

# 2014 SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

JUNE 13-14, 2014

2014 SD SYNOD ASSEMBLY



unbound to live

JOHN 11: 44B

## PRELIMINARY REPORT



**South Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
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\* Separate Documents available for download at [www.sdsynod.org/14assembly](http://www.sdsynod.org/14assembly).

## PROPOSED AGENDA

### Twenty-Seventh Annual Assembly of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA Sioux Falls, South Dakota June 12-14, 2014

#### Thursday, June 12

- 3:00-6:00 p.m.      **Workshop with Rev. Keith Anderson** – OSLC Celebrate Center
- 5:00-6:45 p.m.      **Registration & Check-In** – OSLC Gathering Place
- Appetizers for Suggested Donation** – OSLC Gathering Place
- 7:00-8:00 p.m.      **Concert with Tangled Blue** – OSLC Celebrate Center

#### Friday, June 13

- 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.      **Displays and Book Store Open** – OSLC Basement
- 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.      **Community Blood Bank BloodMobile Open** – Outside OSLC
- 8:00-10:00 a.m.      **Registration & Check-In** – OSLC Gathering Place
- 8:30 a.m.      **New Voting Member Orientation** – OSLC Celebrate Center
- 8:45 a.m.      **Elections Committee Meeting** – OSLC Celebrate Center
- 9:00 a.m.      **Worship Instructional Meeting** – OSLC Sanctuary
- 9:30-10:45 a.m.      **OPENING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION** - OSLC Celebrate Center
- 10:45-11:30 a.m.      **OPENING OF THE ASSEMBLY**  
Welcome & Introductions – **Bishop David B. Zellmer**  
State of the ELCA – **Rev. Chris Boerger, ELCA Secretary**  
Greeting from Good Samaritan Society  
Announcements and Table Prayer
- 11:30-12:30 a.m.      **Lunch & Conference Caucuses**
- 12:30 p.m.      **RESOLUTIONS DEADLINE**
- 12:30-2:15 p.m.      **FIRST PLENARY SESSION** - OSLC Celebrate Center  
Introductions  
Credentials Committee Report  
Voting Device Practice  
Adoption of Rules  
Adoption of Agenda  
State of the Synod – **Bishop David B. Zellmer**  
Resolutions  
Treasurer's Report / Presentation of 2015 Mission Plan – **Erik Gilbertson, Treasurer**  
Open Space Introduction  
Announcements
- 2:15-3:00 p.m.      **BREAK** – Open Space Topics Collected at Temporary Synod Office
- 2:25 p.m.      **Resolutions Committee Meeting** – Conference Room

3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.     **SECOND PLENARY SESSION** – OSLC Celebrate Center  
Announcements  
Mission Interpreter Story  
Portico Representative  
“GIFT” – Growing in Faith Together  
Keynote – **Rev. Keith Anderson**  
Open Space Topics  
Open Space

5:30-7:30 p.m.       **EVENING MEAL AND CELEBRATION** – OSLC  
Table Prayer  
Meal  
Celebration of Ordination, Anniversaries Retirement  
Celebration of New Pastors to SD Synod  
Keynote Address – **Rev. Keith Anderson**  
Closing Prayer

**Saturday, June 14**

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.   **Displays and Book Store Open** – OSLC Basement

7:00-8:00 a.m.       **MISSION PRAYER BREAKFAST** – OSLC Gathering Place

8:15-9:15 a.m.       **MORNING WORSHIP AND COMMUNION** - OSLC Celebrate Center

9:15-10:15 a.m.      **THIRD PLENARY SESSION-** OSLC Celebrate Center  
Announcements and Opening Prayer  
Lutherans Outdoors Annual Meeting – **Rev. Layne Nelson, Executive Director**  
World Hunger Presentation  
Greeting from Augustana College

10:15-10:45 a.m.     **BREAK** – Sponsored by Augustana College

10:45-12:15 p.m.    **FOURTH PLENARY SESSION** – OSLC Celebrate Center  
Mission Interpreter Story  
Credentials Committee Report  
Nominating Committee Report  
Elections  
Adoption of the 2015 Mission Plan – **Erik Gilbertson, Synod Treasurer**  
Open Space – “What’s Next”

12:00-1:00           **LUNCH – Mission Moments in the Fellowship Hall Downstairs**

1:00-2:30 p.m.      **FOURTH PLENARY SESSION** – OSLC Celebrate Center  
Mission Interpreter Story  
Open Space Wrap Up  
Resolutions  
Assembly Evaluations

2:30-2:45 p.m.      **CLOSING OF THE ASSEMBLY** - OSLC Celebrate Center

3:00 p.m.            **Synod Council Meeting** - OSLC Friendship Room

# SYNOD ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES & CONTRIBUTORS

## **ASSEMBLY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Bishop David B. Zellmer  
Rev. Erik Olson, Elk Point  
Rev. Jonathan Vehar, Scotland  
Rev. Brian Wasmoen, Redfield  
Elliott Stephenson, Mitchell  
Kayla Koterwski, Sioux Falls  
Rev. Bill Tesch, Synod Staff  
Susan Marone, Synod Staff  
Kevin Stillson, Synod Staff

## **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Rev. Jonathan Vehar, Chair, Scotland  
Rev. Ryan Gage, Eureka  
Rev. Rebecca Wold Freeman, Sioux Falls  
Rev. Dan Nelson, Brandon  
Debbie Gallipo, Tea  
Chris Strohm, Seminarian assigned to SD  
Rhia Strohm, Seminarian assigned to SD  
Durk Thompson, Seminarian assigned to SD

## **RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

Doug Hansen, Webster  
Shelly Gehring, Madison  
Erin Kaiser, Sioux Falls  
Dan Ofstehage, Mobridge  
Jeanette Fink, Armour  
Dave Lund, Yankton

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Rev. Trey Daum, Sioux Falls  
Rev. Ann Webb, Canton  
Haleigh Johnson, Mitchell

## **PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Brett Koenecke, Pierre

## **SYNOD STAFF**

Jim Schade, Stage Manager  
Suzanne Hansen, Displays, Youth Voting Members  
Cathy Larson, Displays, Mission Prayer Breakfast  
Kevin Stillson, Communications, Materials, Logistics  
Lois Borchardt, Signage, Registration  
Crystal McCormick, Registration

## SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD STAFF

		<u>Home</u>	<u>Office</u>
<b>Bishop</b>	Rev. David B. Zellmer	274-4020	271-5588
<b>Director of Evangelical Mission &amp; Associate to the Bishop</b>	Rev. Bill Tesch	274-4026	333-0453
<b>Associate to the Bishop</b>	Susan Marone, AIM	274-4022	376-5360
<b>Native American Ministry Dir.</b>	Rev. Karen Rupp	867-5262	867-5262
<b>Youth &amp; Family Director</b>	Suzanne Hansen, AIM	274-4105	271-9933
<b>Lutheran Planned Giving Director</b>	Jim Schade	274-4023	627-5545
<b>Lutheran Planned Giving Asst. Dir</b>	Kurt Osborne	274-6012	697-7309
<b>Candidacy and Mobility Office Coordinator</b>	Crystal McCormick	274-4024	
<b>Companion Synods Coordinator</b>	Cathy Larson	274-4031	
<b>Coordinator of Evangelical Mission and Communications</b>	Kevin Stillson	274-5035	
<b>Business Manager</b>	Lois Borchardt	274-4025	

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<b>Bishop</b>	Rev. David B. Zellmer	274-4020	271-5588
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# South Dakota Synod Directory

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## **Bear Butte Conference (7)**

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## **Synod Staff**

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# Candidacy Committee

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## Prairie Coteau

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(Vacant)

## Prairie Rivers

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## **Evangelical Outreach Committee**

### **Prairie Coteau Conference (1)**

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### **Medary Conference (2)**

**Rev. Hans Sacrison** (2015)  
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### **Crossroads Conference (3)**

**Mara Stillson** (2014)  
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**Vacant** (2016)

### **Southeastern Conference (4)**

**Rev. Greg Myrmoe** (2014)  
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**Vacant** (2014)

### **Northern Plains Conference (5)**

**Rev. Jeff Whillock** (2014)  
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**Austin Cope** (2016)  
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### **Prairie Rivers Conference (6)**

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**Margie Neugebauer** (2015)  
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### **Bear Butte Conference (7)**

**Rev. Becky Piper** (2015)  
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**Vacant** (2015)

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## Multicultural Ministry Committee

### Prairie Coteau Conference (1)

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**Vacant** (2013)

### Medary Conference (2)

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### Crossroads Conference (3)

**Rev. Natanael Lizarazo** (2016)  
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### Southeastern Conference (4)

**Rev. Kwen Sanderson** (2016)  
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**Rev. Tim Sersen** (2015)  
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### Prairie Rivers Conference (6)

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### **Bear Butte Conference (7)**

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## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Spring 2014

*So we, who are many, are one body in Christ,  
and individually we are members one of another.*

– Romans 12:5

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my deep joys as I begin my term as the fourth presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is meeting with you and witnessing how we are church together. It is wonderful to see how people's lives are changed because of the commitment of our congregations to share God's love with one another. Thank you for your faithful witness to the gospel. Because of our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, we are church together for the sake of the world.

