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Pr. Nelson H. Rabell-Gonzalez, president, Latino Community Association, *excused*
Ms. Jennifer Deleon, substitute
Pr. Sarah M. Lee-Faulkner, chair, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational
Mission Program Committee
Ms. Carmen Richards, president, Women of the ELCA
Pr. Frederick Strickert, chair, Global Mission Program Committee
Mr. Kai Swanson, chair, Vocation and Education Program Committee
Mr. Larry Thiele, president, American Indian and Alaska Native Association
Pr. Roger Thompson, chair, Church in Society Program Committee
Mr. Richard Torgerson, ELCA colleges and universities
Ms. Suzanne Wise, Lutheran Social Ministries

C. Resource People

Office of the Presiding Bishop

Pr. M. Wyvetta Bullock, Executive for Leadership
Pr. Kathie Bender Schwich, Executive for Synodical and Constituent Relations
Ms. Myrna J. Sheie, Executive for Governance and Institutional Relations
Vacant, Executive for Administration

Section Executives and Staff

Pr. Michael L. Burk, Executive for Worship and Liturgical Resources (Chaplain)
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

Office of the Secretary

Pr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Executive for Official Documentation and Administration
Mr. Phillip H. Harris, General Counsel
Pr. Paul A. Schreck, Executive for Constitutional and Rostering Interpretation
and Oversight
Mr. David A. Ullrich, Associate General Counsel

Office of the Treasurer

Section Executives and Staff

Ms. Karen Rathbun, Executive for Management Services
Ms. LaRue R. Unglaube, Executive for Information Technology
Pr. Jeffrey R. King, Support Specialist, Information Technology

Program Unit Executives

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
Ms. Beth A. Lewis, President, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers
Pr. Richard A. Magnus, Executive Director, Evangelical Outreach and Congregational
Mission
Pr. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Global Mission
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

D. Press

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

E. Ecumenical Guests

Canon Victoria L. Garvey, The Episcopal Church, *excused*
Ms. Kathy J. Magnus, North American Representative, Lutheran World Federation
Pr. Mary Ann Neevel, United Church of Christ, *excused*
Moravian Church [position vacant]
Presbyterian Church U.S.A. [position vacant]
Reformed Church [position vacant]

F. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda items have been distributed 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.

G. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 13-16, 2007 and the August 5, 2007, meetings of the Church Council have been distributed to council members.

The minutes of the council's Executive Committee meetings on April 13, 2007, and June 13, 2007, have been distributed. The Executive Committee minutes for the meetings held on August 5, 2007, and October 9, 2007, will be distributed separately.

Please provide in writing for the Executive Assistant for Official Documentation any notations on typographical errors in the distributed text of the minutes. Proper corrections will be entered into the protocol copies of the minutes. Corrections of that nature 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 April 13-16, 2007 and August 5, 2007, meetings of the Church Council; and

To ratify actions of the council's Executive Committee as indicated in the minutes of the April 13, 2007, June 13, 2007, August 5, 2007, and October 9, 2007, 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, Part 1

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:
Exhibit J, Part 1
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. Budget and Finance Committee
2. Executive Committee
3. Legal and Constitutional Review
4. Planning and Evaluation Committee
5. Program and Services Committee

III. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Nominations, Appointments, and Elections

1. Election of the Treasurer (*Executive Session*)

Section 13.50. of the ELCA constitution describes the position, responsibilities, and process for election of the ELCA Treasurer. According to provision 13.52., “The treasurer shall be elected by the Church Council to a six-year term and shall be a voting member of a congregation of this church.” Churchwide bylaw 19.31.01.d. specifies “The treasurer shall be elected by a two-thirds vote of the Church Council.” The term of the treasurer, elected at the November 2007 meeting of the ELCA Church Council, will begin on February 1, 2002.

In accordance with provision 13.51, “The treasurer of this church shall serve under the presiding bishop of this church,” and in acknowledgment of Treasurer Christina Jackson-Skelton’s leadership as an officer of this church, Bishop Hanson has nominated her to a second term. Additional information related to the recommendation will be provided in executive session.

CC ACTION

Recommended: *Two-thirds required*

To reelect Christina Jackson-Skelton to a six-year term beginning February 1, 2008, as treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

To determine that the treasurer shall continue to serve simultaneously as president of the Mission Investment Fund as provided in bylaw 17.51.01. in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

2. Election of the Executive for Administration (*Executive Session*)

The Executive for Administration is the chief administrator of the churchwide organization and one of the three executive assistants to the presiding bishop. According to ELCA 15.11.A04.:

The executive for administration shall be elected by the Church Council upon nomination of the presiding bishop and shall have an appointment coterminous with the term of the presiding bishop.

Information related to the nomination by the presiding bishop of The Rev. Dr. M. Wyvetta Bullock as executive for administration will be provided in executive session.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect M. Wyvetta Bullock as the executive for administration for a term coterminous with the term of the presiding bishop, as provided in churchwide continuing resolution 15.11.A04.

3. 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: Global Mission and Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission.

The nomination by Presiding Bishop Hanson of The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla as executive director for the Global Mission program unit comes following consultation with representatives of the program unit.

The recommendation of an executive director for the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission, if final, will come following the posting of the position; interviews conducted by teams comprised of representatives of the program committees for each unit, stakeholders, and the Office of the Presiding Bishop; recommendations from the interview teams to the presiding bishop, and interviews with the presiding bishop.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To re-elect the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla to a four-year term as executive director of the program unit for Global Mission beginning August 1, 2007.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To elect _____ as executive director of the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission program unit for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2008; and

To urge that, because of extenuating circumstances, this election remain confidential until an announcement is made by Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson on November 13, 2007.

4. 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 2007–2009 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:

- a. 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.
- b. 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 identified categories:
 - 1). *[to be determined]*
 - 2). *[to be determined]*
 - 3). *[to be determined]*
- c. The second ballot shall be limited to the two people (plus ties) in each category receiving the greatest number of nominations.
- d. 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 2007-2009 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.

5. Ratification of Church Council Committees for 2007–2009 Biennium

In preparation for the August 2007 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 indicate interest in other areas of service. At its August 2007 meeting, the Church Council ratified the provisional membership for the four standing committees.

Following the elections at the Churchwide Assembly, newly elected members indicated their committee preferences prior to the November meeting. The Executive Committee will review the requests at its November 2007 meeting and make additional recommendations for ratification by the Church Council during the first plenary session of its November 2007 meeting. The recommendations will be distributed in Exhibit B, Part 4.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To ratify the appointments to the Church Council committees and other advisory responsibilities for the 2007–2009 biennium as detailed in Exhibit B, Part 4.

