

MINUTES
of the 170th MEETING
of the SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD COUNCIL
of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
Zoom Meeting
April 7, 2022
6:00 p.m.

DEVOTIONS

Vice President Tracey A. Beasley welcomed the Synod Council at 6:07 p.m. and invited Ms. Kendyll Ward to lead the Council in devotions. Ms. Ward used as the basis of her reflection Philippians 2:5-11 from the Palm Sunday lectionary.

*⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.*

Ms. Ward reminded the Council of the phrase, “April showers bring May flowers.” The rain of Spring brings with it new life. Rain can be refreshing, but rain can also bring a sense of dreariness.

While we are in the rainy season of Spring, we are also in the season of Lent. It is a time for reflecting and reimagining, a time of drawing nearer to God. Jesus is on the way to Jerusalem, and to the cross. We are approaching Palm Sunday. Holy week will end with Easter and the resurrection.

Lent is a time of renewal and repentance, and a time of sorrow as we think of how Jesus went to the cross and died for us.

The rain is all around us, but the flowers are coming.

And Lent will end soon with the resurrection of Jesus, and his ascension into heaven. Jesus is our hope, and Easter reminds us of this hope.

SEPA Synod, our work can often feel overwhelming and dreary, and there may be times when want to give up. But Spring is in the air, the rain is ending, and the flowers are blooming. Always remember that Jesus is our living hope, our hope that shines in the darkness.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Tracey A. Beasley called the 170th meeting of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council to order at 6:12 p.m.

The Reverend Karl M. Richard, Secretary, confirmed a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the 169th Meeting of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council were approved as presented.

SETTING THE AGENDA

The agenda for the 170th meeting was approved as presented.

MISSION MOMENT

Vice President Beasley welcomed Ms. Carrie Schwab, Assembly coordinator for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, to bring an update on the upcoming Synod Assembly.

Ms. Schwab noted that registration for the “Day of Service” has been low. Forty-four (44) people have signed up as of the date of this meeting. The Synod Council was asked to encourage people to sign up for this hands-on day service portion of our annual Assembly.

Registration for the Assembly itself is also low. To date, approximately 325 people have registered. Financially we are “in the black,” but it would be good to have fuller representation for the work of the Synod.

Some have questioned why, if it is a virtual Assembly, there is any cost associated with the Assembly. Even a virtual Assembly has its expenses. We need to purchase services to allow for electronic voting, hire tech people to ensure interactive live streaming, and other items that are not seen, but are more than just turning on a computer and having all work in an integrated way. We are using V-poll, a company from Exton, rather than Lumi this year. While this will yield savings, their services are not free. It will also mean more work for our local team of paid and volunteer staff. Ms. Schwab stated that she is pleased that with the savings in the platform operation, we were able to decrease the expense per person by \$40.

Live orientation and a “test your tech” session will be held on April 28th to ensure we can have people try out the platforms and the process for voting prior to the day of the Assembly (April 30th).

The offering for the Assembly has been designated to go to “Children of Ukraine” through the Lutheran World Federation.

There have been several pre-Assembly sessions to assist voting members in understanding the issues to be considered. Among these have been a session on Reference and Counsel, and how

to write a resolution; a session on the budget; and a session on the Resolution on Welcome and Inclusion by the Reconciling in Christ task force.

At the Assembly we will include the installation of Pr. Stacey-Kyle Rea as Assistant to the Bishop for Youth and Young Adult Discipleship.

The ELCA Churchwide Representative will be Pastor Nicolette Peñaranda, Program Director for the African Descent Ministries. She will also hold a workshop, via Zoom, on May 11th at 7:00 p.m. on the African Descent Ministries Strategy.

Bishop Davenport thanked Ms. Schwab for all that she does to make the Synod Assembly run smoothly. Bishop Davenport also noted that as for the 21 congregations that have not yet registered, we rely on the Deans and each member of the Synod Council to encourage their participation. The Assembly is the place where we do the work of the Synod, and further what we do for Jesus in this five-county region. It is also where we gather to build relationships to strengthen each other in the work of the Kingdom.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP

Bp. Davenport began with thanking the Synod Council as leaders of the SEPA Synod. She continues to boast about our leaders to the ELCA because we keep focused on what God would have us do, and then we do just that.

She expressed thanks to those who are not eligible to serve another term:

Mr. Adam Clark
Ms. Cheryl Detweiler
Mr. David Ehret
Mr. William Graham
Ms. Gail Penman
Pastor Dwight Mason

We are grateful for your work. We will count on your prayer support, and we will keep you in mind for other opportunities for serving.