At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, we affirmed the Book of Faith initiative as a continuing emphasis and priority in this church. It is my hope that our deep biblical engagement with the written word of God may help us become a community of deep spiritual discernment. Together, let us recommit to those spiritual practices of prayer, silence, worship, giving and Scripture study so that together we can prepare ourselves and be quiet long enough to hear how God is speaking to us through the Holy Spirit.

We need to first listen to God and then listen to one another. In your congregations, you are already listening and engaging in this communal discernment as you continue to work on your missional covenants. This work, begun by the encouragement of the Living Into the Future Together task force, is not done in isolation from or in competition with one another. It is shaped by our mutual conversations concerning our vision and mission and discerning where the greatest needs are within our congregations and communities.

The 2013 Churchwide Assembly recognized a number of those greatest needs when it approved the *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*. The Campaign for the ELCA seeks to raise funds for existing local and global churchwide ministries and for new ministries. As church together, we can start or renew a congregation; save a child's life; develop leaders in our church and in our global companion churches; and feed people who are hungry, equipping them to break out of the cycle of hunger and poverty.

This past fall, thousands of congregations participated in the "God's work. Our hands." Sunday. We plan to do this again Sept. 7, 2014. I hope you will join us. This day of service in Jesus' name is a wonderful way to share God's love.

As you pray, worship and discern together to seek and listen for God's will, know that throughout the ELCA, your brothers and sisters are praying for you.

God's peace,

Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## **2014 Bishop's Report to the South Dakota Synod**

*"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus . . ." (I Corinthians 1:4)*

It has been another wonderful year in the life of this Synod. I thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve you as your bishop for six more years. I give thanks for the work that we share in making Christ known. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support of our shared ministry. Mission support for 2013 increased from 2012 and letters of intent for 2014 also increased over 2013.

Just a few highlights of the year, since we were together last:

### **August in Pittsburgh for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly**

We had a fine group of voting members from the South Dakota Synod. It was a privilege for me to spend the week with them, have opportunity to get to know them better, and to do the work of this church on a churchwide level together. We helped elect Kayla Koterwski (member from Peace Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls) as a youth member to the Church Council and Reid Christopherson from St James in Garretson was also elected to the Church Council. It was an amazing process to be a part of as we elected a new Secretary of the Church, the Rev Chris Boerger (who will be our churchwide representative this synod assembly) and a new Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

### **October in western South Dakota**

On October 1, 2013 much of western South Dakota and North Dakota was hit by the worst early blizzard on record. Significant loss of livestock happened across the western prairies. The only good news was no loss of human life. I was at the Conference of Bishops' meeting in Chicago and was able to speak to Lisa Adler and Betty Oldenkamp of Lutheran Social Services as the significance of the storm began to be reported. Lisa works for LSS in Aberdeen, but in times of natural disaster she becomes our point person for Lutheran Disaster Response. I was able to release five thousand dollars from the Synod Office to aid in Lisa's initial response in putting an office together and in beginning to respond to the needs that were already coming in. We are blessed that Lisa, because of her skill, also chairs VOAD (volunteer organizations aiding in disaster). Lutheran Disaster Response also released \$75,000 with an additional \$75,000 as needed to aid in recovery. It was amazing to see all the different agencies and associations come together to help those impacted by the storm.

## **November in Cameroon**

Right before Thanksgiving, I traveled with Pastors Trisha Boese, Jess Daum, Natanael Lizarazo, and Bill Tesch to Cameroon. I attended parts of their Church Council meeting and then on our first Sunday there we all celebrated with the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon as we installed their new bishop the Rev. Dr Reuben Ngozo. We traveled that week to Garoua Boli to re-dedicate the hospital, helped install the mayor (the second woman and first Christian to hold that office) and bless two churches that had roofs donated by congregations from South Dakota. We celebrated Thanksgiving with real cranberry relish and with doctors, staff and many of the pastors from Central African Republic who had come for a moment of respite from the violence. I said good-bye to my traveling companions as they returned home and I went on the road with Bishop Ngozo and President Goliki of the Central African Republic Lutheran Church. I was invited to preach at the worship service where two women and two men were ordained. I also preached at the two dedications of roofs, and at two other services of ordination. The highlight for me was the week teaching at the Lutheran Seminary in Meigunga. I was able to spend time with each class, from those just beginning their education to those in their last semester.

## **January in western South Dakota**

Every January we have a senior pastor's retreat in central South Dakota. This year we were joined by Bishop Elizabeth Eaton for a day before we headed out on the road. Bishop Eaton was introduced to the House of Representatives and then we had a meeting with Governor Dennis Daugaard before driving to Bison South Dakota. We shared an evening meal with people from ten congregations from North Dakota down to Newel. We were hosted by Pastor Dana Lockhart and members of the four congregations he serves. We traveled with Lisa Adler of LSS and the Rev. Michael Stadie of Lutheran Disaster Response. That night we stayed at the Jorgenson ranch and the next morning toured their place and could see first hand the devastation of the storm. We traveled to Sturgis and met with other ranchers and again had a community meal at Grace Lutheran in Sturgis. We were hosted by Pastor Henrique Fleming and the fine people of Grace Lutheran and we had a strong showing from area pastors and members. It was good to hear how people were taking care of one another in recovering from the blizzard.

## **March and April in the South Dakota Synod**

We received five seminarians in the spring draft and all of them are in some portion of the call process. The seminarian that we had received in November has received a call from a congregation in South Dakota.

Dr Solofu from the hospital in Garoua Boli sent us the final drawing and costs for the electrical re-modeling of the hospital. I want to personally thank Pastor Nate and the people of First Lutheran in Sioux Falls, Scott Paisley and East River Electric, and Pastor Chris Baisler and the people of Trinity Lutheran in Mitchell, and St John's in rural Dimock for their outstanding support of this project. They promised me that the money would be raised and that I should release funds to begin the project even before the money was in hand. The need for the electrical work was critical and I released the money. I can report that except for installation of the new



generator (still waiting for delivery) the work is done and the money has been raised. Thanks be to God and to all those who participated.

When I started my first term as your bishop we were anticipating that within 12 years approximately two thirds of our pastors would be retired by then. As we are now more than half way through that time period I have seen nothing to dissuade me from that statistic. Much of my work and the work of the Synod office has been focused on the recruitment of first call seminarians and experienced pastors to replace those who have completed their years of service and are retiring. By the end of 2014, I will have ordained over 65 seminarians and we will have invited more than 25 experienced pastors to come and serve in congregations of South Dakota. We have focused on supporting, encouraging and mentoring those first call rostered leaders who are serving in South Dakota. We have increased our seminary debt reduction program from \$4,000 when I came into office to \$51,000 this past year. We have started our first senior pastor school cohort and we will start a second cohort soon. We are a synod that needs about thirty senior pastors at any given time and its imperative that we begin the process of preparing the leaders that we will need tomorrow, today. That is what our mission campaign is all about, the leaders and ministries of tomorrow.

Half of the mission campaign that you will be voting on is about the recruitment, support and encouragement of the future leaders that will be needed by this synod long after I am done serving as your bishop. None of that mission campaign is about underwriting the current operating budget of the synod. It is all about the mission and ministry that we do together now and into the future.

I want to close with a “Thank you” to my wife, LaDonna. My travel schedule has been the worst since elected this past year and I am ever mindful of her sacrifice, support and love. Thanks as well to my children and grandchildren for your love and support. I continue to be blessed by a talented and dedicated group of people. Even more importantly, every member of the South Dakota Synod and our Companion Synods are also blessed by their dedication and work in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in all that we say and do.

In Christ’s Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bishop David B Zellmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bishop David B Zellmer  
South Dakota Synod. ELCA

## CONGREGATION ANNIVERSARIES and ROSTER CHANGES

### Anniversaries and Dedications

#### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Trinity Lutheran Church, Rapid City

#### 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Bethesda Lutheran Church, Bristol

Zion Lutheran Church, Eureka

Hudson Lutheran Church, Hudson

Trinity Lutheran Church, Revillo

Trinity Lutheran Church, Tea

#### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Brule Creek Lutheran Church, Elk Point

Bergen Lutheran Church, Gayville

Gayville Lutheran Church, Gayville

Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill

### Commissioning

7/28/13 Susan Rohde, AIM

### Installations

5/5/13	Rev. Chris Anderson, Aberdeen, Scandinavia Lutheran
6/2/13	Rev. Marcia Brennan, Newell, First Lutheran
6/2/13	Rev. Timothy Thies, Canton, Canton Lutheran
6/23/13	Rev. David Bentz, Elk Point, St Paul Evangelical Lutheran
7/28/13	Susan Rohde, AIM, Sioux Falls, Spirit of Joy Lutheran
8/18/13	Rev. Adam Butler, Sioux Falls, Holy Cross Lutheran
9/15/13	Rev. Randall Gehring, Sioux Falls, Our Savior's Lutheran
9/19/13	Rev. Mary Sacco, Sioux Falls, Bethany Lutheran Home
9/22/13	Rev. George Ekeren-Moening, Crooks, West Nidaros Lutheran
9/22/13	Michele Gehring, AIM, Madison, St John Lutheran
9/29/13	Rev. Elizabeth Dieseth, Aberdeen, Good Shepherd Lutheran
9/29/13	Rev. April Peterson, Stickney, St Paul Lutheran
10/13/13	Rev. Stephen Palo, Brookings, First Lutheran
10/13/13	Rev. Herb Wounded Head, Brookings, South Dakota State University
10/27/13	Rev. Matthew Miller, Miller, Trinity Lutheran
11/14/13	Rev. Robert Chell, Sioux Falls, St Dymas of South Dakota
1/12/14	Rev. Susan Sinclair, Toronto, Leganger Lutheran
2/2/14	Rev. Gregory Johnson, Brandon, Beaver Valley Lutheran

