

**2010 PRELIMINARY MINUTES**  
**Twenty-third Annual Assembly**  
**Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA**

Registration opened for the twenty-third annual assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2010, and continued throughout the assembly until 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 12. Registration was held in the Sollenberger Sports Complex of Messiah College, Grantham, Pennsylvania. Registration was coordinated by Catherine F. Deitrich, and supported by Carol A. Krouse, Linda L. Lubold, Brenda K. Rockwell, Marty E. Shifflett, and Stacey K. Teitman, synod support staff. Volunteers from around the Lower Susquehanna Synod, coordinated by assembly manager, Pamela B. Drenner, welcomed assembly participants and provided information and assistance to them.

**Assembly Appointments**

The 2010 Assembly Planning Committee, a committee of the Synod Council, met four times throughout the year to plan for the 2010 Synod Assembly. Members of this committee and their areas of responsibility were: the Rev. David L. Hefner, Synod Council, chair and nominee pictures; Pamela B. Drenner, assembly manager, volunteers, and staff and college liaison; Sharon Beard, volunteers; the Rev. Pamela J. Carnes, worship; the Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach, elections; Janet Fitch, agenda, ministry highlights, and stage; Joyce Frigm, reception and stage; the Rev. Elizabeth D. George, keynote speaker and Bible study leader; the Rev. Mark S. Kopp, worship; the Rev. Joel D. Petruschke, staging and prayer room; Charles R. Roberts III, pages; the Rev. Patricia A. Snyder, displays; Stephen Strauss, worship; and the Rev. Gwenn L. Trout, fora; and officers, Ronald R. Price, vice president, and the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, secretary.

Serving as members of the Nominating Committee for the 2010 Synod Assembly were: chair, the Rev. Sara A. Gausmann, Synod Council; Bishop B. Penrose Hoover; secretary, the Rev. Thomas E. McKee; Linda Miller, Chambersburg; Eric H. Crump, Gettysburg; the Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas, Hanover; the Rev. Richard B. Geib, Harrisburg; the Rev. Mary Margaret O. Ruth, Lancaster; the Rev. Daniel O. Donmoyer, Lebanon; John G. Fuehrer III, North Lancaster; the Rev. Abigail C. Leese, North York; the Rev. Robert R. Yankovitz, Perry; the Rev. Mark W. Jeske, South York; the Rev. Janice (Jan) L. Mills, Upper Dauphin; the Rev. Jean N. Kuebler, West Cumberland; the Rev. Eric N. Anderson, West Shore; the Rev. Brenda M. Ritterpusch, York; Judy K. Collins, Synod Council; April E. Trout, Synod Council; and Ronald R. Price, vice president; and staff, Joanne Wilhelm and Brenda K. Rockwell.

Bishop B. Penrose Hoover appointed the following assembly committees:

Assembly Worship Committee: the Rev. Pamela J. Carnes, co-chair, and the Rev. Mark S. Kopp, co-chair; and staff, the Rev. Melvin E. Dick, the Rev. Virginia J. Cover, and Carol A. Krouse;  
Committee of Reference and Counsel: chair, Lucinda L. Bringman, Synod Council; Debra K. Benner; the Rev. Shawn M. Berkebile; Dawn O. Frees; the Rev. Stephen R. Herr; Byron LeCates; the Rev. Amy Schiffrin; and Randy Witt; and staff, the Rev. Thomas E. McKee and Brenda K. Rockwell;  
Committee on Memorials: chair, the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel; Bonnie Balmer; Janet Fitch; the Rev. Elizabeth D. George, Synod Council; Micki Kautz; Joseph Michetti; Gail Stetler; and the Rev. Kurt S. Strause; and staff, the Rev. Thomas E. McKee and Brenda K. Rockwell;  
Committee on Elections: chair, the Rev. Christina H. Minnich; the Rev. George Schneider; Dawn O. Frees; and Jacob Maser; and staff, the Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach, Stacey K. Teitman, and Linda L. Lubold.

Bishop Hoover appointed the following personnel for the assembly: the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, keynote speaker and Bible study leader; the Rev. Rochelle E. Lewis, pastor, Memorial Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, chaplain; Jered L. Hock, First, Carlisle, parliamentarian; the Rev. Robert W. Lowden and the Rev. Janice E. (Jme) Lowden, Arusha,

Tanzania, missionaries in residence; the Rev. Jeffrey C. Compton, necrologist; and the Rev. Robert Wegehof and Irene Wegehof, pianist and organist respectively.

The pages for this assembly were members of the Lutheran Youth Organization under the direction of Charles R. Roberts III, Grace, Camp Hill; the Rev. Harold S. Fox, Trinity, Steelton; Samantha Harclerode, Grace, Camp Hill; Marisa Hunt, Christ (Filey's), Dillsburg; Jay Eckman, Good Shepherd, Lancaster; and Chelsea Miller, St. Paul, New Cumberland. The pages and their congregations were: Emily Bayer, Christ, Linglestown; Logan Dennison, Center, Newville; Katie Kann, St. Peter, York; Brandon Lemanski, Trinity, Mechanicsburg; Justin Lowery, Center, Newville; Seth Miller, Paradise, Thomasville; Lori Noble, Christ, Elizabethtown; Gretchen Rockwell, Holy Trinity, Lancaster; Stephanie Strauss, St. Peter, Highspire; Rebekah Thomas, St. David, Hanover; Taylor Trout, St. Mark, Harrisburg; Heather Wilkie, Zion, Manheim; Kirsten Youse, Grace, Camp Hill; Brian Zagoric, St. Peter, Mechanicsburg; and Kayla Zimmerman, Quickel (Zion's View), York.

The following individuals served as volunteers during the course of the assembly, providing assistance for voting members: Rick Adams, Grace, Camp Hill; Sharon Beard, St. Peter, Middletown; Donald Drenner, Zion, Dauphin; Joyce Frigm, Quickel, York; Philip Frigm, Quickel, York; Kathy Hefner, Concordia, Columbia; Pastor C. Hope Knobler, St. Luke, Schaefferstown; Cheri Korte, approved candidate for ordination; Marlene Landis, Good Shepherd, Liverpool; Sister Janice R. Ruch, Friedens, Myerstown; Phyllis Schiding, Union, York; Michael Schiding, Union, York; Pastor John G. Teitman, St. Stephen, New Kingstown; Pastor Deborah L. Volker, Luther Memorial, York; and Pastor Robert R. Yankovitz, Zion, Blain, and St. Paul, Loysville. Philip Frigm, Pastor C. Hope Knobler, Sister Jan Ruch, Pastor John G. Tietman, Pastor Deborah L. Volker, and Pastor Robert R. Yankovitz also served as voting members.

Bishop Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, was the ELCA representative to this assembly. He served also as keynote speaker and Bible study leader as well as presiding minister for the Thursday evening Eucharist and homilist for the Saturday morning Eucharist. He hosted a question and answer forum on Friday evening. His wife Ione accompanied him to the assembly.

### **Displays**

Those who registered early had opportunity to view displays in Brubaker Auditorium sponsored by the congregations, conferences, committees, agencies, and institutions of the Lower Susquehanna Synod. Displays were provided by Caitlin's Smiles; Church in Society Committee of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Criminal Justice System Ministry of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Committee on Outreach and Evangelism of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Deaconess Community; Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries; Eco-Justice Task Force of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Evangelical Lutheran Coalition for Mission in Appalachia; Faith United Lutheran Parish, Dillsburg; Gettysburg College; Global Mission Committee of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Heifer International; Konde Diocese Committee of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Konde Medical Needs Task Force of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Living into the Future Together (LIFT), ELCA Task Force; Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania; Lutheran Camping Corporation; Lutheran Campus Ministry, Penn State; Lutheran Disaster Response Network of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic; Lutheran Men in Mission, Lower Susquehanna Synod; Lutheran Planned Giving/ELCA Foundation; Lutheran Refugee Services; Lutheran Social Services of South Central Pennsylvania; Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg; Lutheran World Relief; Lutherans Reform; Luthercare; Ministry Highlights DVD presentations; Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA; Office for Youth Ministry – Lower Susquehanna Synod; Project Connect; Resource Network Office, Lower Susquehanna Synod; St. Barnabas Center for Ministry; "The Lutheran" magazine; Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill; Women of the ELCA; and World Hunger Committee of the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

### **Orientation**

Parliamentarian Jered Hock conducted an orientation session for voting members at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2010, in the Parmer Cinema. Using interesting case studies, he provided valuable information about parliamentary procedure and protocol. He provided an overview of the business that would come before the assembly, helping the voting members locate and bookmark various items in the Bulletin of Reports.

### **Service of Holy Eucharist with Rites of Consecration and Installation**

A service of Holy Eucharist with the Rites of Consecration and Installation, beginning with prelude music at 7:15 p.m., was held in Grantham Brethren in Christ Church, adjacent to the Messiah College campus on Thursday, June 10, 2010. Preaching was Bishop B. Penrose Hoover. Presiding at the Lord's Table was Bishop Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, with Lucinda L. Bringman, St. James, Gettysburg, as assisting minister and Richard Hoffman, Zion, Marietta, as cantor; the Rev. Miriam L. Nicholson, Messiah, Elliottsburg, and the Rev. Cheryl L. Hoffman, Zion, Marietta, as chaplains to the bishop; the Rev. Pamela J. Carnes, Zion, Penbrook, and the Rev. Mark S. Kopp, St. James, Columbia, as directors of the liturgy; and Karen Wire, Trinity, East Berlin, as organist. Lectors were Ronald Eckerd, Trinity, Mechanicsburg, and J. Andrew Doughty, St. Paul, York, husband of Ellen Doughty, newly-consecrated diaconal minister. Presenting the bread and wine were the Rev. Andrew J. Evenson, Zion, Lebanon, and Elizabeth Swam, St. Paul, York, daughter of Ellen Doughty. Communion assistants were the Rev. David R. Fisher, the Rev. Virginia J. Cover, the Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach, and the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, assistants to the bishop; and Ellen D. Doughty and Nancy Gable, diaconal ministers. The crucifer, torch bearers, and banner bearers were members of Messiah, Elliottsburg, and gospel bearer was the Rev. Virginia J. Cover. Ushers were members of the assembly.

Consecrated as a diaconal minister was Ellen D. Doughty, called by the Synod Council to be chaplain at Pinnacle Heath Systems for Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute patients, family, and staff. She received her bachelor of science degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and her master of arts degree in ministerial studies degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. Ellen is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, West Springettsbury and South George Streets, York. She is married to J. Andrew Doughty and has one daughter, Elizabeth (Lizzy) A. Swam. She was presented for consecration by the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, secretary of synod; she received the diaconal gifts from Nancy Gable, diaconal minister, Region 8 Coordinator.

Installed as assistant to the bishop was the Rev. Virginia J. Cover, who was called by the Lower Susquehanna Synod Council to serve on the pastoral staff of this synod. A native of Frederick, Maryland, she graduated from Shepherdstown University with a bachelor of arts degree in 2003, and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia with a master of divinity degree in 2007. Ordained on August 24, 2007, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, New Kingstown, she served as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg until she was called to this synod's staff. She is married to Curtis Glidewell. She was presented for installation by Ronald R. Price, synod vice president.

A reception coordinated by Joyce and Philip Frigm, Quickel (Zion's View), York, followed the service in the gathering area of the church. Assembly members had opportunity to greet our newly-consecrated diaconal minister and her family and the newly-installed assistant to the bishop and her family.

