



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
2010 Synod Assembly**



The 2010 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin was held June 5-6, 2010 at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin under the theme, WHERE WILL GOD'S LOVE TAKE YOU.

Musical Presentation
SandStory – Creation

Worship

Assembly Session I

Bishop Bruce Burnside led the assembly in the Order of Service for the Opening of a Synod Assembly.

Credentials Report #1

Linda Osterhaus presented the first report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	117
Lay Female	117
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>92</u>
Voting Members	326
Visitors	55

Parliamentary Overview

David Moore, the assembly parliamentarian, provided a parliamentary overview and explained the importance of the rules used for good order at the assembly.

Adoption of Rules of Organization and Procedure

SA10.06.01 Rules of Organization and Procedure adopted

VOTED to adopt the Rules of Organization and Procedure.

ADOPTED

Approval of Agenda

SA10.06.02 Agenda approved

VOTED to approve the assembly agenda.

ADOPTED

Ratification of Assembly Committees

Eric Peterson brought the assembly committees to the floor.

SA10.06.03 Committees approved

VOTED to approve by acclamation the assembly committees as presented with the following chairs:

- Credentials Committee – Linda Osterhaus**
- Elections Committee – The Rev. Steve Kottke**
- Resolutions Committee – Eric Peterson**

ADOPTED

Report of the Resolutions Committee

Eric Peterson, chair of the Resolutions Committee, brought the initial report of the Resolutions Committee to the floor and stated that there were two resolutions at this time. The Committee recommends approval of Resolution 1 and recommends a substitute resolution for Resolution 2. Three additional resolutions have been submitted and will be reviewed by the committee for presentation later in the Assembly. He explained the process and rules for submitting resolutions for this assembly. Resolutions must be submitted by noon on Saturday.

Report of the Nominations Committee

The Rev. Ron Mach, chair of the Nominations Committee, brought the names of nominees to the floor. Rev. Mach reported that all nominees are valid candidates for office. The Nominations Committee recommends that the synod take responsibility to create structures to move the nominating process closer to the congregations and geographic areas of the synod.

Synod Council – Secretary
Mary DeYoung

Synod Council – Lay Female
Elaine Kroeger

Synod Council – Lay Male
Samuel Galaviz
Steve Biedermann

Synod Council – Clergy
The Rev. Anne Andert
The Rev. Dan Dibbert

2011 Churchwide Assembly
Youth and Young Adult
Kathryn Schweitz
Hans Eric Becklin
Emily Lawson
Karl Schweitz
Erin Grier
The Rev. Luke Smetters

Person of Color or Primary Language Other than English
Winifred Brown
The Rev. Tina Koenig Ray
The Rev. Pedro Suarez

Female Lay
Lyssa Stolte
Sue Alseth
Danielle Lawson
Rebecca Alwin
Nancy Young
Sonya K.S. Lindquist

Male Lay
Eric Peterson
Timothy Mumm
Greg Vodak
John (Jay) Teisberg
Rolfe Nervig
Del Norland
James Festige
Richard (Dick) Mueser

Clergy

The Rev. Sylvia Lee-Thompson
The Rev. Mark Jensen
The Rev. Dan Dibbert
The Rev. Peter Heide
The Rev. Denise Anderson
The Rev. Nick Uthall
The Rev. Kathy Jacobson
The Rev Chad Christensen
The Rev. Dan Odden
The Rev. Anne Andert

The Rev. Luke Smetters raised a question as to why there was only one nomination for Synod secretary when the Synod Constitution requires two nominations. Vice-president Connie Kilmark explained that the Synod Council was not able to find another person to accept nomination for the position. After consulting with the ELCA Secretary it was recommended that the Synod Council present the one candidate and then explain the situation to the Assembly.

Another question was raised as to why only six names were presented for Churchwide Assembly – Lay Female when there are seven positions to be filled. Rev. Mach explained that voting for the youth and young adult nominees will be held first and then anyone not elected on that ballot will have their name placed on the general ballots.

Bishop Burnside asked for further nominations from the floor as none were brought forward he declared nominations closed. The Bishop asked the Synod Assembly to vote by acclamation to adopt the slate of nominees.

SA10.06.04 Slate of Nominees approved

VOTED to approve by acclamation the slate of nominees.

ADOPTED

Keynote Address I

Bishop Burnside introduced the Rev. John Nunes, President and CEO of Lutheran World Relief, as the keynote speaker of the Synod Assembly.