6. Other Elections

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

a. CHURCH COUNCIL

Clergy [Term 2009]

To replace resignation of Pr. Jennifer J. Thomas, Milwaukee, WI 5J

- 1). a. Pr. Norene A. Smith, Milwaukee, WI (5J)
- b. Pr. Kathy J. Broadwine, Waukesha, WI (5J)

b. EVANGELICAL OUTREACH AND CONGREGATIONAL MISSION

Clergy [Term 2009]

To replace resignation of Pr. Pamela R. Fickenscher, Minneapolis, MN (3G)

- 1). a. Pr. Robert W. Fritch, Jamaica, NY (7C)
- b. Pr. Steven E. Wigdahl, Naples, FL (9E)

Clergy [Term 2011]

To replace resignation of Pr. Angela L. Shannon, Fort Wayne, IN (6C)

- 1). a. Pr. Kristine L. Carlson, Minneapolis, MN (3G)
- b. Pr. Jeffrey L. Sandgren, Fargo, ND (3B)

Lay Female [Term 2011]

To replace resignation of Marilyn Liden Bode, Kingston, WA 1B

- 1). a. Ms. Barbara R. Dowdy, Richmond, VA (9A)
- b. Ms. Maxine S. Young, Darby, PA (7F)

c. VOCATION AND EDUCATION

Clergy [Term 2011]

To replace resignation of Pr. Gerald A. Spice, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI (6A)

- 1). a. Pr. Heidi M. Murken, Grafton, WI (5J)
- b. Pr. Paul A. Wollner, Irmo, SC (9C)

d. ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE LUTHERAN

Clergy [Term 2013]

To replace vacancy of Pr. Karen G. Bockelman, Duluth, MN 3E

- 1). a. Pr. Pamela Russell, Seattle, WA (1B)
- b. Pr. Jennifer M. Ginn, Salisbury, NC (9B)

e. ELCA BOARD OF PENSIONS

Lay Female [Term 2011]

To replace resignation of Ivy S. Bernhardson, Bloomington, MN 3G

- 1). a. Ms. Ingrid S. Stafford, Evanston, IL (5A)
- b. Ms. Andrea K. Hayes, San Mateo, CA (2A)

Lay Male [Term 2011]

To replace resignation of David D. Swartling, Bainbridge Island, WA 1B

- 1). a. Mr. John L. Capecci, Charlotte, NC (9B)
- b. Mr. Bruce D. George, Westborough, MA (7B)

f. CHURCHWIDE COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE

Lay Male [Term 2009]

To replace resignation of Aureo Andino, San Juan, PR 9F

- 1). a. Ms. Nancy M. Reed, Luray, VA (9A)
- b. Ms. Kathryn E. Baerwalkd, Washington, D.C., (8G)

g. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND OF THE ELCA
AND BOARD OF ADVISORS OF THE ELCA FOUNDATION

The Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund of the ELCA and Board of Advisors of the ELCA Foundation recommends to the Church Council ratification of the following:

Lay Female [Term 2013]

To replace vacancy of Tonia J. Lindquist, Gresham, OR (1E)

- 1). a. Ms. Kathleen M. Rehl, Tampa, FL (9E)

Revised November 11, 2007; 8:55 a.m.

h. CHURCHWIDE COMMITTEE OF HEARING OFFICERS

The Executive Committee recommends approval of the panel of hearing officers for terms as specified:

Clergy [2013]

To replace vacancy of Pr. Leslie G. Svendsen, Sioux Falls, SD (3C)

- 1). a. Pr. Tor K. Berg, Pullman, WA (1D)
- b. Pr. Charles H. Maahs, Olathe, KS (4B)

Clergy [2013]

To replace vacancy of Pr. J. Phillip Wahl, Worthington, OH (6F)

- 1). a. Pr. Kerry L. Nelson, Houston, TX (4F)
- b. Pr. Paul J. Blom, Houston, TX (4F)

Lay Male [2013]

To replace vacancy of Bradford E. Cook, Manchester, NH (7B)

- 1). a. Mr. Kevin D. Anderson, Gaithersburg, MD (8G)
- b. Mr. Ray E. Boyd, Blackfoot, ID (1D)

B. Board Development Committee

1. Racial Justice Process Observation

The Church Council received a report on anti-racism training for the Church Council at its April 2007 meeting. The meeting also included a session on anti-racism led by Shenandoah Gale, coordinator for anti-racism education, and four members of the ELCA Church Council: Judith Bunker, Lynette Reitz, Judith Tutt-Starr, and Allan Thomas.

One of the recommendations included in the report related to racial justice monitoring. Following discussion, the Church Council voted (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.

The Board Development Committee will discuss the report and recommendations related to a racial justice monitoring pilot at its November 2007 meeting. The report is printed in Exhibit D, Part 2.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve the "Proposal for Church Council Racial Justice Process Observation" as printed in Exhibit D, Part 2;

To delegate to the Board Development Committee the responsibility for implementing the racial justice process observation plan beginning at the April 2008 meeting of the Church Council; and

Revised November 11, 2007; 8:55 a.m.

To request that the Board Development Committee continue to evaluate and report on the process, with a final proposal on the process to be brought to the Church Council no later than the April 2009 meeting.

2. Primers for 2007-2009 Biennium

The Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America began a series of discussions in April 2002 that led to the appointment in November 2003 of a “board development working group” and a plan for board development, including an orientation manual, a biennial retreat, and primers during Church Council meetings. The originating discussions included a discussion of Church Council leadership spheres (April 2002); discussion of Church Council responsibilities (November 2002); approval of a plan for board development for the 2003-2005 biennium (April 2004); and discussion of contacts with synods by Church Council members (November 2004).

Primers, which had been an occasional part of Church Council meetings, began as a formal board development activity in April 2004 with a presentation by former presiding bishop H. George Anderson on “Ecclesiology, Polity, and Structure: A Lutheran Perspective” and a primer on budget and financial management by Treasurer Christina Jackson-Skelton and Church Council member Linda Brown. Additional primers have included:

- April 2005: Church Council roles and responsibilities at the Churchwide Assembly
- November 2005: Orientation for new and continuing members; introduction of board orientation manual developed by the Board Development Task Force
- April 2006: Development of social statements: role and process
- July 2006: Retreat “Sharing the Mind of Christ”
- November 2006: Discussion of the role of the Church Council and its advisors; recommendation on this topic approved in April 2007
- April 2007:
 1. Church Council roles and responsibilities at the Churchwide Assembly
 2. Anti-racism education
- November 2007:
 1. Anti-racism education
 2. Church Council roles in response to the media

At its November 2007 meeting, the Board Development Committee will make recommendations for primers for the 2007-2009 biennium:

- April 2008: **Anti-racism training**
Bible study with anti-sexism focus
Primer on development of social statements
- July 2008: Retreat [*working focus*: “scandalous realities”]
- November 2008: **Unit updates**
“Book of Faith” Bible study: Acts
- April 2009: **“Book of Faith” Bible study: Acts**

CC INFORMATION

C. Budget and Finance

Action items related to meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee, including its November 10, 2007, meeting, are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. 2008 Current Fund and World Hunger Fund Spending Authorization

As detailed in Exhibit F, Part 2a, current fund income is estimated to increase by \$325,650 to \$81,995,650 from the income proposal approved at the 2007 Churchwide Assembly. The largest budget increase is in mission support income, with an expected increase of \$500,000 to \$66,600,000. This is an increase of \$300,000 from the revised 2007 fiscal year estimate and equals 98.7 percent of synod mission support plans for the 64 synods from whom we have received plans and 97.5 percent if we anticipate level support from the outstanding synod. Endowment distributions are based on a five-year rolling average of market value. The five years included for the 2008 estimates reflect the addition of a good year in market value and the subtraction of a down year, resulting in an estimated total increase off \$147,635.