The Bishop also thanked those who are eligible to be re-elected to another term:

Mr. Graeme Brown
Ms. Emily Fowler
Pastor Gwendolyn King
Pastor Jennifer Phelps

I want you to know how much I appreciate you, and I acknowledge this publicly whenever I can.

ELCA

Conference of Bishops

In our efforts to dismantle racism we are exposing this sin giving space for confessions, repentance, and forgiveness that we pray leads to reconciliation. We have an issue in Sierra Pacific Synod, and the Presiding Bishop has named it for what it is. She has appointed a listening panel to gather information. She has recently received the report of the panel and will be deciding what next steps should be taken in that Synod. This is the work that we are doing, working to understand and address issues of systemic racism and its impact. We are learning

how what we do in leadership positions really makes a difference. We are doing this work because this is not what we want the world to see and know about us.

This is who we are:

We have given \$23 million through our congregations and social ministry organizations to help the marginalized of the world.

In addition, we support with partners through Lutheran World Relief to bring humanitarian assistance to the people in Ukraine.

When we send money through Lutheran World Relief 100% goes to help the people in Ukraine.

We continue our work of equipping our youth, young adult, and outdoor ministries.

Our seminaries, colleges, and universities educate students with both academic and practical applications.

The ability to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine is so important. Bishop noted that one of her neighbors is from Ukraine, and that neighbor has shared that what we hear on the news in nowhere near as horrific as what is happening on the ground. She hears from her own family in Ukraine of the rape and violence; it is so critical that we stand with the people of Ukraine.

Bishop is pleased that the offering for the Assembly has been designated to go to Ukraine to bring some assistance at this critical time.

In the ELCA, we are 3.14 million baptized members, in 8,894 congregations, we are 96% white, 2% African descent, 1% Asian, and 1% mixed.

We in SEPA Synod make up a significant amount of the diversity in this Church. When we go to Churchwide Assembly, we shake those numbers up. “I am so Godly proud of us as a Synod for what we are doing.” We continue to not just show up and be disciples; we are also making disciples for Christ and drawing all into deeper relationship with God through word and witness.

We have some serious worship going on, which calls people into relationship, and inspires people to serve the neighbor.

Bishop Davenport expressed gratitude for the many food ministries in our Synod, like that at Emmanuel, Souderton, for the ministry to those without homes like Welcome Church and Sanctuary Village. This is what she lifts up: not that which pulls us down and tears us apart, but the Kingdom building and Kingdom builders all around us.

Lutheran World Federation

Bishop is constantly reminded of the urgent need for work on climate change. We in SEPA do not have a Green Team, we don't have a Care for Creation Team. How do we leave a legacy for our children and our children's children?

Region 7 Bishops

The Region 7 bishops met at Yale Divinity School. While there, Bishop as able to share about the United Lutheran Seminary's Urban Theological Institute, of which the people at Yale Divinity were unaware. The people of Yale asked what the bishops felt were the current

academic and practical needs for ministry for MDiv students. Whether the bishops shared anything new or not, the fact that the question was asked was impressive.

Local Support of Ukraine

Bishop is grateful for the work of Pr. Mukesh Cheedie and Redeemer, Penndel, for taking the lead in assisting the Ukrainian community in that area, and hosting a service for them. There have been several such efforts in our Synod, for which Bishop is grateful. She encourages others to participate. Prayer is good, prayer in action is even more powerful.

Black Clergy of Philadelphia

We are working with the Interfaith Community and our Ecumenical partners in hosting Heeding God's Call, gathering to say that the violence has to stop. We need good representation. When we do joint events, the Lutherans have to show up. We had a joint event with the Presbyterian Church at United Lutheran Seminary, and only two Lutherans attended.

Synod Staff

Bishop expressed many of the ways in which the staff serve the work of this Synod. We cannot do the work we do without these faithful servants. She noted that Senior Accountant Mr. Martin Schwab does so much in the area of finance and keeping things in order and on track. Bishop then asked members of the staff who were present to share a bit of what they do in their work.

Pr. Robert Fisher (Communications and Mission Interpretation)

It has been a hectic but good time in the communications office.

We have continued our weekly gathering of communicators in this covid time. It is exciting to see people come together to discuss how we might approach this nearing post-pandemic time.

We have posted new covid guidelines. Please be sure to check these out on MinistryLink.

Masks and vaccines are not the only tools we have for mitigation.

Preparing for the Assembly without Lumi has been exiting.

We are learning how we may do hybrid events via Zoom Events.

We are trying to review how often we send emails so that we are informative, but not overwhelming people with our communications.

