancies until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly except as may otherwise be provided in the constitution or bylaws of this synod, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of this synod.

~~i.~~g. Report its actions to the regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

~~j.~~h. Perform such other functions as are set forth in the bylaws of the synod, or as may be delegated to it by the Synod Assembly. Recommend program goals and budgets to the regular meetings of the Synod Assembly. Carry out the resolutions of the Synod Assembly.

~~k.~~i. Designate at least one member of Synod Council as a member of the steering committee of this synod's region.

S10.04. Procedural concerns shall be delegated to committees and other organizational units the Synod Council shall create pursuant to these bylaws. Such committees and other organizational units shall be responsible to oversee and respond to the continuing mission of the synod.

S10.045. Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the approval of the Synod Council, shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption.

[Renumber subsequent provisions and bylaws in Chapter 10.]

S11.10. The General Provisions

R9. New Jersey Synod (7A)

S9.03. ~~There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of one member from each cluster, who shall be elected by the cluster to serve for two consecutive regular meetings of the Synod Assembly. One half of the committee shall stand for election each year. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by the Nominating Committee.~~

There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed annually by the Synod Council of from six to nine persons. The Synod Council may appoint the Mission District Deans to serve in this role. The Synod Bishop and Synod Secretary shall serve *ex officio* with voice, but not vote. The Nominating Committee shall provide at least one nomination for Counselor for each Mission Cluster. The Nominating Committee shall provide nominations to the Synod Assembly for Synod Council and for ELCA Churchwide Voting Members for positions available after Mission District elections of nominees. The Nominating Committee shall designate categories for Mission Districts electing nominees for Synod Council and Churchwide Voting Members.

R10. Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (4D)

†**S3.01.** The territory of this synod, as determined by the Churchwide Assembly, shall be the counties of Andrews, Archer, Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Bell, Borden, Bosque, Bowie, Briscoe, Brown, Callahan, Camp, Carson, Cass, Castro, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Collingsworth, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Dallas, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Delta, Denton, Dickens, Donley, Eastland, Ector, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Franklin, Gaines, Garza, ~~Gatesville~~, Glasscock, Gray, Grayson, Gregg, Hale, Hall, Hamilton, Hansford, Hardeman, Harrison, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Henderson, Hill, Hockley, Hood, Hopkins, Howard, Hunt, Hutchinson, Irion, Jack, Johnson, Jones, Kaufman, Kent, King, Knox, Lamar, Lamb, Lampasas, Limestone, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, ~~McCullough~~ McCulloch, McLennan, Marion, Martin, Midland, Mills, Mitchell, Montague, Moore, Morris, Motley, Navarro, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Parmer, Potter, Rains, Randall, Reagan, Red River, Roberts, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, San Saba, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Smith, Somervell, Stephens, Sterling, Stonewall, Swisher, Tarrant, Taylor, Terry, Throckmorton, Titus, Tom Green, Upshur, Van Zandt, Wheeler, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise, Wood, Yoakum, Young in the state of TEXAS; the parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, DeSoto, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Sabine, Tensas, Union, Webster, West Carroll, Winn in the state of LOUISIANA.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44s

To recommend that the 2013 Churchwide Assembly approve the following action:

To ratify the following amendment to the Delaware-Maryland Synod constitution; and

To amend bylaw 10.01.11. of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as follows.

†**S3.01.** The territory of this synod, as determined by the Churchwide Assembly, shall be: the state of DELAWARE; the city of Baltimore and the counties of Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester in the state of MARYLAND; the congregations of ~~The Redeemer, Montgomery County,~~ and of Holy Trinity, Prince George's County, in the State of MARYLAND; the congregation of Mt. Joy, Adams County, in the Commonwealth of PENNSYLVANIA; and the counties of Accomack and Northampton in the State of VIRGINIA.

10.01.11. The names and boundaries of the synods shall be:

Synod 8.F—Delaware-Maryland. The state of DELAWARE; the city of Baltimore and the counties of Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, Worcester in the state of MARYLAND; the congregation of Holy Trinity, Prince George's County, in the state of MARYLAND; the congregation of Mt. Joy, Adams County, in the state of PENNSYLVANIA; the counties of Accomack, Northampton in the state of VIRGINIA.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44t

To recommend adoption of the following proposed action by the voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:
To adopt the proposed amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* presented to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44u

To recommend adoption of the following proposed action by the voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:
To adopt the “Rules of Organization and Procedure” for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly (exclusive of quoted and highlighted constitutional provisions and bylaws that are already in force).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44u

To authorize the presiding bishop and secretary of this church to prepare further editing and scheduling revisions that may be found necessary for the Rules prior to their publication in the *Pre-Assembly Report*; and
To report any changes to the Church Council at its August 2013 meeting.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44v

To approve the amended bylaws of the Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as printed below.

Amended Bylaws of the Deaconess Community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44w

To approve the amendments to the following corporate social responsibility issue papers and economic social criteria investment screen, but to request that the original issue papers be archived for historical and research purposes:

- Tobacco Social Criteria Screen
- Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All: Sustainability
- For Peace in God’s World: Human Rights
- For Peace in God’s World: Violence in Our World

To acknowledge and affirm that the interim process for addressing issues of corporate social responsibility approved by the Church Council in April 2012 [CC12.04.09] will continue through 2013 and until a long-term recommendation is adopted by the Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44x

To approve the revisions to the ELCA Churchwide Personnel Policies regarding Cell Phones, Tablet Computers, and Other Electronic Communications Devices as provided below.

Cell Phones, Tablet Computers, and Other Electronic Communications Devices

Whether their cell phone, smart phone, tablet computer or other electronic communication device is provided by the ELCA or paid for by an individual employee, ELCA staff members are expected to observe the following guidelines in their use of electronic communications devices for ELCA related business:

- Employees are required to abide by the law or ordinance of a particular jurisdiction with regard to the use of all electronic communication devices while driving a motor vehicle, and will be solely responsible for any traffic violations relating to such use.
- Safety must always be of paramount concern, and employees should never place themselves or others at risk to fulfill work-related needs.
- Employees should never attempt to create, send or review text, video or email messages while operating a motor vehicle.
- Employees are encouraged to place calls either prior to driving or while on rest breaks, and to pull off to the side of the road and safely stop before accepting calls.