**FIRST ASSEMBLY MEETING**  
**Friday morning, June 11, 2010**

The first assembly meeting of the twenty-third annual assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA began at 8:00 a.m. in the Hitchcock Arena of the Sollenberger Sports Center on the Messiah College campus. Bishop B. Penrose Hoover led the Order for the Opening of the Assembly. Pastor Robert Wegehof, St. Peter, Lancaster, was the pianist; Irene Wegehof, St. Peter, Lancaster, was organist.

Bishop Hoover welcomed all voting members and guests to this assembly. He asked first time assembly members to raise their hands. He told them the assembly was a good opportunity to meet other Lutherans from around this synod, and he urged them to ask veteran assembly members any questions they may have about the assembly. The bishop highlighted some of the important issues that will come before this assembly. He asserted how important it is for our life together to respect the views of each other. In many ways we are a divided synod; but in a very real way we are also a united synod, united by our Lord Jesus Christ who prays to the Father that we all may be one even as He and the Father are one in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Bishop Hoover introduced the following to the assembly: Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson and his wife Ione; the Rev. Dr. Howard J. McCarney, former bishop of the Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America; the Rev. Carol S. Hendrix, retired bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; and Jered Hock Esquire, the parliamentarian for this Synod Assembly. The assembly greeted them with applause.

The bishop introduced Pastor Gary Harke, executive director of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, to bring greetings from our ecumenical and full communion partners. Pastor Harke brought greetings from the forty other church bodies that are members of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, an organization promoting Christian unity and the common good. The Pennsylvania Council of Churches will celebrate its centennial in 2011, marking one hundred years of service and witness, with a service on October 25, 2011, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill. Pastor Harke extended his best wishes for a meaningful assembly. The assembly responded with applause.

**Registration of a Quorum**

The Rev. Thomas E. McKee, secretary of synod, reported that 658 persons were certified as voting members of the 2010 Synod Assembly. Needed for a quorum were 330. Registration at 8:00 a.m. indicated that there were present 137 ordained voting members, of which 110 were on the roll of active pastors and 27 were retired; and 229 lay voting members, including 211 voting members from congregations, three deaconesses, two diaconal ministers, three associates in ministry, eight lay members of Synod Council, and two lay officers, making a total of 366 voting members. Bishop Hoover declared a quorum present. The secretary reported that 55 visitors also had registered, giving a total of 421 persons in attendance. Pastor McKee also asked the members of the assembly to remember the following synods who are meeting in assembly at the same time that we are meeting: Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod; Allegheny Synod; Delaware-Maryland Synod, South Dakota Synod, and Southeastern Iowa Synod. He also announced that those who brought coins to aid disaster relief efforts in Haiti may deposit them in the container at the World Hunger display between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. today.

**Minutes of the 2009 Synod Assembly**

The Rev. Thomas E. McKee, secretary of synod, announced that the Synod Council has reviewed and approved the minutes of the 2009 Synod Assembly and, through the bishop and secretary, certified these minutes as the official protocol of said assembly. Two copies of the 2009 Minute Book have been deposited in the Region 8 Archives as a permanent record of this assembly.

Bishop Hoover called on the Rev. David L. Hefner, chair of the Assembly Planning Committee. Pastor Hefner greeted the voting members of the assembly and guests and announced the assembly theme, **“God’s work. Our hands.”** He highlighted for the voting members some of the opportunities provided for them during the course of the assembly. He also encouraged them to complete the evaluation, which the Assembly Committee uses to aid them in the planning of future assemblies.

Pastor Hefner brought Recommendation 1 (SC10.02.17.) from the Synod Council:

**ADOPTED: That the proposed agenda for the 2010 Synod Assembly be adopted.**  
**SA10.06.01.**

(Insert the agenda, pages 1-2)

Pastor Hefner moved Recommendation 2 (SC10.02.18.) from the Synod Council:

**ADOPTED: That the proposed Rules of Procedure for the 2010 Synod Assembly be adopted.**  
**2/3 majority**  
**SA10.06.02.**

(Insert the Rules of Procedure, pages 51-52)

Bishop Hoover thanked Pastor Hefner and the members of the Assembly Planning Committee and recognized them by name, asking them to stand. The assembly responded with applause.

#### **Report of the Synod Nominating Committee**

Judy Collins, associate in ministry, a member of Synod Council and the Nominating Committee, presented the report of the synod Nominating Committee.

**Synod Council - clergy:** the Rev. Kurt S. Strause, the Rev. Elizabeth C. Polanzke, the Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker, and the Rev. Eric N. Anderson. This ticket was closed.

**Synod Council - lay female:** Holly Freas-Webster, Janet M. Fitch, Janet E. Stein, and Chelle Huth, associate in ministry. This ticket was closed.

**Synod Council - lay male:** Robert H. Getz Jr. and Christopher E. Kann. This ticket was closed.

**Synod Council – young adult:** Molly E. Crouser and Chelsea E. Miller. This ticket was closed.

**Gettysburg Seminary Board of Directors – lay male:** Frank J. Leber and Joseph A. Ricci. This ticket was closed.

**Susquehanna University Board of Trustees:** the Rev. Shawn M. Berkebile and Joseph C. Michetti Jr. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Members of the Churchwide Assembly – clergy at large:** the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel, the Rev. Janice (Jan) L. Mills, the Rev. Patricia A. Snyder, the Rev. Mark S. Kopp, the Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker, the Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas, the Rev. Steven E. Thomas, and the Rev. Virginia J. Cover. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Members of the Churchwide Assembly – lay female at large:** S. Christine Mummert, Bonnie L. Balmer, Nancy J. Martin, and Angela D. Kann. Pastor Naomi Sease Carriker nominated Chelle J. Huth from the floor. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Member of the Churchwide Assembly – lay male at large:** Bruce E. Seagrism and Chandler R. Carriker, associate in ministry. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Member of the Churchwide Assembly – youth at large:** Alexis K. Witt and Rebekah A. Thomas. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Member of the Churchwide Assembly – young adult at large:** David P. Kingsborough and Taylor J. Trout. This ticket was closed.

Judy Collins moved Recommendations 3 (SC10.04.29.a.) and 4 (SC10.04.29.b.) from Synod Council.

**ADOPTED:** SA10.06.03. That the 2010 Synod Assembly elect en masse the following conference nominees as voting members of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly: Peter W. Fotheringham, Chambersburg Conference; Pastor Stephen R. Herr, Gettysburg Conference; Carlotta C. Strevig, Hanover Conference; Timothy D. Ainsley, Harrisburg Conference; Pastor Craig A. Ross, Lancaster Conference; James M. Cox, North Lancaster Conference; Pastor Barbara A. Barry, North York Conference; Susan O'Shell, Perry Conference; Randall P. Witt, South York Conference; Pastor Beth D. George, Upper Dauphin Conference; Sister Davia A. Baldauf, West Cumberland Conference; Douglas A. Bonsall, West Shore Conference; and Pastor Robert L. Hoover, Jr., York Conference.

**ADOPTED:** SA10.06.04. That the 2010 Synod Assembly elect en masse the following conference nominees as alternate voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly: Donald R. Swart, Chambersburg Conference; Pastor Robert C. Blezard, Gettysburg Conference; Martha M. Rutledge, Hanover Conference; Wayne Noss, Harrisburg Conference; Pastor David L. Hefner, Lancaster Conference; Daniel Hornberger, North Lancaster Conference; Pastor John M. Woods, North York Conference; Debra K. Benner, Perry Conference; James Eveler, South York Conference; Pastor Kathleen A. Kuehl, Upper Dauphin Conference; Elaine B. Hock, West Cumberland Conference; John Frymire, West Shore Conference; and Pastor Stanley D. Reep, York Conference.

The bishop thanked by name Judy Collins and the members of the Nominating Committee for their work. He asked them to stand to be recognized. The assembly responded with applause.

Bishop Hoover introduced the first ministry highlight, a DVD produced by Tree of Life Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, the Rev. Richard B. Geib and the Rev. Catherine Senft Geib, pastors. Tree of Life was our last mission congregation to be organized.

Bishop Hoover thanked the members and pastors of Tree of Life for its ministry locally and in Guatemala. He urged the members of the assembly to take this story back to their congregations.

#### **Keynote Address**

Bishop Hoover introduced the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and president of the Lutheran World Federation, the keynote speaker. Before being elected presiding bishop of the ELCA in 2001, he served as bishop of the St. Paul Area Synod and as pastor of three Minnesota congregations, Prince of Glory in Minneapolis, Edina Community Lutheran Church in Edina, and University Lutheran Church of Hope in Minneapolis. Born in 1946 in Minneapolis, he was graduated from Augsburg College with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and from the Union Theological Seminary with a master of divinity degree. He is the author of two books, Faithful Yet Changing, the Church in Challenging Times and Faithful and Courageous, Christians in Unsettling Times. He is married to Ione, who accompanied him to this assembly; they are the parents of six children and the grandparents of four. Bishop Hanson's keynote address was entitled, "***God's work. Our hands.***"

Bishop Hanson thanked the members of the Lower Susquehanna Synod for their leadership in this church and for their hospitality to Ione and to him since their arrival yesterday. He announced that his theme is the tag line for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and asked that it be displayed on the screens for all in the assembly hall to see. He led the members of the assembly in prayer. He asked, "What comes to mind when you hear the words '*God's work. Our hands*'?" He said that some believe that this tag line smacks of works righteousness. A tag line is not to replace Scripture, the Confessions, or the Constitution of this church, but it does open up conversation. It encourages us to talk about faith.

Anytime we talk about faith we begin with God's Word. Bishop Hanson began by quoting Ephesians 2:8-10. God has saved us by grace through faith. We are what he made us, created for God's work. God is at work in Jesus, making us his new creation. Everyone, everything, in Christ is a new creation, given to the work of reconciliation. We all are ambassadors for Christ. The heart of God's work is the cross of Jesus; our work is Christ's work." Our baptismal responsibility is to focus on that work: to bear witness to God's work. "Our goal is not to talk about witnessing, but to work at witnessing. To bear witness, we ourselves must be aware of God's presence and alert to God's work. We need to engage in prayer, the posture of openness to God's presence and God's work in our life and world. We need to be fluent in Scripture, the language of faith. In Baptism, we were given a new name and tied to the triune God forever; we were anointed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. We are called to know the Biblical narrative and to witness to God. To do this takes communal discernment. We are called to do God's work, not that God needs God's work, but that our neighbors need God's work. We need to witness to God's work. When we affirm our baptism life, we announce that we intend to continue "to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."

Bishop Hoover expressed his appreciation to Bishop Hanson for his keynote address, noting that he is looking forward to the two Bible study opportunities that would come later in the assembly's agenda.

#### **Report of the Synod Council**

Bishop Hoover recognized Ronald R. Price, vice president of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and a member of St. Peter Lutheran Church (Neffsville), Lancaster. Mr. Price thanked the members of the assembly for according him the privilege of serving as synod vice president. He said that it is indeed an honor and privilege to serve in this position. It is something that he and his wife Marg can do together to serve this synod, this church, and the Lord; it has been a blessing for both of them. The vice president thanked the Synod Council for their faithfulness and diligence, saying that they had come through a tumultuous period in this synod's history; he also thanked the members of all synodical committees and the synod staff for their dedicated service. Finally he thanked synod parliamentarian, Jered Hock, for his guidance during the deliberations of the assembly.

Vice President Price moved Recommendation 5 (SC10.04.32.) on behalf of the Synod Council.

That the 2011 proposed budget in the amount of \$3,503,000 be adopted.

The vice president noted that this was a realistic budget. Some have expressed their conviction that the Synod Council should have proposed a budget that challenged congregations to give more. However, while confessing that this synod must work on increasing mission support, he urged the adoption of this budget that he believes can be reached through mission support given by our congregations.

