

SEPA Synod Resume Bishop – REVISED 01/11/2018

<p><i>Comment from the Office of the Bishop:</i>                  Each newly elected ELCA bishop brings particular expertise, spiritual gifts and vocational experience to the call that shapes the ways s/he will be asked to serve the larger church. The Office of the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Committee assign each bishop to a committee or board according to that expertise as part of their partnership with the Churchwide organization. While Bishop Burkat has served on various boards, her expertise is in ecumenical relationships and over the years she has been appointed to represent the ELCA at those tables. Additionally, because of her length of service, institutional knowledge and experience, she is highly sought after for board/committee memberships. Bishop Burkat prioritizes where and when she is able to serve.</p>		
<b>Board/Committee</b>	<b>Mandate</b>	<b>Comment</b> ( <i>from Office of the Bishop</i> )
Muhlenberg College Board	The College constitution requires a SEPA Synod Bishop to serve on the board	
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa)	Seven Region 7 bishops rotate one-year terms	New bishop would not be asked to serve in the first 3 years.
United Lutheran Seminary	Seven Region 7 bishops take turns for 6 years, but they usually prefer a bishop who can drive to Philadelphia within 4 hours. The new bishop will need to alternate meetings between Gettysburg and Philadelphia campuses.	Most likely, the new bishop will not be asked to serve in first 3 years.
<b>Conference of Bishops Board/Committee Assignments</b>		
Lutheran Episcopal Coordinating Committee		Unless the new bishop has a history of ecumenical and interfaith relationships this will not be expected.
Christian Churches Together		Another bishop in Region 7 is currently serving.
ELCA Bishop’s Ready Bench		Bishop Burkat serves on the Immigration Ready Bench. The new bishop will not have to sign-up for a Ready Bench for at least a year.
ELCA Campaign Steering Committee		Bishop Burkat resigned from this Committee. The campaign will be over in 2018.

ELCA Church Council		Bishop Burkat served on this Council for two years then resigned when asked to serve on the ULS Presidential Search Committee. Another Region 7 bishop is serving for the next 3 years.
<b>Local Boards</b>		
Religious Leaders Council of Philadelphia	This is our Greater Philadelphia Interfaith Coalition.	<p>Bishop Burkat serves as Co-Convener. The new bishop will not be asked to serve as Co-Convener, but will be expected to represent Lutherans as often as her/his schedule allows.</p> <p>Additionally, from time to time in order to attend to partnerships between SMOs, Bishop Burkat has brought the presidents/CEOs together to discuss best ways to work together.</p>
<b>Companion Synod Relationships</b>		
	<p>Companion synod relationships of the ELCA connect Lutheran churches throughout the world with ELCA synods and congregations. These relationships are concrete expressions of the communion and partnership with the more than 140 Lutheran member churches of the Lutheran World Federation.</p> <p>Each of the 65 synods has at least one international church companion and many have additional relationships, resulting in more than 120 companion synod relationships.</p> <p>We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. Companion church relationships enrich and deepen our ministries by exposing us to global challenges and perspectives as we seek to work with one another to build up the body of Christ in and through the world.</p>	<p>From time to time, Bishop Burkat has been asked, by a call from Churchwide, to take on other international companion synod relationships. With over 20 years in relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT), Bishop Burkat believes that in order to be an effective and impactful partner, maintaining one international companion synod relationship is best at this time.</p> <p>SEPA Synod has 2 companion synod relationships, one international and one domestic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELCT – in partnership for over 20 years</li> <li>• Southeast Michigan Synod – raised just under \$23,000 for Flint water crisis</li> </ul>

