RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SYNOD COUNCIL
TO THE 2020 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Recommendation 1: (SC20.02.06.) (see page 110)
That the proposed agenda for the 2020 Synod Assembly be adopted.

Recommendation 2: (SC20.02.07.) (see pages 111-112)
That the proposed Rules of Procedure for the 2020 Synod Assembly be adopted. (2/3 vote required)

Recommendation 3: (SC20.04.36.) (see page 113)
That Jennifer R. Lau be nominated for the office of synod vice president for a term ending in 2024.

Recommendation 4: (SC20.02.19.)
That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt the 2021 minimum base salary and housing allowance for Ministers of Word and Sacrament with no years of experience and no parsonage provided of $53,875 and the 2021 minimum salary for Ministers of Word and Sacrament with no years of experience and with a parsonage provided of $37,480, representing a 3% increase over the 2020 minimum salaries.

Recommendation 5: (SC20.02.20.)
That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt the 2021 minimum base salary for Ministers of Word and Service with no years of experience of $48,530, a 5.5% increase over the 2020 minimum salary with the intent to achieve parity within six years.

Recommendation 6: (SC20.02.12.) (majority vote required)
That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt continuing resolution S7.11.01.r.A20. The regular assembly of this synod shall be held annually between May 1 and June 30 at such place as the Synod Council shall designate.

Recommendation 7: (SC20.02.13.) (2/3 vote required)
That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, delete the following bylaws S7.11.01. (stipulates precise dates for the Synod Assembly) and S10.06.01. (to be relocated)

S7.11.01. The regular assembly of this synod shall be held annually between May 15 and June 30 at such place as the Synod Council shall designate.

S10.06.01. To the extent permitted by state law, meetings of the Synod Council and its committees may be held electronically or by telephone conference, and notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

Recommendation 8: (SC20.02.24.) (majority vote required)
That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt bylaws S7.11.01. and S10.08.01. from the ELCA Constitution for Synods.

S7.11.01. The time and place of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly shall be determined in a continuing resolution by the Synod Council. The time and place for the next regular assembly normally shall be announced six months prior to the assembly.

S10.08.01. To the extent permitted by state law, meetings of the Synod Council and its committees may be held electronically or by telephone conference, and notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.
Recommendation 9: (SC20.02.13.)

That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt bylaw S12.02.02. (regarding boundary and number of conferences)

S12.02.02. Any change shall be effective upon Synod Council approval.

Recommendation 10: (SC20.02.10.)

That the Synod Assembly adopt the recommended amendments to the synod constitution and bylaws from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly as follows:

CHAPTER 7: SYNOD ASSEMBLY

S7.13. Written notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Synod Assembly shall be given by the secretary of this synod in accordance with the bylaws of this constitution.

S7.22. This synod may establish processes that permit retired rostered ministers, or those designated as disabled granted disability status, or on leave from call, on the roster of the synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.c.

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit persons representatives from congregations under development and of authorized worshiping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.02.03, 10.01.04, to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.

S7.27. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council to grant a minister of Word and Sacrament from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of that ordained minister’s service in a congregation of this church.

CHAPTER 8: OFFICERS

S8.01.01. No elected official or other duly appointed representative of the synod shall accept personal special remuneration for services rendered on behalf of this synod to any congregation or organization of this synod. Any contributions made in connection with such services shall be placed in the synodical treasury.

S8.11. When authorized by the Synod Council in order to address special circumstances, the synod bishop may be compensated as an employee or contractor for specified services to another expression of this church. Such an arrangement may be terminated by the Synod Assembly or Synod Council if determined to be detrimental to the function of the office or if the special circumstances no longer apply.

S8.14. The synodical bishop may have such assistants as this synod shall from time to time authorize.

CHAPTER 10: SYNOD COUNCIL

S10.04. Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the approval of the Synod Council, shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption.

If we accept proposed S10.04, all subsequent provisions in LSS will be proposed for renumbering as follows:

$10.045
$10.056
$10.056.01
$10.067
$10.067.01
$10.067.02
$10.067.03
$10.067.04
$10.067.05
$10.067.06
$10.067.07
Robert’s Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of all meetings of the Synod Council, unless otherwise ordered by the council.

CHAPTER 13: CONGREGATIONS

S13.25. This synod may temporarily assume administration of a congregation upon its request or with its concurrence. Such synod administration shall continue only so long as necessary to complete the purposes for which it was requested by the congregation or until the congregation withdraws consent to continued administration.

