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Mr. Kent Henning, ELCA colleges and universities (*excused*)
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 (*excused*)
Mr. Fuad Nijim, president, Arab and Middle Eastern Association
Pr. Paul Ostrem, chair, Church in Society program committee
Pr. Arthur C. (Chris) Repp, chair, Global Mission program committee
Mr. Alfred Sagar, chair, Multicultural Ministries program committee
Mr. Kai Swanson, chair, Vocation and Education program committee
Ms. Janet Thompson, chair, Augsburg Fortress Board of Trustees
Ms. Deborah Wilson, secretary, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission program committee
Ms. Beth Wrenn, president, Women of the ELCA (*excused*)

D. Resource People

Office of the Presiding Bishop

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

Section Executives and Staff

Mr. Kenneth W. Inskeep, Executive for Research and Evaluation
Pr. Donald J. McCoid, Executive for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
Pr. Darrell D. Morton, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries
Pr. Craig Settlage, Director for Mission Support
Ms. Else B. Thompson, Executive for Human Resources
Pr. Robert Schaefer, Executive for Worship and Liturgical Resources

Office of the Secretary

Pr. Karen G. Bockelman, Executive Assistant to the Secretary
Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Executive for Office of the Secretary Administration
Mr. Phillip H. Harris, General Counsel
Mr. David A. Ullrich, Associate General Counsel

Office of the Treasurer: Section Executives and Staff

Mr. Jonathan Beyer, Executive for Information Technology
Pr. Jeffrey R. King, Support Specialist, Information Technology
Ms. Karen Rathbun, Executive for Management Services

Program Unit Executives

Pr. Stephen P. Bouman, Executive Director, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission (*excused*)
Represented by Ms. Evelyn Soto, Associate Executive Director
Ms. Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director, Women of the ELCA
Pr. Sherman Hicks, Executive Director, Multicultural Ministries
Pr. Rebecca S. Larson, Executive Director, Church in Society (*excused*)

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Represented by Pr. Les Weber, Associate Executive Director
Ms. Beth A. Lewis, President, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission (*excused*)
~~Represented by Ms. Lita Johnson, Associate Executive Director~~
Pr. Stanley N. Olson, Executive Director, Vocation and Education

Service Unit Executives

Ms. Kristi Bangert, Executive Director, Communication Services
Ms. Cynthia Halverson, Foundation of the ELCA and Executive Director for Development Services
Mr. John G. Kapanke, President, Board of Pensions
Mr. Daniel Lehmann, Editor, *The Lutheran* magazine
Ms. Eva M. Roby, Executive Vice President for Administration, Mission Investment Fund

E. Press

Mr. John R. Brooks, Director, ELCA News Service
Ms. Elizabeth M. Hunter, *The Lutheran* magazine
Mr. Frank F. Imhoff, Associate Director, ELCA News Service
Ms. Melissa Ramirez-Cooper, Associate Director, ELCA News Service

F. Ecumenical Guests

Pr. Teresita Valeriano, North American Representative, Lutheran World Federation (*excused*)
Pr. Mary Ann Neevel, United Church of Christ
Ms. Lelanda Lee, The Episcopal Church
Moravian Church [position vacant]
Presbyterian Church U.S.A. [position vacant]
Reformed Church [position vacant]

G. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda items have been distributed electronically and by mail. Additional items will be distributed at the meeting to the members of the Church Council and invited resource people.

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.

H. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 27-30, 2009, and August 16, 2009, meetings of the Church Council have been distributed to council members electronically on NetCommunity.

The minutes of the council's Executive Committee meetings on March 27, 2009, May 26, 2009, July 14, 2009, August 16, 2009, September 21, 2009, September 24, 2009, and October 7, 2009, have been distributed electronically to members.

Please provide in writing for the Executive for Office of the Secretary Administration any notations on typographical errors in the distributed text of the minutes. Proper corrections will be entered into the protocol copies of the minutes. Such corrections need not be raised in the plenary

session in connection with the approval of the minutes.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the minutes of the March 27-30, 2009, and August 16, 2009, meetings of the Church Council; and

To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the March 27, 2009, May 26, 2009, July 14, 2009, August 16, 2009, September 21, 2009, September 24, 2009, and October 7, 2009, meetings.

II. WRITTEN REPORTS

A. Reports of the Officers

1. Presiding Bishop: Exhibit A, Part 1
Summary of Section Activities: Exhibit A, Part 1a
2. Vice President: Exhibit A, Part 2
3. Secretary: Exhibit A, Part 3
4. Treasurer: Exhibit A, Part 4
Summary of Section Activities: Exhibit A, Part 4a

B. Report of the Conference of Bishops: Exhibit A, Part 5

C. Report of the Executive for Administration: Exhibit E, Parts 1-3; Exhibit H, Parts 2a-b

D. Reports of the Churchwide Units

NOTE: Refer to the *Structure of the Agenda* (salmon pages) for specific detail.

1. Reports and Recommendations of Churchwide Program and Service Units
Summary of Unit Activities: Exhibit J, Part 1
Digest of Board Actions: Exhibit J, Part 1a
2. Items for Action: Agenda, Section III
3. Items for *En Bloc* Action: Agenda, Section IV
4. Items for Information: Agenda, Section V

E. Reports of Church Council Committees

NOTE: See Section III for action items; Section IV for *en bloc* action items; and Section V for information items related to these committees. The working schedule for the meeting, printed on green paper, lists specific page numbers and the location of related exhibits.

1. Board Development Committee
2. Budget and Finance Committee
3. Executive Committee
4. Legal and Constitutional Review
5. Planning and Evaluation Committee
6. Program and Services Committee

III. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Nominations, Appointments, and Elections

1. Election of Executive Directors (*Executive Session*)

According to bylaw 14.21.21. of the *ELCA Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions*:

Unless otherwise specified in this constitution and bylaws, the Church Council shall elect the executive director for each churchwide program unit to a four-year term in consultation with and with the approval of the presiding bishop of this church.

Nomination of a candidate for election shall be made by the presiding bishop after consultation with the appropriate program committee for each position. . . .

The Church Council will meet in executive session to receive recommendations from Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson for executive directors for the following churchwide program units: Multicultural Ministries and Vocation and Education.

The nominations by Presiding Bishop Hanson of the Rev. Sherman Hicks as executive director for the Multicultural Ministries program unit and of the Rev. Stanley Olson as executive director of the Vocation and Education program unit come following consultation with representatives of the program committees.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To re-elect the Rev. Sherman G. Hicks to a four-year term as executive director of the program unit for Multicultural Ministries beginning January 17, 2010.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To re-elect the Rev. Stanley N. Olson as executive director of the Vocation and Education program unit for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2010.

2. Election of the Editor of *The Lutheran Magazine* (*Executive Session*)

According to bylaw 17.31.01. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions* of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, "An advisory committee for *The Lutheran* shall have the responsibility for the church periodical. The advisory committee, in consultation with the presiding bishop of this church, shall nominate the editor for the church periodical...." Further, bylaw 17.31.02. indicates that "The Church Council shall elect the editor of the church periodical by a two-thirds vote."

The nomination of Daniel Lehmann as editor of *The Lutheran* comes from the advisory committee for the magazine in consultation with Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson.

CC ACTION

Two-thirds vote required

Recommended:

To re-elect Daniel J. Lehmann as editor of *The Lutheran* for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2010.

3. Election of the Executive Committee

At the first meeting of each biennium the Church Council elects a new Executive Committee. Seven members of the Church Council will serve on this committee for the 2009–2011 biennium, in addition to the four officers of this church. Incumbent members of the Executive Committee are eligible for reelection.

The process uses the following pattern:

1. To facilitate its work between regular meetings by ensuring input and perspective from each of its standing committees, the chairs of the committees will be elected to the Executive Committee. Two committee chairs were elected in March 2009 and will continue as members of the Executive Committee: Susan Langhauser, Planning and Evaluation Committee, and Steven Loy, Program and Services Committee. The chairs of the Budget and Finance Committee and the Legal and Constitutional Committee will be elected during the committees' November 2009 meetings.
2. The remaining three members of the Executive Committee will be selected through the following process. The first ballot shall be a nominating ballot for each of the following categories to be identified based on the composition of the Executive Committee (i.e., male/female; clergy/lay; and ethnic inclusivity):
 - a. *[to be determined]*
 - b. *[to be determined]*
 - c. *[to be determined]*
3. The second ballot shall be limited to the two people (plus ties) in each category receiving the greatest number of nominations.
4. Upon completion of the balloting, the members of the Executive Committee (four officers and seven at-large) shall be deemed constituted.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To reaffirm the process for the election of the Executive Committee for the 2009-2011 biennium; and

To declare that the chairs of the Budget and Finance Committee, the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee, the Planning and Evaluation Committee, and the Program and Services Committee shall be members of the Executive Committee of the Church Council.

4. Other Elections

Between meetings of the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council has the responsibility of electing people to fill terms on churchwide boards, steering committees of churchwide commissions, and certain advisory committees. Biographical information is provided in Exhibit C, Part 1b.

