

PROPOSED...**A * G * E * N * D * A**...PROPOSED
MAY 2017

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2017...AFTERNOON SESSION

12:00pm	Registration, Gateway Conference Center, Collinsville	
1:00-1:30pm	Assembly Voting Member Orientation Look for signs... an opportunity to "come and go" format to ask questions	
1:00-1:40pm	Choir Rehearsal for Thursday Evening Festival Worship meet in the plenary session area by the keyboard	
1:50pm	Pedal for a Purpose Ride Finale Entrance	
2:00pm	Opening Devotion / Opening of Synod Assembly	
2:15pm	Announcements Report of Credentials Committee Adoption of Rules of Procedure Adoption of Agenda Appointment of Parliamentarian, Mr. Daniel Simmons Extend Thank you to the Assembly Committees	
2:30pm	Ecumenical Greetings Report on Roster of Congregations Report on Roster of Clergy and Lay Individuals Introduction of Pastors New to C/SIS Introduction of Seminarian Students	Pastor Pam Mitcham Pastor Pam Mitcham Pastor Pam Mitcham Pastor Pam Mitcham
2:45pm	Approval of 2016 Assembly Minutes Report of Synod Council Report of the Treasurer	Ms. Carey Mayer Mr. Ken Finkle
3:00pm	REGISTRATION Temporarily Suspended until after the First Ballot Election of Bishop Procedure <i>Introduce Bishop Election Committee</i> <i>Report of the Credentials Committee</i> First Ballot, Nomination <i>Voting Members are invited to submit questions to be asked of nominees, due to Secretary Pastor Pam Mitcham by Friday 12noon.</i>	Rev. Wyvetta Bullock
3:30pm	Assembly Business Lutheran Social Services of Illinois Nominating Committee Report For Synod Council / Committees as Needed Proposed Budget 2018, First Reading	Pastor John Rothfusz
4:00pm	<u>Keynote Presentation #1</u> <i>The Gospel of Mark through a Lutheran Lens</i>	Rev. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
4:50pm	Announcements / Dinner on your own	
6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal and Worship Participant Instruction / Rehearsal National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snow.	
8:00pm	Festival Worship: National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows 442 South DeMazenod Drive, Belleville IL 62223 See invitation to worship for directions. Bishop S. John Roth, Preaching	

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017...MORNING SESSION

- 8:30am Morning Devotion
- 8:40am General Announcements
Report of Credentials Committee
- 8:45am Report of the Bishop Election, Nominating Ballot
Those who wish to withdraw from the Nominating Ballot are requested to complete a "Withdrawal" form and submit to Secretary, Pastor Pam Mitcham by 9:15am.
- 9:00am Assembly Business
Voting for Synod Council / Committees
Reference and Counsel
Recommendation of Constitution Changes
- 9:15am **Keynote Presentation #2** Rev. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
Another Look at Luther and the Jews
- 10:05am Second Ballot for Bishop if necessary
- 10:20am Breakout for Forums
- 11:30am Report of the ELCA Churchwide Representative Rev. Wyvetta Bullock
Video from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
- 11:50am Report of Second Ballot for Bishop Election
Top 7 candidates pick-up bio form, fill out and submit by 12:30pm
Voting member questions due to Secretary, Pastor Pam Mitcham by 12noon
- 12:00-1:15pm Lunch Recess....either by *pre-purchased ticket* or on your own

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017...AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:30pm Breakout for Forums
- 2:35pm Credentials Report
- 2:35pm Bio Sheets Distributed / Nominees Address the Assembly Rev. Wyvetta Bullock
- 3:20pm Third Ballot for Bishop, if necessary
Assembly Business
Reference and Counsel
Proposed Budget Reading #2 / Action
Pastor John Rothfusz
- 3:30pm **Keynote Presentation #3** Rev. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
Law and Gospel Revisited
- 4:20pm Report of Third Ballot for Bishop Election
- 4:25pm Top Three Candidates Answer Questions
- 5:00pm Fourth Ballot for Bishop if necessary
Report of the Credentials Committee
Report of the Fourth Ballot
Announcements
- 6:00pm Banquet
Hostess: Ms. Carey Mayer, synod lay vice-president
Fellowship / Recognition of Anniversaries / Retirements

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017...MORNING SESSION

- Breakfast...on your own
- 8:30am General Announcements
 Report of Credentials Committee
- 8:35am Report of Bishop Election, Fourth Ballot
 Fifth Ballot if necessary
 Report of the Fifth Ballot
 Bishop-elect Addresses the Assembly
- 9:45am Greetings from
 Lutheran Campus Ministry
 Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center
 ELCA Foundation
- Making All Things New: Campaign for the ELCA
 Mission Support and Stewardship Education
 Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy
 New and Renewing Congregations
 Global Mission
 Professional and Lay Leadership
 Candidacy
 Leadership Support
 Synodically Authorized Ministers
 Recognition of Committees
 Constitution
 Consultation
 Discipline
 Auxiliaries
 LYO, Lutheran Youth Organization
 WELCA, Women of the ELCA
 Board Member Recognition
 Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
 Lutheran Outdoor Ministry
 Lutheran Campus Ministry
- Report of the Bishop
 Introduction of Synod Staff
- 10:15am Break
- 10:30am Reference and Counsel
- 12:00-1:00pm Lunch Recess...on your own
- Bishop John Roth

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2017...AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15pm General Announcements
 Report of Credentials Committee
 Assembly Business
 Courtesies
- 2:00pm Adjournment / Sending Worship

Resolution 01.2017

Title	Constitution and Bylaw Changes as Adopted by the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
Moved	Synod Council
Second	None required

WHEREAS the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted changes to the Constitution for Synods to amend bylaw S7.11.01. and provisions S7.22., S7.24., S8.55., S14.33., S14.34., S14.42., S14.47., as noted in the accompanying document entitled 2017 Proposed Changes to the C/SIS Constitution and Bylaws, and

WHEREAS the 1995 ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted changes to the Constitution for Synods to amend S7.32., as noted in the accompanying document entitled 2017 Proposed Changes to the C/SIS Constitution and Bylaws, and

WHEREAS effecting these changes in our Synod Constitution requires a majority vote of an assembly of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Central/Southern Illinois Synod bylaw S7.11.01. and provisions S7.22., S7.24., S7.32., S8.55., S14.33., S14.34., S14.42., S14.47. be amended as noted in the accompanying document entitled 2017 Proposed Changes to the C/SIS Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 02.2017

Title	Change to Bylaw S8.14.01
Moved	Synod Council
Second	None required

WHEREAS bylaw S8.14.01. originally envisioned that all of the assistants to the bishop would be employed full time by the synod, and

WHEREAS it is now prudent to allow for the flexibility of having more than three assistants to the bishop, including those assistants who may be employed less than full time, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the words "but not more than three", along with corresponding punctuation, be stricken from bylaw S8.14.01.

Resolution 03.2017

Title	Change Bylaw S12.01.02 to Continuing Resolution
Moved	Synod Council
Second	None required

WHEREAS the listing of congregation by synod conference is essentially a clerical action, therefore be it

RESOLVED that S12.01.02. be changed from a bylaw to a continuing resolution so that the Synod Council can effect changes in the listing of congregations as the changes occur, and therefore the resulting continuing resolution have the codification S12.01.A17.

Resolution 04.2017

Title	Regarding Bishop Emeritus Title for Warren Freiheit
Moved	Jerry James, First English Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL
Seconded	Allen Mayer, First English Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL

WHEREAS	The Reverend Doctor Warren Freiheit served capably as bishop of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) from 2000-2011; and
WHEREAS	as pastor he nurtured his flocks; especially building relationships between full communion partner congregations; and
WHEREAS	as Dean of the Northern Conference he exercised strong and creative leadership throughout his years of service, especially in forming bonds with our full communion partners and in service to the Synod Council; and
WHEREAS	as bishop he was a fine example of faithful, effective, and committed service to the Lord and this Church particularly during some challenging times in the ELCA; and
WHEREAS	he will be granted retired status on the roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of July 1, 2017; therefore be it
RESOLVED	that the Central/Southern Illinois Synod at this annual assembly give thanks to God for the ministry of The Reverend Doctor Warren Freiheit and does hereby bestow on him the honorary title of "Bishop Emeritus" of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

2016 Synod Assembly

Synod Assembly Minutes

Thursday, June 2, 2016

OPENING DEVOTION

Called to order at 2:10 p.m. by Assembly Chair, Bishop S. John Roth.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Report given by Pastor Harlan Kaden

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.01 **To approve** the roll of persons hereby submitted to be the official roll of voting members for the Assembly:

Lay Voting Members	185	Official Observers	
Clergy Voting Members	89	Visitors	53
Associates in Ministry	1		
Diaconal Ministers	0		
Total Voting Members	275	Total Attendance	328

ADOPTION OF THE 2016 RULES OF ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE ...

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER. CURRENT EDITION

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.02 **To approve** the 2016 Rules of Organization and Procedures for the 2016 Synod Assembly.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.03 **To approve** the agenda with permission of the Chair to adjust as necessary.

APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.04 **To approve** the seating of Mr. Daniel Simmons as 2016 Assembly Parliamentarian.

RECOGNITION OF ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

RECOGNITION OF ECUMENICAL PARTNERS

- Bishop Jonathan Keaton, Bishop of the Great Rivers Conference, United Methodist Church, located in Springfield, IL
- Pastor Marnarintsoa R. Soloson, Synod President of the Fort Dauphin Synod, Madagascar (greetings received via the web)

RECOGNITION OF ELCA CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Introduction of C/SIS member, Mr. Vernon Veal, as ELCA Church Council representative.

STATISTICS OF CONGREGATIONS/ROSTER

Synod Statistics as of May 30, 2016

Congregations	127
Baptized Membership	43,611
Confirmed Membership	36,973
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	11,933
Clergy on the Roster (as of May 15, 2016)	
Active, Called to Congregations	83

Active, Called to Specialized Ministry	12
On Leave from Call	5
Retired	68
Medical Disability	1
Associates in Ministry	
Active, Called to Congregations	3
Active, Called to Specialized Ministry	0
On Leave from Call	1
Retired	4
Diaconal Ministers	
Active, Called to Congregations	0
Active, Called to Specialized Ministry	1
On Leave from Call	1

Excused absences to 2016 Synod Assembly

Pastor Lisa Goodwin

Pastor Stephen Goodwin

Pastor Christopher Hale

Pastor Mary Kay Henson

Pastor John Lottes

Pastor Willard "Bill" Pierce

INTRODUCTION OF PASTORS NEW TO THE SYNOD

- Pastor John Ashcraft, retiree, from Central States Synod
- Pastor Joy Miller from Northwestern Ohio Synod to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Minonk and Bethany Lutheran Church, Wenona, IL
- Pastor Patricia Reep from Central States Synod to St. Peter Lutheran Church, Coatsburg, IL
- Pastor Amy Thoren from Minneapolis Area Synod to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and Campus Center, Champaign, IL
- Pastor Richard Wehrs from Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Salem Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL

INTRODUCTION OF SEMINARIANS STUDENTS ORDAINED

- Pastor Corey Lange, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Arenzville, IL
- Pastor Maggie Falenschek, Associate Pastor, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Urbana, IL
- Pastor Nikoli Falenschek, Lutheran Church of Mahomet, Mahomet, IL

INTRODUCTION OF ASSIGNED SEMINARIAN

Candidate Paul Waterman

APPROVAL OF 2015 ASSEMBLY MINUTES

VOTED: Moved and seconded - Motion carried.

SA16.06.05 To approve the 2015 Synod Assembly minutes as presented.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP *(written report submitted)*

Bishop S. John Roth

TREASURER'S REPORT *(written report submitted)*

Financial reports for fiscal year 2015 have been made available online. The yearly audit has been completed and is available online for review.

REPORT OF THE SYNOD COUNCIL

Vice President Jeanne Rapp introduced members of Synod Council. Thanks offered to all who serve/have served on program or covenant committees this year.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Deanne Holshouser, Chair of Nominating Committee

Synod Council Officers

Lay Vice-President

One (1) to be elected / Four (4) year term

Ms. Carey Mayer

Synod Council Representatives

Young Adult Representative

One (1) to be elected / Three (3) Year Term

Mr. Mathew Spencer

Mr. Mitchell Wettig

Consultation Committee

Four (4) to be elected / Six (6) year term to expire in 2022

Dr. Amy Carr

Pastor Priscilla Geerdes

Mr. Jerry Ohlau

Pastor Ken Tegtmeier

PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET

First Reading, Pastor John Rothfusz

<i>Income from Congregations</i>	\$1,450,000
Ministry through ELCA (56%)	\$ 812,000
Ministry through C/SIS (44%)	\$ 638,000
Interest and Misc. Income	\$ 9,500
Total Available to C/SIS	\$ 647,500

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION #1

Shaped for Mission: A Personal Journey of Learning to Love Your Neighbor

The Rev. Doug Cox, Executive Director of Global Health Ministries.

Session declared in recess 4:50pm.

Friday, June 3, 2016 – Morning

MORNING DEVOTIONS

Assembly called to order at 8:31a.m. by Assembly Chair, Bishop S. John Roth.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Report given by Pastor Harlan Kaden:

VOTED: **Motion carried.**

SA16.06.06 To approve the roll of persons hereby submitted to be the official roll of voting members for the Assembly:

Lay Voting Members	202	Official Observers	
Clergy Voting Members	115	Visitors	62
Associates in Ministry	2		
Diaconal Ministers	0		
Total Voting Members	319	Total Attendance	381

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Election Results

Lay Vice-President

One (1) to be elected / Four (4) year term

281 votes Ms. Carey Mayer

Bishop Roth declared Ms. Carey Mayer elected.

GREETINGS FROM LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS

CEO Mr. Mark Stutrud

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

Pastor Ben Fiore

Resolution 2016.01

Title Student Debt Reduction
Submitted by Synod Council
Seconded by None required

WHEREAS God gifts the Central/Southern Illinois Synod with clergy and lay rostered leaders for "Word and Sacrament" and "Word and Service" ministries in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, and
WHEREAS many of these rostered leaders enter ministry with debt from student loans taken out to pay for their preparation for ministry, and
WHEREAS debt reduction assistance for our rostered leaders in their early years of ministry would enhance the ministry of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod and of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to glorify God, build up the body of Christ, and proclaim Christ to the world, and
WHEREAS the 2016 Pedal for a Purpose is committed to using its funds raised in 2016 for this student debt reduction,
THEREFORE BE IT
RESOLVED that the 2016 Assembly of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod affirms, embraces, and supports the goal of raising funds sufficient to expend \$100,000 over the next five years to reduce student debt carried by rostered leaders in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod in their first seven years of called ministry, and be it further
RESOLVED that the Assembly expresses its gratitude to God for Pedal for a Purpose – its organizers, publicists, riders, and supporters.

VOTED: Motion carried.
SA16.06.07 **To Approve** Resolution 2016.01

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

FIRST BALLOT, VOTING FOR YOUNG ADULT REPRESENTATIVE TO SYNOD COUNCIL AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*denotes elected

Synod Council Representatives

Young Adult Representative

One (1) to be elected / Three (3) Year Term

* Mr. Mathew Spencer (189 votes)

Mr. Mitchell Wettig (74 votes)

Bishop Roth declares Mr. Mathew Spencer elected.

Consultation Committee

Four (4) to be elected / Six (6) year term to expire in 2022

Dr. Amy Carr

Pastor Priscilla Geerdes

Mr. Jerry Ohlau

Pastor Ken Tegtmeier

ELCA PORTICO BENEFIT SERVICES

Mr. Jeff Thiemann, CEO

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELCA

Vice President Rapp reported that two years into a five-year campaign, the ELCA has received \$80 million, 40% of the \$198 million campaign goal. The C/SIS has supported all ten priorities of the campaign. The top three priorities C/SIS supported were ELCA World Hunger (\$349,404), Missionary Sponsorship (\$86,965), and the ELCA Fund for Leaders (\$621,842).

Session declared in recess.

ASSEMBLY FORUMS

REPORT OF THE ELCA

State of the Church Address - Ms. Dana Dutcher
Video message - Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

ASSEMBLY FORUMS

Session declared in recess.

Friday, June 3, 2016 – afternoon

Assembly called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Assembly Chair, Bishop S. John Roth.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Offering from the Festival Worship totaled \$6,625.57.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Election Results – Consultation Committee - Pastor Ryan Anderson

Four (4) to be elected / Six (6) year term to expire in 2022

- 284 Dr. Amy Carr
- 286 Pastor Priscilla Geerdes
- 286 Mr. Jerry Ohlau
- 288 Pastor Ken Tegtmeier

Bishop Roth declared these four to be elected.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bishop Roth called the forum presenters to the front and thanked them for their work.

Bishop Roth announced that Pedal for a Purpose had raised \$6,200 to be added to monies collected before the actual ride, as well as monies that will continue to come in.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY - Pastor Matthew Geerdes and Pastor Amy Thoren

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Report given by Pastor Harlan Kaden

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.08 To approve the roll of persons hereby submitted to be the official roll of voting members for the Assembly:

Lay Voting Members	208	Official Observers	
Clergy Voting Members	118	Visitors	64
Associates in Ministry	2		
Diaconal Ministers	0		
Total Voting Members	328	Total Attendance	392

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRY CENTER - Mr. Russ Senti, Executive Director

2ND READING AND VOTING

Proposed 2017 Budget - Pastor John Rothfusz

NO VOTE Motion referred to Finance Committee

SA16.06.09 To amend the 2017 proposed budget increasing the amount for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois by 30%.
Chair referred motion to Finance Committee to research actual dollar figures that would change reflecting the proposed LSSI 30% increase.

KEYNOTE #2

Lutheran Perspectives on Mission: Glimpses from Around the Globe in Honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation - Rev. Doug Cox

Session declared in recess. (short break)

Assembly called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Assembly Chair, Bishop S. John Roth.

VOTED: Motion failed. 98 in favor, 148 opposed

SA16.06.10. To amend the proposed 2017 budget (with the intent of increasing amount for LSSI) as follows:

<i>Income from Congregations</i>	1,450,000
Ministry through ELCA (56%)	812,000
Ministry through C/SIS (44%)	638,000
Interest & Misc. Income	9,500
TOTAL AVAILABLE TO C/SIS	647,500

Outflow C/SIS

Agencies and Institutions

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois	51,421	66,847
Colleges	2,000	
Seminaries	40,000	
Campus Ministries	49,500	
Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center	6,750	
Region 5 Support	3,000	
Illinois Conference of Churches	3,600	
TOTAL AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS	156,271	171,679

C/SIS Program Committees

Global Mission	4,300
Social Ministry, Justice, and Advocacy	8,000
Professional and Lay Ministry	
Candidacy Subcommittee	13,000
S.A.M. Subcommittee	3,500
Leadership Support	4,000
Mission Support and Stewardship	1,000
<i>Church in Society/Outreach</i>	
New and Renewing Congregations	7,050
Constitution/Miscellaneous	-
TOTAL C/SIS PROGRAM COMMITTEES	40,850

C/SIS Congregation/Clergy Services

Salaries/Housing	301,031
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Benefits	85,862	
Continuing Education	4,500	
Bishop's Fund	1,000	
TOTAL C/SIS CONG/CLERGY SERVICES	392,393	
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<u>C/SIS Office Administration</u>		
Staff Travel	19,000	
Operations	55,045	
Equipment	4,500	
Furniture/Capital Improvement	2,200	
Automobile	3,000	
Communication	250	
TOTAL C/SIS OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	83,995	
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<u>C/SIS Synod Administration</u>		
Synod Assembly	25,000	
Nominating Committee	-	
Synod Council	5,000	
TOTAL C/SIS SYNOD ADMINISTRATION	30,000	
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TOTAL SYNOD OUTFLOW	703,509	718,935
Total Outflow	1,515,509	1,530,935
Total inflow over total outflow	(56,009)	(71,435)
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Reserves available end of year	163,017	147,591

VOTED: Motion carried.
SA16.06.11 Move the question.

Proposed 2017 Budget - Pastor John Rothfusz

VOTED: Motion carried. 231 in favor, 22 opposed
SA16.06.12 To adopt the proposed 2017 budget

<i>Income from Congregations</i>	1,450,000
Ministry through ELCA (56%)	812,000
Ministry through CSIS (44%)	638,000
Interest & Misc. Income	9,500
TOTAL AVAILABLE TO C/SIS	647,500

Outflow C/SIS

Agencies and Institutions

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois	51,421
Colleges	2,000
Seminaries	40,000
Campus Ministries	49,500
Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center	6,750
Region 5 Support	3,000
Illinois Conference of Churches	3,600
TOTAL AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS	156,271

C/SIS Program Committees

Global Mission	4,300
Social Ministry, Justice, and Advocacy	8,000
Professional and Lay Ministry	
Candidacy Subcommittee	13,000
S.A.M. Subcommittee	3,500

Leadership Support	4,000
Mission Support and Stewardship	1,000
<i>Church in Society/Outreach</i>	
New and Renewing Congregations	7,050
Constitution/Miscellaneous	-
TOTAL C/SIS PROGRAM COMMITTEES	40,850
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<u>C/SIS Congregation/Clergy Services</u>	
Salaries/Housing	301,031
Benefits	85,862
Continuing Education	4,500
Bishop's Fund	1,000
TOTAL C/SIS CONG/CLERGY SERVICES	392,393
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<u>C/SIS Office Administration</u>	
Staff Travel	19,000
Operations	55,045
Equipment	4,500
Furniture/Capital Improvement	2,200
Automobile	3,000
Communication	250
TOTAL C/SIS OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	83,995
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<u>C/SIS Synod Administration</u>	
Synod Assembly	25,000
Nominating Committee	-
Synod Council	5,000
TOTAL C/SIS SYNOD ADMINISTRATION	30,000
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TOTAL SYNOD OUTFLOW	703,509
Total Outflow	1,515,509
Total inflow over total outflow	(56,009)
Reserves available end of year	163,017

BISHOP'S CONVERSATION

Session declared in recess at 4:45p.m.

Saturday, June 4, 2016 – Morning

Assembly called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Assembly Chair, Bishop S. John Roth.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Report given by Pastor Harlan Kaden

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.13 To approve the roll of persons hereby submitted to be the official roll of voting members for the Assembly:

Lay Voting Members	208	Official Observers	
Clergy Voting Members	118	Visitors	64
Associates in Ministry	2		
Diaconal Ministers	0		
Total Voting Members	328	Total Attendance	392

KEYNOTE ADDRESS #3

Partnering for Global Mission: One Body / Many Members - The Rev. Doug Cox

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **SOCIAL MINISTRY, JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY** - Ms. Ellen Davis
- **MISSION SUPPORT AND STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION** – Ms. Pat Caley
- **NEW AND RENEWING CONGREGATIONS** - Pastor Ed Hudelson and Pastor Bob Dealey
- **PROFESSIONAL AND LAY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE**
Candidacy Subcommittee, Pastor Elise Rothfusz
Leadership Support Subcommittee, Mr. Bob Mueller
Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee, Pastor David Hofer
- **GLOBAL MISSION COMMITTEE**, Pastor Harlan Kaden

RECOGNITION OF COMMITTEES / TASK FORCES

- Constitution - Pastor Richard Hertenstein, Vice President Jeanne Rapp
- Consultation - no report
- Discipline - no report

REPORTS OF CONFERENCE DEANS - on web site

REPORTS OF AUXILIARIES

- Women of the ELCA of C/SIS, Judy Sullivan Murray, President
- Lutheran Youth Organization, Ms. Katlyn Brown, Advisor, Mr. Brodie Wileman, President

RECOGNITION OF ASSEMBLY GUESTS

- Lutheran Social Services of Illinois board member - Pastor Elyse Nelson Winger
- Lutheran Outdoor Ministry board members – Pastor Dennis O'Brien, Mr. Rob Gieraltowski, Mr. John Gregg, Mr. Jason Fisher
- Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago board member - Mr. Thomas Gooding, Hillsboro
- Wartburg Seminary board member Dr. Susan Rehwaladt, Carbondale

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

REFERENCE AND COUNSEL

Pastor Ben Fiore

VOTED: Motion carried.
SA16.06.14 **To approve** Resolution 2016.02

RESOLUTION 2016.02

Title	Courtesies
Mover	Reference and Counsel
Second	None needed

WHEREAS	as the Father has sent Jesus, so Jesus sends us; therefore be it
RESOLVED	that we give thanks to the voting members, rostered, laity and youth, as they have taken time from busy schedules to come together to do the business of the church, worship, learn, and fellowship; and, be it further
RESOLVED	that the Assembly Committees be recognized for their tireless efforts in organizing, planning and presenting the Twenty-ninth Annual Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly; and, be it further
RESOLVED	that the assistants to the bishop Pastor Ken Sandlin, Pastor Wayland Middendorf, Pastor Maureen Stein, Pastor James Reents, Director for Evangelical Mission, Pastor Robert Dealey, and support staff, Ms. Cindy Koonce, Ms. Glenna Senters, and Ms. Barbara Purple be recognized for all their efforts in supplying the Assembly and our synod with material and information; and, be it further

- RESOLVED that the Assembly pages be recognized for their ongoing support and steadfast faithfulness; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that the Northern Conference be thanked for its gracious work of hosting and assistance with the planning of the Assembly; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that we are thankful to the Rev. Douglas Cox for inspiring messages and his gracious proclamation of the gospel, and, be it further
- RESOLVED that we thank Ms. Dana Dutcher for her contribution to the spirit of the Assembly in informing us of the State of the Church and sharing the Gospel at the Festival Worship Service, and, be it further
- RESOLVED that all forum leaders be thanked for their encouragement in presenting educational opportunities for ministry; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that we give thanks to Ms. Pat Caley and volunteers for time in organizing and overseeing the Fair Trade Fair; and be it further
- RESOLVED that the Synod Council, Synod Committees, and all those who volunteered their time, energies, and talents toward the work of our synod receive the Assembly's appreciation for their dedication to the ministry of the Central-Southern Illinois Synod; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that we give thanks for the ELCA and its partnership ministry which allows us to carry out Christ's command to *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . ."*; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that thanks be given to those Synod Council and Synod Committee members whose terms end this year but who have accompanied the work of our synod living the mission: *God's Work. Our Hands*, through their years of dedicated service; and, be it further
- RESOLVED that Bishop S. John Roth receive our appreciation for leadership in our synod and that we would daily hold him in prayer for strength, health, wisdom and courage.

Announcement

Next year's Synod Assembly will be held June 1-3, 2017 at the Convention Center in Collinsville, IL.

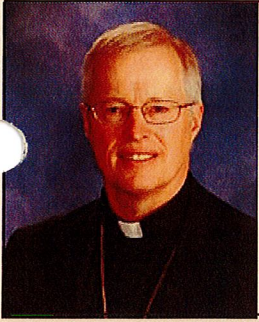
ADJOURNMENT

VOTED: Motion carried.

SA16.06.15 **To adjourn** contingent upon the closing worship service.

Assembly declared closed at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Pam Mitcham
Secretary, C/SIS



Bishop's Report to the Assembly, 2017

Bishop S. John Roth

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"Redeemed for Reformation"

"There is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Romans 3:22-24). . . . Therefore, we have been buried with Christ Jesus by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead to the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

Let me spell out how these Scripture verses tie together our Assembly theme and my report.

1. We are redeemed from all sin, death, and the power of the devil through Christ Jesus.
2. Redemption in Christ Jesus makes it possible for us to live in newness of life, that is, makes possible our reforming – our re-formation in Christ.
3. Walking in this newness of life goes beyond merely "getting along with" or "tolerating" one another; by God's grace, we are continually being re-formed so as to bear one another's burdens.

Over the past year, I have been highlighting in wide-ranging contexts the message that we are church together – for example, at gatherings of rostered ministers; in Conference Assemblies; in private conversations with dedicated pastors, lay people, and those who are serving Christ and Christ's church in synodically authorized ministry; with congregations that are exploring shared ministry with other congregations; with congregations wracked with internal controversy; with congregations looking for ways to serve Christ effectively beyond themselves; with our companion synods in Madagascar; and with ELCA churchwide organization staff in conversations over synod mission support. Being church together does not come naturally. The default mode of the human spirit is to cluster into silos of partisan self-interest, even in the church, be these silos congregational, ideological, or institutional. But the grace of God, breathed into us by the Holy Spirit, redeems us for reformation, i.e., the transformation of our spirit to make us those who escape self-interest and bear one another's burdens. We are at our best as church together, and an identifying mark of being church together is that we willfully bear one another's burdens.

That we are redeemed for reformation is the good news that outdoes all of the challenges that confront us, because the God of hope fills us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (cf. Romans 15:13).

In our synod, as is the case broadly in the ELCA, we are confronted by three stressful trends: fewer seminary graduates available for congregations seeking pastors, congregations declining in size, and the continuing rise in the cost of pastors' benefit packages. Do I expect these trends to change one way or another in the foreseeable future? No. Am I naïve about the trajectories of many, if not most, of our churches? I don't think so. Are the synod staff and the Synod Council going to ignore current trends when thinking strategically? Of course not. Then how might we address them?

I hope mightily that we will not be captive to reactive strategies that presuppose continued decline – numerical decline of our congregations and decline in our number of pastors. I anticipate that our synod may address the trends in a combination of ways: 1) by continuing to yoke or cluster multiple congregations together to be served by one or more pastors; 2) by supplementing the ministries of ordained pastors with synodically authorized ministries where the ordained pastor is not available; 3) by assisting congregations with fruitful merger or blending; 4) by facilitating lay ministries (with appropriate attention to boundary issues) that provide basic pastoral care in congregations; 5) by planting new ministry starts or initiating new Word and Sacrament outposts; and 6) setting up a synod-wide system/network to increase the number of persons on our territory to pursue rostered ministry in the church – not to try to talk people into becoming

pastors, but rather to identify, to be in touch with, and to walk with those who might be discerning whether or not God is calling them into ministry and to lift up being a pastor or deacon in the church as a viable vocational calling.

