



Legislative Update
Saturday, August 10, 2019

Consideration: Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA Removed from *En Bloc* (continued)

Reference: 2019 Pre-Assembly Report, Section V, Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA

The 2019 Churchwide Assembly acted on proposed amendments to the *Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* which were removed from *en bloc* action.

ASSEMBLY ACTION **Defeated** **To amend ELCA bylaw provision 7.41.03** **Two-Thirds Vote Required**
YES-315; NO-499

ASSEMBLY ACTION **Defeated** **To amend ELCA constitutional provision 7.71.02** **Two-Thirds Vote Required**
YES-359; NO-458

Memorials Committee (continued)

Reference: 2019 Pre-Assembly Report, Section VII, Report of the Memorials Committee; Supplemental Report of the Memorials Committee

Ms. Cheryl T. Chatman and Mr. Reid A. Christopherson, co-chairs of the Memorials Committee, led the assembly in continued discussion on a memorial.

Category D7: Health Care Benefits

ASSEMBLY ACTION **CA19.06.33** **RESOLVED, that the ELCA in assembly direct the Church Council, in partnership with the Conference of Bishops and Portico Benefit Services, to review the current Church Council's recommendation for the Gold+ coverage for all rostered ministers and employees of the church and that they develop a recommendation for the whole church for health insurance coverage by the spring meeting of the Church Council in 2020 for the 2021 enrollment.** **YES-662; NO-127**
To request the churchwide organization survey employees to understand the impact on staff and identify any modifications that can be made within budgeted funds for 2020; and
To encourage Portico to continue to provide educational tools to assist employees of the churchwide organization which thoroughly explain the different plans.

Announcement of 2022 Churchwide Assembly

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton announced that the 2022 Churchwide Assembly will be held in Columbus, Ohio at the Greater Columbus Convention Center from August 8 through 13, 2022.

Unfinished Business

Reference: 2019 Pre-Assembly Report, Section IX, Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee

The following items were left unfinished by the 2019 Churchwide Assembly and will be directed to the ELCA Church Council for action.

FORWARDED

ACTION ITEM To refer Motion C to the Church Council for consideration.

FORWARDED

ACTION ITEM To refer Motion D to the Church Council for consideration.

FORWARDED

ACTION ITEM *To adopt the following resolution:*
Resolution of Appreciation for Church Council Members who are Ending their Terms of Service in 2019 (Motion L)

We, the members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, give thanks to God for the members of the Church Council who will be concluding their six-year terms at this assembly. We wish to thank these 22 individuals for their dedicated service to this church during their terms and to acknowledge that their service included membership on task forces, *ad hoc* committees, attendance at synod assemblies, and representation of this church in global, national, and local forums.

We appreciate their tireless work of renewing and growing the church's mission. We continue to keep them and their work, which is our work, in prayer.

FORWARDED

ACTION ITEM *To adopt the following resolution:*
Resolution of Appreciation for Churchwide Staff (Motion M)

The members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gathered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, thank the churchwide organization and staff for their hard work and dedication to the mission of Christ in this church. We thank God for their willingness to serve as a part of the everyday lifeblood of this church both here in the United States and globally.

We thank each of the offices and units of the Churchwide organization:

- Office of the Presiding Bishop
- Office of the Secretary
- Office of the Treasurer
- Mission Advancement
- Domestic Mission
- Global Mission

We are church together in Christ because of this churchwide organization's willingness to continue renewing and growing our church in both acceptance of others and what it means to truly live the Gospel.

FORWARDED

ACTION ITEM

To adopt the following resolution:

Resolution of Appreciation and Thanksgiving for Hospitality (Motion N)

The members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America deeply thank the City of Milwaukee and the Greater Milwaukee Synod for hosting this assembly, for their drinks of barley and hops, and for their cheese curds. Our host synod is truly living the Miller High Life.

As we join in fellowship together, we are reminded of the indigenous history of the land we are on and the Algonquian name of Milwaukee as the “gathering place.” We give thanks for the Menominee, Fox, Mascouten, Sauk, Potawatomi, Ojibwa, and other American Indian tribes that called this land home.

We are appreciative to the City of Milwaukee for allowing us the ability to walk in the Word together on Wednesday to and from the ICE detention center.

We give thanks for the Wisconsin Center for their accommodations, for their assistance in helping us assemble together in prayer and business, facilitating our ability to worship boldly, for providing us with laughs in their lifelike—and creepy—police officer statue, and for serving as a focal point in the work of this church.

We give thanks for the Hyatt Regency and Hilton hotels for giving us a place to rest and reflect on our time together. We also give thanks to the hotel staff, Wisconsin Center staff, and restaurant workers of Milwaukee for their hard work.

The City of Milwaukee embodies a beautiful expression of what it means to be church, and we thank them for welcoming us into their city so warmly.

The fifteenth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was adjourned at 12:03 p.m. in Hall A/B of the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.