

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Submitted by Pastor Richard Hertenstein, committee chair

This committee has the responsibility to review the synod constitution to be sure that it is up to date with the churchwide documents. It also is to review the constitutions of the congregations in the synod. When amendments are proposed, the committee will make recommendations to the synod council concerning wording, applicability and concurrence with constitutional requirements of the ELCA, the synod, and a congregations own constitution.

This year, May 2012-May 2013, the committee reviewed the proposed amendments to constitutions of Zion Lutheran Church, Clifton; Zion Lutheran Church, Farmersville; Resurrection Lutheran Church, Godfrey; and Christ Lutheran Church, Monticello, and finding no inherent conflicts recommended their approval.

The committee continues to review the resolutions of past assemblies to be sure the current constitution of the synod reflects those resolutions which still apply.

Congregations are reminded that when they are considering making changes in their constitutions these changes are to be reviewed by the constitution committee and approved by the synod council.

GLOBAL MISSION COMMITTEE

Submitted by Pastor Wayne Shelksohn, committee chair

A 2014 trip to Madagascar September 4-19, 2014 is being planned for Bishop Roth and 12-14 others from the synod. These dates correlate with the trips being taken by the West Virginia/Western Maryland Synod and the Southwest Pennsylvania Synod. The cost per participant is estimated to be \$4,000 to \$5,000. Funding for the Bishop will be sought from various sources, including churches with endowment funds. Some funds have already been received for this purpose. The other participants would be responsible for finding their own funding, through congregations, conferences, Women of the ELCA, and additional fundraisers.

We would like to see two people from each conference on the trip, so that information and experiences can be shared within each conference upon return. An application form will be used and will be available at synod assembly. Since this is a major commitment on the part of the participants, we want to make the application process as simple as possible; therefore we will not ask for references. We will include in the cover letter the importance of being an "ambassador" during the trip and upon return. The participants are the bridge between our synod and our companion synods and they will be expected to "share the good news" with both church bodies. We suggest that each participant gather a Support Team (members from their congregation, their conference, and this committee) who can help them prepare for the trip (including fundraising), pray for them while they travel, and support them in their efforts to share their experiences upon return. The only requirements for applicants is that they be a member of a congregation of the synod and be at least 18 years old. The committee will review all applications once received and make decisions as necessary (if there are more applicants than we can accept).

Committee members include

Staff Liaison Pastor Wayland Middendorf

Council Liaison	Pastor John Setterlund
East Central	Pastor John Setterlund St. Matthew, Urbana and Marilyn Dudley Good Shepherd, Champaign
Northern	Pastor Wayne Shelksohn (Chair) Grace & Peace, Peoria Amy Nyren Immanuel, Lincoln
Northwest	Pastor Cindy Krause St. Peter's, Arenzville / St. John, Bluffs Marsha McGaughey Trinity, Carthage
Southern	Pastor Laura Kamprath (Secretary), St. Luke, Campbell Pastor David Deem ELC of the Cross, Metropolis
West Central	Rose Moser St John, Springfield Mary Plymire Grace, Springfield
Northeast	No Representatives

MISSION SUPPORT & STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Submitted by Pastor Kathryn Montira, committee chair

The following people are conference representatives entrusted and commissioned by C/SIS for the care and feeding of Mission Support and Stewardship Education of the synod.

Rev. Kathryn Montira, Southern Conference, Chair
 Rev. Jim Davis, Northeast Conference
 Rev. Robert Dealey, DEM
 Mr. Wes Hendricker, Northwest Conference
 Mr. Steve Rapp, Synod Council Rep
 Rev. Bob Rasmus, East-Central Conference
 Bishop John Roth, Synod Staff Rep
 Mr. Philip Ruch, Northern Conference

After a powerful and well-received presentation from Dr. Mark Allan Powell at last year's assembly, many congregations had stewardship on their minds. We hosted a table at the assembly and had available 100 of the book "Giving to God" and the dvd "Biblical Stewardship: Our Duty and Delight". Thanks to the synod underwriting these resources, they were made available for a nominal fee. All of the books and most of the dvds were sold.

We followed up by developing and sending out a survey both by post and electronically, covering questions about stewardship practices in individual congregations as well as personal practices. We will have results available at this year's assembly.

We also developed and published a tri-fold informational brochure sent to each congregation with the survey.

May God continue to bless our efforts as we continue our work.

NEW / RENEWING CONGREGATIONS

Submitted by Pastor Ed Hudelson, committee chair

Who are we?

