



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
God's work. Our hands.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
2012 Synod Assembly

The 2012 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin was held May 5-6, 2012 at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin under the theme, LIVING, DARING CONFIDENT IN GOD'S GRACE.

Worship

Assembly Session I

Bishop Bruce Burnside led the assembly in the Order of Service for the Opening of a Synod Assembly and called the Assembly to order. The Rev. Blake Rohrer welcomed the voting members and visitors to the Assembly and explained the general procedures for the day.

Credentials Report #1

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the first report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	109
Lay Female	133
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>100</u>
Voting Members	342
Visitors	47

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.

Electronic Voting Introduction

Jean Knight, from Qwizdom, explained the use of the electronic voting devices. The Rev. Peter Heide, St. John's Luther Prairie asked if there were any talking voting devices. The Bishop responded that there were no voice devices but it will be important to remember this for future Assemblies.

Adoption of Rules of Organization and Procedure

Bishop Burnside introduced the Rules of Organization and Procedure for the 2012 Synod Assembly. Eric Peterson was present to answer questions as needed.

SA12.05.01 Rules of Organization and Procedure adopted

VOTED to adopt the Rules of Organization and Procedure.

ADOPTED

Approval of Agenda

The Bishop presented the agenda. The Rev. William Lehman, First Lutheran Church, Stoughton, questioned the agenda placement of the 2013 Bishop's Election Process.

MOVED To move the 2013 Bishop's Election Process from 10:55 a.m. on Sunday, May 6 to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday May 5.

The Rev. Lehman stated that the change of day and time would generate more discussion from the Assembly if it took place on Saturday. Bishop Burnside explained the process that will take place on Sunday. There will be an ELCA overview of bishop election procedures, an election review in our Synod, and the Synod Council recommendation for the 2013 Bishop's Election. The Bishop felt that it was to the Assembly's advantage to keep the agenda as presented.

VOTED To move the 2013 Bishop's Election Process from 10:55 a.m. on Sunday, May 6 to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday May 5.

DEFEATED

SA12.05.02 Agenda approved

VOTED to approve the assembly agenda.

ADOPTED

Nominations

Bishop Burnside asked for further nominations from the floor as none were brought forward he declared nominations closed. The slate of nominees is:

Synod Council – Vice-President (1 lay female or 1 lay male)

Eric M. Peterson

Phyllis Castens Wiederhoeft

Carolyn Butts

Synod Council - Youth and Young Adult (1 position to be filled)

Alan Hines

The Rev. Kirsten Fryer

Synod Council – Lay Female (1 position to be filled)

Eleanor Siebert

Synod Council – Lay Male (1 position to be filled)

Eric Peterson

Synod Council – Clergy Female (2 positions to be filled)

The Rev. Mary Froiland

Synod Council – Clergy Male (1 position to be filled)

The Rev. Steve Kottke

The Rev. Brad Pohlman

The Rev. Robert Neubert

Consultation Committee – Lay Female (1 position to be filled)

Nancy Fulton Young

Consultation Committee – Lay Male (1 position to be filled)

Douglass Haag

Consultation Committee – Clergy Female (2 positions to be filled)

The Rev. Denise Anderson

Discipline Committee – Lay Female (1 position to be filled)

Carolyn Butts

Discipline Committee – Lay Male (1 position to be filled)

Calvin Williams

Discipline Committee – Clergy Female (2 positions to be filled)

The Rev. Karla J. Brekke

The Rev. Kathy Jacobson

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Youth and Young Adult (2 positions to be filled)

Hans E. Becklin

The Rev. Elizabeth Lee

The Rev. Eric Jones
Katie Christensen
Jason Poole
Jeremiah Gerdin
Jon Nelson
Anders Hansen
Lily Zeich

Person of Color or Primary Language Other than English (2 positions to be filled)

Einstein Gonzales
Winifred Brown

Lay Male (6 positions to be filled)

Marcus Louis Mandurano
Walter Gust
Eric M. Peterson
Jeff Ware
John A. (Jay) Teisberg
Paul Eastwood

Lay Female (6 positions to be filled)

Phyllis Pleuss
Eleanor Siebert
Sue R. Alseth
Connie Kilmark
Carolyn Cain
Christa J. Fisher
Peg Ekedahl
Rebecca Pock

Clergy Male (3 positions to be filled)

The Rev. Dick Inglett
The Rev. Larry Engel
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Utpfall
The Rev. Matthew J. Smith-Laubenstein
The Rev. Matthew Pock
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen
The Rev. Charles W. Miller
The Rev. Robert Neubert
The Rev. Richard Collier

Clergy Female (4 positions to be filled)

The Rev. Julie Krahn
The Rev. Katie Baardseth
The Rev. Mary Pharmer
The Rev. Anne Andert

Keynote 1 – The Greatest Story Never Told – How We Lost Our Story

Bishop Burnside introduced The Rev. Rolf Jacobson, associate professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, as the keynote speaker of the Synod Assembly.

Ratification of Assembly Committees

Bishop Burnside brought the assembly committees to the floor.