- Employees should always be conscious of their surroundings and refrain from discussing confidential matters in a public setting or under circumstances where their conversation could be overheard or their screens viewed by others.
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VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44y

To commend Evangelical Lutheran Worship Prayer Book for the Armed Services for use as an enriching addition to the worship patterns of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

To express gratitude for the conscientious efforts of the reviewers and the insights and observations by the many people who helped to shape and refine the content of Evangelical Lutheran Worship Prayer Book for the Armed Services.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44z

To thank Congregational and Synodical Mission unit and Lutheran Immigration Refugee and Service for creating the “Stand for Welcome Sunday” resource;

To commend “Stand for Welcome Sunday” for use in congregations who wish to engage in opportunities for mission and ministry with newcomers; and

To request the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to share and encourage the “Stand for Welcome Sunday” resource with synods and congregations through existing channels of communication.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44aa

To elect Mr. James Zils to the ELCA Audit Committee for a two-year term beginning November 2012.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44bb

To approve the program changes to Missionary Sponsorship, and to refer to it hereafter as “ELCA Global Church Sponsorship.”

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44cc

To approve the program changes to Mission Founders, and to refer to it hereafter as “ELCA New Congregations.”

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44dd

To approve the revised Church Council Budget and Finance Committee charter as provided below.

The Revised Church Council Budget and Finance Committee Charter is included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44ee

To approve the revision of the Church Council Audit Committee charter as provided below.

The Church Council Audit Committee Charter is included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of November 9–11, 2012, [which are linked here](#).

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44ff

To receive and approve the report of the Church Council Audit Committee describing their review of the audited financial statements, management letter, and response of management for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2012.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44gg

To elect to the board of directors of The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society to a three-year term that will expire in 2015: Mr. Neil L. Gulsvig;

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran Medical Center to three-year terms expiring in 2015: Mr. Andrew Burch, Rabbi Robert G. Kaplan and Ms. Kathleen Regan;

To elect to the board of directors of Mosaic, Inc., to three-year terms expiring in 2015: The Rev. Keith D. Hohly and Ms. Kathy Patrick;

To elect to the board of directors of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc. to four-year terms expiring in 2017: Ms. Karen Sumner and The Rev. Robert G. Wollenburg;

To re-elect to the board of directors of National Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc. to a four-year term expiring in 2017: The Rev. Linda Boston;

To elect to the board of directors of Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia to a three-year term expiring in 2015: The Rev. Charles S. Miller;

To elect to the advisory council of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary as part of Lenoir-Rhyne University to one-year terms expiring in 2013: The Rev. Susan R. Briehl, Mr. Kenneth L. Childs and The Rev. Sheila L. Elliott (United Methodist Church);

To elect to the advisory council of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary as part of Lenoir-Rhyne University to two-year terms expiring in 2014: The Rev. Lowell G. Almen and Ms. Doris M. Underwood;

To elect to the advisory council of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary as part of Lenoir-Rhyne University to three-year terms expiring in 2015: Ms. Jacqueline A. Bussie, Mr. William B. Horne, II and The Rev. William B. Trexler; and

To elect to the board of directors of Wartburg Theological Seminary to a six-year term expiring in 2018: The Rev. Kathryn A. Kleinhans.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC12.11.44hh

To adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in the opinion of legal counsel (Faegre & Benson of Minneapolis), the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act authorizes the Church Council as the board of directors of this corporation to appoint additional officers; and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has authorized execution of various documents, when necessary, by two assistant vice presidents in the absence of the bishop, vice president, secretary, and treasurer (CC90.4.31*); and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has appointed various persons to be assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the previous appointments of assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation (CC90.04.32, CC92.11.103, CC96.11.61b, CC03.11.85, CC07.11.90, CC08.11.52, CC09.03.39, CC11.08.60) be and are hereby rescinded; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.04.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant vice presidents of this corporation: Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Pr. Marcus R. Kunz, Pr. Walter S. May, and Ms. Jodi L. Slattery; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.04.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant secretaries of this corporation: Ms. Sue E. Rothmeyer, Mr. Phillip H. Harris, Ms. Laura L. Knitt, Ms. Mary Beth Nowak, and Mr. David A. Ullrich.

VOTED:

CC12.11.45

To recommend adoption of the following proposed action by the voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:

To adopt the proposed amendments to bylaw 12.41.11. in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* presented to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

The seventy-seventh meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned Sunday, November 11, 2012, at 2:36 P.M.

April 5–7, 2013

Mr. Carlos E. Peña, vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and chair of the Church Council, called the seventy-eighth meeting of the council to order at 3:31 p.m. (Central Daylight Time) on Friday, April 5, 2013, in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois.

VOTED: **CC13.04.01**

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

VOTED: **CC13.04.02**

To approve the minutes of the November 9–11, 2012, meeting of the Church Council; and
To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the November 8–9, 2012, December 18, 2012, January 25, 2013, and February 20, 2013, meetings.

VOTED: **CC13.04.03**

To ask the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, to review and engage in further discussions on the work of the "Book of Faith" initiative and consider how this church can build upon that work and engage in other ways in which God's Word will continually renew this church; and

To request a report with possible recommendations for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly regarding the "Book of Faith" initiative to be considered at a special Church Council meeting at a time to be determined.

VOTED: **CC13.04.04**

To receive the report and recommendation of the Portico Benefit Services' philosophy of benefits task force and to express thanks and appreciation to the staff and board of trustees of Portico and to the members of its task force who have worked diligently to evaluate and update the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits in light of changes in this church and in society, especially in light of the complexities of addressing health care reform;

To affirm in concept the draft ELCA Philosophy of Benefits as presented by Portico and endorsed by its board of trustees;

To encourage Portico to continue to educate plan members, congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, other ELCA-related employers, and other interested persons regarding the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits at Synod Assemblies and in other venues and to continue to seek feedback and input from these individuals and groups as part of this process; and

To request that Portico bring a final version of the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits for review and consideration by the Conference of Bishops and for approval by the Church Council at their meetings in August 2013.