- a. Advisory Committee for *The Lutheran*
Clergy [Term 2015]
 1. a. Pr. Jennifer M. Ginn, Salisbury, N.C. (9B)
 - b. Pr. Amaretta J. Onstad, Conyers, Ga. (9D)Lay Female [Term 2015]
 1. a. Ms. Judy R. Korn, Morris, Minn. (3F)
 - b. Ms. Kathleen Fick, Grand Forks, N.D. (3B)

- Lay Male [Term 2015]
 - 1. a. Mr. Jack H. Palmer, Defiance, Ohio (6D)
 - b. Mr. John A. Wagner, Toledo, Ohio (6D)
- b. Board of Trustees of the ELCA Foundation
 - Clergy [Term 2015]
 - Pr. Susan J. Crowell, Greenville, S.C. (9C)
 - Lay Female [Term 2015]
 - Ms. Teresa Chow, Hoffman Estates, Ill. (5A)
 - Lay Male [Term 2015]
 - Mr. James E. Willis, Rockwell City, Iowa (5E)
- c. Committee of Hearing Officers
 - Clergy [Term 2015]
 - Pr. Gerald R. Kliner, Jr., Hurricane, W. Va. (8H)
 - Lay Female [Term 2015]
 - Ms. Leslie M. Frost, Saint Paul, Minn. (3G)
 - Lay Male [Term 2015]
 - Mr. William R. Lloyd, Jr., Somerset, Penn. (8C)
- d. Board of Pensions Trustees
 - Lay Male [Term 2013] – *to fill unexpired term of Kelly L. Birch*
 - 1. a. Mr. Cecil D. Bykerk, Omaha, Neb. (4A)
 - b. Mr. Daniel E. Meylink, Sr., Lake Mills, Wisc. (5K)

B. Board Development Committee

Action items related to meetings of the Board Development Committee, including its November 15, 2009, meeting are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Racial Justice Process Observation

At its April 2007 meeting, the Church Council received a report on anti-racism training and took the following action (CC07.04.03):

To assign to the Board Development Committee responsibility for continuing anti-racism training in relation to the Church Council;

To acknowledge that the Board Development Committee may appoint a subcommittee for assistance in addressing issues of anti-racism training; and

To affirm the possibility of engagement of a racial justice monitor or monitors at future meetings of the Church Council to provide observations on the process of deliberations of the council.

Subsequent to this action, the Church Council has included anti-racism training sessions at its November 2007 and April 2008 meetings. In addition, the summer 2008 Church Council retreat focused on the "scandalous realities" of racism and sexism.

The Church Council, at its February 2008 meeting, approved a proposal from the Board Development Committee for a racial justice monitoring pilot using the following method to be undertaken by the Church Council at its regular meetings from April 2008 - March 2009:

1. Process observers observe three two-hour (or equivalent) plenary sessions. Identified categories for observation questions include:
 - a. Process
 - b. Who's in the room: who speaks or addresses the plenary; how often? Whose voices are brought into the room?
 - c. Climate: disconnect between advisors and council; comfort in sharing, speaking in plenary
 - Just before the end of a session, observers compile information into one report. Observers report to the plenary what they saw and heard.
 - A written report of observations is given to the chair of the Board Development Committee.
 - At the end of the third observation session, members and advisors complete and submit a pilot evaluation form.
 - Upon consideration of this report, the Board Development Committee may make corresponding recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration.
 - Compiled pilot evaluation results are given to the Board Development Committee chair.

Process observers have been present for the Church Council meetings in April 2008 and March 2009. In preparation for the March 2009 meeting, the following five members of the Church Council were trained as process observers: Lynette Reitz, Ann Niedringhaus, Pablo Obregon, Baron Blanchard, and Arielle Mastellar (youth advisor).

The November 2009 meeting will include an introduction to process observation with observations shared as indicated on the timed agenda.

A proposal related to the commitment of the Church Council to racial justice process observation is printed in Exhibit B, Part 6.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve "Process Observation: A Practice of Church Council Leaders" as printed in Exhibit B, Part 6; and

To request that the document—with the exception of information specific to the November 2009 meeting—be added to the Church Council Orientation Manual.

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C. Budget and Finance

Action items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Current Fund and World Hunger

Exhibit F, Part 2a reflects income estimates that have been revised since the August 2009 Churchwide Assembly. Current income is projected to be \$69,022,800, a decrease of \$7,669,200 or ten percent from the budget approved by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.

Mission support is anticipated to decrease from the assembly-approved income budget of \$62,250,000 to \$55,100,000, a decrease of \$7,150,000 or 11.5 percent. This mission support income estimate is based on early, rough estimates from ELCA synods and will be revisited in February 2010.

Investment income estimates have been adjusted downward by \$400,000 since the April income estimates. This is due primarily to lower investment account balances than previously estimated and anticipated market value losses caused by higher interest rates. Other unrestricted income is projected to decrease by \$67,650, primarily due to the potential for a reduction in income from congregational stewardship programs and special gifts through synods. Temporarily restricted endowment distributions are reduced by \$51,550 due to the final distribution of funds from a bequest that had been invested as an endowment.

The World Hunger Appeal estimate is unchanged.

Exhibit F, Part 2b reflects revised 2010 unit allocations proposed by the Office of the Presiding Bishop. These allocations are the result of a process of deliberation and advice from the Program Advisory Team and the service units and offices.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve an initial 2010 fiscal year current fund spending authorization of \$69,022,800; and

To approve an initial 2010 fiscal year World Hunger spending authorization of \$18,700,000.

2. Revisions to 2009 Synod Mission Support Plans

The report of the director for mission support is found in Exhibit F, Part 5a.

The ELCA Church Council has responsibility for reviewing and approving or withholding approval for synod mission support plans. Exhibit F, Part 5b shows the actual mission support received from each synod for 2007-2008 with plans and any revisions for the 2009 and 2010 fiscal years.

Since the March 2009 Church Council meeting, we have received revisions for 2009 mission support plans from 15 synods.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increases in the percentage for the sharing of 2009 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Alaska, Arkansas-Oklahoma, Texas-Louisiana Gulf

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Coast, North/West Lower Michigan, and Slovak Zion synods;

To affirm the revised 2009 mission support dollar estimates for the sharing of mission support contributions for synodical and churchwide ministries by congregations of the following synods: Rocky Mountain, Metropolitan Chicago, Northern Illinois, and Southern Ohio synods; and

To acknowledge the percentage change in mission support resulting from revised estimates of congregational mission support for the following synods: Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, Greater Milwaukee, Southeast Michigan, Northeastern Ohio, Allegheny, and South Carolina synods.

3. Revisions to 2010 synod mission support plans

Since the March 2009 Church Council meeting, we have received either original plans or revisions for 2010 mission support plans from 17 synods.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increases in the percentage for the sharing of 2010 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synods: Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana, Northeastern Iowa, Southeastern Michigan, Upstate New York, and Allegheny synods;

To affirm the revised 2010 mission support dollar estimates for the sharing of mission support contributions for synodical and churchwide ministries by congregations of the following synods: Alaska, Rocky Mountain, Eastern North Dakota, Central States, Metropolitan Chicago, Northern Illinois, Greater Milwaukee, Indiana-Kentucky, Slovak Zion, Northwestern Pennsylvania, and Upper Susquehanna synods; and

To acknowledge the percentage change in mission support resulting from revised estimates of congregational mission support for the following synod: New England.

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D. Executive Committee

Action items related to the meetings of the Executive Committee since March 2009 are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's November 2009 meeting.

1. Ratification of Church Council Committees for 2009–2011 Biennium

In preparation for the August 2009 meeting of the ELCA Church Council, continuing members of the Church Council were invited to indicate their preferences for service on one of the four standing committees of the Church Council: Budget and Finance; Legal and Constitutional Review; Planning and Evaluation; and Program and Services. Members also indicated interest in other areas of service, including the Board Development Committee. At its August 2009 meeting, the Church Council ratified the provisional membership for the four standing committees.

Following their elections by the Churchwide Assembly, newly elected members were invited to indicate their committee preferences. The Executive Committee reviewed the requests at its October 2009 meeting and made recommendations for ratification by the Church Council during the first plenary session of its November 2009 meeting. The recommendations are provided in Exhibit B, Parts 3a and 3b. **New members of the Board Development Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee during the meeting.**

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To ratify the appointments to the Church Council committees and other advisory responsibilities for the 2009–2011 biennium as detailed in Exhibit B, Parts 3a and 3b.

2. Synod Visits by Church Council Members

Since November 2005, the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has committed itself to building relationships between the churchwide organization and synods, congregations, and institutions and agencies.

At its November 2007 meeting, the Church Council voted (CC07.11.65):

To recall that, concerning changes in governance of this church, the 2005 Churchwide Assembly voted [CA05.06.21]: "To encourage greater interaction of members of the Church Council with synodical councils and synodical assemblies in their respective areas";

To urge members of the Church Council to accept this responsibility and interact with their own synods and their partner synods in various ways, including attending at least one Synod Council meeting per year and participating in Synod Assemblies, especially in years when a synod is considering nominations to the Church Council; and

To note that expenses for attending Synod Council meetings and Synod Assemblies will be reimbursed by the churchwide organization in accordance with the ELCA travel policy.