Let me make a few additional comments about yoking or clustering congregations as a truly shared ministry, i.e., as more than merely sharing the expenses of a pastor. The driving reason for shared ministry is that we may glorify God, build up the body of Christ, and proclaim Christ to the world more effectively acting together than acting separately. Shared ministry undertaken primarily to reduce congregational expenses is a proven letdown – a step on an uneasy hospice journey for all of the churches involved. The vitality of shared ministry stands or falls in the long run on the extent to which everyone involved truly believes in "bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3). In other words, the vitality of shared ministry stands or falls on whether each participating congregation is willing to give up a portion of its autonomy for the sake of the shared ministry. For any kind of shared ministry to flourish, we are not primarily constructing a contractual agreement when we are working out the details among congregations; we are nurturing relationships with one another and with God. This is the sense of ministry that went into the formation of the Three Saints Parish in this past year (St. Mark, Chillicothe; St. John, Lacon; and St. Timothy, Wyoming). This is the sense of ministry that is taking root in two additional shared ministries this year: the Servants United Parish (St. John, Anchor; Trinity, Chenoa; Community, Cornell; St. Peter, Dwight; American, Gibson City; and St. John, Sibley) and the congregations of Immanuel, Golden; Zion, Liberty; and Salem, Mendon.

(For a more extensive discussion of these stressful trends and avenues for addressing them, see the sections on "Sowing Central/Southern Illinois Seeds of Christian Witness, Worship, and Evangelism" in the bishop's reports to the Synod Council for September 2016 and January 2017, reproduced below as appendices I and II.)

This brings me back around to the first point in this report.

We have all that we need for robust, life-giving, and joyful newness of life in and among our congregations. We have been and we are now redeemed in Christ Jesus. Bring two or three of us together around a bowl of water, a loaf of bread, a cup of wine, and the biblical Word, and we have church. Of course, in all of our congregations, we are richly blessed with so much beyond that. Re-formed by the Holy Spirit and overflowing with the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control—God has provided us with the will and the capacity to bear one another's burdens in whatever our congregational context. We live for Christ as church, together.

First Call Theological Education

First Call Theological Education (FCTE) does not get mentioned in the reports of synod assemblies (other than a brief note by Pastor Maureen Stein, Assistant to the Bishop) because this program is not attached to any committee or subcommittee. All pastors in their first call in the ELCA are required to participate in three years of FCTE. Synods are free to structure FCTE anyway they would like. When I first became bishop, I chose to be directly involved in FCTE for several reasons. 1) This is an excellent way for the bishop to get to know these new pastors and for these new pastors to get to know the bishop. 2) First years in ministry are crucial years in the formation of new pastors. A bishop has a distinct perspective to bring to that formation: for example, knowledge of the congregation to which the pastor has been called, familiarity with the pastor colleagues around the new pastor, more clarity than most people about ELCA resources and policies, and a fairly extensive history as a parish pastor (since most bishops are on the "more experienced" end of the pastoral experience scale). 3) I wanted to be attuned to issues arising in the new pastor's call, early in the call.

Our FCTE is a structured program that progressively acclimate new pastors to parish ministry. The program spans six sessions, two sessions per year. Each first call pastor comes to the session with a 10-minute response to a question, and receives feedback in conversation with the whole group. I will list the questions here and you will see how each question builds on the growing experience that the pastor has with her or his congregation.

First FCTE event: What do I perceive now of my context: congregation, community, and synod?

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Second FCTE event: What specific initiative, task, challenge, or area of focus might God have placed before me that I intend to take up in the next six months of my ministry? (Identify more than one, but not more than three.)

Third FCTE event: What have I learned about congregational expectations of their pastor and about my expectations of the congregation?

Fourth FCTE event: What have these two years and ministry taught me about where and how this congregation needs Jesus?

Fifth FCTE event: In what ways has my perception of my congregation and community changed and/or stayed the same?

Sixth FCTE event: Why did God call me to this congregation?

Pastor Maureen Stein and I have been jointly leading FCTE since 2012, which was before she came onto synod staff.

Companion Synod Relationship

On behalf of our synod, Ms. Rose Moser (of the C/SIS Global Mission Committee) and I traveled to and in Madagascar February 13–24, 2017. This visit was coordinated with visits by the bishops and small delegations from the three other ELCA synods with companion synods in Madagascar (the Grand Canyon Synod, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, and the West Virginia/Western Maryland Synod) and ELCA Churchwide Global Mission Staff, including Ms. Dana Dutcher (Program Director for West Africa, Madagascar, and Asia).

“Thank you” to the individuals, congregations, the Northern Conference, and the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA for financial support for this trip. No synod benevolence dollars were used.

This coordinated visit was arranged so that we could formally greet the new officers of the Malagasy Lutheran Church (FLM), including President Rev. Rakotonirina David. From there, all four ELCA synod delegations, along with a representative of the ELCA churchwide staff, made visits to their companion synods. Our synod relates to two synods of the Malagasy Lutheran Church: the Ambovombe-Androy Synod and the Ft. Dauphin Synod, both of which are located in the southern region of Madagascar. Here is a quick summary of our itinerary.

Tuesday, February 14: Arrived late night in Antananarivo.

Wednesday, February 15: Orientating and planning meetings among all of us from the ELCA.

Thursday, February 16: Visit the Toby (pronounced “too-bee”) and the Women’s Center in Ambohibao, near Antananarivo. Lunch at the Women’s Center and an introduction to the programs of the Women’s Department of the FLM. Afternoon meeting with President Rev. Rakotonirina David and other officers of the FLM. Dinner with the FLM Foibe (Leadership Church Officers), other FLM department heads, and representatives of ministry partners in Madagascar.

Friday, February 17: Departure to the Fort Dauphin Synod. Upon arrival we were met at the airport by President Soloson and two other synod officers. A reception with this delegation. Later President Soloson and I had a private conversation.

Saturday, February 18: Departed by car to the Ambovombe-Androy Synod. Met by President Elia and a delegation from the synod. Traveled with President Elia for a private conversation. Reception in Amboasary. Drove to an ELCA food distribution center near Tseredreo. In Ambovombe, visited the Mahavalo Bible School, a diakonia program in a local prison, and the Women’s House under construction. Back to Amboasary for the night.

Sunday, February 19: Worship at the church in Amboasary, with a worshiping assembly of 2000 people. I preached. Meeting with President Elia and the heads of the synod departments. Drove back to Ft. Dauphin.

Monday, February 20: Visited the Manantantely Bible School and helped plant 500 trees to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and to initiate a funding resource for the Bible school. Toured FLM synod property in Fort Dauphin and the Lutheran missionary graveyard. I did a teaching presentation, followed by choir performances, in the evening.

Tuesday, February 21: Visited the Lutheran hospital in Manambaro. Visited the Toby Nenilava in Ft. Dauphin, and attended a healing service there. In the evening, at a church, Rose, Dana, and I gave

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little talks about our church life and then the floor was open for anyone present to ask us questions; the Q & A went on for about an hour. This was followed by a concert from a number of choirs.

Wednesday, February 22: An additional meeting with the leadership of the Ft. Dauphin Synod prior to our flight back to Antananarivo.

Thursday, February 23: Debriefing with the other synods and with ELCA churchwide staff.

Friday, February 24: A 1:00 a.m. flight out of Antananarivo, heading home.

The meetings of those of us representing the ELCA and those of the FLM leadership accomplished what we had hoped for: provided a fruitful exchange of perspectives with the new Foibe, clarified the hopes of the new FLM president for the FLM's relationship with the ELCA, underscored the ELCA's desire to continue our cooperative ministries with the FLM.

Our meetings with our companion synods confirmed that the plans we put in place in 2014 for partnership support, communication, and accountability are working – not perfectly, yet, but now we know where the snafus have come from. Thanks to voluntary contributions from individuals, congregations, conferences, Pedal for a Purpose, and synod assembly offerings, we regularly and consistently support the regional seminary in Bezaha, the Manatantely Bible School in Ft. Dauphin, the Mahavelo Bible School in Ambovombe, and seminary students of our companion synods preparing for ordained ministry.

The visit to the ELCA food distribution center near Ambovombe gave us firsthand experience of the terrific work being done by Lutheran Disaster Response and ELCA World Hunger funding.

The companion synod relationship is intended to be a two-way relationship: we share with our companion synods resources gifted to us by God; our companion synods share with us resources gifted to them by God. There is much we can learn from our companion synods. When it was formed in 1950, the Malagasy Lutheran Church counted 180,000 members; today it numbers roughly 4 million members, and continues to experience rapid growth. Malagasy Lutherans credit much of the Malagasy Lutheran Church's rapid growth to the holistic healing ministry of the revival movement.

The Malagasy Lutheran Church has a deep commitment to providing a comprehensive education and training for its church leadership including catechists, shepherds, pastors and female theologians. These leaders are trained in a network of regional seminaries and Bible schools. The church also operates numerous schools at the primary and secondary levels. There are also schools and ministries dedicated to working with people who are blind or hearing impaired. Both of our companion synods lift us up in their prayers; both synods fervently request our prayers.

Synod Council

The Synod Council meets four times a year. Among its responsibilities, the Synod Council tends to be the vision and purpose of the synod, acts on recommendations regarding the rosters of the synod (for example, "on leave from call" requests and "retirement status" requests), oversees the ministries of our synod committees and synod staff, recommends budgets to the Synod Assembly, and advises the bishop. You can peruse the minutes of the Synod Council meetings in the Assembly Reports (available on the synod website).

The Synod Council has turned its attention to using the priorities lifted up by our vision and mission conversations over the past two years to assess the ways the synod is currently engaging these priorities.

Of course, the area of focus

Please join me in thanking the members of our 2016-2017 Synod Council, besides me:

Ms. Carey Mayer, Synod Vice President

Mr. Ken Finkle, Treasurer

Pr. Pamela Mitcham, Secretary

Mr. Broden Wileman

Mr. Mathew Spencer

Ms. Kim Alberts

Mr. Terry Goff

Mr. Henry Harms

Ms. Deanne Holshouser

Ms. Tiana Montgomery

Mr. Larry Saler

Mr. Don Swan

Pr. James Davis

Pr. Laura Kamprath (through September 2016)

Pr. Gary Ryden (interim)

Pr. Robert Rasmus

Pr. John Rothfus

Pr. Michael Thomas (through December 2016)

Pr. Scott Egbers (interim)

Pr. Glen VanderKloot

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Ms. Helen Pagel
Ms. Debbie Peterson
Mr. Steve Rapp

Mr. Daniel Simmons, Legal Counsel

It continues to be a joy to work with these faithful, highly-motivated disciples, who come from every conference in the synod. In addition to participating in the four meetings the Synod Council has each year, each member has liaison responsibility with a committee or group in the synod.

Synod Staff

We are in a season of transition in synod staff. Pr. Wayland Middendorf stepped away from position as Assistant to the Bishop at the end of December 2016; fortunately, he continues to assist me with special projects as particular needs arise. This Assistant to the Bishop position is not yet filled. Pr. Robert Dealey, Director for Evangelical Mission/Coordinator of Communications and Networking, will be leaving this synod staff and ELCA staff position at the end of August 2017, having served with us since March 2013. Pr. Dealey's wife, Dr. Rhonda Dealey, has taken a faculty position at Washburn University in Topeka, KS, and the two of them will be relocating there. Ms. Cindy Koonce, Office Manager since February 1999, will retire at the end of December 2017; while we will, of course, miss her valuable service in the day-to-day operation of the synod office, we are delighted that she will reappear at Synod Assembly times as Assembly Coordinator.

Our synod continues to be ably served by Ms. Barbara Purple, office volunteer; Pr. Jim Reents, Assistant to the Bishop; Pr. Ken Sandlin, Assistant to the Bishop; Ms. Glenna Senters, Bookkeeper; and Pr. Maureen Stein, Assistant to the Bishop.

It truly is a privilege and joy to serve with the faithful and gifted people on our synod staff.

Synod Notes

My report includes the statistical information on the synod that you will find available on the synod web-site: www.csis-elca.org. The statistical information includes the current number of congregations in the synod and the transitions of rostered ministers over the course of the past year.

As I write this, we have 14 active call processes in which a full-time pastor is sought and a Ministry Site Profile has been submitted by the congregation council; I anticipate that one of them having a called pastor by the time you read this. One congregation in an active call process is working on submitting its Ministry Site Profile. Of the remaining 14, six are interviewing nominees.

Other Duties as Assigned

The collection of 65 synod bishops, the presiding bishop of the ELCA, and the secretary of the ELCA comprises the Conference of Bishops (COB). Related to my participation in the COB, I chair the Care of Rostered Ministers Committee; this committee oversees the Good Samaritan Fund (which financially assists rostered ministers, primarily with emergency or short-term needs related to healthcare premium coverage) and the Shared Risk Fund (which financially assists synods to cover costs incurred in pursuing disciplinary proceedings). I also serve as one of two synodical bishops attached to the Women and Justice Social Statement Task Force.

"Redeemed for Reformation" redux

As we gather in assembly, God's gift of redemption through Christ Jesus continues to reform us, our prayers continue to connect us, and the Spirit poured out at Pentecost continues to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify us. Thank you for being here to tend to the work of Christ's church. May you be filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit!

It is a privilege to serve Christ by serving you. The more I get to know the congregations and individuals of our synod, the more grateful to God I am for the Holy Spirit at work in you. As I have done in previous years, I will conclude my report with a slide show of some of the places where I've been over the past year: scenes of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

Appendix I

A portion of the bishop's report to Synod Council, September 2016

Sowing Central/Southern Illinois Seeds of Christian Witness, Worship, and Evangelism

Where are we now?

Let me say upfront, first and foremost, the value of Christian witness and ministry cannot be reduced to nickels and noses – that is, the dollars that we can count and the number of people on our membership rolls or attendance pads. Much of what the church does that is worthwhile cannot be measured statistically. At the same time, however, numbers are not irrelevant. Here are some numbers.

When the Central/Southern Illinois Synod came into being in 1988, the synod numbered 162 congregations, 62,995 baptized members, and an aggregate average attendance of 21,892. At the end of 2015, our synod numbered 127 congregations, 43,611 baptized members, and an aggregate average attendance of 11,933. Please note that some of this decline in numbers is the result of 13 congregations disaffiliating from the ELCA, representing about 7,500 members and about 2,100 in average attendance, and the result of significant membership losses in some of our congregations from 2009 through 2011. Nevertheless, even when taking these losses into account, membership and average attendance numbers continue to decline at an annual rate of about 2% or more. The statistical trend is unmistakable. Add to this that average congregational worship attendance in our synod has gone from 132 to 94. Estimates of average attendance needed for viability range from 100 to 120; consequently, the average worship attendance of the average C/SIS congregation is below the number of worship attendees typically required for a congregation to remain viable as an individual congregation.

Looking at congregations individually, statistical trends are mixed: some of our congregations are growing numerically, some are shrinking, and some are basically consistent. I mention this to lift up that experience shows that our congregations are not destined to shrink, even in our post-Christian, increasingly secularized, polarized, and mobile American context.

Nevertheless, viewed from a synod-wide perspective, we are, in my judgment, at a crossroads, or maybe more accurately at a tipping point. We are reaching the limit of our ability simply to yoke congregations so that two congregations share one pastor. The “yoked” situation is attractive to relatively few pastors, and with declining numbers of seminary graduates, there are fewer and fewer first call pastors that can be aimed toward yoked ministries.

Let me pause to say that I distinguish between congregations yoking together to share a pastor and congregations forming a parish together to share ministry. The former is less attractive because it is typically driven by survival anxiety; the latter is more attractive to some pastors because it aims at building up the body of Christ more broadly.

Where do we go from here?

First, let me run through options that we have pursued in the synod.

1. Geographical Parishes. The Wartburg Parish (five congregations in the Southern Conference) has been operating for more than 10 years. We have learned and are still learning much from the experience of the Wartburg Parish; challenges and opportunities continue to arise in the Wartburg Parish. The Three Saints Parish (three congregations north of Peoria) is just getting off the ground, and is in a call process now. Lessons learned from experience with the Wartburg Parish were incorporated into the planning for the Three Saints Parish. Seven congregations in the Northeast Conference are currently voting on participation in the proposed Servants United Parish. Conversations continue among congregations in Adams County and Hancock County about a parish configuration.

The synod staff will continue to encourage and to facilitate the development of geographical parishes. But we best serve the congregations considering a parish arrangement and the synod overall when we give straight talk about the potential for parish configurations. Parishes will flourish only if the congregations in the parish are as committed to the life of the whole parish as they are to the life of their particular congregation. The driving reason for fruitful shared ministry is this: that we may glorify God, build up the body of Christ, and proclaim Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world more effectively acting together than by acting separately. Shared ministry undertaken primarily to reduce congregational expenses is a proven letdown – a step on an uneasy hospice journey for all of the churches involved.

Individual congregations entering into a parish arrangement bring their particular history, identity in the community, and traditions to the parish as a gift; but for the shared ministry of the parish to flourish; individual congregations must willingly and unambiguously give up a degree of their autonomy. Please pardon me for stating this so sharply: where individual congregations in the parish insist on full autonomy, the parish will be so consumed by managing internal conflicts, negotiations, and accommodations that 1) it will not have the time, energy, or resources to expand its ministry, 2) it will create a high anxiety church environment that is unappealing to visitors, and 3) it will burn out and burn through its pastors. The vitality of shared ministry stands or falls in the long run on the extent to which everyone involved truly believes in "bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3).

2. Merging or Blending Congregations. Peace Lutheran Church is the product of the blending of three congregations in Springfield: Atonement Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church, and Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. The genius of this blending (which is now one year old) is that the essential desire, motivation, and energy for the blending came from the lay members of the congregations themselves. Clergy participation receded after the blending conversations were launched. Synod staff assisted with the blending process, and did not force or dictate the blending. All indications are at this point that Peace Lutheran Church is a stronger, more vibrant worshiping community and witness to the gospel than the three predecessor congregations were capable of being. There are multiple challenges – gains and losses – when congregations merge or blend. Everything that I said above about shared ministry with respect to the forming of parishes is true of the merging or blending of congregations. I will repeat simply the culminating line: The vitality of shared ministry stands or falls in the long run on the extent to which everyone involved truly believes in "bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3). The synod staff will encourage and facilitate mergers and blendings of congregations where gospel-driven intent has captured the imaginations of the congregational members.
3. Targeted Congregational Renewal. In 2014, the synod entered into a Mission Partnership Covenant with Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon. In this covenant, the synod provides the congregation with supplemental funding of \$30,000 per year for three years (a total of \$90,000) to enable Prince of Peace to call a full-time pastor and to pursue a revitalization strategy worked out with Pastor Bob Dealey (Director for Evangelical Mission) of our staff. The financial resources from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod provided in this covenant are available through the mission mindedness of members of Central/Southern Illinois Synod congregations that have closed in recent years. These financial resources come to us as a legacy of faithful saints whose generous gifts built and sustained word and sacrament ministry in local congregations for generations. We now steward these resources, grateful to God that the giving of those who have gone before us continues on through us. This Mission Partnership Covenant is a pilot project. A year from now we will review and assess what we have learned from this pilot project and formulate conclusions regarding this approach in the future.

Having sketched these three options with which we have experience, let me move on.

4. Initiating new Word and Sacrament outposts. I don't really know what to call these; I'm still struggling for the best terminology. These are not likely to be mission starts as we traditionally have started them in decades past. I envision Word and Sacrament outposts that initially are shepherded by congregations; they may be intentionally designed to last for a limited period of time, may be committed to replicating themselves if they reach a certain size, may or may not ever become a self-standing congregation, may meet on days and at times other than Sunday mornings, may meet in homes. Whatever shape or form a new Word and Sacrament outpost may take, the case for new Word and Sacrament outposts mirrors the case for church plants or new mission starts.

Consider this quote from Pastor Tim Keller (Redeemer Presbyterian Church [PCA], New York City):

"The vigorous, continual planting of new congregations is the single most crucial strategy for (1) the numerical growth of the body of Christ in a city and (2) the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches in a city. Nothing else—not crusades, outreach programs, parachurch ministries, growing megachurches, congregational consulting, nor church renewal processes—will have the consistent impact of dynamic, extensive church planting. This is an eyebrow-raising statement, but to those who have done any study at all, it is not even controversial."

I have sent to the Synod Council an audio file (mp3) of a lecture by Keller entitled "Why Plant Churches" as an addendum to my report. Please listen to that lecture; it will help you understand what I am trying to envision for our synod. That said, Keller has in mind the major urban contexts, such as Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, Los Angeles, and his own New York City. In our Central/Southern Illinois context, only the metro-east area of St. Louis falls within that demographic profile. Nevertheless, many of the basic points Keller makes are true of our contexts overall – even true of our rural contexts. "Big Box" independent churches are planting satellite church starts in such places as Edwardsville, Lima, Macomb, Mt. Sterling, and Marion. What interests me is how we might adapt Keller's insights for our contexts.

The transitions that I have sketched here are not our only options. But I believe that Christ has commissioned us to the challenging and exciting call to make new disciples. Yes, the reality in our synod is that as a synod staff and as a synod council we will need to manage church decline. We must do that with respect, care, gratitude, and Christian love. At the same time, there is a wealth of opportunity for us to connect people with the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world, if we set ourselves to that call.

Appendix II

A portion of the bishop's report to Synod Council, January 2017
**Sowing Central/Southern Illinois Seeds of Christian Witness,
Worship, and Evangelism – Part 2**

Let me begin with a bit of history. In 2011, our synod adopted a restructuring plan, with bylaw changes to effect committee structures, designed to make the synod's ministries more responsive to all areas of the synod and to involve people from all the conferences in the synod. This restructuring was also intended to align our committee structure with a new configuration of duties for Directors for Evangelical Mission assigned by the ELCA churchwide organization, and to revitalize our committees. The synod has experienced some success with this. For example, synod assemblies no longer elect people completely unknown to voting members to be synod committee members; these elections happen in the synod's six conferences, where people are more apt to have some familiarity with those for whom they are voting. And, some of our committees have, indeed, been revitalized.

The initiative that culminated with the 2011 bylaw changes began in 2007 with planning for "Listening Posts" around the synod. These "Listening Posts", organized by a Synod Structure/Function Task Force (later called the Vision and Ministry Task Force), which reported to Synod Council.

The Vision and Ministry Task Force presented a five-page, printed document, entitled *Draft Report*. An overall summary of the outcome of the Listening Posts is *"the people shared a desire for connectedness, cooperation, coordination, and collaboration for a vision and ministry in our congregations and synod."* (Italics in original).

Three specific areas of concern emerged:

1. Committees and sub-committees
2. Staffing
3. Synod Assembly

Four underlying themes undergirded the comments made in the Listening Posts:

1. Identify a unified sense of mission
2. Review and evaluate the function of the synod
3. Consider a simplified organizational structure
4. Improved communication among congregations, conferences and synod

The desired connectedness expressed in the Listening Posts included greater connectedness between pastors/congregations and synod staff.

I am open to conversation about the extent to which the hopes and intentions of the work of the Vision and Ministry Task Force and the 2011 bylaw changes were effective; but in this report, I will take this backdrop into our present context.

Those of you who have been on Synod Council for a while will recognize parallels between that effort of 2007-2011 and our work on synod mission, purpose, and priorities in 2015-2016. Let me turn again to the most

recent fruit of our Synod Council's vision and purpose conversations. The Synod Council identified three leading purposes/priorities related to our "being" as a synod and three leading priorities related to our "doing" as a synod:

Being, underpinning all we do:

1. Discern and articulate the Spirit of Christ.
2. Remind us of who we are (Lutheran, evangelists, spiritually empowered) and who we are not.
3. Envision our Mission for sustainable growth and discipleship.

Doing:

1. Support and encourage effective congregational leadership by putting pastors in the pulpit and providing leadership in time of crisis.
2. Facilitate collective decision making by convening and gathering the gifts of the synod.
3. Communicate connectedness and caring with congregations and our broken world.

What the Synod Council has produced is good work, important work. Now, for it to bear fruit in the synod, these purposes/priorities need to be developed into actionable steps. Actionable steps need to be specific, measurable, achievable, the responsibility of an identified person or persons, and time-targeted.

Below, I have sketched a sample plan to illustrate a plan for acting on the fruit of the conversations. The sample plan begins with an encompassing vision statement. I admit that I have taken the liberty of crafting this vision statement in light of St. Augustine's thoughts on rightly ordered loves that I presented at our March 2016 Synod Council meeting. But I believe that a vision statement such as this frames the goal and strategy/objectives/tactics and at the same time speaks to two "being" purposes/priorities established by the Synod Council, namely, to "remind us of who we are and who we are not" and to "envision our mission for sustainable growth and discipleship."

Also, this sample plan is not a complete plan. Specifically, the responsible person or persons would need to be explicitly identified for each of the objectives. This brings up a related point. These responsible persons may include synod staff. But it is not feasible to expect execution of such a plan to rest on the shoulders of synod staff. (I can talk about why this is the case, if you wish.) These objectives need non-staff people, lay and clergy, attached to them who value them and are excited about making them happen. As I see it, this sample plan needs only 12-15 people, from anywhere in our synod; and what I have seen of the love for Christ and for Christ's church around our synod convinces me that there are easily more than this number of such people among us.

Here goes.

Vision:

God brings us together now as Lutheran Christians in central and southern Illinois first and foremost to love, glorify, honor, and delight in God – the triune God who, incarnate in Jesus, has rescued us from sin, death, and the power of the devil in the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Moreover, God has brought us together to love one another and our neighbor, and to love all of God's creation, in proper order, so that we, our neighbors, and all creation can delight in God. Correspondingly, we worship and serve, responding in Christ's name to our specific, local circumstances and to our global opportunities.

Goal (large concept):

Support and encourage effective congregational leadership by putting pastors in the pulpit and providing leadership in time of crisis.

Strategy, Objectives, and Tactics

(Specific, measurable, achievable, responsible person(s) identified, time boundary)

1. By September 2017, fashion a committee, subcommittee, or team located organizationally within the Synod Leadership Committee committed to this goal.
 - a. Responsible person(s)?
2. By January 2018, establish a Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) protocol for placements in our synod.
 - a. Responsible person(s)
 - b. Preliminary strategy
 - i. Research best practices; implement those suited to our context

- ii. Explore conversations with ELCA seminaries
 - iii. Develop and implement a plan for communicating to congregations the potential for TEEM ministry in our C/SIS context
- 3. By January 2018, produce a summary report that clearly delineates and compares the distinct gifts of Synodically Authorized Ministry and ordained ministry through Theological Education for Emerging Ministries
 - a. Responsible person(s)?
 - b. Review of relevant ELCA documents
 - c. Review of C/SIS practice at this time
- 4. By June 2020, expand the base of potential candidates for ministry that the synod has active contact with.
 - a. Responsible person(s)?
 - b. Preliminary strategy
 - i. Research best practices; implement those suited to our context
 - ii. Bring in a consultant to meet with youth workers, pastors, and LYO leaders
 - iii. Develop a video library of pastors' "call stories"
 - iv. Develop a database of those who, at any age, have indicated that they are thinking about becoming a pastor or deacon
 - v. Make timely and appropriate contact with those in the database



Vice President's Annual Report

Submitted by Carey L. Mayer

First English Lutheran Church, Peoria

As I reflect on my first year as Synod Vice President, I have to note how fast this last year has passed. It's been a year of firsts and many "I didn't know that." about the depth and breadth of the work of the C/SIS Synod. I've met many people, established new working relationships, and started to learn about special areas of concern for our church, all the while being inspired by the good work being done here in the name of our risen Lord and Savior.

The Synod Council held meetings in September, January, and March, and will meet in June immediately before the Synod Assembly. Information about C/SIS programs, policies, and partner agencies was exchanged, while council issues and needs were discussed and acted on. Topics ranged from the proposed C/SIS budget, to the preparations for this Assembly and its Bishop's Election, and to aligning policies with visions for the future. All while celebrating the ordinations, retirements, and installations of pastors throughout the synod and work done by dedicated lay leaders.

I would like to thank the following individuals for their faithful service to the Central/Southern Illinois Synod:

Mr. Broden Wileman – Youth Representative

Pastor John Rothfusz – Northern Conference Dean

Pastor Mike Thomas – Northwest Conference Dean

Pastor Laura Kamprath – Southern Conference Dean

Mr. Steve Rapp – Member At Large

Ms. Tiana Montgomery – East Central Conference Representative

Ms. Helen Pagel – Northwest Conference Representative

SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA

Thursday, June 1, 2017

The Synod Council of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod ("C/SIS" or "synod") met at the Gateway Conference Center in Collinsville, Illinois on June 1, 2017 with the following members in attendance:

Present:

Bishop S. John Roth
Pastor Pam Mitcham
Mr. Ken Finkle
Ms. Carey Mayer

Pastor Gary Ryden
Pastor Robert Rasmus
Pastor John Rothfusz
Pastor Glen VanderKloot
Pastor James Davis
Pastor Scott Egbers

Mr. Larry Saler
Mr. Terry Goff
Mr. Henry Harms
Ms. Kim Alberts
Mr. Steven Rapp
Mr. Donald Swan
Ms. Deanne Holshouser
Ms. Debbie Peterson
Mr. Broden Wileman
Mr. Mathew Spencer

Absent:

Ms. Tiana Montgomery Ms. Helen Pagel, Deacon

Staff Present:

Pastor Bob Dealey Pastor James Reents

Visitors Present:

Pastor Wyvetta Bullock – ELCA Churchwide Representative
Mr. Vernon Neal – ELCA Church Council member

Welcome/Opening Prayer

Pastor Bob Dealey led opening devotions. Vice-President Mayer called the meeting to order at 8:38am.