VOTED: **CC13.04.05**

To receive the report and recommendations of Portico Benefit Services regarding development of health care plan design options and pricing alternatives that address the challenges and complexities of implementing health care reform, and to express appreciation to Portico staff and its board of trustees for considering these issues with insight, creativity, and compassion, consistent with the draft ELCA Philosophy of Benefits;

To recognize that development of plan design options and pricing alternatives is necessary if Portico is to continue to provide financially viable, self-supporting, wellness-focused health plans that can serve the needs of this church and related organizations and their plan members;

To affirm in concept the proposed plan design options and pricing alternatives presented by Portico and endorsed by its board and to encourage their further refinement, consistent with the draft ELCA Philosophy of Benefits, in anticipation of the implementation of health care reform in January 2014;

To request that Portico finalize plan design options and pricing alternatives and bring them and associated plan amendments for review and consideration by the Conference of Bishops and approval by the Church Council in August 2013;

To endorse as a benchmark the proposed health care plan option that approximates the current level of benefits provided by the ELCA health plan, and to encourage congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, other ELCA-related organizations, and other interested persons to advocate for selection of this plan option;

To further request that Portico continue to provide timely and important education and advice to plan members, congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, other ELCA-related organizations, and other interested persons regarding planning for and implementing health care reform; and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to take additional actions as necessary to facilitate the development of health care plan design options and pricing alternatives so that a final proposal and recommendations can be considered by the Conference of Bishops and acted upon by the Church Council at their August meetings.

VOTED:

CC13.04.06

To endorse the World Hunger Steering Committee proposal to revise the “Guidelines for ELCA World Hunger Program Activities” to reflect that, for the purpose of determining compliance with ELCA World Hunger spending restrictions, 50 percent of fund-raising costs will be counted toward the domestic percentage and 50 percent will be counted toward the international percentage.

VOTED:

CC13.04.07

To approve a revised current fund spending authorization for fiscal year 2013 of \$70,731,675; and

To approve a revised total World Hunger spending authorization for fiscal year 2013 of \$20,195,415, subject to endorsement of the World Hunger Steering Committee’s revision of the “Guidelines for ELCA World Hunger Program Activities.”

VOTED:

CC13.04.08

To recommend the following for adoption by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

2014 Budget Proposal

To approve a 2014 current fund spending authorization of \$70,541,740;

To approve a 2014 World Hunger income proposal of \$19,000,000; and

To authorize the Church Council to revise the spending authorization after periodic review of revised income estimates.

2015 Budget Proposal

To approve a 2015 current fund income proposal of \$68,552,278;

To approve a 2015 World Hunger income proposal of \$19,000,000; and

To authorize the Church Council to establish a spending authorization after periodic review of revised income estimates.

2016 Budget Proposal

To approve a 2016 current fund income proposal of \$67,920,675;

To approve a 2016 World Hunger income proposal of \$19,000,000; and

To authorize the Church Council to establish a spending authorization after periodic review of revised income estimates.

VOTED:

CC13.04.09

To receive with appreciation the report and draft documents relating to the proposed merger of California Lutheran University (CLU) and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS);

To thank the administrations and trustees of CLU and PLTS for engaging in thoughtful, forward-looking, spirit-filled discussions about the future of these institutions within the ecology of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To acknowledge that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is the sole corporate member of PLTS and that merger actions involving these schools must comply with the requirements in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of this church;

To endorse in concept the proposed merger of CLU and PLTS, and to encourage the leadership of these institutions to continue their discussions and to prepare the appropriate documentation to effectuate the merger; and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council, in collaboration with the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee and the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, to engage in further discussions and document

review with CLU and with PLTS, as necessary, for the purpose of finalizing the proposed merger and to bring a recommended action regarding the merger and the final documents to implement it at a special Church Council meeting at a time to be determined.

VOTED:

CC13.04.10

To adopt the following resolution on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

WHEREAS, Lutheran Medical Center (LMC), a New York not-for-profit corporation, is an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); and

WHEREAS, the ELCA is the sole voting member of the LMC corporation and the ELCA has the authority to adopt and amend the LMC governing documents; and

WHEREAS, LMC, by action of its Board of Trustees, has requested that its Constitution be amended by the ELCA Church Council as specifically indicated in Exhibit H, Part 2a, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, LMC, by action of its Board of Trustees, has requested that its Restated Certificate of Incorporation be amended by the ELCA Church Council as specifically indicated in Exhibit H, Part 1b, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, LMC has therefore requested that the ELCA formally adopt the LMC Constitution as amended and the Restated and Amended Certificate of Incorporation attached hereto; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Church Council, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, hereby approves and adopts the amendments to the Constitution of Lutheran Medical Center specified below; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Church Council, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, hereby approves and adopts the amended Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Lutheran Medical Center as indicated below.

The documents cited in the above action are included in the minutes of the Church Council meeting of April 5–7, 2013, [which are linked here](http://tinyurl.com/ChurchCouncilActions).
<http://tinyurl.com/ChurchCouncilActions>

VOTED:

CC13.04.11

To receive with appreciation the theological education proposal from the Office of the Presiding Bishop and to encourage continued conversation and discernment throughout this church regarding theological education and the renewal of work to call forth women and men to be formed as servant leaders;

To thank the Conference of Seminary Presidents, Conference of Bishops, and churchwide staff for their input, feedback, and advice in shaping the scope, process, and possibilities for this proposal; and

To affirm the work of the seminaries, colleges and universities, and other theological education providers in creating a strong and increasingly flexible and efficient network that prepares a wide variety of leaders grounded in Scripture and the Lutheran confessional tradition and equipped for God's mission in a rapidly changing environment.