Beginning with the November 2005 meeting, members of the Church Council made the commitment, as available, to be in contact with specific synods during the biennium. Current commitments are listed in Exhibit B, Part 5. A summary of reports of these contacts is printed in Exhibit B, Part 4. In addition, a notebook including the full texts of reports submitted is available on the materials distribution table.

Newly elected members of the Church Council will be invited to make this commitment during the November 2009 meeting. When the process is complete, Exhibit B, Part 5 will be revised and distributed.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To acknowledge the commitment of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to have “greater interaction of members of the Church Council with synodical councils and synodical assemblies in their respective areas”;

To urge members of the Church Council to accept this responsibility and interact with their own synods and their partner synods in various ways, including attending at least one Synod Council meeting per year and participating in Synod Assemblies, especially in years when a synod is considering nominations to the Church Council; and

To note that expenses for attending Synod Council meetings and Synod Assemblies will be reimbursed by the churchwide organization in accordance with the ELCA travel policy.

3. Protocol for Revisions to Ministry Policies

The 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly took action to allow service in rostered ministry by people who are in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships. The assembly directed that necessary changes in policy be made and that any additional guidelines be developed. It further directed that provision be made within this church to respect diverse, faith-based commitments on this matter.

At its November 2009 meeting, the Executive Committee considered a recommendation from the Administrative Team for a protocol to guide consideration by the ELCA Church Council of proposed revisions to ELCA ministry policies in response to action by the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. The protocol is printed in Exhibit D, Part 1.

ELCA Ministry Policies

The ELCA has four rosters for public ministry: pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers. The policies that guide preparation for public ministry are organized in the following official documents:

- “Vision and Expectations” (for pastors): This document is a statement of expectations and hopes and an invitation for reflection and consideration of those who seek to serve in the ordained ministry of Word and Sacrament.
- “Vision and Expectations” (for associates in ministry, deaconesses, diaconal ministers): This document is for those called to serve in an ELCA rostered ministry of Word and Service and serves as an invitation for reflection and consideration by those who seek to enter such service.
- “Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline”: This document describes the grounds for which rostered ministers may be subject to discipline according to the practice of this church.
- “Candidacy Manual”: This manual contains the policies and procedures that guide the process of discerning and preparing for calls to public ministry and the steps by which this church moves toward approval of candidates for call.
- “Manual of Policies and Procedures for Management of the Rosters”: this manual is a selection of policy documents related to aspects of rostered ministry and includes the ecclesiastical endorsement of chaplains, military chaplaincy, reinstatement to the rosters, interim ministry, and retirement.

Summary of Churchwide Assembly actions related to ministry policies

The 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly considered the recommendations related to ministry policies during plenary sessions on Friday, August 21, 2009. At the beginning of Plenary Session Eight, voting members approved the following change to the Order of Business pertaining to the order in which the resolutions of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies would be considered (CA09.95.22): “To consider and vote on separately the four resolutions of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies in this order: Resolution 3, Resolution 1, Resolution 2, and Resolution 4.”

The 2009 Churchwide Assembly voted on the former Resolution 3, as amended, of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies during Plenary Session Eight (CA09.05.23): “RESOLVED, that in the implementation of any resolutions on ministry policies, the ELCA commit itself to bear one another’s burdens, love the neighbor, and respect the bound consciences of all.”

In the same plenary session, the assembly also voted on the former Resolution 1 of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies (CA09.05.24): “RESOLVED, that the ELCA commit itself to finding ways to allow congregations that choose to do so to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships.”

During Plenary Session Nine, the assembly approved the former Resolution 2 of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies (CA09.05.26): “RESOLVED, that the ELCA commit itself to finding a way for people in such publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church.”

Also in that session voting members of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly approved former Resolution 4 of the Recommendation on Ministry Policies, as amended (CA09.05.27):

WHEREAS, guided by the Holy Spirit, this church raises up, calls, supports, and maintains rosters of ordained ministers, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers for public ministry in service of the mission of Christ and seeks faithfully to discern in each situation what will best serve that mission; and

WHEREAS, this church maintains these four rosters according to policies and procedures that are developed and applied according to the specifications of chapters 7 and 20 of its *Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions*; and

WHEREAS, this church has a polity, processes, and procedures that trust designated individuals and bodies to use churchwide standards to make decisions about fitness for rostered ministry in general and for call to a specific ELCA ministry; and

WHEREAS, some members, congregations, candidacy committees, and synods of the ELCA have discerned gifts and skills for rostered ministry in some people who are or contemplate being in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and have indicated their conviction that rostering and calling such people would serve the mission and ministry of this church; and

WHEREAS, other members, congregations, candidacy committees, and synods of the ELCA acknowledge those gifts and skills for ministry, but believe that this church must maintain an expectation of celibacy for any gay or lesbian person, whether or not that person is in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship, and thus believe that this church cannot call or roster people in such relationships; and

WHEREAS, the Church of Christ sometimes has been surprised by the actions of the Spirit, as is reported in the book of Acts when the inclusion of Gentiles was affirmed; and

WHEREAS, public accountability of rostered leaders in the ELCA is essential to nurturing the trust that is necessary for effective ministry; and

WHEREAS, although there is no generally recognized civil or ecclesial status that corresponds to heterosexual marriage for publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships, this assembly has committed itself to find ways to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships; and

WHEREAS, present ELCA policies prohibit the rostered service of any and all people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships, but this assembly has committed itself to find a way for people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America call upon its members to commit themselves to respect the bound consciences of those with whom they disagree regarding decisions on the call and rostering of individuals in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships, in this church and with churches ecumenically and globally; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this church, because of its commitment to respect the bound consciences of all, declare its intent to allow structured flexibility in decision-making regarding the approving or disapproving in candidacy and the extending or not extending of a call to rostered service of a person who is otherwise qualified and who is living or contemplates living in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America make provision in its policies to eliminate the prohibition of rostered service by members who are in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America make provision in its policies to recognize the conviction of members who believe that this church should not call or roster people in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the appropriate churchwide unit(s) be directed to develop, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council be directed to approve, appropriate guidelines for a process by which congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization could hold people publicly accountable in their relationships who are in or contemplate being in lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and who seek to be on the rosters of this church; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Appeals be directed to develop, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council be directed to approve, appropriate amendments to "Definition and Guidelines for Discipline" and the Vocation and Education program unit be directed to draft, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council is directed to approve, appropriate amendments to the "Vision and Expectations" documents and the Candidacy Manual to accomplish the intent of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that additional policies be developed, as necessary, so that those whom this church holds responsible for making decisions about fitness for rostered ministry in general and for call to a particular specific ELCA ministry may discern, and have guidance in discerning, the fitness for ministry of a member living in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that this church continue to trust its established processes and those to whom it has given the responsibility to discern who should and should not be rostered or called to public ministry in this church.

Process for fulfilling the CWA actions

The amendment process follows procedures mandated in the bylaws of this church, beginning with drafting by the appropriate churchwide units (Office of the Secretary and Vocation and Education) and by the Committee on Appeals, consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and consideration by the Church Council.

Both the drafting and the consultation processes have begun. It is expected that these processes will continue until the April 2010 meeting of the Church Council at the earliest.

The protocol provided in Exhibit D, Part 1 is based on the Ad Hoc Committee process that has guided consideration by churchwide assemblies of ELCA social statements. The protocol addresses factors including time line (October 2009-April 2010), participants, process, and documents and assigns overall responsibility to the collaboration of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee and the Program and Services Committee.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the “Proposed Protocol for Revisions to Ministry Policies (October 2009-April 2010)” as printed in Exhibit D, Part 1; and

To anticipate action by the ELCA Church Council at its April 2010 meeting on revisions to *Vision and Expectations, Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline, the Candidacy Manual, and other policies as needed.*

4. Charter for Ecology Study Design Group

At its March 2009 meeting, the Executive Committee recommended the following action, which was approved by the Church Council (CC09.03.04):

To acknowledge that the principles of organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America call us to be one church consisting of "interdependent partners sharing responsibly in God's mission" in which this church is called to be in relationship with institutions and agencies, including seminaries, colleges, and universities, as well as other partners, so that together we can build capacity for evangelical witness and service in the world;

To recognize that more than 20 years have passed since the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America came into existence, that the relationships among this church and partner institutions and agencies have evolved substantially, and that assumptions that undergirded the original organization, governance, and interrelationships of this church may no longer apply or apply in a different way in the 21st century;

To recognize further that significant societal and economic changes have taken place that raise profound issues regarding the organization and governance of this church, its interrelationships with partner institutions and agencies, and the ways in which ministry can be accomplished most effectively;

To acknowledge the desire by this Church Council to address these difficult and complex issues by beginning a process to evaluate the organization and governance of this church and the interrelationships among its expressions and partner agencies and institutions for the purpose of bringing a comprehensive report and recommendations to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly;

To authorize the Presiding Bishop, in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the Church Council and the Conference of Bishops, to appoint a study group for the purpose of formulating a plan to undertake such an evaluation; and

To request that the study group bring a report and possible recommendations through the Executive Committee in consultation with the Planning and Evaluation Committee for the April

Revised November 13, 2009

2010 meeting of the ELCA Church Council and such report include the membership of a task force to conduct the evaluation, an outline of potential topics to address, a timetable, budget implications, and such other issues as the study group believes will facilitate the evaluation.