SA12.05.03 Committees approved

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

Credentials Committee – The Rev. Joan Wittrock
Nominations Committee – The Rev. Chuck Miller
Reference and Counsel Committee – Eric Peterson
Elections Committee – The Rev. Jack Way

ADOPTED

Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee

Eric Peterson, chair of the Reference Committee, brought the initial report of the Resolutions Committee to the floor and stated that there were four resolutions submitted at this time. The Committee recommends substitute resolutions for Resolution 2, Resolution 3, and Resolution 4. The Committee declined to bring forward Resolution 1. Mr. Peterson explained the process and rules for submitting resolutions for this assembly. Resolutions must be submitted by noon on Saturday.

Credentials Report #2

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the second report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	125
Lay Female	137
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	366
Visitors	51

Ballot #1

The Rev. Jack Way brought the first ballot to the floor of the Assembly. Instructions were given. Ballots will only be distributed in the voting area and only to persons wearing a white nametag.

The Bishop asked the Assembly to approve by unanimous acclamation the Synod Council – Lay Female; Consultation Committee – Lay Female, Lay Male, and Clergy Male; Discipline Committee – Lay Female, Lay Male, and Clergy Female; Churchwide – Person of Color/Primary Language other than English.

The Rev. Anne Andert offered a prayer before the first ballot.

SA12.05.04 Acclamation Vote

VOTED

to approve by unanimous acclamation the election of the following:

Synod Council – Lay Female - Eleanor Siebert
Consultation Committee – Lay Female - Nancy Fulton Young
Consultation Committee – Lay Male - Douglass Haag
Consultation Committee – Clergy Female - The Rev. Denise Anderson
Discipline Committee – Lay Female - Carolyn Butts
Discipline Committee – Lay Male - Calvin Williams
Discipline Committee – Clergy Female – The Rev. Karla J. Brekke and
The Rev. Kathy Jacobson
Person of Color or Primary Language Other than English - Einstein Gonzales
Winifred Brown

ADOPTED

A paper ballot was distributed for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Youth and Young Adult voting member. The following offices were conducted by electronic balloting.

Synod Council - Youth and Young Adult (1 position to be filled)

Alan Hines

The Rev. Kirsten Fryer

Synod Council – Clergy Male (1 position to be filled)

The Rev. Steve Kottke

The Rev. Brad Pohlman

The Rev. Robert Neubert

Synod Council – Vice-President (1 lay female or 1 lay male)

Eric M. Peterson

Phyllis Castens Wiederhoeft

Carolyn Butts

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

Report of the Vice-President

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

Recognition of Congregational Anniversaries

Connie Kilmark recognized congregational anniversaries.

Evangelical Lutheran, Mount Horeb - 125th anniversary

St. Luke Lutheran, Sullivan. – 125th anniversary

Introduction of Synod Council

Connie Kilmark recognized Synod Council members,

The Rev. Anne Andert	Bruce Hutler	Eric Peterson
Ryun Bibro	The Rev. Erik Jelinek	Hope Seeger
Carolyn Butts	The Rev. Steve Kottke	Jim St. Vincent
The Rev. Robert Carlson	Elaine Kroeger	Calvin Williams
Mary DeYoung	Delvere Norland	Lily Zeich
Lon Buss – Lutheran Men in Mission	Carolyn Lien – Women of the ELCA	

Session II

The Bishop called Session II to Order.

Bishop Burnside reported that the results from Ballot 1 were not completed and balloting would take place after the Bishop's Report.

Report of the Bishop

The Bishop talked to the Assembly about some of the ministries and congregations that have embraced "What Matters." Where faith communities are steeped in the grace of God, their faith has given witness to new ministries. The ministry of this Synod and the Synod staff asks itself this question frequently, "What are we doing that matters?" The Bishop highlighted some of the ministries in the Synod that are doing what matters: Missional Discovery Journey, Confirmation Extravaganza, India Youth Exchange, Macedonia Project, stewardship consultations, farmers market, Bishop's Convocation, Unbinding the Gospel, global and partnership ministries, LUADs, and many more.

The Bishop stated that living, daring, confident faith comes not because we have all the right programs, best leaders, or the finest buildings and resources. Instead it comes when and because we take Jesus seriously. Living daring confident faith comes when we opt for grace. Living daring confident faith comes when we see one another as dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

Introductions

The Bishop introduced the seminarians assigned to the Synod.

Luther Seminary	Lutheran School of Theology of Chicago
Nicole Fielder	Dominic Guido
Scott Fielder	Kelli Schmit
	Alison Williams

Credentials Report #3

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the third report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	132
Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	374
Visitors	55

Report of the Elections Committee – Ballot #1

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the first ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way (names in bold are elected).

Synod Council - Youth and Young Adult

296 votes cast – 149 elects

Alan Hines	167
The Rev. Kirsten Fryer	189

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Kirsten Fryer.

Synod Council – Clergy Male

319 votes cast – 160 elects

The Rev. Steve Kottke	142
The Rev. Brad Pohlman	102
The Rev. Robert Neubert	75

Bishop Burnside declared no election.

Synod Council – Vice-President

335 votes cast – 168 elects

Eric M. Peterson	158
Phyllis Castens Wiederhoeft	112
Carolyn Butts	65

Bishop Burnside declared no election.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Youth and Young Adult

339 votes cast – 170 elects

Hans E. Becklin	38
The Rev. Elizabeth Lee	63
The Rev. Eric Jones	110
Katie Christensen	128
Jason Poole	49
Jeremiah Gerdin	27
Jon Nelson	47
Anders Hansen	118
Lily Zeich	63

Bishop Burnside declared no election.

Ballot #2

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

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballots to be voted electronically.