Pr. Skylie Rea (Youth and Young Adult Discipleship)

The next ELCA Youth Gathering site has been announced. We will be going back to New Orleans in 2024, so begin your preparations now!

With the cancelation of the Minneapolis event, we have been working on hosting a MYLE (Multicultural Youth Leadership Event) program locally in place of that which will not be happening this summer.

Kudos to the planning team of the Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat. The event that is usually 3 days was altered to fit in one day, as many families were still leery of going for an overnight even with the uncertainty of the coronavirus variants.

If you are not aware of it, check out the free Vacation Bible School program offered by the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

We are considering how we might do youth events on a Conference level so that the youth can meet other youth in their area.

Pr. Karen Sease (Vocation, Mobility, and Mission Development)

In personal news, we are expecting!

In Synod news, there have been 7 call votes so far this year. We are now down to 36 congregations without a settled pastor. We are looking at more call votes being scheduled this Spring and Summer. This is very good news.

We will be introducing seven first call leaders at the assembly; three from our synod, four from other synods. It is good to see new leaders coming forward to serve the Church.

Bishop noted that we have our Co-Directors for Evangelical Mission with us. She invited Pr. Bryan Penman and Dr. Moses Suah-Dennis to share a bit of what they are working on.

Pr. Bryan Penman (DEM)

This is a unique arrangement, as we will each have responsibilities in our congregations, in our Synod, and in the ELCA.

I will be working with established congregations and the Vitality Team. Pr. Dennis will be working with our new congregation starts.

I have resigned from my position as Dean of Lower Montgomery Conference. Pastor Sarah Aasheim of Grace, Wyndmoor, will be the new Dean. She is also a member of the Synod Vitality Team.

Pr. Moses Suah-Dennis (DEM)

We as SEPA are on the cutting edge of ministry as we are innovating how we will work this position. I came as an immigrant to SEPA and I found a home, as this synod is a place for mission. In 2022 we are in a place to be the church Jesus needs us to be. Jesus sends us out 2 by 2, and we are going to go out 2 by 2! I am excited for the work of mission in SEPA to go on.

Ms. Yvonne Curtis (Director of Operations)

Bishop noted that Ms. Curtis sends out our reports, facilitate just about everything in the Synod, including the Actions on the Roster and so many other details to keep us operating smoothly, efficiently, and appropriately. Her work speaks for her, and it is in print!

Ms. Cynta Outterbridge (Registrar and Database Manager)

Ms. Outterbridge does all the work for registration for the Assembly and other events of the Synod. She also assists with the communications team. She looks forward to continuing to work with everyone as the Assembly approaches.

The floor was then open for questions for the Bishop:

Pr. Gwendolyn King asked what the Bishop thought of the CROSSROADS anti-racism training event.

Bishop Davenport shared that she spoke with the convener of the event prior to going. As a person of color, she did not want to inhibit her white colleagues from speaking their truth. The convener shared that he felt it was important that she attend, and made a space for the bishops of color to be in their own group. Bishop Davenport felt the training went well. People walked away with some tools, some deep reflections, and some hard words that will hopefully help them to lead differently. She found this to be a revealing time, showing whose racism is overt,

and whose is covert. While many will not admit this, it is clear that there is a racist streak in many of our bishops that needs to be dealt with.

Pr. Nathan Krause expressed concerns about the issues in the Sierra Pacific Synod. He is very concerned about what conversations will occur at the Churchwide Assembly and online. The online site Patheos has much information, but it is basically one side of the story. Yet there seem to be many facts that are hard to refute without other information. There is definitely a racial overtone, which he does not know if needs to be there, but he is not versed in everything that is going on. He is concerned of what this might lead to, and he is not sure if a Listening Panel is enough.

Bishop Davenport shared that she is very concerned about this also. It is important to keep the issue and all the people who are dealing with it in prayer. The report is in Bishop Eaton's hands, and she now needs to determine what next steps might be taken. Please surround her in prayer. Bp. Davenport also worries that, no matter what decision Bp. Eaton reaches, there will be people at Churchwide Assembly that will be upset.

All I can say is that we are responsible for Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, and how we operate. I pray that we set a good example of how we handle such situations, and how we treat people fairly, leaving aside racial overtones that can do harm to people and the Church.

Mr. Bert Glenn: This is the first I have heard of this issue. If there is some document that is somewhat objective and accurate that could be circulated to the CWA voting members, that would be helpful as we go to the Churchwide Assembly.

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Vice President Beasley encouraged members of the Synod Council to use the ELCA Communications link to find information regarding the issues in the Sierra Pacific Synod, and some of the decisions that have been made. One issue that is being raised is whether there is equitable treatment in matters of discipline between rostered ministers that are Caucasian, versus persons of color. There is a lot of information on social media about Sierra Pacific Synod. We need to be in prayer that the truth will prevail.