An initial design group was appointed and began meeting in June 2009. Members include: Pr. Robert Bacher, Chapel Hill, NC; Ms. Deborah Chenoweth, Hood River, OR; Ms. Kathleen Elliott Chillison, Carson, CA; Bp. Richard Graham, Washington, D.C.; Ms. Debra Jacobs Buttaggi, Sarasota, FL; Pr. Roland Martinson, St. Paul, MN; Pr. Diane Pederson, St. Cloud, MN; and Mr. Richard Torgerson, Decorah, Iowa.

Pr. Diane "Dee" Pederson was elected chair. Pr. Pederson will bring a report on the work of the study group on Saturday afternoon, November 14, 2009.

In the months to come, the Executive Committee will appoint the remaining members of the ecology study design group. The Planning and Evaluation Committee will provide oversight, review, and advice in preparation for regular reports to the Church Council.

The proposed charter for the ecology study design group is printed in Exhibit E, Part 2.

CC ACTION

Recommended: [See agenda page 23 for action]

5. Response to letter from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod Council

The Synod Council of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod (8B) prepared and approved a letter to the ELCA Church Council at its September 2009 meeting. The letter is printed in Exhibit B, Part 1a.

At the request of the Office of the Presiding Bishop, a draft response was prepared by the Church in Society and Vocation and Education program units in consultation with the Office of the Secretary. The Executive Committee finalized the response at its November 2009 meeting and recommends approval by the ELCA Church Council. The response is printed in Exhibit B, Part 1a.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the response to the letter of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod Council as printed in Exhibit B, Part 1a.

6. Cancellation of August 2010 Church Council Retreat

At its November 2009 meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed the budget contingency planning process for 2010. The budget for the Office of the Secretary (OS) includes funding support for meetings of the ELCA Church Council. As part of OS' compliance with the process, funding will be reduced by \$35,000, approximately the cost of the biennial Church Council retreat.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To cancel, for budgetary reasons, the proposed Church Council retreat in August 2010; and

To find other ways and times for board development activities to occur, such as adding a day to council meetings.

E. Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

Action items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Board of Pensions Trust Documents

Robert H. Rydland, vice president and general counsel of the ELCA Board of Pensions, has prepared memorandum dated October 30, 2009. The memorandum, which is printed in Exhibit P, Part 1a, explains the reasons for the trust reinstatements: to clarify trustee roles and responsibilities and reduce complexity by appointing the ELCA Board of Pensions as corporate trustee of each of the nine trusts. The trustees of the Board of Pensions maintain oversight of the operation of the Board of Pensions, including operating as trustee of each of the nine trusts.

The memorandum also explains the reason for the merger of the ELCA continuation of the American Lutheran Church (ALC) medical-dental trust for retired participants into the ELCA benefits contribution trust.

The Church Council is asked to approve the following:

- a. Restatement of ELCA Retirement Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1b)
- b. Restatement of ELCA Master Institutional Retirement Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1c)
- c. Restatement of ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1d)
- d. Restatement of ELCA Survivor Benefits Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1e)
- e. Restatement of ELCA Disability Benefits Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1f)
- f. Restatement of ELCA Benefits Contribution Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1g)
- g. Restatement of ELCA Supplemental Retirement Benefits Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1h)
- h. Restatement of ELCA Master 475(b) Deferred Compensation Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1i)
- i. Addition of ELCA Participating Annuity Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1j)
- j. Merger of ELCA Continuation of The ALC Major Medical-Dental Trust for Retired Participants into the ELCA Benefits Contribution Trust (Exhibit P, Part 1k)

The specific amendments are available *online only* in Exhibit P, Parts 1b-j. A complete set of the printed documents will be provided to members of the Legal and Constitutional Committee and are available upon request by any member of the Church Council. One set will be available in a binder on the resource table.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the following: (1) restatement of ELCA Retirement Trust; (2) restatement of ELCA Master Institutional Retirement Trust; (3) restatement of ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Trust; (4) restatement of ELCA Survivor Benefits Trust; (5) restatement of ELCA Disability Benefits Trust; (6) restatement of ELCA Benefits Contribution Trust; (7) restatement of ELCA Supplemental Retirement Benefits Trust; (8) restatement of ELCA Master 475(b) Deferred Compensation Trust; and (9) addition of ELCA Participating Annuity Trust.

2. Reinstatement to the Rosters

The “Manual of Policies and Procedures for Management of the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America” (Roster Manual) contains the roster policies derived from and provided for in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions* of this church. The process for approval of these policies in that they are developed by the relevant unit, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and approved by the Church Council.

On November 14, 1994, the Church Council voted [CC94.11.95]:

To approve the “Manual of Policies and Procedures for the Management of the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America” and authorize its distribution for use by synodical bishops, synodical staff members, and others who hold responsibility for such matters in this church; and

To authorize the secretary to provide periodic updates reflecting new or revised policies subsequently adopted by the Church Council.

Following approval by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly of the reorganization plan for the churchwide organization, the manual was revised to reflect changes in terminology and to make editorial corrections. The Church Council voted on November 12, 2005 [CC05.11.65]:

To approve the “Manual of Policies and Procedures for the Management of the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America” and authorize its distribution for use by synodical bishops, synodical staff members, and others who hold responsibility for such matters in this church; and

To authorize the secretary to provide periodic updates reflecting new or revised policies subsequently adopted by the Church Council.

The Roster Manual contains one policy on “Reinstatement to the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.” This policy stated the following:

In the case of an applicant whose removal from the roster was the result of either:

- 1) the official disciplinary process of this church, or
- 2) resignation or removal from the roster in lieu of the disciplinary process, or
- 3) application of ELCA churchwide bylaw 7.31.16., where the person was on leave or without call after conduct or allegations that could lead to disciplinary charges,

then a minimum of five consecutive years without call must elapse before an application for reinstatement may be considered. The passage of five years without call does not guarantee reconsideration.

A rostered leader who was in a same-gender partnered relationship was subject to discipline and often resigned or went on leave from call in lieu of discipline.

In the wake of the action by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly committing this church “to finding a way for people in such publicly accountable, lifelong monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church” [CA09.05.26], the policy on reinstatement to the rosters requires amendment. The revisions will permit those who resigned or were removed from the roster solely because of being in a same-gender relationship to begin the process of reinstatement on January 1, 2010.

The reinstatement process, which occurs through synodical candidacy committees, can take up to a year. The process may begin, but no final decision on an applicant’s reinstatement under the new policy will be made, however, until revisions to “Vision and

Expectations” and “Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline” are approved by the Church Council. Some other minor revisions to the process also are being proposed.

The Conference of Bishops considered the policy revisions both through its Liaison Committee with the Vocation and Education unit and in plenary session and recommended that they be presented for action at the November 2009 meeting of the Church Council.

The document is printed in Exhibit G, Part 2.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the proposed revisions to “Reinstatement to the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America” as printed in Exhibit G, Part 2.

3. Amendment to Operational Ethics Policy of the Churchwide Organization

As described in the position description for members of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, one of the responsibilities of members is to “Sign the ‘Board and Committee Operational Ethics Policy’” (Church Council Orientation Manual, page 28 and pages 89-92).

The policy has been amended to indicate its specific reference to the Church Council and to conform to actual practice. The recommended amendments are printed in Exhibit G, Part 3a; the policy *as revised* is printed in Exhibit G, Part 3a-3b.

Following approval by the Church Council of the amendments, the form “Representation by Church Council Member” (Orientation Manual, p. 91) will be distributed to Church Council members to be signed. Signed forms may be placed in the box provided on the materials distribution table outside the Church Council room.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the proposed revisions to “Church Council and Committee Operational Ethics Policy of the Churchwide Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America” as printed in Exhibit G, Part 3a-3b; and

To request that the policy as amended be added to the Church Council Orientation Manual.

Revised November 14, 2009

F. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Action items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Charter for Ecology Study Design Group

[See agenda pp. 18-19 for background]

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the charter for the Ecology Study Design Group as printed in Exhibit E, Part 2.

G. Program and Services Committee

Action items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Program and Services Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Social Policy Resolution on Immigration

At its November 2006 meeting, the Church Council considered resolutions from four synods that requested the development of a new message on immigration. Since that time, additional requests have been received, both as resolutions from synods and as memorials from synod assemblies. The Church in Society program unit, in cooperation with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, has worked closely with the Program and Services Committee to consider the appropriate response.

In recent months, the Church in Society unit has reviewed the ELCA's 1998 message on immigration and determined that the message provides a sufficient basis for ongoing theological reflection and deliberation within this church. As stated in "Policies and Procedures of the ELCA for Addressing Social Concerns," messages are "a particular means to encourage learning and moral discourse." At the same time, those involved in the consultation process underscored the need for specific policy language that would address the contemporary situation and have encouraged the development of a social policy resolution rather than a revised message.