Pastor Benjamin Leese, Holy Trinity, East Berlin, asked if the St. Barnabas Center for Ministry was being funded by another funding stream. Secretary McKee answered that it was being supported in the amount of \$6000 from the St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, fund. It has been the plan of this synod that support from this synod be decreased as support from congregations, individuals, and other entities increase.

Recommendation 5 was before the assembly.

**ADOPTED: That the 2011 proposed budget in the amount of \$3,503,000 be adopted.**  
**SA10.06.05.**

(Insert the 2011 budget, pages 121)

Vice President Price moved Recommendation 6 (SC10.04.30.) on behalf of the Synod Council.

**ADOPTED:** That the following amendments to the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions be recommended to the Synod Assembly for adoption.

~~S11.01.02.~~ **S11.05.01.** *The Audit Committee shall consist of five members, at least two of whom should ~~may~~ be certified public accountants if possible and all of whom shall have accounting or related financial management experience. In order to maintain its independence, no officer of this synod, ~~member of Synod Council, member of the Finance and Budget Committee,~~ or synod staff member shall serve on this committee. The Synod Treasurer shall be a consultant to this committee, and the committee may invite others as necessary to provide information necessary for the conduct of its work. The primary purpose of this committee is to assist the Synod Council in fulfilling its general oversight of this synod's accounting and financial reporting, internal control, and audit functions. The committee's authority, responsibilities, and duties are further described in its charter as adopted by Synod Council.*

**S10.01.01.** *The Synod Council, in addition to the four officers, shall consist of fifteen (15) adult members, one (1) youth member, and (1) one young adult member. Said membership shall conform to the standards of representation of the ELCA. Therefore, there shall be six (6) clergy members, nine (9) lay members, one (1) youth member, and one (1) young adult member. All members shall be elected as members-at-large.*

**S10.01.04.** *Young adult member, 18 – 30 years old: Each young adult member elected to the Synod Council shall serve a three year term. Each young adult member shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms.*

~~S6.03.r.E06~~ to become **S6.03.r.F10.**

1) Panel #1 shall be composed of one voting member and one alternate voting member from each conference, selected in accordance with the following plan:

(Chart of Conferences)

2) Panel #2 shall be composed of youth nominees-at-large. The nominees shall be voting members of their congregation not ~~more than~~ yet age 23 18 at the time of their election. The number and composition of this panel shall be determined by the Nominating Committee.

3) Panel #3 shall be composed of young adult nominees-at-large. They shall be voting members of their congregation between the ages of 18 and 30 years at the time of the election. The number and composition of this panel shall be determined by the Nominating Committee.

4) Panel #4 shall be composed of nominees-at-large in sufficient number to meet the current assigned number of voting members determined by the ELCA.

5) Nominations from the floor of the Synod Assembly may be made to panels #2, ~~and~~ #3 and #4.

**S7.26.** This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of mission settings formed with the intent of becoming ~~chartered~~ recognized congregations and authorized worshipping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.02.03., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21- ~~Authorized worshipping communities, acknowledged under criteria, policies, and procedures approved by the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.~~

**S13.40. Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities**

**S13.41.** Authorized worshiping communities, acknowledged under criteria, policies, and procedures approved by the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.

**S8.42.** The treasurer shall provide and be accountable for:

f. ~~Giving of corporate surety in the amount determined by the Synod Council, which shall be in the custody of the secretary, and the premium therefore shall be paid by this synod. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.~~

Obtaining a fidelity bond in the amount determined by the Synod Council for persons handling synod funds, which bond shall be in the custody of the secretary. The premium for the bond shall be paid by this synod. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.

The vice president moved Recommendation 7 (**SC10.04.34.**) on behalf of the Synod Council:

**ADOPTED:** That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt the minimum base salary and housing allowance for 2011 for a pastor serving full time according to the following table and year of ordination.

BASE SALARY AND HOUSING ALLOWANCE  
SHOULD EXCEED THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS IN 2011

Year Ordained	Minimum Base Salary And Housing Allowance Combined (No Parsonage)			Minimum Base Salary Only (Parsonage Provided)
	Not Less Than			Not Less Than
2011	44,840	-	53,830	31,350
2010	45,290	-	54,370	31,660
2009	45,730	-	54,890	31,980
2008	45,910	-	54,990	32,300
2007	46,560	-	55,640	32,950
2006	47,230	-	56,300	33,600
2005	47,890	-	56,970	34,280
2004	48,110	-	57,100	34,620
2003	48,800	-	57,790	35,320
2002	49,160	-	58,150	35,670
2001	49,520	-	58,500	36,030
2000	49,870	-	58,860	36,390
1999	50,240	-	59,230	36,750
1998	50,610	-	59,590	37,120
1997	50,970	-	59,960	37,490
1996	51,350	-	60,340	37,860
1995	51,730	-	60,720	38,240
1994	52,110	-	61,090	38,620
1993	52,490	-	61,480	39,010

1992	52,880	-	61,870	39,400
1991	53,280	-	62,270	39,790
1990	53,680	-	62,660	40,190
1989	54,080	-	63,060	40,590
1988	54,480	-	63,470	41,000
1987	54,890	-	63,880	41,410
1986	55,310	-	64,300	41,820
1985	55,730	-	64,710	42,240
1984	56,150	-	65,130	42,660
1983	56,570	-	65,560	43,090
1982	57,000	-	65,990	43,520
1981	57,440	-	66,430	43,960
1980	57,880	-	66,870	44,400
1979	58,330	-	67,320	44,840
1978	58,780	-	67,760	45,290
1977	59,230	-	68,220	45,740

Mr. Price moved Recommendation 8 (SC10.04.35.) on behalf of the Synod Council.

**ADOPTED:** That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt the minimum salary for SA10.06.08. 2011 for deaconesses, diaconal ministers, associates in ministry who serve full time according to the following table and years of experience.

**MINIMUM SALARY SHOULD EXCEED THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS  
IN 2011 DEPENDING ON POSITION DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Years Experience	RANGE	
0 - 4	32,510	40,640
5 - 9	35,420	44,270
10 - 14	38,960	48,700
15 +	40,910	51,140

Bishop Hanson began by saying that he is often asked, “What is the state of the ELCA?” To answer that question, he would need to speak with the 4.4 million baptized members of this church. He would ask them, “So how is it with you in your walk of faith?” “How is it with your soul?” And, to congregations, he would ask, “How is the Holy Spirit alive and at work in your congregation?” He cited a prevailing virus, nostalgia. There is a difference between memory and nostalgia. Memory is a living faith passed on from one generation to another that helps to provide orientation for the future. Nostalgia is longing for a past that never existed. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is twenty-two years old. It has been richly blessed by the heritage of its predecessor church bodies. It is moving into a critical period as it reaches its young adulthood. Bishop Hanson cited Mark 8. It speaks to us as we enter a time of discernment about our identity, our mission, our discipleship. The ELCA’s brand mark is a cross implanted in the world.

Bishop Hanson cited a conversation he had on a plane recently. The person beside him asked him, "Do you believe in Jesus?" Bishop Hanson confessed, "I absolutely believe." He began to talk to this traveler about the cross. It is through the cross of Christ that we are named, claimed, gathered, and sent. If God knows our name, God will certainly be tracking us down, calling us to be his disciples. The freedom he grants us as Christians is freedom from the bonds of sins so that we are bound to be free. Our mission is to identify ourselves in our relatedness to Christ, through whom we are sisters and brothers with each other. We do not have life by our own words and deeds; we live only through the grace of God. We tend to the unity we have, taking time for those with whom we disagree for extended conversations. We cannot use our hands to pull apart God's work of unity. The church is not ours to dismember. When people in a congregation leave, how will we speak with one another; how will we work together? We are called to plant the church, not uproot it. Since last assembly, we have planted 41 new mission starts, 23 in multicultural or immigrant communities. Fifteen sites are ready for church planting. Evangelical means for us not only planting new congregations, but also replanting, revitalizing congregations. Every synod staff has a Director for Evangelical Mission like Pastor David Fisher in the Lower Susquehanna Synod. We are called to listen to God and also to listen to the voices of God's people with God-given gifts in our communities and congregations. We love God and we love God's people. We all are in a mission field. We must develop a greater capacity to serve, a greater capacity to be engaged in mission. Bishop Hanson asked each member of the assembly to place his or her hand on the head of another, and he led the assembly in prayer, asking that each be anointed with the Holy Spirit and empowered for ministry, for mission, and for service.

The assembly responded to Bishop Hanson's report with thunderous applause. Bishop Hoover thanked Bishop Hanson for his report and announced that Bishop Hanson will be back for two Bible study sessions and that he will conduct a question and answer forum tonight at 7:00 p.m. in the Hitchcock Arena.

Bishop Hoover introduced the second ministry highlight, a DVD produced by St. John (Barner's) Lutheran Church, Liverpool, the Rev. Peter Kuebler, pastor.

Bishop Hoover thanked the members and pastor of St. John (Barner's) for their work locally and globally. He invited the members of the assembly to support their annual apple butter boil and challenged them to retell this story when they return home after the assembly.

### **First Ballot**

The Rev. Christina H. Minnich, pastor of St. Paul (York Street), Hanover, and chair of the Election Committee, instructed the voting members of the assembly about how to mark their ballots so that the scanners would work to count the votes. Bishop Hoover led the assembly in prayer before the balloting process was begun. After all voting members had opportunity to mark their ballots, the bishop declared the first ballot to be closed.

Bishop Hoover introduced the Rev. Rochelle Lewis, Memorial Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, and assembly chaplain. Pastor Lewis led the assembly in the singing of a hymn, "We All Are One in Mission;" in a reading of Romans 14:13, 14, 16-19, 22; and in prayer. Pastor Robert Wegehoft, St. Peter (Neffsville), Lancaster, was pianist.

The Rev. Thomas McKee, secretary of synod, presented the officers of the Lutheran Youth Organization for installation: president, Lori Noble, Christ, Elizabethtown; Synod Council liaison, Kirsten Youse, Grace, Camp Hill; director of communication and social networking, Seth Miller (in absentia), Paradise, Thomasville; and director of service and outreach, Brian Zagoric, St. Peter, Mechanicsburg. Bishop Hoover installed them into office. The assembly showed its support of these newly-installed officers with their prayers and their applause.

Secretary McKee provided information to the members of the assembly through a series of announcements.

The assembly was in recess until 1:30 p.m. The assembly members enjoyed lunch in the Lottie B. Nelson Dining Room. Bishop Hoover entertained rostered leaders celebrating their fiftieth anniversary of ordination, rostered leaders who have retired this year, and newly-ordained or consecrated rostered leaders in the private dining room.

## **SECOND ASSEMBLY MEETING**

### **Friday afternoon, June 11, 2010**

The second assembly meeting of the twenty-third annual assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA, met in Hitchcock Arena of the Sollenberger Sports Center of Messiah College, Grantham, PA. Bishop Hoover called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 11, 2010. Assembly chaplain, Pastor Rochelle Lewis, led the assembly in the hymn, "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service." She read Romans 15:1-13 and led the assembly in prayer. Pastor Robert Wegehof served as pianist for the singing of the hymn.

#### **Registration Update**

The Rev. Thomas McKee, secretary of synod, announced that there were 254 ordained voting members and 349 lay voting members, giving a total of 603 voting members registered for the assembly as of 11:30 a.m. on Friday. There were also 77 visitors, bringing the total attendance to 680.