Approval of Agenda

VOTED: **Motion carried.**

SC17.06.01 Moved and seconded to approve the Synod Council Agenda with several additions to the consent agenda.

Bishop's Report (written report submitted)

- Assistant to the Bishop Reports
 - Pastor Jim Reents (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Ken Sandlin (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Maureen Stein (written report submitted)
- Director for Evangelical Mission Report
 - Pastor Bob Dealey (written report submitted)

Vice-President's Report – plans are in place for the Synod Assembly.

Secretary's Report

- Minutes of the Executive Committee, March 17, 2017 were received.
- Minutes of the Synod Council, March 18, 2017

VOTED: **Motion carried.**

SC17.06.02 Executive Committee recommends the approval of the minutes of the Synod Council, March 18, 2017.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Ken Finkle - written report submitted

Consent Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.06.03 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of the Consent Agenda.

- A. Letter of Call Renewal
 - 1. Ms. Diane Runyan, Deacon, Non-Stipendiary, Word and Service, Faith Lutheran Church, O'Fallon
- B. Approval of Retirement Status
 - 1. none
- C. Approval of On Leave From Call Status
 - 1. Deacon Susan Friesen, Year 3, effective July 1, 2017
 - 2. Pastor Julia Rademacher, Year 1, effective June 23, 2017
 - 3. Pastor David Bruner, Year 5 of study leave, effective June 29, 2017
- D. Roster Changes by Transfer
 - 1. Transfer Pastor Wendy Popp to the Northern Illinois Synod
 - 2. Transfer Pastor Harold Grafe, retired, to Northern Illinois Synod (LONG A)
 - 3. Transfer Pastor Stefan Munker from the Metro Chicago Synod, accepted a call to St. Paul, Hillsboro
 - 4. Transfer Pastor Cynthia Munker from the Metro Chicago Synod, accepted a call to Mt Zion and Trinity, Litchfield
- E. Constitution Updates
 - 1. St. John's Lutheran Church, Bluff Springs
 - 2. Grace Lutheran Church, Virginia
- F. Conference Reports
 - 1. East Central, Pastor Robert Rasmus
 - 2. Northern Conference, Pastor John Rothfusz
 - 3. Northeast Conference, Pastor James Davis
 - 4. Northwest Conference, Pastor Scott Egbers, Interim Dean
 - 5. Southern Conference, Pastor Gary Ryden, Interim Dean
 - 6. West Central Conference, Pastor Glen VanderKloot

Committee/Liaison Reports

- A. New and Renewing Congregations Committee
- B. Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy Committee
- C. Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee

Pastor Jim Davis reported that forums are planned for the Assembly. He also mentioned that the Servants United Parish is planning a pilot project study lifting up the idea of stewardship as our response to our generous God.
- D. Global Mission Committee
- E. Professional and Lay Leadership Committee
 - Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee
 - Candidacy Subcommittee
 - Leadership Support Subcommittee

Finance Committee Report - Pastor John Rothfusz

Old Business

- A. Follow-up report of the C/SIS Working Group for "Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA" - written report submitted
- B. Follow-up on congregations disbanded
 - 1. Union, Gila - no new information
 - 2. Trinity, Alton (awaiting sale of property) – There is now a group of people worshipping in the building.
- C. Follow-up on Trinity, Kankakee – included in Bishop's report

New Business

- A. Three or four questions to be asked of Bishop Nominees

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.06.04 Moved and seconded that three questions may be asked of Bishop Nominees.

- B. Continuation of

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.06.05 Moved and seconded that the synod employ a replacement for the office manager 60 days prior to her departure, and that the personnel committee would start by the end of June to review the job description.

Other Business

- A. Thanks to Pastor Bob Dealey for his service to our synod congregations
- B. Thanks to retiring Synod Council members.
 - Mr. Broden Wileman, youth representative
 - Pastor John Rothfusz, Northern Conference Dean
 - Pastor Scott Egbers, Interim Dean (now elected) Northwest Conference Dean
 - Pastor Gary Ryden, Interim Dean, Southern Conference
 - Mr. Steve Rapp, member at-large
 - Ms. Tiana Montgomery, East Central Conference Representative
 - Deacon Helen Page, Northwest Conference Representative
- C. Next Council meeting, Saturday, September 16, 2017, 8:30 am at the Chiara Center, Springfield, Illinois.

Announcements / Adjournment

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.06.05 Moved and Seconded that Synod Council adjourn.

Having concluded business, Vice-President Mayer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m. Pastor Bob Dealey offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Secretary

SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA
Saturday, September 16, 2017

The Synod Council of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod ("C/SIS" or "synod") met at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Illinois on September 16, 2017 with the following members in attendance:

Present:

Bishop S. John Roth
Pastor Pam Mitcham
Mr. Ken Finkle
Ms. Carey Mayer

Pastor Ryan Anderson
Pastor Robert Rasmus
Pastor James Davis
Pastor Scott Egbers
Pastor Glen VanderKloot
Pastor Melissa Waterman

Mr. Larry Saler
Mr. Terry Goff
Mr. Henry Harms
Ms. Kim Alberts
Mr. Tim Marty
Mr. Donald Swan
Mr. Dennis Wallin
Ms. Deanne Holshouser
Ms. Marcia McGaughey
Ms. Debbie Peterson
Mr. Mathew Spencer, Young Adult
Ms. Hailey Storm, Youth
Representative

Absent:

Mr. Mathew Spencer, Young
Adult Representative

Staff Present:

Pastor James Reents

Pastor Maureen Stein

Pastor Ken Sandlin

Visitors Present:

None

Devotions / Welcome

Ms. Deanne Holshouser led opening devotions. Vice-President Mayer called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.01 Moved and seconded to approve the Synod Council Agenda with the addition of item "M" under new business.

Council Installation / Orientation

Bishop's Report (written report submitted)

- Assistant to the Bishop Reports
 - Pastor Jim Reents (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Ken Sandlin (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Maureen Stein (written report submitted)

Vice-President's Report

Secretary's Report

- Minutes of the Executive Committee, May 31, 2017 were received.
- Minutes of the Synod Council, June 1, 2017

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.02 Executive Committee recommends the approval of the minutes of the Synod Council, June 1, 2017.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Ken Finkle - written report submitted

Consent Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.03 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of the Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of Retirement Status
 - 1. Pastor Stephen Barnes, effective August 1, 2017
 - 2. Pastor April Dailey, effective September 1, 2017
 - 3. Pastor Christopher Hale, effective September 1, 2017
 - 4. Pastor Robert Dealey, effective October 1, 2017
 - 5. Pastor Jan Worms, effective November 1, 2017
- B. Approval of On Leave From Call Status
 - 1. Pastor Mary Kay Henson, effective June 16, 2017
 - 2. Pastor Kurt Hoover, effective October 16, 2017
- C. Roster Changes by Transfer
-none-
- D. Other Roster Changes
 - 1. Resignation from the ELCA Roster of Pastor Brian Goke, effective June 16, 2017
 - 2. Installation of Pastor Stefan Munker, June 18, 2017, called to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hillsboro
 - 3. Installation of Pastor Cynthia Munker, July 23, 2017, called to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church, both in Litchfield
 - 4. Ordination of Candidate Adam Connolly, called to St. John's Lutheran Church, Springfield; installation September 2, 2017
- E. Constitution Updates
 - 1. St. John's Lutheran Church, Cullom, IL
- F. Conference Reports
 - 1. East Central, Pastor Robert Rasmus
 - 2. Northern Conference, Pastor Ryan Anderson
 - 3. Northeast Conference, Pastor James Davis
 - 4. Northwest Conference, Pastor Scott Egbers
 - 5. Southern Conference, Pastor Melissa Waterman
 - 6. West Central Conference, Pastor Glen VanderKloot

Committee/Liaison Reports

- A. New and Renewing Congregations Committee
- B. Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy Committee
- C. Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee
- D. Global Mission Committee
- E. Professional and Lay Leadership Committee
 - Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee
 - Candidacy Subcommittee
 - Leadership Support Subcommittee

Finance Committee Report

- A. Budget requests are due January 20, 2018

Old Business

- A. Follow-up report of the C/SIS Working Group for "Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA"

- B. Follow-up on congregations disbanded
 - 1. Union, Gila
 - 2. Trinity, Alton (awaiting sale of property)
- C. Follow-up on Trinity, Kankakee

New Business

- A. Synod Council Call to Pastor Amy Luckey to serve as full-time chaplain at Taylorville Correctional Center, Taylorville, IL, effective June 16, 2017.

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.04 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of a Synod Council Call to Pastor Amy Luckey to serve as full-time chaplain at Taylorville Correctional Center, Taylorville, IL, effective June 16, 2017.

- B. Synod Council Call to Pastor Lanny Westphal to serve as full-time interim senior pastor at St. John's, Bloomington, effective August 16, 2017

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.05 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of a Synod Council Call to Pastor Lanny Westphal to serve as full-time interim senior pastor at St. John's, Bloomington, effective August 16, 2017.

- C. Synod Council Call to Pastor Carla Rush to serve as full-time interim pastor at St. John's, Toluca, effective October 1, 2017

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.06 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of a Synod Council Call to Pastor Carla Rush to serve as full-time interim pastor at St. John's, Toluca, effective October 1, 2017.

- D. Synod Council Appointment of Pastor Micah Garnett to the New and Renewing Congregations Covenant Committee

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.07 Moved and seconded to appoint Pastor Micah Garnett to the New and Renewing Congregations Covenant Committee

- E. Synod Council Appointment of Pastor Richard Wehrs to the Mission Support and Stewardship Education Covenant Committee

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.08 Moved and seconded to appoint Pastor Richard Wehrs to the Mission Support and Stewardship Education Covenant Committee

- F. Executive Committee Appointments

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.09 Executive Committee recommends the appointment of the following people to the Executive Committee:

Bishop John Roth	Carey Mayer	Pastor Pam Mitcham
Ken Finkle	Terry Goff	Pastor Glen VanderKloot

G. Finance Committee Appointments

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.10 Moved and seconded that the following people be appointed to the Finance Committee:

Ken Finkle Debbie Peterson Deanna Holhouser Henry Harms
Dennis Wallin Pastor Scott Egbers Pastor Ryan Anderson

H. Mutual Ministry Committee for Bishop

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.11 Executive Committee recommends the appointment of the following people to the Mutual Ministry Committee for the Bishop:

Pastor Robert Rasmus Pastor Ryan Anderson Pastor James Davis
Pastor Scott Egbers Pastor Glen VanderKloot Pastor Melissa Waterman

I. Program Committee Liaison Appointments

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.12 Moved and seconded that the following Program Committee Liaisons be assigned:

- Global Missions – Pastor Robert Rasmus, Hailey Storm
- New and Renewing Congregations – Don Swan
- Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy - Marcia McGaughey
- Mission Support, Stewardship Education – Pastor James Davis
- Professional Leadership: Candidacy – Pastor Melissa Waterman
- Professional Leadership: Leadership Support – Larry Saler
- Professional Leadership: Synodically Authorized Ministry – Tim Marty

J. Personnel Committee Appointments

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.13 Executive Committee recommends that Synod Council re-appoint to the Personnel Committee Kathy Williamson for a second 4-year term and Pastor Greg Busboom for a first 4-year term.

K. Bishop sabbatical/clergy renewal leave request

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.14 Moved and seconded to approve the Bishop Roth's sabbatical with the dates to be set later.

L. Synod Council consideration of shifting \$10,000 from Reserves for Equipment Replacement to Reserves for Capital Improvement

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.15 Moved and seconded to authorize moving \$10,000 from Reserves for Equipment Replacement to Reserves for Capital Improvement.

M. Relocation of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Centralia

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.16 Moved and seconded that Synod Council approve the relocation of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Centralia.

N. Placing proceeds from the Heithold Trust in a designated fund

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.17 Moved and seconded that proceeds from the Heithold Trust be placed in a designated fund to be used according to such strategic directions and purposes as the Synod Council may determine.

O. Offer from the ELCA Systems Academy

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.18 Moved and seconded that we accept the offer from the ELCA Systems Academy and pay the \$3,000 cost each year for four years from the Heithold Fund.

Other Business

A. Next Council meeting, Saturday, January 20, 2018, 8:30 am at the Chiara Center, Springfield, Illinois.

Announcements / Adjournment

Pedal for a Purpose for 2018 – possible recipients: Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center, Little Egypt

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC17.09.19 Moved and Seconded that Synod Council adjourn.

Having concluded business, Vice-President Mayer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m. Ms. Deanne Holhouser offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Secretary

SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA
Saturday, January 20, 2018

The Synod Council of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod ("C/SIS" or "synod") met at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Illinois on January 20, 2018 with the following members in attendance:

Present:

Bishop S. John Roth
Pastor Pam Mitcham
Mr. Ken Finkle
Ms. Carey Mayer

Pastor Ryan Anderson
Pastor Robert Rasmus
Pastor Scott Egbers
Pastor Glen VanderKloot
Pastor Melissa Waterman

Mr. Larry Saler
Mr. Terry Goff
Mr. Tim Marty
Mr. Donald Swan
Mr. Dennis Wallin
Ms. Deanne Holshouser
Ms. Marcia McGaughey
Ms. Hailey Storm, Youth
Representative

Absent:

Pastor James Davis
Ms. Kim Alberts
Mr. Mathew Spencer

Mr. Henry Harms
Ms. Debbie Peterson

Staff Present:

Pastor James Reents
Consultant – Ms. Cindy Koonce

Ms. Laura Lee

Visitors Present:

Timothy Urness, ELCA Foundation, Regional Gift Planner
Annette Shoemaker, Director ELCA Foundation
Pastor Gary Erickson – Interim DEM

Devotions / Welcome

Pastor Scott Egbers led opening devotions. Vice-President Mayer called the meeting to order at 8:49 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.01 Moved and seconded to approve the Synod Council Agenda

ELCA Foundation, Regional Gift Planner – Timothy Urness, Annette Shoemaker

Bishop's Report (written report submitted)

- Assistant to the Bishop Reports
 - Pastor Jim Reents (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Ken Sandlin (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Maureen Stein (written report submitted)

Vice-President's Report – Vice-President Mayer attended the church-wide September Vice-Presidents' gathering, the ELCA Fund for Leaders Awards Dinner, Global Missions meeting.

Secretary's Report

- Minutes of the Executive Committee, September 15, 2017 were received.
- Minutes of the Synod Council, September 16, 2017

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.02 Executive Committee recommends the approval of the minutes of the Synod Council September 16, 2017

Treasurer's Report

Consent Agenda

SC18.01.03 Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of the Consent Agenda.

VOTED: Motion carried.

- A. Approval of Retirement Status
 - 1. Pastor S. Blake Duncan, effective June 16, 2018
- B. Approval of On Leave From Call Status
 - 1. Pastor Carla Rush, effective January 1, 2018, Year 1
 - 2. Pastor David Bruner, effective June 29, 2018, Year 7 (This request will have to be taken up by the Conference of Bishops following Synod Council action.)
- C. Receive Roster Changes
 - 1. Installation: Pastor Ryan Anderson, First English, Peoria, IL
 - 2. Installation: Pastor Youngshim Pitcher, Trinity, Macomb, IL
- D. Conference Reports
 - 1. East Central, Pastor Robert Rasmus
 - 2. Northern Conference, Pastor Ryan Anderson
 - 3. Northeast Conference, Pastor James Davis
 - 4. Northwest Conference, Pastor Scott Egbers
 - 5. Southern Conference, Pastor Melissa Waterman
 - 6. West Central Conference, Pastor Glen VanderKloot
- E. Constitution Updates
 - 1. St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Glasford, IL

Committee/Liaison Reports

- A. New and Renewing Congregations Committee
- B. Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy Committee
- C. Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee
- D. Global Mission Committee
- E. Professional and Lay Leadership Committee
 - Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee
 - Candidacy Subcommittee
 - Leadership Support Subcommittee

Finance Committee Report

- A. No Report

Old Business

- A. Follow-up report of the C/SIS Working Group for "Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA." – beginning the 5th and final year
- B. Follow-up on congregations disbanded
 - 1. Union, Gila, IL
 - 2. Trinity, Alton, IL – awaiting sale of property
- C. Follow-up on Trinity, Kankakee, IL
- D. Property Task Force Update

New Business

- A. Renewal of Synod Council call to non-stipendiary ministry at First English Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL to Pastor Heather Arnold.

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.04 Moved and seconded to approve the renewal of a call to non-stipendiary ministry at First English Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL to Pastor Heather Arnold.

- B. Synod Council Call to Pastor Christine McNeal to serve as Senior Staff Chaplain and Coordinator for Church Relations at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, Bloomington, IL

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.05 Moved and seconded to approve a Synod Council Call to Pastor Christine McNeal to serve as Senior Staff Chaplain and Coordinator for Church Relations at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, Bloomington, IL

- C. Synod Council Call to Pastor Elise Rothfusz to serve as Interim Senior Pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL effective January 23, 2018.

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.06 Moved and seconded to approve a Synod Council Call to Pastor Elise Rothfusz to serve as Interim Senior Pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL effective January 23, 2018.

- D. To appoint as directors representing the C/SIS on the Board of Directors of Lutheran Campus Ministry of Illinois Carey Mayer, Laura Schoenecker, Pastor Paul Waterman, and Bishop John Roth, with the provision that Bishop Roth may appoint another individual to represent him at any given LCMI Board meeting.

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.07 Moved and seconded to appoint as directors representing the C/SIS on the Board of Directors of Lutheran Campus Ministry of Illinois Carey Mayer, Laura Schoenecker, Pastor Paul Waterman, and Bishop John Roth, with the provision that Bishop Roth may appoint another individual to represent him at any given LCMI Board meeting.

- E. Disaffiliation from the ELCA of Trinity Lutheran Church, Shumway, IL effective November 7, 2017.

- F. Discussion of anticipated changes to Synod Assembly 2018

- G. Approval of Synod Assembly Congregations Voting Member Criteria

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.08 Executive Committee recommends the approval of the following formula for voting members at Synod Assembly:

CHART FOR ADDITIONAL VOTING MEMBERS
Baptized membership as of December 31, 2017:

- 500-1000...1 additional member One (male or female)
- 1001-1500...2 additional members Two (one male and one female)
- 1501-2000...3 additional members Three (one male, one female, one either male or female)
- 2001-2500...4 additional members Four (two male and two female)
- 2501-3001...5 additional members Five (two male, two female, one either male or female)

- H. Approval of Synod Assembly Nominating Committee Members

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.09 Moved and seconded to appoint the following persons to the Synod Assembly Nominating Committee: Pastor Glen VanderKloot, Pastor Bob Rasmus, Marcia McGaughey.

- I. Approval of 2019 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.10 Moved and seconded to approve the 2019 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers (proposed Compensation Guidelines submitted in a written report)

J. Approval for Deacon Patricia Caley to oversee Fair Trade Fair at Synod Assembly

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.11 Moved and seconded to approve Deacon Patricia Caley to oversee Fair Trade Fair at Synod Assembly.

K. 2018 Housing Resolution, Bishop John Roth

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.12 Moved and seconded to approve the following 2018 Housing Resolution for Bishop John Roth.

WHEREAS The Reverend Dr. S. John Roth, Bishop, is a full-time clergy staff member of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

WHEREAS Bishop S. John Roth owns his own home; and

WHEREAS in compliance with Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code (Revised ruling 71-280), such persons are eligible to have a portion of their compensation designated as rental or housing allowance, now, there be it

RESOLVED that Bishop S. John Roth shall have a portion of his compensation for the calendar year 2018 designated as housing or rental allowance in the amount of \$18,000 and be it further

RESOLVED that the Synod Council of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America take the foregoing action solely to fulfill an IRS requirement and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of figures submitted by clergy staff members.

L. Partnership with ELCA Foundation

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC10.01.13 Moved and seconded that the synod join the partnership with the ELCA Foundation with a five-year commitment, funded from the Heithold Memorial Fund at \$10,000 per year.

Other Business

A. Next Council meeting, Saturday, March 17, 2018, 8:30 am at the Chiara Center, Springfield, Illinois.

Announcements / Adjournment

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.01.14 Moved and Seconded that Synod Council adjourn.

Having concluded business, Vice-President Mayer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. Pastor Scott Egbers offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Secretary

SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA

Saturday, March 17, 2018

The Synod Council of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod ("C/SIS" or "synod") met at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Illinois on March 17, 2018 with the following members in attendance:

Present:

Bishop S. John Roth
Pastor Pam Mitcham
Mr. Ken Finkle
Ms. Carey Mayer

Pastor Ryan Anderson
Pastor James Davis
Pastor Scott Egbers
Pastor Glen VanderKloot
Pastor Melissa Waterman

Mr. Larry Saler
Mr. Terry Goff
Mr. Tim Marty
Mr. Donald Swan
Mr. Dennis Wallin
Mr. Henry Harms
Ms. Marcia McGaughey
Mr. Mathew Spencer
Young Adult Representative
Ms. Debbie Peterson
Ms. Hailey Storm, Youth
Representative

Absent:

Pastor Robert Rasmus

Ms. Deanne Holshouser
Ms. Kim Alberts

Staff Present:

Pastor James Reents

Ms. Laura Lee

Visitors Present:

Mr. Vernon Veal

Devotions / Welcome

Mr. Larry Saler led opening devotions. Vice-President Mayer called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.01 Moved and seconded to approve the Synod Council Agenda with three additional items under new business

Bishop's Report (written report submitted)

- Assistant to the Bishop Reports
 - Pastor Jim Reents (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Ken Sandlin (written report submitted)
 - Pastor Maureen Stein (written report submitted)

Vice-President's Report – Vice-President Mayer plans to attend the church-wide Vice-Presidents' gathering in the middle of October.

Secretary's Report

- Minutes of the Executive Committee, January 19, 2018, were received.
- Minutes of the Synod Council, January 20, 2018

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.02 Executive Committee recommends the approval of the minutes of the Synod Council January 20, 2018

Treasurer's Report

Consent Agenda

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.03 The Executive Committee recommends to Synod Council the approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Retirement Status
 - 1. Pastor Dennis O'Brien, effective date June 1, 2018
 - 2. Pastor Kenneth Tegtmeier, effective date June 1, 2018
- B. Approval of On Leave From Call Status
 - 1. Pastor Karen McNeill-Utecht, effective February 1, 2018, Year 2
- C. Receive Roster Changes
 - 1. Installation: Pastor Kara Wiechmann, Bethel Lutheran Church, Bartonville
- D. Conference Reports
 - 1. East Central Conference, Pastor Robert Rasmus
 - 2. Northern Conference, Pastor Ryan Anderson
 - 3. Northeast Conference, Pastor James Davis
 - 4. Northwest Conference, Pastor Scott Egbers
 - 5. Southern Conference, Pastor Melissa Waterman
 - 6. West Central Conference, Pastor Glen VanderKloot
- E. Constitution Updates
 - 1. Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, De Soto
 - 2. Grace Lutheran Church, Champaign

Committee/Liaison Reports

- A. New and Renewing Congregations Committee
- B. Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy Committee
- C. Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee
- D. Global Mission Committee
- E. Professional and Lay Leadership Committee
 - Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee
 - Candidacy Subcommittee
 - Leadership Support Subcommittee

Finance Committee Report – Proposed 2019 Synod Budget

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.04 The Executive Committee recommends the proposed 2019 Synod Budget

Old Business

- A. Follow-up on congregations disbanded
 - 1. Union, Gila, IL
 - 2. Trinity, Alton, IL – awaiting sale of property
- B. Follow-up on Trinity, Kankakee, IL
- C. Update on synod office building matters

New Business

- A. Proposed constitutional changes relative to synod committees

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.05 Moved and seconded to recommend to the 2018 Synod Assembly the following changes to the synod constitution:

The strike-throughs represent what should be deleted.
The **red** are the new additions.

- S 11.01.04. In addition to the committees of S11.01 the synod may establish committees which are units to which are assigned particular programmatic functions and responsibilities for carrying forward the work and activities of this synod according to the sense and scope of Chapter 6 of the Constitution: The synod program and covenant committees are:
- a. Covenant Committee: Mission Support and Stewardship Education
 - b. Covenant Committee: New/Renewing Congregations
 - c. Covenant Committee: Social Ministry, Justice and Advocacy
 - d. Global Mission
 - e. ~~Professional and Lay Leadership~~ **Candidacy Committee**
 - f. **Leadership Support**
 - g. **Adult Faith Formation**
- S11.07.04. Global Mission Committee. The Global Mission Committee shall consist of ~~twelve~~ **seven** members, ~~two~~ **one** selected by each conference and in compliance with +S6.04. ~~and one appointed by the Synod Council.~~ The function of this committee shall include: communication of hunger, justice issues, global ministry interpretation and the companion synod ~~relationship~~ **relationships**.
- S11.07.05 ~~The Professional and Lay Leadership~~ **The Candidacy** Committee shall consist of ~~twenty-eight~~ **fourteen** members, ~~four~~ **two** selected by each conference in consultation with the professional staff of the synod, and ~~four~~ **two** selected at large by the Synod Council, and in compliance with +S6.04. ~~There may be three subcommittees. The purpose of the subcommittees would be oversight of Candidacy for rostered leaders, Leadership Support, and Synodically Authorized Ministry.~~
- ~~The Candidacy Subcommittee shall consist of twelve members; one clergy and one lay member from each conference. The function of the Candidacy Committee is to work with applicants from application through Entrance, Endorsement, Approval and Ordination. They will seek to support each candidate through prayer, guidance and counsel as well represent the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in helping candidates discern both their inner call (personal) call and their outer call (affirmation by both the seminary faculty and candidacy committee).~~
- An exception to the two term limit (S11.01.05) is that a member of the ~~Professional and Lay Leadership~~ **Candidacy** Committee who has served two consecutive terms on the Candidacy Subcommittee is eligible to, in consultation with the professional staff of the synod, serve a third consecutive term on the Candidacy Subcommittee.
- S11.07.06 The Leadership Support Subcommittee shall ~~each~~ consist of ~~eight~~ **seven** members; ~~two or three~~ **at least two** clergy and ~~at least four~~ **five or six** lay members so as to be in compliance with +S6.04. ~~with each conference having at least one representative~~ Each conference shall elect one member of ~~both on to the Leadership Support Committee~~ **The Synod Council shall appoint one member to the Leadership Support Committee..**
- ~~The function of the Leadership Support Committee shall be to annually review and recommend compensation guidelines for both Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ministers of Word and Service, and to set pulpit supply rates. The Leadership Support Committee may also assist synod staff with the planning, promotion and implementation of the annual Lay and Profession Leaders Retreat.~~
- S11.07.07 The **Adult Faith Formation Committee** shall ~~each~~ consist of ~~eight~~ **seven** members; ~~two or three~~ **at least two** clergy and ~~at least four~~ **five or six** lay members so as to be in compliance with +S6.04. ~~with each conference having at least one representative~~ Each conference

shall elect one member of on the Adult Faith Formation SubCommittee. The Synod Council shall appoint one member to the Adult Faith Formation Committee.

The function of the Adult Faith Formation Committee centers around two important, yet distinct, areas: Shepherding those preparing for and those functioning in Synodically Authorized Ministry and promoting and planning adult faith formation events and opportunities particularly for lay members throughout the synod.

B. Appointment of Pastor Harlan Kaden to the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center Board of Directors

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.06 Executive Committee recommends the appointment of Pastor Harlan Kaden to the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center Board of Directors

C. Appointment of Mr. Daniel Simmons as parliamentarian for the 2018 Synod Assembly

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.07 Executive Committee recommends the appointment of Mr. Daniel Simmons as parliamentarian for the 2018 Synod Assembly

D. Preliminary report of the nominating committee

Other Business

A. Next Synod Council meeting Thursday, June 7, 2018, 8:30 a.m. at the I-Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign, IL

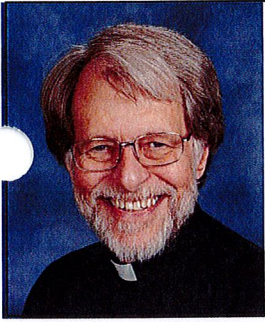
Announcements / Adjournment

VOTED: Motion carried.

SC18.03.08 Moved and Seconded that Synod Council adjourn.

Having concluded business, Vice-President Mayer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Larry Saler offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Secretary



Assistant to the Bishop

Report to the Assembly

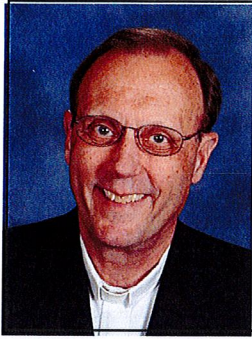
Pastor Kenneth Sandlin

As I get to know more of you when I visit congregations on Sunday mornings for worship; as I get to meet with more congregational councils and call committees who are preparing to call a new pastor; and as I get to talk with more women and men about discerning God's call to serve the church as rostered ministers; I am more and more thankful for the opportunity to serve as an Assistant to the Bishop in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

I have been an assistant for almost three years now, and I still look forward to doing what I do each week. Visiting congregations and greeting those gathered for worship on behalf of Bishop Roth, the rest of the synod staff, and every congregation in our synod is a pleasure. The variety of locations and people and worship settings that I encounter makes each visit a welcomed adventure for my wife and me.