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Robert Gorsuch reported to the Assembly that in 2009 the Synod gave over \$200,000 to Lutheran World Relief and World Hunger. He reported that the state of the economy had an impact on congregation benevolence given to the Synod. The certified audit for 2009 has been completed and the Synod received an unqualified opinion which means no major adjustments were made to the financial records. Mr. Gorsuch reported that 2009 revenues were down. He noted that the revenue reported on page 60 should be \$1,705,000 of which fifty-five percent went to Churchwide. Mr. Gorsuch reported that the Endowment Fund has rebounded from previous losses and currently has a balance of \$238,000.

Introduction of the Spending Plan

The spending plan was introduced and will be on the agenda for Sunday.

And God Said It Is Good Report

At the 2009 Synod Assembly Bishop Burnside challenged the Synod to show support of the ELCA during the difficult economic time by having a special appeal that could be used at the discretion of Churchwide for mission support. A resolution was passed calling for “And God Said It Is Good Sunday.” The Rev. David Berggren, chair of the committee, presented an update to the Assembly. Seventy-one congregations participated in the appeal with \$50,000 raised and an additional \$40,000 pledged. Gary Brugh, budget director in the Office of the Treasurer, sent a letter to Rev. Berggren thanking the Synod for their “great” appeal. In addition to raising money for mission support Rev. Berggren stated that the appeal raised an awareness of the need to share resources beyond our own

congregations. It also promoted a shared solidarity with the work being done in Chicago and around the world. He thanked Bishop Burnside for putting challenge before the Synod. He thanked the committee and the congregations that participated in the appeal.

Endowment Committee Report

The Rev. Sara Yotter announced the 2010 grant recipients:

Emmanuel, Waupun	Center for congregational leadership
San José, Beloit	First, Janesville
Our Saviors, Sun Prairie	St. John's, Prairie du Sac
Bethel, Madison	

She also thanked First, Beaver Dam for the endowment gift to campus ministry given in honor of their 150th congregational anniversary.

Credentials Report #2

Linda Osterhaus presented the second report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	137
Lay Female	124
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>97</u>
Voting Members	358
Visitors	65

Ballot #1

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the first ballot to the floor of the Assembly. Bishop Burnside presented the election rules to the assembly. He explained that the goal of the Churchwide assembly is to create diversity and balance of voting members that is inclusive of age, gender, color, and persons whose primary language is other than English. The Assembly needs to elect twenty-one voting members to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly (seven clergy, seven lay female, seven lay male). Ballot #1 will be based on these principles and will elect the Synod secretary, Synod Council, youth and young adult, and persons of color or language other than English. Two youth and young adult and two people of color or whose primary language is other than English will be elected as voting members to the Churchwide Assembly. If two people are not elected in a category on the first ballot then these categories will appear on the second ballot. The election of lay male and lay female balloting will occur after these two categories are filled. The Bishop explained that ballots would be distributed in the voting area and only to persons wearing a white name tag.

Rebecca Alwin offered a prayer before the first ballot.

Ballots were distributed and instructions were given. Ballots will only be distributed in the voting area and only to persons wearing a white name tag. The Bishop asked the Assembly to approve by unanimous acclamation the Synod Secretary and the Synod Council – Lay Female as there was only one nominee for each office.

SA10.06.05 Synod Secretary approved

VOTED to approve by unanimous acclamation the election of Mary DeYoung as the Synod secretary.
ADOPTED

SA10.06.06 Synod Council – Lay Female approved

VOTED to approve by unanimous acclamation the election of Elaine Kroeger as the Synod Council – Lay Female.

ADOPTED

At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the first ballot closed.

Session II

SandStory – What If and Invisible Children

The Bishop called Session II to Order.

Report of the Secretary

Mary DeYoung, the Synod Secretary, brought the secretary's report to the assembly.

Constitutional Changes

Mary DeYoung introduced Synod Constitution changes and non required constitutional changes adopted by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly. Amendment change S7.17. will need to be approved at the 2011 Synod Assembly. At that time bylaw S.7.17.01. will also be presented for approval.

SA10.06.07 Constitution and bylaw amendments to Chapter 7

VOTED

to amend Chapter 7 – Synod Assembly sections S7.17, S7.22.01, and S7.26.01.

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.

S7.22.01, All retired ~~ordained ministers~~ rostered leaders on the roster of this synod shall caucus prior to the first business session and elect up to 10 % of their number on the roster of this synod to be voting members of the Synod Assembly; all others shall be advisory members with voice but not vote. ~~These Ordained ministers~~ elect to be voting members under this section shall be counted as clergy members of the Synod Assembly, and not as lay persons, for purposes of †S7.21. All other rostered leaders elected to be voting members under this section shall be counted as lay members of the Synod Assembly.

