

**MINUTES OF THE  
2011 ELCA-SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD ASSEMBLY  
June 3-5, 2011  
Renaissance Waverly Hotel  
Atlanta, GA**

**Friday, June 3, 2011**

**FIRST PLENARY SESSION.....3:00 – 5:45 PM  
Plenary Hall**

**A. Call to Order**

The Bishop called the Assembly to order at 3:06 PM.

1. Order for Opening of Assembly  
The Bishop opened the Assembly using the Order for Opening of Assembly.
2. Assembly Objectives  
The Bishop outlined the objectives of the Assembly.

The Bishop provided housekeeping information for the Assembly. The Bishop recognized Ms. Jan Levensgood, Parish Nurse at Living Grace Lutheran Church in Tucker, GA, who is available for first aid.

3. Declaration of Bounds  
The Bishop outlined the definition of bounds. He also dispensed information regarding election and ballot procedures.

**B. Opening Prayer**

The Bishop introduced the 2011 Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, St. John Lutheran Church, Griffin, GA, who delivered the opening prayer.

**C. Report of the Credentials Committee**

The Bishop called on Ms. Carla Stickles, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who reported that of the 358 voting members pre-registered, 346 were in attendance; 214 were lay and 132 were clergy, which constituted a quorum.

**D. Adoption of the Agenda**

[Tab A]

It was MOVED and  
VOTED SA11.03.01

**to adopt the Agenda for the four Plenary Sessions  
and three Workshop Sessions as the Orders of  
the Day.**

**E. Adoption of the Rules of Organization and Procedure** [Tab I, EXHIBIT 1]

There was a proposed amendment to remove item 19.L, which stated: “The incidental motion known in *Robert’s Rules of Order* as the ‘Objection to the Consideration of a Question’ shall not be an allowable motion during the assembly if such motion is offered in connection with a resolution brought to the attention of the assembly by the Synod Council or the Committee on Reference and Counsel.”

During the ensuing debate, Bishop Gordy relinquished the chair to Vice President Doris Underwood.

The proposed amendment to the Rules of Organization and Procedure failed.

It was **MOVED** and  
**VOTED SA11.03.02** **to adopt the Rules of Organization and Procedure,**  
**recommended by the Synod Council.**

1. Introduction of Parliamentarian  
The Bishop introduced the Rev. Dr. H. Warren Casiday, an ordained pastor of St. John’s United Church of Christ in Kannapolis, NC, who served as parliamentarian for the Assembly.
2. *Robert’s Rules of Order* Quick Reference Guide  
The Bishop gave an overview of *Robert’s Rules of Order*.

**F. Welcome and Greeting from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**

The Bishop introduced Dave Mietzner, Partner with the South Region, and Greg Sinatra, Launch Manager with the Southeast Region, of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, who formally welcomed the Assembly to Atlanta and shared information about the work of Thrivent. The captioning service for the Assembly was underwritten in part by grants from Thrivent and the Mission Investment Fund.

**G. Assembly Bible Study – 1**

The Bishop introduced Dr. Everett Flanigan, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission for the Southeastern Synod, who led the first session of Bible study based on the theme “Listen to Your Children Praying.”

**H. Report of the Nominating Committee** [Tab D]

The Bishop called on Krista Helgerson, Chair of the Nominating Committee, who outlined the nominating process and reported the nominations of the Synod Council and the Nominating Committee.

For the position of Synod Treasurer for a 4-year term to 2015, the Synod Council nominated the following:

Lee Smith  
Fred Weinhold

There were no nominations from the floor.

For the position of youth member of the Synod Council, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Stephanie Gaines  
Joel Medford

There were no nominations from the floor.

For the clergy positions on the Consultation Committee for 6-year terms to 2017, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Pastor Bryn Carlson  
Pastor Scott Landrum  
Pastor Robert Loshuertos  
Pastor Ed Myers  
Pastor Larry Richardson

There were no nominations from the floor.

For the two lay male positions on the Consultation Committee for 6-year terms to 2017, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Mike Erickson  
Michael Sauls

Nomination from the floor:

Mike Franklin

For the clergy positions on the Discipline Committee 6-year terms to 2017, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Pastor Donald Hanberry  
Pastor Matthew Lash  
Pastor Gilbert Roth

There were no nominations from the floor.

For the lay female position on the Discipline Committee 6-year term to 2017, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Louise Hamilton

Nomination from the floor:

Alice Schunemann

For the lay male position on the Discipline Committee 6-year term to 2017, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Bill Alderfer  
Edwin Bryant

Nomination from the floor:

Keith James

For the 4-year unexpired term on the Discipline Committee to 2015 to be filled by a lay male, the Nominating Committee nominated the following:

Hal Heidmann

There were no nominations from the floor.

Nominations were closed.

- I. **Report of Reference & Counsel Committee** [Tab G]  
The Bishop introduced the Rev. Randy Jones, Messiah Lutheran, Montgomery, AL, Chair of the Reference and Counsel Committee, who offered a brief description of the four resolutions coming from Reference and Counsel to be considered in plenary session.
- J. **Report of the Bishop – The Rev. H. Julian Gordy** [Tab B, page 1]  
Sounding our call to service, the Bishop reminded the synod that we, the body of Christ, are often God’s answer to someone’s prayer. Acknowledging the difficulty some in our synod have experienced, he stated that part of lament is naming our grief. However, in spite of financially lean times, he highlighted newly energizing ministries led by new task forces and supported by conference/cluster participation. He thanked his staff and deans for their service throughout the synod. He commended the Disaster Preparation and Response Task Force for their coordinated response to the disasters throughout the synod. Though he chided the assembly on the need for mission support and completion of parochial reports, he expressed his desire to increase our sense of partnership between congregation and synod.
- K. **Greetings from La Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG)**  
The Bishop introduced the Rev. Amanda Olsen-Castillo, who brought greetings from Guatemala and shared the image of the resurrected Jesus carried by women and children proclaiming the truth: “Why are you looking for the living among the dead?” She stated that the Guatemalan church looks forward to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as they continue to partner with the Southeastern Synod to take the resurrected Jesus into the world.