Working with congregations who are involved in the call process is my primary responsibility. Council presidents will often ask "How long will it take to get a pastor?" And call committees want to know when will they receive their first nomination? Waiting is difficult. And waiting patiently, week after week, or month after month, or sometimes year after year, is extremely difficult. I am writing these words in the middle of April. Currently, two congregations are preparing their Ministry Site Profile. Fourteen ministry settings have all their paperwork completed and are ready to receive a letter of nomination from the Bishop. And six of these fourteen are in the process of interviewing someone who may or may not become their new pastor. The numbers are in constant flux. By the time you read this report, they will have changed. I wish that every vacancy on my list were filled. I don't like double-digit vacancies. But I have learned not to be distracted by the numbers. And I do not try to explain why one congregation has a new pastor within a few months of their first interview; while another, who has done multiple interviews over the course of two years, is still waiting. What I tell call committees is that, every week, I read through Rostered Ministry Profiles of pastors who are available for call. As I read, I look for a pastor and a congregation who appear to be a good fit ... for a place where the pastor and the people can grow fruitful ministry. And then I pray that the Holy Spirit, who is with every congregation and with each call committee, will guide the process and lead the congregation to call the right pastor.

From where do the pastors come? They are members of your congregation or members of congregations like yours. They are people who begin to think about rostered ministry when someone sees a gift in them and tells them. They are people who, in high school or college or even later in life, feel a tug or a push or a voice telling them to pay attention to the one who is calling. I talk with those who are being drawn to enter candidacy. And then, the members of the candidacy committee and I accompany them on the path that leads to serving as a pastor or a deacon in the ELCA. Yes, it is a joy to do what I do each week. Thank you!



Assistant to the Bishop Report to the Assembly

Pastor James Reents

The 500th Anniversary of the Reformation has given us many opportunities to celebrate our rich heritage and to grow in grace. I thank God for these opportunities in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

My position as Assistant to the Bishop is a ¼ time position which is approximately 50 hours per month. I cherish our relationship as a synod staff. Each part of the body of Christ is important and necessary.

Two big projects this year are the "Three Saints Parish" and "Servants United." The "Three Saints Parish" is a shared ministry of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Chillicothe; St. John Lutheran Church, Lacon; and St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Wyoming. I had the privilege of witnessing the Ordination and Installation of Pastor Linda Strader.

"Servants United" is a geographical parish of six congregations: St. Peter Lutheran Church, Dwight; Community Lutheran Church, Cornell; Trinity Lutheran Church, Chenoa; St. John Lutheran Church, Anchor; St. John Lutheran Church, Sibley; and American Lutheran Church, Gibson City. The initial worship service is planned for May 7 at St. John Lutheran Church, Anchor. Thank you to all the representatives who have met and planned and prayed for over two years and the leadership of Pastor Bob Dealey.

Rostered Minister Profiles (RMP) are completed by pastors who desire to seek a new call. I read and acknowledge those who indicate an interest in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. Congregations who are seeking a pastor fill out a Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The synod staff tries to match the RMP to MSP. Although the process takes time, the Holy Spirit is guiding the process.

I relate to nine congregations in the Northern Conference and all twenty-five congregations in the Northeast Conference. I visit worship services in one congregation per month to establish a closer relationship between the synod and congregations. I also attend the monthly leaders meetings in both conferences. If a congregation has a pastoral vacancy, I conduct the initial call process meeting. Each of these events is a good networking experience.

The Lay and Professional Leaders Support Sub-Committee seeks ways to support our leaders. The 2018 salary guidelines are in the assembly packet and are on the synod web site: www.csis-elca.org

Since Pastor Wayland Middendorf retired, I started working with the Global Missions Committee. I look forward to getting acquainted with this important mission of our synod.

Many congregations will sponsor "Pedal for a Purpose" events this year. Please pray for safe biking. Thank you for your support for Lutheran Social Service of Illinois.



Assistant to the Bishop Report to the Assembly

Pastor Maureen Stein

People of God in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod,

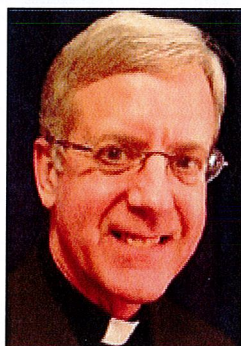
It has been a privilege to work as an Assistant to Bishop Roth and with the synod staff for another year. My primary responsibility remains working with interim ministry. In consultation with Bishop Roth, I am in conversation with council presidents, rostered leaders, and those in Synodically Authorized Ministry throughout the synod when congregations are in transition and need interim ministers.

After an extended apprenticeship with Pastor Jim Reents, I have begun to meet on my own with congregation councils in the Northern and Northwest Conference to outline the steps in the Call Process. This first meeting occurs soon after a pastor has completed his or her ministry in a congregation. The multi-step reflection process is key in matching pastors and congregations during the Call Process.

Bishop Roth and I work together with First Call Theological Education, meeting every six months with pastors in their first three years of ministry. As we move to a different location for each retreat, we experience the context of each pastor's ministry. During retreats, each pastor reflects on a question related to the stage of his or her ministry. It is a joy to accompany new pastors as they grow in their understanding of their ministry contexts and of themselves in the call to servant leadership.

I continue to relate to congregations in the Northern and Northwest Conferences, attending conference meetings and special events and visiting worship services to bring the greetings of the synod.

It is a blessing to serve in these areas and with my colleagues in the synod office.



ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission and Coordinator of Communications and Networking Report to the Assembly

Pastor Bob Dealey

Director for Evangelical Mission (DEM):

These are some of the things that have happened since the last synod assembly:

- ✠ Mt. Moriah, Anna and Salem, Jonesboro have entered into a yoked parish agreement and have called the Rev. Mark Hasty to serve as pastor;
- ✠ St. Mark, Chillicothe; St. John, Lacon; and St. Timothy, Wyoming (the Three Saints Parish) have entered into a ministry agreement and have called the Rev. Linda Strader to serve as pastor;
- ✠ St. John's, Anchor; Trinity, Chenoa; Community, Cornell; St. Peter's, Dwight; American, Gibson City; and St. John's, Sibley have formed the Servants United Parish and are served by the Rev. Jim Davis; the Rev. Kurt Hoover; and the Rev. Ed Hudelson;
- ✠ Immanuel, Golden; Zion, Liberty; and Salem, Mendon are working on a shared ministry agreement, and upon its completion, they will enter into the call process.
- ✠ A Comprehensive Ministry Review was held at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon, December 2-4, 2016 as part of the requirements for it to be considered for an ELCA Partnership Support Grant. The Review Team consisted of: The Rev. Neil Harrison (ELCA rep); Connie Frankenfeld; the Rev. Marlin Otte; Deb Rathert; the Rev. Jan Worms; and the Rev. Bob Dealey. The Ministry Review Report included 19 Affirmations and 16 Recommendations to assist the congregation with its redevelopment ministry. As a result, the congregation has formed a Redevelopment Team and has received an ELCA Partnership Support Grant in 2017.

The Transformational Ministry Team, a sub-group of the New & Renewing Congregations Committee, has offered two Transformational Ministry training events during the past year, and is in the process of developing plans for future redevelopment events.

At the request of the Mission Support & Stewardship Education Committee, Mr. Tim Urness (of the ELCA Foundation) has been invited to lead a forum on Endowment Funds at this year's synod assembly. A Mission Interpreters' training event was held at Resurrection, Bloomington on October 1, 2016 and at Good Shepherd, Champaign on April 29, 2017; the next training event will be held on October 7, 2017 at Faith, Washington. The goal is to recruit a Mission Interpreter from each synod congregation. For more information, contact Ms. Doreen Klages at (618) 632-0448 or dklages@att.net. The Rev. Jim Davis attended "Generosity NOW", an Ecumenical Stewardship Centers event, held in Washington, D.C., April 25-27, 2017.

Since its inception, which is now in its fourth year, the Campaign for the ELCA has received \$113 million in cash gifts and commitments for the campaign. In fiscal year 2016, synod members remitted more than a quarter of a million dollars to the campaign as follows:

Disability Ministries.....	\$ 100
New Congregations.....	\$ 300
Renewing Congregations	_____
Global Ministries.....	\$ 2,802
International Leaders – Women	\$ 970
Global Ministry/Young Adults in Global Ministry	\$ 28,147
ELCA World Hunger.....	\$ 204,606
Fund for Leaders.....	\$ 5,517
Youth/Young Adults.....	\$ 80
Where Needed Most	\$ 10,994
Totals:	\$ 253,516

Coordinator of Communications & Networking

Thank you to those congregations who send copies of their church newsletter (either electronically or by U.S. mail) to the synod office. Newsletters are an excellent source of stories and/or articles for synod publications. Please consider sending your newsletter to the synod office, if you do not already do so.

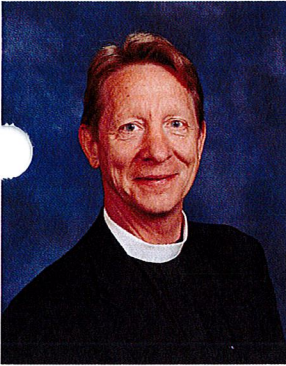
The synod provides assistance in the promotion of events across the synod, e.g. Pedal for a Purpose; the Campaign for the ELCA; synod-sponsored youth events; Women of the ELCA, etc. You may contact me at the synod office to see how we can assist you with your communications efforts.

The following communications pieces are sent out as follows:

- ✚ **“Mission Matters...”**, a monthly electronic newsletter—sent to all congregations and leaders;
- ✚ **“To The Point!”**, a bi-weekly electronic bulletin of announcements—sent to all rostered leaders;
- ✚ **“Did You Know That...?”**, a bi-weekly informational piece—sent to all congregations for distribution to their membership;
- ✚ **“For Your Consideration”**, a monthly electronic ministry reflection piece—sent to all congregations and leaders;
- ✚ **“StewardTips”**, a bi-monthly electronic stewardship piece—sent to all congregations and leaders.

With the exception of “To The Point!”, all communication pieces are archived on the synod website at www.csis-elca.org.

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel ministry.



East Central Conference Report to the Assembly

Pastor Rob Rasmus, Dean

St. Matthew Lutheran, Urbana

Congregations

St. Matthew, Urbana

Grace, Champaign

Good Shepherd, Champaign

St. Andrews and Campus Center

Lutheran Church of Mahomet

Christ, Monticello

First, Decatur

Holy Cross, Decatur

Bethel, Danville

St. Paul, Shelbyville,

St. John Shelbyville

Grace, Rankin

Pastor Bob Rasmus, Dean, Associate, Pastor Maggie Falenschek

Pastor Chris Repp

Pastor Tom Hillertz, Jason Fisher, Deacon

Pastor Amy Thoren

Pastor Nikoli Falenschek

Pastor Carla Rush, interim

Pastor Rita Augsburg

Pastor Amy Zietlow, Jan Lawson, SAM

Pastor Ed Stone

Tom Galyen, SAM, Jan Lawson, SAM

Tom Galyen, SAM, Jan Lawson, SAM

Pastor Jennifer Hartweg-Brown

East Central Officers

Dean

Vice Dean

Lay Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Pastor Bob Rasmus, Dean

Pastor Amy Thoren, Vice Dean

Jason Fisher, Deacon

Kim Johnson

Marilyn Dudley

Synod Committees

Synod Council

Synodically Authorized Ministry

New and Renewing Congregations

Global Mission

Mission Support & Stewardship Education

Candidacy

Lay Female, Ms. Tiana Montgomery

Clergy, Pastor Amy Zietlow

Clergy, Pastor Maggie Falenschek

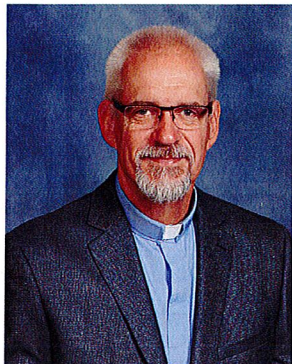
Clergy, Pastor Amy Thoren

Clergy, Pastor Nikoli Falenschek

Lay Male, Mr. Bill Moehring, Clergy, Pastor Chris Repp

Pastor Rita Augsburg was called to First Lutheran, Decatur and was installed on Sunday, January 15, 2017.

The Conference continues to meet the fourth Tuesday of each month for fellowship and conversation. Our gatherings this year included a Chrism Mass led by Bishop Roth, Francisco Herrera from Decolonizing Lutheranism, Luis Cuza from CU-FAIR, (Champaign-Urbana-Friends Assisting Immigrants and Refugees), Pastor Adam Dichsen representing Pedal For a Purpose, our annual Epiphany dinner, discussed Reformation 500. We also developed a new conference directory.



Northeast Conference

Pastor James Davis, Dean

*Servants United Parish: American Lutheran, Gibson City;
Community Lutheran, Cornell; St. John's Lutheran, Anchor;
St. John's Lutheran, Sibley; St. Peter's Lutheran, Dwight; and
Trinity Lutheran Church, Chenoa.*

The Northeast Conference of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod consists of 24 congregations located east of Interstate 55 and north of Illinois Route 9. We are currently served by 15 called pastors, one Synodically Authorized Minister, and 12 retired pastors. One pastor is on leave of call. Five congregations are served by Interim or Contractual Pastors.

Our conference gives our best to Pastor Steven Goodwin who served at St. John's Lutheran Church in Anchor. Pastor Steven retired at the end of June, 2016 and moved with his wife, Pastor Lisa, to Bloomington. We also keep Pastor Brian Deckinger and members of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Bloomington in our prayers. On December 22, 2016, the roof over Grace Hall collapsed, and their entire building is currently uninhabitable. They are renting space in a strip mall at the northeast corner of Veteran's Parkway and Main Street, Bloomington.

These six ELCA congregations voted to form the **Servants United Geographical Parish:**

Anchor – St. John's

Chenoa – Trinity

Cornell – Community

Dwight – St. Peter's

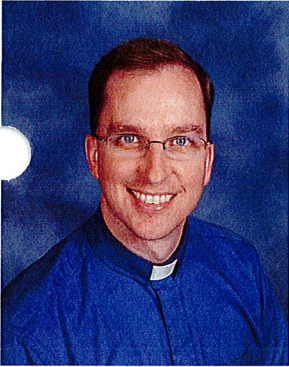
Gibson City – American

Sibley – St. John's

The Parish Council first met in March, and continues to meet monthly. The Parish Council has selected its officers and yoked the six congregations with their primary care pastors as follows: St. John's, Anchor and Trinity, Chenoa (Pastor Ed Hudelson, Head of Staff); Community, Cornell and St. Peter's, Dwight (Pastor Kurt Hoover); and American, Gibson City and St. John's, Sibley (Pastor Jim Davis). A pulpit rotation has been scheduled for once a month so the pastors and congregations have opportunities to get to know each other. A joint celebratory worship service with all six congregations was held May 7, 2017 in St. John's, Anchor, with Bishop Roth preaching and presiding over Holy Communion.

Our Annual Conference Assembly was held on March 19, 2017 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cullom. Pastor Mauricio Vieira led us in worship, and the members of St. John's graciously provided refreshments. Bishop Roth discussed changes that are taking place in our synod, and answered the many questions that people asked. There is a lot of interest in holding a Conference Lay Leaders Retreat this fall, so we are looking into themes, locations, and leaders. Retired Pastor Glen VanderKloot presented a very moving one-person play that he wrote about being a shepherd at the manger scene in Bethlehem, and also as a witness to Jesus' crucifixion.

Our rostered leaders met on the second Thursday morning from September 2016 through May 2017, with the exception of the Spring Assembly in March, and skipping in April due to Holy Week. Our guests presenters included: Pastors Carolyn Roper-Fowlkes and Ed Taylor from Compassus Hospice Care; Bishop Roth led our Annual Bishop's Colloquy at St. Peter's in Forrest; Dr. Ned "Bud" Roberts led a discussion on *Personality Disorders and Game Players in Our Congregations*; Rabbi Rebecca Dubowe hosted us in the Moses Montefiore Synagogue in Bloomington; Pastor Kurt Hoover led a periscope discussion on the Revised Common Lectionary Texts, and what it means to be a Christian leader in our daily lives; Pastor Pete Hinrich presented the Men in Mission program and discussed "One Year to Live" Retreats; and in May we are scheduled to meet with Educational Director Sanjay Saxena at the Hindu Temple in Bloomington-Normal.



Northern Conference Report to the Assembly

*Pastor John Rothfusz, Dean
Faith Lutheran Church, Washington*

The Northern Conference consists of 26 congregations in the Peoria area and surrounding counties. These churches are served by 22 pastors under call, four interim pastors, and three with contractual arrangements.

The conference saw several pastoral transitions over the past year. Pastor Wayne Shelksohn retired from Grace and Peace Lutheran, Peoria.

Pastor Linda Strader was ordained and installed to serve the new Three Saints Parish, a partnership of St. Mark, Chillicothe; St. John, Lacon; and St. Timothy, Wyoming. We are excited to see this new venture in cooperative ministry.

Pastor Nathan Feig left the synod to serve Trinity, Ottawa. Pastor Wendy Popp has been called to Trinity, Lanark, which is also in the Northern Illinois Synod.

Those serving as Interim Pastors within the conference are the following: Pastor Raymond Barclay at Bethel, Bartonville; Pastor Trudy Foote at First English, Peoria, Pastor Phil Lund at Grace and Peace, Peoria, and Pastor Dan Tuhy at St. Paul, Benson.

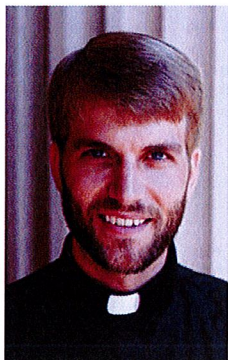
The Northern Conference had a very successful "God's Work, Our Hands" service day in September. This was our fourth year of service in this way, and we truly enjoyed working side by side and partnering with community groups. We worked with the Chillicothe Community Needs Agency, helping residents with yard work and painting; a South Peoria Community Cleanup, sending teams out to pick up trash by the roadways; and three church sites in Peoria, Morton, and Glasford, assembling kits to send to Africa for Global Health Ministries. We had a great response from a number of area congregations.

Our Conference Youth Board draws together the gifts of several Youth and Family Ministers and numerous churches to provide exciting opportunities. The annual *Be Like Jesus* retreat draws in many 3-8th graders for a memorable weekend of service, music, and faith. The conference has continued working to support 8 Days, a cooperative young adult ministry for college-age students at Bradley University and Illinois Central College. They are largely unreached by existing churches. The conference also gave \$5000 in support of trips to our Companion Synods in Madagascar, to strengthen those relationships.

The Professional Leaders of the Conference meet on the second Tuesday of the month for worship, study and fellowship. Topics since the summer have included: a Churchwide Assembly report, God and Chaos, Ministry of LSSI, Bishop's Colloquy, Study of "Declaration On the Way", Look at Reformation Year Materials, Dyslexia in the Church.

At our Conference Assembly in March, we elected Pastor Ryan Anderson as the incoming Conference Dean. We look forward to his leadership among us.

The Northern Conference is an active, positive, and collegial place to share in ministry in Jesus' name. We are blessed to gather and strengthen one another for service to the Lord.



Northwest Conference Report to the Assembly

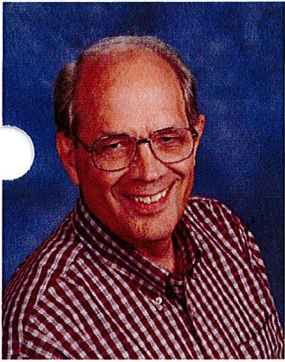
*Pastor Scott Egbers, Interim Dean
First Lutheran Church, Beardstown*

Congregation	
St. Peter, Arenzville	Rev. Corey Lange
St. John, Bluffs.....	Rev. Corey Lange
Faith, Augusta.....	Rev. Richard Hertenstein
Immanuel, Carthage	Rev. Richard Hertenstein
First, Beardstown.....	Rev. Scott C. Egbers
St. John, Bluff Springs	Rev. Colleen Winkler
Grace, Virginia.....	Rev. Colleen Winkler
Trinity, Carthage	Rev. John Ashcraft (Interim)
St. Peter, Coatsburg	Rev. Patricia Reep
Immanuel, Golden	
Trinity, Golden	Rev. Brad Eidson
Zion, Liberty	
Trinity, Macomb	Rev. Paul Park (Interim)
Salem, Mendon	
Christ, Nauvoo	Rev. Pete Hagglund
Christ, Quincy	Rev. Gayle Pope
Luther Memorial, Quincy.....	Rev. Tony Metz

The Northwest Conference had a few pastoral transitions in the past year. Pastor Mike Thomas was called to serve Hope Lutheran Church in Wautoma, Wisconsin and so ended his service to Trinity Lutheran in Macomb at the end of January. Pastor Linda Murray retired at the end of April and so ended her service to Immanuel Lutheran in Golden. Pastor Paul Park has become the interim pastor at Trinity in Macomb.

Pastor Thomas also served as the Dean of the Northwest Conference and being called out of the conference he resigned as Dean at the end of January. The Clergy Vice President, Pastor Scott Egbers, is serving as the interim Dean until a new one is elected.

Clergy/Synodically Authorized Minister meetings were held in nine of the past twelve months, including a discussion of Vacation and Crises/Funerals, a book study, two Care of Souls meetings, the Bishop's Colloquy, a Christmas Gathering, a discussion of pastoral transitions, a discussion of Gender and Sexuality, and a presentation on Job Descriptions and Staffing.



Southern Conference Report to the Assembly

Pastor Gary Ryden, Interim Dean

Retired

Interim Oversight: Trinity Lutheran Church, Olney

The Southern Conference is a large geographical area that includes 18 congregations from Olney in the north to Metropolis in the south, and from Chester in the west to Mt. Carmel in the east. There are currently eight pastors serving under call, with another four pastors in interim positions; one Synodically Authorized Minister serves as an interim as well.

The conference officers for 2017-2018 are:

Dean	Pastor Melissa Waterman	Mt. Calvary, Desoto/First, Murphysboro
Clergy Vice President	Pastor Marlin Otte	Retired
Lay Vice President	Mr. Larry Saler	Trinity, Olney
Secretary	Mrs. Jane Otte	Our Redeemer, Marion
Treasurer	Mr. Jerry Wilson	Peace, Steeleville

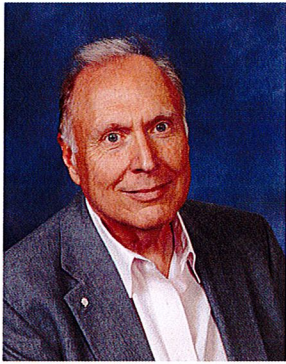
The past year has been a time of change and transition in the Southern Conference. Since the 2016 Assembly, Pastor Carla Rush departed and currently serves as the interim pastor at Christ, Monticello; Pastor Matt Kamprath and Pastor Laura Kamprath both accepted calls to First, Geneseo; and Pastor Pam Mitcham accepted a call to St. John's, Springfield. In addition, Pastor Marlin Otte retired from Our Redeemer, Marion, where he still resides.

During the year, we also welcomed Pastor Mark Hasty to Mt. Moriah, Anna and Salem, Jonesboro; Pastor Melissa Waterman to Mt. Calvary, De Soto and First, Murphysboro; and Pastor Paul Waterman to Epiphany, Carbondale. Also, Pastor Martha Neff Stum came into our conference to serve as interim at Our Redeemer, Marion, and Pastor John Schmeling came as interim at Zion, Mt. Carmel. Pastor Dennis Scoville, Pastor Gary Ryden, Ms. Deb Rathert are also providing interim ministry.

We did not have a fall assembly in 2016, in part because Dean Laura Kamprath was in transition during that time, however, at our March Spring Assembly at Mt. Calvary, De Soto, Pastor Melissa Waterman was elected dean and will begin serving at the close of this year's synod assembly. During our Spring meeting, we heard an impressive presentation about the Storybook Project at Lawrence Correctional Center by Randi Cowan of Trinity, Olney. Others who are involved as volunteers with Storybook at other locations were encouraged to share their experiences as well.

Professional leaders usually meet once a month from October through May at various churches for fellowship, mutual support, worship, and education. A text study group also meets twice monthly in Carbondale. For the past few years, we've had an annual retreat at the Todd Hall Retreat Center in Columbia, Illinois, in February. This year, however, we had no retreat partly because of the multiple personnel changes we've experienced. We will no doubt return to Todd Hall next February.

The Plan of Spending for Mission and Ministry of the Southern Conference includes gifts to the Hospitality Houses in Vienna and Chester, Campus ministry, LSSI Storybook Project, World Hunger, and the companion synod in Madagascar. We also offer financial support for those attending a seminary and those involved in U.A.M. education; students must be from the Southern Conference, of course. Additionally, we're glad to provide partial scholarships for all those from the conference who attend the Synod Youth Gathering.



West Central Conference Report to the Assembly

Pastor Glen VanderKloot, Dean

Retired

Interim Oversight: St. John's Lutheran Church, Mt. Pulaski

The West Central Conference consists of thirty congregations stretching from Columbia at the southern end of the Metro-St. Louis area, north to Springfield and Jacksonville, west to Batchtown, and east to Shumway and Altamont.

The West Central Conference is in prayer that the many congregations in our conference who are without a called pastor will soon have a called resident pastor to serve and lead them in Word and Sacrament. We are thankful for the many interim pastors and supply Synodically Authorized Ministers' who serve our conference.

On January 26, 2017 Bishop S. John Roth conducted his annual colloquy with the West Central Conference Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Ministers of Word and Service and Synodically Authorized Ministers. It is always our pleasure to host our Bishop. He shared informative information about the ELCA and our own synod. We continue to pray for his good health, safe travel, wisdom, discernment, leadership and bold proclamation of the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ.

The West Central Conference Spring Assembly was held on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 2:30 pm at St. John Lutheran Church in Springfield, IL.

Our guest speaker was Jill Kennedy-Broughton, who is a Gold Certified Fitness Professional and a Certified Life Coach & Speaker. She has a ministry called Q-Place. Q-place equips believers to set a safe environment for non-believers to raise spiritual questions and equips believers to engage in spiritual conversations. She not only shared information about this ministry, but also gave each congregation present a book on the nine arts of spiritual conversations.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA

Key Financial Statistics

As of January 31, 2017

	2015 Actual Total Year	2016 Budget Total Year	2016 Actual YTD	YTD Budget Variance
<u>Income</u>				
Regular Benevolence	\$1,439,080	\$1,450,000	\$1,398,471	(\$51,529)
Interest Income	\$8,430	\$9,500	\$9,025	(\$475)
Other Income	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Income	\$1,447,760	\$1,459,500	\$1,407,496	(\$52,004)
<u>Expense</u>				
Mission Support to ELCA (56%)	\$805,885	\$812,000	\$783,144	(\$28,856)
Agencies & Institutions	\$156,278	\$156,279	\$156,279	\$0
Program Expenses	\$23,654	\$43,350	\$27,646	(\$15,704)
Operating Expenses	\$454,271	\$495,490	\$486,025	(\$9,465)
Total Expenditures	\$1,440,089	\$1,507,119	\$1,453,094	(\$54,025)
Cash Excess (Shortfall)	\$7,671	(\$47,619)	(\$45,597)	\$2,022

	2015 Actual Total Year	2016 Actual Year	Increase (Decrease)
<u>Congregational Giving</u>			
Regular Benevolence	\$1,439,280	\$1,398,471	(\$40,809)
Other Benevolence	\$190,118	\$185,837	(\$4,281)
Total Congregational Giving	\$1,629,398	\$1,584,308	(\$45,090)
Number of CSIS Congregations	130	127	(3)
Congregations Contributing	120	117	(3)
Percent Contributing	92.3%	92.1%	(0)
Regular Benevolence as % of Intents	108.1%	161.2%	1
Congregation Intents Received	93	50	(43)
Percent Submitting Intent	71.5%	39.4%	(0)
Intents for Budget Year	\$1,331,740	\$867,589	(464,151)

	January 31 2016	January 31 2017	Increase (Decrease)
<u>Cash Summary</u>			
Petty Cash	\$300	\$200	(\$100)
Cash in Banks	\$606,181	\$519,370	(\$86,810)
ELCA Mission Investment Fund Investments			
Endowment for Mission	\$165,774	\$170,122	\$4,349
Student Loan Fund	\$222,595	\$243,495	\$20,899
Dedicated and Reserve Funds	\$352,818	\$359,495	\$6,677
Heithold Memorial Endowment	\$292,999	\$316,556	\$23,557
Prepaid Expenses	\$13,067	\$18,356	\$5,290
Highland Land (at cost)	\$366,049	\$366,049	\$0
Total	\$2,019,784	\$1,993,645	(\$26,139)

<u>Cash Represents:</u>			
Restricted and Designated Funds	\$1,726,600	\$1,741,315	\$14,715
Recorded Liabilities	\$14,860	\$19,603	\$4,743
Cash Reserves	\$278,324	\$232,726	(\$45,597)
Cash Reserves as a Percent of Budgeted Expenses	18.4%	15.4%	-2.9%

Central Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA
Congregational Benevolence Comparisons
As of January 31, 2017

Undesignated Mission Support (CSIS Synod Income)							
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
February	130,241	118,026	119,841	99,254	118,052	116,753	114,863
March	128,105	131,992	113,044	123,011	86,906	117,953	117,047
April	168,038	112,515	121,292	148,346	152,452	125,362	109,473
May	77,809	123,317	109,732	113,104	132,183	111,910	113,151
June	145,717	119,230	122,265	98,738	110,848	120,498	108,297
July	135,256	76,593	91,646	124,297	119,104	117,507	125,393
August	111,371	142,551	117,934	103,903	109,583	110,919	114,325
September	139,351	117,342	123,171	130,262	92,911	103,212	98,349
October	93,962	94,841	108,093	127,285	149,031	124,708	111,200
November	134,210	129,198	130,948	110,948	88,241	108,005	121,728
December	145,380	133,110	114,723	102,347	151,674	137,543	129,945
January	130,806	119,950	156,389	141,680	139,284	144,711	134,699
Annual Totals	1,540,246	1,418,666	1,429,078	1,423,174	1,450,269	1,439,080	1,398,471
Difference YTD 2016 vs 2015							(40,609)
Designated Gifts (Pass Through CSIS Synod)							
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
February	49,107	19,750	13,011	12,983	15,139	6,212	30,825.76
March	29,226	13,718	11,917	7,317	6,889	14,498	15,987.01
April	39,098	26,470	18,302	30,207	10,150	26,603	5,554.91
May	19,931	24,333	8,633	12,387	24,201	13,906	17,145.82
June	13,308	36,843	27,171	15,768	34,805	49,522	34,160.33
July	24,618	9,134	7,961	11,510	18,230	9,247	17,754.60
August	12,945	14,045	9,998	5,620	11,443	3,788	12,719.62
September	23,688	8,618	9,748	4,198	6,647	19,328	5,495.89
October	21,002	13,991	7,408	19,332	12,900	11,489	7,529.35
November	24,383	15,342	14,211	14,829	3,777	5,502	13,992.37
December	15,558	19,947	20,099	26,534	17,954	14,283	11,560.09
January	49,346	23,729	39,179	34,341	22,947	15,742	13,111.56
Annual Totals	322,211	225,922	187,638	195,025	185,082	190,118	185,837.31
Difference YTD 2016 vs 2015							(4,281)
Total Designated and Undesignated							
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2,016
Annual Totals	1,862,457	1,644,587	1,616,716	1,618,199	1,635,352	1,629,198	1,584,308.42
Difference YTD 2016 vs 2015							(44,890)

Central Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA
DESIGNATED GIVING
AS OF January 31, 2017

Designated benevolence giving which congregations have contributed through the Synod.
 Central/Southern IL Synod does not receive or retain any portion of these gifts.