S13.40. Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities

CHAPTER 14: ROSTERED MINISTERS

S14.14. Whenever members of a congregation move to such a distance that regular attendance at its services becomes impractical, it shall be the duty of the pastor to commend them, upon their consent, to the pastoral care of a Lutheran congregation nearer to their place of residence.

S14.17. No minister of Word and Sacrament shall accept a call without first conferring with the bishop of this synod. A minister of Word and Sacrament shall respond with an answer of acceptance or declination to a letter of call within 30 days of receipt of such call. In exceptional circumstances with the approval of the bishop of this synod and the chair president of the Congregation Council of the congregation issuing the call, an additional 15 days may be granted to respond to a letter of call.

S14.42. No minister of Word and Service shall accept a call without first conferring with the bishop of this synod. A minister of Word and Service shall respond with an answer of acceptance or declination to a letter of call within 30 days of receipt of such call. In exceptional circumstances with the approval of the bishop of this synod and the chair president of the Congregation Council of the congregation issuing the call, an additional 15 days may be granted to respond to a letter of call.

CHAPTER 15: FINANCIAL MATTERS

S15.14. Except when such procedure would jeopardize current operations, a reserve amounting to no more than 16 percent of the sum of the amounts scheduled in the next year’s budget for regular distribution to synodical causes shall be carried forward annually for disbursement in the following year in the interest of making possible a more even flow of income to such causes. The exact number of dollars to be held in reserve shall be determined by the Synod Council.

Recommendation 11: (SC20.04.24.) (majority vote required)

That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, in assembly, adopt the following amendments to S9.05., S9.06., and S9.07. from the ELCA Constitution for Synods:

S9.05. The Synod Council shall nominate at least two one person[s] for vice president; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

S9.06. The Synod Council shall nominate at least two one person[s] for secretary; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

S9.07. The Synod Council shall nominate at least two one person[s] for treasurer; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Recommendation 12: (SC20.02.13.) (SC20.04.24.) (2/3 vote required)

That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, meeting in assembly, adopt the proposed amendments to bylaws S6.03.05., S6.03.06., S6.03.07., S6.03.08., S6.03.09., S6.03.10., S8.14.01., S9.03.01., S9.03.02., S10.01.01., S10.01.03., S10.01.04., S10.06.05., S10.06.06., S10.06.07., S10.06.08., S11.01.02., S11.01.03., S11.01.05., S11.01.08., S11.01.10., S11.01.11.,
To promote relations of mutual benefit, this synod shall accord to the synodical organization of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America the privilege of establishing liaison with the appropriate organizations of this synod and of presenting reports to regular assemblies of this synod and shall, upon invitation, appoint consultants to the clusters conferences and executive board of the organization.

To promote relations of mutual benefit, this synod shall accord to the Lower Susquehanna Synod Lutheran Youth Organization the privilege of establishing liaison with appropriate organizations of this synod and of presenting reports to regular assemblies of this synod and shall, upon invitation, appoint consultants to the clusters conferences and executive board of the organization.

To promote relations of mutual benefit, this synod shall accord to the synodical organization of Lutheran Men in Mission the privilege of establishing liaison with the appropriate organizations of this synod and of presenting reports to regular assemblies of this synod and shall, upon invitation, appoint consultants to the clusters conferences and executive board of the organization.

The Synod Council shall elect representatives to the Region 8 Steering Committee in a number to be determined by the Region 8 Steering Committee. In addition to the bishop who serves ex officio, at least one synodical representative to the Region 8 Steering Committee shall be a member of the Synod Council.

Voting members and alternate voting members of the Churchwide Assembly shall be elected according to the procedures set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The synodical bishop and synodical vice president shall be ex-officio voting members of the Churchwide Assembly.

In addition to the requirements of Bylaw 12.41.11. of the the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and synodical bylaw S6.03.09., voting members of the Churchwide Assembly shall be elected from five panels of nominees:

Staff assistants to the officers, if and when such positions are created by the synod in assembly, shall be appointed by the bishop with the approval or call of the Synod Council. The term of office of a staff assistant to any officer shall continue six months beyond the expiration of the term of the officer. During the aforementioned term, such staff assistants may be recalled or dismissed by the bishop with or without cause pursuant to the written personnel policies of this synod.

With the exception of nominations for the officers of this synod and Panel #1 for the Churchwide Assembly...

