



endless possibilities in God's grace

Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly 2022
May 7, 2022 in Mankato - semnsynod.org/assembly

Section 1: Event Guide

Information to prepare for Assembly

Section 2: Synod Stories

Reports from tables, teams, and staff

Section 3: Celebrations

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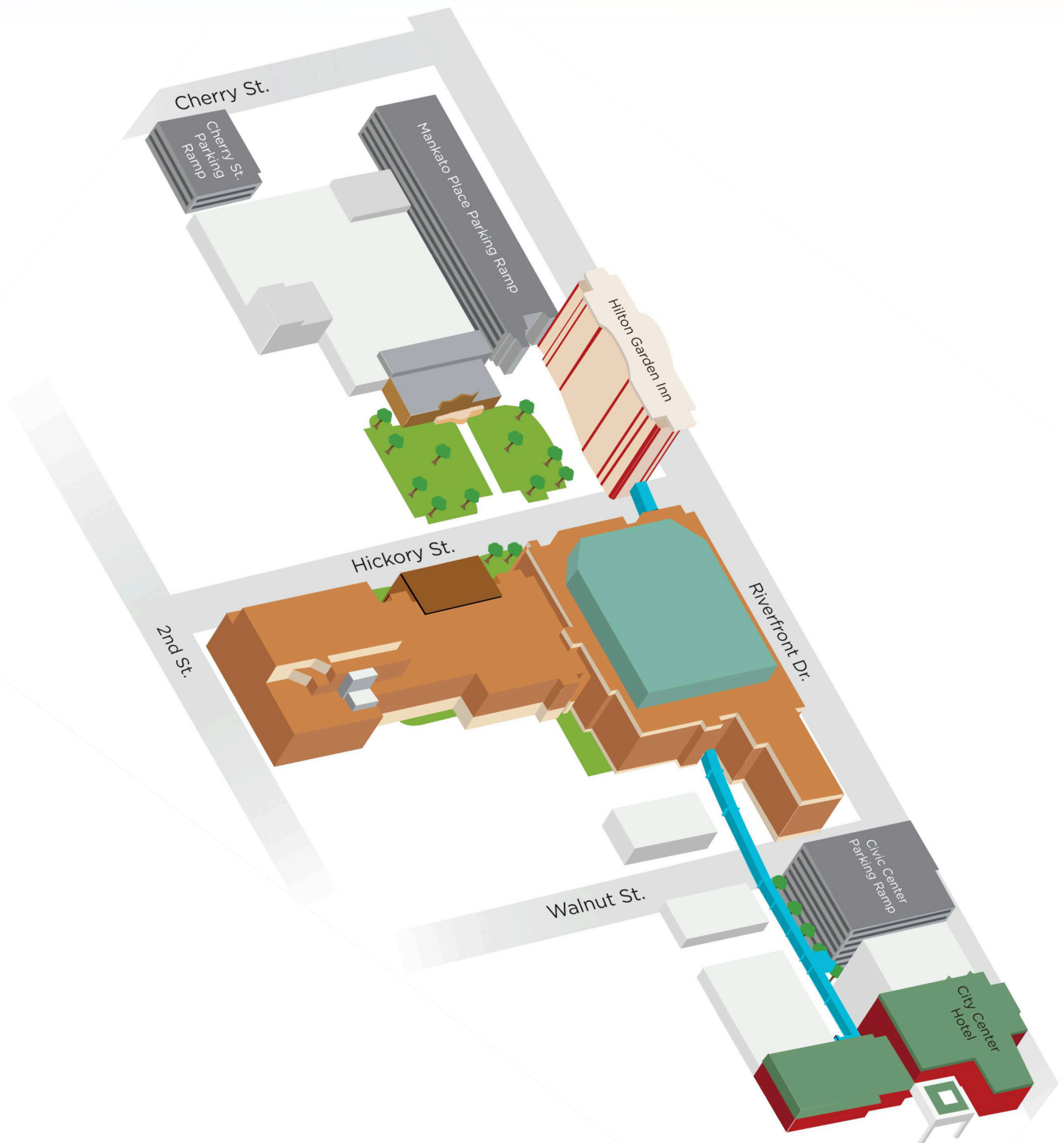
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Southeastern Minnesota Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Venue Map