S7.26.01 Each synodically authorized worshipping community shall elect one lay voting member to the Synod Assembly.

ADOPTED

SA10.06.08 Constitution and bylaw renumbering changes to Chapter 11

VOTED

to amend Chapter 11 – Committees and Commissions section S11.05 to S11.06.

ADOPTED

SA10.06.09 Non Required Synod Constitution Changes Adopted by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly

VOTED

to approve the non required synod constitution changes adopted by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.

S7.22. The synod may establish processes that permit retired ordained ministers, retired associates in ministry, retired deaconesses, and retired diaconal ministers on the roster of this synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.c. above. The synod may establish processes that permit ordained ministers, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers who are on leave from call, or those designated as disabled, on the roster of the synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.c. above. If the synod does not establish processes to permit the rostered leaders specified above to serve as voting members, they shall have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly.

S7.23. ~~All retired ordained ministers, all ordained ministers on leave from call, all associates in ministry on leave from call or retired, all deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on leave from call or retired, and all diaconal ministers of this church on leave from call~~

~~or retired, all of whose names appear on the rosters of this synod, shall have the privilege of voice but not vote at all meetings of the Synod Assembly.~~ The presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council shall also have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly. Like privileges shall be accorded to those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of mission settings formed with the intent of becoming ~~chartered~~ recognized congregations and authorized worshipping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.02.03., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21. ~~Authorized worshipping 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.~~

S8.42. The treasurer shall provide and be accountable for:

f. ~~Giving of corporate surety in the amount determined by the Synod Council, which shall be in the custody of the secretary, and the premium therefore shall be paid by this synod. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement. Obtaining a fidelity bond in the amount determined by the Synod Council for persons handling synod funds, which bond shall be in the custody of the secretary. The premium for the bond shall be paid by this synod. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.~~

S13.41. Authorized worshipping 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.

Report of the Vice-President

Connie Kilmark, the Synod Vice-President, brought the vice-president's report to the assembly.

Recognition of Congregation Anniversaries

Connie Kilmark recognized congregation anniversaries.

Advent, Madison – 50th Anniversary

Trinity, Edgerton – 50th Anniversary

St. John's, Johnson Creek – 125th Anniversary

St. Paul's, Mayville – 125th Anniversary

First, Beaver Dam – 150th Anniversary

Introduction of Synod Council

Connie Kilmark recognized Synod Council members,

Rebecca Alwin

The Rev. Anne Andert

Jay Becklin

Carolyn Butts

The Rev. Robert Carlson

Lon Buss – Lutheran Men in Mission

Carolyn Lien – Women of the ELCA

Mary DeYoung

Robert Gorsuch

James Greenwald

The Rev. Steve Kottke

Marian Krueger

The Rev. Charles Miller

David Nelsestuen

Eric Peterson

Kristopher Rhude

Calvin Williams

Introductions

The Bishop introduced Synod staff, rostered leaders new to the Synod, seminarians assigned to the Synod, and interns serving the Synod.

<u>Synod Staff</u>	<u>Rostered Leaders New to Synod</u>	<u>Seminarians</u>	<u>Interns</u>
The Rev. James Bailey	The Rev. Anne Andert	Jason Chesnut	Luanne Bettisch
Kim Eighmy	The Rev. David Andert	Peder Johanson	Brian Jones
Cory Hamilton	The Rev. Daniel Dibbert	Robert Neubert	Rick LeClair
Vicki Hanrahan	The Rev. Kristen Fryer	Linda Osterhaus (AIM)	James Lotz
Mailon Krebs	The Rev. Sarah Harrold	Janice Peterson (AIM)	Daniel Ofstehage
Wayne Pinnow	The Rev. Eric Jones	Matthew Smith-Laubenstein	Nathan Strong
The Rev. Blake Rohrer	The Rev. David Natzke		
The Rev. Pedro Suarez	The Rev. Luke Smetters		
The Rev. Sara Yotter	The Rev. Donald Tubesing		

Bishop Report

The Bishop's report was based on chapters nine, ten, and twelve of the Book of Acts. His message emphasized the vision of being one in Jesus Christ and asked the Assembly what vision we are ignoring. He also spoke about "Where will God's love take you?" and related the story of six-year-old Caden who had a vision for this church and started a Haiti relief fund to raise money to provide toys for the children in Haiti who lost theirs in the earthquake. The Bishop challenged the Assembly to have a vision for this church and to help Caden in his efforts.

Bishop Burnside recessed the Assembly for lunch.

Session III

SandStory – The Prodigal

Bishop Burnside called Session III to order.