The Church in Society unit, in accordance with "Policies and Procedures of the ELCA for Addressing Social Concerns" concurs and requests that a social policy resolution be adopted to clarify the position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America related to immigration. Social policy resolutions refer to actions, other than social statements, of the Churchwide Assembly or Church Council on matters of social concern.

The document is printed in Exhibit K, Part 1. It has been prepared by the Church in Society unit in consultation with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, the Office of the Presiding Bishop, the Conference of Bishops, other appropriate units, the Church in Society program committee, and the Program and Services Committee of the Church Council.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the social policy document on immigration as printed in Exhibit K, Part 1.

2. Revision to personnel policies [see agenda p. 36]

Revised November 11, 2009

IV. ITEMS FOR EN BLOC ACTION

The following *en bloc* resolution includes agenda items that will be considered on the last day of the Church Council meeting. Inclusion of these items in the *en bloc* action reflects a judgment that these items are relatively non-controversial in nature and may not require plenary discussion and a separate vote.

Each of the items is noted as [EN BLOC] on pages [to be provided]. On the first day of the Council meeting, the chair will provide an opportunity for members to indicate whether they wish to discuss separately any of the items any of the items listed in the *en bloc* resolution; any such item will be removed from the *en bloc* resolution and discussed at the appropriate point in the agenda.

The chair will not call for a discussion or separate vote on those items that are not removed from the *en bloc* resolution by the end of the first day of plenary sessions. The items remaining in the *en bloc* resolution normally will be considered as the last item of council business.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To take action *en bloc* on the items listed below, the full texts of which are found in the body of the agenda or in the exhibit as noted:

IV.A Synodical Resolutions and Churchwide Assembly Actions 25

IV.A.1 Synodical Resolutions Directed to Church Council 25

IV.A.2 Churchwide Assembly Referrals Directed to Church Council 25

IV.A.3 Resolutions of the 2009 Lutheran Youth Organization Convention 25

IV.B ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program 26

IV.B.1 Amendments to the ELCA Retirement Plan 26

IV.B.2 Amendments to the ELCA Master Institutional Retirement Plan 26

**IV.B.3 Amendment to the ELCA Retirement Plan for The Evangelical Lutheran
Good Samaritan Society 26**

IV.C Budget and Finance Committee 27

IV.C.1 Audit Committee Membership 27

IV.C.2 Report to the Church Council 27

IV.C.3 Audit Committee Charter 27

IV.C.4 Charitable Gift Annuity Program 28

IV.D Executive Committee 30

IV.D.1 Protocol for Attendance at Church Council Meetings 30

IV.E Legal and Constitutional Review Committee 31

IV.E.1 Additional Voting Members for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly 31

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IV.G.1 ELCA Lifelong Learning Network policy 33

IV.G.2 Corporate Social Responsibility 33

**IV.G.3 Amendments to “Guidelines on Candidacy Issues for German Students or
Pastors from the Evangelical Church in Germany.” 35**

IV.G.4 Membership in Action by Churches Together 35

IV.G.5 Revision to Personnel Policies 36

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| IV.G.6 Amendments to the Lutheran Youth Organization Constitution | 37 |
| IV.H Other Nominations, Appointments, and Elections | 37 |
| IV.H.1 Social Ministry Organizations | 37 |
| IV.H.2 Board of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary | 37 |

A. Synodical Resolutions and Churchwide Assembly Actions

1. Synodical Resolutions Directed to the Church Council

Synodical resolutions directed to the Church Council that have been received since the council's April 2009 meeting are printed in Exhibit B, Part 1a. Response to the action in Exhibit B, Part 1a will be considered in plenary session and is printed on agenda page 19.

Exhibit B, Part 1b contained proposed responses to synodical resolutions that were referred to churchwide units at previous Church Council or Executive Committee meetings. The actions contained in Exhibit B, Part 1b will be voted *en bloc* unless indicated otherwise.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the actions found in Exhibit B, Part 1b.

2. Churchwide Assembly Referrals Directed to Church Council

Exhibit B, Part 2a contains proposed responses to referrals from the Church Council to churchwide units in response to actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly. The actions contained in Exhibit B, Part 2a will be considered *en bloc* unless indicated otherwise.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the referrals found in Exhibit B, Part 2a.

3. Resolutions of the 2009 Lutheran Youth Organization Convention

The Church Council, according to ELCA continuing resolution 16.12.C06.a.2., receives and acknowledges resolutions approved by the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) convention and submitted by the Vocation and Education program unit. Stanley Olson, VE executive director, has noted that, while no resolutions adopted at the LYO convention require action by the Church Council, it is recommended that the Church Council consider the following acknowledgment of several actions taken by these youth leaders.

The resolutions are printed in Exhibit B, Part 1c.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the action found in Exhibit B, Part 1c, page 2.

Revised November 4, 2009

B. ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program

The Board of Trustees of the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America met on July 30-August 1, 2009, and October 30-November 1, 2009, in Minneapolis, Minn. The following plan amendments, approved by the Board of Trustees, have been reviewed by the Legal and Constitutional Committee and are recommended for *en bloc* approval.

The documents are printed in Exhibit P, Parts 2-4.

1. Amendments to the ELCA Retirement Plan

a. Annuity Fund

Section 9.07 (Payment of Annuity Benefits Upon Retirement) and 10.06 (Adjustment of ELCA Participating Annuity Bridge Fund Accounts) were amended to further clarify the annuity fund closing amendments made in August 2009.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendments to Section 9.07 of Article IX and Section 10.06 of Article X of the ELCA Retirement Plan.

2. Amendments to the ELCA Master Institutional Retirement Plan

a. Annuity Fund

Section 8.07 (Payment of Annuity Benefits Upon Retirement) and Section 8.08 (Distributions After Death of Member) reflect the annuity fund's closing to new entrants effective April 3, 2009.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendments to Sections 8.07 and 8.08 of Article VIII of the ELCA Master Institutional Retirement Plan.

3. Amendment to the ELCA Retirement Plan for The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society

a. Annuity Fund

Section 8.07 (Payment of Annuity Benefits Upon Retirement) and Section 8.08 (Distributions After Death of Member) reflect the annuity fund's closing to new entrants effective April 3, 2009.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendments to Sections 8.07 and 8.08 of Article VIII of the ELCA Retirement Plan for The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society.

C. Budget and Finance Committee

Action items recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee for *en bloc* approval following the committee's November 14, 2009 meeting, are detailed below.

1. Audit Committee membership

The Audit Committee shall consist of six members. A minimum of two members should be ELCA Church Council Budget and Finance Committee members. Members of the committee shall be appointed by the Budget and Finance Committee and forwarded to the Church Council for approval. Budget and Finance Committee members are appointed for a two-year term with the possibility of reappointment up to their Church Council term. Non-Church Council members are appointed for a two-year term, renewable for two additional terms. Terms are staggered in recognition of the need for continuity of committee membership from year to year.

Members of the Audit Committee and current term end date are:

Ann F. Niedringhaus (August 2011); John F. Timmer (August 2010);
Timothy L. Stephan (August 2011); Deborah Chenoweth (August 2011); and
Philip W. Bertram (8/2011).

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To elect Louise Hemstead to the ELCA Audit Committee for a two-year term beginning November 2009.

2. Report to the Church Council

At its June 2009 meeting the ELCA Audit Committee reviewed the audited financial statements for the year ended January 31, 2009. The report is printed in Exhibit F, Part 6a.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To receive and approve the report of the Church Council Audit Committee describing their review of the audited financial statements, management letter, and response of management for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009.

3. Audit Committee Charter

Revisions to the charter of the Audit Committee are highlighted in Exhibit F, Part 6b.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the revisions to the charter of the Church Council Audit Committee as printed in Exhibit F, Part 6b.

4. Charitable Gift Annuity Program

The Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) Program's investment pool has been managed as a single Legal Reserve Fund according to investment guidelines for the fixed income and equity portfolio managers, ELCA Board of Pensions and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, respectively. However, there are currently no program-level investment guidelines that govern the CGA Program.

The Foundation's review of the CGA Program revealed that formal approval of an investment policy governing these funds has not been given by the ELCA Church Council. A recommendation arising from that review and conversation with the Office of the Treasurer is that the ELCA formally adopt an Investment Philosophy and Policy Statement that will include distinct strategies and regulatory requirements for investing Required and Excess Reserves. The policy will assist the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in effectively supervising, monitoring and evaluating investment management of its CGA Program. The philosophy and policy statements may found in Exhibits F, Part 7a-c.

The Investment Philosophy and Policy Statement has been developed by Foundation staff in consultation with the ELCA Board of Pensions and the Office of the Treasurer. If approved, this recommendation has an effective date of January 2010 and implementation period of first quarter 2010.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the investment philosophy and policy statement for the Charitable Gift Annuity Program;

To approve the required reserve fund guidelines for the Charitable Gift Annuity Program; and

To approve the excess reserve fund guidelines for the Charitable Gift Annuity Program.