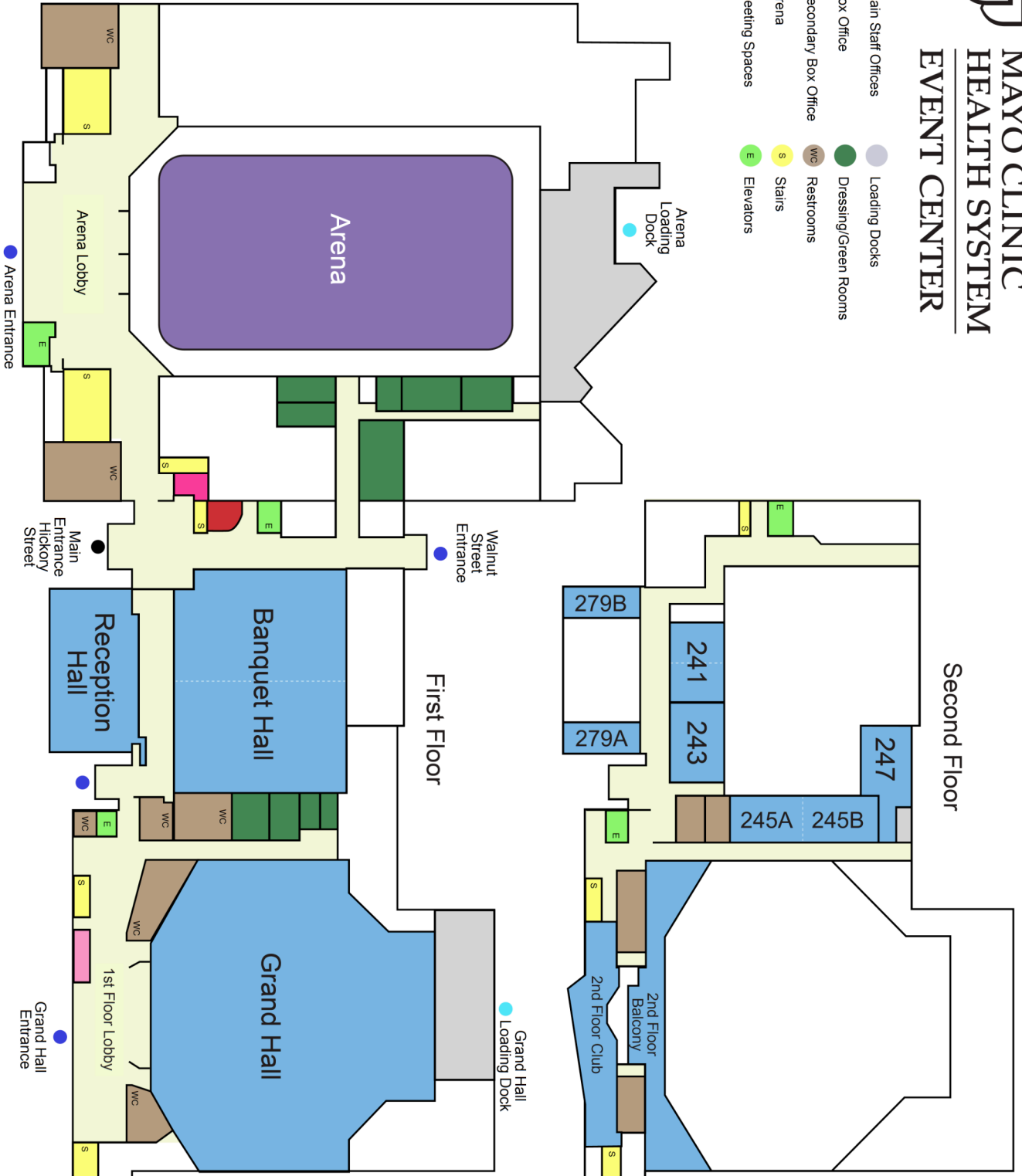


Venue Map



MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM EVENT CENTER

- Main Staff Offices
- Box Office
- Secondary Box Office
- Arena
- Meeting Spaces
- Loading Docks
- Dressing/Green Rooms
- Restrooms
- Stairs
- Elevators



Proposed Agenda

- 8-9 AM** **Event Check-In**
Remember your COVID Vaccination Record or Proof of Negative COVID Test
- 9 AM** **Worship with Holy Communion**
- 10:15 AM** **Plenary One**
Welcome and Introductions
Report of the Committee on Credentials
Report of the Synod Nominating Committee
Report of Reference and Counsel
Report of the Treasurer
Global Greetings
Imagine with Rozella Haydee White
Resolution 2022-01
Report of the ELCA Churchwide
Announcements
- Noon** **Lunch**
- 1:00 PM** **Plenary Two**
Gathering Prayer
Report of the Committee on Credentials
Imagine with Rozella Haydee White
Report of the SEMN Synod
Resolution 2022:2 (if applicable)
Report of the Secretary
Election of Council, Boards, and Committees
Imagine with Rozella Haydee White
Break
SEMN Synod Streams of Generosity
Report of the Treasurer—Adoption of Spending Plan
Late Resolutions (if applicable)
Sharings
Imagine with Rozella Haydee White
Closing Remarks and Sending
- 5:00 PM** **Adjournment of the Assembly**

Special Guests

Rozella Haydée White

Rozella Haydée White is the #LoveBigCoach, a public theologian, spiritual life coach, leadership consultant, inspirational speaker and writer focused on nurturing love that is life-giving, justice-seeking, and sustaining.

Rozella is the owner of RHW Consulting LLC, an agency focused on accompanying clients as they align their being, beliefs and behaviors in order to deconstruct and dismantle systems, structures, and social constructs that inhibit justice and liberation. Rozella supports clients as they create meaningful action that moves them towards holistic alignment, individually and collectively. She coaches executives, boards, staffs, and teams in the areas of leadership, strategic planning and visioning, conflict resolution, communication, and racial justice and equity.

For over 15 years, Rozella has been deeply committed to the nonprofit sector, working with faith-based communities, academic institutions, and community organizations based in North America, Central America, the Middle East, Europe, and Africa.

As a passionate coach, Rozella is currently enrolled in the Inner Glow Circle Coach Training Program, an approved training program of the International Coach Federation. Rozella obtained her Master of Arts in Religion with Honors from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and African Studies (Cum Laude) from Texas Southern University in Houston, TX. She received her Certification in Youth Ministry from the Center for Youth Ministry at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA. Rozella has also completed four units of chaplaincy training with Emory Center for Pastoral Services in Atlanta, GA, and is a certified disaster chaplain with the National Disaster Interfaith Network.

Rozella is committed to the pursuit of justice and is a co-founder of #ResistHouston, a community in Houston, TX of connection, empowerment and support for resistance against injustice. She is a member of the Multi-Faith Advisory Council of Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston; a founding member of the 9 Beats Collective, an international collaboration of world class musicians, artists, and songwriters exploring the ancient wisdom of the beatitudes; and is a board member of the Lutheran Initiative for Mission & Empowerment in Nairobi, Kenya.

She is the author of Love Big: The Power of Revolutionary Relationships to Heal the World (Fortress Press, 2019) and has written numerous articles, curriculums, and resources focused on faith and spirituality, community development, leadership, and justice steeped in a Love Ethic. Rozella is a contributor to A Rhythm of Prayer: A Collection of Meditations for Renewal (Convergent, 2021), edited by Sarah Bessey.