The Bishop introduced the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church in India – India Youth Exchange program. Cory Hamilton introduced the seven high school students who will be going to India to represent our church.

Report of the Elections Committee – Ballot #1

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the first ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 315 ballots cast so a majority of 158 was needed.

Synod Council – Lay Male (one needed)

Samuel Galaviz	178
Steve Biedermann	129

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Samuel Galaviz.

Synod Council – Clergy (one needed)

Rev. Anne Andert	194
Rev. Dan Dibbert	90

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Anne Andert.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member – Youth & Young Adult Under 30 (two needed)

Kathryn Schweitz	82
Hans Becklin	115
Emily Lawson	127
Karl Schweitz	85
Erin Grier	77

Rev. Luke Smetters 66
Bishop Burnside declared no election.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member – Person of Color or Primary Language Other Than English (two needed)
Winifred Brown 161
Rev. Tina Koenig Ray 166
Rev. Pedro Suarez 190

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Tina Koenig Ray and The Rev. Pedro Suarez.

Ballot #2

The Bishop asked the consent of the Assembly to alter the election rules to allow voting on the Churchwide Assembly Voting Member – Clergy on the second ballot.

SA10.06.10 Alter Election Rules

VOTED to allow the Churchwide Assembly Voting Member – Clergy to appear on the second ballot.
ADOPTED

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service Report

Rebekah Johnson of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services reported on the Bhutanese refugee settlement in the Madison area.

Keynote Address II

The Rev. John Nunes continued his keynote address. He accepted a check for \$1,636.26 from Caden of St. John's, Madison for the Haiti Relief Fund to be used for the children.

Credentials Report #3

Linda Osterhaus presented the third report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	142
Lay Female	127
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>98</u>
Voting Members	367
Visitors	78

The Rev. Robert Carlson offered a prayer before ballot 2.

Ballot #2

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the second ballot to the floor of the Assembly. At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the second ballot closed.

Book of Faith Report

Kim Eighmy provided an update on the first year of the Book of Faith Leadership team which provided support to Book of Faith churches. A second wave of churches will be worked with next year.

Campus Ministry Report

Students from the Lutheran Campus Center (LCC) shared the importance of the LCC as part of their college life and their faith growth. Students engage in activities, events, Bible studies, social concern lunches, and worship. The students left the Assembly with the message that they are the future of the church and need our continued support for campus ministry programs.

The Bishop recessed the Assembly to attend the workshops.

Session IV

SandStory – The Passion

Bishop Burnside called Session IV to order.

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #2

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the second ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 327 ballots cast so a majority of 164 was needed.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member –

Youth & Young Adult Under 30 (two needed)

Emily Lawson 251

Hans Becklin 203

Karl Schweitz 145

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Emily Lawson and Hans Becklin.

Clergy

The Rev. Sylvia Lee-Thompson 163

The Rev. Mark Jensen 154

The Rev. Dan Dibbert 138

The Rev. Peter Heide 93

The Rev. Denise Anderson 100

The Rev. Nick Utphall 139

The Rev. Kathy Jacobson 170

The Rev Chad Christensen 143

The Rev. Dan Odden 128

The Rev. Anne Andert 187

The Rev. Luke Smetters 104

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Kathy Jacobson and The Rev. Anne Andert.

Report of Churchwide Representative

The Rev. Andrea F. DeGroot-Nesdahl, Coordinator of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative and HIV/Aids Strategy for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, brought greetings from our partners in ministry across the whole church. She spoke about the Malaria initiative, the World Hunger program which came up with an additional \$20 million dollars that helped provide opportunities for water development projects, and the over \$10 million dollars raised for Lutheran Disaster Relief in Haiti. She acknowledged that the decline in mission support is a reality and its impact is being felt in all divisions of the ELCA. She applauded the Synod's 2009 "And God Said It Is Good" Resolution and our steadfast commitment to mission support. Rev. DeGroot-Nesdahl stated, "We are standing in the grace of God, but we are not standing still." She noted that the work we do together is more powerful than what we can do alone. LIFT, Living Into the Future Together, is an initiative of the Church Council to listen to those across the church. Presiding Bishop Hansen's video message was played for the Assembly.

Credentials Report #4

Linda Osterhaus presented the fourth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy 144

Lay Female 127

Lay Male 98

Voting Members 369

Visitors 80

Connie Kilmark offered a prayer before the third ballot.

Ballot #3

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the third ballot to the floor of the Assembly. At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the third ballot closed.

Resolutions

Bishop Burnside turned the floor over to Eric Peterson, chair of the Resolutions Committee. Mr. Peterson explained that the first part of the debate on each resolution would be limited to the “resolved” sections. After the resolved sections are completed then the “whereas” sections can be debated. He reminded the Assembly of the four minute time limit to debate.