2/2/14	Rev. Lisa Heffernan (Interim), Chamberlain, Trinity
2/9/14	Rev. Loren Olson, Sioux Falls, First Lutheran
2/16/14	Yvonne Steindal, AIM, Custer, Custer Lutheran Fellowship
3/9/14	Rev. Frank Philipp (Interim), Sioux Falls, Holy Cross
6/8/14	Rev. Michael Johnson, Flandreau, Our Savior's Lutheran
6/8/14	Rev. Dr. Lon Kvanli, Mitchell, First Lutheran
6/8/14	Rev. Dr. Heidi Kvanli, Mitchell, First Lutheran

### **Leave from Call**

12/1/13	Rev. Heidi Kvanli
8/15/13	Rev. Kristin Kellaheer
2/20/14	Rev. Kristin Ostercamp

### **Necrology**

7/21/13	E. Matheny, AIM
9/12/13	Rev. Ronald Brugger
3/27/14	Rev. Harold Watrous

### **Ordinations**

6/15/13	Rev. Adam Butler
6/23/13	Rev. David Bentz
7/27/13	Rev. Elizabeth Dieseth

### **Resigned from Roster**

9/15/13	Rev. Anthony Haglund
3/3/14	Rev. Gary Pabst

### **Removed from Roster**

10/11/13	Angela Smith, AIM
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### **Retired**

6/1/13	Rev. Marjorie Hershey
7/1/13	Rev. Ann Webb
7/7/13	Rev. Dennis Tranberg
9/1/13	Rev. James Joyslin
11/1/13	Rev. Marlin Wangsness
1/1/14	Rev. Duane Neugebauer
2/1/14	Rev. Ralph Egbert
4/1/14	Rev. Jeffrey Rohr
4/1/14	Rev. Bob Ohnstad
5/1/14	Rev. Carroll Marohl

**Transferred Into South Dakota**

9/15/13 Rev. Randall Gehring  
9/22/13 Rev. George Ekeren-Moening  
9/22/13 Michele Gehring, AIM  
9/29/13 Rev. April Peterson  
2/9/14 Rev. Loren Olson

**Transferred Out of South Dakota**

5/26/13 Rev. Jeffrey Hansen, 5F Northeastern Iowa  
7/15/13 Rev. Junfeng Tan, 4F TX-LA Gulf Coast  
9/27/13 Rev. George Wieland, 3G Minneapolis Area  
11/27/13 Rev. Holly Slater, 5K S-C Synod of WI  
12/4/13 Rev. Tanya Rist, 5L La Crosse Area  
12/13/13 Rev. Karen Matuska, 2E Rocky Mountain  
1/16/14 Rev. Carol Mapa, 4A Nebraska  
1/16/14 Rev. Jon Mapa, 4A Nebraska  
1/16/14 Rev. Nicholas Slater, 5J Greater Milwaukee  
4/2/14 Rev. David Astrup, 3D NW MN

The 2014 Synod Assembly Report of Pastor Bill Tesch  
Director for Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop

We recently celebrated “Companeros de Camino” Sunday (“Companions on the Journey”) in the South Dakota Synod. The Gospel for the Day was from Luke 24 – the story of Cleopas and company on the road to Emmaus. The Gospel and the theme for the day led us to explore the realities facing young immigrants who are our companions on the journey. Together we imagined how Jesus meets us as we walk together. For the congregations who participated, it was a joyful celebration of what God is doing in our world. That story of the disciples on the road in Luke 24 has shaped my thoughts and feelings about our partnership in the Gospel as congregations/synod/church wide. This ministry is about walking together as God’s people and discovering that as we journey along Christ meets us in often surprising ways.

Sometimes what draws us together is the recognition that something has to change – it can’t be business as usual if we want to be part of God’s mission in a changing world. This year I’ve had the joy of accompanying several congregations on a months-long process of listening to God, to each other and to the surrounding community – listening for God’s calling to live and serve in new ways. Like those disciples we often “felt our hearts burning within us” and had our “eyes opened” to new opportunities for mission and ministry. This was part of my work in an area called “congregational renewal.” Last year 16 congregations were engaged in some kind of intentional renewal process. They received a total of \$45,600 in direct grants from the Congregation and Synodical Mission Unit of the ELCA and \$22,000 from the Synod.

Sometimes what draws us together as companions is the opportunity to grow. It has been a joy to work with the Renewal Team of the Evangelical Outreach Committee (Jackie Braun, Charlie Bunk, Becky Piper, John Paulson, Tim Sersen, Margie Neugebauer, Suzanne Hansen). We’ve taken what we’ve learned over the last 5 years of doing this work and applied it to creating a new system for accompanying congregations on a journey of renewal. The new process is called “G.i.F.T.” It stands for, “Growing in Faith Together” with the tagline “The Gifts of God for the People of God.” We expect to offer this to the first group of congregations this fall. Please call me if you are interested in having your congregation discover how God is calling you to reach out and serve in Christ’s name.

Sometimes what draws us together as companions is a cry for help. I’ve been working with the Bishop and other leaders of the Episcopal Diocese to expand relationships with Native American companions in South Dakota. Together we’ve discerned the need to invest in our native youth. We are proposing a new position in Pine Ridge devoted to working with our children and youth. I hope you will learn about and support this vital new ministry at Pine Ridge.

Sometimes what draws us together is pain. This year I’ve accompanied a couple of congregations as they moved through conflict and toward healing. I am humbled by the faithfulness of God’s people and heartened to see God’s mercy working in congregations when they face tough times together.

Sometimes what draws us together is a “plentiful harvest.” Jesus said, “The harvest is ready but the laborers are few.” I accompany our new congregations who are sending new laborers into the harvest. Community of Hope in Aberdeen, WestSide, Pueblo de Dios and First Lutheran African Ministry in Sioux Falls, Woyatan in Rapid City, and the Young Adult Intentional Community in Mission are showing us how to reach out in innovative and exciting ways. I hope that you will become a Mission Partner with one or more of these amazing new ministries. Call me if you are interested.

Sometimes what brings us together is a vision for a new future. The proposed “Appeal for Mission and Leadership” provides a pathway to meet the challenges of being the church in a changing world. I had a role in shaping the initial proposal, receiving your feedback and modifying the plan accordingly. At this assembly, you will make decisions about this proposal. It’s about the future of the church. Please consider it as you always do – faithfully and prayerfully.

A simple “thank you” does not express the gratitude I feel for the blessing and honor of serving you on your synod staff. It has indeed been a blessing to serve with Bishop Zellmer, Susan Marone and all of our wonderful synod colleagues on the staff. It is indeed an honor and a joy to accompany the congregations of South Dakota on this breath-taking adventure called, “God’s Mission.” Thank you for your partnership, and may the Joy of the Risen Jesus bless your journey!

Respectfully in Christ,



Rev. Bill Tesch, Director for Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop

Synod Assembly Report, June 2014  
Submitted by Susan Marone, MA, LPC, AIM  
Associate to Bishop Zellmer

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

It continues to be an honor and great privilege to be part of the SD Synod Staff! I feel very blessed to be part of a talented, gifted and supportive team of colleagues, not only on the Synod Staff but also the many fine rostered and lay leaders we have in our synod!

This year was filled with congregational visits and conducting Parish Studies for congregations with Rostered Leader vacancies. In January and February the Executive Staff traveled around the state meeting with congregations for a time of listening and “open space” conversations.

One of the great joys of this work is working with newly ordained clergy! Newly ordained pastors of the SD Synod include:

Pastor David Bentz  
Pastor Adam Butler  
Pastor Elisabeth Dieseth

Commissioned as Associates in Ministry include:

Susan Claire Meyer, AIM  
Susan Rhode, AIM

We welcome the following out-of-state Rostered Leaders to our synod:

Rev. Marcia Brennan  
Rev. George Ekeren-Moening  
Rev. Randall Gehring  
Michele Gehring, AIM  
Rev. Lars Olson  
Rev. April Peterson

Mobility in the SD Synod has been steady as folks who had hoped to retire can now afford to do so. Several of our larger congregations are now being served by a great group of senior pastors and our First Call folks have been wonderful! I would like to thank Pastor Patrick Hahn for his leadership as Chair of the Support to Ministries Committee and for his faithful service in ministry in the Northern Plains Conference.

I continue to enjoy working with the Candidacy Committee as we accompany 49 candidates in responding to a call to ministry in the ELCA. The annual Candidacy Retreat at Shalom Hills Farm in MN, was held in late April and the committee always enjoys spending time with our candidates and getting to know them better. 18 Seminarians will receive scholarships from the SD Synod and we are grateful to all who contribute to those scholarships! Many “thanks” to Pastor Don Salberg and Pastor Duane Neugebauer for their exceptional leadership for this committee as their 10 years of service on the committee has been completed.

I continue to grow and thrive in my call to synodical ministry and am grateful for my colleagues and the ministry of our team!