VOTED:

CC13.04.12

To authorize the creation of an advisory council which shall be known as the Theological Education Advisory Council, the members of which shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Church Council;

To authorize the Theological Education Advisory Council to implement the tasks outlined in the "Proposal for Churchwide Response to Current Challenges and Opportunities in Theological Education";

To authorize the Theological Education Advisory Council to consult as appropriate with other leaders both within and beyond the ELCA in order to consider how our interdependent network of theological education providers can best serve the church as it seeks to address, in a holistic manner, issues in leadership development, theological education, candidacy and call, and the rosters of this church;

To authorize the Theological Education Advisory Council to convene presidents of ELCA universities with embedded seminaries, seminary presidents, board chairs, a bishop from each seminary's board, and others to share counsel on priorities and strategic plans, current collaboration initiatives, new collaborative possibilities, and degree program design innovations, and to examine implications for our leadership identification and preparation systems;

To request that the Theological Education Advisory Council submit periodic progress reports on its deliberations along with updates on new developments in the theological education network to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council, with a final comprehensive report and possible recommendations submitted at the fall 2015 meeting of the Church Council for consideration at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly; and

To authorize the Executive Committee of the Church Council to act as necessary to facilitate the work of the Theological Education Advisory Council, including the authority to authorize additional expenditures.

VOTED:

CC13.04.13

To request the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in consultation with Conference of Bishops and Church Council, to bring a budget proposal to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, designating a regular percentage of Mission Support to the support of theological education;

To encourage the Conference of Bishops and Synod Councils, in partnership with the churchwide organization, to stabilize and strengthen congregational and synodical support of theological education; and

To encourage the Mission Advancement unit and synods to articulate to congregations and members that an important way we serve God's mission is through our shared support of theological education through Mission Support and individual gifts.

VOTED:

CC13.04.14

To recommend the following for adoption by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

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 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 ELCA Church Council and to each Churchwide Assembly through the completion of the campaign;

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; 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.

VOTED:

CC13.04.15

To approve Church Council designated funds for the preparation and for the support of the 25th Anniversary Campaign of the ELCA in an amount of \$5,000,000 for expenses already incurred and for anticipated expenses which will be incurred subject to the approval of the campaign.

VOTED:

CC13.04.16

To acknowledge the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2013 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries but estimating an adjustment in the estimated amount to be shared: Oregon; Pacifica; Northeastern Minnesota; Southeastern Minnesota; Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana; Northwest Synod of Wisconsin; South Carolina; and Florida-Bahamas synods.

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.

VOTED:

CC13.04.17

To acknowledge that circumstances in the following synods have led to decisions 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: Sierra Pacific; Southeast Michigan; New England; Virginia; and North Carolina synods;

To acknowledge the decision of the following synods to increase the percentage of sharing of 2014 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Northwest Washington; Eastern Washington-Idaho; Montana; Western North Dakota; Southeastern Minnesota; Arkansas-Oklahoma; Southwestern Texas; Western Iowa; Northern Great Lakes; Metropolitan New York; Slovak Zion; South Carolina; Florida-Bahamas; and Caribbean synods;

To acknowledge the decision of the following synods to maintain the percentage of sharing of 2014 Mission Support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries: Alaska; Southwestern Washington; Oregon; Pacifica; Grand Canyon; Rocky Mountain; South Dakota; Northwestern Minnesota; Northeastern Minnesota; Southwestern Minnesota; Nebraska; Central States; Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana; Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast; Central/Southern Illinois; Northeastern Iowa; Northwest Synod of Wisconsin; East-Central Synod of Wisconsin; Greater Milwaukee; South-Central Synod of Wisconsin; La Crosse Area; North/West Lower Michigan; Northeastern Ohio; New Jersey; Upstate New York; Northeastern Pennsylvania; Northwestern Pennsylvania; Southwestern Pennsylvania; Metropolitan Washington, D.C.; and Southeastern synods;

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; and

To request that all synods submit their 2014 Mission Support plans prior to their 2013 Synod Assemblies.

VOTED: **CC13.04.18**

To request that a progress report be brought to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council at their August 2013 meeting.

VOTED: **CC13.04.19**

To request funding for staff to guide the ELCA in observance of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

VOTED: **CC13.04.20**

To receive with thanks the report and recommendations of the Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force, "With Hearts and Hands and Voices," and to express gratitude to task force members for their generous and capable service;

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in collaboration with the Conference of Bishops, facilitate implementation of the task force's recommendations to foster moral deliberation, to increase involvement in the deliberative processes of this church, and to expand the use of ELCA social teaching (Recommendations 1-5);

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop, in consultation with the Office of the Secretary and the Conference of Bishops, prepare a written proposal that addresses implementing the recommendations for procedural changes in the processes for addressing social concerns in this church, including proposed revisions to "Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns" (2011), and to report on the progress of this work to the Church Council beginning in November 2013 (Recommendations 6-8); and

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop review the allocation of resources in the churchwide organization and explore the possibilities for partnerships with other groups and individuals to assist the church in responding to social issues, in word and deed, as part of its evangelical mission in the world, and to make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Church Council to authorize the funding and personnel necessary to implement these recommendations (Recommendation 9).

Recommendations for this church:

1. Expand its communication efforts, including the use of new and emerging media, in order to distribute information to members and congregations, to receive feedback from members and congregations, and to facilitate conversation among members, congregations, and the communities of which they are part.
2. Devote increased attention to forming communities of moral deliberation within this church by producing resources for moral deliberation, by training and equipping leaders who can model moral deliberation, and by connecting diverse communities.

3. Identify and equip resource persons for this church's ministry of addressing particular social concerns.
4. Identify, provide, and make available a variety of enhanced resources for individual and congregational engagement with social concerns (including resources developed by others).
5. Regularly review existing social statements and social messages, including the possibility of adopting new implementing resolutions or policy resolutions when appropriate.
6. Adopt a new process for determining how best to address a social concern.
7. When the decision is made to proceed with the development of a social statement, the task force recommends that:
 - a. The comment period for responding to a draft be lengthened.
 - b. Two distinct types of hearings be identified and held. The intent of the initial hearings would be to introduce members both to the issues and to the draft. The purpose of the additional hearings would be to gather feedback from members who have studied the draft statement.
 - c. The task force charged with development of the social statement consider developing multiple products, in different formats and for different audiences and purposes, rather than considering itself bound to create a single lengthy document.
8. To revise the "Policies and Procedures" document to reflect the new process and to emphasize the three commitments of "The Church in Society."
9. To provide sufficient funding and personnel to interpret and help equip this church for responding to social issues, in word and deed, as part of its evangelical mission in the world.