Resolution – Compensation Guidelines

The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution.

MOVED Compensation Guidelines

SA10.06.11 Compensation Guidelines

VOTED RESOLVED, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin adopt the 2011 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Clergy as found on pages 65-70 of the pre-assembly materials and the 2011 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Lay Ministers as found on pages 71-74 of the pre-assembly materials.

ADOPTED

The Rev. Mark Moldrem, First Lutheran, Beaver Dam, commented that in future years the definition of continuing education should be defined in a broader sense that would include online, video, and other forms of education.

Resolution 2b – Creation of a Synodical Immigration Task Force

The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of substitute resolution #2b.

MOVED Creation of a Synodical Immigration Task Force

SA10.06.12 Creation of a Synodical Immigration Task Force

VOTED Whereas the ELCA Churchwide Assembly resolved in 2007 that all synods of the ELCA have an Immigration Task Force, but our synod has not yet formed one, and

Whereas Madison, WI, has now become a refugee resettlement sub-office for Lutheran Social Service of Wisconsin, and

Whereas over 100 Bhutanese refugees will be resettled in Madison in 2010, and then more will continue to be resettled in Madison for the foreseeable future, and

Whereas it is the call of the church to remember that Israel were once refugees, and it is the call of our nation to remember that we are a nation of immigrants; as Ralston Deffenbaugh and Stephen Bouman write in their book on They Are Us: Lutherans and Immigration: "the strangers, our new neighbors, bring immense spiritual gifts with them.... Many of our new neighbors bring vibrant faith, love of Scripture, and deeply evangelical hearts. Immigration means spiritual re-enchantment" (5-6); now, therefore be it

Resolved that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will take immediate action (by no later than August 1st of 2010) to form such a task force, under the leadership of synod staff, a task force chairperson, and interested task force members, and be it further

Resolved that the first focus of the task force will be to partner with LSS of Wisconsin and the Madison sub-office for refugee resettlement in developing congregational co-sponsorship committees that will co-sponsor newly arriving refugees, and be it further

Resolved that the task force will make use of the guiding documents of the ELCA on

immigration to develop other strategies for ministry with immigrants and refugees, and be it further

Resolved that all congregations of this synod will review and consider the opportunity to co-sponsor a refugee family.

ADOPTED

Eric Peterson turned over the chair of the Resolutions Committee to the Rev. Nick Utphall.

Resolution 1 – Leadership for Mission Initiative for the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution.

MOVED Leadership for Mission Initiative for the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

SA10.06.13 Leadership for Mission Initiative for the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
VOTED Whereas, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin is a synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is charged to “plan for the mission of this church in this synod, initiating and developing policy and implementing programs, consistent with churchwide policy” (Synod Constitution S06.03e); and

Whereas, at this time in the life of the church and nation, economic conditions have forced every person and institution to evaluate and prioritize how best to spend financial resources to achieve the greatest return, including the church and its expressions; and

Whereas, despite these economic pressures, ministry and mission has flourished in this church, including the progress with the covenant relationship with the Presbyterians at San Jose in Beloit partly due to the positive leadership of the synod to further mission; and

Whereas, mission is central to the work of this church and this church values leadership that promotes and plans for the growth of mission; and

Whereas, the Synod Council is granted interim legislative authority when the Assembly is not seated to exercise leadership in leading the mission work of this church; therefore, be it

Resolved, that this Synod Assembly, celebrating in and recognizing its constitutional duty to plan for the mission of this church, directs the Synod Council in the coming year to engage in an initiative to be known as the “Leadership For Mission Initiative” for developing processes, establishing priorities, fostering communication, and implementing plans to further the mission of the ELCA and this synod; and, be it further

Resolved, that this Synod Assembly directs the Synod Council as a part of this initiative to evaluate the ministry functions of this Synod, including committees and ministry teams within the synod, to coordinate and lift-up the work of these functions within the mission plan of this synod; and, be it further

Resolved, that this Synod Assembly, recognizing the need for flexibility in the life of the church, encourages the Synod Council to use discernment and allow for flexibility in creating plans and policies that will not constrict the work of the Holy Spirit; and, be it further

Resolved, that this Synod Assembly directs the Synod Council to report to the 2011 Synod Assembly with its comments, progress and results of the Leadership For Mission Initiative and offer recommendations to that Assembly for continued growth in mission and any possible changes needed in structure, governance, or areas of the synod that require

Assembly approval.

ADOPTED

Eric Peterson resumed his role as chair of the Resolutions Committee.