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Special Guests

Rev. Keith Fry

The Rev. Keith Fry serves as executive for administration in the Office of the Secretary in the churchwide organization. He has been in that position for a little over two years, having begun his call there one month before the beginning of the pandemic. He oversees record-keeping and statistics concerning congregations and management of the rosters of pastors and deacons of this church; minutes of official proceedings of the Churchwide Assembly, Church Council, and Conference of Bishops; and the ELCA Archives. Prior to receiving the call to the Office of the Secretary, he was a congregation pastor in Elgin, IL, and Evanston, IL. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. He resides in Chicago with his spouse and Archie and Edith, a Labrador retriever and a Cornish Rex cat.



General Information

WELCOME

Welcome to the 34th annual Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly, *Imagine: Endless Possibilities in God's Grace*, May 7, 2022. As an assembly of congregations we gather together to worship, learn, and participate in the decision-making business of the church.

ABOUT

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod is a faith community of 167 congregations and six Synod Authorized Worshipping Communities as well as related institutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The Southeastern Minnesota Synod is one of 65 synods that make up the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Its geographic area includes 15 counties in the southeastern corner of Minnesota. The synod is divided into five conferences, each one named after rivers in the area:

1. Root River Conference
2. Zumbro River Conference
3. Blue Earth River Conference
4. Minnesota River Conference
5. Cannon River Conference

The Office of the Bishop is located in Assisi Heights, the congregational center for the order of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi in Rochester, Minnesota. You are always welcome to visit! (When the building is open to the public.)

REGISTRATION

On-site registration begins Friday at 8 AM.

MEALS

The registration fees include a continental breakfast and lunch on Friday. Your name badge is your meal ticket. Please wear it at all times.

SPECIAL NEEDS

We want to make sure you have what you need to make the assembly experience meaningful. Please let us know of any special needs before the event by calling the Office of the Bishop at 507-280-9457.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for working together to minimize our environmental footprint from this event. Please help recycle by returning all name badges, voting cards, unwanted paper, and completed evaluation forms to the appropriate boxes upon leaving the assembly. Also, please bring your own beverage mug. Look for containers available for general recycling.

DISPLAYS

Be sure to visit the displays from our synod tables, teams, committees, ministry partners, and others.

ASSEMBLY RULES

Voting Members of the Synod Assembly shall be designated by congregations and otherwise determined in accord with Chapter 7 of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA. See S7.21-.32.

VOTING MEMBER CREDENTIALS

Voting privileges are extended only to voting members of the Assembly and may not be transferred.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The adoption of the Synod Assembly agenda, with necessary changes, shall become the order of business for the assembly.

QUORUM

Fifty percent (50%) of the registered voting members shall constitute a quorum.

DECORUM & ETIQUETTE

Respect, dignity, civility, and courtesy shall be guidelines for the tone and content of all assembly discussion. Behavior outside these guidelines and which continues after warning shall be grounds for the assembly chair to restrict any further privilege of the floor.

PRIVILEGE OF THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR

- Voting members of the assembly shall have prior right to the assembly floor.
- Officers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church

General Information continued

in America and the Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA shall be entitled to the privilege of the floor at all times.

- Voting members addressing the assembly during the discussion of a pending motion or resolution shall identify themselves by name and congregation.
- Unless otherwise determined by a majority vote of the assembly, all speeches during discussion of motions or resolutions shall be limited to two minutes each.
- A person who has addressed the assembly on the pending motion or resolution may not speak to that pending motion or resolution again unless all others wishing to speak have done so.

VOICE GRANTED

Pastors not on the Southeastern Minnesota Synod roster serving as interim pastors in the synod shall have voice on the assembly floor. S7.23.

BUDGET IMPACT

Any resolution that adds money to the spending plan for mission and ministry should show a reduction of an equal amount in that same budget, or provide a proposal as to how the additional funds would be acquired. Any proposed amendments must be submitted by noon, Saturday, May 7, 2022.

VISITOR SEATING

Visitors are welcome at the assembly. All visitors sit in a designated area.

VOTING PROCEDURES

To be eligible to vote, a voting member must be seated in the assembly. No proxy or absentee voting is permitted. Voting members seated in the visitor's section will not have ballots collected or votes counted. Exceptions to this rule include officers and voting members seated on the stage or head tables and voting members serving as pages, ushers, or camera operators. A two-thirds vote is required for adoption of amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. A majority vote is required for approval of the synod budget, resolutions, and other actions as

specified in **Robert's Rules of Order**. In all elections by the Synod Assembly, other than for the bishop, a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.

RESOLUTIONS

A resolution for consideration at the Synod Assembly must be submitted to the Committee on Reference and Counsel no later than March 15, 2022. Resolutions may be submitted by:

- by majority vote of a congregation of the synod at a regular or special meeting of the congregation
- by approval of a two-thirds vote of a congregation council
- by majority vote of a committee of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod
- by majority vote of a conference assembly
- by a group of at least ten members of congregations of the Southeastern Minnesota synod elected to serve as voting members of the forthcoming synod assembly

Minutes showing adoption of such proposed resolutions from a meeting of a congregation, Congregation Council, committee of the synod, or conference assembly must accompany the submitted resolution. The signatures, typed names, and telephone numbers must be provided by voting members (of the forthcoming synod assembly) submitting a resolution. (S7.34.A05).

Resolutions submitted to the Committee on Reference and Counsel after March 15, 2022, will come before the assembly only by means of a motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of considering the late resolution. A vote to suspend the rules requires a two-thirds vote. (S7.34.B05, C05)

- The deadline for submitting late resolutions at the 2022 Synod Assembly is noon, Saturday, May 7, 2022.
- These late resolutions must be submitted to the Assembly on-site office and the author may be asked to meet with the Committee on Reference and Counsel. These resolutions may be submitted by the same groups listed above.