Peace,

Susan Marone, MA, LPC, AIM

South Dakota ELCA Synod Assembly Report, 2014  
Pastor Karen Rupp, Director of Native American Ministries

We continue to give thanks for the blessings you all bring to our Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministry through your continued prayers, words of encouragement, generous hearts and hands. With grateful hearts and thanksgiving we receive financial contributions quilts, new clothing, disposable diapers, food, gift cards and many other items for the community. Thank you!

We are also continually thankful for relationships – both new and ongoing, and the networks of connections which have developed and grown through visitors coming here for cross-cultural learning from diverse geographic, denominational, educational arenas. Groups reserve their time to come and participate in building and strengthening bridges of relationship with the Lakota community and the calendar fills quickly. We are encouraging groups to consider participating through forming “long-distant” bridges, fundraising to provide materials, tools, and finances to pay members of the local community to perform much needed structural improvement projects.

We also are hopeful that friends far and near will consider contributing to funding a new staff position an Ecumenical Minister for Children and Youth “Crafting a Circle of Healing.” Lakota call their young people wakanja, “sacred beings” and consider the children to be the hope of the future. The Lakota also express belief that choices made today affect all creation through the 7<sup>th</sup> generation to come, even as we feel the repercussions from 7 generations back. Making a choice to be proactive in forming circles of healing for the young people by providing a Christ-like witness, building leadership capacity, increasing resiliency, especially addressing issues of suicide, gang activity and women’s empowerment is a gift we pray the Holy Spirit empowers us to provide.

Interest remains for the local Habitat for Humanity to become active once again, but no action. I’ll try to reconvene the group who can it happen.

The January cross-cultural immersion program for Seminary students welcomed once again several enthusiastically engaged students from Wesley, Lutheran Southern, Wartburg, Bexley Hall and Gettysburg this year. Professor Rev. Craig Nesson accompanied his Wartburg students and provided very positive feedback about the experience. I hope to visit Wartburg next fall to strengthen our connection. Lutheran Outdoors and Augustana College continue to offer opportunities for our young people through summer programs and alternative spring and/or fall breaks and invite our young to their campuses and programs. We like to attend Woyatan Wednesday night or Saturday night whenever we can with our young people and/or visiting groups.

Word and Sacrament ministry continues at St. John’s Episcopal Church in N. Oglala and Cohen Home, a residential facility for the elderly. We have not been involved at Makasan Presbyterian Church since the conflict within their congregation, but have been attending Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church when possible and when we do, I’m frequently invited to offer prayers there. We seek to strengthen healthy ecumenical relationships. We will likely begin offering worship opportunities to the community right at the Retreat Center in response to several requests. .

We applied to be a Horizon Internship site and were approved, but no intern was assigned to our site. Young people from the community continue attend our Sanctuary young peoples’ afternoon program where we host youth for play and worship activities. Over 100 local youth visit on a regular basis in age groups 7 and under and 8 and over. We invited families to our Thanksgiving meal in November and hosted 84 on Wednesday and another 22 on Thursday...good fellowship and celebration Through generous donations from individuals and faith-based groups we provided Christmas gifts to over 250 young people and gift certificates their families and some of our regular lunch time folks and artists. During the past year we served over 8.500 lunches to the hungry of the community. Thank you, South Canyon Lutheran Church in Rapid City, for continuing to assist with this program by donating food items for the lunch, Sanctuary meals and snacks.

The Multi-cultural committee continues to meet regularly for the work of supporting multi-cultural ministries, nurturing their growth, fostering educational opportunities and building healthy relationships.

Please check our Face Book page, web page and newsletters (I do hope to get newsletters out more regularly) for continuing updates. Thank you Bishop Zellmer, Synod Council members, Synod Staff, and mission partners for ongoing prayer, encouragement and support. Please know we keep on keeping you all in our prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Rupp*

Rev. Karen Rupp



## **South Dakota Youth Ministry Assembly Report 2014**

The South Dakota Synod did a Synod Youth Gathering this March with 100 Youth and Adults attending. The Gathering was held at Lutheran Outdoors Joy Ranch in Watertown, SD. This was a giant success for the Youth of our Synod. The music was great, the speakers spoke from the heart, and the housing and food were fantastic. The Youth also were involved in doing service projects, such as: tearing and winding up bandages, tying quilts to be sent to Pine Ridge and other places, and making scrap book pages for kids in foster families.

Since this event was so well received, the Synod is planning on having another Gathering next March at Joy Ranch.

The people who work with Young Adults in the Synod's congregations still come together on a monthly basis to talk, laugh, and share their "wisdoms" with each other. The Synod's Youth Ministry Network has become stronger because of these committed people. We have been using the times that we meet together as a continuing education time by discussing the "Practice Discipleship" topics that come from the ELCA's Continuing Ed. for Youth Workers whose ministry is working with the Young Adults in their communities. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this important ministry in the South Dakota Synod.

Suzanne Hansen AIM

SD Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator

**2014 REPORT TO SYNOD ASSEMBLIES**  
**Paul Baglyos, Coordinator for Missional Leadership, ELCA Region 3**

**“Missional”?**

The position to which I am called as deployed staff of the ELCA churchwide organization is “Coordinator for Missional Leadership, Region 3.” Each of the nine regions of the ELCA is served by a regional coordinator, all of whom share the word “missional” in their position titles. (Region 3 includes the nine ELCA synods in the three states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota.)

The word “missional” raises hackles on some who hear it, because it sounds to them like a made-up word, a buzz-word currently in vogue among some in the ELCA and resisted by others who suspect that it imports an alien agenda. Despite any dis-reputation of the word, however, its current use in the ELCA aims toward a faithful response to God.

“Missional,” of course, is a tweak on the word “mission,” surely not alien to the church’s vocabulary. “Mission” shares the same linguistic lineage, and the same complex of meaning, as the English words “send,” “sending,” “sent,” and so forth, which occur many thousands of times in English translations of the Bible. In one key example, the risen Lord Jesus tells his disciples, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you” (John 20:21, NRSV). The recurrent biblical theme of sending is recalled and represented whenever the church speaks about “mission,” and the current use of the tweaked variant “missional” is intended to focus attention specifically on that biblical theme.

The mission about which the church speaks whenever it uses that word is primarily *God’s* mission in and to the world, carried out by the sending of Jesus and by the sending of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus for his ministry as God’s Beloved. The Spirit, through the ministry of Jesus, gathers the church, God’s beloved community. God creates the church to be the body of Jesus in the world, which means that the church shares the ministry of Jesus as being *sent* into the world that God so loves.

Being both gathered and sent is the respirational dynamic by which the church lives. English language shares with Hebrew a close correlation between the words “spirit” and “breath”; the Bible testifies that God’s Spirit, God’s breath, is the life of all that lives. The church lives as the respiration – the re-spir(it)-ation – of God, who gathers and sends it.

The current emphasis upon the missional vocation of the church and the need for missional leaders is intended to help the church attend equally to God’s work of sending as to God’s work of gathering. The liturgy enacts God’s work in both respects, gathering the community amidst the world in order to send it once again into the world. Whether or not the word “missional” remains in vogue in the ELCA, the intention behind it pertains to God’s Spirit, God’s breath, as the very essence of the church’s life.

## ELCA Region 3 Archives Report to 2014 Synod Assemblies

### **Introduction**

This year marks the *26<sup>th</sup> year of the ELCA Region 3 Archives*. I continue in the archivist position half-time for the nine synods of Region 3 and half-time for Luther Seminary. This shared position continues to work well, with Luther providing space and access to the student worker pool and Region 3 providing the school a large and useful research collection. We also benefit from the much-needed help of 8 regular volunteers, (part of the seminary “friends” group) and technical support from the school’s IT office.

### **Use of the Region 3 Archives**

Our website ([www.luthersem.edu/archives](http://www.luthersem.edu/archives)) presence continues to increase use levels of both collections and services. Luther Seminary hosts the website and provides technical support for it. The site is regularly updated with new training material for congregational audiences as well as listings of the actual archival holdings. The website remains our “front door”, attracting a growing number of users from within, as well as beyond, the ELCA. In addition to the internet, researchers reach us via phone calls, mailed letters and personal visits.

+The Archives assisted a total of 971 reference patrons in the past year with a variety of research interests. The majority (69%) are congregational committees working on scanning projects, anniversary celebration planning, history writing and related questions. Other significant user groups include synod offices and church wide offices as well as individual researchers.

+Daniels worked on-site with all 9 synod offices, gathering permanently valuable office records and assisting with retention plans for each office. He visited each office at least 6 times during the year. These visits were coordinated with 34 on-site congregational visits throughout the three states of Region 3.

+Daniels spoke at 15 adult forums and study groups in congregations throughout the Region. The main focus of these presentations is the use of memory in the congregation. These sessions also provide an efficient venue to publicize the many congregational services available through the Region 3 Archives.

### **Collection Growth**

+The Archives received 475 linear feet of synod office records from the 9 offices. These included legal, financial, personnel and program files.

+Gathered an additional 278 congregational histories – collection now totals 6,084 histories.

+Received 512 biographical pieces for files on clergy and lay leadership – collection now totals 6,124 files.

+Additional 15 congregations filmed their valuable church records through the new scanning program.

+Collected 18 linear feet of mission photographs, films, papers and artifacts from retired China, Japan, South Africa, Madagascar and Alaska missionaries.

### **Outreach and Education**

+Daniels led workshops on congregational archives at 4 Region 3 synod assemblies in 2013. He also presented Archives services information at 2 fall theological conferences.