Resolution 3 – Accessibility in the ELCA and South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution.

MOVED Accessibility in the ELCA and South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

SA10.06.14 Accessibility in the ELCA and South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

VOTED

Whereas, Jesus commissions his followers to gather disciples everywhere, and the ELCA seeks to follow this call by welcoming diversity in our communities of faith and also by continuing a healthy tradition of self-examination and change when we discover bias in our words or actions; and

Whereas, liturgical and scriptural literacy is highly valued among the people of the ELCA and the ELCA has chosen the *NRSV* translation of the scriptures as its accepted translation and embarked on a churchwide Biblical literacy program: *the Book of Faith Initiative*; and

Whereas, Augsburg-Fortress is the designated publishing house of the ELCA that provides pastors, educators, worship planners and members of the ELCA with products and services that communicate the Gospel, enhance faith and enrich the life of the Christian community from a Lutheran perspective; and

Whereas, printed resources produced by the ELCA and Augsburg Fortress are rarely published in accessible formats, i.e., formats other than small-size print, and further, it is understood that the ELCA and Augsburg Fortress have no plans to expand the selection; and

Whereas, people with most kinds of vision impairment, people with certain learning disabilities, and people with other disabilities affecting the activity of reading are not able to use most of the ELCA or Augsburg Fortress materials in the available format; and

Whereas, individuals and congregations must spend large amounts of money and time to create or re-create materials so that people with disabilities affecting the activity of reading are able to participate fully in worship, spiritual development, and educational activities at home, school or church; and

Whereas, people who are blind or visually impaired are currently involved in a struggle for basic civil rights like access to education, employment, and voting, and the ELCA ignores this struggle by promoting worship and educational materials that are available only in small-size print and by allowing inaccessible features on their websites thus further marginalizing many children and adults with disabilities; and

Whereas, in spite of these barriers, people with vision impairment and other disabilities, through their commitment to the Gospel, are already active as worshipers and leaders in ELCA congregations, schools, colleges and seminaries; and

Whereas, modern technology makes production and distribution of accessible format materials easier than ever before, and centralizing these functions would allow congregations across the ELCA to have more convenient and less expensive access to such materials; and

Whereas, the resurrection of a comprehensive ministry to provide accessible format materials to

ELCA congregations would benefit and uplift the entire body of Christ; therefore be it

Resolved, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin memorialize the ELCA Churchwide Council to direct Augsburg-Fortress to report to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly a plan to implement in its own publishing, partnership publishing or other contracted manufacturing a way to make available at reasonable cost its printed materials (book and other forms) upon request in an appropriate accessible format that maintains the structural integrity of the original material; and be it further

Resolved, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin requests the ELCA Churchwide Council at its November 2010 meeting to direct all churchwide units and encourage auxiliary organizations to design their websites in ways that respect the accessibility needs of people with vision impairment by using high-contrast, following W3C standards, and incorporating feedback from users with disabilities; and be it further

Resolved, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin requests the ELCA Churchwide Council to direct all churchwide units of the ELCA to include information on plans to implement the accessibility to the April 2011 Churchwide Council meeting; and be it further

Resolved, that the 2010 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin requests the Synod Council to examine synodically created materials and policies on accessibility for those with disabilities and order changes to said materials and policies in the spirit of this resolution and as the Council directs; and be it further

Resolved, that the 2010 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin encourages all congregations within this synod to review their internal policies and materials and to make changes as needed in the spirit of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, that the Bishop of this Synod shall report to the 2011 Synod Assembly any actions taken on this subject by the ELCA Churchwide Council and the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Synod Council; and be it further

Resolved, that the 2010 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin directs the Synod Secretary to forward this resolution to the ELCA Churchwide Council and the ELCA Secretary for consideration and possible action and shall provide copies to each congregation within this synod.

ADOPTED

The Rev. Peter Heide, St. John's, Leland stated that he wrote the resolution because materials such as the Book of Faith and LRW are not accessible for people with visual disabilities. People with disabilities should have access to these and other materials. Steven Redmann, St. Stephens, Monona, asked how Augsburg Fortress would be bound by this resolution. Bishop Burnside stated that the resolution is not binding on them. It is just a way to let them know that people with visual disabilities would like to have material available that they can use.

The Assembly watched the DVD message that the Bishop prepared for congregations.

The Bishop declared Session IV closed and adjourned the Assembly for the evening.

Session V

Worship

The Bishop called Session V to order.