General Information continued

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for synod vacancies will be made available before the Assembly at semnsynod.org/nominations. Nominations will not be read to the assembly as part of the assembly agenda. Additional nominations for any vacancies can be made until noon, Saturday, May 7, 2022, by completing the 2022 Nomination Form. Nomination forms will be available at the head table on the assembly floor or at semnsynod.org/nominations. Additional nominations will be announced. Ballots will be in voting member packets.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

Materials produced by the Office of the Bishop staff, teams, and committees may be distributed to voting members and visitors at the assembly as long as such materials are relevant to the overall work of the synod. Synod ministry partners may distribute materials produced by their organizations as long as such materials are directly related to the work of the synod.

SYNOD CONSTITUTION

Our synod constitution is available on the website at semnsynod.org/constitutions.

Report of the Secretary

Each year at the Synod Assembly, a report is presented by the synod's secretary. Our current secretary, Rev. Josh Enderson, will be presenting the report on May 7th, 2022.

The report before the assembly will focus on proposed changes to the SEMN Synod bylaws, which were recommended for approval by the SEMN Synod Council on July 21, 2021. Our Synod may amend its bylaws at any meeting of the Synod Assembly by a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting.

These proposed changes can be found below. If an item is ~~struck through~~, it will be deleted; if it is underlined, it will be added.

Proposed Bylaw Changes relating to the Committee on the Election of the Bishop: The proposed changes relate to S11.09.02.b., S11.09.02.c., and S11.09.02.d.

- **S11.09.02.b.** — This committee shall forward the names and biographical data of all candidates nominated by congregations ~~all candidates' names nominated by congregations and biographical data~~ to each conference assembly for consideration. Each conference assembly shall then

recommend up to three of these candidates' names ~~for further consideration by the committee.~~ to continue in the non-binding pre-assembly process.

- **S11.09.02.c.** — This committee may ~~select up to three candidates to be added to those of the conference assemblies' recommendations to help sure a broader slate.~~
- **S11.09.02.d.c.** — This committee may ~~select up to nine candidates from those names lifted up by conference assemblies and any additional names lifted up by this committee~~ and invite ~~them~~ all candidates recommended by the conference assemblies to participate in a maximum of three candidate forums to be held throughout the synod prior to the Synod Assembly provided there is more than one candidate.
- **Rationale:** Following the last bishop's election, a task force of council members reviewed the synod's process for electing a bishop. The task force felt that clarification of the Committee on the Election of the Bishop's role in the selection of candidates who participate in the candidate forums would be helpful.

Important Links

2021 Synod Assembly minutes can be viewed here: semnsynod.org/sa21minutes

2022 Nominations information, including sample ballot and biographies, can be viewed here: semnsynod.org/nominations

Roster Updates

April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022

Advisor for Call Process: Rev. Barbara Streed, Assistant to the Bishop - Call Process

Support Staff for Call Process: Cheryse L. Brenno, Call Process & Roster Administrator

Ordinations/Commissioning/Consecrations:

- **Ms. Peg A. Marose**, United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg to Solo Pastor/4 point at Good Hope Parish, Briceyn & Kiester-06/26/2021.

New Calls within the Synod:

- **Rev. Kris Ferkin**-Interim Solo Pastor at St. John, Elton to Interim Solo Pastor at 2pt-Bear Lake Concordia & St. Paul, Albert Lea & Conger-05/01/2021.
- **Rev. Marla Rotman**-Contracted Pastor at Gloria Dei, Rochester to Associate Pastor of Programming at Gloria Dei, Rochester-05/23/2021.
- **Rev. Cheryl Indehar**- On Leave from Call to Senior Interim Pastor at St. John, Kasson-06/01/2021.
- **Rev. Michael Zaske**-Interim Associate Pastor at Gloria Dei to Interim Solo Pastor at Faith, Dodge Center-06/01/2021.
- **Rev. Mary Iverson**, Solo Pastor at Good Shepherd, Wells to Interim Solo Pastor at Trinity, New Richland-07/06/2021.
- **Rev. Susan Li**-Full Communion Partner-Interim Senior Pastor at Zion, Stewartville-07/15/2021.
- **Rev. Dr. Carl-Eric Snow Gentes**, Associate Pastor at Good Shepherd, Rochester to Senior Pastor at Good Shepherd, Rochester-07/18/2021.
- **Rev. Timothy McDermott**, Senior Pastor at Bethel, Northfield to Interim Solo Pastor at St. Ansgar's, Cannon Falls-08/01/2021.
- **Rev. Dale Svendsen**-Interim Solo Pastor at Aurora, Owatonna to Interim Solo Pastor at 3pt at Glenville Area Lutheran Parish-08/01/2021.
- **Rev. Joseph B.W. Smith**, On Leave from call to Senior Interim Pastor at Grace, Fairmont-Part/Time-08/11/2021.
- **Rev. Collette Broady Grund**, Associate Pastor at Bethlehem, Mankato to Pastor at Shelter Church/Connections Ministry-SAWC, Mankato-09/01/2021.
- **Rev. Dr. Scott Olson**, Senior Interim Pastor at Grace, Waseca to Interim Solo Pastor at Good Shepherd, Wells-09/16/2021.
- **Rev. Paul Hauschild**, Solo Pastor at Trinity, Hayfield to Senior Pastor at Chatfield, Chatfield-09/20/2021.
- **Rev. Renita Eidenschink**, Solo Pastor at Hegre to Chaplain at Northfield Hospital & Clinic/ Northfield Nursing Home, Northfield-10/18/2021.
- **Rev. Allyson Bowman**, Solo Pastor at St. Paul's, Le Center to Pastor at Zion, Stewartville-10/31/2021.
- **Rev. Timothy Bowman**, On Leave from Call/Contracted Pastor at Grace, Nerstrand to Pastor at Zion, Stewartville-10/31/2021.