**L. Introductions**

The Bishop introduced the following Special Guests, Synod Officers and Staff, and Synod Assembly Committee Members:

The Rev. Andrew Genszler, Director of Advocacy,  
ELCA Washington Office; Keynote Speaker

Mr. Ron Turney, President, Lutheran Ministries of Alabama

Mr. David Coleman, Interim Director, Lutheran Services of Georgia

Ms. Kathy Thoreson, Executive Director, Lutheran Services in Tennessee

The Rev. Bob Blanton, Chief Operating Officer, Lutheran Episcopal Services in  
Mississippi

Mr. Hal Shope and Dr. Marianne Zotti, Directors, All Things New Ministry

The Rev. David Hardy, Director, Alliance of Lutheran Ministries of the  
Southeast

Mr. Keith Johnson, Director, Lutheridge+Lutherock Ministries, Inc.

The Rev. Dr. Harvey Huntley, Jr., Coordinator for Ministry Leadership, ELCA  
Region 9

Ms. Doris Underwood, Vice President, Messiah, Montgomery, AL

The Rev. Terri Stagner-Collier, Secretary, Cross of Life, Roswell, GA

Mr. John Lucht, Treasurer, Trinity, Lilburn, GA

Ms. Rachel Alley, Director for Youth Ministries

Ms. Jeanette Burgess, AIM, Administrative Liaison for Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Delmer Chilton, Assistant to the Bishop

Dr. Sandra Gustavson, Fiscal Advisor and Synod Council Liaison

Ms. Holly Liersch, Synod Office Manager

The Rev. Darrel Peterson, Assistant to the Bishop and Stewardship Specialist

Ms. Elaine Schwartz, Executive Assistant to the Bishop and Director of  
Communications

The Rev. Nancy Christensen, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for  
Evangelical Mission

Dr. Everett Flanigan, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission

Mr. Kyle Cristofalo, Lutheran Volunteer Corps Intern, Synod Office

The Rev. Randy Jones, Synod Ecumenical Officer and Constitution Reviewer,  
Messiah, Montgomery, AL

The Rev. Thomas E. Clark, Conference Dean

The Rev. Wayne Cobb, Conference Dean

The Rev. William F. Diamond, Conference Dean

The Rev. Cliff Bahlinger, Conference Dean

The Rev. David Helfrich, Conference Dean

The Rev. Jill J. Henning, Conference Dean

The Rev. Barbara J. Hunter, Conference Dean

The Rev. David B. Hunter, Conference Dean

The Rev. Randy T. Jones, Conference Dean

The Rev. Thomas Kenny, Conference Dean

The Rev. Frederick (Rick) C. Ohsiek, III, Conference Dean

The Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, Conference Dean

The Rev. Scott E. Peterson, Conference Dean

The Rev. Rick Roberts, Conference Dean  
The Rev. F. Clay Seneker, Conference Dean  
The Rev. William Gerald (Jerry) Weeks, Conference Dean  
The Rev. Hugh R. Williams, Conference Dean  
Ms. Jan Levengood, Synod Assembly Committee  
Ms. Linda Few, Synod Assembly Committee  
Ms. Kleah Jaques, Synod Assembly Committee  
The Rev. Michelle Kuhlman, Synod Assembly Committee  
Ms. Barbara Schwanebeck, Synod Assembly Committee  
Ms. Donna Hoglund, Synod Assembly Committee  
Volunteers at the Synod Assembly  
Members of the Synod Worship Team  
Members of Synod Assembly Committees including Reference and Counsel,  
Minutes, Elections, and Credentials

**M. Keynote Presentation**

The Bishop introduced the Rev. Andrew Genzsler, Director of Advocacy, ELCA Washington Office, who spoke about the sin of individualism and our call to genuine community. The public witness of this church relies on the coordinated movement of disciples – and that relies on the function of community. He quoted Luther's *Large Catechism* on The Lord's Prayer, Give us this day our daily bread: "We pray for the government because chiefly through it, we receive our daily bread." We are free to make use of public office as naturally as we breathe the air, because it is an instrument and a gift of God. He stated that faith includes the whole of life, bringing us from the restlessness of St. Augustine's prayer to that of St. Frances: "Make me an instrument of your peace," away from restless individualism into community and public witness.

**N. Remembrance of Essie Rowser**

The Bishop introduced The Rev. Hugh Williams, who led a service of remembrance for Col. Essie Rowser, who served as our synod parliamentarian for over ten years. Col. Rowser entered the church triumphant this spring.

**O. Recognitions**

1. The Bishop recognized the following rostered persons who retired since the last assembly:  
AIM Judith A. Aebischer  
The Rev. Robert L. Bear  
The Rev. Elizabeth H. DeVan  
The Rev. Dr. Karnig M. Kazanjian  
DM Judy A. Knapp  
The Rev. Larry V. Moore  
The Rev. Gary L. Naylor  
The Rev. Gordon T. Reinertsen  
The Rev. William H. Roen  
The Rev. Earl R. Schafer