Pr. Fisher included this link in the chat feature for the Synod Council's reference:

<https://elca.org/News-and-Events/8136>

Vice President Beasley noted that prayers should be offered for the ELCA as at the Churchwide Assembly we will be electing a new Vice President. Twenty-one (21) names have been identified at this time. Bishop Davenport noted that one of these names is our very own Vice President, Tracey A. Beasley! Ms. Beasley thanked Bishop for her support.

VP Beasley concluded her report by offering her thanks and gratitude for the service of those who have been on our Synod Council, and whose terms are coming to a close.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Churchwide Assembly Alternates

There are two people who had been elected as voting members to the Churchwide Assembly who are now unable to attend. They are Mr. Thomas Salber and Ms. Cynthia Moultrie. As alternates, the following names are put before the Synod Council for consideration:

S.C.22.04.08. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council appoints Mr. Ernest Knowlden and Ms. Veronica Britto as voting members from this Synod to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

Actions on the Roster

Call to Specialized Ministry - renewal

S.C.22.04.09. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council extend a one-year renewable call to Specialized Ministry to the **Rev. Ghislaine Cotnoir** beginning May 15, 2022 to May 14, 2023.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

Call to Unusual Circumstances - renewal

S.C.22.04.10. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council, in accord with bylaw 7.41.15., in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, renew a call as Spiritual Director to the Rev. Leslie M. Richard under *Unusual Circumstance* for a period of one-year effective June 1, 2022.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

On Leave Roster Renewal Request

S.C.22.04.11. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council extend on leave from call status to the Rev. DeBorah Glod, third year, effective May 1, 2022.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

Information Not Needing Action

Death

Deacon John Daniel Charles died October 9, 2021

At the December meeting of the Synod Council, the Council authorized the placement of the Rev. Stratford Cuthbert “Bo” Bannister, V, to serve by Synodical Appointment at St. John, Hatboro.

Since that time, we have been advised by the Office of the Secretary that this designation is not possible for Pastor Bannister. While he has served in pastoral ministry for some time, because Pr. Bannister comes to us from a tradition with which we are not in full communion, he is considered by the ELCA as a first call pastor in our tradition. Our structure does not provide for pastors designated as “first call” to serve under Synodical Appointment.

The recommendation from the Office of the Secretary is to change the language of this call from a call under Synodical Administration to a Synod Call as a Mission Developer. This designation does fit the situation, as the hope for this time of Synodical Administration is to redevelop St. John into a healthier congregation.

S.C.22.04.12. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council extend a call to the Rev. Stratford Cuthbert “Bo” Bannister, V, to serve as Mission Developer at St. John Hatboro, for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2022, extending to December 31, 2023. At the conclusion of this term, this call may be extended on an ongoing basis with the agreement of Pr. Bannister and the congregation of St. John.

Discussion:

Pr. King: Does Pastor Bannister have sufficient background to act as a mission developer, as this is the designation that he will be given.

Bp. Davenport: Yes, he does have the gifts for development coming from his previous tradition, and even more so, in talking with Pr. Phil Hirsch who oversees this work for the ELCA, Pr. Bannister has been welcomed into that cohort for two reasons: 1, because he is new to the ELCA this will give him an immersion experience, and 2, he will be working with Pr. Penman and Pr. Suah-Dennis as part of the mission developer cohort here as well.

Pr. King: I ask because if the designation has changed, is there sufficient background for this vote.

Bp. Davenport: To further clarify, before this change in designation could be made, it needed to be agreed to by Pr. Hirsch, who asked the same questions as you are raising.

Mr. Graeme Brown: Pr. Richard, you noted the similarities in the timeline and support, but what if any, are the differences in this designation, or is it just in name only?

Pr. Richard: It is my understanding that it is primarily a name change so that it is possible for Pr. Bannister to serve in this place in this capacity, although as Bishop has noted he did need to be vetted to have this different designation apply to him. In terms of the work we are hoping he will do, it is similar to what we were expecting of him under Synodical Appointment, which was to redevelop St. John’s into a healthier site for ministry. Part of the skill set we feel he brings to this call is discernment and insight to redevelop St. John, and so it seems to us a similar task, even as it is now a different designation.

Pr. Krause: Does this mean that St. John will now be recategorized as a redevelopment site?

Bp. Davenport: We are no longer using that language. We are using the term “holy innovation.” We stopped using the term “redevelopment” because of the “re” attached to it, and we don’t want to “redo” some things. We are looking at holy innovation, and what is the Spirit now calling you to do.