The bishop called upon Randy Ness, Director of Volunteer and Church Relations of Messiah College, to bring greetings on behalf of Dr. Kim S. Phipps, college president, and the Messiah College family. Mr. Ness provided information about the construction of a new fine arts center. He also informed the assembly that Messiah College was now offering a graduate program and that once again Messiah College had champion soccer teams, both men's and women's. He compared the Messiah family to a stained glass window, with many colors held together by a lead frame, which he likened to the structure of the college. He pondered what color were the Lutherans in this stained glass window. He invited the assembly to supply more Lutheran students to add to the beauty of the stained glass. The assembly responded with applause.

Bishop Hoover introduced Ione Hanson, "the lady of the prairies," to the assembly. The assembly greeted her with applause.

#### **Honoring our Rostered Leaders**

Secretary McKee presented to Bishop Hoover and the assembly the rostered leaders who were ordained or consecrated since the last assembly. Those presented were: the Rev. Barbara A. Barry, pastor of Quickel Lutheran Church (Zion's View), York, ordained June 12, 2009; the Rev. Shawn M. Berkebile, pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Abbottstown, ordained August 7, 2009; the Rev. Jeffrey H. Goodman, pastor of Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata, ordained October 16, 2009; the Rev. Traci E. B. Glover, pastor of Mt. Eden Lutheran Church, Quarryville, ordained April 16, 2010; the Rev. Deborah A. Mahady, pastor of Christ (Filey's) Lutheran Church, Dillsburg, ordained April 16, 2010; Emily R. Myallis, diaconal minister, Palmyra Direct Care Staff, Avenues Eldercare Program, consecrated August 30, 2009; and Ellen D. Doughty, diaconal minister, chaplain at Pinnacle Health Care Systems, Harrisburg, consecrated June 10, 2010. The assembly greeted them with applause.

Secretary McKee presented to Bishop Hoover and the assembly the rostered leaders who have transferred into our synod since the last assembly. Those presented were: the Rev. Dennis E. Beaver, pastor of

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro, who transferred from the Upper Susquehanna Synod; the Rev. Andrew J. Evenson, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Lebanon, who transferred from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod; the Rev. Constance L. Mentzer, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Millersville, who transferred from the Northeast Ohio Synod; the Rev. Doris Nolan, chaplain at Luthercare, who transferred from the Rocky Mountain Synod; the Rev. Karina Ramins, pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Mercersburg, who transferred from the New Jersey Synod; the Rev. Amy E. Reumann, Executive Director of LAMPa, who transferred from the Greater Milwaukee Synod; the Rev. George M. Schneider, pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, New Freedom, who transferred from the North Carolina Synod; the Rev. Peter Schwabe-Fry, pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Lancaster, who transferred from the Sierra Pacific Synod; and the Rev. George H. Yoder, retired, who transferred from the New Jersey Synod. The assembly welcomed them with applause.

Secretary McKee presented the following rostered leaders who have retired since the last assembly: the Rev. Sarah A. Heintzelman, who retired August 1, 2009; the Rev. D. Evan Houck, in absentia, who retired October 1, 2009; Barbara Schmitthenner, diaconal minister, in absentia, who retired January 1, 2010; the Rev. Robert R. Wegehof, who retired January 1, 2010; the Rev. J. Stewart Hardy, who retired February 1, 2010; the Rev. Richard Niewoehner, in absentia, who retired May 1, 2010; the Rev. Robert N. Maddox Jr., in absentia, who retired June 1, 2010; the Rev. Julia A. Hart, who will retire July 1, 2010; and the Rev. Melvin E. Dick, who will retire July 1, 2010. Bishop Hoover presented each of them with a certificate of retirement. The assembly responded with applause.

Pastor McKee also introduced Barbara A. Myers, who retired as this synod's Director of Communication on February 28, 2010, after 27 years of service. Bishop Hoover presented Mrs. Myers with a weaving by the Family Heirloom Weavers in appreciation for her years of service to this synod. The members of the assembly expressed their appreciation with applause.

Secretary McKee presented to Bishop Hoover and the assembly the following pastors who are celebrating their fiftieth anniversary of ordination this year: the Rev. Jay M. Bohn, the Rev. Gerald Christianson, the Rev. Alvin C. Ellerbusch, the Rev. David T. Hinkley, the Rev. Dwight A. Huseman, the Rev. S. Alan Ruby, and the Rev. Ronald G. VanBlargan, in absentia. Bishop Hoover presented each of them with a certificate and an "ordained fifty years" pin. The assembly responded with a standing ovation.

Secretary McKee announced that the Rev. William C. Karns celebrated his seventy-fifth anniversary of ordination this year. His pastor, the Rev. James Dunlop, pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Littlestown, was introduced to bring greetings to the assembly on behalf of Pastor Karns. Bishop Hoover presented Pastor Dunlop with a seventy-five year certificate to give to Pastor Karns.

(Insert ordained fifty and seventy-five years)

Bishop Hoover called upon the Rev. Dione M. Klepetka, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, Shrewsbury, to introduce our next ministry highlight. Pastor Klepetka told about her congregation's and four others' support of this ministry, which provided a sheltered house for abandoned children. She introduced to the assembly Biliانا Berimetchkova, who told about the plight of young children in Bulgaria, a former Communist country in Eastern Europe that now has freedom. There are over 8,000 children who are starving and neglected, who can't speak because no one has ever spoken to them. She introduced a ministry called Karina that is reversing the neglect by providing community-based support through small group homes. She spoke about the hope that Karina is bringing to these children. She introduced the BBC Documentary entitled, "The Children of Bulgaria." Following the showing of the documentary, Bishop Hoover led the assembly in prayer. He thanked Pastor Klepetka and Biliانا Berimetchkova for telling about the ministry they are supporting in Bulgaria.

### **Bible Study**

Bishop Hoover called upon Bishop Mark Hanson, keynote speaker and Bible study leader, to present the first of two Bible studies. Bishop Hanson read John 20:19-23 to the assembly. The fear that the disciples experienced, which Scripture tells us was “fear of the Jews,” was really fear that someone may identify them as followers of Jesus. However, Jesus came and stood among them. God’s work is to show up unexpectedly. John’s Gospel begins by God showing up in the incarnation. Jesus loved his disciples to the end. After his Resurrection he stood among them. Perhaps the disciples were feeling at that point that there was not much joy in ministry. Bernard of Clairvaux cited fidelity but not enjoyment. We are downhearted because of declining membership and resources and troubled by the downsizing. But Jesus stood among them and said, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And he breathed on them and said receive the Holy Spirit, the church’s oxygen supply. St. Paul points to the sufferings that we will have, but reminds us that hope will not disappoint us. Bishop Hanson told the assembly that ELCA means for some “Expectations Low, Climbing Anxiety.” It is not up to us to fill the church with God’s spirit. We can say the prayer that Pope John XXIII said at night, “Lord it is your church, not mine. I’m tired. Good night.” Bishop Hanson asked the assembly to discuss, “Where did you see God’s Spirit being poured out?” As Jesus promised the Holy Spirit, he further promised, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Our Lord says to us today, “I am sending you into the world with the Holy Spirit and with your sisters and brothers.” Gerhard Ferde said, “let us be radicals, radical preachers who practice newness without too much timidity and too much worry.”

Bishop Hoover thanked Bishop Hanson for this Bible study session and told him that the members of the assembly were looking forward to his final Bible study session tomorrow. The assembly voiced their appreciation with applause.

The Rev. David R. Fisher, assistant to the bishop for evangelical outreach, asked for a point of personal privilege. He reminded the voting members of their call and job description. They are seeing and hearing all kind of mission stories, stories of what God is doing through his people the church. They are inspiring stories. Tell them to others. He asked them to consider themselves “mission story tellers.” The assembly responded with applause.

Bishop Hoover announced to the assembly that the amount of money collected through the World Hunger Committee’s Coins for Haiti was \$2,249.65. The assembly responded with applause.

### **Committee on Memorials**

Bishop Hoover called upon the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel, pastor of St. Peter Lutheran Church, York, dean of the York Conference, and chair of the Committee on Memorials to give the report of the Committee on Memorials.

Pastor Schlegel moved the following memorial:

### **MEMORIAL TO RESCIND AND AMEND ACTIONS ON MINISTRY POLICIES**

**WHEREAS**, the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted resolutions on ministry policies that included a commitment to “finding ways for people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church” [CA09.05.26] and a process of “structured flexibility” that would eliminate the prohibition on rostered service by individuals in such relationships while not imposing such service on any expression of this church [CA09.05.27]; and

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with and in order to implement the actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly, the ELCA Church Council has amended the policy on reinstatement to the roster and “Visions

and Expectations,” “Definition and Guidelines for Discipline,” the “Candidacy Manual,” and other documents; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America seek the rescission of the actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly on ministry policies and of the actions adopted by the Church Council to implement them and desire the restoration of ministry policies that authorize sexual intimacy for rostered persons only in the context of heterosexual marriage; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as follows:

1. to rescind actions CA09.05.26 and CA09.05.27 of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly; and
2. to direct the appropriate churchwide units and offices to prepare, the Committee on Appeals to make, and the ELCA Church Council to approve and adopt, appropriate amendments to the policy documents, which were revised in response to those prior actions, in order to re-establish the prohibition of rostered service by homosexual persons in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and to restore the requirement for rostered persons that sexual intimacy take place only in the context of heterosexual marriage.

Adopted by Committee on Memorials by a 6-0 vote  
May 5, 2010  
Luther Room of the synod suite

The Committee adopted this memorial as an alternate to the memorial submitted by the Lebanon Conference, entitled, “Memorial to the Lower Susquehanna Synod Concerning the Division Within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Over the 2009 Churchwide Assembly’s Decision to Approve the Rostering of Homosexual Persons,” because the original memorial violates Robert’s Rules of Order by going beyond clear facts, using discourteous and argumentative language and using language that reflects on the church’s conduct and character. The committee did receive counsel from the ELCA Secretary’s Office that indicates that the original memorial would be ruled out of order at the Churchwide Assembly if adopted by the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly. Nonetheless, the Committee wanted to honor what it believes to be the intent of the Lebanon Conference on a matter worthy of the assembly’s consideration. This motion is presented without recommendation by the Committee on Memorials.

The Rev. John B. Ferra Jr., asked why the original memorial was out of order.

Pastor Schlegel answered that it was the discourteous and argumentative language and the condemnation of the action of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly that made this memorial out of order.

Pastor Ferra appealed to Bishop Hoover, saying, “Is the original memorial out of order?”

Bishop Hoover responded, “Yes.”

The Rev. James DeLong spoke in favor of the motion. “Enough is enough. We’ve gone too far. We must ask the church to rescind its actions.”

The Rev. Jonathan L. Jenkins, Holy Trinity, Lebanon, said that while not the author of the original memorial, he believes it to be Biblical and not argumentative. The intent of the first memorial is to make this church aware that it is spiritually in danger.

The Rev. Lawrence E. Hawkins, St. Michael, Harrisburg, spoke against the memorial, saying that he was weary talking about this. He is ready to move on – to proclaim the Gospel and to do God’s work. He urged the defeat of this memorial.

The Rev. Daniel V. Biles III, St. Paul, Spring Grove, spoke in favor of the memorial. “Only a third of one percent of the Holy Catholic Church are in agreement with our decision while over 99% disagree including the Roman Catholic, the Orthodox, and the Pentecostal Churches. It was an act of ecclesiastical hubris to adopt these changes. Out of respect for the Holy Catholic Church, we must say that we made a mistake.”

Seeing no one near a microphone, the Bishop asked whether the assembly was ready to vote.