VOTED:

CC13.04.21

To recommend the following for adoption by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

To adopt the text of the proposed social statement "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries" as a social statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in accordance with the "Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns" (2011).

VOTED:

CC13.04.22

To recommend the following implementing resolutions for adoption by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

1. To call upon members of this church through steadfast prayer, discernment, ministry efforts, and public action to hear the cries, offer hospitality, accompany, and advocate on behalf of those whose lives are caught up in or committed in service to the criminal justice system;
2. To call upon members, congregations, synods, social ministry organizations, and churchwide ministries to advocate intentionally and creatively for system reform consistent with the principles and recommendations set forth in this social statement;
3. To encourage ELCA congregations to work with victims, victim advocates, and victim support organizations, to grow in sensitivity and response to the harm caused by crime, and to grow in awareness of restorative justice practices;
4. To encourage ELCA congregations to consider becoming sites of ministry and action for the incarcerated and their families, possibly in ecumenical collaboration, with special attention to re-entry ministries and to preferential hiring for ex-offenders, as appropriate;
5. To hold in prayer the ministry of ELCA chaplains and pastors serving in all correctional facilities, or serving with law enforcement agencies around the country, and to encourage all expressions of the ELCA and its affiliated institutions to provide greater support to prison ministry;
6. To request the ELCA's Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to enlist the aid of leaders in conferences, synods, social ministry organizations or other appropriate groups in creating and maintaining a resource database, to which members, pastors, or other professionals can turn for information about activities, models, and training modules that support ministry to people and action toward reform of the criminal justice system;
7. To call upon the ELCA's Worship and Liturgical Resources Team to develop additional liturgical resources for those involved in the criminal justice system, such as services and prayers for victims and their families, for those incarcerated, for those employed in the system, or rites of blessing for those engaging in visitation ministries;

8. To direct the staff of the ELCA’s advocacy ministries to coordinate efforts to develop on behalf of this church a social investment screen on private prison operations, along with developing education materials to use within the ELCA for understanding these actions;

9. To direct the ELCA’s Theological Discernment Team in the fall of 2015 to bring to the ELCA Church Council an assessment of the feasibility of developing a social message on U.S. national drug policy, in accordance with “Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns” (Chicago: ELCA, 1997, revised 2006, 2011);

10. To encourage the three expressions of this church to utilize the recommendations of the Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force in the process of disseminating and implementing this social statement; and

11. To call upon appropriate staff in the ELCA’s Congregational and Synodical Mission unit and the Office of the Presiding Bishop to establish and oversee a process of implementation and accountability for this social statement that provides a report on implementation to the ELCA Church Council in the fall of 2017.

VOTED:

CC13.04.23

To designate the Carol Joy Holling Camp and Retreat Center, [Ashland, Nebraska,] subject to the satisfactory completion of negotiations in the judgment of the secretary of this church, as the site for the Church Council retreat to be held August 15–17, 2014.

VOTED:

CC13.04.24

To designate New Orleans, Louisiana—subject to the satisfactory completion of negotiations in the judgment of the secretary of this church—as the site for the Fourteenth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, August 8–14, 2016.

VOTED:

CC13.04.25

To affirm the importance of and work by the ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice, and to thank members of the task force for their commitment;

To honor the request of the task force and to grant an extension of time for the consideration of a social statement on women and justice until the 2019 Churchwide Assembly in recognition of the realities that have affected its work;

To request that the task force and all the expressions of this church utilize the recommendations of the Addressing Social Concerns Review Task Force in the process of developing this social statement; and

To ask the task force to make periodic progress reports to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council and an interim report on its progress to the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED:

CC13.04.26

To thank the Southeastern Minnesota Synod for its resolution related to confirmation ministry;

To acknowledge that the churchwide organization is in the process of a redesign of the entire *ELCA.org* website;

To ask the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Mission Advancement unit and the Office of the Presiding Bishop, to update the resources on the new *ELCA.org* website to reflect the changes in faith formation ministry taking place within all expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To further request that the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, as part of the ongoing work of the Faith Formation Team (which includes unit staff and staff from Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, as well as Christian education teachers in ELCA colleges and seminaries and other partners) take up the conversation about “re-imagining” confirmation ministry and resources, and to report progress to the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED:

CC13.04.27

To take action *en bloc* on the items listed below.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27a

To receive the response from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit on the resolution of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod related to the conversion of food crops for motor fuel;

To recognize the wide spectrum of perspectives throughout this church on the use and development of a food crop for motor fuel;

To affirm the recommendation of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to encourage conversation among all expressions of this church and with other appropriate stakeholders and to share perspectives and insights regarding this church's commitment to supporting rural communities, ending hunger, and caring for God's creation;

To request the ELCA Washington Office to continue its monitoring of this issue and supporting of policies that assist in the development of non-food-based biofuels and minimize the impact of biofuels on the food supply; and

To request the secretary of this church to inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27b

To receive the response from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in consultation with the Office of the Secretary and Portico Benefit Services, on the resolution from the Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly regarding counseling services for rostered leaders;

To encourage this church to use the social message on "The Body of Christ and Mental Illness" as appropriate for discussion and action;

To recognize with appreciation the comprehensive benefits that Portico Benefit Services has to support emotional well-being;

To commend the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit and Portico Benefit Services for developing resources that will encourage clergy and other rostered lay leaders to strengthen their mental health and to encourage congregations to work with their leaders in creating reasonable expectations and time for vacations and sabbaticals;

To encourage the consideration of a workshop that could raise awareness regarding the social message on "The Body of Christ and Mental Illness" for use across this church; and

To request the secretary of this church to inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27c

To receive the response and report from Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;

To express appreciation to the Sierra Pacific Synod for sharing the concern about the elimination of the death penalty; and

To affirm the recommendation of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit that the ELCA continue its advocacy based upon the 1991 Social Statement on the Death Penalty; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27d

To receive the response of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, in partnership with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, and express appreciation for the many ways the ELCA is working in support of fair and humane immigration reform and the DREAM Act; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27e

To receive the response of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;