With no further discussion, the vote was called.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer Janet Neff noted that we are only one month into our new fiscal year, so there is not much of a trend to analyze.

The Unrestricted portion of our budget is strong.

Income is less than budgeted, but this is due in part to losses in our investments.

We still have decreased expenses as staff is still not traveling as much, and more work is being done remotely.

The Temporarily Restricted portion of the budget had a loss of \$33,000, due to expenses related to two cemeteries, and losses in the Grace, Norristown endowment.

The Mission portion also has a deficit, amounting to just over \$250,000. This is also due to the decrease in investment income.

The Permanently Restricted portion has no surplus or deficit. The income received was distributed.

Our balance sheet is still strong, even as investments are down. The unrestricted current assets and investments total \$9,105,253. Our liabilities total \$137,008. Therefore, our current ratios are in good order.

Mr. Bert Glenn noted that the Finance Committee has not met since our last Synod Council meeting, but he had two updates with regard to the work of the Committee.

1. Seminary debt relief: We set a fund to assist those who have burdensome levels of debt. This year there is \$25,000 available. We have sent word out to let people know that this money is available and what the process is for seeking assistance. We currently have 6 requests. The deadline is May 2.
2. Fund For Mission: The Trustees can use up to 5% of the fund for mission, both to close the gap on the Mission portion of the budget, and to be available for other ministry initiatives. A summary of the Fund was attached to the report. The amount of money available for 2022 – 2023 is approximately \$361,000. \$214,000 is designated for the Mission portion of the budget, \$147,000 is available for Trustee approved proposals from the Vitality Team.

Ms. Cynthia Moultrie: How is the money for Seminary debt relief allocated? Is it in the budget?

Mr. Glenn: Yes, it is a line in the budget.

Ms. Moultrie: With how high debt seems to be, is it possible to increase that amount?

Mr. Glenn: We are not certain what other opportunities are out there for relief. This is a way to provide some assistance, while not perhaps full relief.

Ms. Neff: This money is for those who have already graduated and are serving in our Synod. New seminary students receive free tuition, where those who graduated some time ago did not have that benefit.

Pr. Joseph Klinger: Do we keep track of average debt load, to have that inform how much we may need to budget?

Ms. Neff: We are not tracking this. We are also not relieving college debt, but seminary debt.

Mr. Richard Daniels: Is this recent debt, or debt from 20 years ago.

Mr. Glenn: We have not tracked this.

Ms. Neff: We can guess by how long they have been in ministry, and so it can be surprising that there is still debt.

Mr. Daniels: So, there are some from 20 years ago?

Ms. Neff: Yes.

Mr. Daniels: That is a shame.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee

Ms. Cynthia Moultrie, chair of the Audit Committee, directed members to the report in their packet. She noted that the entire team is new, and so this process is new for them, but we have a clean audit report.

Mr. Everett Wick further commented that the clean report indicates that the auditors had no issues with the Synod's financial activities of last year.

S.C.22.04.13. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council approve the Audit Report to be submitted to the Synod Assembly for reception. **The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.**

Investment Committee

Pr. John Heidgerd, chair of the Investment Committee, shared that we have had a decline of 8% in the portfolio, which represents about half of the gains we made last year. This is not a surprise as we see how the markets are moving at this time. Our loss at this time is "unrealized," which means we still have the same investments, and we expect the portfolio to rebound as the year goes forward. The current balance, as of March 31, 2022, is \$10,107,813.

Constitution Committee

Pr. Gary Costa, chair of the Constitution Committee, shared that the committee has two congregational constitutions that are ready for Synod Council ratification. They are for God's Love in Newtown and Christ in Upper Darby.

S.C.22.04.14. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council approve the revised constitution of the Lutheran Church of God's Love, Newtown, and be it further

RESOLVED THAT the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council approve the revised constitution of Christ, Upper Darby.

The Synod Council unanimously adopted the resolution.

Nominating Committee

Pr. Joseph Klinger, chair of the Nominating Committee, shared that the slates are not complete, but the deadline to make nominations before the Assembly has now passed. The Committee has been able to find nominees for 12 of the 18 slates. Nominations can still be made from the floor, so please continue to seek out and encourage qualified people to stand for election.

The Nominating Committee has decided that in the coming year it will begin the process earlier. There will be a meeting after Easter to de-brief this year, and get a head start on next year's nomination needs.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED

None

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. with prayer by Pr. Moses Suah-Dennis

The next meeting of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Council will be June 16, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., and will be held via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Karl M. Richard, Secretary
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Approved by Synod Council, June 16, 2022