Investment income is anticipated to decrease by \$214,000 as a result of lower levels of cash balances. The \$57,985 decrease in rental income is primarily due to adjusting the estimate of available space in the Lutheran Center that will be able to be leased. Other income generated by programs has been decreased by \$50,000, reflecting changes in expectations and focus of those programs.

The proposed 2008 expenditure authorization includes the following major features and revisions to the 2008 budget submitted to the 2007 Churchwide Assembly.

As reported to the 2007 assembly, the expenditure authorization reflects the distribution to units of a compensation increase pool based on an average of three percent increases for approximately 522 full-time, part-time and term staff, 185 missionary positions, and 170 mission developers supported either on our payroll or through grants, as well as increases in the cost of benefits, especially health care premiums. The earlier calculation of this expense was \$1,400,000. The final calculation of the expense, based on September 15, 2007, payroll records, is \$1,250,480.

Likewise, the earlier calculation of the churchwide organization's 2008 depreciation expense was \$1,690,000. The final calculation found in this expense proposal, based on lower-than-projected reconfiguration costs, is \$1,650,000.

The 2008 expense proposal printed in Exhibit F, Part 2b now incorporates the distribution to units of the \$349,666 set aside in the budget proposal to fund expenses associated with the 2007 Churchwide Assembly-adopted report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding. These allocations include \$33,222 each to Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission (EO), Vocation and Education (VE), and Communication Services (CO) for convening groups on stewardship education and mission interpretation; \$150,000 to Research and Evaluation (RE) for an additional staff position and related expenses focused on the report's goals; and

\$100,000 to CO for staffing expanded mission interpretation.

The combination of lower-than-projected expenses in the compensation and depreciation areas and increased income projections for 2008 created an opportunity for revised allocations to units in several key areas. The revised proposal includes \$132,000 in increased funding to VE for the Book of Faith initiative; \$360,000 in increased funding to CO for the ELCA ad campaign based on the theme “God’s Work, Our Hands;” and \$15,000 to OB for a hospitality fund for global and ecumenical guests.

Anticipating an external consultation on ELCA financial services units (i.e., Mission Investment Fund, ELCA Foundation, Board of Pensions), \$62,500 is allocated in the General Treasury for one-quarter of the estimated cost of this consultation. The \$72,000 increased allocation to Office of the Treasurer relates to rent increases in the ELCA’s Washington, D.C. office, other management services increases, and maintenance and support of the churchwide organization’s new Content Management System. The remaining allocations in the post-CWA revised budget are for compensation equity increases.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To approve an initial 2008 fiscal year current fund spending authorization of \$81,995,650; and

To approve an initial 2008 fiscal year World Hunger spending authorization of \$19,250,000.

2. Campus Ministry

[See Agenda page 12.1]

D. Executive Committee

Action items related to meetings of the Executive Committee, including its November 8, 2007, meeting, are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee’s meeting.

1. Pattern for Advisors in Executive Sessions

At its January 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed the pattern for the presence of advisors in executive sessions of the Church Council. In the past, most executive sessions included the advisory bishops, youth representatives, and executive assistants to the presiding bishop. At the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Church Council approved the following action (EC07.01.04):

To determine that only voting members of the Church council and the advisory bishops shall be included in executive sessions of the Church Council; and

To acknowledge that resource persons and other advisors for their expertise in pending action may be invited by the chair to be present in executive sessions. Subsequent to that action, requests were made for further consideration.

At its August 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee voted (EC07.08.21), “To refer to the Executive Committee at its November 2007 meeting further discussion of the pattern of advisors in executive sessions of the Church council, pending authorization of the relevant bylaw changes by the Church Council and the 2007 Churchwide Assembly.”

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To determine that only voting members of the Church Council and the liaison bishops shall be included in executive sessions of the Church Council; and

2. Campus Ministry

An action taken at the 2007 Churchwide Assembly referred a motion to the Church Council for consideration. It was:

Campus Ministry

RESOLVED: that the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America designate 10% or \$100,000, whichever is greater, of any budget surplus at the end of the 2007 fiscal year, to grants for campus ministries.

The action approved was:

To refer this motion to the Church Council for consideration as it deals with a possible budget surplus at the end of the 2007 fiscal year and assesses ministry needs relative to the strategic plan of this church.

This action would be similar to the 2005 distribution of extraordinary grants to ecumenical and institutional partners that totaled \$815,500. Campus ministries received \$94,500 at that time. Other recipients included LWF, WCC, NCC, CWS, LIRS, LSA, colleges and universities, seminary clusters, and a tithe of the total to fund WCC Assembly youth stewards and LWF internships. This distribution was available, according to Bishop Hanson's letter that accompanied the grants, primarily due to "a significant reduction in the amount required to subsidize the post-retirement health care premiums for retired church workers with predecessor church body service."

In 2006, expected budget savings were approved for distribution through a process in which units identified unbudgeted funding needs and opportunities that matched the strategic initiatives of the churchwide organization. This process allowed the churchwide organization to react to both evolving ministry needs and its identified strategic goals.

As can be seen by the long list of grant recipients from the 2005 distribution, the ELCA has many partners that can benefit from additional grant support. Since it is the 100th anniversary of campus ministries, a special recognition of that ministry this year could be particularly appropriate.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To recommend to the Office of the Presiding Bishop that if in the review of potential 2007 current fund financial results, income is anticipated to exceed expenses, grants to ELCA campus ministries should receive particular consideration, as a potential recipient of any distribution.

Revised November 9, 2007; 8:55 a.m.

To acknowledge that resource persons and other advisors for their expertise in pending action may be invited by the chair to be present in executive sessions.

2. Synod Visits by Church Council Members

In the 2005-2007 biennium, the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America committed itself to building relationships between the churchwide organization and synods, congregations, and institutions and agencies. According to the "Report on Governance" prepared for the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly by the Church Council (2004), "Church Council voting members . . . interact with synods in their region in various ways, including attending at least one synodical council meeting per year, visiting congregations, and participating in synodical assemblies, especially in years when a synod is nominating people to the Church Council."

At its November 2005 meeting, members of the Church Council prepared assignments for "Church Council contacts with synods: 2005-2007." Members were encouraged to report on synod visits regularly. A summary of the reports were included for each meeting of the Church Council. In addition, a notebook including the full texts of reports submitted was available on the materials distribution table.

At its November 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee discussed options for the Church Council to continue to build relationships with synods during the 2007-2009 biennium. A recommended action will be distributed following the meeting.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

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.

E. Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

Action items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

F. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Action items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Committee are detailed below. Additional items or revised actions will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

Revised November 10, 2007; 11:25 a.m.

1. Implementation Plan for Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding

The April 2007 meeting of the Church Council acted “to delegate oversight and coordination for the implementation of the Blue Ribbon Committee’s report on mission funding to the Office of the Presiding Bishop—with special responsibility assigned to the Synodical Relations section and the Mission Funding and Interpretation Team—with an implementation plan, including specific measurements and evaluation cycles, to be presented to the November 2007 meeting of the Church Council and subsequently through regular progress reports to the Church Council commencing in April 2008”(CC07.04.15).