The Synod Assembly shall elect board members of the boards of the following educational institution(s): 1) Susquehanna University - one (1) member.

The Synod Council, in addition to the four officers, shall consist of fifteen (15) adult members and one (1) youth member and one (1) young adult member. Said membership shall conform to the standards of representation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in S6.04. Therefore, there shall be six (6) clergy ordained ministers of Word and Sacrament; members, at least four (4) of whom shall be ministers of Word and Sacrament; nine (9) lay adult members, one (1) youth member, and one (1) young adult member. All other members shall be elected as members-at-large.

Youth member: Each The youth elected to the Synod Council shall serve one two-year term. Each The youth member shall be a confirmed member of a congregation of this synod and shall be under eighteen (18) years of age at the time of election.

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

Duties and responsibilities of the Synod Council in addition to those specified in this constitution shall include:

c. Confirmation of appointments by the bishop of synod, including appointment of synodical representatives to serve on the governing bodies of inter-church agencies to which this synod is related;
e. Creation of and appointment to any committees, commissions, and other organizations needed to fulfill the functions of the Synod Council; and

f. Approval and triennial review of all policies consistent with this Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of this synod.

S10.06.06. Meetings: The Synod Council shall have at least four (4) stated meetings annually. Special meetings may be called by the chair or by the bishop of the synod in the event of the death, removal, or incapacity of the chair. A majority of the members of the Synod Council shall constitute a quorum.

S10.06.07. General Provisions: The Synod Council shall be responsible for:

a. The election of members of the boards of SpiritTrust Lutheran and Luthercare - to be elected from nominees submitted by the respective agency, in numbers required by the governing documents of the respective agency;

b. The election of members of the board of the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania - to be elected from nominees submitted by the corporation in accordance with the governing documents of the corporation;

c. The election of a member of the board of directors of the United Lutheran Seminary;

d. The election of representatives to other institutions and agencies as may be determined.

S10.06.08. The Synod Council shall have the following standing committees to fulfill its responsibilities, with the members appointed annually:

a. Assembly Planning Committee. This committee is composed of the vice president, secretary, assembly manager, at least 2 Synod Council members, and at least 5 additional committee members. It shall plan the annual assembly’s agenda and program to fulfill the constitutional mandate for “worship, edification, and the legislative business of this synod conducted with the greatest possible involvement of those entitled to participate.”

b. Constitution Committee. This committee is composed of the secretary, at least 2 Synod Council members, and 3 to 5 additional committee members. It shall study the governing documents of this synod and recommend amendments to the Synod Council and the Synod Assembly for adoption. It shall aid congregations in the development and adoption of their governing documents.

c. Finance and Budget Committee. This committee is composed of 9 members, 1 of whom shall be the treasurer and at least 3 of whom shall be Synod Council members. It shall oversee the financial affairs of this synod; confirm that all obligations are being met and that mission support is forwarded to the churchwide office; exercise oversight responsibility for this synod’s investments, insurance, and banking procedures; receive the annual audit and the accompanying financial statements; and make recommendations to the Synod Council on financial matters. It shall project anticipated income for the coming fiscal year and, based on anticipated income, program requests, and adopted goals, develop a proposed budget for recommendation to the Synod Council and the Synod Assembly.

d. Gifts Discernment Committee. This committee is composed of the bishop, the secretary, at least 2 Synod Council members, and 3 additional committee members. It shall aid in identifying members of this synod for nomination, appointment, or election to the committees and task forces of this synod and to the boards of agencies and institutions. It shall aid the Synod Council in securing nominees for the offices of vice president, secretary, and treasurer of this synod.

e. Mission Committee. This committee is composed of the bishop, at least 3 Synod Council members, and 3 additional committee members. It shall uphold the vision and goals of this synod by proposing, developing, maintaining, and promoting priority ministries and by advocating that these priority ministries receive adequate financial and human resources.

f. Personnel Committee. This committee is composed of the vice president, at least 3 Synod Council members, and 5 additional committee members. It shall review the personnel policies of this synod and recommend amendments to the Synod Council. Under the guidance of the personnel officer, it shall administer and interpret these personnel policies. It shall recommend to the Synod Council the salaries of the bishop, treasurer, and assistants to the bishop and a salary scale for other members of this synod’s staff.