We are a committee made up of Christian members of this synod who are concerned about the future of this synod's mission and ministry for Christ. Currently our committee is made up of Pastor C. Edward Hudelson (committee chair), Connie Frankenfield (synod council liaison), Pastor Micah Garnett, Suzanne Ligon, Pastor S. Blake Duncan, Pastor Kurt Hoover, and Pastor Jan Worms. We work closely with Pastor Bob Dealey, the Director of Evangelical Mission for our synod.

Why are we here?

Within the synod's role to fulfill God's purposes, the New / Renewing Congregations Committee's mission is to equip the saints for ministry by building enthusiasm and support for renewal and to empower congregations to embody the vitality of faith.

What then shall we do?

During our second year as a committee:

1. We have welcomed Pastor Bob Dealey as the DEM assigned to our synod.
2. We continue working to develop a network of congregational resources that will foster and facilitate sharing of practices which have proven helpful in fostering renewal in congregations within the synod. We are working with the survey that we developed last year and with ELCA churchwide personnel to determine the resources and approaches that are available from this source to assist the work of renewal within our synod. As part of this development, five of the committee members have completed part one of "Transforming Ministry 2.0, Train the Trainers". This training is designed to equip a team from the synod who will be available to provide training and coaching to congregational teams seeking transformation and renewal within their congregations. Part two of the training will take place in the fall.
3. We are beginning to develop criteria for identifying congregations for transformation.
4. We continue to utilize on-line resources for meetings, including SKYPE, conference calls, Drop Box, etc., so that we can be more effective stewards of the synod's financial resources and the investment in time for the committee members.
5. And we continue to strive for a culture of constant evaluation of the effectiveness of our efforts to learn from our failures and embrace our successes.

Professional and Lay Leadership

CANDIDACY

Submitted by Pastor Elaine Olson, subcommittee chair

The mission of the Candidacy Subcommittee of the Committee for Professional and Lay Ministry is to affirm those entering candidacy to be a rostered leader of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. This roster includes candidates for Ordained Ministry, Diaconal Ministry, Deaconess Community, and Associate in Ministry. The candidacy process is a rigorous one and it is the desired hope of the committee to be grounded in prayer, care, and hospitality. The subcommittee works with the candidate, congregations, synod seminary and the ELCA throughout the process for accountability and integrity.

Several new members have been appointed to this subcommittee as we continue the re-organization process of this subcommittee. The subcommittee represents a variety of views and understandings about ministry and practices an attitude of respect and openness for difference. A day of instruction led by Pastor Greg Busboom was held in February to equip the subcommittee with information about the process and skills in panel interviews. The role of realtor to each candidate is being emphasized as essential.

The membership of this sub-committee is:

CONFERENCE	CLERGY	LAY
East Central	Elaine Olson (Chair)	Bill Moehring
Northeast	Mary Kay Hanson	Chris W. Ayers
Northern	Elise Rothfusz	Jean Graff
Northwest	Scott Egbers	David Poland
Southern	Chris Repp	Lynn Smith
West Central	Jared Parker	Karen Fifer
Synod Council Rep	Glen VanderKloot	
Synod Staff Rep	Ron Moorman	

At the time of this report, there are thirteen candidates in the process - five women and eight men. One person is exploring the AIM Roster, one TEEM and the remainder on the Ordination track. One candidate is changing rosters from Diaconal Ministry to Ordained Roster. Students are attending the following seminaries: Luther, Wartburg, Trinity, Pacific Lutheran, and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Five candidates are part of the Distant Learning process offered through Wartburg and Luther Seminary.

Along with the work of Entrance, Endorsement, and Approval of local candidates, members of the committee work with the state-wide Candidacy for candidates from the other two synods in Illinois.

The committee is indeed grateful to the Bishop Roth, Rev. Ron Moorman, and Cindy Koonce for their care-filled attention and insights.

LEADERSHIP SUPPORT

Submitted by Mr. Bob Mueller, subcommittee chair

The Leadership Support Subcommittee met twice in Springfield and twice by conference call this past year. A study and review was done of the Compensation Guidelines and accompanying materials of the Central / Southern Synod of Illinois and neighboring synods in Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

After comparing our guidelines with those of the other synods the following recommendation was submitted to the Synod Council for approval:

That a 2% increase be considered throughout the suggested salaries be given. This new suggested schedule will be included in the guideline booklet. It is stressed that these are recommendations only. We, as a committee, realize that all churches within our synod might not be able to meet the guidelines. We ask that prayerful consideration be given to other possibilities that might be open to work with called staff.

The subcommittee will be discussing for recommendation next year the following:

1. Sabbatical Leave
2. Spiritual Guidance
3. Health and Wellness

Other areas of support are also being considered. The subcommittee again wishes to stress the Guidelines are exactly that - guidelines. It is recognized that each congregation needs to examine its own resources and prayerfully, with the Spirit's guidance, arrive at a compensation agreement with rostered leaders.