Synod Council – Clergy Male

The Rev. Steve Kottke
The Rev. Brad Pohlman

Synod Council – Vice-President

Eric M. Peterson
Phyllis Castens Wiederhoeft

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Youth and Young Adult

The Rev. Eric Jones
Katie Christensen
Anders Hansen

Clergy Female

The Rev. Julie Krahn

The Rev Katie Baardseth
The Rev. Mary Pharmer
The Rev. Anne Andert
The Rev. Elizabeth Lee

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

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Bruce Hutler reported to the Assembly. He spoke to the Assembly about our ELCA mission support and the financial position of the Synod. Mr. Hutler showed the Assembly a chart showing the Synod trend for mission support. In 1989 the Synod contributed a little under 1.6 million dollars for mission support. In 2010 the Synod level for mission support dropped to less than 1.4 million. In 2011 the Synod increased mission support dollars sent to the ELCA. He noted that over the last three years the Synod's cumulative mission support has increased. Ten of the sixty-five synods in the ELCA increased their mission support in 2012. Our Synod increased mission support for 2012 by 2.5 percent or \$815,917. In Region 5 our Synod ranks fifth for the level of mission support.

Mr. Hutler explained that the Synod fiscal year goes from July 1 to June 30. He focused on the financial status of the Synod as of March 31, 2012. As of this date Synod revenues for mission support total \$1,241,070 and they are projected to be around 1.5 to 1.6 million by the end of our fiscal year. Compared to March 31, 2011 the Synod mission support has increased approximately \$200,000. Through March, Synod expenditures are less than budgeted.

Introduction of the Spending Plan

Mr. Hutler introduced the spending plan and highlighted several areas. In 2010-11 mission support revenue totaled \$1,398,608 and other revenue totaled \$102,782 for a total income of \$1,501,390. In 2011-12 the Synod budgeted 1,526,784 for mission support revenue and combined with all other revenue for a total income of \$1,614,681. For 2012-13 the proposed revenue includes \$1,560,000 for mission support for a total income of \$1,655,265. Mr. Hutler informed the Assembly that approximately sixty-eight cents of every dollar received goes for mission support (ELCA and partner ministries) with thirty-two cents being used by the Synod for our ministry.

Mr. Hutler noted that expenditures for 2012-13 equal the total proposed revenues. He informed the Assembly that salary dollars were increased 3.6 percent as Synod staff has not had any salary increases for the last two years. He reminded the Assembly that the spending plan will be discussed on Sunday.

Report of the Secretary

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

Constitutional Changes

Mary DeYoung introduced the non-required constitutional changes adopted by the 2011 Churchwide Assembly and the bylaw changes recommended by the Synod Council.

SA12.05.05 Constitutional Changes

VOTEDENBLOC 2011 Churchwide Assembly Non Required Changes

Chapter 7. SYNOD ASSEMBLY

- S7.12. Special meetings of the Synod Assembly may be called by the bishop with the consent of the Synod Council, and shall be called by the bishop at the request of one-fifth of the voting members of the Synod Assembly.**
- a. The notice of each special meeting shall define the purpose for which it is to be held. The scope of actions to be taken at such a special meeting shall be limited to the subject matter(s) described in the notice.**
- b. If the special meeting of the Synod Assembly is required for the purpose of electing a successor bishop because of death, resignation, or inability to serve, the special meeting shall be called by the Synod Council after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in cooperation with the Synod Council.**

Chapter 8. OFFICERS

S8.23. In the event of the death, resignation, or disability of the bishop, the vice president, after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall convene the Synod Council to arrange for the conduct of the duties of the bishop until a new bishop shall be elected or, in the case of temporary disability, until the bishop resumes full performance of the duties of the office.

S8.52. The terms of the officers shall begin on the first day of the second full month following election or, in special circumstances, at a time designated by the Synod Council.

Chapter 9. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

S9.07. If the treasurer is elected, the The Synod Council shall nominate at least one person for treasurer; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Chapter 10. SYNOD COUNCIL

S10.06. If a member of the Synod Council ceases to meet the requirements of the position to which she or he was elected ~~be a member in good standing on a roster of this synod, if an ordained minister, or to be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, if a layperson,~~ the office filled by such member shall at once become vacant.

S10.07. The composition of the Synod Council, the number of its members, and the manner of their selection, as well as the organization of the Synod Council, its additional duties and responsibilities, and the number of meetings to be held each year shall be as set forth in the bylaws.

S10.07.01. To the extent permitted by state law, meetings of the Synod Council and its committees may be held electronically or by telephone conference, and notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

Synod Council Recommendations for Bylaw Changes

Chapter 6. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

S6.04.01 The Synod Council shall create election processes that ensure that the ordained minister members of churchwide assemblies, councils, committees, boards, or other organizational units shall be, as nearly as possible, 50% female and 50% male.

Chapter 10. SYNOD COUNCIL

S10.01.02 Nominees for the youth member position must not have reached their 198th birthdays at the time of election. The term of office shall be two years.

Chapter 11. COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

S11.01.01 The Committees of this synod shall be concerned primarily with the various administrative functions of this synod. Task Forces may be appointed by the Synod Council to deal primarily with the programmatic functions of this synod. At the time of appointment the Synod Council shall set the length of time for service, not to exceed ~~three~~ four years.