Designated Funds	YEAR END 2015	YEAR END 2016	Increase (Decrease)
World Hunger	\$60,953.56	52,382.19	(\$8,571.37)
Missionary Support	\$21,477.00	12,096.00	(\$9,381.00)
Disaster Relief	\$6,580.41	11,031.99	\$4,451.58
Campaign for ELCA	\$1,031.00	5,576.00	\$4,545.00
International Disaster Relief	\$1,496.00	25.00	(\$1,471.00)
LWR	\$2,182.36	1,533.27	(\$649.09)
ELCA Malaria Campaign	\$1,817.39	296.87	(\$1,520.52)
Global Missions	\$1,926.00	1,870.40	(\$55.60)
Augusta Victoria	\$1,854.00	1,398.16	(\$455.84)
Project Comfort	\$743.00	0.00	(\$743.00)
Vision for Mission	\$199.37	0.00	(\$199.37)
Stand with Africa	\$86.43	112.24	\$25.81
Retired Pastor's Fund	\$1,295.00	1,124.00	(\$171.00)
ELCA Funds for Leaders	\$25.00	112.00	\$87.00
Global Barnyard	\$580.00	150.00	(\$430.00)
Water purification	\$10.00	264.41	\$254.41
Immigration/Relief	\$790.50	0.00	(\$790.50)
Madagascar Literacy Project	\$5,000.00	0.00	(\$5,000.00)
LSSI	\$7,237.30	9,486.86	\$2,249.56
Assembly Offering	\$7,225.69	6,667.57	(\$558.12)
Pedal for a Purpose - 2016	\$27,183.09	28,039.34	\$856.25
Pedal for a Purpose - 2017	\$0.00	500.00	\$500.00
Campus	\$546.56	450.00	(\$96.56)
LOMC	\$1,833.33	1,500.00	(\$333.33)
Storybook Project	\$0.00	4,050.00	\$4,050.00
Madagascar Project	\$16,007.78	14,006.96	(\$2,000.82)
Mission Start-up Fund	\$450.00	0.00	(\$450.00)
Madagascar Trip 2017	\$0.00	500.00	\$500.00
SAMs set-a-side Fund	\$0.00	1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Student Loan Fund-Debt Reduction	\$6,752.39	0.00	(\$6,752.39)
Student Loan Debt Reduction-Interest	\$0.00	21,223.00	\$21,223.00
Seminary Scholarship Fund	\$1,775.00	622.00	(\$1,153.00)
Congregational Renewal Fund	\$10,000.00	5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)
Bishop Fund	\$2,000.00	3,924.00	\$1,924.00
FCTE	\$1,060.00	895.05	(\$164.95)
Total	\$190,118.16	\$185,837.31	(\$4,280.85)

Central Southern IL Synod, ELCA
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail

Accounts	Actual 2015	Budget 2016	Actual 2016	Budget Variance
Revenues				
501000 - Congregation Benevolence	1,439,080.17	\$1,450,000.00	\$1,398,471.11	(\$51,528.89)
559000 - Interest Earned Banks	2,051.67	\$9,500.00	\$2,348.37	(\$7,151.63)
560000 - Mission Loan Investment Interest	6,377.97	\$0.00	\$6,676.88	\$6,676.88
563000 - Miscellaneous Synod Income	250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$1,447,759.81	\$1,459,500.00	\$1,407,496.36	(\$52,003.64)
Expenses				
Ministry Through ELCA				
600000 - ELCA financial support 56%	\$805,884.89	\$812,000.00	\$783,143.82	\$28,856.18
Total Ministry Through ELCA	\$805,884.89	\$812,000.00	\$783,143.82	\$28,856.18
Agencies & Institutions				
601000 - Il. Conf. of Churches support	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$0.00
602000 - ELCA Div. for Education-College	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
603000 - Campus support	\$49,500.00	\$49,500.00	\$49,500.00	\$0.00
604000 - Seminary support	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
605000 - LSSI support	\$51,420.00	\$51,421.00	\$51,421.00	\$0.00
607000 - Lutheran Outdoor Ministry support	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00	\$0.00
608000 - Region 5 support	\$3,008.00	\$3,008.00	\$3,008.00	\$0.00
Total Agencies & Institutions	\$156,278.00	\$156,279.00	\$156,279.00	\$0.00
Programs Committees				
Global Ministry Committee				
810000 - GM-Committee Expense	\$807.64	\$1,000.00	\$199.80	\$800.20
811000 - GM-Companion Synod	(\$1,000.00)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
812000 - GM Regional Events	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	(\$35.00)
814000 - GME Scholarships	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Total Global Ministry Committee	\$307.64	\$4,300.00	\$2,734.80	\$1,565.20
Social Ministry, J&A Committee				
802000 - SM, Justice & Advocacy	\$878.91	\$2,000.00	\$185.76	\$1,814.24
803000 - SMJA-Grants	\$5,171.58	\$6,000.00	\$5,147.00	\$853.00
Total Social Ministry, J&A Committee	\$6,050.49	\$8,000.00	\$5,332.76	\$2,667.24
Mission Support/Stewardship				
820000 - MS&S-Committee	\$294.60	\$500.00	\$88.56	\$411.44
821000 - MS&S- Stewardship Expenses	\$2.25	\$500.00	\$16.40	\$483.60
Total Mission Support/Stewardship	\$296.85	\$1,000.00	\$104.96	\$895.04
Professional/Lay Committee				
Candidacy Subcommittee				
833000 - PL-Candidacy Committee expenses	\$818.95	\$1,000.00	\$359.40	\$640.60
835000 - PL-Seminary Scholarship	\$6,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$0.00
840000 - Candidacy	\$1,582.54	\$4,000.00	\$2,666.88	\$1,333.12
Total Candidacy Subcommittee	\$8,401.49	\$15,500.00	\$13,526.28	\$1,973.72
SAM Subcommittee				
836000 - PL-SAM Committee Expense	\$413.32	\$1,000.00	\$285.52	\$714.48
838000 - PL-SAM Program	\$103.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Total SAM Subcommittee	\$516.32	\$3,500.00	\$285.52	\$3,214.48
Leadership Support Subcommittee				
831000 - PL-Leadership Support Committee	\$18.58	\$1,000.00	\$20.38	\$979.62
832000 - PL/Retreats	\$3,190.17	\$3,000.00	\$2,655.40	\$344.60
Total Leadership Support Subcommittee	\$3,208.75	\$4,000.00	\$2,675.78	\$1,324.22
Total Professional/Lay Committee	\$12,126.56	\$23,000.00	\$16,487.58	\$6,512.42
New/Renewing Congregations				
823000 - N/RC Committee Expense	\$2,822.85	\$5,000.00	\$935.55	\$4,064.45
824000 - N/RC Youth/Leadership Lab	\$2,050.00	\$2,050.00	\$2,050.00	\$0.00
Total New/Renewing Congregations	\$4,872.85	\$7,050.00	\$2,985.55	\$4,064.45
Total Programs Committees	\$23,654.39	\$43,350.00	\$27,645.65	\$15,704.35

Central Southern IL Synod, ELCA
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail

Accounts	Actual 2015	Budget 2016	Actual 2016	Budget Variance
Congregation/Clergy Services				
648000 - Salary-Assistant to the Bishop	\$120,726.72	\$127,469.64	\$127,900.02	(\$430.38)
650000 - Salary-Administrative	\$71,740.96	\$73,560.12	\$75,040.52	(\$1,480.40)
651000 - Salary-Support Staff	\$68,477.37	\$71,554.02	\$70,037.66	\$1,516.36
652000 - Housing Allowance	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
653000 - Employer paid Soc. Security	\$10,333.20	\$12,339.47	\$10,826.12	\$1,513.35
654000 - Employer paid Medicare	\$2,416.60	\$2,885.84	\$2,531.92	\$353.92
655000 - Employer paid Pension fund	\$17,979.96	\$18,502.62	\$18,448.32	\$54.30
656000 - Employer paid Health Insurance	\$43,563.21	\$44,533.40	\$47,835.70	(\$3,302.30)
657000 - Workman Compensation Insurance	\$1,787.17	\$2,000.00	\$1,718.91	\$281.09
660000 - Staff-Continuing Education	\$5,793.59	\$4,500.00	\$5,063.66	(\$563.66)
780000 - Bishop's Fund expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
880000 - Bishop Medical Fund	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Total Congregation/Clergy Services	\$364,818.78	\$379,345.11	\$381,402.83	(\$2,057.72)
Office Administration				
661000 - Staff travel expenses	\$17,422.66	\$19,000.00	20047.19	(\$1,047.19)
662000 - Support Staff-Education	\$0.00	\$150.00	0.00	\$150.00
663000 - Support Staff-Travel expense	\$382.22	\$300.00	635.45	(\$335.45)
700000 - Postage	\$1,053.03	\$3,000.00	946.61	\$2,053.39
701000 - Equipment rental expense	\$397.80	\$100.00	298.35	(\$198.35)
702000 - Office supplies	\$3,243.85	\$3,000.00	2757.85	\$242.15
703000 - Auditing Expense	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	5500	\$1,000.00
704000 - Attorney Fees	\$0.00	\$500.00	0	\$500.00
705000 - Telephone	\$3,443.41	\$3,700.00	3477.03	\$222.97
706000 - Utilities	\$8,176.02	\$8,000.00	7050.48	\$949.52
707000 - Auto Insurance	\$1,138.00	\$1,200.00	1120	\$80.00
708000 - Building/Contents Insurance	\$6,177.38	\$6,500.00	6395.34	\$104.66
710000 - Kitchen/Bathroom supplies	\$371.42	\$900.00	566.21	\$333.79
711000 - Membership dues	\$45.00	\$45.00	45	\$0.00
713000 - Computer communications	\$3,396.80	\$4,000.00	3730.8	\$269.20
714000 - Trash pickup & Pest control	\$897.67	\$850.00	1123.26	(\$273.26)
715000 - Building Security system	\$1,045.88	\$1,000.00	1045.88	(\$45.88)
718000 - Equipment Maintenance	\$5,280.63	\$10,000.00	3345.82	\$6,654.18
719000 - Office building maintenance	\$5,433.68	\$6,000.00	4980.88	\$1,019.12
723000 - Newsletter expense	\$150.00	\$150.00	150	\$0.00
725000 - ELCA Shared Risk Fund	\$0.00	\$800.00	0	\$800.00
785000 - Communications Committee	\$258.96	\$750.00	0	\$750.00
Total Office Administration	\$64,814.41	\$76,445.00	\$63,216.15	\$13,228.85
Synod Administration				
778000 - Assembly Expense	\$19,929.66	\$25,000.00	\$27,899.27	(\$2,899.27)
779000 - Synod Council Expenses	\$3,739.25	\$5,000.00	\$3,807.01	\$1,192.99
790000 - Bishop Appt.Comm. Task Force/Consu	\$969.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Synod Administration	\$24,638.04	\$30,000.00	\$31,706.28	(\$1,706.28)
Total Expenses	\$1,440,088.51	\$1,497,419.11	\$1,443,393.73	\$54,025.38
Net Total	\$7,671.30	(\$37,919.11)	(\$35,897.37)	\$2,021.74
Other Expenses				
848000 - Reserve for Auto Replacement	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
849000 - Reserve for Equipment Replacement	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00
850000 - Reserve for Furniture Replacement	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
851000 - Reserve for Cap. Impro. Replacement	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Total Other Expenses	\$8,700.00	\$9,700.00	\$9,700.00	\$0.00
Net Operating Total	(\$1,028.70)	(\$47,619.11)	(\$45,597.37)	\$2,021.74

Central/Southern Illinois Synod, ELCA
Restricted and Designated Fund Balances

	January 31, 2016	January 31, 2017	Increase (Decrease)
<u>Restricted Funds</u>			
Endowment for Mission Fund	\$138,647.92	\$138,647.92	\$0.00
Madagascar Trip 2017	\$0.00	\$1,827.32	\$1,827.32
Madagascar Seminary Project	\$47,877.97	\$36,255.17	(\$11,622.80)
Student Loan Fund Interest	\$6,898.57	\$27,797.80	\$20,899.23
Student Loan Fund Principal	\$215,696.89	\$215,696.89	\$0.00
DEM Synod Support Grant	\$41,428.26	\$47,912.96	\$6,484.70
Heithold Memorial Fund Principal	\$292,999.38	\$316,556.12	\$23,556.74
Mission Start-up	\$31,116.92	\$33,575.52	\$2,458.60
Land Fund	\$78,002.47	\$78,002.47	\$0.00
Highland Land	\$366,049.25	\$366,049.25	\$0.00
<u>Total Restricted Funds</u>	\$1,218,717.63	\$1,262,321.42	\$43,603.79
<u>Designated Funds</u>			
Social Ministry	\$2,291.60	\$2,291.60	\$0.00
Bishop's Fund	\$34,624.09	\$30,458.60	(\$4,165.49)
Seminary Scholarship Fund	\$1,775.00	\$2,397.00	\$622.00
Inclusivity	\$2,909.42	\$2,518.33	(\$391.09)
Mission Endowment Fund Interest	\$27,125.98	\$31,474.53	\$4,348.55
Growth in Excellence in Ministry	\$1,499.74	\$1,499.74	\$0.00
Congregational Renewal Fund	\$278,922.51	\$248,601.51	(\$30,321.00)
Intentional Interim Pastor	\$2,724.71	\$2,322.21	(\$402.50)
FCTE & Candidacy Assistance	\$38,901.69	\$38,697.73	(\$203.96)
Macedonia Project-Grant	\$6,080.83	\$5,537.03	(\$543.80)
Synod Administration & Assistance	\$21,811.25	\$21,811.25	\$0.00
Synodically Authorized Ministries	\$5,444.49	\$3,045.71	(\$2,398.78)
Well Being Fund	\$32,457.46	\$31,264.46	(\$1,193.00)
Reserves for Auto Replacement	\$18,839.96	\$21,839.96	\$3,000.00
Reserves for Equipment Replacement	\$16,604.96	\$14,845.32	(\$1,759.64)
Reserves for Furniture Replacement	\$4,857.03	\$5,057.03	\$200.00
Reserves for Capital Improvement	\$8,261.66	\$10,261.66	\$2,000.00
Designated Cont. Ed Fund	\$2,749.90	\$5,069.90	\$2,320.00
<u>Total Designated Funds</u>	\$507,882.28	\$478,993.57	(\$28,888.71)
<u>Total Restricted and Designated Funds</u>	\$1,726,599.91	\$1,741,314.99	\$14,715.08

Central Southern IL Synod, ELCA

Balance Sheet
January 31, 2017

Assets**Current Assets**

- Petty Cash Fund	\$200.00	
- Endowment for Mission Investments	\$170,122.45	
- Mission Plus Reserves Investments	\$359,495.05	
- Bank Of Springfield	\$585,577.56	
- Bank of Springfield CD	\$250,349.04	
- Student Loan Fund Investment	\$243,494.69	
- Prepaid Expenses	\$18,356.47	
- Highland Land	\$366,049.25	

Total Current Assets \$1,993,644.51

Fixed Assets

- Building & Improvements	\$394,217.17	
- Automobile	\$24,134.24	
- Furniture & Fixtures	\$61,846.51	
- Office Equipment	\$163,961.74	

Total Fixed Assets \$644,159.66

Other Assets

- Accumulated Depreciation-Building	(\$394,217.17)	
- Accumulated Depreciation-Automobile	(\$24,134.24)	
- Accumulated Depreciation-F/F	(\$61,846.51)	
- Accumulated Depr.-Office Equipment	(\$163,961.74)	

Total Other Assets (\$644,159.66)

Total Assets \$1,993,644.51

Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds**Liabilities****Current Liabilities**

- Accrued Vacation Payable	\$3,320.22	
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Designated funds payable

- Other designated funds payable	\$16,282.87	
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Total Designated funds payable \$16,282.87

Total Current Liabilities \$19,603.09

Total Restricted & Dedicated Assets (See page 6 for details) \$1,741,314.99

Total Liabilities \$1,760,918.08

Fund Principal**Retained Earnings**

- Retained Earnings	\$278,323.80	
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Total Retained Earnings \$278,323.80

- Excess Cash Received	(\$45,597.37)	
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Total Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received \$232,726.43

Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds \$1,993,644.51

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

2018 Proposed Budget

	Actual 2013 56%/44%	Actual 2014 56%/44%	Actual 2015 56%/44%	Actual 2016 56%/44%	Budget 2016 56%/44%	Budget 2017 56%/44%	Proposed Budget 2018 50%/50%
Income from congregations	\$1,423,174	\$1,450,269	\$1,439,080	\$1,398,471	\$1,450,000	1,450,000	1,400,000
Ministry through ELCA (56%)	796,977	812,151	805,885	783,144	812,000	812,000	700,000
Ministry through CSIS (44%)	626,197	638,119	633,195	615,327.29	638,000	638,000	700,000
Interest & Misc. Income	7,683	7,987	8,680	9,025	9,500	9,500	9,500
Total available to CSIS	633,880	646,105	641,875	624,352.54	647,500	647,500	709,500
Outflow CSIS							
Agencies and Institutions							
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois	51,421	51,421	51,420	51,421	51,421	51,421	51,421
Colleges	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Seminaries	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Campus Ministries	49,500	49,500	49,500	49,500	49,500	49,500	49,500
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center	6,750	6,750	6,750	6,750	6,750	6,750	6,750
Region 5 support	3,167	3,458	3,008	3,008	3,008	3,008	3,008
Illinois Conference of Churches	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Total Agencies and Institutions	156,438	156,729	156,278	156,279	156,279	156,279	156,279
CSIS Program Committees							
Global Mission	949	1,130	308	2,735	4,300	4,300	4,300
Social Ministry, Justice & Advocacy	7,612	6,608	6,050	5,333	8,000	8,000	8,000
Professional and Lay Ministry							
Candidacy Subcommittee	15,064	10,492	8,401	13,526	15,500	13,000	13,000
Synodically Auth. Min. Subcommittee	466	742	516	286	3,500	3,500	3,500
Leadership Support Subcommittee	3,585	5,500	3,209	2,676	4,000	4,000	4,000
Mission Support & Stewardship	805	92	297	105	1,000	1,000	1,000
<i>Church in Society/Outreach</i>							
New / Renewing Congregations	1,401	6,549	4,873	2,986	7,050	7,050	7,050
Constitution / Miscellaneous	105	0	969	0	0	0	0
Total CSIS Program Committees	29,987	31,113	24,623	27,646	43,350	40,850	40,850
CSIS Congregation/ Clergy Services							
Salaries/Housing	246,980	257,561	281,945	293,785	293,584	301,031	308,700
Benefits	62,580	66,842	76,080	81,361	80,261	85,862	86,906
Continuing Education	1,000	4,500	5,794	5,064	4,500	4,500	4,500
Bishop's Fund	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total CSIS Cong/Clergy Services	311,560	329,902	364,819	381,210	379,345	392,393	401,106
CSIS Office Administration							
Staff Travel	20,834	18,108	17,423	20,047	19,000	19,000	19,000
Operations	56,866	57,400	47,133	43,169	56,695	55,045	50,905
Equipment	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Furniture/Capital Improvement	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200
Automobile	5,000	2,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Communication	216	618	259	0	750	250	0
Total CSIS Office Administration	89,615	84,826	73,515	72,916	86,145	83,995	79,605
CSIS Synod Administration							
Synod Assembly	16,500	15,388	19,930	27,899	25,000	25,000	29,000
Nominating Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Synod Council	4,941	4,669	3,739	3,807	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total CSIS Synod Administration	21,442	20,057	23,669	31,706	30,000	30,000	34,000
Total Synod Outflow	609,042	622,627	642,904	669,757	695,119	703,517	711,840
Total Outflow	1,406,019	1,434,778	1,448,789	1,452,900	1,507,119	1,515,517	1,411,840
Total inflow over total outflow	24,838	23,478	(1,029)	(45,404)	(47,619)	(56,017)	(2,340)
Reserves available end of year	246,007	267,674	266,645	221,241	219,026	165,224	162,884
Reserve % of annual budget	17.5%	18.7%	18.4%	15.2%	14.5%	10.9%	11.5%

2018 Budget Notes

1. The budgeted 2018 congregational mission support is reduced from the budget for 2017 based on 2016 actual available to CSIS being >\$51,500 below 2016 budget.
2. The Finance Committee received no specific requested amounts for staff compensation. The 2018 proposed budget amount reflects a 2.5% increase in total salaries. Medical Insurance increase is a big question, a 3% increase for 2018 is included.
3. The 2017 Proposed Budget is not a balanced budget. If 2017 income is close to the 2016 actual income, the deficit could be nearer \$90 - \$100,000. This could leave reserves at or near \$125,000 for year end 2017 or 8.2%.
4. The 2018 budget reflects a change from the 56%/44% ELCA/Synod split to 50%/50% in an effort to stabilize spending at a breakeven level for the Synod. Considerable reevaluation of Synod priorities will need to be addressed during the next year to insure that resources will be adequate to meet said priorities.

Program Committees

	Budget 2014	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	Budget 2015	Budget 2016	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Budget 2018
Global Mission	4,000	1,130	308	4,000	4,300	2,735	4,300	4,300
Committee Expenses	2,200	130	808	1,000	1,000	200	1,000	1,000
Companion Synod Programs	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Regional Events & Scholarships	-	-	500	500	-	35	-	-
GME Scholarships	800	-	-	-	800	-	800	800
Social Ministry, Justice & Advocacy	8,000	6,608	6,050	8,000	8,000	5,333	8,000	8,000
Committee Expenses	2,000	458	879	2,000	2,000	186	2,000	2,000
Grants	6,000	6,150	5,172	6,000	6,000	5,147	6,000	6,000
Professional and Lay Ministry Candidacy Subcommittee	32,000	16,734	12,127	27,500	23,000	16,488	20,500	20,500
Committee Expenses	1,000	1,350	819	1,000	1,000	359	1,000	1,000
Multi synodical	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seminary Scholarships	16,500	7,500	6,000	12,000	10,500	10,500	8,000	8,000
Candidacy	6,000	1,643	1,583	7,000	4,000	2,667	4,000	4,000
Synodically Auth. Ministry Subcommittee								
Committee Expenses	1,000	320	413	1,000	1,000	286	1,000	1,000
S.A.M. Program	2,500	422	103	2,500	2,500	-	2,500	2,500
Leadership Support Subcommittee								
Committee Expenses	1,000	389	19	1,000	1,000	20	1,000	1,000
Retreats, Conferences	3,000	5,112	3,190	3,000	3,000	2,655	3,000	3,000
Mediation Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mission Support & Stewardship	1,000	92	297	1,000	1,000	105	1,000	1,000
Committee Expenses	500	-	295	500	500	89	500	500
Stewardship	500	92	2	500	500	16	500	500
New / Renewing Congregations	7,050	6,549	4,873	7,050	7,050	2,986	7,050	7,050
Committee Expenses	5,000	2,449	2,823	5,000	5,000	936	5,000	5,000
Youth/Leadership Lab	2,050	4,100	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050	2,050
Discipline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Constitution / Miscellaneous Consultation	0	0	969.13	0	0	0	0	0
Total CSIS Program Committees	52,050	31,113	24,624	47,550	43,350	27,646	40,850	40,850

Committee Reports to the Assembly

Constitution Committee

Submitted by Pastor Richard Hertenstein, 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 congregation's own constitution.

Our constitutions are tools which, when used well, enhance our mission in serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This year, April 2016-March 2017 the committee reviewed proposed amendments to constitutions of:

Trinity Lutheran Church, Golden
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Campbell Hill
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Dwight
St. John Lutheran Church, Bloomington
Trinity Lutheran Church, Fairbury
Peace Lutheran Church, Chester

United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace, Steeleville
Saint Mark Lutheran Church, Chillicothe
Faith Lutheran Church Washington
First Lutheran Church, Decatur
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Crescent City

Finding no inherent conflicts the committee recommended approval by the Synod Council. The committee is working with at least four other congregations who are in the process of amending and updating their constitutions.

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. Congregations should also refer to and use the most recently adopted "Model Constitution for Congregations" as amended by the churchwide assemblies. The most recent edition is from the 2016 assembly and is available at the churchwide website, www.elca.org, go to the office of the secretary and then to resources. The synod has a checklist available as a PDF Document which may be used by congregations in the process.

Global Mission

Submitted by Rose Moser, C/SIS Global Mission Committee Member

As a member of the Global Mission Committee, I was privileged to accompany Bishop Roth on a trip to Madagascar. The purpose of the trip was to meet the newly elected President of the Malagasy Lutheran Church (FLM), President David, as well as to renew acquaintances with the presidents of the Central/Southern Illinois' companion synods of Fort Dauphin and Ambovombe-Androy. Three additional ELCA synodical bishops who have companion synods in Madagascar, along with several pastors and lay persons from these synods also participated in this trip.

It was a special joy to me to get reacquainted with Toromare Mananato. She had visited our synod twice before and C/SIS women of the ELCA had financed her seminary education in the USA. Recently, Toromare was elected Vice General Secretary of the Malagasy Lutheran Church; the first time in the 150 year history of the FLM that a woman was elected to such a high office. Toromare served as translator during our visits to the Fort Dauphin and Ambovombe-Androy synods.

After time in the capital city of Antananarivo, Bishop Roth, Ms. Dana Dutcher, who works at the ELCA Churchwide office as Manager for Companion Relationships, Asia Pacific, Madagascar, and West/Central Africa, and I along with Toromare, flew to the south of Madagascar to visit with the presidents of our companion synods. Please refer to Bishop Roth's report for the details of our trip.

For me, there were many highlights of our visit to the two companion synods. The 'jubilee' service to honor former president IALA of the Ambovombe-Androy synod was especially meaningful. Over two thousand people crowded into the sanctuary, some sitting on the floor and the altar steps and others leaning into

windows. The singing was beautiful, just imagine all those voices singing 'God be with you till we meet again' to us in the Malagasy language. Other enduring memories were visits to a seed distribution center supported by ELCA World Hunger, visits to two Bible Schools, the Lutheran hospital, and taking part in a service at the Nenilava toby. I also enjoyed helping to plant 500 little trees in a deforested area to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the reformation. On our last evening in Fort Dauphin, we were able to participate in a service where Bishop Roth taught and many choirs sang praises to God.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to participate in this trip and to learn, first hand, about our companion relationships. I am available to give presentations to any congregation that is interested to see pictures and hear about our experiences.

Mission Support and Stewardship Education

Submitted by Ms. Pat Caley, chair

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Peter 4:10*

The Mission Support and Stewardship Education Committee (MSSEC) works to equip congregations in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod with resources for mission support and stewardship. We invite you to visit our table in the display area of the Synod Assembly to see what we have done. You are welcome to take material home with you, so your congregation can better support the mission of the ELCA and further develop your stewardship plans.

Ms. Doreen Klages serves as the coordinator of our Mission Interpreters program. Our goal is to recruit at least one Mission Interpreter in each congregation. If you have a heart for mission – or know someone who does – you can find out more about this exciting program by contacting Doreen at dlklages@att.net or (618) 632-0448; visiting www.csis-elca.org or checking out the MSSEC display at the Synod Assembly. Two Mission Interpreters gatherings were held in the past year at Resurrection Bloomington and Good Shepherd Champaign. Please join us for the next event scheduled for Saturday, October 7, 2017, at Faith Lutheran Church in Washington.



We look forward to hosting a Stewardship Forum at the Synod Assembly led by Mr. Tim Urness, a regional gift planner with the ELCA Foundation. Tim works with congregations in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod (and Region 5) assisting them with the development of Endowment/Legacy Funds, which help congregations to expand their ministry to and with others.

Are you on our mailing list? If you're not getting our regular emails highlighting synod activities and resources, contact Cindy Koonce at the synod office 217-753-7915. In addition to "Mission

Matters" and "Steward Tips," those on our list also receive "Did You Know That...?" and "For Your Consideration" that contain interesting items that are ideal for publishing in your newsletter or weekly bulletin.