Credentials Report #5

Linda Osterhaus presented the fifth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	144
Lay Female	127
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>98</u>
Voting Members	369
Visitors	83

Report of Ballet #3

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the third ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 317 ballots cast so a majority of 159 was needed.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member

Clergy	
The Rev. Sylvia Lee-Thompson	170
The Rev. Mark Jensen	109
The Rev Chad Christensen	144
The Rev. Nick Uthall	98
The Rev. Dan Dibbert	117
The Rev. Dan Odden	91

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Sylvia Lee-Thompson.

Lay Male	
Eric Peterson	197
Timothy Mumm	134
Greg Vodak	99
John (Jay) Teisberg	100
Rolfe Nervig	151
Del Norland	84
James Festge	117
Richard (Dick) Mueser	91
Karl Schweitz	130

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Eric Peterson.

Spending Plan

Mr. Robert Gorsuch returned the spending plan to the floor. He explained to the Assembly that the spending plan goes from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. He explained that the Finance Committee meets and recommends a spending plan to the Synod Council who then recommends the plan to the Synod Assembly. Mr. Gorsuch informed the Assembly that every new dollar added to the Synod budget requires \$2.22 as fifty-five percent goes to the ELCA for benevolence. The revenues and expenditures were reviewed. He noted that this is the second year in a row that there have been no salary adjustments. The Finance Committee presented a balanced budget.

MOVED Approval of the Spending Plan

SA10.06.15 Approve 2010-11 Spending Plan
VOTED to approve the 2010-11 spending plan as presented.

ADOPTED

The Rev. Nick Uthall, St. Stevens, Monona, asked that in future spending plans the Wisconsin Council of Churches does not continue to receive cuts in funding from the Synod. Collette Schaffer, Vermont, reminded the Assembly that the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin had their budget decreased three to four years ago and would like to see that increased in future spending plans.

Resolutions

Eric Peterson reported on the resolution, Memorial for Further Action Regarding ELCA Board of Pensions and Domestic Partners, passed by the 2009 Synod Assembly. The SCSW sent a memorial to the Churchwide Council and the end result was a decision by the Board of Pensions to change the policies of the Pension and Other Benefits Program to more justly support domestic partners by allowing them to opt out of health benefits in the same fashion as current policy allows for married participants.

Resolution 4 - Expressing Thanks for Volunteers and Leaders of The Assembly

The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution.

MOVED Expressing Thanks for Volunteers and Leaders of The Assembly

SA10.06.16 Expressing Thanks for Volunteers and Leaders of The Assembly

VOTED Whereas, the 2010 Synod Assembly, is the culmination of months of planning and preparations by synodical leaders and volunteers; and

Whereas, these leaders and volunteers have contributed many hours of volunteer time and overtime building a program and assembly that both honored the theme, “*Where Will God's Love Take You?*”, and welcomed the working of the Holy Spirit to breathe life into all these proceedings; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the members of the 2010 Synod Assembly express their thanks to the members of the Assembly Planning Team, the Synod Council, members of the Assembly committees, volunteers, and fellow workers who have contributed to the life of this church so richly; and be it further

Resolved, that the members of the 2010 Synod Assembly applaud the diligent and hard work of the Synod staff in their preparations for this Assembly; and be it further

Resolved, that the members of the 2010 Synod Assembly thank the staff and management of the Kalahari Resort for gracious hospitality and accommodation during the time of this Assembly.

ADOPTED

Resolution 5 - Honoring the Career and Service of Marilon Krebs

Eric Peterson turned this resolution over to Bishop Burnside. After reading the entire resolution, Bishop Burnside reported that the Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution and he would like the Assembly to receive it by acclamation.

MOVED

SA10.06.17 To Approve by Unanimous Acclamation the Resolution Honoring the Career and Service of Marilon Krebs

VOTED Whereas, Marilon Krebs has been serving the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin from its very beginning as a new synod of the newly created Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

Whereas, as synodical staff and leadership folks have transitioned through this synod, Marilon has been the one staff member who has become the hub of the day to day operations of the synod; and

Whereas, Marilon has become an integral and critical part of the synod staff, serving as the go-to

person for the synod's secretaries, sharing her knowledge and experience on how the synod works, how the churchwide organization works, who one needs to talk to for answers, and why things are the way they are, all of which have been invaluable tools for all leaders; and

Whereas, despite the best attempts to record the knowledge and operational history of this synod that Marilon possesses, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, its leaders, congregations, and members, shall experience a tremendous loss of her skills, abilities, and character that has long been her trademark; and

Whereas, in addition to being a faithful servant and member of the church assembled in South-Central Wisconsin, Marilon has been a good friend to many persons in this church that will miss her dearly; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin extend thanks and praise to God for the caring and loyal servant of the church, Marilon Krebs, and be it further

Resolved, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin congratulate Marilon Krebs on her retirement and thank her for her tireless service to the church.

