

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
CHURCH COUNCIL
August 4, 2010
10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Please note the following information to access the conference calls:

- *For the executive session* (10:30 - 11:25 a.m.), a Qwest operator will contact each member beginning at 10:20 a.m. and will connect participants to the call at 10:30 a.m.
- The Qwest operator-assisted call will end at approximately 11:25 a.m.
- *For the open session* (11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon), all participants dial: (877) 732-0229 and use room number *8616792*. The star key must be entered before and after the room number.
- If there are problems during the call, please contact JoAnne Brady at jo.brady@elca.org or 800-638-3522, ext. 2800.

AGENDA

I. ORGANIZATION OF MEETING

A. Voting Members

Officers

Bp. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop
Mr. Carlos Peña, Vice President
Mr. David Swartling, Secretary
Ms. Christina Jackson-Skelton, Treasurer

Church Council

Pr. David P. Anderson	Pr. Steven P. Loy
Ms. Judith Barlow-Roberts	Pr. Heather Lubold
Mr. Baron Blanchard	Ms. Susan McArver
Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke	Pr. Raymond Miller
Ms. Rebecca Carlson	Mr. John Munday
Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth	Mr. Mark Myers
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly	Ms. Ann Niedringhaus
Mr. John R. Emery	Pr. Pablo Obregon
Pr. Amsalu Geleta	Mr. Ivan Perez
Ms. Karin Graddy	Ms. Lynette Reitz
Mr. Mark S. Helmke	Ms. Sandra Schlesinger
Ms. Louise Hemstead	Pr. Michael Schmidt
Mr. William Horne	Mr. Blaire Smith
Pr. Keith A. Hunsinger	Pr. Jeff Sorenson
Mr. Mark E. Johnson	Pr. Kathryn Tiede
Pr. Susan Langhauser	Mr. David Truland
	Pr. Philip Wold

B. Liaison Bishops

Bp. Allan Bjornberg	Bp. Gerald Mansholt
Bp. Michael Burk	Bp. Margaret Payne
Bp. Murray D. Finck	Bp. Harold Usgaard

Bp. Callon W. Holloway Bp. Martin D. Wells
Bp. Ralph Jones Bp. Herman Yoos

C. Resource People

Office of the Presiding Bishop

Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Executive for Administration
Pr. Marcus Kunz, Executive for Discernment of Theological and Contextual Issues (*excused*)
Pr. Walter May, Executive for Synodical and Constituent Relations
Ms. Myrna J. Sheie, Executive for Governance and Institutional Relations

Office of the Secretary

Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Executive for Official Documentation and Administration
Mr. Phillip H. Harris, General Counsel
Pr. Frank F. Imhoff, Director for Official Documentation

D. Advisory Members

Youth

Ms. Arielle Mastellar (*excused*) Mr. Kyle Teague

Advisors

Pr. Jaime Dubon, Latino Community Association
Ms. Elizabeth Gaskins, president, American Indian and Alaska Native Association
Pr. David Keller, Lutheran Services in America
Ms. Kristen Kvam, chair, Justice for Women consulting committee
Ms. Katherine Long, president, European American Association
Pr. O. Dennis Mims, president, African-American Association
Mr. Fuad Nijim, president, Arab and Middle Eastern Association
Pr. Paul Ostrem, chair, Church in Society program committee
Pr. Mark Ramseth, ELCA seminaries
Pr. Arthur C. (Chris) Repp, chair, Global Mission program committee
Mr. Alfred Sagar, chair, Multicultural Ministries program committee
Mr. Norm Smith, president, Lutheran Men in Mission
Mr. Kai Swanson, chair, Vocation and Education program committee
Ms. Janet Thompson, chair, Augsburg Fortress Board of Trustees (*excused*)
Ms. Deborah Wilson, chair, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission program committee
Ms. Beth Wrenn, president, Women of the ELCA
Pr. Edmond Yee, Asian and Pacific Islander Association

II. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda items have been distributed to the members of the Church Council either by mail or by electronic distribution.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To adopt the agenda and to permit the chair to call for consideration of agenda items in the order the chair deems most appropriate.

III. Updates from Officers

A. Presiding Bishop

B. Treasurer

C. Secretary

D. Vice President

IV. Item for Action

1. Current Fund Spending Authorization – *Executive Session*

The 2010 current fund operating income estimates are being reduced from the \$69,300,000 approved in April 2010 to \$65,100,000, a reduction of \$4,200,000 or 6.1 percent. There are minor adjustments in anticipated missionary sponsorship and unit designated gifts (\$50,000 each), but the primary reduction is \$4.1 million, or 7.4 percent, in mission support income.

At the end of May, mission support income was unfavorable to budget by \$1.1 million, or 5.6 percent. Sixty of the sixty-five synods have remitted mission support income unfavorable to the same period in 2009, with a total unfavorable variance in actual mission support at May 31, 2010, compared to May 31, 2009, of \$2.9 million or 13.2 percent. Mission support income has been in a period of decline since December 2008 after five years of relative stability. While difficult to accurately project during periods of such volatility, it is currently estimated that mission support income by fiscal year-end will total \$51.0 million. The decreases in mission support income have been caused by the economic instability that continues to impact all parts of the church and has been compounded by some unfavorable responses to the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly actions on sexuality.

As part of its ongoing financial contingency planning, the churchwide organization identified options for spending below the approved spending. Income performance during the first four months of 2010 now warrant moving all of the underspending and the first level of contingency plans into a reduced spending authorization of \$4,200,000 or 6.1 percent. The contingency planning process will also continue to identify further reductions, if required.

The 2010 income estimate and revised 2010 expense proposal are in [Exhibit B, Parts 1a - 1b](#).

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve a revised current fund spending authorization for fiscal year 2010 of \$65,100,000.

V. Item for Information

1. Update on 2011 Organizational Design Process – *Executive Session*

Executive for Administration M. Wyvetta Bullock will provide an update about the 2011 Organizational Design Process in executive session during the Church Council's August 4, 2010, conference call.

An exhibit is provided for elected members of Church Council in [Exhibit C](#), located in Net Community under the listing of resources by clicking on the message, "Click here to view executive session materials."

CC INFORMATION

2. Legal update – Executive Session

ELCA General Counsel Phil Harris will provide a legal update in executive session during the Church Council's August 4, 2010, conference call.

CC INFORMATION

VI. Items for *EN BLOC* Action

The following *en bloc* resolution includes agenda items that have been judged to be relatively non-controversial in nature and may not require plenary discussion and a separate vote. Prior to the meeting, members may notify the chair of any items they wish to remove from the *en bloc* resolution. The resolutions are in [Exhibit A](#).

CC ACTION [*En Bloc*]

Recommended:

To take action *en bloc* on the referrals of synodical resolutions detailed in Exhibit A, *as revised*.

VII. Adjournment