S11.01.02. The Lower Susquehanna Synod Mission Fund Committee shall be composed of 7 persons: the bishop and the treasurer of this synod and 5 members (one of whom shall be an attorney) appointed by the Synod Council. Three of the appointed members shall be lay voting members of congregations of this synod and 2 shall be ordained ministers of Word and Sacrament on the roster of this synod. The committee shall administer the Lower Susquehanna Synod Mission Fund. The fund, established by the Synod Council, shall be supported by bequests, trusts, endowments, planned and deferred gifts, assets from closing congregations, gifts from merging and consolidating congregations, and gifts from other congregations, individuals, and entities. The committee, the Synod Council, and the bishop
shall promote and encourage such gifts. The assets of the fund shall be invested in a manner consistent with the purpose of the fund.

S11.01.03

It shall receive requests and proposals from this synod’s officers and committees and present recommendations to the Synod Council. It shall be empowered to act upon recommendations regarding reinstatement to ordained ministry in cases where required by the Candidacy Manual of the ELCA Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It shall receive reports about the distribution of funds from the Bishop’s Discretionary Fund.

S11.01.05. The Committee for Global Mission shall be composed of a minimum of 8 persons. This committee shall be responsible for furthering the global mission of the Lower Susquehanna Synod. To fulfill its responsibilities, this committee shall engage the members of this synod in global mission by raising awareness of the global mission of the Church and their responsibility for the same; cooperate with the Global Mission Unit of the churchwide organization to provide global mission education for members of this synod; recruit missionary personnel from within this synod and encourage support for them; work with congregations to provide human and material resources in support of global mission; and be a channel with the Global Mission Unit of the churchwide organization through which churches, church bodies, and congregations in other countries engage in mission to this synod.

S11.01.08. The Committee for Synodical Worship shall be composed of 8 to 12 persons, both ordained and lay. This committee shall serve the bishop and this synod in planning and coordinating worship for Synod Assembly, ordination and consecration, and vocational reaffirmation. At the request of the bishop, this committee shall provide, by appointment of the chairperson, a liaison for worship at other synodical events. This committee also shall serve as a resource for the purpose of education and consultation with pastors, congregations, and worship planners, and shall respond to the requests of the bishop.

S11.01.10. The Compensation and Benefits Committee shall be composed of 5 to 7 persons, at least 2 of whom are rostered ministers in this synod. This committee shall provide informed guidance and recommendations to the synod on matters of compensation and benefits for rostered persons, in support of synodical policies and guidelines.

S11.01.11. The Committee for Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs shall be composed of at least 8 persons, both including ministers of Word and Sacrament, ordained ministers and lay persons. This committee shall relate to the bishop of this synod. The bishop also may invite to serve as consultants representatives from churches with which this synod has entered into agreement to serve as consultants. The bishop shall appoint the chair of this committee. The bishop shall appoint a person to serve as the ecumenical representative of this synod who shall become a member of the Lutheran Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Representatives Network. This committee shall coordinate the inter-Lutheran, ecumenical, and inter-religious activities of this synod and shall recommend policies, through this synod to the bishop, to the Synod Assembly and the Synod Council. To fulfill these responsibilities, this committee shall assist the bishop in carrying out the bishop’s role as the chief ecumenical officer of this synod; oversee and facilitate the inter-Lutheran, ecumenical, and inter-religious discussions (including bilateral dialogues) in which this synod is involved; guide the process of reception of theological agreements; encourage the study of theological topics of shared concern; and assist the staff, institutions, agencies, and congregations of this synod in carrying out their inter-Lutheran, ecumenical, and inter-religious responsibilities.

S11.04.01. The Mutual Ministry Committee shall be composed of 9 persons: 4 ministers of Word and Sacrament, ordained ministers and 5 laypersons, with at least 1 of the 9 to be a representative of the Synod Council. No officer of the synod nor any synod staff member shall serve on this committee unless appointed by the Executive Committee. The term of office shall be 2 years. Persons may serve consecutive terms.

†S11.05. The Audit Committee of this synod shall consist of three to six persons, none of whom is a member of the synod staff. Up to half of the committee members may be Synod Council members. The Audit Committee members shall be elected by the Synod Council for a term of three years and be eligible for re-election to a second consecutive three-year term. The terms of the Audit Committee members shall be staggered. The Audit Committee shall be responsible for assisting the Synod Council in fulfilling its general oversight of the synod’s accounting, financial reporting, internal control systems, and external audit processes as provided in †S15.31.

