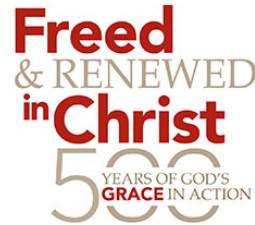


Report from the 2016 Churchwide Assembly

Gathering under the theme “Freed and Renewed in Christ,” nearly 1,000 voting members -- including 18 from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod -- met in New Orleans Aug. 8-13 for the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.



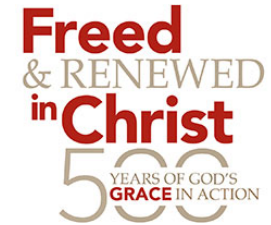
- Overwhelmingly affirmed the “Declaration on the Way,” a document noting 32 principles of agreement between Roman Catholics and Lutherans.
- Approved a unified Ministry of Word and Service roster effective January 1.
- Adopted strategies toward greater diversity within the ELCA (whose minority members represent only 6 percent of its membership) through intentional outreach and raising awareness of both overt and subtle racism in the U.S.
- Adopted the AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) strategy for addressing the complex issue of minors fleeing violence in Central America.
- Elected William B. “Bill” Horne II of Clearwater, Fla., to a six-year term as vice president of the ELCA
- Adopted annual budgets for the next three years of approximately \$64 million annually for ELCA ministries and \$25 million for World Hunger
- Affirmed efforts to support veterans and their families, military chaplains and all affected by war.
- Adopted strategies for positive investment aimed at supporting peace in Israel and Palestine and reduced energy usage and reliance on fossil fuels.

Four members of our Synod were elected to Churchwide posts: **Joyce D. Adams** of Faith-Immanuel, East Lansdowne, Nominating Committee; **The Rev. Fritz Fowler** of University Lutheran, Philadelphia, Committee on Appeals; **Frank A. Roth** of St. Paul’s, Ardmore, Board of Pensions; and **Thomas Salber** of Prince of Peace, Philadelphia, Committee on Discipline.

Learn more at ministrylink.org/cwa

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