

Resolution: 1
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: Elect South Dakota Synod Council Members
Source: Resolutions Committee

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, ELCA elect the following conference nominees to the South Dakota Synod Council for a term of four years:

Medary Conference (Lay Male)	Lonell Moeller, Brookings
Northern Plains Conference (Lay Female)	Peggy Namanny, Miller
Prairie Coteau Conference (Lay Female)	Teri Gayer, Waubay
Southeastern Conference (Clergy)	Rev. Kevin Jensen, Vermillion
Bear Butte Conference (Clergy)	Rev. Tom Opoien, Rapid City
Prairie Rivers Conference (Clergy)	Rev. Holly Slater, Mitchell

Resolution: 2
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: 2012 Compensation and Guidelines for Clergy and Lay Staff
Source: Committee for Support to Ministries and its Compensation Task Force from Northern Plains Conference

RESOLVED, that the “2012 Compensation and Guidelines for Clergy” and “2012 Compensation for Lay Staff,” prepared by a task force of the Prairie Rivers Plains Conference for the Committee for Support to Ministries and recommended by the committee for adoption, be adopted as the policy of the South Dakota Synod by the 2011 South Dakota Synod Assembly.

Resolution: 3
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Thrivent Choice Program
Source: Northern Plains Conference

WHEREAS, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and the predecessor fraternal organizations Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid Association for Lutherans have been strong supporters of our Lutheran Congregations and;

WHEREAS, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has given direct financial support to our congregation in recent years of \$1,000 to \$1,300 per year and;

WHEREAS, this past year our congregation received \$0.00 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans through the new “Thrivent Choice” program, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the South Dakota Synod Assembly request Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to return to the former system of allocating monies to congregations, and be it further

RESOLVED, the South Dakota Synod Assembly request the South Dakota Synod Bishop and the South Dakota Synod Council to convey our wishes to the management and the board of directors of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Resolution: 4
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken:

Subject: ELCA Social Statements
Source: South Dakota Synod Council

WHEREAS, the Church Council voted at its November 2010 meeting "to request that future social documents be scheduled with sensitivity to the time demands involving elected churchwide leadership, including bishops, Church Council members, and synodical leaders," "to acknowledge the preference that only one major document be in process at any one time," and to adopt a revised schedule for the development and consideration of social statements; and

WHEREAS, the Church Council also called on its Program and Services Committee to "consider the relevant actions of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly and reassess the revised timeline and question of capacity" at its November 2011 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Living into the Future Together (LIFT) task force is recommending that "the Church Council with the Conference of Bishops establish a process to review the effectiveness of current procedures for the development and adoption of social statements" and that the process "reflect the spirit and culture of communal discernment"; and

WHEREAS, the LIFT task force is recommending "no social statements be brought to Churchwide Assemblies until the review process is completed" with the possible exception of the genetics social statement; and

WHEREAS, the LIFT task force also calls for strengthening synods as catalysts for mission and outreach and recommends that "synods . . . prioritize the responsibilities in their constitutions to reflect a focus on equipping congregations and leaders"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, meeting in assembly, support the action of the April 2011 Church Council and the work of the LIFT Task Force asking for the establishment of a task force that will carry out a comprehensive study of how moral and ethical discernment might be best done by all expressions of this church; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, meeting in assembly, request that a report and recommendations from the task force be considered at the 2013 Churchwide Assembly.

Resolution: 5
Recommendation: Do Not Consider
Action Taken:

Subject: ELCA Churchwide Constitutional Amendment
Source: Prairie Rivers Conference

Whereas- Chapter12.11. states – The Churchwide Assembly shall be the highest legislative authority of the churchwide organization and shall deal with all matters which are necessary in pursuit of the purposes and functions of this church. The powers of the Churchwide Assembly are limited only by the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, this constitution and bylaws, and the assembly’s own resolutions.

Whereas- Chapter5.01.c. states in part- Whenever possible, the entity most directly affected by a decision shall be the principal party responsible for decision and implementation, with the other entities facilitating and assisting. Each congregation, synod, and separately incorporated unit of the churchwide organization, as well as the churchwide organization itself, is a separate legal entity and is responsible for exercising its powers and authorities.

Whereas- There are social issues that deeply affect individuals at a personal level as well as within families and congregations. These issues need to be ratified by each voting member of the E.L.C.A. and not solely by the delegates to the Churchwide Assembly.

Therefore be it resolved- that a provision be made to allow every voting member of the E.L.C.A. voting privileges by referendum. This referendum shall be carried out by petition providing signatures from voting members representing 1% of the worshipping membership. (worshipping membership is currently 1,357,098 persons according to the E.L.C.A. web site- <http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Large-Membership-Congregations/Frequently-Asked-Questions.aspx>)

Be it further resolved –that the South Dakota Synod memorialize the E.L.C.A. to allow this provision on any action taken by the Churchwide Assembly where any member may file a petition with the Secretary of the E.L.C.A. within a 90 day period, and then set out to gather signatures of like minded individual members of the E.L.C.A. within 9 months. The issue would then come to a vote of every member within the E.L.C.A. provided the minimum number of signatures are obtained.

Be it enacted by the E.L.C.A. The governing body of the E.L.C.A. shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provisions of this resolution.