The Rev. Leslie F. Weber

2. The Bishop recognized the following rostered persons in First Calls and those assigned to our synod:
  - The Rev. Seyward M. Ask, Associate Pastor, Christ the King, Cumming, GA
  - The Rev. Dr. Joy H. Blaylock, Associate Pastor, St. Paul's, Mobile, AL
  - The Rev. Chip Lingle, Mission Developer of Good Shepherd Maritime Ministry, Savannah, GA (reinstatement)
  - The Rev. Eric J. Luedkte, Pastor, Gloria Dei, Knoxville, TN
  - AIM Noel C. Reagan, Director of Youth Ministry/Christian Education, Faith, Knoxville, TN
  - The Rev. John Matthew Steinhauer, Pastor, Faith, Lebanon, TN
  - The Rev. John A. Tirro, Pastor, Tyson House Campus Ministry, Knoxville, TN
  - The Rev. Virginia K. Barnes, Pastor, Christ, Fairfield Glade, TN (from Florida-Bahamas Synod)
  - The Rev. Mark S. Beatty, On Leave from Call, Family Leave (from Oregon Synod)
  - The Rev. Ronald S. Bonner, Sr., Pastor, Atonement, Atlanta, GA (received into the ELCA)
  - The Rev. Norbert F. Hahn, Pastor, Holy Cross, Athens, GA (received from North Carolina Synod)
  - The Rev. David M. Hood, Synod Interim Pastor (from North Carolina Synod)
  - The Rev. Sharon A. Johnson, Synod Interim Pastor (from Metropolitan New York Synod)
  - DM Dr. Lake Lambert, Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Mercer University, Macon, GA (from Northeastern Iowa Synod)
  - The Rev. Kent E. Lewis, Pastor, Christ, Shelbyville, TN (received into the ELCA)
  - The Rev. Tiffany McClung, Peace, Memphis, TN (ordained from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church)
  - The Rev. Gretchen E. Person, Assistant Director of Religious Life, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (from Northwestern Minnesota Synod)
  - The Rev. Anthony R. Prinsen, Pastor, First United, Kennesaw, GA (from Eastern North Dakota Synod)
  - The Rev. Fredrick A. Wiese, Pastor, Christ our Shepherd, Peachtree City, GA (from Southern Ohio Synod)
  - The Rev. Leslie B. Wilder, Pastor, Good Shepherd, Morristown, TN (reinstatement)

The Bishop recognized the following new seminary graduates assigned to the synod:

Timothy Morgan - LTSS  
Laura Bostrom - Trinity  
Allison Ward - LTSS, Diaconal Minister track

The Bishop also recognized others assigned to our Synod, ordained in another tradition:

Ainars Berzinch  
Celeste Ginyard

4. The Bishop offered recognition of the following rostered persons upon their ordination or commissioning anniversary.

5th - 2006

AIM Ms. Michelle B. Angalet - 7/23  
The Rev. Julie A. Crosby - 10/22  
The Rev. Helen M. Hollingsworth - 11/11  
The Rev. Dr. Sandra K. Johnson - 6/25  
The Rev. Virginia M. Krekling - 8/20  
The Rev. Cheryl Kester-Schmidt - 8/6

10th - 2001

The Rev. Elizabeth C. Birkholz - 8/18  
The Rev. E. Barbara Gibson - 9/23  
The Rev. Alex L. Hoffner - 8/25  
DM Ms. Judy A. Knapp - 2/18  
The Rev. Dr. T. Scott Landrum - 3/25  
AIM Ms. Ranaté D. Patrick - 7/15  
The Rev. Scott J. Seeke - 7/29

15th - 1996

The Rev. Virginia K. Barnes - 2/17  
The Rev. John W. Beckman - 1/07  
The Rev. Ronald S. Bonner, Sr. - 3/20  
The Rev. Nancy K. Christensen - 7/14  
The Rev. Marie F. Hatcher - 3/10  
The Rev. Hans-Jürgen Hoeppeke - 6/30  
The Rev. Jeffrey K. Lott - 3/10  
The Rev. Andrew J. Seibert - 8/17  
The Rev. Lydia Villanueva - 6/8  
The Rev. Edward S. Wolff - 7/20

20th - 1991

The Rev. Gretchen E. Person - 9/8  
The Rev. Devin L. Strong - 6/29  
The Rev. Jack A. Wilder, Jr. - 10/4

The Rev. Leslie B. Wilder - 8/3

The Bishop recognized and distributed certificates to the following rostered persons upon the anniversary of their ordination:

25th - 1986

The Rev. Thomas E. Clark, Jr. - 5/18  
The Rev. Wayne S. Cobb - 5/30  
The Rev. Dena C. Lane - 5/18  
The Rev. Dr. W. Arthur Lewis - 8/16  
The Rev. Dr. Paul R. Mills, Jr. - 9/21  
The Rev. Randal G. Palm - 6/8  
The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith - 6/15

30th - 1981

The Rev. Dr. Paul W. Baumgartner - 5/31  
The Rev. Paul D. Hanson - 5/17  
The Rev. Dr. Evon O. Flesberg - 6/14  
The Rev. David B. Helfrich - 6/28  
The Rev. James W. Nipper - 6/07  
The Rev. Scott E. Peterson - 11/1  
The Rev. William H. Roen - 8/30  
The Rev. F. Clay Seneker - 5/31

35th- 1976

The Rev. Jonathan H. Edwards - 7/11  
The Rev. Darrell D. Golnitz - 6/27  
The Rev. Ronald C. Grunke - 6/13  
The Rev. David M. Hood - 6/8  
The Rev. Justin P. Kollmeyer - 10/17  
The Rev. Dr. James R. Thomas - 9/10  
The Rev. Robert G. Wolfert - 7/11

40th - 1971

AIM Ms. Mary M. Golnitz - 8/15  
The Rev. Jeffrey M. Halenza - 6/6  
The Rev. Dr. Harvey L. Huntley, Jr. - 12/15  
The Rev. Dr. Marcus J. Miller - 6/20  
The Rev. John M. Weber - 6/14  
The Rev. W. Gerald Weeks - 7/18

45th - 1966

The Rev. Lawrence A. Miller, Jr. - 3/6

50th - 1961

The Rev. Sigurd J. Arnesen, Jr. - 6/11

The Rev. Robert L. Hartenfeld - 6/25

The Rev. Robert F. Sims - 6/11

The Rev. Donald R. Strandlund - 6/18

The Rev. Allen J. Swanson - 6/18

The Rev. Leonard V. Sylte - 6/11

The Rev. Arnold M. Walker, Jr. - 6/18

55th - 1956

The Rev. Eugene W. Bensch - 6/17

The Rev. Edwin R. Brigham - 5/23

The Rev. John H. Ohsiek, Jr. - 5/27

This represents a total of 1790 years in Rostered Ministry.

**P. Consideration of Synod Council Resolutions – Part 1** [Tab A, page 3]

It was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.03.03**

**to name the Reverend Doctor Gerald S. Troutman  
as Bishop Emeritus of the Southeastern Synod.**

**Q. Announcements**

The Bishop called on Doris Underwood, Synod Vice President, who gave announcements.