To express appreciation for this church's continued advocacy in responding to violations of the human rights of freedom of thought, conscience, and religion in situations where churches are being denied these rights; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27f

To receive the report of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in response to Motion J: Native Americans and Alaska Natives;

To thank the Rev. Mark Allred (Inupiat Eskimo), Program Director for the ELCA American Indian and Alaska Native Ministries program (AIANMP); Elizabeth Gaskins (Muscogee-Creek), President of the American Indian Alaska Native Lutheran Association (AIAN); the Rev. Marlene "White Rabbit" Helgemo (Ho-Chunk), Executive Director for the Council for American Indian Ministry (United Church of Christ) and Sr. Pastor at All Nations Indian Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for their attentive recommendations to raise awareness and honor America's First people;

To recommend the establishment of a working group of the ELCA American Indian and Alaska Native Ministries Program for the purpose of recommending guidelines for this church on ways to approach and offer invitations to the American Indian and Alaska Native community, guidelines for the American Indian and Alaska Native community on acceptable ways to provide greetings at ELCA events, suggestions for which events or opportunities might be most appropriate for greetings, a possible educational experience, and consideration of the costs and monies of funding such participation; and

To request that a report of the findings from the working group be brought to the Congregational and Synodical Mission (CSM) unit and a report from CSM be made to the ELCA Church Council at its November 2013 meeting.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27g

To receive the report of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in response to the memorial on Energy Stewardship and in recognizing the efforts throughout this church to improve our care of God's creation;

To extend deep appreciation to all expressions and agencies of this church for the significant and diverse ways they improve their stewardship of energy resources and improve our care of God's creation;

To acknowledge the diminished financial resources to establish processes to track and assess the amount of energy saved and greenhouse gas emissions energy conservation efforts have avoided throughout our church;

To encourage all expressions and agencies of this church to continue to find ways to increase their energy efficiency and to share their efforts in caring for God's creation; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synods of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27h

To receive the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit report on Motion G: Effect of U.S. Ethanol Policy on World Hunger;

To recognize the wide spectrum of perspectives throughout this church on the use and development of a food crop for transportation fuel; and

To affirm the recommendation of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to encourage conversation among all expressions of this church and with other appropriate stakeholders and to share perspectives and insights regarding this church's commitment to supporting rural communities, ending hunger, and caring for God's creation.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27i

To receive the response from the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;

To authorize a delay in the response of the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit to the memorial on Sacramental Obedience in Holy Communion;

To request that a report and possible recommendations be brought to the November 2013 meeting of the ELCA Church Council; and

To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27j

To receive the response from the Office of the Presiding Bishop;

To authorize a delay in the response of the Office of the Presiding Bishop to Motion B: Perpetual Prayer Vigil; and

To request that a report and possible recommendations be brought to the November 2013 meeting of the ELCA Church Council.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27k

To allow, where possible and appropriate, broader use of expenditures from The Lutheran Vespers Endowment Fund to support similar and complimentary communications utilizing current and future forms of digital media, including but not limited to preserving existing radio or television ministries, making available existing ministries in digital format, and other formats that reach out to share Christ's word and ministry for all; to extend this broader use concept to other, non-endowment, gifts restricted to Grace Matters or Lutheran Vespers; and

To request, in the case of restricted gifts to ELCA radio ministries where the gift agreement may be unclear regarding donee authority to interpret or modify the gift agreement, that the Mission Advancement unit, in consultation with the Office of the Secretary and the Office of the Treasurer, use reasonable interpretations of the gifts to support

ministries similar to the radio and television ministries, supporting digital means of communication, in addition to traditional radio or television broadcasting, which may include consultations with donors, when possible, and appropriate consultations with internal and external legal resources to fulfill the spirit of the ministry.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.04.27I

To elect to the board of directors of The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago to three-year terms expiring in 2016: Mr. Clarence J. Atwood, The Rev. Gordon A. Braatz Jr., Ms. Tina Glusenkamp Gould, Ms. Sarah M. Stegemoeller, and The Rev. Harvard W. Stephens Jr.;

To elect to the board of directors of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary to a six-year term expiring in 2019: The Rev. Frank Espergren;

To elect to the board of directors of Trinity Lutheran Seminary to a four-year term expiring in 2017: Ms. Melissa Peper Firestone; and

To nominate to the advisory council of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary as part of Lenoir-Rhyne University to three-year terms expiring in 2016: The Rev. Edward R. Benoway, The Rev. Bobbie J. Blackburn, The Rev. Susan R. Briehl, Mr. Kenneth L. Childs, The Rev. Sheila L. Elliott (United Methodist Church), Ms. Cinde Rinn, and Mr. Roy T. Wise.

The seventy-eighth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned Sunday, April 7, 2013, at 3:04 P.M.

July 11, 2013

The seventy-ninth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was convened Thursday, July 11, 2013, in the Council Room of the Lutheran Center at Chicago, Illinois, and by conference call. Vice President Carlos E. Peña called the meeting to order at 2:02 P.M. (Central Daylight Time).

VOTED:

CC13.07.28

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

VOTED:

CC13.07.29

To elect Ms. Marit L. Bakken, Black River Falls, Wis., (5H) to the Church Council for a term ending in 2015.

VOTED:

CC13.07.30

To recommend the following action for approval by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

To affirm the Book of Faith initiative as a continuing emphasis and priority in this church, and to request that the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—who ‘as its pastor, shall be a teacher of the faith of this church and shall provide leadership for the life and witness of this church’ (ELCA constitutional provision 13.21.)—continue to lead this initiative personally and in collaboration with the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, other appropriate churchwide units, and the Conference of Bishops;

To reaffirm the overall goal of the Book of Faith initiative to help individuals and congregations throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to open Scripture and join the conversation;

To call on congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, and other ministries of this church to continue to promote deep biblical engagement that approaches the Bible as the written Word of God, using “multiple methods” to engage persons individually and in community with others;

To call upon Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, as the publishing ministry of this church, to consult with all expressions of this church and its related institutions and agencies as appropriate to undergird and support the Book of Faith initiative in order to enhance the biblical literacy of all members of this church as well as those seeking a better understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ;

To encourage engagement of the Book of Faith initiative by colleges, universities, and seminaries of this church, recognizing the continuing challenge of assisting pastoral and lay leaders in taking up their roles as teachers of the Bible in ways that engage and inspire the current and future members and seekers in this church;

To encourage the Book of Faith initiative leadership in conversation with its many partners to continue implementation of the initiative so as to respond to such challenges as: biblical illiteracy, Bible and mission outreach, addressing the great variety of cultures that make up this church and world, appealing to the growing number of persons in society claiming to be “spiritual but not religious,” creative use of social media, and the importance of family and home as centers of faith development; and

To give thanks to God for all of the individuals, congregations, synods, and churchwide ministries for their deep and abiding commitment to the centrality of God’s transforming Word in Christ, in proclamation, and in Scripture.