The 2007 Churchwide Assembly adopted recommendations based on the report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding, “Mission Flowing from God’s Abundance,” including the following recommendation:

To foster renewed commitment to vigorous mission-support efforts throughout the congregations, synods, and churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in a wide variety of ways, including:

- a. examination of “best practices” for mission funding, alternative methods of generating mission-support income, and an improved consultation process for synods and the churchwide organization;
- b. commitment by the churchwide organization to convene stewardship leaders—including synodical stewardship committees, Lutheran professional advisors, and others—to encourage greater widespread ownership of stewardship endeavors throughout this church and to provide training, motivation, and inspiration;
- c. evaluation of stewardship education programs as well as the development and implementation of a strategy for stewardship leadership and staffing;
- d. presenting to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly a proposal for the development and implementation of a resource to help congregations assess their responsible and accountable use of God’s resources commended to their care;
- e. development of educational opportunities for all those preparing for rostered leadership in this church through seminaries, programs of theological education for emerging ministries, and lay schools of theology;
- f. establishment of a requirement, by autumn 2009, for continuing education (6-10 hours) in financial stewardship for first-call rostered leaders to help them build upon competencies learned and practiced during their seminary education;
- g. engagement of new models for the role of churchwide organization in financial leadership; and
- h. dissemination by the churchwide organization and synods to an increasing number of member households of regular, clear, and concise communication that is focused on mission interpretation.

The Implementation Plan: Blue Ribbon Committee Report on Mission Funding, November 2007 is printed in Exhibit E, Part 3.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To receive the implementation plan for coordination of the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mission Funding as requested by the Church Council at its April 2007 meeting;

To express gratitude for the specific information provided, including coordinating units, specific measurements, and evaluation cycles; and

To anticipate that the ELCA Church Council will receive regular progress reports beginning in April 2008 through the Planning and Evaluation Committee.

Revised November 10, 2007; 11:25 a.m.

2. Consultation on ELCA Disaster Response

A consultation on ELCA Disaster Response was requested by Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson. The consultation met September 30-October 1, 2007, in Tampa, Fla. to explore how the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in all of its expressions and institutional forms contributes to the needs of congregations and rostered leaders affected by disaster. The consultation additionally sought to respond to a variety of concerns raised by synodical resolutions pertaining to disaster response. The report of the consultation is printed in Exhibit E, Part 1.

Resolutions related to this topic were considered by the consultation. A resolution from the Southeastern Synod is printed in the minutes of the August 2007 meeting of the Executive Committee. Several resolutions from the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod were considered by the Executive Committee at its October 2007 meeting for referral to appropriate units of the churchwide organization and are detailed in the minutes of that meeting. Specific recommendations will be brought to the Church Council at its November 2008 meeting.

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To receive the report of the consultation on ELCA Disaster Response that was held September 30-October 1, 2007 which provides an evaluation of the contributions of the ELCA, in all its expressions, institutions, and agencies to the needs of congregations and rostered leaders affected by disaster;

To reaffirm the guiding principles for ELCA disaster response as identified by the consultation: 1) the ELCA is a church of abundance; 2) to be Lutheran is to love the neighbor; 3) Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is the primary way that the ELCA provides care for the wider community; 4) synods are the primary way that the ELCA provides care for congregations and rostered leaders; and 5) support and cooperation among all expressions of the church is assumed;

To acknowledge that the consultation addressed areas of general consensus and topics to be considered in subsequent consultations;

To recognize that the consultation also sought to respond to a variety of concerns pertaining to disaster response raised by synodical resolutions from the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod and the Southeastern Synod and to anticipate that a report and specific recommendations related to these concerns will be brought to the November 2008 meeting of the ELCA Church Council.

G. Program and Services Committee

Action items related to the November 10, 2007, 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 the Sponsorship of Legal Gaming by American Indian Tribes

The Church in Society unit, in accordance with "Policies and Procedures of the ELCA for Addressing Social Concerns" requested that a social policy resolution be developed to clarify the position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America related to legal gaming sponsored by American Indian tribes. Social policy resolutions refer to actions, other than social statements, of the Churchwide Assembly or Church Council on matters of social concern.

The introduction to the document indicates, "ELCA social policy documents express serious concerns about all forms of gambling,¹ and call for "opposition to lotteries and other state-sponsored gambling"² as exploitative, wasteful, and detrimental.³ This church also explicitly affirms the sovereignty of American Indian tribes and supports the aspirations of Native Americans for self-determination, self-sufficiency and cultural identity.⁴ Many American Indians and others—including persons in this church—testify that opposition to tribal gaming adopted under these sovereign powers threatens both these powers and this viable means to advance tribal economic and social development. ELCA documents do not address the specific issue of legal gaming sponsored by American Indian nations. There is need, therefore, to clarify the ELCA public policy position on tribal gaming."

The document is printed in Exhibit K, Part 1. It has been prepared by the Church in Society unit in consultation with the Office of the Presiding Bishop, 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 legal gaming sponsored by American Indian Tribes as printed in Exhibit K, Part 1.

¹The ALC social statement on gambling offers the following definition: "Gambling has been described as involving three elements: (a) *a valuable consideration*, mutually risked in the hope of (b) *winning a significant prize*, which is awarded (c) not primarily for skill or ability but largely by the *caprice of chance*" *Gambling and the Public Good: A statement of the American Lutheran Church*". (page 2)

²1999 ELCA social statement on economic life, "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All," (page 12).

³(Op cited) "*Gambling and the Public Good...*"

⁴1992: Year of Remembrance, Repentance and Renewal," a resolution adopted by the 1991 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 1991, ELCA Minutes.

H. Office of the Presiding Bishop

1. Lutheran Malaria Initiative

The ELCA has a unique opportunity to partner with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) as part of the wider global effort to end malaria, a core element in the cycle of global poverty, through a pan-Lutheran effort in a similar timeframe. The ELCA, LCMS, and LWR are working together in an exploratory phase with United Nations Foundation (UNF) to evaluate the capacities of LWR, ELCA, and the LCMS to mobilize the U.S. Lutheran community for this effort. Such an educational and fundraising effort would be funded, through the UNF by a major donor, with a multi-million dollar five-year grant. The ELCA, LCMS, and LWR are working on a campaign proposal that will be submitted to UNF by the end of November 2007. At this time no specific funding grant amount has been communicated.

In the summer of 2007, an initial feasibility study was conducted by Community Counseling Services on behalf of LWR. CCS recommended that a campaign goal of \$75 million over five years is realistic. An initial suggested breakdown of this goal was: LWR, \$30 million; ELCA, \$25 million; and LCMS, \$20 million. Money raised in this campaign would be channeled through:

1. Church- or church-related entities, specifically (1) LWR, as it builds its capacity to provide malaria-related services in Africa (particularly in West and East Africa); (2) the ELCA, as it engages companion churches in all regions of Africa and within the wider context of the Lutheran World Federation; (3) LCMS, as it develops projects in eight African countries; and
2. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector, and affected communities.¹

For the ELCA, the core LMI case for support is to articulate LMI as a priority among priorities of the ELCA. From the beginning, the case must integrate the opportunity in a way that allows this church's LMI efforts to flow out of the World Hunger Appeal and Stand with Africa and integrate with other strategic priorities, including the HIV/AIDS strategy, which was mandated by the 2007 Churchwide Assembly.