+Daniels recently completed meeting with all 9 synod councils in the Region during the past year to acquaint and update this key leadership group with the services and activities of the Region 3 Archives

+Distributed over 710 copies of “Memory Work: A Guide for Congregational Archives and History” to congregations and individuals.

+Continues off-site storage program for all Region 3 synods for professional and permanent care of sensitive files, including candidacy, camping staff, and financial records using Iron Mountain Co.

+Launched a new records scanning service for congregations to replace the long-running microfilming program. This new service of digitizing vital church records will begin in April 2013.

### **Professional Development**

+Daniels is an active member of several professional archival organizations, including the Society of American Archivists, the Midwest Archives Conference and the Twin Cities Archives Roundtable.

+Daniels maintains his professional certification in the Academy of Certified Archivists.

+Daniels continues active participation in the Lutheran Historical Conference, a pan-Lutheran group of historians, archivists and librarians.

*Respectfully submitted, Paul A. Daniels, ELCA Region 3 Archivist and Luther Seminary Archivist, 3.10.14*

The Association of Christian Churches of SD brings greetings and thanks to the SD ELCA Synod for its active membership and financial support this year. The association has appreciated the regular attendance and involvement of its representative, Rev. Lee Stadem, retired Lutheran pastor.

In the past year, our focus has been about educating legislators and others in the Affordable Care Act, (ACA) especially for supporting the passage of state law to cover persons at the 100-138 percentile of poverty. Although the legislature did not vote to extend benefits to this group of several thousand South Dakotans, we feel in time that this measure of equality and taking care of God's people will ultimately take place. The association partially funded grant writing done by the Community Action Program (CAP) to provide unbiased public information on the ACA as well as to train Navigators to work individually with beneficiaries.

Other activities have been about 'doing together as covenanted denominations what each individually could not do by itself.' We continue to advocate for the needs of the poor, the prisoner, and those who lack a voice especially as it relates to how the State budget is spent. We also consider how to best support the moral, ethical and equal treatment of all of God's people as the Gospel calls us to do.

It is my pleasure to serve the ELCA in the name of Christ.

Gratefully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Hoy". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Hoy, Director, SD Association of Christian Churches  
P.O. Box 2104  
Sioux Falls, SD 57101  
(605) 261-2308  
[office@accsd.org](mailto:office@accsd.org)



## **About the Mission Investment Fund**

The Mission Investment Fund (MIF), a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, makes low-interest **loans** to established ELCA congregations, new-start congregations and ELCA-related ministries for capital projects.

Established congregations use MIF loans to renovate, expand or relocate. New-start congregations rely on MIF loans to buy land and construct their first church buildings. ELCA-related ministries use MIF loans for a variety of capital projects.

To fund these loans, MIF offers a variety of **investments** for congregations, their members, synods and ELCA-related ministries to purchase. MIF investments offer adjustable- or fixed-rate terms and earn interest at competitive rates.

The Mission Investment Fund is **financially strong and stable**, with a record of steady, controlled growth:

- With total assets of \$660 million and net assets of \$190 million at year-end 2013, MIF achieved a capital ratio of 28.8 percent, maintaining MIF's position in the top tier of well-capitalized church extension funds.
- At year-end 2013, loans for capital projects for more than 780 ELCA congregations and ministries totaled \$464 million. MIF investments by congregations, their members, synods and ELCA-related ministries totaled \$464 million.

## **Investments and Loans in the South Dakota Synod**

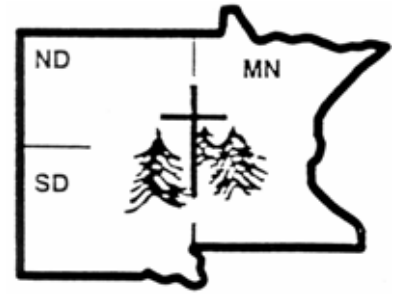
### ***As of December 31, 2013:***

- 7 Mission Investment Fund loans, with a balance of **\$1,881,160**, are at work throughout the synod.
- Investments in the Mission Investment Fund by 231 individuals, 93 congregations, 31 ministries, and the South Dakota Synod totaled **\$9,259,599**.

### ***MIF representative for the South Dakota Synod:***

The Rev. Daniel B. Carlson, Regional Manager: Tel. (773) 682-2943; email: [dan.carlson@elca.org](mailto:dan.carlson@elca.org)

ELCA Region 3 Camping Network  
8231 County Road 11 NE, Alexandria, MN 56308  
Ph: 320-846-2431  
www.r3campingnetwork.org



Executive Committee: Marv Nysetvold (Shetek) President  
Nick Johnson (Upper Missouri), Vice President  
Paul Hanson (Luther Crest), Treasurer  
Mara Stillson (Lutherans Outdoors in SD), Secretary  
Jake Hanson (Luther Crest), MN Representative  
Linda Arnason (Metigoshe), ND Representative  
Rachel Nelson (Lutherans Outdoors in SD), SD Representative

**Hear the Gospel!**

**Celebrate God's Creation!**

**Find Spiritual Renewal!**

## 2014 Annual Report of the ELCA Region 3 CAMPING NETWORK

*The ELCA Region 3 Camping Network exists to support outdoor ministry professionals in Region 3 and its nine synods, and to serve the people and congregations working with them.*

The ELCA Region 3 Camping Network is a grass roots network of ELCA-affiliated Bible camps serving congregations in Region 3. The network is sustained by the pledges of network camps, as well as synod contributions and other gifts. The Camping Network serves outdoor ministry and congregations in the following ways:

- **Recruiting**—Midwest recruiting fairs at colleges and universities are scheduled annually. Network camps participate in the fairs, as well as additional camps from across the country.
- **Communication**—The network website is [www.r3campingnetwork.org](http://www.r3campingnetwork.org). The website includes a listing of all participant camps, program ideas, job postings, a calendar of regional and national camp events, resources for camp staff and Summer Staff recruiting information. The network also sends out the *GRAPEVINE*, a biweekly e-newsletter reporting camp-submitted news and information.
- **Cooperative Ministry**—The network works to strengthen existing connections with campus ministry, seminaries and congregations.
- **Grants** – The network established annual grants for outdoor ministries to explore new ways to partner with congregations in the region.

Region 3 has a wealth of Bible camping opportunities, with more than 40 outdoor ministry sites serving congregations. Ways in which you can partner with outdoor ministries to enrich your congregation's ministry include:

- Designating a week or two of the summer camp schedule for your congregation to participate as a group.
- Offering day camp programs for children and youth during the summer.
- Making confirmation camp and retreat experiences an integral part of your confirmation program.
- Participating in wilderness, high adventure camp programs and mission trips.
- Offering Family Camp.
- Developing programs for older adults.
- Using camp staff to help plan and implement youth and adult programs.
- Encouraging youth and adults to work at camp as paid or volunteer staff.
- Supporting camps in prayer and financially.

There is a place for you! Whether you are a camper, a “work-weekend” volunteer or a financial supporter, you and your congregation can be part of this ministry that is living out the gospel of Christ and shaping leaders for the future!

## **South Dakota Synod Vice President's Report**

It was a privilege to attend the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August. The theme for the Assembly was "Always Being Made New" which celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ELCA. It was an intense and exciting week centered around worship each day. The Assembly heard reports from churchwide officers, officials, units, and ecumenical partners; considered and acted upon proposals from synod assemblies; adopted amendments to the constitution and model constitutions; approved the budget; participated in Bible study; attended hearings on various topics; considered and acted upon a social statement on criminal justice; and approved the ELCA's Always Being Made New capital campaign. The highlight of the week for me was the election of a new secretary – Rev. Chris Boerger, and a new Presiding Bishop – Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, both of whom are gifted leaders. In addition, two members of the South Dakota Synod were elected to the Church Council, the governing board of the ELCA, Kayla Koterwski, Tea; and Reid Christopherson, Garretson. Both Kayla and Reid have great passion for the mission and ministry of all three expressions of the ELCA: churchwide (national), synod (state), and congregation (local). All of this and much more was accomplished in six short (sometimes long) days. It is interesting and inspiring to witness the work of the larger church. Together we accomplish much, always remembering it is God's work and our hands. I encourage members of the South Dakota Synod to consider serving as voting members to future Churchwide Assemblies.

The Synod Council is the board of directors of the synod and serves as its interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly. The Synod Council met three times throughout the past year. The Council heard reports from synod staff and partnership ministries; attended to roster matters; approved changes to continuing resolutions to the Synod Constitution and Bylaws; authorized a feasibility study for a synod capital campaign; appointed members of the St. Dymas associate council; and revised the current fiscal year budget and adopted a proposed budget to be approved by the 2014 Synod Assembly. The Synod Council also reappointed Erik Gilbertson as treasurer. The ability to take this action is provided for in articles +S8.41 and +8.51 of the Synod Constitution. There is a great learning curve with this key position and Mr. Gilbertson has served the synod ably and well over the four years of his first term. The Council looks forward to continued partnership with him.

I would like to extend a special word of appreciation to outgoing members of the Synod Council: Duane Abata, Verdelle Anderson, Steve Koenig, Kayla Koterwski, Pastor Siri Beckmen Sorenson, Pastor Kevin Jensen, and Pastor Holly Slater.

Thank you to Bishop Zellmer, Pastor Bill Tesch, Susan Marone, Suzanne Hansen, Cathy Larson, Pastor Karen Rupp, Crystal McCormick, Lois Borchardt, Kevin Stillson, Jim Schade, and Kurt Osborne for their dedication, commitment, and passion for the ongoing work of the South Dakota Synod.