Roster Updates continued

- **Rev. Kristen Anderson**, Solo Pastor at 2 pt -Faith, Janesville & North Waseca, Waseca to Bridge Interim at Trinity, Hayfield-11/21/2021.
- **Rev. Jeffrey Forbes**, Interim Solo Pastor at 2pt-Oakland & Moscow, Albert Lea & Austin to Interim Solo Pastor at Cross of Christ, Houston-12/01/2021.
- **Rev. Kris Ferkin**, Interim Solo Pastor at 2pt-Bear Lake Concordia & St. Paul, Albert Lea & Conger to Interim Solo Pastor at 2pt Trinity & Wanamingo, Wanamingo-01/15/2022.
- **Rev. Kristen Schlauderaff**, On Leave from Call to Interim Solo Pastor at 2pt-Faith, Delavan & Jackson Lake, Amboy-02/01/2022.
- **Rev. Janet Crissinger**, Full Communion Partner to Solo Interim Pastor at Zion, Lake Crystal-03/10/2022.
- **Rev. Michael Zaske**, Interim Solo Pastor at Faith Dodge Center to Solo Interim Pastor at First English, Cannon Falls-03/14/2022.

Synodically Authorized Lay Ministry-[SAM]: (Renewed Yearly)

- **Larry Iverson, SAM**-09/08/2021-09/08/2022.

Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM):

none

Contract for Pastoral Ministry:

- **Rev. Dean Smith**, On Leave from Call also Contracted Pastor at Grace, Albert Lea-04/22/2021.
- **Rev. Nancy Edwardson**, On Leave from Call also Contracted Pastor to serve as Chaplain at Kenyon Senior Living, Kenyon-07/27/2021.
- **Rev. Kristin Engstrom**, New Jersey Synod to Contracted Pastor with Bethlehem, Mankato-05/01/2021 to 08/01/2021.
- **Rev. David Buco**, Pastor at St Paul Evangelical Church of Lewiston also contracted part time at Peace, Eyota-09/06/2021.
- **Rev. E. Peter Strommen**, Retired-Minneapolis Area Synod to Contracted Directing Pastor at Zumbro, Rochester-10/04/2021.
- **Rev. Robert (Rob) Nelson**, Retired in NWMN to Contracted Pastor at Good Shepherd, Rochester-10/08/2021.
- **Rev. Daniel (Dan) Nordin**, Retired to Contracted Pastor with Cross of Christ and Cannon River, Welch-10/18/2021.
- **Rev. Kristen Venne**, Pastor at Community, Geneva also Contracted Pastor part time at Bethlehem, Mankato-10/18/2021.
- **Ms. Joy Knoppel**-First Call-Contracted Lay Minister at First, Albert Lea-10/25/2021.
- **Rev. Carl Ames**, Retired to Contracted Pastor at St. Paul, Le Center-11/01/2021.
- **Rev. Christopher Miller**, Retired to Contracted Bridge Pastor with Our Savior's, Spring Valley-12/01/2021.
- **Rev. Barbara Finley-Shea**, Retired to Contracted Pastor at St. Michael's, Waltham-01/01/2022.
- **Rev. Karl Rydholm**, Retired to Contracted Pastor at St. Paul of German Lake, Cleveland-02/20/2022.

Roster Updates continued

- **Rev. Timothy Rotman**, Full Communion Partner- to Contracted Pastor at Zumbro, Rochester-02/01/2022.
- **Marcia, Pedersen**, Candidacy to Contracted Lay Minister at St. John's, Elkton-03/01/2022.
- **Rev. Kristi Mitchell**, Pastor at Redeemer, Alden also contracted part time at Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake, Albert Lea-03/01/2022.
- **Rev. Judy Thompson-Reitz**-Retired in Northeastern Minnesota Synod to Contracted Pastor at First, LeSueur-03/02/2022.
- **Rev. David Wall**, Retired in SWMN Synod to Contracted Pastor at Faith, Dodge Center-03/16/2022.

On Leave from Call:

- **Rev. Charlie Leonard**-05/03/2021.
- **Rev. Joseph BW Smith**-07/01/2021.
- **Rev. Ronald Myers**-09/01/2021.
- **Rev. Peter Reuss**-09/25/2021.
- **Rev. Nathan Luong**-02/05/2022.
- **Rev. Erica Cunningham**-04/01/2022.

Transferred Into the Synod:

- **Rev. Barbara Birkeland**, Retired-Northeastern Minnesota Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-05/04/2021.
- **Rev. Paul Birkeland**, Retired-Northeastern Minnesota Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-05/04/2021.
- **Rev. Kathleen Wold**, Retired-La Crosse Area synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-06/10/2021.
- **Rev. Roger Fears**, Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Associate Pastor First, Albert Lea-06/14/2021.
- **Rev. Grant Aaseng**, Retired-Northwest Synod of Wisconsin to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-06/23/2021.
- **Rev. Carl Ames**, Retired-West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod to Southeastern Minnesota Synod-06/23/2021
- **Rev. Glen Nelson**, Retired-ELC in Canada to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-06/29/2021.
- **Rev. Jolene Knudson-Hanse**, Eastern North Dakota Synod to Pastor at Our Savior's, Spring Valley-07/01/2021.
- **Deacon Peter Fritch-Gallatin**, Northwestern Minnesota Synod to Chaplain at Ecumen Pathstone Living, Mankato-07/06/2021.
- **Rev. Inger Hanson**, Northwest Intermountain Synod to Senior Pastor at Bethel, Northfield-07/21/2021.
- **Rev. Michael Mandsager**, St. Paul Area synod to Chaplain at Northfield Retirement Community, Northfield-08/07/2021.
- **Rev. Hayden Kvamme**, Southeastern Iowa Synod to Associate Pastor at Gloria Dei, Rochester-08/09/2021.