The ELCA will engage companion churches in other countries, seeking their leadership and guidance as anti-malaria activities are developed in those countries and as the malaria initiative is interpreted in the United States. This will be done within the context of the ELCA's relationships within the Lutheran World Federation and its bilateral relationships with companion churches. Developing synergy with existing health-related and HIV/AIDS efforts will be a high priority.

At this time, the ELCA has given a "soft" commitment to raise \$20 million for malaria and \$10 million to support the ELCA's HIV and AIDS strategy in the campaign time period (2009 – 2013). In addition, in 2008, the ELCA will conduct a feasibility study for a comprehensive churchwide campaign in conjunction with its 25th anniversary in 2012. If approved, such a campaign would incorporate LMI and the HIV and AIDS strategy into a larger effort. A positive recommendation to move forward with a comprehensive campaign

¹ From the Global Fund's Web Site: "The Global Fund's purpose is to attract, manage and disburse resources to fight AIDS, TB and malaria. [The fund] does not implement programs directly, relying instead on the knowledge of local experts. As a financing mechanism, the Global Fund works closely with other multilateral and bilateral organizations involved in health and development issues to ensure that newly funded programs are coordinated with existing ones. In many cases, these partners participate in local Country Coordinating Mechanisms, providing important technical assistance during the development of proposals and implementation of programs."

would need approval by the churchwide assembly in 2009. With Church Council approval in

April 2008, efforts to move forward with LMI prior to 2009 could be built into the World Hunger Appeal and Stand with Africa effort on a somewhat smaller scale and roll over into the larger campaign at the appropriate time. Ideally, we would want to have a good sense of the ELCA's direction with the 25th anniversary campaign, so our preference would be to delay public LMI campaigning until the first or second quarter of 2009.

At this time, the timeline looks like this:

December 2007	Decision from UNF
2008	Pre-campaign planning, coordination, leadership recruitment, ramp-up, possible pilots
2009	Introduce campaign, public launch, approval of comprehensive campaign (if recommended) at 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
2010	Full campaign roll out

CC ACTION

Recommended:

To authorize staff of ELCA Development Services, Global Mission, and Church in Society, under the coordination of the Office of the Presiding Bishop:

- **to develop, in partnership with Lutheran World Relief, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and the United Nations Foundation, a proposal for a possible Lutheran Malaria Initiative, which would support the work of companion churches in the Lutheran World Federation and other international partners in ministry, as well as the Global Fund to Combat AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and**
- **to develop plans for integrating and coordinating such an effort with the ELCA's longstanding commitment to walk with those affected by HIV and AIDS and companion churches that are responding to this crisis, within the context of the integrated, churchwide HIV and AIDS strategy that was called for by the 2007 Churchwide Assembly;**

To request ELCA Development Services, Global Mission, and Church in Society to bring through the Office of the Presiding Bishop a report and possible recommendations on this initiative to the April 2008 meeting of the Church Council;

To authorize the Executive Committee, between meetings of the ELCA Church Council, to monitor and take appropriate action relating to the development of a possible malaria appeal and program, including the possible receipt of funding from the UN Foundation; and

To request that the Office of the Presiding Bishop seek input from the Cabinet of Executives and that any information relating to the development of a possible malaria appeal and program be posted to the Church Council's online meeting for input to the Executive Committee prior to any decision; and

To authorize staff of ELCA Development Services and Global Mission to include in the World Hunger program's *Stand With Africa* emphasis pilot efforts in anti-malaria fundraising, education, and international program in 2008-2009 as proposals for action by the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly on a possible churchwide appeal are developed during that period.

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 18-30. 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:

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A. Synodical Resolutions and Churchwide Assembly Actions

1. Synodical Resolutions Directed to the Church Council

No synodical resolutions directed to the Church Council have been received since the council’s August 2007 meeting. Any resolutions received prior to the Church Council’s November 2007 meeting will be printed in Exhibit B, Part 1a. Any actions contained in Exhibit B, Part 1a will be voted *en bloc* unless indicated otherwise.

Exhibit B, Part 1b contains proposed responses to synodical resolutions that were referred to units at previous Church Council or Executive Committee meetings. The actions contained in Exhibit B, Part 1b will be considered *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 the Church Council

Exhibit B, Part 3 details actions referred by the 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to the Church Council, the Conference of Bishops, and units of the churchwide organization and establishes deadlines for reports and recommendations in response to the actions. The full text for each item is included in the Report of the Secretary (Exhibit A, Part 3, Appendix 1).

CC INFORMATION

B. ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program

The Board of Trustees of the Board of Pensions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America met August 2-4, 200 and November 2-4, 2007, in Minneapolis, Minn. The following plan amendments, approved by the Board of Trustees at that time, are recommended to the Church Council for adoption.

1. Amendment to the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan

a. Personal Wellness Account

Article XX was established as a component of the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan, and describes the legal nature of the account, as well as terms of eligibility, participation rules, benefit amount, etc.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt the addition of Article XX to the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan.

2. Amendments to the ELCA Disability Benefits Plan

a. Monthly Disability Benefits

Section 5.07© (*Pre-existing Conditions*), Section 7.04 (*Continuation of Disability Coverage for Certain Interim Pastors who are Between Assignments*), and Section 8.05 (*Coverage Continuation Member*) provide for the continuation of disability coverage for interim pastors under call by their Synod Council when they are between assignments. It further recognizes the continued coverage when a new assignment begins and a called interim pastor is once again sponsored in the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendments to Section 5.07© of Article V, Section 7.04 of Article VII, and Section 8.05 of Article VIII of the ELCA Disability Benefits Plan.

b. Monthly Disability Benefits

Section 5.08 (*Cessation of Disability Benefits*) was amended to provide disability benefits for sponsored members beyond their Social Security full retirement age.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendment to Section 5.08 of Article V of the ELCA Disability Benefits Plan.

3. Amendment to the ELCA Survivor Benefits Plan

a. Eligible Employees

Section 3.08 (*Pre-existing Conditions*) was amended to provide for consistent treatment of members with continued coverage under the ELCA Disability Benefits Plan and those with continued coverage under the ELCA Medical and Dental Benefits Plan.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt amendment to Section 3.08 of Article III of the ELCA Survivor Benefits Plan.

4. Establishment of the ELCA Flexible Benefits Plan

This new plan document creates a plan-wide Flexible Spending Account (FSA), which members can use to pay eligible out-of-pocket medical and dependent care expenses on a pre-tax basis.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To adopt the establishment of the ELCA Flexible Benefits Plan.

Revised November 11, 2007; 9:15 a.m.

C. Budget and Finance Committee

Action items recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee for *en bloc* approval will be distributed following the committee's November 10, 2007, meeting.

1. Audit Committee

a. Audit Committee Membership

The membership of the Audit Committee is defined by ELCA bylaw 14.41.E02. The Audit Committee is comprised of six members. A minimum of two members should be members of the Church Council's Budget and Finance Committee. Members are appointed by the Budget and Finance Committee and forwarded to the Church Council for approval. Budget and Finance Committee members are appointed for two-year terms with the possibility of reappointment throughout their Church Council term. Non-Church Council members are appointed for two-year terms, renewable for two additional terms. Terms are staggered to provide for continuity in committee membership from year to year.