**LOST:**

**SA10.06.09.**

**190 Yes**

**311 No**

**MEMORIAL TO RESCIND AND AMEND ACTIONS ON MINISTRY POLICIES**

**WHEREAS**, the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted resolutions on ministry policies that included a commitment to “finding ways for people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church” [CA09.05.26] and a process of “structured flexibility” that would eliminate the prohibition on rostered service by individuals in such relationships while not imposing such service on any expression of this church [CA09.05.27]; and

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with and in order to implement the actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly, the ELCA Church Council has amended the policy on reinstatement to the roster and “Visions and Expectations,” “Definition and Guidelines for Discipline,” the “Candidacy Manual,” and other documents; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America seek the rescission of the actions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly on ministry policies and of the actions adopted by the Church Council to implement them and desire the restoration of ministry policies that authorize sexual intimacy for rostered persons only in the context of heterosexual marriage; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as follows:

1. to rescind actions CA09.05.26 and CA09.05.27 of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly; and
2. to direct the appropriate churchwide units and offices to prepare, the Committee on Appeals to make, and the ELCA Church Council to approve and adopt, appropriate amendments to the policy documents, which were revised in response to those prior actions, in order to re-establish the prohibition of rostered service by homosexual persons in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and to restore

the requirement for rostered persons that sexual intimacy take place only in the context of heterosexual marriage.

A division of the house was called. The count was 190 yes; 311 no.

This concluded the report of the Committee on Memorials. Bishop Hoover thanked Pastor Schlegel and the members of the Committee on Memorials for their fine work in handling this memorial.

### **Report of the First Ballot, Second Ballot**

The Rev. Christina H. Minnich, chair of the Committee on Elections, gave the report of the first ballot.

#### **Synod Council - clergy**

Ballots cast – 582

Valid ballots – 582

Invalid ballots – 0

Needed to elect – 292

**The Rev. Kurt S. Strause - 341**

The Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker - 275

**The Rev. Elizabeth C. Polanzke -292**

The Rev. Eric N. Anderson - 216

The bishop declared the Rev. Kurt S. Strause and the Rev. Elizabeth C. Polanzke elected as members of the Synod Council in the category of clergy. This ticket was closed.

#### **Synod Council – lay female**

Ballots cast – 575

Valid ballots – 575

Invalid ballots – 0

Needed to elect – 288

**Holly Freas-Webster - 384**

Janet M. Fitch - 244

**Chelle J. Huth, AiM - 299**

Janet E. Stein - 179

Bishop Hoover declared Holly Freas-Webster and Chelle J. Huth, AiM, elected as members of the Synod Council in the category of lay female. This ticket was closed.

#### **Synod Council – lay male**

Ballots cast – 565

Valid ballots – 565

Invalid ballots – 0

Needed to elect – 283

**Robert H. Getz, Jr. - 363**

Christopher E. Kann - 202

The bishop declared Robert H. Getz, Jr., elected as a member of Synod Council in the category of lay male. This ticket was closed.

#### **Synod Council – young adult**

Ballots cast – 557

Valid ballots – 557

Invalid ballots – 0

Needed to elect – 279

**Molly E. Crouser - 296**

Chelsea E. Miller - 261

The bishop declared Molly E. Crouser elected as a member of the Synod Council in the category of young adult. This ticket was closed.

**Gettysburg Seminary Board of Directors – lay male**

Ballots cast – 573  
Valid ballots – 572  
Invalid ballots – 1  
Needed to elect – 287

**Joseph A. Ricci - 291**

Frank J. Leber - 281

Bishop Hoover declared Joseph A. Ricci elected to the Gettysburg Seminary Board of Directors in the category of lay male. This ticket was closed.

**Susquehanna University Board of Trustees**

Ballots cast – 558  
Valid ballots – 558  
Invalid ballots – 0  
Needed to elect – 280

**The Rev. Shawn M. Berkebile - 362**

Joseph C. Michetti Jr. - 196

Bishop Hoover declared the Rev. Shawn M. Berkebile elected as a member of the Board of Trustees of Susquehanna University. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Members of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – clergy at large**

Ballots cast – 584  
Valid ballots – 584  
Invalid ballots – 0  
Needed to elect – 293

**The Rev. Mark S. Kopp - 353**

The Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker - 244

**The Rev. Beth A. Schlegel - 323**

The Rev. Janice (Jan) L. Mills - 241

**The Rev. Virginia J. Cover - 306**

The Rev. Patricia A. Snyder - 224

The Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas - 247

The Rev. Stephen E. Thomas - 223

Bishop Hoover declared that the Rev. Mark S. Kopp, the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel, and the Rev. Virginia J. Cover were elected as voting members of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of clergy at large. This next ballot will contain the names of the Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas and the Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker.

**Voting Members of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – lay female at large**

Ballots cast – 577  
Valid ballots – 576  
Invalid ballots – 1  
Needed to elect – 289

**S. Christine Mummert - 332**  
Nancy J. Martin - 249  
Chelle J. Huth, AiM - 190

Bonnie L. Balmer - 188  
Angela D. Kann - 134

Bishop Hoover declared that S. Christine Mummert was elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of lay female at large. The next ballot will contain the names of Nancy J. Martin and Chelle J. Huth, AiM.

**Voting Member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – lay male at large**

Ballots cast – 570  
Valid ballots – 569  
Invalid ballots – 1  
Needed to elect – 285

**Bruce E. Seagrism - 325**

Chandler R. Carriker, AiM - 244

Bishop Hoover declared Bruce E. Seagrism elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of lay male at large. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – female youth at large**

Ballots cast – 565  
Valid ballots – 565  
Invalid ballots – 0  
Needed to elect – 283

**Alexis K. Witt - 327**

Rebekah A. Thomas - 238

Bishop Hoover declared Alexis K. Witt elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of female youth at large. This ticket was closed.

**Voting Member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – young adult male at large**

Ballots cast – 572  
Valid ballots – 572  
Invalid ballots – 0  
Needed to elect – 287

**David P. Kingsborough - 380**

Taylor J. Trout - 192

Bishop Hoover declared David P. Kingsborough elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of young adult male at large. This ticket was closed.

Pastor Minnich gave instructions to the voting members about casting the next ballot. Bishop Hoover led the assembly in prayer. The second ballot was cast, and the balloting was closed.

The bishop introduced the next ministry highlight, a DVD produced by St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Cumberland in honor of its one-hundredth anniversary.

Bishop Hoover thanked Pastor Dent and the members of St. Paul, New Cumberland for this report of their ministry as they celebrate one hundred years. The bishop challenged all the voting members to share this story when they go home.

**Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel**

Bishop Hoover called upon Lucinda L. Bringman, a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, and of the Synod Council and the chair of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, to present the report of this committee.

Ms. Bringman presented Resolution #1 to the assembly without recommendation.

**RESOLUTION TO  
THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
SYNOD MINIMUM SALARIES  
FROM THE SOUTH YORK CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Lower Susquehanna Synod in Assembly has approved synod minimum salaries for rostered leaders of this synod: and

**WHEREAS**, there are congregations in transition that need experienced pastoral leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, the pastors with the greatest years of ordination receive the highest compensation per synod minimum salaries; and

**WHEREAS**, difficult situations, that require experienced pastoral leadership to resolve, often leave a congregation in poor financial health and unable to afford such leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, congregations seeking a pastor are required to place a salary range in their congregational profiles; and

**WHEREAS**, the synodical practice is that these synod minimum salaries are in fact mandatory base salary minimums for a new call; and

**WHEREAS**, this practice prevents the synodical bishop from submitting to congregations the Rostered Leader Profiles of candidates whose synod minimum salaries place them above the salary range given in their congregational profiles; and

**WHEREAS**, this practice discourages a pastor from requesting to be placed at a salary lower than the synod minimum salaries; and

**WHEREAS**, this severely limits the ability of the synodical bishop to find the best match of candidate and congregation; and

**WHEREAS**, this is preventing some pastors in this synod from interviewing with some congregations; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Lower Susquehanna Synod, meeting in assembly, recognizing the necessity and purpose of synod minimum salaries, encourages the Lower Susquehanna Synod bishop to consider attesting calls below synod minimum salaries in cases when the pastoral candidate is found to be above the salary range in a congregation's profile.

Adopted by the South York Conference  
April 20, 2010

Edited by the Committee of Reference and Counsel  
May 12, 2010

Grace Lutheran Church, Red Lion

The Rev. Elizabeth C. Polanzke, pastor of Luther Memorial, York, moved:

That the resolution be amended by the addition of a final resolve clause at the end of the resolution: **Be it further resolved** that the congregation seeking to call such a candidate will have a specific, attainable, measurable, and time-specific mission plan for the intentional growth of the congregation developed with the assistance of a strategic planner approved by the Lower Susquehanna bishop, so that the congregation can demonstrate their intent to grow the congregation and ultimately be capable of meeting synod minimum guidelines.

The Rev. Craig A. Lantz, a member of Christ, Shrewsbury, stated that he has concerns about the word, “attainable.” These congregations to which he, the author of this resolution, is referring are often in transition and decline. How could they possibly say that they have a plan to attain this goal?

The motion to amend was before the assembly:

**LOST:** That the resolution be amended by the addition of a final resolve clause at the end of the resolution: **Be it further resolved** that the congregation seeking to call such a candidate will have a specific, attainable, measurable, and time-specific mission plan for the intentional growth of the congregation developed with the assistance of a strategic planner approved by the Lower Susquehanna bishop, so that the congregation can demonstrate their intent to grow the congregation and ultimately be capable of meeting synod minimum guidelines.

The Rev. Michael T. Petresky, pastor of the Halifax Parish, asked if it was the synod’s practice not to attest the calls of those who receive less than synod minimum salaries at the time of call.

The Rev. Paula L. Murray, pastor of St. Jacob, Glenville, and a member of Synod Council, responded that it has been her experience that this is the synod’s practice. We would be doing a disservice in some congregations if we did not follow that practice and give guidance to the congregations that rostered leaders should be paid according to a certain scale.

Pastor Petresky stated that he believes the important word in the resolve clause is “encourages.” This resolution “encourages the Lower Susquehanna Synod bishop to consider attesting calls below synod minimum salaries in cases when the pastoral candidate is found to be above the salary range in a congregation’s profile.”

David Brady, a member of Trinity, York, questioned what was meant by attesting the call.

The Rev. Stephen R. Herr, pastor of Christ, Gettysburg, and a member of the Reference and Council Committee, explained that the synod bishop attests all calls. This resolution is really not a mandate to attest calls that do not meet minimum salary guidelines, but it gives the synod bishop encouragement to do so under certain conditions.

The Rev. Kenneth Jetto, pastor of Salem (Kissel Hill), Lititz, said that the bishop must render some kind of judgment about whether or not the members of these congregations are not just slothful in their giving. The Rev. Daniel V. Biles III, pastor of St. Paul, Spring Grove, spoke in favor of this resolution. It recognizes some changes in the ability of our congregations to support full-time pastors. After thirty-two years in the ministry he finds himself below synod minimum for his years of experience.

The Rev. James D. Polanzke said what the synod leadership needs to do is to engage congregations in a discussion of other options: merger, consolidation, closing, sharing ministry.

The Rev. Steven E. Thomas, pastor of St. Bartholomew United (ELCA), Hanover, moved:

To amend the resolution by the addition of the following words to the end of the resolve clause: “and the pastoral candidate desires such a call.”

Pastor Herr stated that as it originally was written it did not consider the desire of the pastoral candidate.

The amendment was before the assembly.

