

**South Dakota Synod, ELCA  
Synod Council  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Sioux Falls, SD  
June 9, 2012**

**Present:** Bishop David Zellmer, Gary Steuck, Erik Gilbertson, Carla Borchardt; Pastor Janice FitzGibbon, Teri Gayer, Michael Miller, Prairie Coteau; Pastor Carlene Rhody, Verdelle Anderson, Medary; Joel Laumer, Gwen Bobbie, Crossroads; Barbara Egbert, Christy Kimball, Steve Koenig, Southeastern; Peggy Namanny, Northern Plains; Pastor Holly Slater, Holly Paulson, Prairie Rivers; Pastor Tom Opoien, Bear Butte; Jesse Fonkert, Travis Gerlach, Lindsay Boehmer, Kayla Koterwski, Youth; Pastor Karen Rupp, Pastor Bill Tesch, Susan Marone, AIM, Jim Schade, Lois Borchardt, Suzanne Hansen, AIM, Cathy Larson, Pastor Linda Norman, Pastor Dwight Stensgaard, Pastor Heidi Binstock

Vice President Gary Steuck called the meeting to order.

Pastor Karen Rupp lead opening devotions.

**MSC to approve the agenda as presented.  
SC.12.06.01**

**MSC to approve the minutes of the May 3 and May 23, 2012, meetings.  
SC.12.06.02**

## **Synod Assembly**

### Evaluation

- Was fun to be back in same space for the second year
- Banquet on Friday night went very well, serving lines went quickly
- Food Friday night was good
- Like opening worship in the traditional sanctuary
- Like worship first thing on Saturday morning
- Recommend that Bible study should not immediately follow the worship service
- Went through the Assembly without a piece of paper, used electronic documents via iPad
- Could access documents via phone but not via internet in the assembly hall (wi-fi)
- Suggest posting resolution amendments to web site in real time
- Print on display screens needs to be bigger
- Hard to see text on display screens when picture is on one screen and text on the other
- Enjoyed all three guests
- Many asked for copies of Friday evening key note address
- Enjoyed the worship and Bible study

Bishop Zellmer thanked Synod Staff and the Assembly Planning Committees for their work in planning and organizing the Assembly.

### Resolution Follow-Up

Resolution 7a & 8a: Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions for the Election of a Bishop

Pastor Dwight Stensgaard and Pastor Heidi Binstock were present regarding implementation of Resolutions 7a and 8a. A discussion was held regarding the synod study, visioning process, strategic planning, timeline, and resources for conference assemblies.

The Bishop Election Committee and Synod Staff will investigate options and resources, and develop a timeline and recommended actions. A Synod Council go-to-meeting/conference call is tentatively scheduled for July 10, 10:00 am-12:00 noon CST for further discussion and action.

The Council thanked Pastors Stensgaard and Binstock for their work.

Resolution 5: Vicar Voice and Vote

Bishop Zellmer stated further conversation is needed with the Conference of Bishops and the ELCA Office of the Secretary regarding this resolution.

**MSC to forward Resolution 5: Vicar Voice and Vote to the Support to Ministries Committee for follow-up recommendations.**  
**SC.12.06.03**

Resolution 3: Elect 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members

**MSC to elect Erik Gilbertson, Treasurer, as voting member to the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly with Carla Borchardt, Secretary, as officer alternate.**  
**SC.12.06.04**

**MSC to elect Kayla Koterwski and Lindsay Boehmer as youth voting members to the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.**  
**SC.12.06.05**

## **Reports**

### Treasurer's Report

Erik Gilbertson presented the month end balance sheet, analysis of revenues and expenses, month end summary of restricted accounts and summary of mission support, and provided an explanation of the Augustana synod space agreement.

**MSC to receive the treasurer's report.**  
**SC.12.06.06**

Erik Gilbertson presented the Audit Committee Report.

**MSC to receive the Audit Committee Report.**  
**SC.12.06.07**

### Pine Ridge Retreat Center

Pastor Karen Rupp provided a report on the Pine Ridge Retreat Center. The food left over from the Assembly will be taken to the Pine Ridge.

## **Old Business**

### Congregational Matters

The initial demand letter has been sent to Christ the King, Yankton. A letter has not been sent to Holy Cross, Aberdeen; the process is being reviewed.

A second vote is scheduled for Vale Lutheran, Vale.

St. James, Leola, is in process of voting to leave the ELCA.

## **New Business**

### Retire Old Members

Bishop Zellmer and the Council expressed appreciation to outgoing members:

Barbara Egbert, Southeastern  
Jesse Fonkert, Youth  
Joel Laumer, Crossroads  
Pastor Tanya Rist, Northern Plains

### Seat New Members

New members were welcomed to the Council:

Pastor Deb Grismer, Northern Plains  
Alex Jensen, Crossroads  
Christy Kimball, Southeastern  
Kayla Koterwski, Youth

Steuck provided member orientation. Bishop Zellmer explained the roles of the council and the bishop, and stressed the importance of confidentiality.

### Roster Matters

**MSC to issue a non-stipendiary synodical letter of call for interim ministry to Pastor Marlin Haugrud to serve as part time interim pastor at Brandon/Split Rock Lutheran Parish.**  
**SC.12.06.08**

**MSC to issue a non-stipendiary synodical letter of call to Pastor Andrew Nelson to serve as half-time campus pastor at Luther Center at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.**  
**SC.12.06.09**

**MSC to grant Pastor Curtis Matson on leave from call roster status.**  
**SC.12.06.10**

### Elections and Assignments

**MSC to appoint Christy Kimball to serve as Synod Council Representative to the St. Dymas Council.**  
**SC.12.06.11**

### Distribution of Seminary Scholarship Funds

Due to various factors, the seminary scholarship fund has adequate resources at this time. The donors of several endowed seminary scholarship funds have given permission to temporarily use funds for pastor debt reduction.

**MSC to distribute seminary debt reduction scholarships from the Eitrheim, Quail and Gustafson endowments in 2012 and 2013. The pastors receiving the**

**scholarships must meet the current seminary debt criteria as used by the pastors with the Seminary Debt Committee.  
SC.12.06.12**

**Future Meetings**

August 16, 2012, Executive Committee at 6:30 pm, Steve Koenig responsible for devotions

August 17, 2012, Synod Council at 8:30 am, LuAnn Denke responsible for devotions

October 11, 2012, Executive Committee at 6:30 pm, Pastor Bill Tesch responsible for devotions

October 12, 2012, Synod Council at 8:30 am, Christy Kimball responsible for devotions.

Gary Steuck lead the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Borchardt  
Secretary