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

Pr. John Richter (April 2009)

Ms. Ann F. Niedringhaus (August 2009)

Mr. John F. Timmer (August 2008)

Mr. Timothy L. Stephan (August 2009)

Michele Harbeck Haley has resigned from the committee. A vacancy also previously existed for an additional Church Council member. Biographical information for the nominee below has been reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee and is available on the resource table.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To elect Mr. Philip W. Bertram to the ELCA Audit Committee for a two-year term beginning April 2008.

To elect Ms. Deborah Chenoweth to the ELCA Audit Committee for a two-year term beginning April 2008.

b. Audit Committee Report

At its June 2007 meeting, the ELCA Audit Committee reviewed the audited financial statements for the year ended January 31, 2007. The report is printed in Exhibit F, Part 6.

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, 2007.

c. Revision of Audit Committee Charter

The revised charter for the ELCA Audit Committee reflecting the duty of considering internal audit's fraud risk assessment is printed in Exhibit F, Part 7.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the proposed amendments to the ELCA Audit Committee Charter.

2. Revisions to Mission Support Plans

The ELCA Church Council has responsibility for reviewing and approving or withholding approval for synods regarding mission support plans. Exhibit F, Part 4 shows the actual mission support received from each synod for 2006 with plans and any revisions for the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years.

Revisions in synod plans following the April 2007 meeting of the Church Council were forwarded for action to the August 5, 2007, meeting of the Church Council Executive Committee and are recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

a. 2008 Mission Support Plans

Since the April 2007 meeting, revisions to 13 synod mission support plans for 2008 have been received. Also, initial 2008 mission support plans from six of the seven synods that were outstanding at the April 2007 meeting have been received.

a. Revisions to 2007 synod mission support plans

Since the August 2007 Executive Committee meeting, revisions for 2007 mission support plans have been received from one synod.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increase in the percentage for the sharing of 2007 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synod: Pacifica Synod.

b. Revisions to 2008 synod mission support plans

Since the August 2007 Executive Committee meeting revisions for 2008 mission support plans have been received from three synods. No mission support plan has been received from the Upstate New York Synod.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To affirm with sincere appreciation the increases in the percentage for the sharing of 2008 mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synod: Pacifica Synod;

To affirm the revised 2008 mission support dollar estimates for the sharing of mission support contributions by congregations for synodical and churchwide ministries of the following synod: Northwestern Ohio Synod; and

To acknowledge the percentage change in mission support resulting from revised estimates of congregational mission support for the following synod: Southern Ohio Synod.

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 8, 2007, meeting.

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 10, 2007, meeting.

1. Approval of Synod Constitutions

Provision 10.12. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* stipulates: "Each synod shall have a constitution, which shall become effective upon ratification by the Church Council. Amendments thereto shall be subject to like ratification"

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To ratify amendments to the constitutions of the following:

- (1) Grand Canyon Synod (2D), provision S9.04.;**
- (2) Eastern North Dakota Synod (3B), provision S9.04.;**
- (3) Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (4D), provision S7.23.;**
- (4) South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K), provisions S8.24., S9.03., and S11.05.; and**
- (5) Upstate New York Synod (7D), provision S7.27.**

2. Authorization of Signatories

In April 1990, the Church Council adopted a resolution [CC90.4.31] authorizing signatures by assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries for the execution of documents on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota nonprofit corporation act authorizes the board of directors of a corporation organized thereunder to designate two or more directors to form a committee that shall have authority to act for and on behalf of the board of directors; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that any two of the Bishop (President), Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer are hereby appointed as a committee having the authority of the Church Council in the management of the business or fiscal affairs of this corporation to authorize and approve, on behalf of this corporation, transactions to which it is a party; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any one of the Bishop (President), Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer or in the absence of all of the foregoing, any two of the assistant vice presidents may execute, and the Secretary or any assistant secretary may attest, any document required or desirable in connection with a commercial or fiscal transaction to which this corporation is a party, including but not limited

to conveyances, assignments, mortgages, contracts, notes, leases, bills of sale, and financing statements.

Personnel changes necessitate action to update that resolution. Therefore, the following action is proposed.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended: *To adopt the following resolution:*

WHEREAS, in the opinion of legal counsel (Faegre & Benson of Minneapolis), the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act authorizes the Church Council as the board of directors of this corporation to appoint additional officers; and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has authorized execution of various documents, when necessary, by two assistant vice presidents in the absence of the bishop, vice president, secretary, and treasurer (CC90.4.31*); and

WHEREAS, this corporation previously has appointed various persons to be assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the previous appointments of assistant vice presidents and assistant secretaries of this corporation (CC90.4.32, CC92.11.103, CC96.11.61b, CC03.11.85) be and are hereby rescinded; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.4.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant vice presidents of this corporation: M. Wyvetta Bullock, Kathie Bender Schwich, and Myrna J. Sheie; and be it further

RESOLVED, for the sole purpose of executing documents, as specified in CC90.4.31, that the following be and are hereby appointed as assistant secretaries of this corporation: Ruth E. Hamilton, Phillip H. Harris, Mary Beth Nowak, Paul A. Schreck, and David A. Ullrich.

3. Relationship with Independent Lutheran Organizations

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*.

- a. In accord with the revised policy, the Rev. Stanley N. Olson, executive director of the Vocation and Education unit, is recommending the establishment of a relationship with Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To acknowledge, in accord 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 Outdoor Ministries, which will relate to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through the Vocation and Education unit of the churchwide organization.

- b. In accord with the revised policy, the Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, executive director of the Global Mission unit, is recommending the establishment of a relationship with the Friends of Mwangaza.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To acknowledge, in accord 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,” Friends of Mwangaza, which will relate to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through the Global Mission unit of the churchwide organization.

4. Amendments to Seminary Governing Documents

Bylaw 8.31.01. provides both for the independent incorporation of ELCA seminaries and for a churchwide role in the approval of their governing documents: “Each seminary shall be a seminary of this church, shall be incorporated, and shall be governed by its board of directors consistent with policies established by the Church Council. Amendments to the governing documents of each seminary and each seminary cluster shall be submitted, upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization, to the Church Council for approval.”

This process of approval is accomplished by the following steps:

1. The appropriate seminary president notifies the director for theological education that the seminary board has taken action to amend its governing documents.
2. The director for theological education consults with the president on the content and intent of the amendment(s).
3. The director for theological education consults with the executive director of Vocation and Education and ELCA legal counsel.
4. The executive director of Vocation and Education and the director for theological education recommend appropriate amendments to the Church Council at its next meeting.
5. The Office of the Secretary notifies the seminary president and the executive director of Vocation and Education of the action taken by the Church Council on the recommendation.
6. The amendment(s) become(s) effective upon approval of the Church Council.

Due to the length of the amended constitution, complete copies of the text with amendments indicated was provided only to members of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee. One complete copy also was available for review by Church Council members at the materials distribution table.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the amended bylaws of Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn.

5. Lutheran Medical Center

Lutheran Medical Center is an affiliated social ministry organization incorporated under the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (“ELCA”) is the sole voting member of the corporation. Lutheran

Revised November 10, 2007; 9:55 a.m.