S11.01.06 There shall be a Finance Committee, consisting of five persons appointed by the Bishop, and the Bishop or designee, and the Treasurer. The terms of office for each appointed person shall be 4 years and term commencement shall be staggered to provide for at least one new appointment annually. Appointed persons may not serve more than two consecutive terms. The Finance Committee shall consult and assist in spending plan preparation with the Synod Council at the direction of the Bishop. The annual appointments of the Bishop shall be recorded in the minutes of the Synod Council's first regular meeting following the annual regular Synod Assembly.

~~S11.01.11 There shall be a Committee on Outreach which shall be appointed by and accountable to the Synod Council. The terms of the members of this committee shall be three years. This committee shall work with the Synod Council and staff and regional personnel responsible for outreach in order to initiate, develop, support and evaluate mission congregations, redevelopment ministries and special ministries, including urban, ethnic and rural ministries.~~

~~S11.06.01 There shall be a Worship and Arts Ministry Team. The task of the Worship and Arts Ministry Team shall include:~~

- ~~1) Planning worship for those synod functions that are appropriate to meetings where simple devotions are inadequate. This includes the Synod Assembly.~~
- ~~2) Communicating worship ideas to congregations by facilitating the exchange of ideas and commending resources from the churchwide organization and Augsburg Fortress Press.~~
- ~~3) Facilitating the public recognition and appreciation for the fine arts, especially within Christian themes. This includes both performance and media based art.~~

~~S11.06.02 There shall be a Stewardship and Resource Ministry Team. The task of the Stewardship and Resource Ministry Team shall include:~~

- ~~1) Communicating the needs of the synod, both financial and volunteer, and to challenge congregations to respond with spirit and generosity.~~
- ~~2) Facilitating the exchange of ideas between congregations.~~
- ~~3) Uplifting the synod's endowment fund and emphasizing foundational giving.~~

~~S11.06.03 There shall be a Global Connections Ministry Team Global Relations Ministry Team which shall seek to enhance and grow congregational connections with global ministries and Christians around the world.~~

APPROVED

Synod Refugee Task Force

The Rev. David Brandfass talked about the work of the Synod Refugee Task Force and the Bhutanese refugee settlement in the Madison area. He introduced Prakash Biswa a refugee from Butrain who has come to Wisconsin through the work of the task force. Prakash told the Assembly about his life and the opportunity to come to Wisconsin. He thanked the Assembly for the opportunity to be here. The task force will be hosting a meeting in May at St. Stephen's, Monona.

Table Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Stanley Olson, president of Wartburg Theological Seminary, offered a greeting from Wartburg Theological Seminary and talked about forming leaders for God's mission and sending them out into congregations. The Rev. Dr. Olson offered the table prayer for lunch.

Bishop Burnside recessed the Assembly for lunch.

Session III

Bishop Burnside called Session III to order.

Credentials Report #4

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the third report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	134
Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	376
Visitors	57

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #2

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the second ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

Synod Council – Clergy Male

348 votes cast – 175 elects

The Rev. Steve Kottke **238**

The Rev. Brad Pohlman 110

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Steve Kottke.

Synod Council – Vice-President

342 votes cast – 172 elects

Eric M. Peterson	190
Phyllis Castens Wiederhoeft	152

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Eric Peterson.

2013 Churchwide Assembly
Youth and Young Adult

The Rev. Eric Jones	122
Katie Christensen	258
Anders Hansen	138

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Katie Christensen.

Clergy Female

The Rev. Julie Krahn	242
The Rev. Katie Baardseth	260
The Rev. Mary Pharmer	231
The Rev. Anne Andert	241
The Rev. Elizabeth Lee	219

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Julie Krahn, The Rev. Katie Baardseth, The Rev. Mary Pharmer, and The Rev. Anne Andert.

Ballot #3

Cal Williams offered a prayer before Ballot 3.

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballot to be voted electronically.

2013 Churchwide Assembly
Youth and Young Adult
The Rev. Eric Jones
Anders Hansen

A paper ballot was distributed for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Lay Female.

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

Due to the election of Eric Peterson as vice-president the Bishop asked the Assembly to vote by acclamation to remove Eric Peterson's name from the ballots for Synod Council – Lay Male and 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Lay Male.

SA12.05.06 Remove Name from Ballots

VOTED to approve by acclamation the removal of Eric Peterson's name from the Synod Council – Lay Male and the 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Lay Male ballots.

APPROVED

Partner Ministries

Bishop Lozada-Montañez from the ELCA Caribbean Synod, a SCSW partner synod, brought greetings to the 2012 Synod Assembly.

Kathryn Lohre, Director of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations for the ELCA, greeted the Assembly. She thanked and presented congratulations to Midvale Lutheran, Madison and their pastors Bruce Loewenhagen and Katie Baardseth for their work with ecumenical and interreligious relations.

The Rev. Scott Andersen, executive director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches, spoke to the Assembly about the 2012 Season of Civility Project. The project is a faith-based approach to address political adversity in the state.

Mary Sowinski, a UW-Platteville student, spoke to the Assembly about the role of campus ministry in her life. She told how the funds received from the Synod have been used to support campus ministry. Ms. Sowinski thanked the Assembly

for their financial support. UW-Whitewater serves 200 meals each week to students in a joint Episcopal-Lutheran ministry. Students at UW-Madison students participate in the Young Adults in Global Mission through the ELCA in Mexico.