**ADOPTED: To amend the resolution by the addition of the following words to the end of the resolve clause: “and the pastoral candidate desires such a call.”**

The Rev. Richard L. Hair stated that he has been on both sides of the guidelines. He has left a congregation that could not meet the guidelines. Now after sixteen years of ministry, he finds that he is out priced for congregations that he believes he can serve well. Often small congregations would benefit from calling more experienced pastors who would have the gifts needed to serve these congregations.

The Rev. Paula M. Stecker, pastor of Trinity, York, stated that, when we respect all members, we grow into a more healthy body. This resolution does not say how this will happen. She does not see any accountability in this resolution and that is disturbing.

Sister Deborah A.S. McClellan, serving as a chaplain at Hospice of Hanover, moved:

**ADOPTED: To amend by changing the word, “pastors” to “rostered leaders.”**

Pastor Craig Lantz identified himself to the assembly as one of the original authors. He has been ordained thirty-two years and hears that he is now too expensive for the congregations he believes that he has the gifts to serve. He stated that he is not ready to retire. Minimum salary guidelines prevent the work of the Holy Spirit. Pastors are seeking calls for years just because they are above the salary range that congregations can afford.

The Rev. Daniel M. Long, senior pastor of Zion, East Petersburg, stated that he was against the resolution. The resolution is too partial; the situation is too complex. We must deal with the changing reality of the world. We are populated with churches which were formed when things were different; and we haven't changed. The bishop and his office have the ability to consider other options. He proposed a study to find the best way to employ pastors to congregations including having a consultation with other congregations in the conference.

The Rev. Sarah M. Keilholtz, associate pastor of St. John, Shiremanstown, spoke in favor of the resolution. In her first call, after the congregations paid her salary, they could afford nothing else. The congregations could have used more experienced leadership but they could not afford it.

Pastor Elizabeth Polanzke moved:

**ADOPTED: That this resolution be referred to Synod Council.**

**SA10.06.10.**

**267 Yes**

214 No

**REFERRED TO SYNOD COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO  
THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
SYNOD MINIMUM SALARIES  
FROM THE SOUTH YORK CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Lower Susquehanna Synod in Assembly has approved synod minimum salaries for rostered leaders of this synod: and

**WHEREAS**, there are congregations in transition that need experienced rostered leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, the rostered leaders with the greatest years of ordination, consecration, and commissioning receive the highest compensation per synod minimum salaries; and

**WHEREAS**, difficult situations, that require experienced rostered leadership to resolve, often leave a congregation in poor financial health and unable to afford such leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, congregations seeking a roster leader are required to place a salary range in their congregational profiles; and

**WHEREAS**, the synodical practice is that these synod minimum salaries are in fact mandatory base salary minimums for a new call; and

**WHEREAS**, this practice prevents the synodical bishop from submitting to congregations the Rostered Leader Profiles of candidates whose synod minimum salaries place them above the salary range given in their congregational profiles; and

**WHEREAS**, this practice discourages a rostered leader from requesting to be placed at a salary lower than the synod minimum salaries; and

**WHEREAS**, this severely limits the ability of the synodical bishop to find the best match of candidate and congregation; and

**WHEREAS**, this is preventing some rostered leaders in this synod from interviewing with some congregations; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Lower Susquehanna Synod, meeting in assembly, recognizing the necessity and purpose of synod minimum salaries, encourages the Lower Susquehanna Synod bishop to consider attesting calls below synod minimum salaries in cases when the rostered leader candidate is found to be above the salary range in a congregation's profile and rostered leader candidate desires such a call.

Ms. Bringman presented Resolution #2 to the assembly.

**RESOLUTION TO THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
THE FUNDING OF CONFERENCE MINISTRY IN THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
FROM THE LEBANON CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS**, the local congregations often have the best sense of the evangelical needs and opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, many mission starts and outreach possibilities can benefit a number of local congregations as well as often require the resources of a number of local congregations; and

**WHEREAS**, often such outreach possibilities cannot be initiated because they lack funding; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Lower Susquehanna Synod restructure its budget so that conferences each retain a portion of its congregations' mission support dollars for the purpose of outreach and mission. To achieve this end, a task force will be appointed by the bishop by August 1, 2010. This task force will create a plan that will be voted on during the 2011 Synod Assembly.

Adopted at the Lebanon Conference Meeting  
April 22, 2010  
Salem Lutheran Church, Lebanon

Edited by the Committee of Reference and Counsel  
May 12, 2010

Ms. Bringman moved on behalf of the Reference and Counsel Committee:

That Resolution #2 be referred to the Synod Council.

The Rev. Robert J. Myallis, pastor of Zion, Jonestown, urged the assembly not to refer this resolution to Synod Council. He believes in the future there must be more local initiatives. We currently have a model of supporting synodical and churchwide ministries. This is not a model that will have acceptance with our people now and in the years to come. They will be governed more by how they want to spend their money in mission. Pastor Myallis stated that he would like to see this issue debated now.

Ms. Bringman presented the following information from the Reference and Counsel Committee: This is a more complex issue than it appears on the surface. It would affect the work of the Mission Committee and perhaps the Evangelism and Outreach Committee as they propose new ministry opportunities including other cooperative ministries. It would affect how the Finance and Budget Committee does budgeting, and with decreasing mission support, it would take money from other areas of the budget funding other types of ministry. For 2011, it would mean that the Finance and Budget Committee would need to prepare two proposed budgets so that the budget finally proposed to the assembly would support the actions adopted by the 2011 Synod Assembly on the report of this task force. Some conferences may not need funding; so, depending on the recommendations of the task force, some conferences may be accumulating funds that could be used elsewhere for mission purposes. However, such funding would make it possible for conferences to develop new ministries which would meet local needs and in which conference congregations and members could be more greatly involved. Are there concrete ministries that conferences wish to develop? Because of the many issues involved, the committee recommends that this resolution be referred to Synod Council.

Pastor Myallis suggested that the assembly continue to discuss this resolution to give ideas to Synod Council.

Robert H. Getz Jr., a member of Mellinger, Stevens, and Synod Council, requested that the present level of giving be shared with the assembly.

Secretary McKee reported that, as of April 30, 2010, mission support from all congregations amounted to \$936,835, or a 2.3 decrease from the same period in 2009. However, special support receipts from our congregations are \$431,134, up 88.8%, due largely to gifts to International Disaster Response to Haiti. However, recently Synod Council authorized a spending authorization, reducing the 2010 budget to 3,500,000. The spending authorization is in line with anticipated receipts for 2010.

The recommendation of the Reference and Counsel Committee was before the assembly.

**ADOPTED: That Resolution #2 be referred to the Synod Council.  
SA10.06.11.**

**REFERRED TO SYNOD COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO  
THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
THE FUNDING OF CONFERENCE MINISTRY IN THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
FROM THE LEBANON CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS**, the local congregations often have the best sense of the evangelical needs and opportunities;  
and

**WHEREAS**, many mission starts and outreach possibilities can benefit a number of local congregations  
as well as often require the resources of a number of local congregations; and

**WHEREAS**, often such outreach possibilities cannot be initiated because they lack funding; therefore be  
it

**RESOLVED**, that the Lower Susquehanna Synod restructure its budget so that conferences each retain a  
portion of its congregations' mission support dollars for the purpose of outreach and mission. To achieve  
this end, a task force will be appointed by the bishop by August 1, 2010. This task force will create a plan  
that will be voted on during the 2011 Synod Assembly.

Ms. Bringman moved an alternate version of Resolution 3 as adopted by the Committee of Reference and  
Counsel.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, direct the Synod Council to form a  
task force to review this synod's procedures for the election of a bishop; and further be it

**RESOLVED**, the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, direct the Synod Council to bring a report  
and recommendations including any recommended synod constitutional changes to the 2011 Assembly.

Adopted by the Committee of Reference and Counsel  
May 12, 2010  
Luther Room of the synod suite

The Rev. Kurt S. Strause, pastor of Emmanuel, Lancaster, moved:

To amend the first resolve by adding at the end, "giving special attention to ways a  
nominating ballot may be completed prior to the beginning of the synod assembly in  
which the bishop is elected."

The Rev. Jeffrey H. Pretz, pastor of Trinity, New Holland, the author of the original resolution, spoke in favor of the amendment, saying there was a need for a longer period than just the days of the assembly to consider this important issue.

The amendment was before the assembly.

**ADOPTED:** To amend the first resolve by adding at the end, “giving special attention to ways a nominating ballot may be completed prior to the beginning of the synod assembly in which the bishop is elected.”

The Rev. Benjamin E. Leese, pastor of Trinity, York Springs, moved a substitute resolution:

**RESOLUTION #3 RESOLUTION TO THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF SYNOD BISHOP**

(In reflection of the past procedures for the Election of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop, these observations and solutions come to mind)

**WHEREAS**, the Church has experienced the Holy Spirit working with and through many and various ways; and

**WHEREAS**, voting members often do not know very well the nominees for Bishop and therefore cannot make an informed, prayerful choice / decision; and

**WHEREAS**, voting members never seem to have enough time to allow the Holy Spirit to work on our minds about each nominated person for Bishop; and

**WHEREAS**, even nominees for Bishop do not have time to prayerfully discern if God is calling them to this ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, nominees for Bishop do not have time to prayerfully develop a vision of how they are called to function as a Bishop, if elected; and

**WHEREAS**, the Church has always needed Bishops who will lead the Church of Jesus Christ in the midst of their complex culture; and

**WHEREAS**, some ELCA synods use different procedures of election of a Bishop than the Lower Susquehanna Synod has used in the past; and

**WHEREAS**, the election of a Bishop is coming up in 2013; and

**Therefore** the election process for Bishop needs to have a longer process than a day or less; **Be it resolved** that our election process in the Lower Susquehanna Synod for our next Bishop shall follow this procedure:

A Bishop’s Election Committee of 3 Clergy and 3 Laypersons shall be created to facilitate the election process. The Nominations Committee shall nominate 6 Clergy and 6 Laypersons as a slate for election at the 2012 Synod Assembly, one year before the Synod is to elect a Bishop.

Conference assemblies shall be called as previously established. During conference assemblies one item of business shall be the nomination of candidates to be prayerfully considered to be bishop. Each voting member at the conference assembly shall write down one name of an ELCA pastor in good standing that that member wishes to nominate for bishop. This nomination shall not be considered the first ballot of the election of a bishop. The dean of each conference will forward these names to the Bishop's Election Committee which shall contact each nominee and determine whether or not the nominee wishes to have his or her name published as someone nominated for consideration as bishop. If the person wishes to do so, the nominee shall provide to the Bishop's Election Committee a biographical sketch, a vision statement for the synod and an outline of how the nominee would serve as bishop. The Bishop's Election Committee will then publish that information (listed in alphabetical order) in the Bulletin of Reports mailed to voting members and in the nominations section of the Synod Assembly website. Such publication shall be made no later than one month before the convening of the Synod Assembly.

At the Synod Assembly all past procedures for the election of a bishop shall remain in place as outlined in the constitution (S9.04.)

This substitute motion was placed on the screen; however, because of the size of the type, it was not easily visible.

Pastor Elizabeth Polanzke rose to a point of personal privilege. She moved:

**ADOPTED: That discussion on the proposed substitute motion be postponed until the time of the report of the Reference and Counsel Committee on Saturday morning.**

Pastor McKee announced that the forums will be held at 7:00 p.m. Friday evening at the locations announced in the registration packet. The Service of Evening Prayer with the Report of the Necrologist will be held Friday evening at 8:15 in Hostetter Chapel. Saturday morning's session will begin at 8:00 in Hitchcock Arena with a Service of Holy Communion with Bishop Hanson preaching; he urged the members of the assembly to be prompt so as to enter the assembly hall before the beginning of worship. Copies of the substitute memorial may be picked up at the registration desk after 6:30 p.m.