**R. Closing Prayer**

The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.

**S. Recess**

The Bishop declared at 6:36 PM that the Assembly was in recess until the following morning at 8:30 AM.

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**5:45 PM-6:15 PM**

**Conference Caucuses**

**Plenary Hall**

**6:15 PM**

**Dinner on your own**

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**Saturday, June 4, 2011**

**SECOND PLENARY SESSION.....8:30 AM – 10:45 AM**  
**Plenary Hall**

- A. Call to Order**  
The Bishop called the Second Plenary Session of the Southeastern Synod Assembly to order at 8:32 AM.
- B. Opening Prayer**  
The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.
- C. Report of the Credentials Committee**  
The Bishop called on Ms. Carla Stickles, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who reported that 373 voting members were in attendance; 233 were lay and 140 were clergy.
- D. Video Greeting from Companion Synod**  
We received video greeting from Bishop Jim Arends, La Crosse Area Synod.
- E. Synod Disaster Response Update and Special Offering**  
The Bishop called on Pastor Morgan Gordy, Disaster Coordinator of the Southeastern Synod, Pastor Deborah Halter, Coordinator for Pastoral Care, and Diaconal Minister Sandra Braasch, Coordinator for Disaster Support and Development, who shared their work in disaster response, particularly following the tornados in April and flooding along the Mississippi River. A special offering benefiting the Synod Disaster Response Fund was collected, with \$13,053 donated by the close of assembly.
- F. Assembly Bible Study – 2**  
The Bishop called on Ms. Rozella Poston, Minister for Youth & Family and Young Adults at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Atlanta, GA, who led the second segment of our Bible Study, again focusing on Romans 8:26-28.
- G. African Descent Strategy Task Force Update**  
The Bishop called on Dr. Everett Flanigan, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission for the Southeastern Synod, who offered an update on the African Descent Strategy Task Force.
- H. Presentation by LLMI**  
The Bishop introduced Mr. Keith Johnson from Lutheridge+Lutherock Ministries Inc. who announced that an anonymous donor has re-financed the mortgage on Lutheranch at .5% for 12 years, saving \$135,000 a year in interest. A video introduced the “Standing on the Promises” campaign to raise funds to build an 80-bed retreat center at Lutheranch. The Rev. Dr. Gary Christensen, Honorary Co-Chair of the campaign, then highlighted various camp programs. Ms. Libby Bedenbaugh, Sr. Development Associate of LLMI, then shared a glimpse of the campaign process to be carried out in our synod.

**I. Consideration of Synod Council Resolutions – Part 2**

The Bishop called on Mr. John Lucht, Synod Treasurer, who introduced resolution 2011-05, addressing restructuring of the Linn Fund, which would shift the fund from a revolving loan fund into an endowment fund, while keeping the focus on funding mission congregations within our synod.

2011-05

**Restructuring of the Linn Fund**

**Whereas** the Dr. Charles A. Linn Memorial Fund for Synodical Missions (“the Linn Fund”) was established as a loan fund by the 1951 convention of the Georgia-Alabama Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America to honor the memory of a former synod President, the Rev. Dr. Charles A. Linn; and

**Whereas** the original purpose of the Linn Fund was “the aiding and establishing of mission churches on the territory of the Synod,” with current rules specifying that the fund is to “supply monies for second mortgages to emerging churches in the Southeastern Synod for first unit construction”; and

**Whereas** the loan amounts possible through the Linn Fund are relatively modest compared to today’s construction costs, making it unlikely that the Linn Fund can provide meaningful loan assistance for mission congregations today; and

**Whereas** the synod attorney has determined that reconfiguration of the Linn Fund to allow annual spending for mission congregations is legally permissible and does not violate any known donor restrictions, therefore:

it was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.04.04**

**to adopt that conversion of the Linn Fund from a loan fund to an endowment fund from which grants may be made, with such grants to be solely for the purpose of aiding and establishing mission congregations in the Southeastern Synod; and**

**that the restructured Linn Fund shall be subject to the same rules regarding investments and spending as exist for the other endowment funds owned by the Southeastern Synod and that the Synod Council shall be authorized to approve any additional operating rules or procedures that may be required to implement and manage the restructured Linn Fund.**

- J. Discussion and vote on the 2012-13 Ministry Funding Plan [Tab E]**  
The Bishop called on the Synod Treasurer, John Lucht, who presented information about the proposed ministry funding plan.

It was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.04.05**

**to adopt the 2012-13 Ministry Funding Plan  
presented by the Synod Council.**

- K. Greetings from ELCA Mission Investment Fund**  
The Bishop called on Associate in Ministry Jerry Johnson, MIF Regional Manager, who shared that the Mission Investment Fund provides financing for congregations to build. Investments from individuals, congregations, and agencies make these loans possible.

- L. Recognition of Outgoing Deans, Synod Council Members and Officers**  
The Bishop presented certificates of thanks to those completing terms on Synod Council, including:

Dr. Andrea Green, completing a 1-year term  
Pastor Don Vollenweider, completing a 1-year term  
Pastor Matt Henning, serving nearly 5 years  
Pastor David Smedley, completing a 4-year term  
Ms. Sharon Bost, completing 4 years of service  
Ms. Meredith Hendricks, completing 4 years of service  
Mr. Preston Jutte, completing a 2-year term  
Ms. Allison Ward, completing a 1-year term

The Bishop also presented a plaque to Mr. John Lucht, completing a 4-year term as Synod Treasurer.

- M. Nominees for Synod Council At-Large Positions**  
The Bishop called on Ms. Doris Underwood, Synod Vice President, who presented the nominees for Synod Council at-large positions.

Designated for lay female inclusive, the Synod Council nominated:

Marsha Goerss  
Andrea Green  
Louise Hamilton  
Catalina Ontiveros

There were no nominations from the floor.