The committee's goal is to help congregations in their efforts to support God's mission through their congregation, the Central/Southern Illinois Synod and the ELCA. How can we help you and your congregation? Please contact any of our team members, so we can help and encourage you in your ministry to further the mission of the ELCA.

Pastor Nikoli Falenschek, East/Central Conference (217) 586-4786

Pastor Patty Heath, Northeast Conference (815) 932-1848

Mr. Phil Ruch, Northern Conference (217) 732-9763

Ms. Pat Caley (chair), West/Central Conference (217) 638-1106

Pastor Jim Davis, Synod Council Rep 217-784-5444

Pastor Bob Dealey, Synod Representative (217) 753-7915

New and Renewing Congregations

Submitted by Pastor Bob Dealey, DEM

The focus of the New & Renewing Congregations Committee continues to be on congregational renewal. Pastor Ed Hudelson serves as the chair of the Transformational Ministry subgroup, which has coordinated a series of four training events—one in the spring and one in the fall during the past two years. Currently, the Transformational Ministry group is exploring ways to identify congregations that are in need of renewal and to develop ways to provide those congregations with resources that will assist them with that process. For more information about Transformational Ministry, please contact Pastor Ed Hudelson, (815) 674-8635 or by email chudelson@msn.com.

In cooperation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, a Comprehensive Ministry Review was conducted at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Mt. Vernon, IL, December 2-4, 2016. The Review Team included: The Rev. Neil Harrison, ELCA Director for Congregational Renewal; the Rev. Bob Dealey, ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission; Ms. Connie Frankenfeld; the Rev. Marlin Otte; Ms. Deb Rathert; and the Rev. Jan Worms. The Ministry Review Report included 19 Affirmations and 16 recommendations for the congregation and its ministry. The congregation has formed a Redevelopment Team and is in the process of developing a short- and a long-term plan to improve the effectiveness of its ministry.

Social Ministry, Justice, and Advocacy (SMJA)

Submitted by Ms. Ellen Davis, 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, In as much 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 continues to be quite busy. We have revised the grant application requirements in order to provide more accountability in the use of funds as well as more active participation by congregations in these ministries. This year, we requested that two reports and pictures, which reflect the use of the grant be submitted to the SMJA Committee. This provides the committee with both the visibility and viability of synodical grants.

The grant application process runs from January to April 15th of each year. The 2017 grants will be announced at this year's synod assembly. The display table will have photos of this year's recipients and their projects. Applications for next year's grants will also be available at this year's synod assembly and will be posted on the synod website (www.csis-elca.org) next January.

In addition to grants, funds were also allocated to assist conferences and congregations with expenses related to programs that promote justice and advocacy, so that the impact of things like hunger and discrimination might be diminished.

The grants for 2017 went to:

St Matthew Lutheran Church, Urbana, IL
St Luke Lutheran Church, Campbell Hill, IL

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Metropolis, IL

Lutheran Church of Mahomet, Mahomet, IL
Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, IL
St Luke Lutheran Church, Campbell Hill, IL

Project: Douglas Park Community Garden
Project: Kairos Prison Ministry –
Menard Correctional Facility, Chester, IL
Project: MCDAC Red Ribbon Week
2017 Campaign DRUG Awareness
Project: Recycling Project
Project: Loads of Love
Project: Trico Area Food For Youth

In addition to providing grants, the SMJA Committee seeks to be a source of contact for congregations as they actively engage in social ministry in their local context. A portion of our funds are budgeted to help congregations address other social issues, e.g. racism, and other synod approved educational programs. Another goal is to assist congregations in showing how the Church can be a viable and valuable asset in the local community.

The acronym we have chosen for our committee is **S E A** which stands for:

Serve.....Educate.....Advocate

In response to a challenge from Bishop Roth, we have drafted a letter concerning Social Justice to the congregations of the Synod challenging them to send letters to their state representatives concerning the budget impasse and the effect it is having on Social Justice in our state. Also encouraging them to share what their congregations have done to help ease this situation. I especially want to thank 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.

Professional and Lay Leadership

Candidacy

Submitted by Pastor Elise Rothfusz, chair

What is the Candidacy Committee?

The Candidacy Committee of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod is tasked with the responsibility for approving candidates to serve as rostered leaders in the ELCA. We oversee the process of preparation and formation of these candidates and partner with them, their congregations, seminaries, and the Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit of the ELCA. We seek to support and guide candidates through prayer and conversation as they discern God's call to ministry.

The C/SIS Candidacy Committee meets three times each year to make entrance, endorsement, and approval decisions for candidates; a calendar of these dates is posted on the synod website. In 2016 we held a retreat for our candidates and those who are discerning a call to ministry. We will have a retreat again in 2017. For the third year in a row we are also offering a forum during synod assembly for potential ministry candidates and others to learn more about what the candidacy process involves.

Who is part of the candidacy process?

The candidacy process involves both members of our synod who serve on the Candidacy Committee (one pastor and one lay person from each conference) and of course, the candidates who come from our local congregations.

Our synod currently has five candidates enrolled in the candidacy process, with two more who are in the entrance process. We ask that you would pray for these candidates as well as others who may be discerning a call to serve the ELCA by becoming a rostered leader. Our current candidates for Word and Sacrament ministry:

- ♦ Brian Coffey (St. Paul, Peoria) is entranced and in coursework (Luther Seminary distributed learning)
- ♦ Lynne Culkin (St. Paul, Gilman) is endorsed and awaiting internship placement (Wartburg Theological Seminary distributed learning)
- ♦ Patrick Jenkins (St. Mark, Washington) is in his internship year at Advent, Morton (Luther Seminary distributed learning)
- ♦ Kristen Schmid (St. John's, Springfield) is entranced and in coursework (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago)
- ♦ Ella Vandervlugt (Advent, Morton) is entranced and in coursework (Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary)
- ♦ In 2016, Linda Strader was approved for ordination, assigned to C/SIS, and is now serving in our synod.

I would like to express my thanks to the Candidacy Committee members for their dedication and commitment to this important work on behalf of the whole ELCA: Rev. Joel Brown, Rev. Scott Egbers, Ms. Karen Fifer, Mr. Bill Moehring, Rev. Marlin Otte, Mr. David Poland, Rev. Chris Repp, Ms. Lynn Smith, Ms. Jeanine Standard, Synod Council Representative Rev. Glen VanderKloot, Synod staff Rev. Ken Sandlin, Seminary Representative Rev. Paul Landahl, and ELCA Region 5 Representative Rev. Ramie Bakken. Rev. Christine Erdman and Rev. Tom Hillertz have completed serving on the committee, and I especially thank them for their time and contributions over the last few years.

How are congregations part of the candidacy process?

Congregations are a vital part of candidacy - our candidates, future pastors and leaders in the church, come from your congregations! Who are those people in the midst of your community who have gifts for ministry? Encourage them; pray for them; nurture their gifts. The call to ministry is heard both as an inward call, one's own sense of direction and purpose, but also "outwardly," when others are able to recognize someone's gifts for ministry.

Future church leaders are not only nurtured in our congregations; they are trained there too. With more candidates opting for distributed learning opportunities and hoping to complete internship near their homes, seminaries are looking for congregations to serve as internship sites. If your congregation might like to pursue this form of ministry (shaping and forming leaders through internship is indeed a ministry!), contact one of our Lutheran seminaries to begin exploring what that process and ministry looks like.

Finally, we ask all congregations to be praying for our current candidates and future leaders of our congregations. Together we share in the work of the Gospel. Thank you for your partnership in ministry.

Synodically Authorized Ministry (S.A.M.)

Submitted by Pastor David Hofer, chair

The Synodically Authorized Ministry Subcommittee met three times since the last Synod Assembly. The committee met July 16 and September 19 in 2016, and March 3 in 2017.

The elected members of the committee are Pastor Corrine Blissard, Pastor Blake Duncan, Mr. Michael Foppe, Pastor David Hofer, Dr. Larry Jahn, Deacon Helen Pagel, Ms. Debra Rathert, and Mr. Allen Shay.

The challenge to the subcommittee and the synod is to encourage more baptized non-clergy to desire to study the Bible and, for some, to discover God leading them to become a S.A.M. To do that, Pastor Wayland Middendorf is preparing to offer a gathering of interested persons entitled "What is Synodically Authorized Ministry?" This possibly will be held in the spring of 2018.

A "Thank you!" is extended to Pastor Wayland Middendorf who led the subcommittee during the past few years. Pastor Wayland, as of December 2016, has stepped aside into his retirement (almost)! Currently there is no replacement for him. The committee is self-functioning at this time.

The subcommittee thanks all the Synodically Authorized Ministers for their willingness to serve the Lord Jesus Christ within the jurisdiction of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. We thank Bishop Roth and Pastor Wayland Middendorf for their guidance.

Our prayer is: "Lord Jesus, send people who want to learn more about you and share your Good News as a Synodically Authorized Minister." Amen.

Leadership Support

Submitted by Mr. Robert Mueller, chair

The committee met several times on phone conference meetings to consider guidelines for salaries of Ministers of Word and Sacrament (ordained clergy) and Ministers of Word and Service (rostered lay persons). After discussion and reviewing of insurance guidelines a recommended salary and benefits package was designed and presented to the Synod Council. It was decided to increase the base salary for first year ordained Ministers of Word and Sacrament by one percent. This then has the suggested salary for a first year clergy set in a range of \$35,310 to \$36,369. With a suggested increase for each additional year of service of \$750. For a called Minister of Word and Service (lay person) the new suggested beginning salary would be in the range of \$34,065 to \$35,087. The yearly suggested increase for each year of service would be \$680.

It was also agreed on that congregations should try to remain with the Gold Plan for insurance purposes.



2017 Report from the Central / Southern Illinois Synod Lutheran Youth Organization

2016 CSIS LYO Advisor's Report

Greetings on behalf of the CSIS Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO).

The LYO Board and Planning Committee has been very busy planning for and participating in synod youth events in 2016 and 2017.

The Carlinville retreat was held November 11-13, 2016, at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center. The theme for the retreat was "Relentless", based on Hebrews 10. Youth participated in different small group activities. Dakota Road once again led music for our weekend. Our keynotes were led by Pastor Roy Christell. Along with the other retreat activities, congregations were asked to donate items for Lutheran World Relief school kits. With the donations made, we were able to complete almost 100 kits, which will be sent out later this year.

In December, the State of Illinois closed the Rend Lake Resort, the location where our February retreat is normally held. Because of this, we held the retreat at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center February 17-19, 2017. The theme for this retreat was "The Living Tell the Tale", based on Acts 1. This retreat took aspects from the Pirates of the Caribbean films and related them to our lives as Christians. Music was led by Prays twice, and the keynotes were shared between Pastor Tom Krieger and Pastor Roy Christell.

After much discussion, we have decided that we are going to put the Rend Lake Retreat on hold until such time as the fate of the Rend Lake Resort is determined by the State. At this time there are no plans to host it in 2018. After discussion we have decided not to try and find a venue and make it fit. We will keep you posted as more information is received from the state.

Last summer saw youth from our synod join with the other synods from Illinois for Leadership Lab, held at Augustana College in Rock Island. The theme of Leadership Lab was "Do Love Walk", based on Micah 6:8. It reminded us of our call to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

The dates for upcoming events are:

Leadership Lab: July 24-29, 2017

Carlinville: November 17-19, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Svanda and Katlyn Reimer
LYO Advisors

C/SIS LYO TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Svanda and Katlyn Reimer
LYO Advisors

Bank of Springfield Account	
Beginning Balance	\$73.60
Service Charge	\$0.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$73.60
Bank of Carbondale Account	
Beginning Balance 01/01/2016	\$13,603.65
2016 Rend Lake Youth Gathering Expenses	26,818.76
2016 Carlinville Youth Gathering Expenses	36,236.98
2016 Synod Assembly Page Expenses	148.43
Deposits	
Rend Lake Youth Gathering	30,275.00
Carlinville Youth Gathering	36,400.00
Ending Balance	\$17,074.48



2017 Report from the Central / Southern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA

Submitted by Ms. Patricia Caley, President

The past year for the C/SIS Women of the ELCA has been one of change as well as excitement for what God has in store for us.

Last fall we bade farewell to our president, Judy Murray. The board then voted to appoint Pat Caley to serve as president and we continued with Judy's plans to increase membership and lift up the women of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

We voted in 2016 to hold only one synod-wide event each year but encouraged each conference to host activities for the women in their congregations – which they have done! Throughout our synod women have been supporting local charities, collecting for food banks, mentoring children, quilting, singing, praising God and lifting up the gifts of each woman in their conference and congregation. It is our hope that more women will consider organizing a WELCA unit in their congregation so we can all grow together.



We will be sending four representatives to the Churchwide Triennial Gathering in July: Pat Caley, Louann Harms, Ann Joyce, and Wanda K Williams. They will be reporting back through our newsletter and other social media sites as well as sharing the fun at our Biennial Convention.

Speaking of our 2017 Biennial Convention, we're excited to announce it will be held on October 20-21, at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville. With a Reformation 500th theme, our keynote speaker will be Judy Engebretson who portrays Katie Luther. We'll learn what it means to be saved by grace in our Bible study and worship based on the second chapter of Ephesians.

But there's more. Of course we'll take care of business and elect officers and board members but we'll also enjoy a presentation by Rose Moser of her trip with Bishop Roth to Madagascar, a hay ride and campfire (with s'mores), lots of fellowship and relaxation around the indoor pool and walks around the pastoral setting of Lake Williamson.

Stop by the WELCA display table for more information and registration forms. You can also check out the synod website and be sure to "like" our Facebook page: "C/SIS Women of the ELCA" to keep updated on news and events.

The board of the C/SIS Women of the ELCA welcome all women in our synod and are eager to help with planning and organizing your local unit. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or help. You can find contact information and more at our display table.

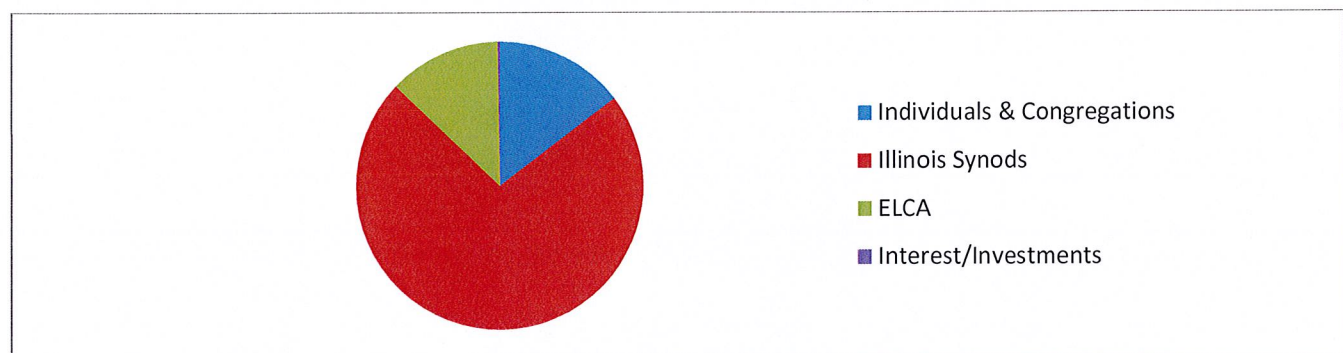
We're looking forward to getting to know all the women in our synod and hope you'll prayerfully consider joining us in October as we celebrate our history as Lutherans.



C/SIS WELCA Board members: (back) Linda Anglin, Sara Oehlert, Bonnie Hartke, Clare Smith, Pat Caley, (front) Jean Scherer, Cindy Lierly, Julie Johnson, Donna Schuler, Lynn Smith, Jomarilyn Hartke



The three synods in Illinois remain the primary funding partners for our six staffed campus ministry agency sites, Illinois State, Normal; Northern Illinois University, DeKalb; Northwestern University, Evanston; South Loop, Chicago; University of Chicago, Chicago; and University of Illinois, Champaign. Thank you!



In addition, there are about twenty cooperating congregations in campus ministry, who intentionally engage with students, faculty, and staff at nearby colleges and universities.

Please make sure you visit the Campus Ministry display table and learn more about this vital ministry we support together. We invite your support at every level of our work, helping the local site, supporting your synod, and contributing directly to LCMI (blue portion of the pie above).

On behalf of Bishops Clements, Miller, Roth, and our fellow board volunteers, thank you for your steadfast support!

Mark Van Scharrel
President

Carey Mayer
Treasurer

Trent Gordon
Vice-President

Tammie Farley
Secretary



1001 E. Touhy Avenue, Suite 50
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
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847.635.6764
LSSI.org

Central/Southern Synod Annual Report from Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

Dear Valued Partners in Ministry:

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is celebrating the 150th Anniversary of its founding in 1867 as the Andover Children's Home. Throughout our history, LSSI has responded, grown, and changed. This past year, LSSI served more than 64,000 people in communities across Illinois.

In June 2016, LSSI implemented a new five-year strategic plan that is our roadmap for the future. We are committed to continuing our ministry—providing mental health and substance abuse services, affordable senior housing, services for at-risk families, residential support for adults with developmental disabilities, Head Start, foster care, home care, and programs for formerly incarcerated individuals. The main tenets of our strategic plan will expand on this work guided by the core values of compassion, excellence, and stewardship.

LSSI's strategic plan looks to be "generative" in our services—creating ongoing support that helps those with whom we share in life to contribute and thrive. For example, providing home care services for seniors to be able to continue living with independence in their homes; providing community access to mental and behavioral health services; and children's services that lead to greater permanency for families. The following are highlights of the great progress we've made in these areas:

- Expanded Project IMPACT (**I**mmEDIATE **M**ultidisciplinary **P**re-Screening **A**ssessment **C**risis **T**eam) to two additional hospitals in Chicago, Community First Medical Center and Methodist Hospital. The program is based on a successful model LSSI started 23 years ago at Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago. Located inside the hospitals' emergency departments, Project IMPACT provides crisis intervention and mental health screenings to individuals struggling with mental health episodes. The growth of these services was leveraged with contributions from both private foundations and individual donors to LSSI.
- Working in partnership with the Center for Gerontology at Concordia University Chicago, LSSI is addressing ways to strengthen its Intouch Home Care Services, which allows older adults to continue living in their home and community. The project includes ongoing gerontology training (GERO) for staff and a focus on "whole person" care protocols that enable home care staff to provide the highest level of care that coordinates GERO and culturally competent, comprehensive care in the home.

- LSSI was chosen by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a pilot organization for Therapeutic Foster Care. The pilot program is part of a DCFS initiative to place children with histories of severe trauma and emotional/behavioral needs into single-family homes rather than institutional settings or group homes. LSSI is one of the largest providers of foster care services in Illinois. We are strongly positioned to use our expertise and work collaboratively with the state on this and other programs that can demonstrate promising change for children in the state's child welfare system.

Lutherans and other people of good faith support LSSI 365 days a year, but on several days in particular, these groups come together in a strong show of advocacy, generosity, and a commitment to our mission.

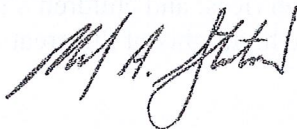
- Good Shepherd Sunday, May 7, celebrated the ministry the three ELCA Illinois Synods provide together through LSSI. It is a special day when LSSI representatives speak at churches across Illinois to raise awareness and support our programs.
- Lutheran Day, May 9, saw advocates from across the state gather to study, pray, and take action for equality amongst Illinois residents.

We wish to express our gratitude to Bishop John Roth, as well as Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod who currently serves on the LSSI Board of Directors.

We are grateful to the trustees of LSSI's endowment, The Cornerstone Foundation, who are from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod: Marcia Anderson, Richard Craig, Connie Frankenfeld, Mary Loken, Roland Person, Jeanne Rapp, and Lynn C. Smith.

Our work is an expression of the love of Christ, bringing healing, justice, and wholeness to people and communities. Thank you for your support that allows us to continue our mission.

In faith,



Mark A. Stutrud
President and Chief Executive Officer



Spring 2017

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As the ELCA commemorates the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we are reminded that *the church should always be reforming* — adapting to a changing landscape even as it stands firm in its mission. In 2016, Portico's ministry epitomized this combination of innovation rooted in mission, as we expanded our service and stewardship in new ways while continuing to provide cost-effective, high-quality health and retirement benefits for more than 46,000 active and retired ELCA rostered ministers, lay employees, and their families in partnership with the almost 6,600 ELCA churches and employers we serve.

We championed a wellness reformation in the ELCA, inviting a recommitment to healthier lifestyles and a healthier church. For the first time, we formally extended our annual wellness challenge to congregations. Also a first: We surveyed those already living a healthy lifestyle, and more than 1,800 members and spouses shared inspiring testimonies of the life-changing power of prioritizing one's physical and emotional health.

We offered a new approach to providing health care. In response to the growing prevalence of chronic disease and rising claim costs, we introduced Portico Care Coordinators by Quantum Health to help members navigate today's complex health care system and get the best possible care at the right price. The anticipated savings from this industry-leading approach was one of several cost-containment measures that helped us hold 2017 health contribution rates to the lowest increase in four years.

We answered the church's call for socially-informed investing. We strive to live out the church's mission and make an impact in God's kingdom as we manage the assets in the ELCA Retirement Plan. Memorials at Churchwide Assembly in August affirmed the three powerful ways we impact corporate behavior through shareholder advocacy, screening, and positive investing. The Assembly also called for even broader work on the environment and human rights; in the coming months, we look forward to partnering with the ELCA to develop screens that will guide future investment opportunities.

We developed new support for financial decision-making. For two decades, Portico has been a leading voice in the ELCA connecting the importance of physical, emotional, and financial health to ministry. In response to members' desire for an easier way to manage their retirement savings, we developed new benefits that will help our members better assess their readiness for retirement, and will provide personal assistance to help them reach their financial goals.

These efforts — and many more — come thanks to a dedicated, creative staff constantly seeking to improve our internal operating processes, maximize efficiency, and be good stewards of the resources entrusted to our care. Their efforts helped ensure that for the third straight year, Portico's capital and operating expenses were under budget, and we maintained ELCA Health Plan and Retirement Plan expense ratios lower than our benchmarks. As the church adapts to today's changing landscape, Portico is well positioned to continue to provide the best possible care for our members, so they can serve the world with confidence, resilience, and faithfulness.

In Christ,

The Rev. Jeffrey D. Thiemann
President and CEO



Region 5

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Report for 2017 Synod Assembly

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As you gather for synod assembly this year you will come together to worship the Triune God, learn together, and support one another in faithful witness to the good news of Jesus Christ. You do this through hearing and sharing your stories of faith, connecting and collaborating with others on how to address ministry challenges and opportunities, and reflecting on your baptismal call in community as you engage in the business of the assembly. For many, the synod assembly or other gatherings of the synod serves to inspire, encourage, and equip you as you faithfully join in God's mission to love and bless this world.

This synod joins with eleven other synods in Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, Iowa, and Illinois to form Region 5. As part of region 5 of the ELCA, your synod bishop, staff, and other synodical leaders engage in similar collaborative efforts as a region; gathering together for worship, sharing experience and expertise, and conducting other business in order to strengthen and support local ministry. Region 5 primarily works together to address mission and leadership needs in your synod and throughout the region.

As candidacy and leadership manager for region 5, much of my work is spent working with synod candidacy committees. "Candidacy" is the term used to describe our process of forming and preparing people to serve as a rostered leader in the ELCA. We gratefully receive those who are considering a call to rostered ministry; help them in their continued discernment, and walk with them as they are formed to faithfully serve this church through a ministry of Word and Service or Word and Sacrament. Like the many faithful volunteers that serve on your synod candidacy committee, I am honored to accompany students, help them develop as leaders, and explore with them how God is calling them to service in the world.

Additionally, Region 5 joins together to providing staffing for our archives, housed at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. The purpose of the regional archives is to collect records of, and respond to, inquiries concerning synods, deceased rostered personnel, and dissolved congregations within region 5. This work both preserves institutional records and documents the historical record of the institution within the context of the larger world. Archives staff report that approximately 200 requests come in each year from individuals for information found in the region 5 archives.

Thank you for your synod's participation in this shared ministry and for the privilege to serve among you.

In Christ,

Rev. Ramie L. Bakken

Region 5 ELCA office
P.O. Box 811
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Rev. Ramie Bakken
ramie.bakken@elca.org 773.380.2111

Region 5 Archives
Wartburg Seminary
333 Wartburg Place
Dubuque, IA 52003
office 563.589.0320

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center

Annual Report to the Central Southern Illinois Synod (CSIS)

Friends in Christ,

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC) is grateful and blessed to share our stewardship of God's bountiful, endless provisions of our property and budget. In our 42nd year of operation, we continue to strive towards our mission of nurturing Christian faith by providing experiences connecting the Word of God with the World of God. We care for God's outdoor Church, a sublime backdrop of 640 acres of forest, prairie, and pond in Oregon, IL, where He meets us in the quiet to receive His peace and love of creation.

We are proud to be inclusive, offering something for everyone. Our guests and programs are many, where ALL are welcome to participate in all that LOMC has to offer. In 2016, approximately 3,000 guests joined us for an overnight retreat at our Freedom Tree Village, our adult motel-like lodging, or in our bunkhouses. Retreats included (but not limited to) scrap bookers, quilters, Bible studies, Victories for Men, Cub Scout troops, 3 different Muslim youth groups, family reunions, special occasions, and more. Over 1,200 guests joined us for summer camp, Faith Works confirmation camp, and family camp. Nearly 1,600 people joined us for our thrilling 1,200-foot-long zip line, or other adventurous activities such as hiking, pond canoeing, swimming, archery or team building.

Our day events brought in 1,000+ people, such as the Women of the ELCA, Kiwanis, Woods International, and the Oregon High School Madrigal Singers. This category also includes the hundreds of volunteers who graciously served over Memorial Day Work Weekend or the hundreds of guests who came to enjoy fall activities in October for Autumn Fest, like wagon rides, pumpkin carving, and the apple cider press. Finally, our Outdoor Education program brought out approximately 900 kids (4th – 6th grade) last year from the inner city of Chicago, suburbs, and nearby northern IL counties. They were able to fulfill their state Common Core science standards in their experiences at camp.

Research on the "power of camp" proves to back up the reason behind the attendance numbers listed above. LOMC has financially contributed to an ongoing study called the *Effective Camp Research Project* by Jacob Sorenson, PhD. This study was initiated to explore the impact of one week of summer camp, and data was collected from 11-14-year-old camp participants from several camps, their parents, summer staff members, directors, and church professionals. Phase 1 of the study was summer of 2015 and phase 2 was summer of 2016. Results have shown that the "Christian summer camp experience has **positive and lasting impacts** that extended well beyond the week of camp, affecting family devotional practices, church participation, personal well-being, and faith commitment." Fundamental to the camper's experience are 5 characteristics of camp:

1. **Camp is relational:** campers live and work together in an intensely relational environment, meeting new people. The potential impacts include "improved social competency, increased self-confidence, and more positive attitudes towards Christian communities."
2. **Camp is participatory:** the camp environment emphasizes experience. Campers learn and grow through active, kinesthetic activities. The potential impacts include "willingness to try new things, increased creativity, and more positive attitudes toward life."

3. **Camp is different than home:** camp offers a “place apart” from home, providing both physical and emotional distance from normal environments. The potential impacts include “increased independence and differentiation from parents.”
4. **Camp is a safe place:** campers aren’t just physically safe but also emotionally safe to be themselves without judgement. The potential impacts of this characteristic include “positive self-understanding, increased self-esteem, and a desire to seek out safe places and relationships.”
5. **Camp is faith-centered:** faith teachings are intertwined in all aspects and experiences of camp. Campers learn of God’s love, a love you don’t have to earn and they will never lose. The potential impact includes “increased frequency of faith practices in the home, stronger identification with faith traditions, and the ability to interpret life through the lens of faith.”

These findings are not “proof of camp’s effectiveness, but rather suggest a camp model that facilitates recognizable and lasting impacts in participants.” We at LOMC strive for these 5 fundamental characteristics to show in our daily and weekly operations, so that we may continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are the body of Christ!

Our mission brought great change last year with the launch of our *Restore and Refresh Facilities Campaign*, a 2 year \$150,000 appeal for the construction of our new multipurpose activity center, named the Pastor Norman A. Nelson Program Center, and also for new siding on each of our 4 bunkhouses and 2 meeting facilities in Timbers and Meadows. We were overflowing with gratitude for a \$60,000 matching grant towards the new program center, named after Pastor Norm Nelson, in honor of Pastor Nelson’s work and support of youth ministries. Thanks to this generous grant, donations to the building project were matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$60,000 very quickly by end of year.

As a result, a groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 9, 2016, with Pastor Norman A. Nelson, Bishop Jeffrey Clements, Bishop Wayne Miller, and several other special guests. Construction began after Thanksgiving 2016, and is expected to be completed spring 2017, in time for use by summer. We are excited to host a dedication ceremony over Memorial Day Work Weekend, Saturday, May 27, 2017, at 6:30 PM. Pastor Norm Nelson is scheduled to speak. The new facility will enhance LOMC’s programs and activities designed to build Christian community, faith development, congregational leadership training, and environmental education.