Thank you also, to the members and congregations of the South Dakota Synod. Through your partnership in ministry and mission support, we are able to accomplish much more together than we could separately. Through our combined efforts we are living out the Synod's vision "That All May be Filled".

I am excited about the continued journey God has in store for us and look forward to walking it with you.

*Canady Boncarant*

**Report of the Support to Ministries Committee to the 2014 South Dakota Synod Assembly**  
Pastor Patrick Hahn, Chairperson

All one has to do is glance at the *Synod Transitions* in the Synod E-News to see there is a tremendous amount of movement in the South Dakota Synod. We currently have a large number of congregations seeking rostered leaders. With this movement bring a lot of excitement, possibilities, hope, and a bit of anxiety. Through it all we can be confident the Spirit moves in and through us to bring joy, life, and light into a dark world.

This year we have experienced an increase in retirements and one of our smallest groups of first call candidates assigned to the South Dakota Synod. These two issues combined make the call process a little more difficult.

Your committee works diligently seeking to offer candidates to calling congregations with the right skill sets. We continued to refine the South Dakota Synod Compensations Guidelines for Rostered and Lay Leaders.

If you know colleagues, past pastors, or friends who are rostered leaders outside of the South Dakota Synod, encourage them to prayerfully consider being open to pursuing a call in our synod. God is doing great things in our state through us and we can expect more exiting ministry opportunities in the future.

Behind the scenes Crystal McCormick and Susan Morone do the day to day work of the Support to Ministries Committee. Their dedication and inspiring work make candidacy possible in the South Dakota Synod. They deserve our thanks



## **Lutheran Campus Ministry in South Dakota 2013-2014**

This past year has been a year of change for Lutheran Campus Ministry at **South Dakota State University**. Long-time campus pastor, Bob Chell, accepted a call to St. Dymas. The Board of Directors called Pastor Herb Wounded Head to be the new campus minister. Pastor Herb is no stranger to SDSU. He was very active in the campus ministry program during when he was a student on campus. This is just one example of how our campus ministries lay the ground work for future pastors.

Ministry at the Luther Center at **University of South Dakota** centered on Kingdom of God as a present reality for our lives and the world. A variety of guests shared how God's Kingdom broke in their lives during worship opportunities throughout the year. During SDU's homecoming Dakota Days, Lutheran Campus Ministry sponsored a float called "Yotes Tackle Hunger" to collect food and donations to support the Vermillion Food Panty. Students were involved in other community activities: serving meals at the Welcome Table, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, supporting prisoners by attending worship at the prison in Springfield. All these activities celebrated what God is up to in the SDU community and the world.

2013-2014 was a time of transition for campus ministry in West River at **Black Hills State University** and **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology**. Both campus ministers at these sites accepted calls to congregations. Volunteers and Boards of Directors continued campus ministry at both sites. SDSM&T celebrated 25 years of ministry in Rapid City. Hilary Satrang served as interim. BHSU continued their Mom's group to assist moms and single parents to continue their education. The Boards of Directors of SDSM&T and BHSU are pursuing partnering to continue Lutheran Campus Ministry at Spearfish and Rapid City.

Collegians in Christ's Service (CICS) at **Northern State University** continue to be very active in serving in the local Aberdeen community. Bible study and service is the core of ministry at NSU. Their service continues after graduation. Seven students traveled to Texas to work at the Bekencamp Children's Shelter in Corpus Christi. This shelter provides support and assistance to children who have traveled, been trafficked, or were smuggled across the boarder into the US. CICS will provide VBS activities for the children and share the message that Jesus loves them—no matter what.

Lutheran Campus Ministry to students and staff at our South Dakota universities would not be possible without your prayers and financial support. We thank you for your prayers and generous support. If you have not considered supporting your area Lutheran Campus Ministry site, please prayerfully consider doing so. You can find addresses, names and emails for Campus Ministry at the Synod's website, [www.sdsynod.org/where-we-serve/locally/campus-ministry/](http://www.sdsynod.org/where-we-serve/locally/campus-ministry/) .

If a family member, church member, or friend attends or is planning to attend one of our South Dakota universities, encourage them to give Lutheran Campus Ministry their contact information. They can submit contact information at the above link.

## South Dakota Synod Candidacy Report 2014

The South Dakota Synod is blessed with forty-nine candidates that seek to become rostered leaders in the ELCA. As these candidates make this journey to become leaders in our church, there are 15 individuals from throughout the SD Synod, both pastors and lay people that walk with the candidates on their journey. The individuals walking with the candidates are members of the SD Synod Candidacy Committee.

Candidates for rostered leadership in the ELCA pass three mileposts: applicant for entrance, endorsement, and finally approval for leadership in the ELCA. The Candidacy Committee meets to discuss with the candidates the process of candidacy and major steps in candidacy. A relator from the Candidacy Committee is assigned to each candidate to walk with them on their journey to become a rostered leader in the ELCA.

The SD Synod has been blessed with money that has been given by individuals, organizations, endowments and foundations for scholarships for those in candidacy. The Candidacy Scholarship Committee this year awarded \$120,000 in scholarships to 18 individuals on this journey to become rostered leaders in the ELCA.

As members of the SD Synod, we play an important role in talking with and encouraging individuals that have the qualities to become rostered leaders in the ELCA. As Paul writes in Romans chapter 12 of the different gifts of Christian service, we are called to lift up those with gifts to become leaders in our church.

If you have any questions about candidacy, please contact [Susan Marone, AIM](mailto:smarone@sdsynod.org), Associate to the Bishop, [smarone@sdsynod.org](mailto:smarone@sdsynod.org), phone: 605/274-4022; or [Crystal McCormick](mailto:cmccormick@augie.edu), Candidacy and Mobility Office Coordinator, [cmccormick@augie.edu](mailto:cmccormick@augie.edu), phone: 605/274-4024. Or click on: <http://www.sdsynod.org/candidacy>

## **2014 Report Multicultural Committee - By Natanael Lizarazo, Chair**

We greet you brothers and sisters gathered for our 2014 Synod Assembly. As Multicultural Committee, we work toward making reality God's will for us to be become the colorful and ethnically diverse church God intends us to be! Even as we work, we also pray for the Holy Spirit to blow throughout our congregations so that faithful to God's mission we love all people regardless of color, nationality or language as the Sunday school song reminds us: "red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in his sight." Despite real challenges, our work engages growing opportunities to be God's multicultural church for the fast-changing world of today. From Africa, Latin America, Pine Ridge, Sioux Falls and Rapid City, God is being praised with new and beautiful language and cultural accents these days!

Our Committee represents all Conferences of our Synod and works in collaboration with our Synod's Evangelical Outreach Committee. This structure facilitates greater participation and communication. And though geography is wide-spread, we are thankful for technology which allows us to participate in meetings without spending time in the road or significant financial resources. Still we have face-to-face meetings complemented by technology if necessary.

Current Multicultural Committee members are: Rev. Bill Schruba, Rev. Daryl Schubert, Gayle Cole, Rev. Natanael Lizarazo, Daniel Gayetaye, Rev. Kwen Sanderson, Sheldon Engen, Rev. Tim Sersen, Connie Woehlhaff, Rev. Chris Baesler, Dennis Paulson, Rev. Kent Narum, Sarah, Holz, Rev. Karen Rupp, Rev. Herb Wounded Hear, Rev. David Piper, Jim Bishop, and Rev. Bill Tesch, Director of Evangelical Outreach.

Our core tasks are: (1) advise the Evangelical Outreach Committee on matters related to the oversight and funding of ethnic specific ministries (2) develop strategies to help us become a more multicultural church (3) advocate with and for ethnic communities at every level of ministry and leadership in our Synod, and to stand in solidarity with people who experience injustice (4) teach the people of our Synod how to listen and interact with different cultures, so that there may be a mutual blessing (5) encourage congregations and leaders who are involved in multicultural ministry (6) seek generous giving and participation from churches, individuals, and organizations toward the cause of multicultural ministry.

Though we have a long way to go, our feet are already immersed in these baptismal ministry waters! Ministries we currently accompany and support are: Lakota Retreat Center (Pine Ridge), Woyatan Lutheran Church (Rapid City), Intentional Young Adult Community (Rosebud), Pueblo de Dios (Sioux Falls) First Lutheran African Ministry (Sioux Falls). These ministries are moving forward in proactive ways despite unique challenges. As we move forward in addressing our growing diversity, it is critically important that together as South Dakota Synod and ELCA we find ways to fund these ministries, make them visible, invest in leadership development and provide participation for people of color in our decision-making as Synod. We pray for this to happen trusting that God who calls us is always faithful and will provide everything needed.

## **Report of the Evangelical Outreach Committee**

The Evangelical Outreach Committee offers oversight, support, and advocacy on behalf of new starts, congregations under renewal, and ethnic specific congregations that are supported by the South Dakota Synod. This work is carried out in partnership with the Multi-Cultural Committee, and through three working groups; New starts, Renewals, and Mission Partners.

