

Resolution #2

Whereas transitional ministry following the ending of a pastoral call is of importance to the health of congregations, and the current process almost always involves the appointment of an interim pastor; and

Whereas there is more than one model of transitional ministry used in synods across the ELCA;

Therefore be it resolved that The Rev. Bishop Claire Burkat appoint a task force to review and evaluate our present model for interim ministry, examine models used by other synods (and their perceived effectiveness), and make recommendations about our synod's interim ministry process with the purpose of expanding options for congregations entering transition; and,

Be it further resolved that the task force include laity and clergy from congregations who have been involved in the Interim Ministry process in the past two years; members of the synod's Interim Ministry Team; and some laity and clergy not in the above mentioned categories; and

Be it further resolved that the task force provide a report to the Synod Council prior to next year's Synod Assembly and to the 2015 Synod Assembly.

Submitted by:

The Rev. Bruce Davis, Messiah Lutheran Church, Newtown Square

The Rev. Christopher Franz, Advent Lutheran Church, West Chester

The Rev. Arden Krych, Trinity Lutheran Church, Wallingford

The Rev. Gordon Simmons, Trinity Lutheran Church,, Wallingford

The Rev. Larry Smoose, Christ Lutheran Church, Upper Darby

The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends approval of the following substitute motion:

Be it resolved that the synod Transitional Ministry Development Team review and evaluate our present model for interim ministry, examine models used by other synods (and their perceived effectiveness), and make recommendations about our synod's interim ministry process with the purpose of expanding options for congregations entering transition; and,

Be it further it resolved that the synod Transitional Ministry Development Team actively solicit input from laity and clergy from congregations who have been involved in the Interim Ministry process in the past two years, as well as other lay members and clergy; and

Be it further resolved that the synod Transitional Ministry Development Team provide a report to the Synod Council before next year's Synod Assembly and to the 2015 Synod Assembly.