Roster Updates continued

- **Rev. Mary Kaye Ashley**, Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Associate Interim at St. John's, Kasson-09/01/2021.
- **Rev. Daniel Nordin**, Retired-Minneapolis Area Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-09/03/2021.
- **Rev. John Braaten**, Retired-Grand Canyon Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-09/03/2021.
- **Rev. Jillene Fritch-Gallatin**, Northwestern Minnesota Synod to Senior Pastor at Grace, Waseca-09/07/2021.
- **Rev. Tami Groth**, Western Iowa Synod to Chaplain at Winona Health, Winona-09/13/2021.
- **Rev. Gena Koeberl**, Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Chaplain at Mayo Clinic, Rochester-09/27/2021.
- **Rev. Susan Schoon**, Retired, St. Paul Area Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-09/29/2021.
- **Rev. Peter J. Johnson**, Minneapolis Area Synod to Solo Pastor/2 Point of Moscow & Oakland Parish, Austin & Albert Lea-10/01/2021.
- **Rev. Dr. Charlene Cox**, Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod to Program Director for Congregational Thriving at St. Olaf College-10/01/2021.
- **Rev. Ronald Huber**, Retired-Southeastern Iowa Synod to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-12/14/2021.
- **Rev. Timothy Sersen**, Retired-South Dakota to Retired-Southeastern Minnesota Synod-12/14/2021.
- **Rev. Jacqueline Ziemer**, Minneapolis Area Synod to Chaplain at Mayo Clinic Health Systems, Fairmont, St. James, Mankato-12/20/2021.
- **Rev. Carla Reiersen**, Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Interim Pastor at Mabel First, Mabel-(Contracted with Scheie, Mabel)-02/01/2022.
- **Rev. Lucas Peters**, Alaska Synod to Pastor at Bear Lake Concordia & St. Paul Parish, Albert Lea/Conger-03/01/2022.
- **Rev. Robert Zahn**, Southeast Michigan Synod to Senior Pastor at Zumbro, Rochester-03/01/2022
- **Rev. Clark Baldwin**, Northeastern Iowa Synod to Solo Pastor at Aurora, Owatonna-03/27/2022.

Transferred Out of the Synod:

- **Rev. Randal Fett**, Solo Pastor at St. Ansgar's, Cannon Falls to South Dakota Synod-06/05/2021.
- **Rev. David Efflandt**, Senior Pastor at St. John, Kasson to Northern Illinois Synod-06/05/2021.
- **Rev. Joshua Blair**, Solo Pastor at Glenville Area Lutheran Parish, Glenville to Northeastern Minnesota Synod-07/01/2021.
- **Rev. Kimberly Kylo**, Associate Pastor at Zion, Stewartville to Saint Paul Area Synod-08/01/2021.
- **Rev. Linda Mc Peak**, Solo Pastor at Cross of Christ, Houston to La Crosse Area Synod-09/22/2021.

Roster Updates continued

- **Rev. Katelyn Rakotoarivelo**, Solo Pastor at Concordia Pickerel Lake, Albert Lea to Sierra Pacific Synod-09/21/2021.
- **Rev. Mark Dumke**, Retired to Retired-Northwest Synod of Wisconsin-12/14/2021.
- **Rev. Mark Docken**, Retired to Retired –Metro Washington DC-12/14/2021.
- **Rev. Christopher Culuris**, Pastor at Wanamingo & Trinity, Wanamingo to Southwestern Minnesota Synod-01/01/2022.
- **Rev. Heather Culuris**, Pastor at Dale & Holden, Kenyon to Southwestern Minnesota Synod-01/01/2022.
- **Rev. Andrea Myers**, Pastor at Zion, Lake Crystal to Southeastern Iowa Synod-02/14/2022.
- **Rev. Timothy Ehling**, Solo Pastor at First, Lake City to Northeastern Minnesota Synod-02/22/2022.
- **Rev. John Heille**, Associate Pastor at Grace, Fairmont to Western Iowa Synod-03/01/2022.
- **Rev. Lindsay Brennan**, On Leave from Call to Greater Milwaukee Synod-03/17/2022.
- **Rev. Jason Bryan-Wegner**, Associate Pastor at Zumbro, Rochester to St. Paul Area Synod-03/20/2022.

Disability:

none

Retirements:

- **Rev. John Holt**-05/23/2021.
- **Rev. Nancy Toensing**-06/01/2021.
- **Rev. Mark Docken**-07/01/2021.
- **Rev. Byron Meline**-07/01/2021.
- **Rev. Kristine Braaten-Lee**-08/01/2021.
- **Rev. Shari Mason**-08/01/2021.
- **Rev. Carl Bruihler, Jr.**-09/01/2021.
- **Rev. Elise Erickson**-11/01/2021.
- **Rev. Suzanne Froelich**-11/01/2021.
- **Rev. Todd Portinga**-11/01/2021.
- **Rev. Todd Substad**-12/01/2021.
- **Rev. Donald Kloster**-01/01/2022.
- **Rev. Vernon Christopherson**-01/01/2022.
- **Rev. Phillip Ruud**-02/01/2022.

Deceased:

- **Rev. John H. Hagen**-09/25/2021.
- **Rev. Fred Rendstorf**-10/04/2021.
- **Rev. David Aaker**-10/12/2021.
- **Rev. Philip Peters**-11/03/2021.
- **Rev. Vickie Hultine**-01/30/2022.
- **Rev. Albert Girtz**-02/11/2022.
- **Deacon Janet Tantow**-02/16/2022.
- **Rev. Russell Wangen**-02/20/2022.

Roster Updates continued

Rostered Leaders Removed from the ELCA Roster:

- Elliott Malm-07/15/2021.

Rostered Leaders Resigned from the ELCA Roster:

none

Congregations Removed From the ELCA/Synod:

- United Lutheran Church, Frost-09/24/2021.
- Bethany Lutheran Church-11/13/2021.
- South Blue Earth-02/05/2022.