Introductions

The Bishop introduced rostered leaders new to the Synod.

The Rev. Cindy Crane	The Rev. Susan Schneider
The Rev. Joshua Ehrler	The Rev. Robert Neubert
The Rev. Erich Hartenberger	The Rev. Scott Sorensen
The Rev. Matthew Kruse	The Rev. Ronald Strobel
The Rev. Stephen Marsh	The Rev. Emily Tweite

The Bishop recessed the Assembly to attend the workshops.

Session IV

Worship

Bishop Burnside called Session IV to order.

Recognition of Specialized Ministries

Bishop Burnside recognized individuals who are involved with specialized ministries and thanked them for their ministry.

The Rev. Byron Bunge, Oakwood Village
The Rev. Brent Christianson, Lutheran Campus Center
The Rev. Richard Collier, Interim Ministry
The Rev. Cindy Crane, Anti-Bullying Ministry
The Rev. Dan Feaster, Samaritan Counseling Center
The Rev. John Froiland, St. Mary's Hospital, Janesville
Christine Gantz, AIM, New Expressions
Berkley Guise, AIM, Grace Episcopal
The Rev. Gary Hein, Attic Angels
Father David Huxley, Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry, UW-Whitewater
The Rev. James Koza, Skaalen
Susan Lux, AIM, Oakwood Village
The Rev. John Mix, MALC, Jail Ministry
The Rev. Martha Nack, Lutheran Social Services
Robert Pfenning, Diaconal, UW Hospital & Clinics
The Rev. Blake Rohrer, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
The Rev. Ulrich Rosenhagen, UW-Madison Lubar Institute
The Rev. Dr Gwen Sayler, Wartburg Seminary
The Rev. Ken Schaub, Interim Ministry
The Rev. Mark Teslik, Columbia Correctional Institution
Phyllis Wiederhoeft, AIM, Association of Lutheran Development Executives
The Rev. Sara Yotter, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

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

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the fifth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy

138

Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	380
Visitors	66

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #3

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the third ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

SA12.05.07 Acclamation Vote Synod Council - Lay Male

VOTED to approve by unanimous acclamation the election of Alan Hines for the Synod Council – Lay Male.
APPROVED

SA12.05.08 Acclamation Vote Synod Council – Clergy Female

VOTED to approve by unanimous acclamation the election of The Rev. Mary Froiland for the Synod Council – Clergy Female.

APPROVED

The Rev. Jack Way reported the results from the third ballot.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Youth and Young Adult

332 votes cast – 167 elects

The Rev. Eric Jones 145

Anders Hansen 187

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Anders Hansen.

Lay Female

322 votes cast – 162 elects

Phyllis Pleuss 111

Eleanor Siebert 121

Sue R. Alseth 100

Connie Kilmark 193

Carolyn Cain 83

Christa J. Fisher 187

Peg Ekedahl 171

Rebecca Pooch 157

Lily Zeich 134

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Connie Kilmark, Christa J. Fisher, and Peg Ekedahl.

Ballot #4

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballot to be voted electronically.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Lay Female

Rebecca Pooch

Lily Zeich

A paper ballot was distributed for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Lay Male and Clergy Male.

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

Room for Hope

The Diyar Dance Theatre from Bethlehem presented “Room for Hope.” The troupe represents Palestine’s history, values, and heritage through dance.

Living, Daring, Confident DVD

The Assembly watched the Living, Daring, Confident DVD which highlighted the congregation of San Jose, Beloit, the Farmers Market held in Madison, and New Heights Lutheran Church.

Report of the ELCA Churchwide Representative

Kathryn Lohre, Director of Ecumenical and Inter-religious Relations for the ELCA, brought greetings from our partners in ministry across the whole church. The Assembly viewed a media presentation from Presiding Bishop Hansen which highlighted congregations and people from around the world who are living, daring, confident faith in God's grace. Ms. Lohre highlighted stories of congregations and people in our Synod that are reaching out to provide ministry to all people. She reported on the ministries going on in the ELCA and our Synod. Ms. Lohre thanked congregations for their partnership with the Churchwide organization.

Narrative Budget

The Rev. David Berggren introduced a puppet show media presentation as a narrative presentation of the Synod budget highlighting our mission support, the care of congregations, global and ecumenical relationships, and leadership development.

Credentials Report #6

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the sixth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	138
Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	380
Visitors	66

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #4

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the fourth ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Lay Female

252 votes cast – 127 elects

Rebecca Pooch	115
Lily Zeich	137

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Lily Zeich.

Lay Male

261 votes cast – 131 elects

Marcus Louis Mandurano	121
Walter Gust	72
Jeff Ware	107
John A. (Jay) Teisberg	114
Paul Eastwood	121
Jon Nelson	114
Jason Poole	101
Hans Becklin	129
Jeremiah Gerdin	67

Bishop Burnside declared no election.

Clergy Male

263 votes cast – 132 elects

The Rev. Dick Inglett	68
The Rev. Larry Engel	52
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen	77
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Utphall	81
The Rev. Matthew J. Smith-Laubenstein	47
The Rev. Matthew Pooch	118
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen	79
The Rev. Charles W. Miller	60

The Rev. Robert Neubert	49
The Rev. Richard Collier	35
The Rev. Eric Jones	94

Bishop Burnside declared no election.

Ballot #5

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballot to be voted electronically.