ADOPTED

Eric Peterson concluded the report of the Resolutions Committee

Eric Peterson offered a prayer before the fourth ballot.

Ballot #4

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the fourth ballot to the floor of the Assembly. At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the fourth ballot closed.

The Bishop adjourned Session V.

Session VI

The Bishop called Session VI to order.

Report of Ballot #4

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the fourth ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 269 ballots cast so a majority of 135 was needed.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member

Clergy

The Rev Chad Christensen	152
The Rev. Dan Dibbert	110
The Rev. Mark Jensen	130
The Rev. Nick Utphall	105

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Chad Christensen.

Lay Male

Rolfe Nervig	162
Timothy Mumm	136
Karl Schweitz	127
James Festge	110
John (Jay) Teisberg	104
Greg Vodak	101
Richard (Dick) Mueser	75

Del Norland 95
Bishop Burnside declared the election of Rolfe Nervig and Timothy Mumm..

Lay Female
Lyssa Stolte 119
Sue Alseth 165
Danielle Lawson 154
Rebecca Alwin 153
Nancy Young 129
Sonya K.S. Lindquist 177
Kathryn Schweitz 121
Erin Grier 132
Winifred Brown 150

The Bishop declared the election of Sue Alseth, Danielle Lawson, Rebecca Alwin, Sonya K.S. Lindquist, and Winifred Brown.

Credentials Report #6

Bishop Burnside presented the sixth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy 144
Lay Female 127
Lay Male 98
Voting Members 369
Visitors 83

Carolyn Butts offered a prayer before the fifth ballot.

Ballot #5

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the fifth ballot to the floor of the Assembly. At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the fifth ballot closed.

Telling Wonderful Things

The Rev. Sara Yotter used a mission interpretation approach to lead the Assembly through a reflection of the Assembly and how they would share the events of the Assembly with their congregations.

Bishop's Message

Bishop Burnside offered a word of thanks for the great deal of time and effort in putting the Assembly together. He thanked the people who led and planned worship as well as Eric Peterson, David Moore the Assembly parliamentarian, Mary DeYoung the Synod Council secretary, and Connie Kilmark the Synod vice-president. The Bishop especially thanked the Synod staff for all of their hard work, the Rev. Blake Rohrer, the Rev. Sara Yotter, Marilon Krebs, Vicki Hanrahan, and Wayne Pinnow. He offered a special thank you to his wife Cynthia for all of her love and support.

Carolyn Butts thanked Bishop Burnside for all the work that he does and for being an active leader in the Synod.

In his closing message the Bishop talked about the mission and works of the Synod and the ELCA and asked the Assembly to make this the last assembly where we have to make budget cuts.

Report of Ballot #5

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the fifth ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 207 ballots cast so a majority of 104 was needed.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member
Clergy

The Rev. Mark Jensen **136**
The Rev. Dan Dibbert 69
Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Mark Jensen.

Lay Male
Karl Schweitz **128**
James Festge 93
John (Jay) Teisberg 92
Greg Vodak 57
Bishop Burnside declared the election of Karl Schweitz..

There were 198 ballots cast so a majority of 100 was needed
Lay Female
Erin Grier **103**
Nancy Young 95
The Bishop declared the election of Erin Grier.

Updates

The Bishop reported that 2,526 kits were collected for Global Health Ministries and Lutheran World Relief. Of this total there were 644 hospice kits, 1104 midwife kits, and 778 health kits. The Bishop thanked the Rev. Richard Dowling for coordinating this effort. The Bishop also reported that the Assembly raised \$5,087.73 for Caden's Haiti Relief Fund.

Carolyn Lein offered a prayer before the sixth ballot.

Ballot #6

The Rev. Steve Kottke brought the sixth ballot to the floor of the Assembly. At the completion of the balloting, the Bishop declared the sixth ballot closed.

Worship

Report of Ballot #6

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the sixth ballot was brought by The Rev. Steve Kottke (names in bold are elected). There were 165 ballots cast so a majority of 83 was needed.

Churchwide Assembly Voting Member

Lay Male
James Festge 79
John (Jay) Teisberg **86**
Bishop Burnside declared the election of John (Jay) Teisberg.

The Bishop declared that this concluded our balloting at this Assembly

The Assembly concluded with the installation of elected leaders and a blessing by the Bishop. The Bishop adjourned the Assembly.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary DeYoung, Secretary
South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Protocol Documents

2010 Synod Assembly Book
Rules Governing Elections
Credential Reports
Report of Ballot Results
Resolutions