VOTED:

CC13.07.31

To receive with appreciation the report and documents relating to the proposed merger of California Lutheran University (CLU) and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS);

To thank the administrations and trustees of CLU and PLTS for engaging in thoughtful, forward-looking, spirit-filled discussions about the future of these institutions within the ecology of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

To state that merger actions involving these schools must comply with the requirements in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* and that this merger is in compliance;

To acknowledge that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is the sole corporate member of PLTS and the Church Council must pass resolutions approving the merger; and

To adopt the following resolutions that are in conformity with the resolutions of the PLTS board and the CLU board, approving the merger.

Approval of Merger with California Lutheran University

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (“PLTS”) has determined that it is advisable and in the best interests of PLTS that PLTS enter into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “Merger Agreement”), in substantially the form attached hereto as set forth in the background material, with California Lutheran University, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation (“CLU”), and consummate the business combination and other transactions provided for in the Merger Agreement; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, PLTS shall be merged with and into CLU (the “Merger”), and CLU shall continue as the surviving corporation (the “Surviving Corporation”); and

WHEREAS, the bylaws of the Surviving Corporation shall be amended in their entirety to read substantially in the form attached as set forth in the background material to the Merger Agreement, until thereafter amended in accordance with California law, the articles of incorporation of the Surviving Corporation, and such bylaws; and

WHEREAS, after the Merger, all the assets, property, rights, privileges, powers, and franchises of PLTS shall vest in the Surviving Corporation, all debts, liabilities and duties of PLTS shall become the debts, liabilities, and duties of the Surviving Corporation, and the separate existence of PLTS shall cease; and

WHEREAS, the Merger will become effective following the satisfaction of the conditions contemplated by the Merger Agreement at such time as an agreement of merger and officer’s certificates are filed with the Secretary of State of the State of California in accordance with the Merger Agreement and the California Nonprofit Corporation Law (the “CNCL”); and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation (the “ELCA”), is the sole member of PLTS; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the ELCA hereby determines that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby, including the Merger, are advisable and in the best interests of PLTS and the ELCA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Merger Agreement (including all the terms, provisions, and exhibits thereto), substantially in the form delivered to the ELCA and approved by the Board of PLTS, and the Merger and the other transactions provided for in the Merger Agreement, are hereby approved and authorized in all respects, with such changes, additions, deletions, supplements, and amendments as the proper officers of PLTS may deem necessary or advisable with the advice of legal counsel, such determination to be conclusively evidenced by the President’s execution thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the other agreements and certificates to be executed by PLTS pursuant to, or as contemplated by, the Merger Agreement (collectively, the “Ancillary Documents”) and approved by the Board of PLTS and the transactions contemplated thereby are hereby approved and authorized in all respects with such changes, additions, deletions, supplements and amendments thereto, as the proper officers of PLTS may deem necessary or advisable with the advice of legal counsel, such determination to be conclusively evidenced by such officer’s execution thereof.

Omnibus Resolutions

RESOLVED, that the omnibus resolution previously approved by the PLTS Board is approved and therefore that the proper officers of PLTS be, and each of them hereby is, authorized and directed to execute and deliver to any person deemed appropriate by any such officer, any and all certificates, agreements, instruments, documents, or undertakings of any kind and nature whatsoever to evidence the obligations contemplated by the Merger Agreement and these resolutions, to establish, facilitate, or comply with the terms and conditions of the Merger Agreement, as may be amended from time to time, and these resolutions, such certificates, agreements, instruments, documents, or undertakings to be in such form and to contain the signature of such officers executing the same, the authorization and approval of PLTS to be conclusively evidenced by any such officer's execution thereof, and to do and perform or cause to be done and performed all acts, deeds, and things, in the name and on behalf of PLTS or otherwise as such officers may deem necessary or appropriate for the foregoing purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the authority granted to the officers of PLTS under the foregoing resolutions shall be deemed to include, in the case of each such resolution, the authority to perform such further acts and deeds as may be necessary, convenient, or appropriate, in the good faith judgment of such officers, to carry out the transactions contemplated thereby and the purposes and intents of the foregoing resolutions, and that all acts and deeds previously performed by such officers or counsel for PLTS prior to the date of these resolutions are ratified, confirmed, and approved in all respects.

VOTED: TWO-THIRDS VOTE

CC13.07.32

To recommend the following action for approval by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

To approve the following amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

- 19.21.01.** ~~There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of 18 members elected by the Churchwide Assembly. Each member shall be elected to one six-year term and shall not be eligible for consecutive reelection. Six members of the committee shall be elected each biennium. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of 12–18 members elected by the Churchwide Assembly. Each member shall be elected to one six-year term and shall serve until a successor is elected. Members of the Nominating Committee shall not be eligible for consecutive reelection.~~ The Church Council shall place in nomination the names of two persons for each position. The committee shall consist of at least one member but no more than three members from any region. Nominations from the floor shall also be permitted, but each floor nomination shall be presented as an alternative to a specific category named by the Church Council and shall therefore meet the same criteria as the persons against whom the nominee is nominated. In the materials provided in advance to each member of the assembly, the Church Council shall set forth the criteria applicable to each category that must be met by persons nominated from the floor.
- 20.21.11.** ~~The churchwide Committee on Discipline shall consist of 36 persons, 19 of whom shall be laypersons and 17 of whom shall be ordained ministers, elected by the Churchwide Assembly for a term of six years, each without consecutive reelection, to~~ The Churchwide Committee on Discipline shall consist of 24–36 members, half of whom should be ordained ministers and half of whom should be laypersons, elected by the Churchwide Assembly for a term of six years. Each member will serve until a successor is elected, without consecutive reelection, and will serve as needed on a discipline hearing committee in any of the synods in this church.
- 20.64.** **The Committee on Appeals shall be comprised of six ordained ministers and six laypersons, elected by the Churchwide Assembly for a term of six years, without consecutive reelection.**
- 20.64.A13.** In the event that the term of any member of the Committee on Appeals expires before that member's successor is elected, the Church Council may elect an individual in the same category—ordained minister or layperson—to serve on the Committee until the next Churchwide Assembly. A member elected by the Church Council who serves less than one-half of a term shall be eligible for election to a full term by the Churchwide Assembly.