Congregation Which Closed:

none

Proposed Spending Plan for Mission and Ministry 2023-2024

2023-2024 Budget			
1	Ordinary Income/Expense		
2	Income		
3			
4	Mission		
5	400100	Mission Support	1,575,000.00
6	Total Mission		\$ 1,575,000.00
7			
8	Other Income		
9	400300	Annual Fund	75,000.00
10	400400	Event Offering	40,000.00
11	400500	Interest Income	5,000.00
12	400600	Investment Gain/Loss	3,500.00
13	400601	CYF Fund Reimbursement	
14	400602	Wittmer Fund Reimbursement	
15	400700	Unrealized Investment Gain/Loss	35,000.00
16	Total Other Income		158,500.00
17			
18	Program Fees (400200)		
19	400210	Synod Assembly	75,000.00
20	400220	Theological Conference	20,000.00
21	400230	Events - Other	0.00
22	400240	Candidacy	4,500.00
23	400250	FCTE	5,000.00
24	Total Program Fees		104,500.00
25			
26	Total Income		1,838,000.00
27			
28	Expense		
29			
30	ELCA Mission Support		
31	500100	ELCA Mission Support	677,250.00
32	Total ELCA Mission Support		677,250.00
33			

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 continued

34		Personnel		
35		500601	Salaries & Wages	475,885.13
36		500602	Separation Pay	
37		500610	Housing Allowance	
38		500620	Continuing Education	8,125.00
39		500630	Book Allowance	14,040.00
40		500640	Payroll Tax Expense	18,188.33
41		500641	Separation Payroll Tax Expense	
42		500650	Employee Benefits - Portico	190,949.87
43		500660	Staff Travel - Synod	13,000.00
44		500661	Staff Travel - Domestic Trips	5,000.00
45		500662	Staff Travel - Global Visits	10,000.00
46		500670	Staff Development	5,000.00
47		500671	Staff Sabbatical	
48		500680	SAWC Lay Ministers	
49		500681	Contract Services	10,000.00
50		500690	Miscellaneous Personnel Expense	
51		500691	Allocate to Programs	
52		Total Personnel		750,188.33
53				
54		Ministry Partners		
55		500201	Campus Ministry	50,000.00
56		500202	Luther Seminary	15,000.00
57		500203	Good Earth Village	10,000.00
58		500204	Minnesota Council of Churches	5,000.00
59		500205	Lutheran Advocacy Minnesota	2,000.00
60		500206	Region 3 (Archives)	9,000.00
61		500207	Continuous Growth Pathways	15,000.00
62		Total Ministry Partners		106,000.00
63				
64		Synod Ministry Programs		
65		500301	Synod Assembly	75,000.00
66		500302	Theological Conference	20,000.00
67		500310	Events - Other	6,000.00
68		500320	Candidacy Committee	10,000.00
69		500330	FCTE	4,000.00
70		500340	Tables/Teams	3,000.00
71		500350	Faith Formation	500.00
72			Rostered Leader Development	7,000.00

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 continued

73			Ministry Initiatives	20,000.00
74			Total Synod Ministry Programs	145,500.00
75				
76			Global Partners	
77				
78		500401	Global Ministry Table Discretionary	9,000.00
79			Total Global Partners	9,000.00
80				
81			Governance	
82		500501	Executive Committee	500.00
83		500502	Synod Council	1,500.00
84		500510	Conference of Deans	200.00
85		500520	Endowment Committee	200.00
86		500530	Bishop Transition	5,000.00
87			Total Governance	7,400.00
88				
89			Operating Expenses	
90		500701	Rent	48,000.00
91		500702	Contracts & Repairs	15,000.00
92		500710	Postage	4,000.00
93		500711	Office Supplies	12,000.00
94		500712	Phone & Internet	6,000.00
95		500720	Audit & Legal Services	10,000.00
96		500721	Accounting Service	18,000.00
97		500730	Insurance	10,000.00
98		500740	Bank Fees	500.00
99		500741	Credit Card Processing	2,500.00
100		500750	Office Equipment	5,000.00
101		500760	Miscellaneous Expense	1,000.00
102		500770	Communication	5,000.00
103			Total Operating Expense	137,000.00
104				
105			Total Expense	1,832,338.33
106				
107				
108			Net Income	5,661.67

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 vs. 2022-2023

2022-2023 Budget			2023-2024 Budget		
	Ordinary Income/Expense Income		Ordinary Income/Expense Income		
1					
2					
3					
4	Mission				
5	400100 • Mission Support		1,575,000.00		1,575,000.00
6	Total Mission		1,575,000.00		\$ 1,575,000.00
7					
8	Offerings				
9	400300 • Assembly Offerings		0.00		
10	Total Offerings				
11					
12	Other Income				
13	400390 • Annual Fund		100,000.00		75,000.00
14	400400 • Interest Income		5,000.00		40,000.00
15	400401 • Investment Gain/Loss		3,500.00		5,000.00
16	400402 • ELCA DEM Support				3,500.00
17	400403 • ELCA DEM In-kind Income		81,704.00		
18					
19	400404 • ELCA Grant		10,000.00		35,000.00
20	Total 400402 • ELCA DEM Support		91,704.00		
21	400407 • Wittmer Fund Reimbursement		0.00		
22	400408 • Holy Spirit Fund				
23	400700 • Unrealized Investment Gain/Loss		35,000.00		
24	Total Other Income		235,204.00		158,500.00
25					
26	Program Fees				
27	400200 • Theological Conf. Program Fees		7,500.00		75,000.00
28	400202 • Candidacy Program Fees		4,500.00		20,000.00
29	400204 • Assembly Program Fees		45,000.00		0.00
30	400206 • Communications Program Fees		200.00		4,500.00
31	400207 • C/Y/F Program Fees		250.00		5,000.00
32	400208 • Miscellaneous Program Fees				
33	400210 • FCTE Program Fees		5,000.00		
34	400211 • Congregational Renewal Coaching		4,000.00		