Bishop Hoover called upon Pastor Rochelle Lewis, assembly chaplain, to lead this afternoon's hymn and prayer. The assembly sang, "My Life Flows on in Endless Song," accompanied by Pastor Robert Wegehoft. Pastor Lewis read Romans 16:25-27 and led the assembly in prayer.

The assembly plenary session was in recess until Saturday morning, June 12, 2010, at 8:00 a.m.

#### **Fora**

Fora were scheduled for Friday June 11, 2010, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The fora and their leaders were: A Report on Our Synod, Vice President Ronald Price; Biblical Conversation about Racial Justice, Church in Society Committee; Conversation with Bishop Hanson, the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the ELCA; Grace Goes to Prison: A Dialogue on Restorative Justice, Melanie G. Snyder and the Criminal Justice System Ministry of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; Is Your Congregation Prepared?, Clyde (Tim) Brown, Lower Susquehanna Lutheran Disaster Response Network; Lutheran World Federation Communion of Churches: Who We Are, the Rev. Mark Jeske, Global Mission and Ecumenical and Inter-religious Relations Committee; Ministry in Tough Economic Times, the Rev. Amy Reumann, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania; Mission and Ministry in Tanzania, the Rev. Janice (Jme) Lowden and the Rev. Robert Lowden, ELCA Regional Representatives to Tanzania and the Konde Diocese Committee; Our Hands Can Provide Relief; Norma R. Good, Volunteer Coordinator of Relief Projects; Setting a Missional Direction for Youth Ministry in the New Decade, Charlie Roberts,

Director for Youth Ministry; and What's Happening in the Fields, the Rev. David R. Fisher, assistant to the bishop for evangelical mission.

### **Service of Remembrance**

An Evening Prayer Service of Remembrance was held in Hostetter Chapel at 8:15 p.m. Remembered at this service were rostered leaders of the Lower Susquehanna Synod who died since last Synod Assembly. Remembered were the Rev. James G. Shannon, who died July 22, 2009; the Rev. Gerhard H. W. Roggenkamp, who died August 11, 2009; the Rev. Gordon E. Folkemer, who died August 12, 2009; Sister Evelyn Houlroyd, who died October 15, 2009; the Rev. R. Lindsay Ingram, Jr., who died October 17, 2009; the Rev. Lester J. Karschner, who died November 1, 2009; the Rev. Lorenz O. Nieting, who died November 30, 2009; the Rev. Lawrence R. Tropp, who died February 13, 2010; and the Rev. William Walker Miller, who died April 23, 2010.

The homilist and the necrologist was the Rev. Jeffrey C. Compton, pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Union Deposit; the liturgist was the Rev. Amy Schifrin, intentional interim senior pastor, Christ Lutheran Church, Elizabethtown; the soloist was Ms. Margaret Folkemer, Christ Lutheran Church, Gettysburg; and the organist was the Rev. Stephen P. Folkemer, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg;

### **(Insert Report of the Necrologist)**

### **THIRD ASSEMBLY MEETING Saturday morning, June 12, 2010**

The third meeting of the assembly began with the Service of Word and Sacrament at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 12, 2010, in Hitchcock Arena, with Bishop B. Penrose Hoover as presiding minister; Bishop Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as homilist; Linda L. Lubold, synod staff, Holy Trinity, Hershey, as assisting minister; the Rev. Miriam L. Nicholson, Messiah, Elliottsburg, and the Rev. Cheryl L. Hoffman, Zion, Marietta, as chaplains to the bishops; Irene Wegehof, St. Peter Lutheran (Neffsville), Lancaster, as organist; and the Rev. Robert R. Wegehof, St. Peter Lutheran Church (Neffsville), Lancaster, as pianist. Communion assistants were the Rev. Thomas E. McKee and the Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach, assistants to the bishop, and the conference secretaries. Ushers were voting members of the assembly.

Secretary McKee presented and Bishop Hoover installed the newly-elected conference secretaries: the Rev. Robert C. Blezard, Gettysburg Conference; the Rev. Carol J. Bowman, West Cumberland Conference; the Rev. Jeffrey C. Compton, Harrisburg Conference; the Rev. Sandra L. Gideon, North Lancaster Conference; the Rev. Robert L. Hoover, Jr., York Conference; the Rev. Abigail C. Leese, North York Conference; the Rev. Mary Margaret O. Ruth, Lancaster Conference; and the Rev. David J. Schreffler, Perry Conference.

After a brief break, Bishop Hoover called the meeting to order again at 9:00 a.m.

The bishop thanked the members of the Assembly Worship Committee for their fine work on the worship for this assembly.

### **Report on Registration**

Secretary McKee reported that as of 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, there were 365 lay voting members and 267 ordained voting members registered, making a total of 632 voting members. There were also 82 visitors who registered, giving a total attendance of 715.

### **Report of the Second Ballot**

Bishop Hoover called upon the Rev. Christina H. Minnich to present the report of the second ballot.

#### **Voting Member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – clergy at large**

Ballots cast – 572  
Valid ballots – 572  
Invalid ballots – 0  
Needed to elect – 287

**The Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker – 294**

The Rev. LaDonna E. Thomas - 278

The bishop declared the Rev. Naomi Sease Carriker elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of clergy. This ticket was closed.

#### **Voting Member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly – lay female at large**

Ballots cast – 574  
Valid ballots – 573  
Invalid ballots – 1  
Needed to elect – 288

**Nancy J. Martin – 333**

Chelle J. Huth - 240

The bishop declared Nancy J. Martin elected as a voting member of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly in the category of lay female. This ticket was closed.

This concluded the work of the Committee on Elections. Bishop Hoover thanked Pastor Minnich and the members of this committee for their fine work.

Bishop Hoover called upon Charlie Roberts, Director of Youth Ministry, to introduce the next video, “Hope in Haiti,” a ministry of the youth, young adults, and adult workers with youth of this synod. It all began with Jillian Forbes, who, in turn, got others interested in this ministry. A Christian school, Institute Univers was founded thirteen years ago as a kindergarten. Thirteen students composed the first graduating class of this school. Five had opportunity to come to the United States to study. A member of this first graduating class of the Institute Univers, Marie Claire Charles, is studying at Harrisburg Area Community College through the support of those involved in this ministry. She hopes to return to Haiti to educate others. The relationship we share with Institute Univers is a relationship of trust. Because of this trust, we can help in ways that others cannot. The assembly responded to the video with applause.

### **Bible Study**

Bishop Hoover reintroduced Bishop Mark S. Hanson to present this final Bible study session of the assembly. Bishop Hanson used as his text Acts 3:1-16. Bishop Hanson spoke about expectations, realized and shattered. We do not spend enough time expressing our expectations. Unspoken expectations are resentments in waiting. He asked the assembly, “When you go to worship tomorrow, what do you expect of the Holy Spirit?” Peter and John were doing what was expected of them. They were going to the temple to pray. Beggars were sitting at the gate, begging as they were expected to do. God’s work involves shattering expectations that have precluded us from being God’s vessels. Peter is clear about what he does not have. He does not have silver or gold. He has the courage to be clear about his limitations. Bishop Hanson asked the assembly, “What limitations do you have that prevent you from doing ministry?” We are so blinded by what we do not have that we cannot see what we do have. God carries out God’s work through God’s Word. God’s Word is proclaimed in many ways, through word

and deed. One example of God's Word proclaimed in word and action is the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. This initiative, which does not replace the World Hunger Fund, is witnessing to God's love and life by providing mosquito nets to save the lives of children and adults in sub-Saharan Africa. Bishop Hanson thanked the assembly for its hospitality to him and to Ione. The assembly expressed its appreciation to Bishop Hanson for his participation in this assembly by giving him a standing ovation.

Bishop Hoover thanked Bishop Hanson for his presentations and for his participation in this assembly. It was our honor to have our presiding bishop in attendance at our assembly. As a remembrance of their time in the Lower Susquehanna Synod, Bishop Hoover presented Bishop and Mrs. Hanson with a queen-size coverlet, a gift of David, Carol, and Patrick Kline, Family Heirloom Weavers of Red Lion, members of Canadochly Lutheran Church, York. The members of the assembly showed their appreciation with another standing ovation.

### **Assembly Offering**

Bishop Hoover led the assembly in an offertory prayer, giving thanks to God for all that God has provided and asking God to receive the gifts the assembly will offer for the work of the Church of Christ. He asked the pages to come forward to receive the special offering. The offering was designated one half for student scholarships for students at Manow Lutheran Secondary School and one half to support Marie-Claire Charles, a graduate of Institute Univers studying at Harrisburg Area Community College.

### **Reports of the Bishop and the Officers**

Bishop Hoover drew attention to his report and the reports of the officers of this synod: Ronald R. Price, vice president; the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, secretary; and Bruce Seagrism, treasurer.

Mr. Seagrism told the assembly about the recent Synod Council action, adopting a resolution of defalcation, distributing the money that this synod received in restitution and insurance settlements. The money was distributed as follows: \$50,000 to the Konde Diocese for a tractor and an X-ray machine; \$50,000 to Sudanese seminarian scholarship; \$50,000 to ELCA Global Mission to support Richard Sarker, the Lower Susquehanna Synod-supported missionary; \$25,000 to Christ Lutheran, Harrisburg, Medical Mission; \$404,000 to the operating fund of this synod to repay the synod for the money given to ordained staff to reimburse them for the miscalculation of their salaries and social security allowance and to repay the synod for the legal expenses it incurred in getting the insurance settlement; and \$590,909 to the Endowment Fund in order to grow it for future distributions. Mr. Seagrism stated that there is one last thing that must be done and that is to develop a plan for future distributions of the proceeds of the Endowment Fund.

The bishop entertained questions on these reports.

Bill Suchocki, St. Paul, Carlisle, asked Treasurer Seagrism about disbursements in excess of revenue. The treasurer acknowledged that our disbursements were in excess of our revenue.

The Rev. Barry M. Ridge, Simeon, Gratz, pointed in the treasurer's report to the fact that \$5,000 was budgeted for Synod Council and \$72,500 was spent. The treasurer informed Pastor Ridge and the assembly that this was due to the legal fees incurred in getting a settlement from Travelers' Insurance Company.

The Rev. John B. Ferra, Jr., interim pastor of St. James, Brogue, asked if all moneys have been reimbursed to present and former staff members for miscalculations of their salary and social security allowance. Treasurer Seagrism assured Pastor Ferra that all staff members were reimbursed the moneys they were denied in salaries due to the miscalculations.

(Insert the Reports of the Bishops and Officers, pages 201-503)

**Reports of the Committees, Agencies, Institutions,  
and Synod Units of Churchwide Organizations**

Bishop Hoover drew attention to these reports and asked if there were any questions on these reports. A question was raised about why these reports were not included in the assembly mailing. Pastor McKee told the assembly that these reports could be found on the Web site and read there or downloaded if desired. Because these reports do not take assembly action nor are they constitutionally mandated, they are not included in the assembly mailing.

The following were designated as spokespersons for our committees, agencies, institutions and synod units of churchwide organizations: Heidi Eshenour, Compensation and Benefits Committee; the Rev. Darlis J. Swan, Ecumenical and Inter-religious Relations Committee; Bruce Seagrist, Finance and Budget Committee; the Rev. Robert L. Hoover, Global Mission Committee; Norma R. Good, Heifer Project International; the Rev. Judith A. McKee and the Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach, Konde Companion Diocese Committee; the Rev. Amy E. Reumann, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA; Fred Bohls, Lutheran Men in Mission; Robert L. Rundle, Jr., Lutheran Social Services of South Central Pennsylvania; Norma R. Good, Lutheran World Relief; the Rev. William C. Snyder, Luthercare; Charlie R. Roberts III, Office for Youth Ministry; and the Rev. Larry G. Hummer, Stewardship Committee.