Designated for at-large clergy position, the Synod Council nominated:

Pastor John Beckman  
Pastor Jason Talsness

Nomination from the floor:  
Pastor Kevin Martin

**N. Election Procedures**

[Tab D]

The Bishop called on the Rev. Dr. Joel Emerson, Chair of the Elections Committee, who described the elections procedures. The Bishop opened the floor to questions about election procedures. There being no questions, the Bishop declared the polls open, ballots were distributed and the Assembly voted on Ballot #1.

**O. Announcements**

The Bishop called on Ms. Doris Underwood, Synod Vice President, who gave announcements.

**P. Closing Prayer**

The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.

**Q. Recess**

The Bishop declared at 10:50 AM that the Assembly was in recess until the afternoon at 2:30 PM.

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**11:00AM-11:45AM**  
**12:00Noon-1:15PM**  
**1:15PM-2:30PM**

**Workshop Session B**  
**Mid-day Worship**  
**Lunch break**

**Tab A, Page 8**  
**Assembly Sanctuary**

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**Saturday, June 4, 2011**

**THIRD PLENARY SESSION.....2:30 – 6:00 PM  
Plenary Hall**

**A. Call to Order**

The Bishop called the Third Plenary Session of the Southeastern Synod Assembly to order at 2:37 PM.

**B. Opening Prayer**

The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.

**C. Report of the Credentials Committee**

The Bishop called on Ms. Carla Stickles, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who reported that 397 voting members in attendance; 252 were lay and 145 were clergy.

**D. Election Procedures (continued)**

The Bishop called on the Rev. Dr. Joel Emerson, Chair of the Elections Committee, who gave the following report:

Results of the ballot for Synod Treasurer:

# total ballots:	338
# invalid ballots:	1
# needed for election:	170
Lee Smith	182
Frederick Weinhold	155

The Bishop declared Mr. Lee Smith elected synod Treasurer.

Results of the ballot for youth member of Synod Council:

# total ballots:	340
# invalid ballots:	2
# needed for election:	171
Stephanie Gaines	195
Joel Medford	143

The Bishop declared Stephanie Gaines elected for a 2-year term as the youth member of Synod Council.

Results for the ballot for the clergy positions on the Consultation Committee:

# total ballots:	302
# invalid ballots:	3
# needed for election:	152
Pastor Bryn Carlson	244
Pastor Scott Landrum	135

Pastor Robert Loshuertos	167
Pastor Ed Myers	190
Pastor Larry Richardson	165

The Bishop declared Pastor Bryn Carlson, Pastor Ed Myers, and Pastor Robert Loshuertos elected for 6-year terms on the Consultation Committee.

Results for the ballot for the lay male position on the Consultation Committee:

# total ballots:	286
# invalid ballots:	4
# needed for election:	144
Mike Erickson	192
Mike Franklin	158
Michael Sauls	217

The Bishop declared Mike Erickson and Michael Sauls elected for 6-year terms on the Consultation Committee.

Results of the ballot for clergy positions on the Discipline Committee:

# total ballot:	297
# invalid ballots:	2
# needed for election:	149
Pastor Donald Hanberry	168
Pastor Matthew Lash	202
Pastor Gilbert Roth	221

The Bishop declared Pastor Matthew Lash and Pastor Gilbert Roth elected for 6-year terms on the Discipline Committee.

Results of the ballot for the lay female position on the Discipline Committee:

# total ballots:	330
# invalid ballots:	4
# needed for election:	166
Louise Hamilton	202
Alice Schunemann	124

The Bishop declared Louise Hamilton elected for a 6-year term on the Discipline Committee.

The results of the ballot for the 6-year lay male position on the Discipline Committee:

# total ballots:	333
# invalid ballots:	9
# needed for election:	167
Bill Alderfer	121
Edwin Bryant	143

Keith James

60

The Bishop stated there was no election. The next ballot would contain the names of Bill Alderfer and Edwin Bryant.

Results of the ballot for the 4-year lay male position on the Discipline Committee:

# total ballots:	325	
# invalid ballots:	1	
# needed for election:	163	
Hal Heidmann		324

The Bishop declared Hal Heidmann elected for the 4-year lay male position on the Discipline Committee.

- E. Presentation of 2012 Compensation Guidelines** [Tab I, EXHIBIT 3]  
The Bishop called on Pastor Scott Seeke, Chair of the Compensation Guidelines Team, who presented the guidelines for 2012.

It was MOVED and

**VOTED SA11.04.06**

**to adopt the 2012 Compensation Guidelines.**

**F. Report of the Churchwide Representative**

The Bishop called upon the Rev. Andrew Genszler, who addressed the Assembly as the representative of our Churchwide organization. Pastor Genszler thanked the congregations of the synod for their faithful stewardship in all expressions of the church. He also shared video greetings from Bishop Mark Hanson, based on the theme: “Freed to serve.”

**G. Presentation and report by members of the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (SESLYO)**

Ms. Elizabeth Hawkins, outgoing chair of the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization, and Erin Ogle, from St. John’s Lutheran Church in Griffin, GA, brought greetings from SESLYO. They also thanked all those who support youth ministry within the synod and shared information on upcoming events throughout our synod.

**H. Assembly Bible Study – 3**

The Bishop called on Ms. Elizabeth Hawkins, member of Advent Lutheran Church in Murfreesboro, TN and President of the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization, who led us in Bible Study, focusing on the theme: “Lord, listen to your children praying.”

**I. Discussion and vote on resolutions and memorials brought by the Reference & Counsel Committee**

The Bishop introduced the Rev. Randy Jones, Messiah Lutheran, Montgomery, AL, Chair of the Reference and Counsel Committee, who presented the following resolutions and memorials for consideration.

2011-01  
Submitted by Messiah Lutheran Church, Madison, AL  
and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kingsport, TN

Reference and Counsel made no recommendation.

It was moved and seconded.