Medical Center's (LMC) board is proposing two changes in the composition of the board's membership:

- Article V, Section 1.b.: changing from 51% members of Lutheran congregations to "At least 25% of the membership of the Board of Trustees shall be members of a congregation of a Lutheran Church...with the understanding that the Nominations Committee and the Board shall make all reasonable efforts to maintain the Lutheran percentage as close to 50% as feasible...."
- Article V, Section 1.b., adding: "the bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who shall be an ex officio voting member of the Board"

The first change is explained in the final sentence of Section 1. b. "recognizing the need to also reflect the diversity of the community on the Board . . ." The service area of LMC is comprised of at least five major ethnic communities with an even wider religious diversity, representing a considerable shift from the origins of the institution 124 years ago as a Norwegian Lutheran hospital founded by a Lutheran deaconess to serve a Norwegian Lutheran community. The local and state governmental entities, which reimburse a large share of the costs of health care provided by LMC, require that the governance reflect more completely the communities being served. This change respects the Lutheran ties and commits the board nominating committee to be diligent in continuing to identify members of Lutheran congregations for service on the board. In addition, the provision of a permanent ex officio seat for the bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod adds weight to the Lutheran presence on the board, which up to the present encouraged representation from the bishop's office, but did not secure this permanent seat for the bishop.

The action below and the exhibit to which it refers have been reviewed by the General Counsel of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. **The exhibit is available for review at the resource table.**

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended: *To approve the following resolution on behalf of the ELCA, the sole voting member of Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York:*

WHEREAS, Lutheran Medical Center (LMC), a New York not for profit corporation, is an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); and

WHEREAS, the ELCA is the sole voting member of the LMC corporation and the ELCA has the authority to amend the LMC Constitution; and

WHEREAS, LMC, by action of its Board of Trustees, has requested that its Constitution be amended as indicated in **Exhibit G, Part 1 attached hereto, primarily in order to reduce the percentage of Lutheran board members to no less than 25 per cent; and**

WHEREAS, under its certificate of incorporation, Lutheran Medical Center must obtain authorization of the ELCA for any Constitutional amendments; and

WHEREAS, LMC has therefore requested that the ELCA formally adopt amendments to the LMC Constitution as indicated in **Exhibit G, Part 1; and**

WHEREAS, by action of its Board of Trustees, LMC has adopted additional amendments to its Bylaws in order to guarantee and enhance the participation of Lutherans, the ELCA, and of the Metropolitan New York Synod in the governance of LMC as indicated in **Exhibit G, Part 1 attached hereto; and**

WHEREAS, these amendments to the LMC Constitution allows LMC to remain an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; therefore, be it

Revised November 8, 2007; 5:30 p.m.

RESOLVED, that the Church Council, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, hereby authorizes and adopts the amendments to the Constitution of Lutheran Medical Center specified in **Exhibit G, Part 1 hereto; and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the Church Council, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, hereby approves the amendments to the Bylaws of Lutheran Medical Center as adopted in **Exhibit G, Part 1 hereto.**

6. *Lutheran Partners* Magazine

In 2007 the U.S. Postal Service increased mailing costs for all mailing classes. In the case of *Lutheran Partners* magazine, mailing costs increased by 36 percent, from approximately \$5,100 to \$7,100 per issue. To reduce these charges, the editor of *Lutheran Partners* has been working with a U.S. Postal Service official to apply for rights to use what is called the periodical mailing class, formerly second-class mail. In the past, officials familiar with the postal service did not believe that *Lutheran Partners*, as a non-subscription magazine, could qualify for the periodical mailing class. (Currently *Lutheran Partners* is mailed using standard class, formerly known as third-class mail.) Postal service officials, however, are now recommending that *LP* apply for the periodical class under “Requester” criteria. If the application is accepted on this basis, *Lutheran Partners* will save approximately \$1,000 per issue, or \$6,000 per year. To receive this desired mailing classification, *Lutheran Partners* must demonstrate that it is a magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, published for its rostered leaders. A resolution adopted by the Church Council is one way of demonstrating the required relationship.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To acknowledge and affirm that *Lutheran Partners* is a magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA); and

To acknowledge and affirm that each rostered leader of the ELCA—pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers—both active and retired, will receive one free copy of *Lutheran Partners* magazine for each published issue by virtue of their rostered status in the ELCA.

F. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Action items recommended for *en bloc* approval by the Planning and Evaluation Committee will be distributed following the committee’s November 10, 2007, meeting.

G. Program and Services Committee

Action items recommended for *en bloc* approval by the Program and Services Committee will be distributed following the committee’s November 10, 2007, meeting.

1. 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: ...

- I. 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 ; and
- To approve the following five issue papers and to anticipate additional issue papers as they are developed:

1. Caring for Creation: Global Warming and Climate Change
2. Caring for Creation: Environmental Topics
3. Caring for Health: International Access to Pharmaceuticals
4. Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All: Sustainability
5. Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All: Domestic Access to Capital.

The Advisory Committee for Corporate Social Responsibility (ACCSR) has provided for Church Council information an overview of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Roles and Responsibilities (Exhibit K, Part 3) and a report on its activities over the last year (Exhibit K, Part 3j). In accordance with the roles and responsibilities, the following amended items are provided for Church Council approval:

- Issue paper: Caring for Creation: Environmental Topics (Exhibit K, Part 3a)
- Issue paper: Caring for Creation: Global Warming and Climate Change (Exhibit K, Part 3b)
- Issue paper: Caring for Health: International Access to Pharmaceuticals (Exhibit K, Part 3c)
- Issue paper: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All: Domestic Access to Capital (Exhibit K, Part 3d)
- Alcohol Social Criteria Screen (Exhibit K, Part 3e)
- Environmental Social Criteria Screen (Exhibit K, Part 3f)
- Military Weapons Social Criteria Screen (Exhibit K, Part 3g)
- Pornography Social Criteria Screen (Exhibit K, Part 3h)
- Tobacco Social Criteria Screen (Exhibit K, Part 3i)

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the amendments to the following Corporate Social Responsibility issue papers, but to request that the wording of the original issue papers be archived for historical and research purposes:

- **Caring for Creation: Environmental Topics**
- **Caring for Creation: Global Warming and Climate Change**
- **Caring for Health: International Access to Pharmaceuticals**
- **Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All: Domestic Access to Capital**

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To approve the amendments updating the wording of the following Corporate Social Responsibility social criteria investment screens, but to request that the wording of the original investment screens be archived for historical and research purposes:

- **Alcohol Social Criteria Screen**
- **Environmental Social Criteria Screen**
- **Pornography Social Criteria Screen**
- **Tobacco Social Criteria Screen**
- **Military Weapons Social Criteria Screen**

H. Other Nominations, Appointments, and Elections

A. Boards of ELCA Seminaries

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." This process of nomination and election is accomplished by these steps:

1. The appropriate seminary president notifies the director for theological education of an upcoming board vacancy and the term of that board position (as specified in the seminary's governing documents).
2. The director for theological education contacts the seminary president in order to consult on filling the vacancy and, with the concurrence of the executive director of Vocation and Education, reaches an agreement on a single nomination.
3. The director for theological education submits that nomination in a letter also signed by the executive director to the secretary of the ELCA for inclusion in the agenda of the Church Council. This letter will include a brief candidate vita and a summary of the gifts this person brings to this service.
4. The Church Council is asked to ratify the nomination at its next meeting.
5. The Office of the Secretary notifies the seminary president of the action taken on the nomination, sending a copy to the director for theological education for the unit's records.