VOTED: **CC13.07.33**
To recommend adoption of the following resolution by the voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:
To adopt the amended Rules of Organization and Procedure for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly (exclusive of quoted and highlighted constitutional provisions and bylaws that are already in force).

VOTED: **CC13.07.34**
To authorize the presiding bishop and secretary of this church to prepare further editing and scheduling revisions that may be found necessary for the Rules of Organization and Procedure prior to their publication in the *Pre-Assembly Report*; and
To report any changes to the Church Council at its August 2013 meeting.

VOTED: **CC13.07.35**
To take action *en bloc* on the items listed below.

VOTED: EN BLOC **CC13.07.35a**
To receive the resolution of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod regarding Boy Scouts of America units sponsored by congregations of the ELCA;
To refer the resolution to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and the Office of the Presiding Bishop;
To request that a report and possible recommendations be presented to the November 2013 meeting of the Church Council; and
To request that the secretary inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC **CC13.07.35b**
To receive the resolution of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod on Conversation about Ministering to Same-gender Couples and Families;
To acknowledge that the action of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly will be the response to this resolution; and
To request that the secretary of this church inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC **CC13.07.35c**
To receive the resolution of the Virginia Synod on the Isolation of Individuals Living in Our Communities;
To refer the resolution to the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit;
To request that a report be brought to the November 2013 meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and
To request that the secretary inform the synod of this action.

VOTED: EN BLOC **CC13.07.35d**
To ratify the following amendments to synodical constitutions:

Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E)

S9.0313. The Synod Assembly shall elect its representatives to the Boards of Directors of Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, recognizing the inclusive composition of the each respective board and that the. The terms of office are shall be set forth by the each respective institution.

S10.04. Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the approval of the Synod Council, shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption. Any proposal to increase the budget must be accompanied by a statement of the source of the revenue.

S11.06. Other committees of this synod may be formed, as the need arises, by decision of the Synod Council. Duties of such committees shall be specified in the continuing resolutions.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7E)

S11.06. This Synod shall have program, support, and coordinating ministry teams, committees, and task forces as designated or provided for in the Bylaws or Continuing Resolutions.

New Jersey Synod (7A)

S9.03. ~~There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of one member from each cluster, who shall be elected by the cluster to serve for two consecutive regular meetings of the Synod Assembly. One half of the committee shall stand for election each year. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by the Nominating Committee.~~ There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed annually by the Synod Council of from six to nine persons. The Synod Council may appoint the Mission District Deans to serve in this role. The Synod Bishop and Synod Secretary shall serve ex-officio with voice, but not vote. The Nominating Committee shall provide at least one nomination for Counselor for each Mission Cluster. The Nominating Committee shall provide nominations to the Synod Assembly for Synod Council and for ELCA Churchwide Voting Members for positions available after Mission District elections of nominees. The Nominating Committee shall designate categories for Mission Districts electing nominees for Synod Council and Churchwide Voting Members. Nominations may be made from the floor for all elections, except for those tickets where a Mission District election has provided the nominee.

VOTED: EN BLOC

CC13.07.35e

To receive the written report of the Office of the Secretary on nominees for the churchwide Nominating Committee;

To note that bylaw 19.21.01. states in regard to the Nominating Committee: “The Church Council shall place in nomination the names of two persons for each position. The committee shall consist of at least one member but no more than three members from any region. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted, but each floor nomination shall be presented as an alternative to a specific category named by the Church Council and shall therefore meet the same criteria as the persons against whom the nominee is nominated. In the materials provided in advance to each member of the assembly, the Church Council shall set forth the criteria applicable to each category that must be met by persons nominated from the floor;”

To request, therefore, that the Church Council restrict the tickets to the following: clergy [four positions]; lay female [two positions, including one youth/young adult]; lay male [two positions, including one person of color or whose primary language is other than English]; and

To request that the Church Council transmit the following slate of nominees to the 2013 Churchwide Assembly:

CHURCHWIDE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Clergy

- A. Pr. Amber Remillard, Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y. (7D)
- B. Pr. Amy Thompson Sevimli, Alexandria, Va. (8G)

Clergy

- A. Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Atlanta, Ga. (9D)
- B. Pr. Cynthia K. Hileman, Chicago, Ill. (5A)

Clergy

- A. Pr. Christopher S. Heavner, Clemson, S.C. (9C)
- B. Pr. Eric Carlson, Clive, Iowa (5D)

Clergy

- A. Pr. Stephen A. Keiser, Philadelphia, Pa. (7F)
- B. Pr. Gordon D. Peterson, Overland Park, Kan. (4B)

Lay Female [Youth/Young Adult]

- A. Ms. Emily Isensee, Vancouver, Wash. (1C)
- B. None

Lay Female

- A. Ms. Sandra J. Schlesinger, Midland, Mich. (6B)
- B. Ms. Stacy D. Kitahata, Seattle, Wash. (1B)

Lay Male [Person of Color/Language other than English]

- A. Mr. Tommie L. Robinson Jr., Washington, D.C. (8G)
- B. Mr. Troy Walker, Detroit, Mich. (6A)

Lay Male

- A. Mr. David Hawkins, Princeton, N.J. (7A)
- B. Mr. Jordan Krey, Quincy, Mass. (7B)

The seventy-ninth meeting of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adjourned Thursday, July 11, 2013, at 3:25 P.M.