SYNODICALLY AUTHORIZED MINISTRY SUBCOMMITTEE

Submitted by Pastor David L. Hofer, subcommittee chair

As the country changes and the church changes from within, some congregations have less membership but still seek to minister. As membership shrinks, finances, at times, shrink as well. Unable to afford a rostered leader, the synod provides Synodically Authorized Ministers to assist the ministry of the congregation under the direction of the Synod Bishop. There are currently 30 S.A.M.s in our synod. Normally, three-six serve in interim ministry.

To assist the church through the Office of the Bishop, the S.A.M. Subcommittee met twice last year. The Synodically Authorized Ministry Program information is available to download from the synod web site.

Fellow Christians in the synod who are permitted to prepare to become a S.A.M., study nine individual courses and attend four retreats over a three year period.

The committee thanks the Bishop and his office for guidance and truly extends a "Thank you!" to the Synodically Authorized Ministers who are available to serve the Lord Jesus in this capacity in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy

Submitted by Ellen K Davis, committee chair

"Then the King shall say unto them on his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 'Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as you have done it to one of the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me.' " - Matthew 25:34-36,40b

The committee continued into our first full year of work and have been quite busy. We hosted two hearings on the Criminal Justice Statement in conjunction with Jane Otte (from LSSI) and developed a brochure for congregations which is available on the synod website for you to download and share with members of your congregation.

We also redesigned the grant application and it also is available on the website. We in trying to make grant recipients good stewards have made a requirement for two written reports and photos when possible of the projects for which we issued grants. This year we will have a slide show with many of the photos of these grant projects in action. It is the goal of this committee not only to issue grants, but to be a source of contact for congregations as to how their congregations can be active participants of social ministry in their individual communities. One such mission project took hold at St. Luke in Campbell Hill where the Sunday School children with the inclusion of the entire congregation in a monthly noisy offering provided \$250 to the congregation to send to the ELCA Malaria campaign and still made a goal to provide animals to families overseas through "God's Global Barnyard. This project is a beginning on teaching children that providing education, advocacy, and service is a year-long project.

The 2012 grants went to:

- Calvary in Belleville for a community development and church renewal program
- St. Luke in Campbell Hill for the development of Trico Area Food for Youth
- Trinity & Immanuel in Golden for an after school youth program
- First Evangelical in Beardstown to help support the Cass County Food Bank Program.

This year we had fewer funds to assist in Social Ministry Programs in your congregational communities and part of the funds we received have been set aside for stipends for education of your congregations in Anti-racism and other synod approved educational programs. A listing of 2013 grants distributed will be available at the synod assembly.

Since we will have much less to work with, grants were not be as plentiful as last year and approved at much smaller amounts, however, our goal was to spread the bounty as far as we could by trying to make sure that at least every need was met in some small way.

The acronym we have chosen for our committee is SEA which stands for:

Serve
Educate
Advocate

Examples:

- **Anti-Racism Task Force** - in which we are looking at setting a minimal amount aside for a stipend to enable a speaker to attend congregations in our synod and subsidize what the church cannot raise with goodwill offering to cover their expenses.
- **Social Ministry Grants** - Due to the synod-wide budget constraints, the subcommittee has had a reduced amount of money to award in grants. We are carefully looking at grants that are dealing with root causes of poverty, such as backpack food programs for children, and summer feeding programs for youth.
- **LSSI and Lutheran Advocacy** – work with LSSI in planning and developing initiatives for LSSI to partner with the synod and its congregations. Some plans will have to be re-thought, as the church resources are cut and we have to rely on other means to meet the need.

I want to thank Bishop Roth, the wonderful staff of the Central / Southern Illinois Synod, the Conference Deans, Synod Council and especially Pastor Middendorf and the committee for their hard work in the short time we have had to accomplish what we have.

I look forward to being able to serve the synod and our conferences therein with the important mission of the church and community relationships growing in the Light of Christ and the ability of others to see Christ in what we have to offer in way of assistance to them.

Committee Members:

Chairperson	Southern	Ellen Davis, St. Luke, Campbell Hill	June 2015
	West Central	Nancy Tegtmeier, Resurrection, Godfrey	June 2015
	Northern	Pastor Jill Flynn, St. Andrew, Mundelein	June 2014
	Northwest	Sue McLennan, Christ, Quincy	June 2014
	East Central	New 3 year member	June 2013
	Northeast	New 3 year member	June 2013
Staff Liaison		Pastor Wayland Middendorf	
Council Liaison		Diane Maertens	

All committee members can serve two terms so those in East Central and Northeast were eligible for reelection but at the time of this report we do not as yet know who will represent these two conferences on the committee.