New Starts: Helps to oversee and support congregations in development and identify possible areas for new congregations. Current new start congregations include First Lutheran African Ministry (Sioux Falls), Pueblo de Dios (Sioux Falls), WestSide Lutheran (Sioux Falls), Community of Hope (Aberdeen), Intentional Christian Community (Rosebud), and Woyatan Lutheran (Rapid City). Each of these new starts represents exciting possibilities as new and emerging ministry needs develop as a result urban sprawl and growing ethnic diversity. The EOC encourages each congregation of our synod to connect with an emerging ministry as a Mission Partner. Mission Partner relationships are one valuable way to deepen the connection between the joint ministries of our synod.

Renewals: The EOC has again affirmed the goal that every congregation in the synod is engaged in a renewal process every 7 years. To assist in meeting this goal there is be an intentional effort to train leaders in a variety of approaches to renewal (coaching, Natural Church Development, Vibrant Faith, etc.) to meet the varying needs of our congregations. A focus will be made to make such resources available and affordable especially to smaller, rural congregations. A variety of resources are available to help congregations, no matter their size or locations, in a renewal and visioning process.

Mission Partners: Beginning with the 2013 Synod Assembly, the EOC has made a concerted effort to strengthen the financial support of our mission congregations through Mission Partners and Mission Boosters. Check the Synod web site for bulletin inserts about each of our Mission Partners.

This report is only a snapshot of part of the being done on behalf of the SD Synod, and pales in comparison to the transformative ministries that happen each and every day across South Dakota. If you want a true sense of the many ways that at is at God through our joint ministries, simply visit any of our new starts, renewal congregations, or multi-cultural worshipping communities.

## **2014 Report from the Companion Synod Committee and Coordinator**

The ministry of any congregation is enriched by reaching out to the world. The Companion Synod Committee encourages congregations and their members to engage with Nicaragua and Cameroon, our designated companions. The South Dakota Synod continues to be enriched by the relationships with our companion Churches.

This year nineteen people traveled to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon in three different groups. Bishop Dave and a group of pastors attended the installation of Bishop Ngozo and the rededication of the hospital in Garoua Boulai. A group from Trinity Lutheran in Mitchell went for roof building. Two South Dakotans joined a group from ND and MN. Visitors from Cameroon: Drs Solofo and Joely were guests of SD Synod for a month after last year's assembly. No visa was granted so we missed hosting Bishop Ngozo.

Eight groups from SD Synod traveled to Nicaragua. Trips were Milbank youth in June/July; St. Mark's, SF, plus Pastor Jeanette from Pueblo de Dios for Reformation; Flandreau baseball trip in January; Rapid City congregations well/water trip in Feb; Gloria Dei, SF, medical trip in Feb; two synod trips in late Feb and March for companionship and dedication of the church in Somoto; and Pollack youth trip in May/June. With the Church in Nicaragua Mike Busbey welcomed and assisted all these groups. We are grateful for the travelers, for hosts and for our missionary, Mike. Mike Busbey was in our synod in September and we hope to host Bishop Victoria at Synod Assembly.

Cameroon partnership resulted in a call for funding 25 roofs to complete churches where walls have been built by village congregations. Congregations and individuals responded, and as of May 1 \$106,500. has been forwarded to build roofs in Cameroon. Completed are roofs for Bengue-Tiko, Bounou, Mbakana, Mbitom, Mborgene, Limbe, Medif. . . . A large roof in Garoua Boulai is also being reconstructed. SD Synod supported other projects in Cameroon \$68,800. Quick fund-raising provided for electrical and X-ray at the Garoua Boulai hospital, other funds for Train Up a Child and scholarships.

Projects and missionary support funds to our relationship with Nicaragua totaled \$54,300. A roof for the "historic housing" building at Cedro Galan was funded. Other contributions were for schools, the Green Project and missionary to Nicaragua. We know that trip participants provided other funds toward Nicaragua projects while they were there.

Thanks to all who participate in our Companion Synod Committee, contribute to Companion Synod projects and trips, and support the relationships we have with Lutheran Christians far and near. A special thanks to those who have traveled to make personal contact with our companions.

Cathy Larson Companion Synod Coordinator

Chuck Storm, Chair, Companion Synod Committee

# **South Dakota Synodical Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

## **Report to the South Dakota Synod Assembly, 2014**

In June 2013, our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Synodical Convention of the South Dakota Women of the ELCA was held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. There were 115 in attendance. Our theme was "Strengthened by God," based on Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

We worshiped at St. Dymas, our ELCA congregation behind prison walls, and our keynote speaker, Gloria Gurwell, represented Prison Congregations of America.

During our Convention Banquet we celebrated reaching our goal of \$200,000 for the Joy Ranch Kitchen. Joy Nelson was present and gave each woman a white rose as a thank you. Great job ladies!!

Our Leadership Workshop, training for the Conference officers, was held at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Pierre, August 2-3.

In late August, Lutherans Outdoors held their annual Quilt Auction at Joy Ranch. The women of our Synod made beautiful quilts and other items, thereby giving financial support to our camping ministry in South Dakota.

The Women of the SD Synod continue to support many ministries, both financially and with the giving of time and talent through the local congregation. Last year our Synod women made over 8000 quilts (and many kits and other items) for Lutheran World Relief and other organizations. LWR gave us a challenge, to make 25% more quilts this year to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The results will be announced at our convention in June. But I think we did it.

Our women, as they have since our beginning, continue to meet in Circles each month for fellowship, service, and participation in Bible study, using our national magazine, Gather.

We held our Winter Board Meeting at First Lutheran Church in Brookings on January 11, 2014. It had to be postponed from January 4, due to bad weather. Our 2014 Convention will be held in Brookings at First Lutheran, June 20-21.

Women of the ELCA, SD Synod, is on Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter. We also have a Blog. Check it out.

Vivian Westgard, President



# AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
ROBERT C. OLIVER

May 2014

During the fall semester, 557 student recipients of Augustana’s Endowed and Annual Scholarships wrote notes and letters of thanks to the donors of their awards. We are always inspired by the expressions of gratitude that are articulated by our students. We do our best to say “thanks for your support,” yet it pales in comparison to the stories of thanksgiving our students share with generous alumni and friends who fund these scholarships.

A letter from Courtney Storm, class of 2015, addressed to Deb ‘77 and Lowell ‘80 Stortz, was included in our annual report and is just one example of the thankfulness of our students. As Augustana rounds out her 153<sup>rd</sup> year, she continues to fulfill her mission of providing students like Courtney, who come from small towns and big cities all over the globe, with an education of enduring worth.

For the fall semester, our campus was home to our largest-ever class of international students — 140 students from 44 countries. These international students joined our domestic students who hailed from 30 states across the U.S. In January, Interim-2014, 102 students traveled to 17 countries around the world from Turkey to India to China, Israel, France and others, studying everything from culture to religion to architecture.

Last summer, 70 students participated in scientific research projects on- and off-campus through the College’s Undergraduate Summer Research Program.

And, despite a still challenged economy, 98 percent of our 2013 graduates reported accepting a job related to their major or chosen field of study.

Augustana’s fiscal year closed on July 31, 2013, with promising advancements: Annual giving closed at \$9.65 million, the second highest on record, inclusive of gifts to the Endowment, scholarships, the Augustana Fund, Center for Western Studies, Library Associates, the Performing and Visual Arts, the Augustana Athletic Club, the Science Center Project and many other important College initiatives. As a result, the \$120 million Momentum Augustana Campaign, the largest fundraising effort in the history of the College, made significant strides and will exceed its goal at the close of the campaign on July 31, 2014.

Yet, it’s important to note that none of these achievements would have been possible without the support of many who value the College’s mission.

In our annual report, we celebrated the generosity of nearly 5,300 individuals and family units, made up of alumni, parents, friends and many current and former Augustana faculty and staff who have invested in the College through their charitable giving during this past fiscal year. Their expressions of “paying it forward” serve as an example for all of us and our current students, whom we hope will one day help make it possible for the next generation of Augustana students to explore and discover important ideas and concepts in order to create an even better world.

Thanks be to God!

Robert C. Oliver  
President

## **ELCA annual report: The Good Samaritan Society**

As the nation's largest not-for-profit provider of senior services and housing, The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society has always sought to create environments where people are loved, valued and at peace.

The Good Samaritan Society was founded in 1922 and opened its first care center in 1923 in Arthur, N.D. Today, the Good Samaritan Society operates in 24 states at more than 24 locations with its headquarters in Sioux Falls, S.D.

The organization continues to evolve to meet the needs and desires of residents, staff members and communities it serves and is dedicated to supporting well-being through innovative products and services for older adults and their families.

In South Dakota, Good Samaritan continues to provide services in 18 communities around the state. Good Samaritan also continues to expand its services to seniors, primarily in the Black Hills area and in Sioux Falls. These services seek to meet senior's needs while inviting them to use their talents to impact the community around them.

In 2013, the Good Samaritan Society:

- Developed a major initiative to encourage its 22,000 staff members to emulate Jesus in daily work and relationships. Called The Good Samaritan Society Way, the initiative focuses on eight traits: compassion, honesty, perseverance, joy, humility, acceptance, courage and love. It challenges staff members to weave these traits into their work and daily lives and discover new ways to live out the Society's mission of sharing God's love in word and deed.
- Hired its first chief medical officer, Dr. Victoria Walker. In her role, Dr. Walker will assist in the development of new models of care and services, be a liaison to the Society's medical directors nationwide and participate in the Society's strategic planning process.
- Completed the data collection phase of its LivingWell@Home research project. The Society was awarded a \$10 million grant in 2010 to study how sensors and other technology can help seniors remain longer in their homes. Data collected involved 1,600 people in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska and Iowa communities where the Society has a presence.
- Launched a new program to improve communications between hospital discharge planners and Society admissions staff. The Care in Transition program is being implemented throughout the Society's 172 rehabilitation/skilled care centers. The goal is to make the transition from a hospital to a rehabilitation/skilled care center as smooth as possible for patients and residents.