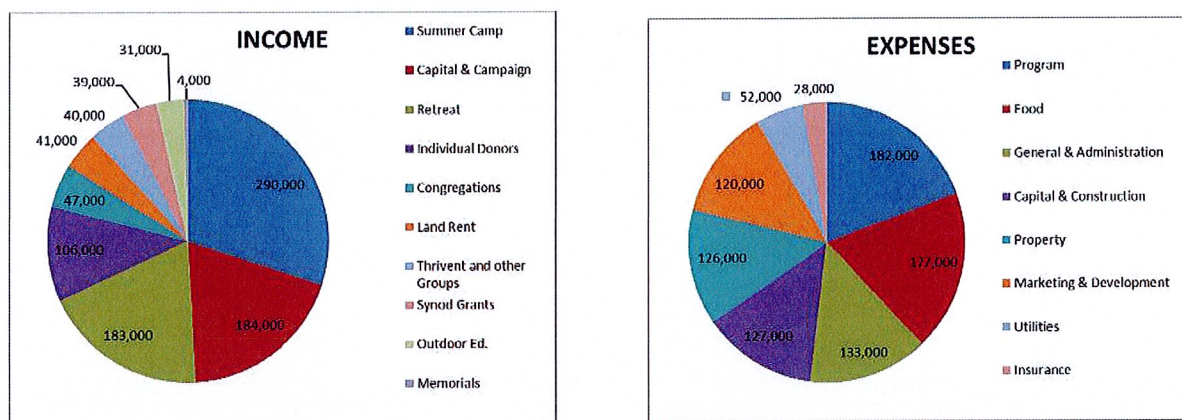
As we work hard on preserving our facilities and traditions, we are excited and grateful for all those who invest in our future. The remainder of our campaign will focus on the remodeling of our camper bunkhouses and meeting facilities. This restoration is critical to continue to provide the environment and standards our campers expect. The final phase of restoration beyond the campaign will be remodeling all 10 of the bathrooms in the bunkhouses.

The 2016 LOMC operating budget plus campaign gifts totaled \$965,000. LOMC is fortunate to have very diversified sources of income. Our guests at summer camp, capital/campaign, retreats, and individual donors accounted for approximately 80% of the annual income. We are very grateful that another 13% of LOMC’s annual income came from over 100 of the ELCA congregations in IL, synods and Thrivent Financial making it possible for LOMC to charge an affordable rate for retreats and summer camp. For example, the base registration fee for a week of summer camp is \$430, but the actual cost is more than \$500 per camper. This marvelous balance of multiple income sources

allows LOMC to continue a policy of not turning away any child for economic reasons. The final 7% of LOMC's total income came from land rental fees, outdoor education, and memorials.

On the other side of the ledger, the vast majority of expenses (66%) were for program, food, administration, and construction. The construction needs have increased as the age of camp shows signs of wear and tear. Several of our facilities are in dire need of repair, remodeling, even demolition, so that we may properly provide lodging and facilities to ensure safety, efficiency, comfort, and the standards that guests would expect during their stay.

A look at the specific dollar amounts on the following income and expense graphs tells the story of the many sources of our income and how expenses are allocated.



The LOMC Board and staff look forward to a very promising year of growth and service in 2017 as we continue our Restore and Refresh Facilities Campaign. **We invite any and all to our dedication and opening of the Pastor Norman A. Nelson Program Center on Saturday, May 27, 2017 at 6:30 PM.** We look forward to future investing in the remainder of our appeal to remodel our bunkhouses and meeting facilities.

And most importantly, the LOMC staff and Board of Directors expresses gratitude to the congregations of the CSIS for your continued support of God's work at LOMC! Board members serving from the CSIS in 2016 were Bishop John Roth, Jason Fisher, Rob Gieraltowski, John Gregg, and Rev. Dennis O'Brien. Thank you for your partnership in this amazing outdoor ministry!

In His Service,

Russ Senti, Executive Director

Adriana Plocinski, Development Director

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way, they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. ~1 Timothy 6:21



2016 Annual Report Illinois Conference of Churches

The Illinois Conference of Churches (ICC) is a state-wide ecumenical organization of 26 member Judicatories of 13 denominations representing the Protestant, Anglican, Catholic, and Orthodox Christian traditions. The ICC is an ecumenical table that brings together religious leaders, judicatory staff, clergy, and lay representatives from the member churches for dialogue, deliberation, and decisions. The ICC is an institutional expression of the ecumenical movement, a vehicle for the church's mission in Illinois for bearing witness together to the gospel of reconciliation. The Illinois Conference of Churches website is located at www.illinoisconferenceofchurches.org.

Illinois Conference of Churches Mission Statement:

The Illinois Conference of Churches seeks to be an inclusive community of churches that celebrates and makes visible our sacred bonds of unity in Christ. We will do this by promoting an honest sharing and understanding of both our common and divergent theological convictions; and making public, prophetic witness to Christ's love for all people, particularly by addressing poverty and racism.

The Illinois Conference of Churches is comprised of half time staff position – Laurie Vial, Executive Director. Laurie's position transitioned from full time to half time in 2016 in an attempt to balance the budget. In addition, the ICC is comprised of teams of judicatory representatives and delegates who dedicate their time to furthering the mission and vision of the Illinois Conference of Churches.

Leadership Team – The Leadership Team governs the ICC as needed including all personnel matters and planning the ICC Annual Assembly. The Leadership Team is led by two co-chairs, at least one of whom is a Judicatory Executive, if possible. The chairs of the other four teams also sit on the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team consists of the following members Rev. Gary McCants, African Methodist Episcopal and Rev. Wally Carlson, United Methodist Church – co-chairs; Dr. John Charlton, American Baptist - treasurer; Rev. Sharon Patton, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Fr. Kevin Laughery, Catholic Church; Dr. George Johnston, Presbyterian Church USA; Rev. Megan Dean, United Methodist Church; E. Garnet Fay, Religious Society of Friends, Rev. Galda McCants, African Methodist Episcopal, Rev. Catiana McKay, United Methodist Church; Alicja Lukaszewicz-Southall, Episcopal Church, Fr. George Pyle, Greek Orthodox and Greg Krohm, Catholic Church.

Public Policy Team – The Public Policy Team (PPT) takes a leadership role on public policy issues that impact ICC member judicatories. The team is vocal on concerns primarily before the Illinois General Assembly and Congress. The team carries out the portion of the ICC's mission statement, *"to make public, prophetic witness to Christ's love for all people, and to address in particular, issues of poverty and racism."* It is this part of the mission statement that guides the PPT's efforts as it works in consultation with the ICC's Leadership Team and the Illinois Christians Encountering Racism (ICER) Team. The Public Policy Team consists of the following members: E. Garnet Fay, Religious Society of Friends - chair; Robert Gilligan, Catholic Conference of Illinois; Rev. Gary McCants, African Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. Wally Carlson, United Methodist

Church and Rev. Dr. John Rickard, Presbyterian Church USA.

Illinois Christians Encountering Racism (ICER) Team – The Illinois Christians Encountering Racism (ICER) Team is a ministry focused on dismantling systematic racism and building bridges to racial wholeness within churches, institutions, and communities. ICER implements its mission by offering training to members within the ICC network of churches as well as to the community. The ICER Team consists of the following members Rev. Kevin Laughery, co-chair, Catholic Church; Rev. Galda McCants, co-chair, African Methodist Episcopal; Rev. Dwight Bailey, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Rev. Mark Harkness, United Methodist Church; Martha Herrin, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); Rev. Megan Dean, United Methodist Church, Rev. Christine Hopkins, Episcopal Church and Rev. Sharon Patton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Annual Assembly Forum– The Annual Assembly Forum Team plans and implements a forum annually to engage denominational representatives and judicatory executives in meaningful dialog at the Annual Assembly. The Forum Team consists of the following members: Rev. Wally Carlson, United Methodist Church chair; Rev. Catiana McKay, United Methodist Church; Fr. Robert Flannery, Catholic Church, Rev. Robert Sherman, United Church of Christ and Marianne Stowers, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Interreligious Team- Members: Rev. Catiana McKay, chair, United Methodist Church; Rev. Dr. Sheldon Culver, United Church of Christ, Dr. John Charlton, American Baptist Church, Fr. Kevin Laughery, Catholic Church, Hakan Berberoglu, Niagra Foundation, Alicja Lukaszewicz-Southall, Episcopal Church, Fr. Bob Flannery, Catholic Church and Greg Krohm, Catholic Church.

Recap of activities

- The Leadership Team met quarterly.
- The Leadership Team worked closely with the Public Policy Team to strengthen and bring forward those strategies agreed upon at the Annual Assembly.
- Held the 11th Annual Assembly in Champaign focusing on “The Face of the Young Ecumenist – the Next Generation.”
- Renewed commitment to public outreach and extended offers to speak in person with any and all judicatories and churches who are interested in our mission and vision.
- Decreased our operational budget, seeking ways to become better stewards of our donations.
- Newsletter was published quarterly.
- Updated our website.
- Invited our 13 member denominations and their members to anti-racism training offered by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
- Sent executive director to annual meetings of all denominations to bring greetings and participate in exhibition space.
- Sent executive director to the national gathering all of state ecumenical executives.
- The ICER Team met frequently by conference call.
- Made two public statements and worked on passing the state budget especially to help social service and public education.



Mosaic in 2016



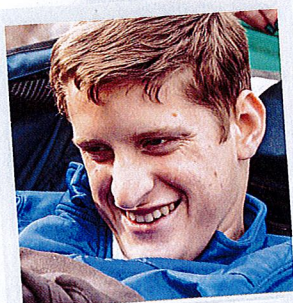
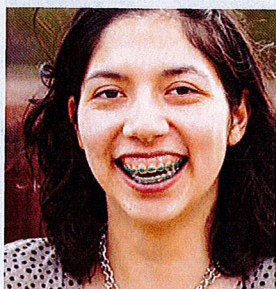
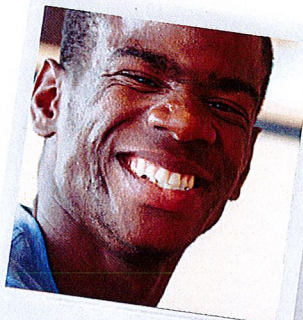
A life of possibilities for people
with intellectual disabilities.

To our friends and partners in the

Central/Southern Illinois Synod

where Mosaic provides services out of Macomb and Pontiac:

Thank you for your support and prayers!



Dear friends,

While there were many things that happened in 2016 which I could share, I want to focus on one of the most exciting: Mosaic's expansion of our host home program, called Mosaic at Home.

Mosaic at Home places people with disabilities into a home of their choosing that is shared with a service provider contracted with Mosaic. Last year we began an organization-wide effort to expand these services because we've seen so many people thrive through the one-on-one dedication this model offers.

It gives people control over their lives that many have rarely experienced. They choose how they want to spend their days, where they want to live, who they want to live with, and more. Visit www.mosaicathome.org and watch some of the videos of people served; you'll be inspired.

Mosaic at Home is a great example of the way in which our services to people with disabilities are changing. We're working hard to create *personalized services* for each individual, services that are unique to their goals, dreams and abilities. Our heritage would have us do no less.

Founded and grounded in the Lutheran faith, we take seriously the call to love and serve. In each person we serve, we see a unique child of God who deserves the best we can provide.

We're honored to be a ministry of the Church and to serve in your name. There's always room for others to serve with us and, if you feel called, I invite you to check out the possibilities for working with Mosaic as an employee or contractor. It is a worthwhile and satisfying mission.

Peace,

Linda Timmons, Mosaic President and CEO

Discover the Possibilities

Learn more about the services Mosaic provides. Join us for a tour of our mission told by the people who know it well—the people we serve, their families and our staff members.

4980 S. 118th St. | Omaha, NE 68137-2200 | 877.366.7242 | www.mosaicinfo.org



2017 Report to ELCA Synod Assemblies

Augustana, like other colleges and universities, can play an especially important and needed role in our country during times of deep division. It's all too easy for Americans to surround themselves with others who think the way they do, in order to reaffirm their beliefs, rather than explore and challenge them.

In this environment, how will Augustana respond? The Augustana community will continue to be guided by its values—academic freedom, respect for difference, a commitment to building community. We do so to help heal our fractured society.

During these times of challenge and opportunity, Augustana will be guided by these principles:

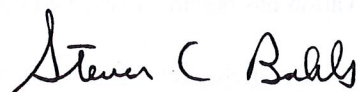
We value critical thinking. We challenge underlying assumptions (even our own assumptions) by integrating learning from many different fields. Critical thinking is hard work and requires us to consider and value the ideas of others, even when we disagree. This commits us to listen carefully, gather viewpoints, respect facts, think logically, and look at ideas from different perspectives. Our faculty are resolved to ensure that all students develop the critical thinking skills that will enable them to be an effective generation of leaders.

We nurture rigorous, respectful debate. A study by the Pew Research Center found that 40 percent of 18-year-olds believe that if speech offends it should be prohibited. We must model for our students the abiding truth that the antidote for much of what we consider offensive is not less speech; it is more speech, to challenge and expose those whose intent is to offend. We must help students understand that language should invite conversation.

We practice unwavering hospitality. True to our roots as a church-related school for immigrants, Augustana today welcomes a student body drawn from throughout the world and from historically marginalized groups in our own country. An inclusive Augustana is not simply critical to our mission; when a college community is made up of those representing a diversity of ideas and experiences, a richer climate for learning is the result.

We believe each of us has a calling. Critical thinking and passion are wasted in the absence of purpose. We believe students are best served when they are led to a deliberate and intentional reflection on their God-given talents, skills and passions, and how these connect in a principled way with calling and career. A hallmark of an Augustana education is to encourage students to ask who they want to be as a person before asking what they want to do as their job.

Many observers of higher education predict that the coming years will be among the most turbulent for colleges in a generation. Perhaps. But I trust they will provide us with unparalleled opportunities to equip our students with the skills they will need to be America's next generation of leaders.


Steven C. Bahls, President



Dear Friends in Christ,

It is an honor to write to you on behalf of Carthage College to share information about the mission and ministry happening on campus.

This is the second year of our Center for Faith and Spirituality (CFS) student staff. These students are critical to growing ministries on campus. They provide programming in their residence halls, help students to connect to faith organizations, and lend a listening ear when needed.

A Peer Ministry retreat in October proved empowering for our student leaders. Ministries are growing at the CFS. Each week, 40-plus students, faculty and staff attend our Interfaith Lunch. The attendance at our Wednesday night program, Open Table, has grown, along with our Sunday service at 4 p.m. The youth outreach team, CUMBYA, hosted both a confirmation group and a group of 4th and 5th graders on campus last fall.

We continue to do all of these ministries under the theme "What is your story?" The story of Jesus urges us to gather together, hear God's word, take part in God's supper, and to share our lives and our stories with one another. We continue to seek ways to do that each week.

As part of the Luther 500: Here I Stand celebration on campus, the Roman Catholic lay worker and I will host a book club to discuss "One Hope: Re-membering the Body of Christ". Protestant and Catholic students will come together to hear one another's faith journey stories and to see what we share in common.

This spring, Luther 500 continues with a keynote address by Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core. Next fall, on the weekend of Oct. 20-21, the Rev. Anna Madsen, Ph.D., from OMG: Center for Theological Conversation, along with the Rev. Andrea Ng'weshemi, Carthage's Jerald C. Brauer chair for Lutheran studies, will lead a conversation about what it means to be Lutheran in the 21st century. In addition, the College has commissioned a new musical composition for our 2017 Christmas Festival and the H. F. Johnson Gallery of Art will feature an exhibition of the St. John's Bible.

There are many things to celebrate, both at the Center for Faith and Spirituality and throughout the campus. Here are a few other Carthage highlights:

- ❖ \$150,000 grant from the Siebert Lutheran Foundation to create a robust four-year Urban Teaching Preparation Program.
- ❖ Carthage was added to the list of Top Fulbright producers. This year we have four scholars in the program in Germany (2), Taiwan, and Czech Republic
- ❖ The simulation lab for the new nursing program opened for Spring Term 16-17.
- ❖ \$15 million gift was received from the Ms. Jan Tarble, the single largest gift in college history, for a distinctive career and welcome center.
- ❖ The 2016-2017 incoming class is the most diverse in the history of the college with 27% of the student coming from diverse backgrounds.
- ❖ A new Masters of Science program in business design and innovation has begun. The 39 credit program can be completed in as few as 10 months.
- ❖ Our NCAA Division III men's team had a great season with four teams going into tournaments: volleyball, soccer, lacrosse and tennis.

Please keep Carthage in your prayers as we continue to strive in our mission of Seeking Truth, Building Strength, Inspiring Service – Together.

The Rev. Kara Baylor, Campus Pastor / Director of Congregational Relations

Grand View College

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings on behalf of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni! Here are some highlights from the past year:

NEXUS – This year Grand View received a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment to launch a Youth Theology Institute for the purpose of cultivating youth who will be theological leaders of the church. This comes at a crucial time when seminary numbers are declining and pastoral rosters are shrinking along with churches. Grand View's institute, The Nexus Institute, has as its mission to transform high school youth into theological leaders and transform the landscape of the church for the next generation. The Institute launches in June, 2017, with three weeks having openings for 25 10th-12th graders each week. They will be immersed in Christian community where they will learn under Grand View's theology faculty, be exposed to possibilities for Christian ministry in the Des Moines area, and put into practice their own sense of calling. More information is available at: www.thenexusinstitute.org.

Bonfire's Magazine Receives National Recognition - Grand View's Art & Graphic Design and Communication students have been recognized nationally for their work in the production of *Bonfire Magazine*. The team won three awards at the 2016 edition of the College Media Association's Pinnacle Awards competition.

New Major in Game Design - Grand View University is pleased to announce the addition of Game Design and Interactive Analytics as a new major beginning in the fall of 2017. Grand View will be the first and only university in Iowa to offer a campus-based bachelor's program in game design.

Eboo Patel at Global Vision Week - Global Vision Week is about confronting ideas that challenge our beliefs and views so we develop a deeper understanding of ourselves and the world. Grand View was honored to host Eboo Patel as the keynote speaker during the week. Patel challenged us to find ways to honor our tradition while engaging the faiths of others.

Athletic Highlight - The Grand View wrestling program won an unprecedented sixth-straight team national title with 234.5 points. With the win, the Vikings are the first team in NAIA history to win six consecutive national titles. Grand View finished with a total of 12 all-Americans. Head Coach Nick Mitchell was selected for the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the United States Sports Academy.

Campus Ministry - Campus Ministry continues to grow and serve our students in many ways. Chapel is held twice every week. There are multiple Bible study groups, prayer groups, and outreach events. The Hougen Scholarship is available for ELCA students; please recommend your students to us!

Grand View continues to appreciate its partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. We value the many Lutherans who hold Grand View close to their hearts as we hold you close to ours.

God's Peace and Joy,

Kent L. Henning, President

1200 Grandview Avenue / Des Moines, IA 50316
1-800-444-6083 / www.grandview.edu

LUTHER COLLEGE

Greetings from the campus of Luther College! I am pleased to submit this 2017 Synod Assembly report as a way to connect with you, the college's extended community. At Luther, students discern their vocations and prepare for their careers in a college community committed to the life of faith and learning. We count on your partnership in this important work.

We welcomed a new campus pastor in August 2016, when the Rev. Anne Edison-Albright joined Pastor Mike Blair in Luther's College Ministries program. Pastor Edison-Albright brings gifts as a preacher, educator and writer to her ministry in the Luther community as well as a deep commitment to the witness of the church in the world. From 2010-16, she served as pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and in 2014, she was awarded the Beatitudes Society's J. Philip Swander Brave Preacher Award.

College pastors are available to all within the Luther community for conversation, reflection, vocational discernment and counseling. At the core of College Ministries is the Luther College Student Congregation. The student congregation elects a council each year who work in partnership with the college pastors to provide a rich range of ministries and opportunities for students to explore their faith, build community and discern their particular gifts and calling for leadership and service.

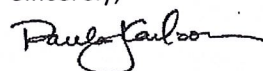
In February, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton delivered our spring convocation address and launched the college's yearlong commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. One of this year's highlights will be a two-day conference, *Liberating Grace: The Power of the Reformation in the World Today*, held March 31-April 1 on the Luther campus. The conference will address the Reformation's continuing impact on the church as it interacts with the wider world and will feature workshops, seminars and two prominent keynote speakers – ELCA pastor and best-selling author Nadia Bolz-Weber and Ralston Deffenbaugh, assistant general secretary for international affairs and human rights for the Lutheran World Federation.

We have wonderful events planned for fall semester as well. In late October, Luther alumnus and renowned composer of church music, Marty Haugen '73, will lead a Reformation hymn festival, and the college will host a symposium, *The Reformation of Everything, 1517-2017*, that focuses on the Reformation's impact on Western history and thought. I hope you will join us on campus for these special events. A full schedule is available at luther.edu/reformation-2017.

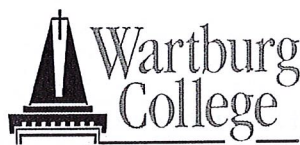
One tangible way your church can support Luther College is to encourage your high school students to visit campus. Should they choose to enroll, we hope you will consider supporting them with an EPIC grant (Education Partners in Covenant). Luther will match up to \$1,000 per year in support of each student from your congregation. More information can be found at luther.edu/financialaid/current/scholarships.

I am convinced that a community of faith and learning provides the best possible environment for young people to discern their callings. Thank you for your prayers, your support, and for encouraging high school students to look closely at all that an ELCA college like Luther offers.

Sincerely,



Paula J. Carlson, Ph.D.
President



2016 Annual Report to the Synods

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.

Enrollment

Fall 2016 enrollment was 1,482 students. This number included international students and U.S. students of color totaling 21 percent. We look forward to an expanding number of students as we reach forward into the 2020s.

A Successful Transforming Tomorrow Campaign

Wartburg's \$75 million comprehensive campaign ends in May 2017, raising more than \$83.4 million to date. A highlight of the campaign is the \$8 million McCoy Living and Learning Center dedicated in October 2016. It is named for Mike McCoy, chair of the Wartburg Board of Regents, and his wife, Marge who made a \$2 million challenge grant for the project. The McCoy's also serve as Campaign co-chairs. The center includes a renovated residence hall, and the addition of a multipurpose classroom, a faculty-in-residence apartment, a student lounge and study spaces.

Academic Programs

- The Wartburg Board of Regents approved a new major in Public Health to commence in Fall 2017.
- Wartburg now partners with Western Illinois University to offer an integrated "4+1" program for students seeking a bachelor's degree in history at Wartburg and a master's degree in museum studies from WIU.
- The engineering science program received a \$123,300 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust to create an Innovation Studio.
- Wartburg West, the College's urban studies program in Denver, Colorado, celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2016. Danielle Harms was named director of outreach and project development.
- The college community prepared for the March 2017 reaccreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission. The College was last accredited in 2006.

Vocation and Faith

- Wartburg received a \$17,665 NetVUE Vocation Exploration Renewal Grant. Its focus is expanding and deepening the theological exploration of vocation among the College's American ethnic students in 2016-17. The grant is headed by Krystal Madlock, director of multicultural student services, T.J. Warren, Pathways associate for vocation and mentoring, and Pastor Ramona Bouzard, dean of the chapel.
- Campus Pastor Brian Beckstrom is leading a research project that explores faith identity and mission at select ELCA colleges. His doctor of ministry work will provide important context for a campus-wide faith identity discernment process in 2017. It also coincides with a program review for the College's Spiritual Life and Campus Ministry division.
- The 2016 Graven Award, an annual award for vocation and daily life, was awarded to Bruce Weber, Kansas State University head men's basketball coach, long-time supporter of Lutheran Social Services and Coaches Against Cancer.
- Dr. Stephen and Elaine Main and the Rev. Dr. Larry '66 and Lois Reyelts '66 Trachte received Wartburg Medals in recognition of their sustained service to the college.

Recognition

- Wartburg was recognized in the 2016 Sustainable Campus Index, in the areas of water use and rainwater management.
- Wartburg finished in the top 25 of the Learfield Sports Division III Directors' Cup standings, the 2016 wrestling team won a national championship; women's basketball advanced to the final four, and 38 student-athletes won NCAA postgraduate fellowship awards.
- The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, the Rev. Dr. Walter Bouzard Jr., and Dr. Karen Black, contributed to *Together by Grace: Introducing the Lutherans*. Dr. Kleinhans also served as editor to the volume.

We are blessed to work with gifted students who are committed to changing the world. Thank you for encouraging your students to join Wartburg's historic tradition as they share their gifts to enrich our community of learning.

Dr. Darrel D. Colson, President



ELCA Synod Assemblies 2017

Greetings from St. Olaf College!

Since 1874, St. Olaf College has provided a distinctive education grounded in academic rigor, residential learning, global engagement, and our vibrant Lutheran faith tradition. Students work closely with dedicated faculty who challenge them to grow in mind, body, and spirit. In both the curriculum and the co-curriculum, they explore theological issues and are challenged to choose their vocations in light of this exploration. All St. Olaf students take two religion courses, one focusing on the Bible and the other on Christian theology, as well as a third course introducing Christian and other ethical systems. The Harry C. Piper Center for Vocation and Career assists students in discerning their vocations and preparing for their careers during their four years at St. Olaf.

Over the past year, the college has welcomed several new colleagues to key positions. Carl Lehmann '91 began his appointment as Vice President and General Counsel in June 2016, following more than 20 years at the law firm Gray Plant Mooty, where he chaired the firm's Employment and Higher Education practice group. The following month, Katie Warren '95 was appointed the college's first Chief Marketing Officer, bringing 16 years of experience in marketing services, innovation, and strategic planning. In September 2016, St. Olaf welcomed seven new faculty members to tenure-track appointments, and in February 2017, nine faculty members received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

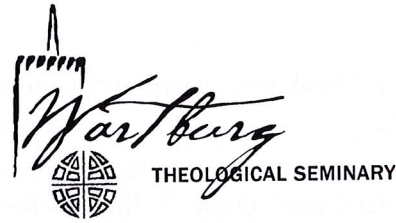
A semester-long campus conversation about the college mission statement culminated with the May 2016 approval by the St. Olaf Board of Regents of the following new expression of the college's core purposes: *St. Olaf College challenges students to excel in the liberal arts, examine faith and values, and explore meaningful vocation in an inclusive, globally engaged community nourished by Lutheran tradition.* In July, the college hosted nearly 200 pastors, church musicians, artists and lay leaders from across the U.S. at the St. Olaf Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts, focused on the theme of Resurrection, Reformation, and Renewal. The conference featured numerous St. Olaf faculty and staff; Mark Lawson, President of MorningStar Music Publishers; other professionals in worship and the arts; and the Rev. Thomas G. Long, Bandy Professor of Preaching Emeritus at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. The next CWTA conference has already been scheduled for July 16-20, 2018 (stolaf.edu/cwta/). This past fall, the college launched the public phase of *For the Hill and Beyond*, a \$200 million campaign whose priorities are to advance high-impact learning experiences, strengthen community, enhance affordability, and sustain the college mission. Finally, in December 2016 the college successfully completed its mid-cycle accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission.

We look forward to welcoming you to St. Olaf. Come to campus to join us at concerts, lectures, conferences, or summer camps. You can also visit the St. Olaf multimedia website (stolaf.edu/multimedia/) to join in a wide variety of live and archived streamed events, including daily Chapel and Sunday morning worship services during the academic year, the weekly Sing for Joy radio program, and vocal and instrumental concerts and recitals. We encourage you to send students to St. Olaf, we thank you for your prayers and support, and we offer you ours as well.

David R. Anderson '74
President



Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago



2017 Report to the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly

Dear Friends in Christ,

We give thanks for you and for the many ways you support the work of theological education through the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC) and Wartburg Theological Seminary (WTS). We couldn't carry out our mission without

- the *financial support you offer* as individuals, congregations, and synods. Your support is the foundation for the economy of leadership formation in the ELCA.
- the *people you encourage who may become seminary students*. By saying to someone, "Have you considered a call to ministry? I think you have the gifts," you plant the seed of discernment. Seminaries rely on you to identify those gifts among people in your congregations and your family and friends.
- your *prayers and care for your seminaries and their students*. You encourage and inspire us in the work of forming leaders who are well-prepared to inspire others in living out their faith.

The **Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago** continues to fulfill its mission of forming visionary leaders to bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ by:

- Sending out 51 students from six degree programs at the May 2016 Commencement. Half of our Master of Divinity graduates were in a call process or had a call in hand as of Commencement, and nearly all are now ordained or consecrated and serving in ministries across the country.
- Continuing the trend of growing incoming classes of master of divinity and master of arts students and reduced student borrowing thanks to generous scholarships they receive
- Launching a rebranding of the seminary to communicate its longstanding commitment to bringing faith into the public sphere
- Welcoming the Rev. Matthew James as the new Director of Admissions
- Welcoming Dr. Keith T. Hampton as the Cantor to the Seminary Community
- Creating the Student Services Office and calling Dr. R. Scott Chalmers as Dean of Student Services to provide a centralized place to meet a wide array of student needs
- Naming 10 new Public Church Fellows to participate in a program that combines academics, community service in a Chicago area nonprofit organization, and spiritual reflection. These master of divinity students each receive a \$450 monthly stipend throughout the school year.
- Returning a rare 1100-year-old Greek New Testament manuscript known as GA-1424 to the Greek Orthodox Church in ceremonies at LSTC and in Drama, Greece that received press coverage around the world
- Hosting visitors from around the world including the archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia, the president and dean of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong, the bishop of the Meru Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, principals of four Islamic schools in Indonesia, and the president of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo.