**A Memorial Concerning Rescinding the Decision of the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Adopting the Social Statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust”**

**WHEREAS**, the ELCA Constitution states “This church accepts the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith, and life;” and,

**WHEREAS**, in “the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God” every reference to homosexual behavior speaks of it as contrary to the will of our God for humanity; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August, 2009, approved resolutions stating, “That the ELCA commit itself to finding ways to allow congregations that choose to do so to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable life-long, monogamous, same-gender relationships,” and “That the ELCA commit itself to finding a way for people in such publically accountable lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church.” Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the SE Synod memorialize the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to act to return the ELCA to Biblical teaching regarding homosexual behavior. And, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the SE Synod memorialize the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to return to the standards for clergy as stated in the document “Visions and Expectations” prior to the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. And, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the SE Synod memorialize the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to rescind the decision of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly that adopted the social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust.”

Discussion ensued.

Memorial 2011-01 was defeated.

2011-02

Submitted by St. Luke Lutheran Church, Atlanta, GA

Reference and Counsel recommended adoption and it was seconded.

### **A Memorial for Renewed ELCA Evangelism Resources**

**WHEREAS**, we are called by the Gospels to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to all people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has opened new doors to evangelism by passing the fully inclusive policy changes of 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the courageously inclusive message of these policy changes is not widely known outside current members of the ELCA; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to direct the Churchwide staff to develop a wide range of communications materials that focus on the fully inclusive nature of the ELCA, ~~without increasing their annual budget~~; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Churchwide assembly direct the Churchwide staff to encourage the Synodical bishops to explore the new evangelism opportunities for fully inclusive ministry in their synods; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Churchwide assembly direct the Churchwide staff to encourage local congregations to use the inclusively focused evangelism materials developed by the Churchwide staff and create their own outreach efforts to all people who seek to find a fully inclusive Christian community.

Discussion ensued.

It was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.04.07**

**to strike the words “without increasing their annual budget” from the 1<sup>st</sup> Resolved paragraph**  
*(as indicated in the text above).*

Discussion continued.

Memorial 2011-02 was defeated.

Submitted by Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta, GA

Reference and Counsel recommended adoption and it was seconded

**A Resolution to Commend the Atlanta Lutheran Volunteer Corps**

**WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) in Atlanta has become a pioneering presence in our community, promoting peace and justice by placing nine full-time volunteers within key non-profit organizations in Metro Atlanta; and

**WHEREAS**, Atlanta is the only location in the South to have an LVC presence out of 15 locations in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Volunteer Corps represents a significant opportunity for new college graduates and young adults in our synod who are discerning their career paths in service to others; and

**WHEREAS**, the eight non-profit organizations selected for this first year of service in Atlanta include the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA office and Lutheran Services of Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the first nine volunteers of the LVC in Atlanta will complete their year of service in August of 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, they have served with distinction and dedication, especially by assisting with such events as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Lutheran Day of Service and the Atlanta Hunger Walk; therefore:

It was

**Voted SA11.04.08**

**that the 2011 Southeastern Synod assembly commends: Kyle Cristofalo, Emily Elliott, Courtney Hanson, Becky Lyons, Erin Michalowski, Beth Miller, Alex Riordan, Margaret Rossi, and Alex Schechter for their profound contribution to the work of peace and justice in our synod; and**

**that the Southeastern Synod extends a welcome to the new Regional Director for the Lutheran Volunteer Corps in Atlanta, Ami Hernandez, who begins work on May 15, 2011; and**

**that the congregations of the Southeastern Synod be encouraged to support this significant resource to our synod through ongoing prayers,**

**invitations for presentations about their work, donations of household items for the LVC Atlanta houses, and financial contributions to the Atlanta Lutheran Volunteer Corps.**

2011-04

Submitted by Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marietta, GA

Reference and Counsel recommended adoption and it was seconded.

**A Memorial to Churchwide Assembly Concerning Suicide Prevention**

**WHEREAS**, “A Message on Suicide Prevention” (page 10), adopted 11/14/99 by the ELCA Church Council, urges synods to support members, congregations, and affiliated institutions in their efforts to prevent suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, in the years since approval of this message, a number of significant public/private suicide prevention efforts have evolved, including the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP 2001), the Institute of Medicine (IOM) report “Preventing Suicide: A National Imperative” (2002), the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC 2002), the National Council for Suicide Prevention (NCSP 2005), the Interfaith Dialogue on Suicide Prevention (2008), the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention (NAASP 2010), and the ELCA Suicide Prevention Ministry, Inc. (ELCA SPM 2010); and

**WHEREAS**, 34,598 U.S. citizens died by suicide in 2007 (latest statistics available), with an age-adjusted rate of 11.27 suicides per 100,000 people, resulting in a projection of 507 ELCA suicides annually based on an ELCA membership of 4.5 million, which would create an estimated 10,100 new ELCA survivors of suicide annually, and suicide prevention is now a major concern of the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the third leading cause of death in college aged people (15-24), and the NSSP Objective 4.3 calls for increasing the number of colleges and universities with suicide prevention programs, and the 26 ELCA affiliated colleges and universities constitute a significant body of at risk persons, and the 2010 suicide of a pastor at Valparaiso University starkly portrays the randomness of suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, the federally sponsored Interfaith Dialogue on Suicide Prevention produced a consensus statement including this sentence: “The time is right for the life-enhancing strengths that are the foundation of our most ancient faith traditions to find application in preventing suffering and loss from suicide.”; and

**WHEREAS**, the NSSP Objective 1.2 calls for regular national conferences on suicide prevention to maintain broad-based participation and involvement in reducing the toll of suicide and generate open discussion and assessment of suicide prevention programs; and Objective 6.4 calls for increasing the proportion of clergy trained in identifying and responding to suicide risk and behaviors; and Objective 7.5 calls for increasing the proportion of clergy trained in the unique needs of survivors of suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, the NSSP Objective 10.2 calls for increasing the funding (public and private) for suicide prevention research, and the mission of the NAASP includes cultivating the resources needed to sustain progress, and the IOM report includes specific recommendations on needed suicide prevention research, and federal suicide prevention research funding is minimal and sporadic at best; and

**WHEREAS**, limited financial resources have precluded active support by the churchwide and synod offices in implementing “The Message on Suicide Prevention,” and a Suicide Prevention Endowment Fund has been established within the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust to build future financial support for churchwide and synod support of suicide prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, membership in a faith community is often cited as a protective factor against suicide but is not supported by any current research, and the magnitude of the problem of completed suicide within the ELCA is unknown, and factual knowledge about such problem will enable prudent application of limited resources to alleviate the problem; therefore, be it