S11.05.01. The Audit Committee shall consist of 5 persons, at least 2 of whom should 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 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.
S12.02. Boundaries of conferences shall be determined by the Synod Council.

S12.02.01. The boundaries and number of conferences shall be determined, reviewed by the Synod Council by 1990 and thereafter at six-year intervals calculated from 1990.

S12.03. Each conference shall meet at least annually.

S12.03.03. The bishop of this synod or the bishop’s appointee and such staff officials as the bishop may designate shall have voice at the conference assemblies. In addition, the social service agencies on the territories of the conferences, the Synod Council, and each official auxiliary of this synod may send a representative who shall have voice in conference assemblies.

S12.03.04. Conference assemblies may from time to time adopt memorials and resolutions to be sent to the Synod Assembly.

S12.04. Each conference shall elect its officers.

S12.04.01. All ministers of Word and Sacrament on the roster of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who are members of a congregation of the conference shall be eligible to hold office in that conference.

S12.04.02. Each conference shall elect a dean in odd-numbered years. The dean shall be elected at the annual assembly of the conference. On their annual confidential reports to the bishop, rostered ministers of the conference will submit nominations for the office of dean of their conference to the bishop who will then recommend to the each conference a slate of at least two names. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the conference assembly. The final selection will be made at the annual conference assembly by written ballot by the voting members of the conference assembly. The term of office for a conference dean shall be two years. A dean shall serve no more than three successive terms. The dean shall be a minister of Word and Sacrament.

S12.04.03. Each conference shall elect a secretary in even-numbered years. The secretary shall be elected at the annual assembly of the conference. On their annual confidential reports to the bishop, rostered ministers of the conference will submit nominations for the office of secretary of their conference to the bishop who will then recommend to the each conference a slate of at least two names. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the conference assembly. The final selection will be made at the annual conference assembly by written ballot by the voting members of the conference assembly. The term of office for a conference secretary shall be two years. A secretary shall serve no more than three successive terms. The secretary shall be a minister of Word and Sacrament.

S12.05. Each conference may order itself in other ways to fulfill its purposes as designated in the bylaws of this synod.

S12.05.01. Each conference may have a Conference Cabinet composed of the dean and the secretary, and a specified number of additional members as determined by the conference assembly. In addition, the social service agencies on the territories of the conference, the bishop’s office, the Synod Council, and each official auxiliary of this synod may send a representative who shall have voice in cabinet meetings. If a conference elects to have a Conference Cabinet, said conference cabinet shall, in addition to any responsibilities and authority assigned to it by these bylaws, have such responsibilities and authority as the Conference Assembly shall assign to it.

S12.05.02. The Conference Assembly or the Conference Cabinet may appoint task forces or ad hoc committees for particular purposes.

S12.05.03. In each conference the rostered ministers in each conference shall meet regularly for the purpose of professional and personal support.

S13.11.01. In the event of a vacant pastorate in a congregation or multi-congregation parish, the bishop shall appoint an interim pastor, in consultation with the dean and the Congregation Council.

S16.02.01. The following process for determining persons entitled to indemnification under this synod's constitution shall be used:
1. Any person who desires the benefit of indemnification under §S16.02. shall make written application setting forth the name of the other organization, whether or not this other organization is incorporated, the position in the other organization that the applicant held or holds or will hold, a brief statement as to why the applicant's holding of this position in the other organization was or is in the interests of this synod, and a statement that no claim has been asserted against the applicant that would or might entitle the applicant to indemnification under the indemnification right being requested.

2. The application must be signed by the applicant and must be endorsed by either the unit organization executive or the unit organization board or committee chair.

3. The applicant may be requested to supply additional information such as the other organization's policy on indemnification, information on the other organization's insurance coverage and financial responsibility, and a description of the responsibilities that the applicant had or has with relation to the other organization.

4. The application and any requested additional information should be submitted to and will first be reviewed by an administrative committee consisting of the bishop, the secretary, the treasurer, and the synod's legal counsel.

5. The administrative committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee of the Synod Council whether the application should be approved. The Executive Committee will decide on behalf of the Synod Council. The action of the Executive Committee will be recorded in its minutes. The applicant will be notified of the Executive Committee's decision.

6. No member of the administrative committee or the Executive Committee shall participate in decisions as to which such if that member is an applicant.

