

MISSION MATTERS

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

Volume 5 ♦ Issue 5 June 2017

30TH ANNUAL SYNOD ASSEMBLY HELD JUNE 1-3, 2017



A crowd of nearly 400 gathered at the Gateway Conference Center, Collinsville, IL for the 30th annual synod assembly, June 1-3, 2017. The Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson, adjunct professor of the Institute for Ecumenical Research in Strasbourg, France, was the keynote speaker. The Rev. Dr. Wyvetta Bullock, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop, Executive for Administration, was the ELCA Churchwide representative, who presided over the bishop's election.

The Rev. Dr. S. John Roth was re-elected bishop for a second six-year term on the fifth ballot over the Rev. Tony Metz by a 160-123 vote. Any ELCA pastor is eligible to be nominated on the first ballot and 45 names were written on the first ballot. Prior to the second ballot, nominees have the opportunity to withdraw their names and the names of 14 nominees advanced to the second ballot. If there is no election, the top seven advance to the third ballot. The top three advance to the fourth ballot; and the fifth ballot includes the names of the top two vote-getters. On ballots one-two, 75% of legal votes cast is needed for election; 67% is needed on the third ballot; 60% is needed on the fourth ballot; and a majority is needed on the fifth ballot.

Ms. Marcia McGaughey (member-at-large) was elected to a three-year term to the Synod Council; Ms. Hailey Storm (youth representative) was elected to a two-year term to the Synod Council. Ms. Lydia Nuesmeyer; Mr. Thomas Gooding; the Rev. Krista Stokke; and the Rev. Brian Robison were all elected to a six-year term to the Discipline Committee.

A 2018 budget of \$1.4 million was adopted and the assembly voted to reduce the percentage of mission support offerings remitted to the ELCA from congregations from 56% to 50%. This marks the first time in its history that the percentage of mission support offerings remitted to the ELCA is less than 56%.

In their own words...



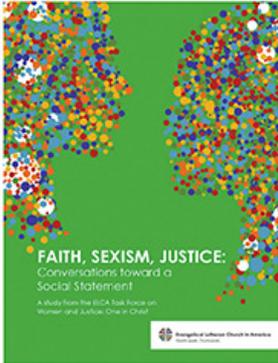
It was during my junior high school years when I first considered a call to ordained ministry.

My family and I were charter members of my home congregation. My pastor, and many other congregational members were very influential in encouraging me to consider a church vocation. My home congregation provided me with many leadership opportunities, e.g. while in high school, I made stewardship calls on other youth, and was invited to preach on several occasions. They nurtured and encouraged my sense of call.

They did the same for others, as since the mid-1970's, ten of us from that congregation went to seminary. I entered the candidacy process my sophomore year of high school and was accepted into seminary my junior year of college.

Pastor Bob Dealey has served congregations in Kansas, Arkansas and Illinois for 36 years. For the past four+ years, he has served as the Director for Evangelical Mission and Coordinator of Communications and Networking.

TOGETHER IN MISSION



ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENTS AND SOCIAL MESSAGES

ELCA social statements are “teaching and policy documents that provide broad framework to assist us in thinking about and discussing social issues in the context of faith and life. They are meant to help communities and individuals with moral formation, discernment and thoughtful engagement with current social issues as we participate in God’s work in the world. Social statements also set

policy for the ELCA and are adopted by a two-thirds vote of an ELCA churchwide assembly”. The last social statement, “The Church and Criminal Justice”, was adopted in 2013.

Social messages are “topical documents adopted by the ELCA Church Council to focus attention and action on timely, pressing matters of social concern to the church and society. They build upon previously adopted teaching and policy positions, are reviewed by the Conference of Bishops and adopted by the ELCA Church Council”. The last social message, “Gender-based Violence”, was adopted in 2016.

Currently, the ELCA is in the process of developing both a social statement, “Faith, Sexism, Justice” and a social message on “Human Rights”. To download or order a copy of the draft of the social statement on gender justice, go to www.ELCA.org/womenandjustice. To read a draft copy of the social message on human rights and to answer online questions, go to www.ELCA.org/socialmessages. August 31, 2017 is the deadline for responses to both documents. The ELCA Church Council will receive the proposed social message for consideration at its November 2017 meeting. The 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly is the earliest opportunity for consideration of a social statement.

PEDAL FOR A PURPOSE UPDATE



TRANSFORMING LIVES FOR 150 YEARS

Thank you for your generous support of this year’s Pedal for a Purpose events. As of June 28, 2017, we have received \$56,153.13 in offerings to support the Prisoner and Family Ministry and Children’s Community Services of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). The Prisoner & Family Ministry includes re-entry services of returning citizens and the Storybook Project. The Children’s Community Services include: foster care; family support service; post-adoption services; community childcare; and Nachusa Lutheran Home. Visit www.LSSI.org to find out more about LSSI’s ministries.



C/SIS Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention

October 20-21, 2017 / Lake Williamson, Carlinville, IL

Bible Study Leader: Pastor Maggie Falenschek

Presentations by: Judy Engebretson, Rose Moser

ELCA Representative: Gwendolynn Edwards

Complete details on the synod website: www.csis-elca.org July 6, 2017



Central/Southern Illinois Synod

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Mission Matters...is a synodical newsletter.

Synod congregations, agencies and institutions

are invited to reproduce the newsletter for distribution to its constituencies.

Please send comments, ideas, and/or suggestions to: Bob.Dealey@csis-elca.org