It was

**Voted SA11.04.09**

**that the Southeastern Synod memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to:**

- 1. encourage all ELCA related colleges and universities to adopt a comprehensive suicide prevention and educational program, which includes plans for immediate responses to a completed campus suicide, and appropriate ongoing support/counseling actions.**
- 2. direct the ELCA Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations Office to support a collaborative effort with other national faith communities to request the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene regular meetings of national faith communities for the purpose of advancing suicide prevention through the cooperative work of national faith communities.**
- 3. encourage the congregations and members of the ELCA to call upon the U.S. Congress to**

- convene regular national conferences of representatives from all constituencies with a vested interest in suicide prevention for the purposes of (a) promoting broad collaboration, (b) establishing priorities for the application of limited national resources, (c) engaging survivors of suicide in prevention activities that will promote their grieving and healing process, and (d) providing clergy training.
4. direct the ELCA Office of Advocacy Ministries to collaborate with other national faith communities, the NCSP and the NAASP for the purpose of promoting the development of a “grassroots” funded National Suicide Prevention Research Endowment Fund, similar to existing research funds for heart and cancer research which are largely supported by the “grassroots,” for the purpose of conducting scientific suicide prevention research as recommended by the IOM and supported by Objective 10.2 of the NSSP.
  5. encourage synods, affiliated institutions, congregations, and members to contribute to the established ELCA Suicide Prevention endowment Fund, part of the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust, for the purpose of building future financial resources for suicide prevention work within the ELCA, and providing survivors of suicide a convenient and meaningful way to honor and memorialize their loved ones lost to suicide through gifts to the Endowment Fund.
  6. direct the Office of Research and Evaluation to include, over a period of three years, in the required annual report from each ELCA congregation, a question enabling this office to determine the annual number of completed suicides in the ELCA for the purposes of (a) assessing the impact of suicide on the ELCA, (b) comparing suicide rates of the general population to the ELCA, and (c) evaluating whether or not membership in the ELCA may be a protective factor for preventing suicide.

**J. Election Procedures (continued)**

The Bishop called on the Rev. Dr. Joel Emerson, Chair of the Elections Committee, who gave the following report:

Results of the runoff ballot for a lay male to serve a 6-year term on the Discipline Committee:

# of ballots cast:	304
# invalid ballots:	1
# needed for election:	153
Bill Alderfer	149
Edwin Bryant	154

The Bishop declared Edwin Bryant elected for a 6-year term on the Discipline Committee.

Results for the ballot for the lay female inclusive position on the Synod Council:

# of total ballots cast:	312
# invalid ballots:	3
# needed for election:	157
Marsha Goerss	34
Andrea Green	120
Louise Hamilton	40
Catalina Ontiveros	115

The Bishop declared that there was no election. The next ballot would contain the names of Andrea Green and Catalina Ontiveros.

Results for the ballot for the clergy at-large members of the Synod Council:

# of total ballots cast:	312
# invalid ballots:	0
# needed for election:	157
Pastor John Beckman	111
Pastor Kevin Martin	122
Pastor Jason Talsness	79

The Bishop declared that there was no election. The next ballot would contain the names of Pastor John Beckman and Pastor Kevin Martin.

**K. Announcements**

The Bishop called on Ms. Doris Underwood, Synod Vice President, who gave announcements.

**L. Closing Prayer**

The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.

**M. Recess**

The Bishop declared at 5:55 PM that the Assembly was in recess until the next morning at 10:30 AM

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**Sunday, June 5**

**8:00AM-9:15AM**  
**9:30AM-10:15AM**

**Worship**  
**Workshop Session B**

**Plenary Hall**  
**Tab A**

**June 5, 2011**

**FOURTH PLENARY SESSION.....10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon  
Plenary Hall**

**A. Call to Order**

The Bishop called the Fourth Plenary Session of the Southeastern Synod Assembly to order at 10:37 AM.

**B. Opening Prayer**

The Bishop called on the Assembly Chaplain, the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch, who led the Assembly in prayer.

**C. Final Report of the Credentials Committee**

The Bishop called on Ms. Carla Stickles, Chair of the Credentials Committee, for the final report of the committee. There were 398 voting members in attendance; 252 were lay and 146 were clergy. Also there were 116 visitors for a grand total of 514 in attendance at the 2011 Assembly.

The detailed report was:

	<b>In Attendance</b>
Lay Voting Member from a Congregation	230
Lay Voting Member from Synod Council	8
Diaconal Minister Rostered	1
Associate in Ministry Rostered	8
Deaconess Rostered	1
Synodically Authorized Minister	4
Clergy Rostered	144
Ecumenical Pastors	2

*(After Assembly, a discrepancy was discovered in the oral report. These numbers reflect the corrected calculations.)*

**D. Election Procedures (continued)**

The Bishop called on the Rev. Dr. Joel Emerson, Chair of the Elections Committee, who gave the following report:

Results of the runoff ballot for the inclusive lay female position on the Synod Council:

# total ballots:	316
# invalid ballots:	0
# needed for election:	159
Catalina Ontiveros	178
Andrea Green	138

The Bishop declared Catalina Ontiveros elected for a 2-year term on the Synod Council.

Results of the runoff ballot for the at-large clergy position on the Synod Council:

# total ballots:	316
# invalid ballots:	1
# needed for election:	159
Pastor John Beckman	164
Pastor Kevin Martin	151

The Bishop declared John Beckman elected for a 2-year term on the Synod Council.

Results of the conference nominations for 2-year terms on the Synod Council:

Conference 1: Pastor Ed Myers  
Conference 2: Mr. Stan Semmler  
Conference 3: Pastor Bradley Schmeling  
Conference 4: Mr. Hilton Austin  
Conference 5: Associate in Ministry Michelle Angalet

Results of Conference 7 nomination to fill the 1-year unexpired term on Synod Council vacated by new Synod Treasurer Lee Smith:

Conference 7: Mr. Duane Brookhart

It was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.05.10**

**to elect those nominated by their Conferences  
for the Synod Council.**

**E. Assembly Bible Study – 4**

The Bishop called on Pastor Eric Murray of Messiah Lutheran Church, Knoxville, TN, who led session 4 of the Bible Study.