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D. Executive Committee

Action items recommended by the Executive Committee for *en bloc* approval are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's November 14, 2009, meeting.

1. Protocol for Attendance at Church Council Meetings

At its March 2009 meeting, the Executive Committee received an update from the Administrative Team related to the attendance and travel plans for Church Council and advisory members for the council's March 2009 meeting.

The Executive Committee recommends that protocols be developed to advise members and advisors as they consider attendance at future meetings in order to guide their planning, maintain adequate representation by advisory members, and ensure good stewardship of Church Council funds.

The Executive Committee further recommended that the protocol be published in the formal announcement of each meeting and in the Church Council Orientation Manual.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To add the following protocol to the Church Council Orientation Manual:

It is expected that Church Council members and advisory members will:

- 1). Commit to being present for meetings, not missing more than one full day of a meeting nor two consecutive meetings.**
- 2). Complete reservations for travel at least one month prior to the meeting and at the lowest fare available. Travel arrangements made after the deadline must be approved by the Office of the Secretary. Additional costs due to late reservations may be charged to the member or advisor.**

E. Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

Action items recommended by the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee for *en bloc* approval will be distributed following the committee's November 14, 2009, meeting.

1. Additional Voting Members for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly

For each Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, provision for additional voting members has been made for certain synods. This has been done in keeping with this church's "Principles of Organization." Under those principles, the Church Council is assigned responsibility for ensuring that at least 60 percent of the members of assemblies shall be lay persons and that at least 10 percent of such voting members shall be people of color or people whose primary language is other than English (provision 5.01.f.).

Experience in the registration process for assemblies has demonstrated the need for allocation of additional positions to help ensure fulfillment of the organizational principles and also to provide for broader representation in synods (for example, the Caribbean Synod) that normally would be entitled to only two voting members, one of whom would be the synodical bishop.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To allocate for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly two additional voting-member positions to the Caribbean Synod (9F), making a total of 4, with the provision that these additional voting members shall be people of color or people whose primary language is other than English;

To allocate for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position to the Alaska Synod (1A), making a total of four voting members, with the provision that the position shall be filled by an Alaska Native person;

To allocate for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position each to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C), making a total of four voting members, and the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H), making a total of five voting members, for a individual of color or an individual whose primary language is other than English; and

To allocate for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly one additional voting-member position for a lay member of the Slovak Zion Synod (7G); the total number of voting members is three.

2. Acknowledgment of Independent Lutheran Organizations

Bylaw 14.21.16. in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* specifies:

The Church Council shall establish the criteria and policies for the relationship between this church and independent, cooperative, and related Lutheran organizations. The policies adopted by the Church Council shall be administered by the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization. The determination of which organization shall relate to a specific unit of the churchwide organization shall be made by the Church Council.

At its April 2006 meeting, the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted (CC06.04.27) to approve a revised "Policy on Relationships of Churchwide Units with Independent Lutheran Organizations." The revision was made necessary by

changes in structure, governance, and the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*.

In accordance with the revised policy, the Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, executive director of the Global Mission unit, recommends that Lutheran Health Care Bangladesh–USA and China Service Ventures be acknowledged as Independent Lutheran Organizations in relationship to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through the Global Mission unit.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To acknowledge, in accordance with bylaw 14.21.16. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* and the “Policy on Relationships of Churchwide Units with Independent Lutheran Organizations,” Lutheran Health Care Bangladesh–USA and China Service Ventures, which will relate to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through the Global Mission unit.

F. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Action items recommended by the Planning and Evaluation Committee for *en bloc* approval will be distributed following the committee's November 14, 2009, meeting.

G. Program and Services Committee

Action items recommended by the Program and Services Committee for *en bloc* approval will be distributed following the committee's November 14, 2009, meeting.

1. ELCA Lifelong Learning Network policy

The Vocation and Education program unit has responsibility on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to "...encourage and facilitate the theological education network of this church for cooperation, coordination, and collaboration," including guiding the evolution both of this church's understanding of lifelong learning/continuing education and the organizations that are providing lifelong learning.

The oversight role assigned to the former Division for Ministry has evolved primarily into the Vocation and Education unit role of convening and nurturing the network of lifelong learning partners. The growing number of providers of lifelong learning vary in their primary relationships: some relate to a seminary, some to colleges and universities, some to synods, some to congregations, and some to entrepreneurial individuals.

The proposed revisions to the current policy are intended to describe and guide the convening and nurturing role of the Vocation and Education unit, how an organization becomes a lifelong learning partner, and what it means to be part of the ELCA Lifelong Learning Network.

The current policy, including strikeouts, is printed in Exhibit O, Part 2a. The policy *as revised* is printed in Exhibit O, Part 2b.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the proposed revisions to the ELCA Lifelong Learning Network policy as printed in Exhibit O, Part 2b.

2. Corporate Social Responsibility

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has a long history of working for justice through corporate social responsibility. The Corporate Social Responsibility Program (CSR) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is mandated by the ELCA Constitution (14.21.14):

14.21.14.: The Church Council, acting through the designated churchwide unit, shall have responsibility for the corporate social responsibility of this church and shall have the authority to file shareholder resolutions and cast proxy ballots thereon on stocks held by the churchwide units that are not separately incorporated. In addition, the Church Council may make recommendations to the churchwide units that are separately incorporated concerning the filing of shareholder resolutions and the casting of ballots on stocks held by those units.

16.12.D06.: The Church in Society unit shall assist this church to discern, understand, and respond to the needs of human beings, communities, society, and the whole creation through direct human services and through addressing systems, structures, and policies of society, seeking to promote justice, peace, and the care of the earth. To fulfill these responsibilities, this

program unit shall: give expression to this church's concern for corporate social responsibility, both in its internal affairs and its interaction in the broader society. To do so, this program unit will:

- 1) exercise, at the direction of the Church Council, the rights of this church as a corporate shareholder on issues of social concern on stocks held by the churchwide units that are not separately incorporated. In addition, the Church Council may make recommendations to the churchwide units that are separately incorporated concerning the filing of shareholder resolutions and the casting of proxy ballots on stocks held by those units;
- 2) facilitate the formation of an Advisory Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility that will include representatives from the Board of Pensions, the Church Council, and other units of this church and that will give counsel and advice to all appropriate units of this church on corporate social responsibility; and
- 3) work with national ecumenical groups on issues of corporate responsibility.

At its November 2003 meeting, the Church Council voted (CC03.11.68):

To approve the revised governance process for Corporate Social Responsibility in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, with the request that:

1. The ELCA Church Council, upon recommendation of the board for the Division for Church in Society:
 - a. review and recommend prioritized focus issues for the attention of this church in Corporate Social Responsibility; and
 - b. recommend a policy framework for each focus issue that will identify and delimit the scope within which resolutions may be filed;
2. The executive director of the Division for Church in Society, within the policy framework, approve individual Corporate Social Responsibility resolutions for filing; and
3. Regular reports be made to the board of the Division for Church in Society, the Conference of Bishops, the ELCA Church Council, and the trustees of the Board of Pensions regarding resolutions that have been filed .

The annual Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) report of activities for August 2008 - August 15, 2009, is printed in Exhibit K, Part 2.

Recommended amendments to CSR issue paper 11, "Sufficient Sustainable Livelihood for All: Extractive Industries" is printed in Exhibit K, Part 3a. The issue paper *as revised* is printed in Exhibit K, Part 3b.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the amendments to the following Corporate Social Responsibility issue paper, but to request that the wording of the original issue paper be archived for historical and research purposes: Sufficient Sustainable Livelihood for All: Extractive Industries.

3. Amendments to “Guidelines on Candidacy Issues for German Students or Pastors from the Evangelical Church in Germany.”

An agreement between the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was signed on September 24, 2007. The agreement, in part, allows for short-term service and exchangeability for rostered people from both church bodies. The agreement is printed in Exhibit O, Part 3a.

The Church Council is asked to approve revisions to the ELCA’s “Guidelines on Candidacy Issues for German Students or Pastors from the Evangelical Church in Germany.” The suggested revisions are printed in Exhibit O, Parts 3b - 3c, and include revisions to the layout to clarify the pathways for service under exchangeability, the candidacy process for already-ordained EKD pastors coming onto the ELCA roster, and the candidacy process for candidates who are not yet ordained.

The documents originally were presented for consideration by the Church Council at its August 2009 meeting, but the Church Council requested that final consideration be delayed until its November 2009 meeting.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the revisions to “Guidelines on Candidacy Issues for German Students or Pastors from the Evangelical Church in Germany” as printed in Exhibit O, Parts 3a - 3c.

4. Membership in Action by Churches Together

Established on August 25, 1995, Action by Churches Together (ACT) International is a global alliance of churches and related agencies—all members of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches—that responds collaboratively to global emergencies. The ELCA has been an active member of ACT International since its inception.

Over the past two years, discussion has taken place regarding the unification of ACT International and ACT Development, an alliance established in 2007 to eradicate poverty, injustice, and the abuse of human rights through long-term development. ACT Development builds on the emergency response work already undertaken by ACT International. In early 2009, both entities passed motions to unify ACT International and ACT Development to form the ACT Alliance, which legally commences on January 1, 2010. Renewal of membership requires the approval by the governance body of each organization.