(Insert pages 901-1403)

Secretary McKee called the attention of the members of the assembly to the “ A Call to Service” forms which had been distributed. This synod uses these forms to provide important information when nominating individuals for election and appointing new members for committees and boards. The secretary urged each member of the assembly to complete one form while at the assembly and to return it to the pages’ table or to the collection receptacles near the door and to take the other form home, make copies of it, and give a copy to qualified persons in the congregation, asking them to volunteer for service within this synod.

**Introductions**

Bishop Hoover introduced to the assembly Del Akech Del, who has enrolled at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg as a TEEM candidate for ordained ministry. Del is the leader of the Sudanese Worshiping Community, which meets in Harrisburg and Lancaster. He is a member of Tree of Life Lutheran Church in Harrisburg. Bishop Hoover also introduced Del’s wife Sarah and his daughter Naomi to the assembly. Sarah and Naomi have recently arrived in the United States from a refugee camp in Nairobi, Kenya. Del addressed the assembly, telling of his faith journey and thanking the assembly for its support of him and the Sudanese community. Bishop Hanson presented a weaving made by the Family Heirloom Weavers of Red Lion to Del, Sarah, and Naomi as a welcome gift to our country.

Bishop Hoover also introduced to the assembly the Rev. Robert Lowden and the Rev. Janice (Jme) Lowden, a clergy couple who are ELCA Global Mission Representatives to Tanzania. They are stationed in Arusha where the headquarters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania is located. The Lowdens greeted the assembly and thanked their sponsors for the support that they receive. They thanked this synod for its strong support of global mission, especially the extensive support this synod provides to the Konde Diocese, its companion diocese. Bishop Hoover presented Pastors Lowden with a gift of a weaving to welcome them to the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

Bishop Hoover and the assembly also greeted Sharon Kaya, who has been appointed to serve as the first Latino Evangelist in the Gettysburg Conference. Bishop Hoover said that Ms. Kaya brings a love for the Latino cultures and experience from serving Spanish-speaking congregations in New Jersey and

Washington, D.C. Ms. Kaya will work among the twenty congregations of the conference to explore and initiate ministry opportunities among the Latino population of Adams County. The congregations of the conference are supplying half of the funds needed for this mission and the other half comes from a congregational mission grant from the Lower Susquehanna Synod. Bishop Hoover presented Sharon with a weaving as a sign of our appreciation to her for her ministry with the Gettysburg Conference to the Latino population.

The sixth Ministry Highlight as a DVD produced by Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds, whose educational and office building burned in the midst of one of last winter's snowstorms.

Bishop Hoover asked the Rev. Dennis Trout, pastor, and his wife and Robert Christy and Connie Taylor, voting members to stand. He assured them of our continued support and prayers as they begin the process of rebuilding from the ashes. Bishop Hoover encouraged the members of the assembly to tell this story of hope when they return home from the assembly.

#### **Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel**

Bishop Hoover called upon Lucinda L. Bringman, a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, and of the Synod Council and the chair of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, to present the report of this committee.

The following substitute resolution moved by the Rev. Benjamin E. Leese was before the assembly.

#### **RESOLUTION #3    RESOLUTION TO THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF SYNOD BISHOP**

(In reflection of the past procedures for the Election of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop, these observations and solutions come to mind)

**WHEREAS**, the Church has experienced the Holy Spirit working with and through many and various ways; and

**WHEREAS**, voting members often do not know very well the nominees for Bishop and therefore cannot make an informed, prayerful choice / decision; and

**WHEREAS**, voting members never seem to have enough time to allow the Holy Spirit to work on our minds about each nominated person for Bishop; and

**WHEREAS**, even nominees for Bishop do not have time to prayerfully discern if God is calling them to this ministry; and

**WHEREAS**, nominees for Bishop do not have time to prayerfully develop a vision of how they are called to function as a Bishop, if elected; and

**WHEREAS**, the Church has always needed Bishops who will lead the Church of Jesus Christ in the midst of their complex culture; and

**WHEREAS**, some ELCA synods use different procedures of election of a Bishop than the Lower Susquehanna Synod has used in the past; and

**WHEREAS**, the election of a Bishop is coming up in 2013; and

**Therefore** the election process for Bishop needs to have a longer process than a day or less; **Be it resolved** that our election process in the Lower Susquehanna Synod for our next Bishop shall follow this procedure:

A Bishop's Election Committee of 3 Clergy and 3 Laypersons shall be created to facilitate the election process. The Nominations Committee shall nominate 6 Clergy and 6 Laypersons as a slate for election at the 2012 Synod Assembly, one year before the Synod is to elect a Bishop.

Conference assemblies shall be called as previously established. During conference assemblies one item of business shall be the nomination of candidates to be prayerfully considered to be bishop. Each voting member at the conference assembly shall write down one name of an ELCA pastor in good standing that that member wishes to nominate for bishop. This nomination shall not be considered the first ballot of the election of a bishop. The dean of each conference will forward these names to the Bishop's Election Committee which shall contact each nominee and determine whether or not the nominee wishes to have his or her name published as someone nominated for consideration as bishop. If the person wishes to do so, the nominee shall provide to the Bishop's Election Committee a biographical sketch, a vision statement for the synod and an outline of how the nominee would serve as bishop. The Bishop's Election Committee will then publish that information (listed in alphabetical order) in the Bulletin of Reports mailed to voting members and in the nominations section of the Synod Assembly website. Such publication shall be made no later than one month before the convening of the Synod Assembly.

At the Synod Assembly all past procedures for the election of a bishop shall remain in place as outlined in the constitution (**S9.04.**)

Ms. Bringman presented the rationale of the Reference and Counsel Committee. The committee discerned the importance of beginning now this discussion about the procedure for electing a bishop so that a procedure complete with necessary constitutional revisions is in place a year before the election of a bishop in 2013. The committee agreed that a task force should be appointed to study this issue in depth, to propose a procedure for the election of a bishop, to share it widely to give members of this synod an opportunity to suggest revisions, and to propose a refined procedure with the necessary constitutional amendments to the 2011 Synod Assembly. The committee had received information from the Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, David Swartling, about the various ways that other synods work within their constitution to have a pre-assembly nomination process. The committee was of the conviction that our synod could benefit by studying the procedures of other synods and making a decision about our process after careful review of all the various alternatives. The committee further believed that, once a procedure was proposed, it would be beneficial to have wide discussion on the proposal so that a proposal coming before next year's Synod Assembly would have wide support.

The Rev. Benjamin E. Leese, pastor of Holy Trinity, York Springs, stressed that the substitute that he moved works within our current Constitution.

The Rev. Kurt S. Strause, pastor of Emmanuel, Lancaster, said that it is wise to hear the collective wisdom of other synods and to deliberate about the best procedure for us to use.

The Rev. Patrick J. Rooney, senior pastor of Christ, York, asked about how many different options are used in other synods.

Ms. Bringman replied that alternate processes are used in between fifteen and twenty other synods.

The Rev. Stephen R. Herr, Christ, Gettysburg, and a member of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, urged the assembly to explore a variety of options so that the adopted procedure for the election of a bishop is the best option for us a synod.

The Rev. Amy Schiffrin, intentional interim pastor of Christ, Elizabethtown, and a member of the Reference and Counsel Committee, spoke against the substitution. She has had the opportunity to serve in other synods and realizes that there are different procedures used, some better than others.

The Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown, pastor of Paradise, Thomasville, moved:

**ADOPTED: That the previous question be called.  
2/3 majority**

The substitute motion was before the assembly.

**LOST: RESOLUTION TO THE LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD  
REGARDING  
PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF SYNOD BISHOP**

(In reflection of the past procedures for the Election of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Bishop, these observations and solutions come to mind)

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**WHEREAS**, voting members often do not know very well the nominees for Bishop and therefore cannot make an informed, prayerful choice / decision; and

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At the Synod Assembly all past procedures for the election of a bishop shall remain in place as outlined in the constitution (**S9.04.**)

The main motion in the form of Resolution 3 was before the assembly.

The Rev. C. Hope Knobler, intentional interim pastor of Tabor United Church of Christ, Lebanon, asked, "What is wrong with the ecclesiastic ballot?"

The Rev. Lisa Herr, interim pastor of St. Jacob, York-New Salem, spoke in opposition to the resolution. The ecclesiastic ballot is a beautiful expression of the Holy Spirit, working in ways we never expect.

Pastor Strause stressed that we could benefit from a pre-assembly nomination discernment process that still uses the ecclesiastic ballot.

The Rev. Jeffrey H. Pretz, pastor of Trinity, New Holland, reminded the assembly that the Spirit works in a variety of ways.

Pastor Benjamin Leese said, "God's work. Our hands. God's work. Our minds." More information is better than less.

The Rev. Beth Schlegel, pastor of St. Peter, York, asked, "Does it mean that this resolution requires changes?"

Ms. Bringman replied that it is the intent of the resolution to look at the whole procedure.

The Rev. Michael Petresky asked that if it was an expectation that more people would serve on this task force than members of Synod Council.

Bishop Hoover replied that it was his expectation that others beside Synod Council members would serve on this task force.

Pastor Petresky encouraged that deans be included in the composition of this task force.



The bishop also extended his appreciation to Jered Hock, parliamentarian; Pastor Rochelle Lewis, chaplain; Pastor Jeffrey Compton, necrologist; Vice President Ronald Price and the members of Synod Council; the members of the assembly committees, the synod staff, the pages, and the assembly volunteers. He also expressed the thanks of this synod to Charlotte Knudsen and the staff at Messiah College for making our assembly so comfortable.

Bishop Hoover shared with the assembly that on Thursday he and Bishop Hanson were anointed and prayed over by members of the Grace Conspiracy, a group dedicated to random acts of spiritual kindness. This truly was a moving experience for the bishops, and he expressed their deep appreciation to the members of Grace Conspiracy for their kindness.

**Installation of Newly Elected Members of the Synod Council**

The secretary of synod read the names of newly elected members of Synod Council: Molly E. Crouser, Chelle J. Huth, AiM, Pastor Kurt S. Strause, and Pastor Elizabeth C. Polanzke. They came forward. Bishop Hoover installed them as members of Synod Council.

**Closing of the Assembly**

Bishop Hoover led the Order for the Closing of the Assembly. Pastor Robert Wegehoft, St. Peter, Lancaster, led the assembly in the closing hymn, "Solo Dei Gloria." Adjournment was at 11:30 a.m.

The Synod Council met in the Private Dining Room for a reorganizational meeting. At this meeting members of the Executive Committee for 2010-2011 were elected. Elected to the Executive Committee were: vice chair of Synod Council, Lucinda L. Bringman, and members-at-large, Pastor Kurt S. Strause and Marcus W. Thomsen.

**Report on Attendance**

<b>Ordained voting members</b> .....	<b>271</b>
(including 62 retired ordained ministers)	
<b>Lay voting members</b> .....	<b>361</b>
(including 19 lay rostered voting members, two officers, and eight lay members of Synod Council)	
<b><u>Total Voting Members</u></b> .....	<b>642</b>
<b>Visitors</b> .....	<b>104</b>
<b><u>TOTAL ATTENDANCE</u></b> .....	<b>746</b>

Approved by:

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B. Penrose Hoover, bishop

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Thomas E. McKee, secretary

tem  
6/23/10