7. Approval may be granted on a limited basis, examples of which include but are not limited to: the approval may cover the applicant's service as a director but not as an officer of the other organization; the approval may be limited in period of time; the approval may cover civil but not criminal liabilities; the approval may be conditional upon the applicant first seeking indemnification or reimbursement from the other organization or its insurance carrier. Unless otherwise specifically provided by the Executive Committee of the Synod Council, approval will not entitle any person to indemnification with respect to a claim asserted against her/him prior to such approval.

8. If the other organization is not a corporation, indemnification under §S16.02. shall be provided only in exceptional cases.

S18.21.01. Whenever the bylaws of this synod are adopted or amended at any meeting of the Synod Assembly, the remaining bylaws shall be renumbered appropriately without any further action required.

Recommendation 13: (SC20.02.13.) (SC20.04.24.) (majority vote required)

That the Lower Susquehanna Synod, meeting in assembly, amend continuing resolutions S9.12.r.A08., S11.01.r.C16., and S12.03.r.A96. of the Lower Susquehanna Synod:

S9.12.r.A08. The Synod Council Executive Committee shall provide for background checks for persons nominated for synodical office prior to the Synod Assembly at which the election will take place or as soon as possible after the Synod Assembly for newly elected officers nominated from the floor who were not identified as nominees prior to the assembly. The process shall be as follows: ...

The Executive Committee may adopt other procedures or protocols as are necessary to provide for background checks for nominees and newly elected synodical officers and shall report such actions to the Synod Council.

S11.01.r.C16. Consonant with the provisions of S11.01.15. these ministries may include:

1) ABX (Alpha Beta Christos), which shall be a ministry of the bishop's office of the bishop of this synod in collaboration with the Region 8 Office of the ELCA Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to gather newly rostered leaders during the initial three years of their first call for the purpose of support, collegiality, and disciplined reflection on ministry in accordance with ELCA First Call Theological Education requirements. The bishop shall designate an assistant to the bishop to coordinate this ministry.

2) The Learning Ministries Team shall be composed of no more than 10 persons who are experienced Christian educators who currently serve or who have served in congregational, institutional or middle judicatory settings of the ELCA this church or that of an ecumenical partner. The team shall be responsible for providing
continuing education and resourcing of congregational leaders in keeping with standard and emerging faith-formative faith formation practices. This shall include but not be limited to workshops and events in addition to electronic resources and social networking. The Learning Ministries Team shall work cooperatively with established ELCA partners of this church such as the ELCA Youth Ministry Network and the United Lutheran Seminary, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg’s Youth Ministry Certification School.

3) The Office of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (CYFM) shall have a director who shall work cooperatively with this synod’s team of youth leaders to help train and equip young leaders for service in Christ’s name. In addition, the Office of CYFM will assist in providing programming and event management for synod-wide events that foster faith formation for children, youth, young adults, their families, and the youth workers of this synod. The work of this office shall be considered a ministry of service to the congregational leaders of this synod who provide faith formation to the young people and their families they serve. This ministry shall include but not be limited to consultations, electronic resourcing and social networking, and event planning and management. The Office for CYFM shall also partner and network with other ELCA ministries that support congregational leaders as they strive to raise faithful young people for a life of service and discipleship in Jesus’ name.

4) The Leadership Support Team (LRT) which shall be composed of 8 to 12 persons, both including ministers of Word and Sacrament, ordained ministers and lay persons. A chairperson/convener shall be appointed by the bishop. This team shall work with congregations and leaders of the Lower Susquehanna Synod this synod to achieve positive responses to change, anxiety, and conflict. Members of this team shall possess skills and willingness to assist congregations in healthy communication and leadership patterns, as well as addressing conflict management, mediation, and resolution.

S12.03.r.A96. All memorials and resolutions which are to be presented at a spring eConference eAssembly for consideration must be delivered in writing to the secretary of the conference no less than 40 days prior to the date of the spring eConference eAssembly, so that the memorial or resolution may be reviewed by the voting members of the spring conference assembly, prior to the spring eConference eAssembly.

All memorials and resolutions received less than 40 days prior to the spring eConference eAssembly shall be referred automatically to the Conference Cabinet, or where no Conference Cabinet exists, to the conference dean and secretary for review, according to the order of receipt, for review, and the Conference Cabinet, or where no Conference Cabinet exists, the conference dean and secretary shall decide whether said such memorial[s] or resolution[s] shall be forwarded to the spring eConference eAssembly for consideration.

Recommendation 14: (SC20.XX.XX.)