CC ACTION [EN BLOC]

Recommended:

To elect Ms. Emma Graeber Porter as an at-large member of the board of directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Pa., to a three-year term expiring in 2011;

To elect Mr. Fred Fritz as an at-large member of the board of directors of Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., to a four-year term expiring in 2011;

To elect Dr. John Marr as an at-large member of the board of directors of the Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, to a four-year term expiring in 2011;

To elect the Rev. Lowell G. Almen as an at-large member of the board of directors of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina, to a three-year term expiring in 2011; and

To elect Mr. Dan Yeiser as an at-large member of the board of directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Penna., to a three-year term expiring in 2011.

B. 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.

Revised November 2, 2007; 1:25 p.m.

The ELCA serves as a corporate member of Lutheran **Medical Center**, Brooklyn, New York (formerly **Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y.**); 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. 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 directors of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Baltimore, Md.: **J. David Ellwanger, Betty Boyd, Judith Diers, Rebecca Larson, to three-year terms beginning January 1, 2008 and expiring December 31, 2010;**

To elect E. Roy Riley to the remainder of a three-year term on the board of directors of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service ending on December 31, 2008.

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran **Medical Center**, Brooklyn, New York, **Joseph Lodato as a member-at-large, for a term expiring in 2008;**

To elect to the board of trustees of Lutheran **Medical Center**, Brooklyn, New York as members-at-large: **Maria Carlson, Dale Christensen, Frank Comerford, Thomas Edwards, Kristine M. Gebbie, Emma Graeber Porter, Marilyn Gulin Santomauro, Gerald Luterman, Jeanne Warfield, and Stephen Bouman for terms expiring in 2010; and**

To elect to the board of directors of the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society **David J. Horazdovsky for an unlimited term and Timothy J. Penny for a term expiring in 2011.**

VI. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

A. Office of the Presiding Bishop

Information items from the Office of the Presiding Bishop will be distributed.

B. Board Development Committee

Information items related to the November 11, 2007, meeting of the Board Development Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

C. Budget and Finance Committee

Information items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

D. Executive Committee

Information items related to the November 8, 2007, meeting of the Executive Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Appointment of Board Development Committee Members

At its April 2007 meeting, the Church Council approved a new continuing resolution for the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* related to the Council's Board Development Committee. The resolution (14.41.F07) reads:

A Board Development Committee—composed of six members, at least one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Committee—shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Church Council for two-year, renewable terms to assist the presiding bishop and the Church Council in developing and implementing efforts to help members of the Church Council to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the council's role and fiduciary responsibility as the board of directors of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The executive for administration shall relate to this committee, with staff services provided by the Office of the Presiding Bishop. Members appointed to the Board Development Committee shall be eligible for service on other committees of the Church Council.

At its November 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee made appointments to the Board Development Committee for the 2007-2009 biennium, which are detailed in Exhibit B, Part 4.

CC INFORMATION

E. Legal and Constitutional Review Committee

Information items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Legal and Constitutional Review Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

F. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Information items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Planning and Evaluation Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Strategic Planning related to the ELCA Plan for Mission

The Plan for Mission in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was adopted by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2003; related changes to structure, governance, and budget were adopted in 2005. The units of the churchwide organization in 2006-2007 developed unit plans based on the Plan for Mission and their prioritization of specific unit responsibilities enumerated in the ELCA's constitution. A report on this work is printed in Exhibit E, Part 2.

CC INFORMATION

G. Program and Services Committee

Information items related to the November 10, 2007, meeting of the Program and Services Committee will be distributed following the committee's meeting.

1. Update from ELCA Task Force for Sexuality Studies

The Church Council will receive a verbal update on the work of the task force for the ELCA Studies on Sexuality from Pr. Rebecca Larson, executive director of the Church in Society program unit, and studies staff Pr. Roger Willer and Pr. Kaari Reiersen. The written report, including a revised time line for the studies, is printed in Exhibit K, Parts 2a and 2b.

Dr. Norma Hirsch, Church Council advisor to the task force will bring an update on the work of the task force from her perspective prior to Pr. Larson's update.

CC INFORMATION

2. Update on Book of Faith Initiative

The Church Council will receive a verbal update on planning for the *Book of Faith* initiative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America from Pr. Mark Wilhelm, Vocation and Education program unit. A written report is printed in Exhibit O, Part 2

Dr. Diane Jacobson, director for the *Book of Faith* initiative, will bring an update to the April 2008 meeting of the Church Council.

CC INFORMATION

3. Update on Communications Strategy: Redevelopment of ELCA.org

Ms. Kristi Bangert, director of the ELCA's Communications Services, will present an update to the Church Council on the redevelopment of ELCA.org. A written report is printed in Exhibit Q, Part 2.

CC INFORMATION

4. 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 1.

CC INFORMATION

VI. OTHER CHURCHWIDE ITEMS

A. Report of the Lutheran World Federation North American Regional Officer

The report of the North American regional officer for the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is printed in Exhibit A, Part 1b. The LWF North American regional desk is located in the Lutheran Center in Chicago, Ill. Kathy Magnus is the LWF Regional Officer for North America.

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 2.

CC INFORMATION

C. Recipients for Church Council Offerings

At its November 2005 meeting, the ELCA Church Council discussed offerings taken during worship services held during Church Council meetings. Subsequent to that meeting, the ELCA Administrative Team recommended that the Executive Committee discuss a two-part process for identification of offering recipients prior to each Church Council meeting: 1) a recommendation by the Development Services unit of the offering recipient(s) for each Church Council meeting; and 2) approval of the offering recipient(s) by the Executive Committee prior to each Church Council meeting.

At its October 2007 meeting, the Executive Committee recommended that the offering taken at the worship service on Sunday, November 11 support the Lutheran World Federation endowment fund in honor of LWF's 60th anniversary. Checks may be made payable to the ELCA with the notation "LWF endowment fund."

CC INFORMATION

D. 2007 Churchwide Assembly Referrals

The Church Council has received a summary of memorials or other actions referred by the 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to the Church Council. These items are detailed in Exhibit A, Part 3, Appendix 1 and summarized in Exhibit B, Part 3

CC INFORMATION

E. 2007 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, 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 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 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly is printed in Exhibit R, Part 2. 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 2007 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 2009 Churchwide Assembly, which will be held August 17-23, 2009, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

CC INFORMATION

F. Church Council Meeting Dates (2008—2013)

The following dates have been established for meetings of the ELCA Church Council through 2012:

April 11-13, 2008	April 8-11, 2011
July 26-27, 2008	August X-X (CWA)
November 14-17, 2008	November 11-14, 2011
March 27-30, 2009	April 13-16, 2012
August 17-23, 2009 (CWA, Minneapolis)	July 28-29, 2012
November 13-15, 2009	November 9-12, 2012
April 9-11, 2010	April 5-8, 2013
July 24-25, 2010	August X-X (CWA)
November 12-15, 2010	November 8-11, 2013

CC INFORMATION