As the unit responsible for the ELCA’s mission abroad, Global Mission is called to carry out specified functions, including the stewardship of member and church resources in mission abroad involving “...justice, relief, and development...” (ELCA 16.31.C87.). According to established guidelines directing ELCA Disaster Response, “ELCA International Disaster Funds normally shall be channeled to Action by Churches Together (ACT), which coordinates ecumenical response to emergencies.”

The ELCA Global Mission unit recommends that the ELCA Church Council approve renewing ELCA membership to the unified ACT Alliance.

CC ACTION ~~[EN BLOC]~~

Recommended:

To approve membership by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in the unified Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance as requested by the Global Mission program unit.

5. Revision to Personnel Policies

In accordance with ELCA continuing resolution 15.11.D05., the Human Resources section of the Office of the Presiding Bishop has recommended the revision of one of the personnel policies of the churchwide organization. In a memorandum dated October 27, 2009, Else Thompson, executive for human resources recommended endorsement by the Church Council of this policy. She wrote:

“Policy 13.0 *Staff Training and Development* deals with several aspects of training and development: the Continuing Education Plan (CEP) and the use of funds as part of that program, development plans, and sabbatical leave. The changes being submitted reflect the request to eliminate the continuing education plan. The sections on training, development plans, and sabbaticals will remain, minus the references to use of CEP funds and/or time.

“As you might surmise, the recommendation to eliminate the CEP program is primarily budget driven. Currently, 362 staff members participate in the program, about 70 percent of employees eligible. Looking back at the past three years, the number of participants has remained relatively stable. The cost of funding the program in 2006 was \$176,000; in 2007 it was \$155,000; and in 2008 it was \$150,000.

“However, budget alone was not the deciding factor in making this recommendation. Training and development—the ability to increase knowledge, skills, and capacity relevant to the work of the organization—is more critical now than ever. Experience shows that the CEP program as it was originally designed, did not—in many cases—help the organization accomplish those goals. The voluntary nature of the program has restricted managers from requiring the use of funds for specific trainings. In addition, the administration of the funds for travel and other purposes has been difficult and often results in decisions to fund activities only peripherally related to organization goals.

“Despite the elimination of the CEP program, training and development will continue. Managers will be encouraged to promote opportunities for growth and will fund (as many are already doing) specifically targeted activities. Human Resources will continue to carry some budget dollars for employee development and certificate training.

“The revisions have been reviewed by ELCA legal counsel and if approved will be implemented in two stages: contributions will stop on November 16, 2009, and withdrawals will end on January 31, 2010.”

The proposed revisions are detailed in Exhibit I, Parts 1a-1b. In Exhibit I, Part 1a, deleted language is ~~struck out~~; added language is underlined. The policy *as revised* is printed in Exhibit I, Part 1b

CC ACTION ~~[EN BLOC]~~

Recommended:

To approve the revisions to the ELCA Churchwide Personnel Policies as detailed in Exhibit I, Parts 1a-1b; and

To request that the Human Resources section of the Office of the Presiding Bishop bring to the next meeting of the Church Council recommendations for continuing education policies for churchwide employees.

6. Amendments to the Lutheran Youth Organization Constitution

According to ELCA continuing resolution 16.12.C06.b.2., the constitution of the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) is subject to approval by the ELCA Church Council. Amendments adopted by the July 2009 LYO convention are attached as Exhibit O, Parts a-b.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the amendments to the constitution of the Lutheran Youth Organization as adopted at its July 26-30, 2009, convention.

H. Other Nominations, Appointments, and Elections

1. Social Ministry Organizations

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America serves as a corporate member of certain inter-Lutheran organizations and affiliated social ministry organizations. The role of corporate members includes the responsibility to elect ELCA representatives to the organization's board of directors as prescribed in the organization's governing documents. The relationship of the ELCA to certain inter-Lutheran organizations and affiliated social ministry organizations is expressed through the Church in Society unit.

The ELCA serves as a corporate member of Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York; the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Lutheran Services in America, Baltimore, Md.; Mosaic, Inc., Omaha, Neb.; and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Baltimore, Md. In the case of Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York, the ELCA's annual election of board members complies with their constitutional requirement that this action constitute an annual meeting of the corporate member. The Church in Society program unit has forwarded to the Church Council the following nominations for positions on the boards of these organizations.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York as members-at-large: Bp. Robert Rimbo to a one-year term expiring in 2010; Ms. Angela Martinez to a three-year term expiring in 2012; and Ms. Wendy Goldstein (*ex officio*) to a term simultaneous with her position as president and CEO.

2. Board of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Bylaw 8.31.02. outlines basic parameters for the election of members to the boards of ELCA seminaries. Subsection 8.31.02.a. provides for churchwide representation: "At least one-fifth nominated, in consultation with the seminaries, by the appropriate churchwide unit and elected by the Church Council." The following are submitted for election based on a protocol between the seminary and the Vocation and Education program unit.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To elect to the board of directors of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, S.C. to three-year terms expiring in 2012: Dr. Richard Conn, Dr. Miriam David-Brown, and Mr. Kenneth Childs.

V. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

A. Board Development Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Board Development Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Church Council Board Development

As part of ongoing board development, a series of "primers" have been presented to the Church Council since 2004. The primers have been presented both by members of the council and by others. According to the Board Orientation Manual (pages 71-72), "The primers have proved very helpful in responding to questions and concerns regarding council members' roles as stewards of this church." In order to increase understanding about the work of this church and of the Church Council, two primers have been scheduled by the Board Development Committee for the November 2009 meeting:

- a. Primer on Church Council roles in response to the media: Kristi Bangert and John Brooks, Communications Services (Exhibit Q, Part 1)
- b. Primer on ELCA call process and candidacy: Stanley Olson, Vocation and Education (Exhibit O, Part 5)

The primer scheduled for the Church Council's April 2010 meeting will focus on advocacy and will be led by the Church in Society program unit.

CC INFORMATION

Revised November 9, 2009

B. Budget and Finance Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. 2009 Interim Financial Statements

The Report of the Treasurer summarizing the eight month period ending September 30, 2009 financial results can be found in Exhibit F, Part 1a. The current operating fund financial results for the period are presented in Exhibit F, Part 1b. Operating results for the World Hunger program for the fiscal year are in Exhibit F, Part 1c. The Statements of Financial Position for the period are reflected in Exhibit F, Part 1d.

CC INFORMATION

2. 2009 Expenditure Authorization

No change to the current 2009 spending authorization is being proposed. The revised Mission Support projections used in establishing the reduced spending authorization in March have been accurate to-date, with the variance to budget being less than one percent. However, due to the continued pressure on congregational income, the greater variability historically seen in fourth quarter income, and the time-lag between expenditures and reporting of income from synods, churchwide units have been asked to underspend their 2009 allocations toward an objective of realizing a positive year-end variance of income to expense. The Office of the Presiding Bishop requested all units to submit proposals for how they could achieve an underspending level of five percent. Through the review and discussion of those proposals, \$3.3 million or 4.3% was identified. The savings will be achieved primarily through natural variances that occur in the course of implementing the spending plan.

CC INFORMATION

3. Church Council Designated Funds

The established method for funding the mission plans of the churchwide organization is through the operating budget. The operating budget, developed after review of potential income sources, is used to establish expense dollar guidelines for the various units of the churchwide organization as they provide programs or support outlined in the ELCA governing documents.

The Church Council is asked occasionally to establish designated funds for support of certain specific programs or events that may not be included in the "normal" yearly operations of the churchwide organization. Approved requests may be managed in two different ways.

The first way designated funds are managed is through investment in the ELCA Foundation as Church Council designated funds "functioning as endowment." They are reported annually to the Church Council in April.

The second way designated funds are managed is through the ELCA treasury as a designated fund to be used for a specific activity within a given time frame. Exhibit F, Part 4a, is a summary exhibit of all active Church Council designated funds, exclusive of those "functioning as endowments." Exhibit E, Parts 4b-f, includes reports for each of the active Church Council designated funds.

CC INFORMATION

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C. Executive Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Executive Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

D. Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

E. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Update on Ecology Study Design Group

Background information about the Ecology Study Design Group are provided on agenda pages 18-19 and Exhibit E, Part 2.

At the request of the Planning and Evaluation Committee, the Rev. Diane "Dee" Pederson, chair of the design group, will bring an update to the Church Council on Saturday afternoon, November 14. Pr. Pederson is a former member of the ELCA Church Council (1999-2005).

CC INFORMATION

2. Review of Staff Alliances

At its November 2009 meeting, the Planning and Evaluation Committee received and reviewed a report on an assessment of the churchwide organization's four strategic staff alliances: young adult ministry, multicultural ministries, poverty and wealth, and justice for women. The report is printed in Exhibit H, Part 2.