Clergy Male

The Rev. Matthew Poock
The Rev. Eric Jones
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Uthphall
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen
The Rev. Dick Inglett

A paper ballot was distributed for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly – Lay Male.

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

Keynote 2 – The Greatest Story Never Told – How We Lost Our Story

Bishop Burnside introduced The Rev. Rolf Jacobson, associate professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, as the keynote speaker of the Synod Assembly.

Credentials Report #7

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the seventh report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	138
Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	380
Visitors	66

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #5

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the fifth ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Clergy Male

276 votes cast – 139 elects

The Rev. Matthew Poock	155
The Rev. Eric Jones	136
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Uthphall	117
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen	123
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen	121
The Rev. Dick Inglett	101

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Matthew Poock

Lay Male

261 votes cast – 131 elects

Hans Becklin	118
Marcus Louis Mandurano	152
Paul Eastwood	127
Jon Nelson	114
John A. (Jay) Teisberg	127
Jeff Ware	111
Jason Poole	134
Walter Gust	79

Bishop Burnside declared the election of Marcus Louis Mandurano and Jason Poole.

Ballot #6

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballot to be voted electronically.

Clergy Male

The Rev. Eric Jones
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Uthall

Lay Male

John A. (Jay) Teisberg
Paul Eastwood
Hans Becklin
Jon Nelson

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

Resolutions

Bishop Burnside turned the floor over to Eric Peterson, chair of the Reference and Counsel Committee. Mr. Peterson reported that the Reference and Counsel Committee was bringing substitute resolution for Resolutions 2-4 and declined to bring Resolution 1 to the floor of the Assembly. He 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. Mr. Peterson reported that the Compensation Guidelines would also be brought to the floor as a resolution.

Resolution – Compensation Guidelines

The Resolutions Committee recommended adoption of this resolution.

MOVED BE IT RESOLVED, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (ELCA), meeting in Assembly, approves the 2013 Compensation Guidelines as found in Appendix 11.0 of the printed Assembly materials.

Bishop Burnside asked for discussion from the Assembly on the resolution. There was no discussion.

SA12.05.09 Compensation Guidelines

VOTED BE IT RESOLVED, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (ELCA), meeting in Assembly, approves the 2013 Compensation Guidelines as found in Appendix 11.0 of the printed Assembly materials.

ADOPTED

Ted Sehmer, Christ Lutheran, Stoughton, raised a point of order to request the opportunity to explain the rationale for Resolution 1 – Respecting Political Diversity. The Bishop clarified with Mr. Sehmer that the request was not to reinstate the resolution but only the opportunity to explain the reasons that Christ Lutheran brought the resolution forward. Mr. Sehmer agreed with this.

Eric Peterson explained the rationale from the Reference and Counsel Committee as to why they declined to bring Resolution 1 to the floor of the Assembly. He noted that the ELCA, through social statements, engages in topics that may be politically divisive. The resolution prohibits the Synod from bringing forth any conversation that may be perceived as political.

Mr. Sehmer explained that at last year’s Synod Assembly the Collective Bargaining Resolution, which was clearly a partisan resolution, was approved on a voice vote. Christ Lutheran was concerned about the difference between advocacy and partisan issues. Mr. Sehmer was concerned that the Assembly stand last year would open the Assembly up to be involved in partisan issues. The resolution was intended to make sure that in the future Reference and Counsel does not get involved in partisan issues.

Resolution 2a – Sudan...A Mission of Hope and Change

The Reference and Counsel Committee recommended adoption of substitute resolution #2a.

Bishop Burnside asked for discussion from the Assembly on the resolution. There was no discussion.

SA12.05.10 Sudan...A Mission of Hope and Change

VOTED

WHEREAS, South Sudan held their first, democratic elections and seceded from the Sudan on January 9th, 2011 and as a result of these elections, the people of South Sudan celebrated their independence on July 9, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the United States has now diplomatically recognized the Republic of South Sudan and South Sudan has now opened up trade with the international community; and

WHEREAS, Paul Fields and Mark Mandurano, of the Lutheran Church of Peace (LCOP) in Platteville, have traveled to the South Sudan to investigate the opportunities and needs of the people of South Sudan; and

WHEREAS, while in South Sudan a relationship was established with both the people and government of the Republic of South Sudan, Jongiel State, Bor County, Werkok Community, and

WHEREAS, both the people and the government of South Sudan have expressed an identified need for education support, especially that of girls; and

WHEREAS, only 1% of all girls in South Sudan currently complete primary school; and

WHEREAS, the Werkok community has identified 4 acres of land, for a building site, to potentially resolve the education issue in South Sudan; a local South Sudanese, Christian, mission-driven architect/building firm has drawn up plans for building a school; and

WHEREAS, LCOP has undertaken the fundraising efforts in order to build the aforementioned school and has generated nearly \$115,000.00 to date; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA, its member churches, and the Lutheran Church of Peace be encouraged to jointly support the building of a girl's primary boarding school in Werkok, South Sudan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the said support will come in the form of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, its member churches, and the LCOP collaborating to raise funds from within the synod, its members churches and the community at large; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the building project will conform to the plans and drawings of the New Cush Builders of South Sudan, as agreed upon by the LCOP Sudan Executive Committee; and be further

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council shall approve any appeals for this project to congregations or other expressions of this church pursuant to S15.21

ADOPTED

Resolution 3a – Recognizing Lutheran Association of Christian Educators, as a Key Organization to Support Christian Educators

The Reference and Counsel Committee recommended adoption of substitute resolution #3a.