**F. Discussion and vote on resolutions and memorials [Tab G]**

The Bishop called on the Rev. Justin Ask, Member of the Committee on Reference and Counsel, who presented the following resolution:

2011-06

Reference and Counsel recommended adoption and it was seconded.

**A resolution of Thanks at the 2011 Assembly**

**WHEREAS**, the Southeastern Synod rejoices and praises God for our overseas partnerships with: the Lutheran Churches in Malaysia; Singapore; Augsburg, Germany; Ethiopia and Guatemala, and in our partnership with the ELCA La Crosse Area Synod in Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bishop, officers and staff of our Southeastern Synod have given many hours and traveled many miles through the territory of our synod to offer counsel, support, and care; and

**WHEREAS**, through their witness, they continue to encourage all of us to “listen to your children praying” through word, deed, and action; and

**WHEREAS**, the tireless effort of the various Assembly committees, volunteers, and servant leaders enables the work of this synod to move forward; therefore:

It was

**VOTED SA11.05.10:**

**that the 2011 voting members and visitors of the Southeastern Synod Assembly offer up our heartfelt thanks and prayerful support to the Bishop, officers and staff, not only for their joyful and faithful labors, but especially for their persistent and loving encouragement to all of us in the Southeastern Synod in sharing many ways to “Listen to your children praying.” We offer very special thanks to: the Rev. Andrew Genszler, Keynote Speaker and ELCA Churchwide representative; Special Guest the Rev. Amanda Olson-Castillo missionary to La Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala; Assembly Chaplain the Rev. Katherine P. Pasch; the Rev. Dr. Warren Casiday, Assembly Parliamentarian; the Synod Assembly Committee; the Synod Worship Team; the Assembly volunteers; and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and the Mission investment Fund (for providing funding to allow captioning of the plenary sessions.)**

**G.** The Bishop called on M. Jeff Huenniger of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, who announced that Lutheran Night at the Braves would be held on September 17, 2011.

**H. Presentation from La Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG)**  
The Bishop called on the Rev. Amanda Olsen-Castillo, a missionary supported by the Southeastern Synod, who shared news about her dynamic ministry in Guatemala – our companion synod. Even among subsistence farmers who may not have “daily bread”, members bring their first fruits to support the church. It was announced that this is “Año del Baño” – the year of the toilet. An ideal Christmas gift, \$330 gives a dry latrine to an ILAG family, preserving clean drinking water.

**I. Description of proposed Constitution and By-law changes** [Tab F]

The Bishop introduced Pastor Terri Stagner-Collier, Synod Secretary, who described the proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws.

### **Constitutional Amendments Recommended by the Synod Council**

*(New wording is underlined; deletions denoted by strike-outs.)*

- 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 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

It was MOVED and  
VOTED SA11.05.11

**to approve the constitutional amendments  
recommended by the Synod Council *en bloc*.**

### **By-law Amendments Recommended by the Synod Council**

*(New wording is underlined; deletions denoted by strike-outs.)*

- S8.51.01. The bishop may be re-elected to additional terms. The vice-president, secretary, and treasurer shall be eligible for re-election; ~~provided~~, however, in no event may a person serve as vice-president, secretary or treasurer for more than eight years, whether consecutive or not.
- S10.01.01. Unless otherwise elected to sit on the Synod Council, synod representatives on the Church Council and synod representatives on program committees and boards of separately incorporated service units ~~on the board and standing committees~~ of this church

shall be advisory members who will have voice but no vote on the Synod Council.

S9.01.11. Nominating Committee Nominations

a. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for vice-president.

b. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for the youth position on the Synod Council. The person nominated shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod in at least the tenth grade. No person shall be nominated for the youth position who cannot complete his or her term prior to graduation from high school.

c. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for the young adult position on the Synod Council.

It was MOVED and  
**VOTED SA11.05.12**

**to approve the by-law amendments  
recommended by the Synod Council *en  
bloc.***

**J. Spotlight on Campus Ministry**

The Bishop called on Ms. Rachel Alley, Synod Director of Youth Ministries, who announced that Synod Youth Ministries were contributing \$1,000 to “Año del Baño”. She then introduced the following synod campus ministry groups:

Pastor Jill Henning, Chair of the Board for Lutheran Campus Ministry in Atlanta – Georgia Tech, Georgia State, Agnes Scott, and Emory University.

Pastor Norbert Hahn, Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Georgia.

Pastor John Tirro, Pastor of Congregational Life and Campus Ministry at University of Tennessee in Knoxville. This shared ministry with the Episcopal Church is called Tyson House.

Ms. Mary Winfrey, Chair of the Board for the Atlanta University Center Lutheran Campus Ministry, serving the world’s largest consortium of historically black colleges and universities, including Clark Atlanta University, Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, Morris Brown College and Spelman College.

Pastor Jim Nipper, Chaplain for East Tennessee University in Johnson City, TN.

**K. Upcoming Events**

The Bishop called on Pastor Nancy Christensen and Mr. Kyle Cristofalo, who

announced the following upcoming events:

Professional Leaders Bishop’s Convocation intended for all rostered leaders, focusing on the theme of integrity. Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Frank G. Honeycutt. It will be held at Lutheridge, Oct. 11-13, 2011.

Glocal Mission Gathering at Christ the King, Norcross, GA, Aug. 4-6, 2011.

**L. Installation of all persons elected at this Assembly**

The Bishop called on Pastor Terri Stagner-Collier, Synod Secretary, who read the names of those elected at this Assembly. They were installed by the Bishop.

**M. Closing of an Assembly**

The Bishop adjourned the Twenty-third Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – Southeastern Synod at 12:18 PM.

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**12:15PM-2:00 PM**

**Synod Council/Deans Luncheon**

**Ascot Room**

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