



Summary of Church Council Meeting April 11–14, 2024

The Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) met in Chicago April 11-14, 2024.

The Church Council took action on the following:

- received “Faithful Teaching,” the Common Statement of the Twelfth Round of the U.S. Lutheran–Catholic Dialogue
- adopted “Gun-related Violence and Trauma” as a social message of the ELCA
- authorized development of a new social message on child protection and maltreatment in response to a Churchwide Assembly memorial
- elected the Rev. Dr. M. Wyvetta Bullock to serve as the executive for administration for a term coterminous with the term of the presiding bishop
- revised a continuing resolution outlining the pre-assembly identification process for the elections of churchwide officers
- requested a review of ELCA World Hunger FY24 revenue and expense performance through May 2024 and sharing of recommendations with the Budget and Finance Committee of the Church Council; authorized the Executive Committee of the Church Council to approve necessary revisions to the World Hunger FY24 spending authorization following the review
- approved adding a Roth option for elective retirement contributions through Portico Benefit Services beginning in January 2025
- approved amendments to churchwide organization personnel policies
- received reports and/or approved actions related to the following Churchwide Assembly actions and synod resolutions:
 - “Equity and Clarity in the Mission Development Process” (*final report requested for Spring 2026*)
 - “Fortifying Urban Ministries in Underserved Urban Areas” (*final report requested for Spring 2025*)
 - “Right to Boycott”
 - “ELCA Strategy regarding Black Migrants” (*final proposal requested for Fall 2024*)
 - “Addressing Anti-Semitism in Lectionary Readings”
 - “Support for USA Jubilee Network”
- elected board members for Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary at Lenoir-Rhyne University, Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University, United Lutheran Seminary, Mosaic, Inc., and the Publishing House of the ELCA (1517 Media)
- updated corporate designations of those authorized to act in financial matters in the absence of officers
- approved minutes of the Fall 2023 meeting for the Church Council and ratified actions taken by the Executive Committee of the Church Council from Nov. 9, 2023, to March 19, 2024.

The Church Council received/engaged in the following:

- update from the co-chairs of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church
- update on the God’s Love Made Real initiative
- update on the work of the Budget Prioritization Task Force
- reports and updates from officers, chair of the Conference of Bishops, and committees of the Church Council
- reports and updates from the Administrative Team
- presentations from representatives of the ethnic associations and Reconciling Works
- racial justice and gender justice education
- ecumenical greetings from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the Moravian Church in America, and The Episcopal Church (USA)
- personal reflections on faith from council members
- worship, prayer, and fellowship.