That the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget of $XXXXXX be adopted.

PROPOSAL IS PENDING

Beth A. Schlegel
synod secretary
May 1, 2020
2020 PROPOSED SYNOD ASSEMBLY AGENDA

“Encountering Jesus”

Saturday, June 6, 2020: A Day of Business

7:00 Registration Open
8:30 Morning Devotions with Order for the Opening of the Assembly
Bishop’s Opening Remarks
Practice with Voting Machines
Certification of Voting Members/Report on Registration
Presentation of the Minutes of the 2019 Synod Assembly
9:00 Report of the Synod Council: Assembly Planning Committee
  Adoption of the Agenda
  Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
  Committee Appointments
Introduction of Assembly Guests
Report of the Synod Council: Nomination of Vice President
Report of the Nominating Committee/Floor Nominations
Report of the Synod Council: Presentation of the 2021 Budget
Report of the Synod Council
  Adoption of Minimum Salary Guidelines
  Adoption of Governing Document Amendments
10:00 Deadline for submitting nominee information forms
10:30 Break
11:00 Worship – Service of Holy Communion with the Rite of Ordination and the Necrology
12:30 Lunch Break
2:00 Deadline for submitting proposals related to the budget
2:00 Prayer
Balloting and Report of Elections Committee
Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel
Report of the Synod Council (continued)
  Adoption of the Proposed 2021 Budget
Reports of the Bishop and Officers
Reports of the Committees, Agencies, Institutions, and Synodical Units
Report of the Churchwide Representative
Report of the Committee on Memorials
Unfinished Business
New Business
Bishop’s Closing Remarks
4:45 Order for the Closing of the Assembly
Installation of the Vice President and Newly Elected Members of Synod Council
Installation of Deans and Secretaries and Installation of LYO
Reorganizational Meeting of the Synod Council
2020 Proposed Rules of Procedure

1. All voting members shall be seated on the main floor or on the first balcony to receive a voting machine and to vote. Voting machines shall not be taken from assembly hall.

2. Persons eligible to vote shall be official voting members wearing voting member badges. The following persons shall have voice but not vote in the assembly:
   a. official representatives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
   b. representatives of institutions and agencies having a relationship to this synod

3. Others who are not voting members may be permitted to speak on the floor of the assembly by a 2/3 vote of the assembly.

4. The microphones in the aisles shall be used when addressing the chair. Speakers shall state plainly their name and their congregation or, if rostered persons, their area of ministry or service.

5. In all business meetings, speeches from the floor shall be limited to three (3) minutes and no persons shall speak more than twice on the same question, except by consent of the assembly. This rule shall not apply to persons presenting a report nor when direct questions are posed to specific individuals for clarification.

6. No motion, other than procedural ones, may be debated on the floor until a written copy of the motion is in the hands of the chair. A triplicate form, provided by the pages, shall be used to send the copy to the bishop and the secretary.

7. When there are many pro and con statements on any motion, the chair will recognize alternately persons making a pro or con statement. To comply with this provision, when representing a pro position voting members shall indicate this to the chair by holding up a green card located at the microphone. When representing a con position, voting members shall indicate this to the chair by holding up a red card located at the microphone. Those speaking FOR shall display a GREEN-YES card prior to speaking and those speaking AGAINST shall display a RED-NO card prior to speaking. To address procedural issues, voting members shall indicate this to the chair by holding up a WHITE card (located at the microphone).

8. During legislative meetings of the assembly, no member of the assembly may express a position on any matter unless assigned the floor by the chair. During legislative meetings of the assembly, no member may call upon other members to express themselves by oral acclamation, applause, raising of hands or in any other manner, and members of the assembly may not so express themselves without being requested to do so by the chair.

9. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this assembly, except as otherwise provided in these Rules of Procedure. A parliamentarian will be appointed to advise the chair on procedure.

10. Voting members shall not absent themselves from any meeting of the assembly without valid reason (Constitution & Bylaws S7.36.02). One-half (1/2) of the registered voting members of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum. Once a quorum has been established at the beginning of each assembly meeting, all items of business on the adopted agenda for that meeting may be completed.

11. Except for procedural motions, any motion which the chair determines is not germane to the business of the assembly then under consideration shall be referred to the Committee of Reference and Counsel to decide whether said motion shall be brought to the assembly for consideration or referred to the Synod Council for final action.