The alliances aid the organization in expressing and deepening the Plan for Mission's four commitments for implementation:

In the course of implementing each of these strategic directions, the churchwide organization must and will:

- Encourage, welcome, and depend upon the lively and creative exchange of resources and ideas throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;
- Recognize and encourage the vital contributions and deepening relationship with institutions and agencies of this church and with Lutheran, ecumenical, and interfaith partners;
- Confront the scandalous realities of racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, age, gender, familial, sexual, physical, personal, and class barriers that often manifest themselves in exclusion, poverty, hunger, and violence; and
- Pursue ardently the ELCA's commitment to becoming more diverse, multicultural, and multi-generational in an ever-changing and increasingly pluralistic context, with special focus on full inclusion in this church of youth, young adults, and people of color and people whose primary language is other than English.

The alliances assist the organization in understanding and, where necessary, changing its culture in these matters.

The staff alliances report annually to the ELCA Cabinet of Executives.

CC INFORMATION

F. Program and Services Committee

Information items related to the November 14, 2009, meeting of the Program and Services Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Update on Lutheran Malaria Initiative

A unique opportunity for engagement by Lutheran partners to address "diseases of poverty," including malaria, came to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in 2007, when LWR staff members were approached by the United Nations Foundation (UNF). Funded by a multimillion-dollar grant from the United Nations Foundation, which had received funds to combat malaria from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the funds would assist LWR to develop its capacity to mobilize Lutherans to combat malaria.

When approached by UNF, Lutheran World Relief staff understood that the goal of mobilizing U.S. Lutherans and engaging in international program work on malaria would require the full engagement of both the ELCA and the LCMS. The leadership of LCMS has affirmed that LCMS is a full partner in LMI, with LWR and the ELCA, and is committed to the joint partnership goals of education, advocacy, and raising funds to contain malaria. The LCMS meets in convention in 2010.

The 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly responded with enthusiasm to the Lutheran Malaria Initiative and voted (CA09.02.06):

To approve continued development of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative (LMI) by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in partnership with Lutheran World Relief (LWR), The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS), and the United Nations Foundation (UNF);

To join with domestic and global partners to address malaria as a disease intensified by poverty within the context of comprehensive and sustainable community development and in close cooperation and partnership with this church's companion churches in Africa and the Lutheran World Federation;

To begin work related to LMI in the next biennium (2009–2011), specifically involving preparation of resources, pilot projects at sites to be determined, solicitation of individual donors, and collaboration with synods and congregations for anticipated LMI fundraising engagement following the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly;

To develop the Lutheran Malaria Initiative in ways that reinforce efforts by the World Hunger Appeal both to achieve its \$25 million goal and to continue to raise designated funds to address another disease intensified by poverty: HIV and AIDS;

To authorize continued receipt of designated LMI gifts under the auspices of the World Hunger Appeal, with such funds to be allocated through a specific budget for this initiative;

To request that a report and recommendations for a possible churchwide campaign for the Lutheran Malaria Initiative be brought to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly; and

To anticipate that this whole church—members of every age, congregations, synods, the churchwide organization, agencies and institutions, the Women of the ELCA, Lutheran Men in Mission, the Lutheran Youth Organization, colleges and universities, seminaries, social ministry organizations, camping ministries, and all others will learn about malaria and other diseases intensified by poverty and prayerfully support the Lutheran Malaria Initiative as it grows into readiness for a possible major fundraising campaign in synods and congregations following authorizing action by the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

At the time of the November 2009 Church Council meeting, Pr. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl, coordinator of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative and HIV and AIDS strategy, will be traveling with Global Mission staff in southern Africa. In her absence, Cynthia Halverson, executive for Development Services and president of the ELCA Foundation, will bring an update on LMI to the November 2009 meeting of the Church Council.

A written report is printed in Exhibit A, Part 1b.

CC INFORMATION

2. Implementation of social statement on education

“Our Calling in Education,” the ninth social statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, was adopted by the 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. One of the implementing resolutions called upon “...the Vocation and Education, Church in Society, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission units, and Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, to oversee a process of implementation and accountability for this social statement and to report on implementation of this social statement to the Church Council in 2009.”

The report is printed in Exhibit K, Part 4.

CC INFORMATION

3. Report on Campus Ministry Policies and Procedures

At its November 2003 meeting, the Church Council approved “Campus Ministry Policies and Procedures.” As requested in the Church Council action (CC03.11.66), the Vocation and Education unit has presented a report on the implementation of the policies. The report is printed in Exhibit O, Part 4.

CC INFORMATION

VI. OTHER CHURCHWIDE ITEMS

A. Recipient for Church Council Offering

In preparation for each meeting of the Church Council, the Executive Committee requests a recommendation by the Development Services unit of the offering recipient(s) for the meeting for review and approval by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee has recommended that the offering taken at the worship service on Sunday, ~~March 29~~ November 15, 2009, support the Vision for Mission fund, which supports churchwide programs.

Please make checks payable to the ELCA with the notation "Vision for Mission."

CC INFORMATION

B. Reports from Regional Coordinators

The Church Council annually receives reports from the nine regional coordinators at its fall meeting. The reports are printed in Exhibit J, Part 1b.

CC INFORMATION

C. Updates to Church Council directory

A directory of Church Council members is printed in Exhibit R, Part 2 and also is available on Net Community. Church Council members were requested to provide updates to the information no later than November 9, 2009. A revised version will be distributed by the end of the November 2009 Church Council meeting.

CC INFORMATION

D. 2009 Churchwide Assembly Referrals

The Church Council has received a summary of memorials or other actions referred by the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to the Church Council. These items are summarized in Exhibit B, Part 2a

CC INFORMATION

E. ~~2007~~ 2009 Churchwide Assembly Evaluation

Planning for ELCA Churchwide Assemblies is a cooperative endeavor involving the Office of the Presiding Bishop, the Office of the Secretary, churchwide units, the host synod(s), and many volunteers. The presiding bishop of this church is responsible for the preparation of the agenda for the assembly, as well as the assembly worship and program (ELCA 12.31.04.). The secretary is responsible for the management of the physical arrangements for the assembly, for the preparation and distribution of the *Pre-Assembly Report*, and for the establishment in consultation with the presiding bishop of committees that "may be necessary to facilitate the planning for and operation of the assembly" (ELCA 12.31.03. and 12.31.05.). Churchwide units assist the officers to carry out their responsibilities. A local arrangements committee helps to coordinate the use of volunteers in close cooperation with the host synod. An assembly planning committee helps to plan for and coordinate this complex partnership.

The Church Council plays an important role in the development of agenda items for the Churchwide Assembly, since it reviews all recommendations from churchwide units that are to be considered by the Churchwide Assembly (ELCA14.21.03.); the council also proposes a budget for consideration by the assembly, upon recommendation by the presiding bishop. In carrying out its review of unit proposals, the Church Council works closely with the boards, program committees, and advisory committees of churchwide units, which are responsible to the Churchwide Assembly but report to the Church Council in the interim. Throughout the biennium, the council and the unit boards, program committees, and advisory committees are in regular communication as those actions are being shaped.

The report of the evaluation of the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly is printed in Exhibit R, Part 1. The two-part report includes an executive summary of the survey followed by the percentages of responses to the evaluation questions.

At the council's November 2009 meeting, members who attended the assembly will have an opportunity to share their perspectives on the assembly, which will inform those who already are planning for the 2011 Churchwide Assembly, which will be held August 15-20, 2011, in Orlando, Florida.

CC INFORMATION

F. Church Council Meeting Dates (2010—2013)

The following dates have been established for meetings of the ELCA Church Council through 2014:

- 2010 April 9-12 (note additional day; change from previous schedule)
~~August 13-15 (retreat for CC members only)~~
November 12-15

- 2011 April 8-11
August 13-14 (Churchwide Assembly 15-20, Orlando)
November 11-14

- 2012 April 13-16
July 28-29
November 9-12

- 2013 April 5-8
August X-X (Churchwide Assembly)
November 8-11

- 2014 April 4-7
July 26-27
November 7-10

G. Elections to the Board of the Lutheran Youth Organization

The Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO), meeting in convention July 26-30, 2009, at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, elected the following board members for the 2009-2012 triennium:

President: Nicolette Faison, Elmont, NY
Secretary: Hannah Knauss, Martinsburg, Penn.
Vice-President: Matt Wertman, Crimora, Va.
Region 1 Member at Large: Anna McCracken, Spanaway, Wash.
Region 2 Member at Large: Paul Larson, Roseville, Calif.
Region 3 Member at Large: Amanda Bennes, Bismarck, ND
Region 4 Member at Large: Nicolas Conover, San Angelo, Tex.
Region 5 Member at Large: Apu Seyenkulo, Chicago, Ill.
Region 6 Member at Large: Cogan Blackmon, Anderson, Ind.
Region 7 Member at Large: Jillian Foster, Rushville, NY
Region 8 Member at Large: Molly Crouser, Lancaster, Penn.
Region 9 Member at Large: Preston Jutte, Spring Hill, Tenn.
Church Council Advisor: Arielle Mastellar, Sartell, Minn.
Church Council Advisor: Kyle Teague, Fresno, Calif.
Council of Presidents Co-Chair: Nicole Billips, DeKalb, Ill.
Council of Presidents Co-Chair: Dan Faas, Mindoro, Wisc.

CC INFORMATION