Bishop Burnside asked for discussion from the Assembly on the resolution. There was no discussion.

SA12.05.11 Recognizing Lutheran Association of Christian Educators, as a Key Organization to Support Christian Educators

VOTED

WHEREAS, due to budget cuts over the past few years, materials produced and positions supporting Christian educators in congregations have been removed in the ELCA Churchwide offices; and

WHEREAS, a group of Christian educators from ELCA congregations were invited to gather in 2000 with ELCA Partners in Education to move forward in a conversation to develop an organization of Lutheran Christian educators monitored by the then Division of Congregational Ministries; and

WHEREAS, educators gathered several times from 2001 through 2003 and committed to form an organization. Officers were selected for the Lutheran Association of Christian Educators (LACE) board and an official drive for membership and chapters nationwide in the ELCA began in January 2004; and

WHEREAS, LACE officially began to establish networks and form an endowment fund to further their mission to support Christian educators by January 2006 and by 2011 had defined their mission: Connecting and serving those dedicated to Christian faith formation; and

WHEREAS, LACE has named Colossians 2:2 as a key Scripture verse with the goal to support and build the body of Christ, "...that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love"; and

WHEREAS, LACE has increased in membership, consists of an Executive Board, Regional Representatives, and Member who meet on a regular schedule, have developed and maintained a website, mail a periodic newsletter, and send a monthly E-News to fulfill their mission; and

WHEREAS, LACE has the networking and system in place to support the restructuring of the ELCA as presented at the 2011 Churchwide Assembly and address questions posed by the Living into the Future Together task force. LACE would be a major support for congregations and contribute to strengthening synod work; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin recognizes LACE as an organization with a fully vested interest in supporting Christian educators in the ELCA whether rostered or lay (volunteer and/or professionally paid staff); and be it further

RESOLVED, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin lifts up LACE to its congregations as a key organization to join through memberships so as to strengthen support for congregations and build networking within this synod; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Synod Assembly commits LACE to this synod's leadership, Bishops and Assistants to the Bishops, as an organization that provides support, networking and encouragement for Christian educators.

Resolution 4a – Establishing a Human Resources Committee

The Reference and Counsel Committee brought forth substitute resolution #4a. Eric Peterson reported that the Reference and Counsel Committee was in consensus that the Human Resources Committee proposed in the resolution would duplicate work currently being done by the Executive Committee of the Synod Council.

Bishop Burnside asked for discussion from the Assembly on the resolution. There was no discussion.

Establishing a Human Resources Committee

MOVED WHEREAS, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin does not have a Human Resources Committee to advise the Synod Council in human resources matters; and

WHEREAS, ELCA bishops have recommended that congregations establish Human Resources Committees to assist Church Councils with personnel matters including hiring, terminating, creating job descriptions, conducting regular reviews, developing employee handbooks, offering compensation guidelines, and establishing organizational charts for the sake of good order; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the by-laws of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin shall be amended to create bylaw S11.01.06 to read as follows:

There shall be a Human Resources committee which shall be appointed by the Synod Council. The membership of the committee shall be five persons, of which two shall be clergy and three shall be of the laity. The terms of the members of this committee shall be three years with consecutive service limited to two terms. The terms shall be staggered. The primary focus of this committee will be to advise the Bishop and Synod Council on human resources matters that include hiring, terminating, creating job descriptions, conducting regular reviews, developing employee handbooks, offering compensation suggestions, and establishing organizational charts.

DEFEATED

The resolution was defeated on a voice vote. Bishop Burnside asked for an electronic vote. The results were: yes – 89, no -159.

Eric Peterson concluded the report of the Reference and Counsel Committee

Discussion of Spending Plan

Treasurer Bruce Hutler returned the Spending Plan to the floor of the Assembly. The Spending Plan was presented on page 6.29 of the Assembly materials. He invited members to come forward for questions related to the Spending Plan.

MOVED Approval of the Spending Plan

Betsy Baguhn, Evangelical Lutheran, Mount Horeb asked why the income and expenses for events such as LEAD and the Synod Assembly are not delineated in the budget. Mr. Hutler explained that event costs are included in programmatic expenses. The Rev. Blake Rohrer explained that all Synod events are intended to be self-supporting and fees are designed to cover the expenses and thus not listed as line items in the budget.

SA12.05.12 Approve 2012-13 Spending Plan
VOTED to approve the 2012-13 spending plan as presented.

ADOPTED

What If?

Bishop Burnside's "What If...?" initiative for creative, new ministries in the synod was highlighted. The bishop announced five ministries:

- San Jose Sustainable Ministry Site
- St. Mark's Redevelopment
- Reverend's Brewing Ministry Co-Op
- Faith – Janesville Latino Ministry
- Anti-bullying Ministry

Endowment Committee Report

Jan Knutson, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Beloit, talked about the Wednesday noon soup lunch program funded in part by the Synod Endowment Fund.

Credentials Report #8

The Rev. Joan Wittrock presented the eighth report of the Credentials Committee.