12. Any memorial or resolution which is to be presented at the Synod Assembly for consideration must be delivered in writing to the secretary of the synod by May 1, 2020, so that such memorial or resolution may be reviewed by the Committee on Memorials or the Committee of Reference and Counsel and by the voting members of the assembly, prior to assembly.

If a resolution has budgetary implications, the author(s) must consult with the synod treasurer and should include financial considerations in the resolution. The treasurer’s response must be provided to the Committee of Reference and Counsel. Proposals lacking this documentation will not be considered for action by the assembly.

When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has recommended the adoption of a resolution, the text of the resolution recommended for passage shall be the main motion before the assembly.

When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has recommended that a proposed resolution be amended, the resolution shall be the main motion before the assembly and the committee’s recommendation shall be received as information/advice to the assembly.
When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has recommended referral of a resolution, the committee’s recommendation shall be the main motion before the assembly.

When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has recommended that the assembly not adopt a proposed resolution without the committee making any other recommendation related to the same or closely related subject, the resolution shall be the main motion before the assembly and the committee’s recommendation shall be received as information/advice to the assembly.

When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has acted to present a resolution to the assembly without recommendation, the text of the resolution shall be the main motion before the assembly.

When the Committee of Reference and Counsel has combined similar resolutions, the composite resolution shall be the question before the assembly.

Action on recommendations from the Committee on Memorials shall follow the same procedure as action on the recommendations from the Committee of Reference and Counsel.

All memorials and resolutions received after May 1, 2020, shall be automatically referred to the Committee on Memorials or the Committee of Reference and Counsel, according to the order of receipt. The appropriate committee shall review the resolutions or memorials and shall decide whether said memorial or resolution shall be forwarded to the assembly for consideration or referred to the Synod Council for final action.

13. When memorials and resolutions are brought before the assembly, the oral reading of the ‘whereas clauses’ shall be waived.

14. The deadline for the submission of typed biographical information of persons who will be nominated from the floor shall be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 6, 2020.

15. Any amendments to the proposed budget of the Lower Susquehanna Synod must be adopted within the total proposed amount. Any motion will be ruled “out of order” that seeks to amend the synod budget by increasing the amount or percentage of a budget item or program in a Synod Council recommended synod budget which is to be considered on the floor of the assembly, without also proposing a dollar for dollar matching decrease in another budget item or program. Those making the proposal shall have consulted with the synod treasurer no later than 2:00 p.m. on June 6, 2020.

16. The report of balloting will be reported orally to the assembly, displayed on the assembly screen, and entered in full in the minutes.
JENNIFER R. LAU
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: VICE PRESIDENT OF SYNOD

Mailing address: 2515 Brady Road, York, PA 17404
Phone number: 717-332-8416
Email: JENNIFERL17404@yahoo.com
Congregation: Zion, York
Current occupation: Administrative Assistant, Quickel Lutheran Church, York
Previous occupation (if relevant): Director of Child Care Licensing, OCDEL, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – retired 2013
Year of birth (optional): 1955

Education:
  - B.S. – York College of Pennsylvania (Police Science and Corrections)

Church Service Position:
  - Synod Council Executive Committee (2018 – present)
  - Synod Council Member; Member of Mission Committee, Constitution Committee, LSS Mission Fund Committee and Transforming Ministry Team (2017 – present)
  - R3 Renewal Coach; Rounds 1 and 2 (2017 – present)
  - Zion York Congregation Council (2005-2010 and 2012-2017)
  - Zion York Council President (2007-2008 and 2012-2013)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:

I feel God is calling me to deeper involvement in the life of all expressions of the church – congregation, synod and churchwide. I am committed to the priorities of our synod – equipping leaders, encouraging cooperation and engaging in new mission - and am involved in efforts to meet those priorities. I am passionate about renewal in our church on many levels and serve as a coach guiding congregations through the R3 journey. My experience working with other congregations across our synod has provided me with opportunities to learn about the ministries and joys as well as the concerns and challenges that are part of being the church. Three years of service as a member of Synod Council has broadened my understanding of issues facing our synod and I want to continue to be of service on Synod Council. Serving for 12 years on congregational council, including four years as president, allowed me to deepen my understanding of issues faced in each of our congregations. Through my career, I developed skills in administration, public speaking, team building, visioning, policy and program development, working across organizations and communications. With the help of God, I hope to put my love of Christ, talents and experience to use by continuing to serve as a member of Synod Council.
PROPOSED BUDGET