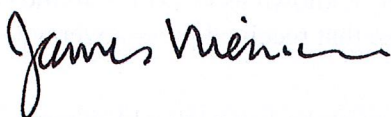
Wartburg Theological Seminary continues to live out its mission of forming valued leaders for God's mission by:

- Launching a new Master of Divinity curriculum. Students now have three tracks for completing a particular course: 1) MDiv – Residential Learners, who are present in the on-campus classroom, 2) MDiv – Collaborative Learners, serving concurrently in a congregational placement while completing their degree, who are present in the on-campus classroom synchronously through interactive video technology, and 3) MDiv – Distributed Learners, engaged in a variety of daily occupations, who participate in the same course by a combination of video recordings of the classroom sessions together with asynchronous learning methods.
- Sending out 37 graduates, from 3 degree programs, TEEM, and certificate programs to serve in congregations and ministries. 90% of 2016 assigned candidates were serving in first calls within 8 months of assignment. The remaining 10% are serving interim ministries in their synod of assignment waiting for calls close to their rostered spouses.
- Providing 100% of eligible students with seminary financial support for their education. Student educational debt levels continue to decrease on average.
- Partnering with 22 nonprofit agencies to serve as fieldwork sites for students, to gain insight into nonprofit leadership as they weave together congregational ministry with community partners.
- Continuing to meet the needs of diverse ministry contexts by providing a summer Spanish language intensive, a Hispanic Ministry Summer Term, a TEEM program (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) and a certificate in Hispanic Ministry at LSPS (Lutheran Seminary Program in the Southwest) in Austin, TX.
- Anticipated completion of Phase 2 of the Engage God's People Campaign in June of 2017. The primary focus of this \$22 million campaign is to seek funding for mission *today* and mission *tomorrow*.
- Adoption of the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan at the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees meeting in February of 2017.

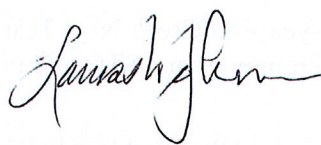
We are your seminaries. Come join us for worship, participate in a continuing education event, explore a call to ministry, or visit with some of the future leaders that you and your synod support through your gifts to the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and to Wartburg Theological Seminary. To learn more about the seminaries, their faculty, programs and upcoming events, visit www.lstc.edu and www.wartburgseminary.edu.

Your partnership is essential for LSTC and WTS to continue our shared mission of providing dynamic theological education for leaders of our congregations and ministries in your synod, for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and to the glory of God.

Yours in Christ,



President James Nieman
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago



President Louise N. Johnson
Wartburg Theological Seminary



Mission Investment Fund

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Mission Investment Fund (MIF), the lending ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, makes low-interest loans to ELCA congregations and ELCA-related ministries for building and renovation projects.

At year-end 2016, MIF had 860 loans outstanding, totaling \$524 million.

To fund these loans, MIF offers a portfolio of investments for congregations, their members, synods and ELCA-related ministries to purchase. At year-end 2016, MIF investments by congregations, their members, synods and ELCA-related ministries totaled \$474 million.

The Mission Investment Fund is a financially strong and stable organization, with a record of steady, controlled growth. With total assets of \$678 million and net assets of \$198 million at year-end 2016, MIF maintains a capital ratio of 29 percent—positioning MIF in the top tier of well-capitalized church extension funds.

MIF Loans and Investments in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod (as of December 31, 2016)

- 8 Mission Investment Fund loans, with a balance of \$10,706,864
- \$5,498,925 in Mission Investment Fund investments by 76 individuals, 42 congregations, 3 ministries and the synod

MIF representative

Dan Schwiesow, Regional Manager Director, Tel: (773) 682-5284; e-mail: dan.schwiesow@elca.org

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and Campus Center, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
www.lutherancampuscenter.org Facebook: Saint Andrew's Lutheran Campus Center
Submitted by Pastor Amy C Thoren, Pastor and Director



Grace and Peace in Christ! St. Andrew's has had a busy year of wonderful ministry in the midst of changes, dreams, visions, and hopes.

We have continued regular weekly programs of worship, meals, Bible study, and fellowship, and we have added new exciting adventures like canoeing, camping, and in-depth interfaith dialogue with our Muslim neighbors at the mosque in town. At the mosque, we spent 4 hours each visit, talking about each faith's doctrines and interpretations of its scriptures. Some of the students from the Mosque have joined us at St. Andrew's for various projects. We consider these neighbors friends and thank God for their presence among us. We continue to collect food for the Newman Center Food Pantry, which provides food for the lesser known problem of food

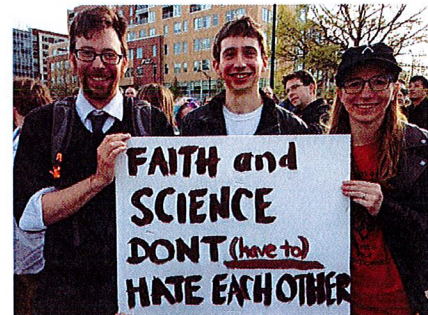
insecurity among our nation's university students, and we are branching out into new service and justice projects each year.

After approving our Accessibility Fund last year, our Board of Trustees rode out on the circuit, visiting local churches to talk up our need and help build awareness. We currently have nearly \$10,000 in our Accessibility Fund but are still working with contractors for bids. Once we have a contractor and a project cost (which we estimate at \$100,000 or more), we expect the project to go quickly. It is hard to underestimate how critical this project is for us, on the campus with one of the best Paralympic training centers in the country. Regarding accessibility, St. Andrew's is behind the times in our context, and we believe God is calling us clearly to become fully accessible for the benefit of the ministry of the Gospel.

Our Church Council, comprised only of students, helped us make the decision to postpone our Reformation and Refugees trip to Germany until spring break 2018, and we are eagerly planning for that trip. The University YMCA, which sits directly across the street from us, opened a New American Welcome Center last month, and we hope to partner with it for ESL classes for new immigrants. One of the biggest concerns among our students is the situation of immigrants and refugees in the United States.

St. Andrew's is keenly aware of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this year, and our small contribution is a Reformation Heritage Garden on our lawn, installed and planted in honor of Martin Luther's wife, Katharina von Bora, who kept the family's gardens and knew much about medicinal herbs. Planted there are herbs as well as native IL plants to help our winged pollinator friends. We do this project to raise awareness and to honor the Reformation as well as to continue the work of reformation in our time (*ecclesia semper reformanda est!*). The project is a nice way for us to get on board with the "Eco-Reformation" movement celebrated by Lutherans globally and aimed at responding to the ecological crises of our day.

The ministry at St. Andrew's is exciting and vibrant! Many thanks to our local congregations: Grace, Good Shepherd, St. Matthew's, Lutheran Church of Mahomet, and Christ in Monticello, for their support of this ministry. Thanks always goes to this synod for its gracious support and prayers. Of course, we are grateful to God for the many opportunities we are given every day to live the gift of faith in this university community. Please continue to keep us in prayer as we minister to and with university students!



Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Leaders

2018

Presented by the Leadership Support Subcommittee of the
Professional and Lay Ministry Committee
and approved by the Synod Council of the
Central/Southern Illinois Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Approval Date: Synod Council, January 2017

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I. RATIONALE

This report on compensation contains a revision of the 2017 guidelines, "Compensation and Benefits for Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ministers of Word and Service for the Central/Southern Illinois Synod." It is suggested that those who are responsible for the compensation of rostered leaders use this report as an aid in determining what fair and equitable compensation is for church workers. In addition to this report congregations may wish to consult other publications on compensation for church workers.

As congregations and church workers prepare their budgets for the coming year, this committee would offer a few suggestions or principles that have guided this report. They are:

1. **The Mutual Ministry Principle:** Lutheran theology affirms that ministry belongs to the whole body of Christ. It is recommended that each congregation establish a Mutual Ministry Committee to review and appraise the congregation's ministry. This committee can make salary recommendations to the congregation and advocate for the needs and concerns of the church worker. In addition, members of this committee can relate and share the needs and concerns of the parish to rostered leaders.

When it comes to compensation everyone worries about money! Pastors and church workers worry about their finances in the same way that church boards worry about funding their budgets. Should matters of compensation become irritants, it is important to seek qualified help. When problems arise, either for the congregation or the church worker, consult the bishop's office for help and guidance.

Congregations believe and trust in their pastors and church workers. Pastors and church workers love their ministries and congregations. Matters of compensation should never become adversarial and harm good relationships that exist in parishes.

2. **The Information Principle:** Guidelines or recommendations can be useful only if they are understood. Those responsible for compensation in the parish need good, reliable information. Hopefully, this report can fulfill such a need. As congregations work through this report, they will learn more about what is expected and necessary for good compensation planning. It is also recommended that congregations stay current with the tax laws and recent changes in the tax laws. Sound tax strategies and planning can maximize the compensation of church workers.

3. **The Cost of Ministry Principle:** It costs money, time, and effort for a congregation to carry on an effective ministry. The cost of ministry is not the same as the remuneration given to rostered leaders. Remuneration or compensation is that amount of money that is paid to the church worker. This generally would include the base salary and housing allowance. These items accrue to the benefit of the worker. The cost of ministry includes all costs that a congregation incurs by virtue of having a church worker. This generally would include professional expenses, worker compensation insurance, car reimbursement, medical, disability, survivor and retirement plans. The cost of ministry is substantially higher than the compensation that church workers receive.

When preparing a budget, congregations are urged to separate the cost of ministry from the compensation paid to church workers.

All guidelines have limitations. Every issue of salary and compensation cannot be determined or settled in this report. Congregations, Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ministers of Word and Service are encouraged to talk and negotiate with each other as mature Christian brothers and sisters. It is hoped that these guidelines will serve as an aid for such dialogue.

4. Due to the complex nature of the tax code as it relates to clergy and lay professionals, the committee for leadership support strongly recommends the use of a tax professional who is knowledgeable about such matters in the preparation of tax returns.

II. ANNUAL UPDATE IN THE FORMAT OF THE GUIDELINES

For 2018, the base salary guideline is given as a salary range for the number of years of service. Also, while the guidelines chart does not extend past 35 years of experience, we certainly do recommend that there be salary increases for church staff with more than 35 years of experience.

III. EXPLANATION OF THE COMPONENTS OF COMPENSATION

Note: All components apply to pastors and other rostered leaders, unless indicated otherwise.

1. Base (Basic Salary)

Direct monetary compensation or salary has been divided into levels, based on experience or years in the ministry. Each level provides a range of salary. Additional flexibility for the congregation in determining salary relates other factors for consideration. Such factors might include:

- a. Two point parish - add 3% to 5% of base.
- b. Senior Pastor with staff - add 3% to 5% of base.
- c. Advanced degree - add 3% to 5% of base.
- d. Merit - for exceptional work add 3% to 5% of base.
- e. Second career experience - Congregations are encouraged to recognize the previous work experience of second career church workers. Congregations may fully or partially recognize previous experience in determining the base salary, but some credit should be given in computing salary.
- f. Size or work load - Some congregations have special situations which merit increased salary. Some church workers carry heavy workloads which merit increased compensation. Normally, however, a congregation should increase the staff, rather than the compensation when the workload becomes too great for an individual.

Congregations are free to determine which of the above factors merit increases in the base salary. There may be other factors, which have not been considered in this report. The range in each level allows for flexibility, within the parameters established by years of service in the ministry.

2. Social Security Allowance

Social Security & Medicare Tax Allowance

While most clergy are considered employees for income tax purposes, they are considered self-employed for purposes of Self Employment Contributions Act (SECA) taxes, which means they carry the full burden of those taxes themselves.

An organization may choose to pay an amount directly to a pastor to use toward her or his Social Security and Medicare tax. Providing the allowance helps the pastor avoid being at a disadvantage when compared to a lay employee, who pays only the employee's share of the Social Security and Medicare tax.

Calculating Social Security & Medicare Tax Allowance:

Consider increasing Compensation Using the Same Combined Employer Social Security/Medicare Tax Rate as Lay Employees (7.65%) This approach mirrors the manner in which Social Security and Medicare taxes are allocated between employers and lay employees.

Examples:

Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance with No Parsonage	
1	Base Salary _____
2	Housing Allowance _____
3	Total of 1 + 2 _____
4	7.65% of line 3 = Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance _____

Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance with a Parsonage	
1	Base Salary _____
2	Furnishings and Utilities Allowance (if designated) _____
3	Utilities Paid by Organization _____
4	Fair Market Rental Value of Parsonage _____
5	Total of 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 _____
6	7.65% of line 5 = Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance _____

Reporting Social Security & Medicare Tax Allowance:

- For tax purposes: the IRS considers Social Security and Medicare allowance as taxable income to the pastor. Any allowance is typically reported as part of the taxable income in box 1 on a IRS Form W-2; not in boxes 2 or 4.
- For benefit purposes: Portico Benefit Services includes any Social Security and Medicare Allowance in the defined compensation used for calculating retirement, health, and other benefit contributions.
- For organizational budgeting purposes: it may still be helpful to report Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance as a separate accounting item for planning and interpretive purposes.

Additional Notes:

- The actual SECA tax liability must be calculated by the pastor at the time of filing his or her federal tax return, and involves numerous adjustments and calculations. These calculations are the pastor's responsibility, and not the congregation's.
- In some instances, Ministers of Word and Sacrament may be subject to SECA taxes on their ministerial earnings. In these situations, congregations should consider providing a Social Security and Medicare Tax Allowance.
- The current SECA tax rate of 15.3% was established in 1990. It was temporarily reduced by 2% in 2011 and 2012, but returned to 15.3% in 2013.

3. Housing

Note: Ministers of Word and Service are not to be included in this component.

Two housing alternatives are considered below:

- Parsonage: When a parsonage is provided, the congregation should pay for utilities and maintenance. The fair rental value of the parsonage is included in calculation SECA taxes (see page 3). In addition, defined

compensation for benefit purposes is increased by 30% when reported to Portico Benefit Services. Congregations providing a parsonage must also consider a housing equity allowance.

Housing Equity Allowance:

- The ELCA suggests that congregations provide pastors with a "housing equity" allowance if they live in parsonage. These funds can grow over time, and can make home ownership possible for pastors who are retiring or moving to a new call where a parsonage is not provided.
- The ELCA recommends that either 3% of the pastor's total compensation or 5% to 10% of the base salary be designated and set aside as a housing equity allowance. Regardless of which figure is chosen, the congregation and pastor need to negotiate a figure that is mutually acceptable.
- The tax treatment, legal ownership, and management of housing equity funds can be complex, and may result in significant unplanned income and SECA tax liabilities for the pastor if not handled carefully.

Portico Benefit Services offers a convenient way to establish and manage housing equity contributions with simplified ownership and minimal tax consequences. These contributions are placed in the pastor's ELCA Retirement Plan account and are configured as Housing Equity contributions for tax purposes. These funds and any investment earnings can be withdrawn at any time, will not be subject to SECA taxes, and may not be subject to income taxes and early-withdrawal penalties when used to provide a home.

- b) Housing Allowance: Some congregations provide their pastor with a housing allowance in place of a parsonage. This figure should reflect the realistic fair rental value of a home in the community, and would normally include such costs as insurance, utilities, taxes, maintenance, improvements, and furnishings. This figure needs to be reviewed and adjusted annually.

A housing allowance designation provides a special tax benefit for the pastor. According to IRS Publication 517, the pastor may exclude from gross income the smallest of:

- Eligible expenses used to provide a home
- The amount officially designated as a housing allowance, or
- The fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and utilities

- c) Housing Resolution: To assist you and your congregation in this process, the following is offered as a sample. IRS regulations require that this resolution be adopted by the church council on an annual basis and be recorded in church council minutes.

WHEREAS The Reverend, name is a full-time clergy staff member of name of congregation and city of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

WHEREAS name of pastor owns his/her own home; and

WHEREAS in compliance with Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code (Revised ruling 71-280), such persons are eligible to have a portion of their compensation designated as rental or housing allowance, now, there be it

RESOLVED that name of pastor shall have a portion of his/her compensation for the calendar year year designated as housing or rental allowance in the amount of \$amount and be it further

RESOLVED that the Congregation Council of name of congregation and city of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America take the foregoing action solely to fulfill an IRS requirement and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of figures submitted by clergy staff members.

(Signed by the Congregation Council President)

Date

(Signed by the Pastor)

Date

4. The ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program

The ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program helps plan members live well for life, by offering a benefit program that includes health saving accounts (HAS), flexible spending accounts (FSA), retirement, disability, life insurance, and other benefits. By helping each other live well, we strengthen our ministries and our communities, and are better equipped to carry out God's work. For more than 25 years, Portico Benefit

Services has used foundational principles guided by the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits to design a bundled benefit program that aligns with ELCA values and affirms the importance of benefits for the health and wellness of this church.

As outlined by the ELCA Philosophy of Benefits, health benefits should include coverage for the plan member and immediate family members of rostered leaders and lay employees. Although employers are expected to pay the majority of benefit costs through plan contributions, plan members are expected to participate in the benefit costs through plan design and features.

Benefit Program Overview

- a. ELCA Health Benefits Plan** — Health benefits including medical and mental health, dental, prescription drugs, support services, and wellness programs. Sponsoring organizations can choose between four ELCA-Primary health benefit options:

Platinum+: Lowest deductible and out-of-pocket limit

Gold+: Low deductible and out-of-pocket limit

Silver+: High deductible and low out-of-pocket limit paired with HSA

Bronze+: Highest deductible and out-of-pocket limit paired with HSA

The ELCA Church Council recommends Gold+ to preserve a cost structure that works well for plan members and supports the call process nationally.

If an organization selects Platinum+ or Gold+, or if plan members choose to buy up to one of those options, they can make pretax contributions to a health FSA, which they can use to pay for eligible health care expenses. If an organization selects Silver+ or Bronze+ they'll also select one of three HSA contribution amounts to offset members' higher deductible and out-of-pocket costs:

Level A: \$1,200 single/\$2,400 family

Level B: \$600 single/\$1,200 family

Level C: \$0 single/\$0 family (no contribution)

Note: By not contributing to plan members' HSAs, employers put more of the health care cost burden on them.

Sponsored members may waive health benefits for themselves or their eligible spouse or eligible same-gender partner as long as they can prove they have other valid health coverage, as defined by Portico. If a sponsored plan member waives health benefits for themselves, they must also waive health benefits for their spouse or eligible same-gender partner and children.

Plan members or family members who are eligible for Medicare will have ELCA Medicare-Primary health benefits to supplement Medicare benefits.

- b. ELCA Flexible Benefits Plan** — Health flexible spending accounts (FSA), dependent (day) care accounts FSA, health savings accounts (HSA), limited-purpose flexible spending accounts (FSA), and personal wellness accounts, which can be used to pay for eligible expenses. Both sponsoring employers and plan members can make contributions to an HSA. Members who have waived ELCA health benefits can participate in an FSA.
- c. ELCA Retirement Plan** — Sponsoring employers and eligible plan members contribute to save money for plan members' retirement
- Employer retirement contributions: minimum of 10% for clergy and rostered lay in congregations; some members, based on age, may have a minimum of 11% or 12%
 - Employer housing equity: contributions are not to replace salary but can be used to voluntarily increase retirement contributions or to build equity for a pastor who lives in a parsonage
 - Employee pretax retirement contributions: plan members can contribute up to IRS contribution limits
- d. ELCA Disability Benefits Plan** — Provides eligible disabled plan members a monthly income, health benefits, life insurance, and retirement account contributions after a two-month waiting period. Eligibility for benefits is determined by Portico's benefits administrator.
- e. ELCA Survivor Benefits Plan** — Life insurance to help plan members' beneficiaries with financial obligations in the event of a death.
- Employer-paid basic group life insurance for sponsored plan members

- ii. The opportunity for eligible plan members to purchase supplemental life insurance for themselves, and dependent life insurance for eligible spouses, eligible same-gender partners, and children

Annual Open Enrollment

Each fall, each sponsoring employer must make a selection with Portico for the ELCA-Primary health benefit option they will offer their sponsored plan members for the following year. Even if they'll be providing the same ELCA health benefit option as the current year, they still must confirm that option.

More Information

It is expected that congregations will sponsor pastors and their families in the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program. Congregations are permitted to make additional contributions to the ELCA Retirement Plan of the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program. These contributions are tax deferred. The Professional Leadership Committee encourages our congregations to fund Retirement Plan contributions at 12%.

Sponsored Couples

If both members of a couple are sponsored in the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program, they are a sponsored couple. Most sponsored couples choose to enroll in health benefits as a couple, because it typically reduces health benefit costs for both the family and sponsoring employers. As a couple, they are able to manage health benefits as a family, but manage other benefits — like tax-advantaged accounts and retirement accounts — individually.

Each sponsoring employer's health contribution is calculated separately as if each person was the only sponsored member of the family, based on defined compensation, age, geographic location, and health coverage level. The cost is then divided in half to determine each employer's contribution. If the plan member chooses to buy up to a higher-value health benefit option, their buy-up cost is calculated separately for each as if they were the only sponsored plan member of the family, and takes into account their defined compensation, age, geographic location, and health coverage level. The buy-up cost is divided in half to determine the amount of payroll withholding from the employee's paychecks. The same calculation is used to determine payroll withholding for the other spouse or eligible same-gender partner. Each employer pays the full cost of retirement, disability, and survivor benefit contributions for the plan member it sponsors.

5. Professional Expenses Reimbursement

- a. **Automobile Reimbursement:** It is usual for a congregation to set an actual cost-per-mile reimbursement, using the IRS mileage figure. (e.g. \$.53.5 per mile for 2017 or current IRS rate.) Some congregations may lease or own a car, which the church worker uses for congregational business. Still other congregations set a fixed annual rate for an "automobile allowance."

For tax purposes this report recommends that congregations use the reimbursement method. Allowances are taxable income; straight reimbursements of costs are not. Professional expenses which are not reimbursed are normally deductible on Schedule A where they are subject to the 2% rule, i.e. only the amount that exceeds 2% of one's adjusted gross income (1040, line 31) is deductible.

- b. **Books and Other Published Resources:** It is appropriate for the congregation to reimburse the church worker for books, magazines, professional journals, and other published materials.
- c. **Malpractice-Liability Insurance:** Congregations are encouraged to provide this coverage for all church workers.
- d. **Other Professional Expenses:** Congregations should reimburse the pastor and all church workers for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Some examples would include the fees charged for the Professional Leadership Conference, parking costs, dues for professional associations, telephone, synod assembly, etc.

6. Continuing Education.

The congregation should negotiate allotted time for a pastor to continue his/her education. The ELCA Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit recommends twenty-five classroom hours per year. This report recommends that pastors and congregation councils work out a mutually agreed upon plan of study and file covenant with the bishop's office. It is expected that the congregation, the church worker, and the church all share in the cost of continuing education.

We recommend congregation councils give serious consideration to Sabbatical or Clergy Renewal Leave as part of the compensation package. A sabbatical leave is a time for release from normal duties in order that the pastor may devote time to renewal. It is an integral and important part of an overall strategy for enhancing the mission of the congregation through pastor renewal, enrichment, study, spiritual growth, travel, personal and family time, skill development, and/or research. Sabbatical leaves can be of any duration decided upon by the congregation. For those congregations interested in providing sabbatical or clergy renewal time a resource document is available on line or from the synod office. It is entitled: "Resource Guide for Sabbatical or Clergy Renewal for The Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA." The synod website: www.csis-elca.org

7. Leave Time

1. Continuing Education: Two weeks per year, which may be accumulated up to six weeks over a three year period.
2. Regular vacation: Minimum of four weeks with Sundays per year.
 - Additional Sundays may be granted.
3. Sick leave: Full salary until ELCA Disability Benefits Plan takes effect; eligibility rules apply. See Letter of Call or Appointment for specific details.
4. Parental leave: Maternal--6 weeks with full salary.
Paternal--2 weeks with full salary.
Parents who are adopting children should be granted the same amount of leave time. Parental leave may also be granted at other times, e.g. during times of severe illness, trauma, or death.
5. Personal leave: As mutually agreed upon.

Congregations are encouraged to establish a policy of emergency leave, before an emergency arises.

PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES

1. Automobile Expenses:
 - a. Fixed monthly amount or a cost-per-mile reimbursement.
 - b. Congregation owns or leases a car.
2. Continuing Education: Recommendation is \$1,000, minimum recommendation is \$700 per year. Continuing education time of two weeks per year, which may be accumulated up to six weeks over a three-year period, is recommended.
3. Professional Books and Journals: \$200 per year.
4. Insurance, et al.: includes malpractice and worker comprehensive coverages.

IV. WORKSHEET OF COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Pastorally vacant congregations who are calling a pastor are asked to use the
 "Worksheet of Compensation and Benefits for a Newly Called Pastor"

Compensation

	Current Year		Next Year
1 Basic Salary	\$ _____		\$ _____
2 Social Security & Medicare Tax Allowance	_____		_____
3 Housing			
a. If Parsonage is Provided:			
Utilities Paid by Congregation	_____		_____
Furnishings and Utilities Allowance	_____		_____
Housing Equity Allowance	_____		_____
b. If Parsonage is Not Provided:			
Housing Allowance	_____		_____
 Total of Salary, Housing & Social Security & Medicare Tax Allowance	 \$ _____		 \$ _____

ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program

1 ELCA Health Plan Premium	\$ _____		\$ _____
Health Plan Provided: ____ Platinum+			
____ Gold+ ____ Silver+ ____ Bronze+			
Employer Health Savings Account			
Contributions (if Silver+ or Bronze+)	_____		_____
3 ELCA Retirement Contributions at _____%	_____		_____
4 ELCA Disability Benefits Contributions	_____		_____
5 ELCA Survivor Benefits Contributions	_____		_____
6 ELCA Retiree Support Contributions	_____		_____
 Total Pension & Benefits	 \$ _____		 \$ _____

Expenses

1 Automobile			
a. Reimbursement (cents/mile IRS rate or fixed amount)	\$ _____		\$ _____
b. Congregation lease/own car	_____		_____
2 Continuing education	_____		_____
3 Books, journals, etc.	_____		_____
4 Malpractice-Liability Insurance	_____		_____
5 Other _____	_____		_____
Total	\$ _____		\$ _____

Leave Time

1 Continuing Education (weeks)	_____		_____
2 Regular vacation (weeks, including Sundays)	_____		_____
3 Sick leave (days)	_____		_____
4 Parental leave (weeks)	_____		_____
5 Personal leave (days)	_____		_____

V. TABLES FOR COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

5. THE YEAR 2018 COMPENSATION FOR ROSTERED LEADERSHIP

Base salary is determined by years of service in the ministry. Please give serious consideration to any other experience. Then view the present base salary and make appropriate adjustments with prayerful Christian deliberation.

Minister of Word and Sacrament				Minister of Word and Service			
Years of Service				Years of Service			
0	\$ 35,310	-	\$ 36,369	0	\$ 34,065	-	\$ 35,087
1	\$ 36,060	-	\$ 37,129	1	\$ 34,745	-	\$ 35,777
2	\$ 36,810	-	\$ 37,889	2	\$ 35,425	-	\$ 36,467
3	\$ 37,560	-	\$ 38,649	3	\$ 36,105	-	\$ 37,157
4	\$ 38,310	-	\$ 39,409	4	\$ 36,785	-	\$ 37,847
5	\$ 39,060	-	\$ 40,169	5	\$ 37,465	-	\$ 38,537
6	\$ 39,810	-	\$ 40,929	6	\$ 38,145	-	\$ 39,227
7	\$ 40,560	-	\$ 41,689	7	\$ 38,825	-	\$ 39,917
8	\$ 41,310	-	\$ 42,449	8	\$ 39,505	-	\$ 40,607
9	\$ 42,060	-	\$ 43,209	9	\$ 40,185	-	\$ 41,297
10	\$ 42,810	-	\$ 43,969	10	\$ 40,865	-	\$ 41,987
11	\$ 43,560	-	\$ 44,729	11	\$ 41,545	-	\$ 42,677
12	\$ 44,310	-	\$ 45,489	12	\$ 42,225	-	\$ 43,367
13	\$ 45,060	-	\$ 46,249	13	\$ 42,905	-	\$ 44,057
14	\$ 45,810	-	\$ 47,009	14	\$ 43,585	-	\$ 44,747
15	\$ 46,560	-	\$ 47,769	15	\$ 44,265	-	\$ 45,437
16	\$ 47,310	-	\$ 48,529	16	\$ 44,945	-	\$ 46,127
17	\$ 48,060	-	\$ 49,289	17	\$ 45,625	-	\$ 46,817
18	\$ 48,810	-	\$ 50,049	18	\$ 46,305	-	\$ 47,507
19	\$ 49,560	-	\$ 50,809	19	\$ 46,985	-	\$ 48,197
20	\$ 50,310	-	\$ 51,569	20	\$ 47,665	-	\$ 48,887
21	\$ 51,060	-	\$ 52,329	21	\$ 48,345	-	\$ 49,577
22	\$ 51,810	-	\$ 53,089	22	\$ 49,025	-	\$ 50,267
23	\$ 52,560	-	\$ 53,849	23	\$ 49,705	-	\$ 50,957
24	\$ 53,310	-	\$ 54,609	24	\$ 50,385	-	\$ 51,647
25	\$ 54,060	-	\$ 55,369	25	\$ 51,065	-	\$ 52,337
26	\$ 54,810	-	\$ 56,129	26	\$ 51,745	-	\$ 53,027
27	\$ 55,560	-	\$ 56,889	27	\$ 52,425	-	\$ 53,717
28	\$ 56,310	-	\$ 57,649	28	\$ 53,105	-	\$ 54,407
29	\$ 57,060	-	\$ 58,409	29	\$ 53,785	-	\$ 55,097
30	\$ 57,810	-	\$ 59,169	30	\$ 54,465	-	\$ 55,787
31	\$ 58,560	-	\$ 59,929	31	\$ 55,145	-	\$ 56,477
32	\$ 59,310	-	\$ 60,689	32	\$ 55,825	-	\$ 57,167
33	\$ 60,060	-	\$ 61,449	33	\$ 56,505	-	\$ 57,857
34	\$ 60,810	-	\$ 62,209	34	\$ 57,185	-	\$ 58,547
35	\$ 61,560	-	\$ 62,969	35	\$ 57,865	-	\$ 59,237