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 vs. 2022-2023 continued

35	Total Program Fees	66,450.00	Total Program Fees	104,500.00
36				
37	400396 · Developing Leaders			
38				
39	Total Income	,876,654.00	Total Income	1,838,000.00
40				
41	Expense		Expense	
42				
43	Mission Support		ELCA Mission Support	
44	500002 · ELCA Mission Support	0.00	500100 ELCA Mission Support	677,250.00
45	500020 · Allocated to groups	0.00		
46	Total Mission Support		Total ELCA Mission Support	677,250.00
47				
48	Personnel		Personnel	
49	500100 · Salaries & Wages		500601 Salaries & Wages	475,885.13
50	500101 · Separation Pay		500602 Separation Pay	
51	500110 · Housing Allowance		500610 Housing Allowance	
52	500120 · Continued Education		500620 Continuing Education	8,125.00
53	500130 · Book Allowance		500630 Book Allowance	14,040.00
54	500140 · Payroll Tax Expense		500640 Payroll Tax Expense	18,188.33
55	500150 · Employee Benefits - Portico		500641 Separation Payroll Tax Expense	
56	500224 · Staff Travel		500650 Employee Benefits - Portico	190,949.87
57	225 · Travel-Synod		500660 Staff Travel - Synod	13,000.00
58	226 · Travel-Domestic		500661 Staff Travel - Domestic Trips	5,000.00
59	229 · Travel		500662 Staff Travel - Global Visits	10,000.00
60	500224 · Staff Travel - Other			
61	Total 500224 · Staff Travel			
62	500225 · Staff Development		500670 Staff Development	5,000.00
63	500230 · Contract Services		500671 Staff Sabbatical	
64	500240 · Miscellaneous Personnel Expense		500680 SAWC Lay Ministers	
65			500681 Contract Services	10,000.00
66			500690 Miscellaneous Personnel Expense	
67	500250 · Allocate to programs		500691 Allocate to Programs	
68	Total Personnel		Total Personnel	750,188.33
69				
70	Synod Assembly			
71	500570 · Synod Assembly Program			
72	500572 · Synod Assembly Facility			
73	Total Synod Assembly			
74				
75	1 · Developing Leaders			
76	DL-Congregational Leader Support			
77	500280 · DL-Synod Assembly	22,500.00		
78	500802 · DL-Renew! Event	1,500.00		
79	Total DL-Congregational Leader Support	24,000.00		
80	DL-Ministry Partners			
81	500300 · Lutheran Campus Ministry	50,000.00		
82	500302 · Luther Seminary	20,000.00		
83	500305 · GEV	5,000.00		
84	Total DL-Ministry Partners	75,000.00		
85	DL-Rostered Leader Support		Ministry Partners	
86	500310 · Region 3	9,000.00	500201 Campus Ministry	50,000.00

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 vs. 2022-2023 continued

[illegible]

Proposed Spending Plan 2023-2024 vs. 2022-2023 continued

[illegible]

Resolutions

1 Resolution 2022-1
2 Submitted by the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Council

3

4

5

2023 Minimum Compensation and Benefit Guidelines

6

7 **Whereas,** St. Paul writes, “and each will receive wages according to the labor of
8 each. For we are God’s servants, working together,” (1 Corinthians 3);
9 and

10

11 **Whereas,** †S6.03.01.a in the Constitution for Synods states that the
12 responsibilities of the synod include “providing for pastoral care of
13 congregations, ministers of Word and Sacrament, and ministers of
14 Word and Service in the synod”; and

15

16 **Whereas,** the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Council has reviewed the *2023*
17 *Minimum Compensation and Benefits Guidelines*; therefore be it

18

19 **Resolved,** that the Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA adopt the
20 document *2023 Minimum Compensation and Benefits Guidelines* for
21 Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Ministers of Word and Service, and
22 non-rostered lay professionals serving in congregations in the
23 Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

**The proposed 2023 Minimum Compensation and Benefit Guidelines
document can be viewed by going to the website:
semnsynod.org/compensation.*

Resolutions

1 Resolution 2022-2

2 Submitted by Mount Olive Church Council, Rochester MN

3

4

To be a United Church that Cares for the Community

5 **Whereas,** our Lord said that whatever we do “to one of the least members of Christ’s
6 family” we do to Him (Matthew 25:40), and

7 **Whereas,** the Church as the Body of Christ in the world is exhorted by St. Paul and
8 others to “work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of
9 faith (Galatians 6:10), and

10 **Whereas,** St. John challenges us, saying, “How does God’s love abide in anyone who
11 has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses
12 help,” (I John 3: 17), and

13 **Whereas,** the mission of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod is “To walk together
14 proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ,” and

15 **Whereas,** 80 of Minnesota’s 87 counties lack necessary emergency shelter beds*, and

16 **Whereas,** 20% of Minnesota rental households are severely cost-burdened, spending
17 50% or more of their household income for housing*, and

18 **Whereas,** the nation’s largest and longest established coalition of faith communities, the
19 Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC), is exhorting congregations to be
20 advocates for sheltering needs of Minnesotans in poverty, and

21 **Whereas,** the Minnesota Council of Churches, of which the Southeastern Minnesota
22 Synod is a member, is already a member of the JRLC, and

23 **Whereas,** the congregations of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod are made up of
24 compassionate, creative, resourceful, and persuasive people who can be a
25 force for good in our state; therefore be it

26 **Resolved,** that the Synod Council shall organize a three-year Housing Insecure Task
27 Force for the purpose of guiding Synod participation to address this need, by

28 1) Encouraging its congregations to consider becoming member
29 congregations of the JRLC, 2) Informing member congregations of the
30 opportunities for pursuing advocacy for the housing insecure through the
31 JRLC, and 3) Encouraging member congregations to consider being active
32 in finding solutions for those who are housing insecure in their own
33 community; be it further

34 **Resolved,** that the Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA include in its 2025
35 annual report the activities of the said Task Force at the end of its three-year
36 work, with appropriate celebration thereof.

37

38 *Statistics taken from the website of the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, www.jrlc.org.

Giving Thanks

...to all who make this Synod Assembly possible!

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