Clergy	138
Lay Female	138
<u>Lay Male</u>	<u>104</u>
Voting Members	380
Visitors	66

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #6

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the sixth ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

2013 Churchwide Assembly

Clergy Male

265 votes cast – 133 elects

The Rev. Eric Jones	143
The Rev. Chad L. Christensen	140
The Rev. Jeff Pedersen	116
The Rev. Nicholas (Nick) Uthall	112

Bishop Burnside declared the election of The Rev. Eric Jones and The Rev. Chad L. Christensen.

Lay Male

260 votes cast – 131 elects

John A. (Jay) Teisberg	139
Paul Eastwood	118
Hans Becklin	120
Jon Nelson	116

Bishop Burnside declared the election of John A. (Jay) Teisberg.

Ballot #7

The Rev. Jack Way presented the following ballot to be voted electronically.

2113 Churchwide Assembly

Lay Male

Hans Becklin
Paul Eastwood

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

2013 Bishop's Election Process

Kathryn Lohre, ELCA Churchwide Representative, began by talking about voting members as they pertain to both the Churchwide Assembly and Synod Assembly. Ms. Lohre provided a brief background on the bishop election processes throughout the ELCA. She noted that there is not one process mandated for the election of a bishop.

Mary DeYoung, Synod Council Secretary, presented a brief history of the bishop's election process in the South-Central Synod. Through the 2001 bishop's election all bishops were elected by Ecclesiastical Ballot. At the 2001 Assembly the a resolution was adopted mandating the creation of a process that would allow more time and information sharing preceding the Synod Assembly at which an election of a bishop would take place. This task force was charged with bringing a report to the 2002 Synod Assembly outlining a process to be used.

The task force outlined a process which included: visioning, biographical information of potential candidates, a pre-assembly packet, and continuing the ecclesiastical ballot process at the Synod Assembly. In 2006 the Synod Council established the Task Force for the Bishop's Election 2007 to design and implement an election process that would fulfill the goals outlined by the first task force.

The 2006 Task Force developed a process that included time for information sharing, reflection, and pray; interactive communication between candidates and the people of our Synod; opportunities for networking; promote a spirit of collaboration and support among participants; identify vision and mission opportunities for the Synod; include the ecclesiastical ballot process; and provide gratitude for all candidates and a spirit of unity and celebration at the Synod Assembly.

The Task Force presented a report at the 2008 Synod Assembly outlining the procedure used for the 2007 bishop's election and recommendations for future elections. Recommendations included: to continue using a pre-assembly process for future bishop elections; to appoint a task force to further develop and implement the process; to create a budget to support the task force; to make sure the election process remains neutral; and to encourage communication throughout the Synod. The 2008 Synod Assembly voted to accept the report and recommendations of the task force.

Jim St. Vincent, Synod Council member, explained the rationale for the Synod Council action to not include a pre-assembly process for nominations for bishop when an incumbent Bishop is eligible and willing to run for re-election. The Synod Council would like to request input from the Synod Assembly.

Jim St. Vincent, Synod Council member, reiterated S9.04 which states that the Bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly and S9.04.01 which states that the Synod Council shall be responsible for determining the process to be used in the election of a bishop. Mr. St. Vincent reported the recommendation of the Synod Council which stated: "With an eligible incumbent bishop the Synod Council is planning a process which does not include a pre-assembly process for nominations for bishop or official hearing with candidates with the exception of appropriate information regarding the office to be elected and the rules for election and we will use the ecclesiastical ballot at next year's synod assembly."

Mr. St. Vincent explained the Synod Council would like to request input from the Synod Assembly. He told the Assembly that voting members would be given a survey to complete so the Synod Council could use the results to guide the Bishop Election. The Bishop told the Assembly that the survey would need to be completed before leaving the Assembly. Timothy Dean, McFarland Lutheran, raised a point of order and inquired whether there would be discussion on this. The Bishop responded that there this was a report and there was not discussion.

Report of the Elections Committee - Ballot #7

Bishop Burnside presided as the report from the seventh ballot was brought by The Rev. Jack Way.

2012 Churchwide Assembly
Lay Male
228 votes cast – 115 elects
Paul Eastwood 115
Hans Becklin 115
Bishop Burnside declared a tie.

David Moore, Synod Assembly Parliamentarian, informed the Bishop that the Rules of the Assembly state that in the case of a tie, the Bishop draws the name by lot. Bishop Burnside drew the name of Hans Becklin. **The Bishop declared the election of Hans Becklin.**

The Bishop declared that this concluded our balloting at this Assembly

Bishop's Message

Bishop Burnside offered a word of thanks for the voting members who attended the Assembly. He thanked all of the staff at the Kalahari who served the Assembly. He thanked all of the committees and volunteers who helped during the Assembly and for all the people who offered their names for election. The Bishop especially thanked the Synod staff for all of their hard work, Jean Broge, Vicki Hanrahan, The Rev. Blake Rohrer, The Rev. Sara Yotter, Cory Hamilton, The Rev. Jerry Folk, and Peg Ekedahl.

Living, Daring, Confident in Your Congregation

The Rev. Blake Rohrer asked voting members to envision what they will say when they go back to their congregations to share their stories about something living, daring or confident from Synod Assembly. Rev. Rohrer reported that 2,683 newborn and AIDS/hospice kits were sent to Global Health Ministries. He also reported that offerings for Bishop Burnside's "What If?" New Ministries in the Synod and the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church in India totaled \$6,966.

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
2012 Synod Assembly Book
Rules Governing Elections
Credential Reports
Report of Ballot Results

Resolutions