## **Heartland Ephphatha Ministries**

Heartland Ephphatha serves the Deaf and Hard of Hearing worshiping communities in South Dakota. We are based at Peace Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. Our mission is to give our members a chance to worship in their first language, American Sign Language. We do that through weekly worship, fellowship, Bible studies, mission work, service projects and fund raising.

Over the last year we have done many exciting things. We have three members of our ministry on the national ELDA (Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association) board. We took a trip to the ELCA headquarters in Chicago. We were also able to send two deaf delegates to the Churchwide assembly in Pittsburgh. We continue to offer sign language classes to educate more people about deaf culture and to teach people American Sign Language.

As we look to the future of our ministry we would like to reach more deaf people through mission work. We have two mission trips planned in the next two years. One trip to Jamaica to visit the Jamaica Christian School for the Deaf and one trip to Haiti to visit a deaf girl in Jamel. We are very excited about the direction of our ministry and we couldn't do it without the support and donations of the ELCA and its member churches and women's groups. Thank you to all who have prayed for us and supported us throughout the years. Please contact Jason Andera 605-310-9647 [jason.andra@gmail.com](mailto:jason.andra@gmail.com) to set up a temple talk or for more information on our ministry.

God's Peace,

Jason and Sarah Andera

## Lutheran Planned Giving in South Dakota

**Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota (LPG of SD) was formed in May of 2003 with the following mission:**

*We will help people of God make lifetime financial gifts to the South Dakota ministries who are members of Lutheran Planned giving and create a rising tide of financial support for all ELCA ministries.*

Lutheran Planned Giving partner ministries are:

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Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD	Bethel Lutheran Home, Madison
Bethesda Home of Aberden, SD	ELCA Foundation, Chicago IL
Good Samaritan Society, Sioux Falls, SD	Heartland Ephphatha, Sioux Falls, SD
Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN	Lutheran Campus Ministry
Lutheran Social Services of SD	Lutherans Outdoors in SD
Prison Congregations of America	St. Dysmas, Sioux Falls, SD
South Dakota Synod, Sioux Falls, SD	

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Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota is available to assist congregations in establishing and growing mission endowment funds with an emphasis on supporting and enhancing all the ministries of the church both locally and worldwide through bequests and other planned gifts. They can provide educational information to congregations, and their members through seminars on the importance of wills, estate and charitable gift planning.

Kurt Osborne and Jim Schade are available to your congregation as a gift in itself with free no-obligation information seminars regarding the gift planning strategies. Congregation members will be able to come and hear information, ask questions, and set up personal one-on-one visits with LPG staff concerning the stewardship of their assets. At those visits members will discuss their intent, the options and the most helpful strategies regarding gift planning. We also are able to offer suggestions for other advisors to contact in order to bring additional expertise to best accomplish those wishes.

Materials are available free of charge to congregations to personalize and use for establishing and promoting their endowment funds and planned giving programs. These materials are also available to be downloaded from the LPG web site, [www.lpgsd.org](http://www.lpgsd.org) which allows them to be personalized for your congregation. You can contact Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota:

Jim Schade  
[schade@augie.edu](mailto:schade@augie.edu)  
605-940-2363

Kurt Osborne  
[osborne@augie.edu](mailto:osborne@augie.edu)  
605-940-7524

# Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota Touching People's Lives Nearly 50,000 Times

## Grounded in Faith & Moving Forward

Grounded by faith, LSS invoked focus groups to discuss the potential impacts of changing the name of Lutheran Social Services. There was a strong sentiment that the word "Lutheran" should not be lost or diminished. It was nearly unanimous that the acronym LSS is used to refer to Lutheran Social Services more than first realized, and a strong reaction that the letters should not be changed. The Board of Directors reached a decision to retain the legal name as Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota. The Board also concluded that it was important to modernize the LSS logo.

Moving forward in design, the LSS emblem (many refer to it as the dove) in the traditional colors was embedded within the LSS letters of the logo to introduce the new branding. This will be a gradual change as we continue to be good stewards of the financial and human resources entrusted to us.

## CFR: New Name, Expanded Financial Services

LSS Consumer Credit Counseling Service recently updated its name to Center for Financial Resources. "LSS has been expanding its financial services to include more than credit counseling," says Sheri Ekdorn, CFR director. "As we broadened the depth and breadth of our financial counseling and education programs, services and expertise, we felt the name should reflect all the valuable services we provide." CFR remains the local, trusted non-profit agency to assist, educate and guide consumers as they achieve their money management goals, including getting finances on track, improving money management skills, and sorting out unique financial priorities. CFR has the tools and expertise to help.

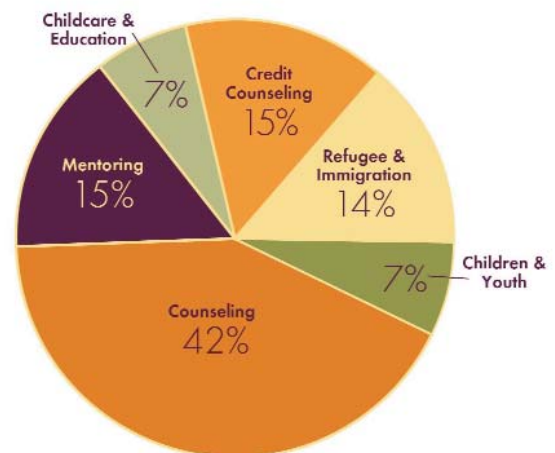
CFR has offices strategically located in South Dakota, offering extended day and evening hours for counseling in-person, online or by phone. To be connected with the closest office, contact LSS Center for Financial Resources, 888-258-2227, or go online to [www.LssSD.org](http://www.LssSD.org).

## Center for New Americans: New Name, New Location, New Start for Many People

LSS Refugee & Immigration Services recently became the Center for New Americans. "We are excited about the change," says LSS President Betty Oldenkamp, "because referring to our clients as new Americans reinforces their new status and the new start they will have here, rather than referring to the trauma of their past experiences. It is a name that reflects where people are now and their future—not where they have been." The new name debuted at a new program location at 114 S. Main Ave., Suite 100 in Sioux Falls. "We hope that it conveys a sense of warmth and welcome to the newest members of our community," says Oldenkamp. This facility will accommodate much-needed space for English language classrooms.

LSS also is pleased to announce that they have been approved by the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Community Appeals Committee for a capital campaign to be conducted in the spring of 2016. The campaign will be to build a new Center for Community Services which would include LSS's Counseling Services, Center for Financial Resources, Center for New Americans, Adoption Services and administrative offices. LSS leadership has had preliminary and positive discussions about potential locations.

## How Your Gift Serves



*Luther Seminary's 2013-14 academic year report to the*  
**South Dakota Synod**

## Continuing our commitment to educate future leaders for the church

God has continued to bless Luther Seminary in its mission to educate leaders for Christian communities. All of us—faculty, staff, students and boards—remain committed to our mission. After navigating some difficult issues, we're now working together to live into our future.

This commitment anchors us as we celebrate exciting milestones and look forward to upcoming opportunities:

- In addition to our 700 students across all degree programs, Luther Seminary is also committed to educating leaders through our lifelong learning programs, which increased by more than 15 percent, to 4,300 participants. For the sake of leadership needs in the church, as well as the health of the seminary, we need to encourage more men and women to join us.
- Luther Seminary is building a new curriculum, allowing us to prepare leaders to meet a wide variety of changing needs in the church and world. This new curriculum will be introduced at Luther Seminary in the fall of 2014.
- By the time you read this, we may have named our new president. As I write this, our search is progressing well and we have a number of promising candidates. When that person hopefully arrives around July 1, the Luther Seminary community will be ready to join their new leader in living out our marvelous mission.

This is a great time to be a part of Luther Seminary. We have stellar faculty, strong students, a highly respected internship program and innovative ideas that are equipping students to share the love of God in compelling ways in our increasingly complex world.

As always, we remain grateful for your support, encouragement and continued commitment to our mission. Please continue that support by praying for us, sharing our story, supporting us financially and sending new students our way.

In hope,  
Rick Foss, Interim President

*Luther Seminary educates leaders for Christian communities called and sent by the Holy Spirit to witness to salvation through Jesus Christ and to serve in God's world.*

## In your synod...

### Financial Support

Synodical and churchwide support accounted for 7 percent of Luther Seminary's 2012-13 budget.

**During the 2012-13 fiscal year, the South Dakota Synod provided direct financial support of \$69,529.**

### Students

Thank you for sending and supporting the education of Luther Seminary students.

- There are 21 students from your synod enrolled at Luther Seminary.
- There is one intern serving in your synod.

### Seminary Finances

- Of Luther's operating income, 42 percent comes from private gifts and grants.
- Of Luther's operating expenses, 56 percent goes toward student instruction and institutional support.

### Board of Directors

Roald Eidsness



**FAITH  
FAMILY  
FRIENDS**

[WWW.LOSD.ORG](http://WWW.LOSD.ORG)



**JOY RANCH**



**OUTLAW RANCH**



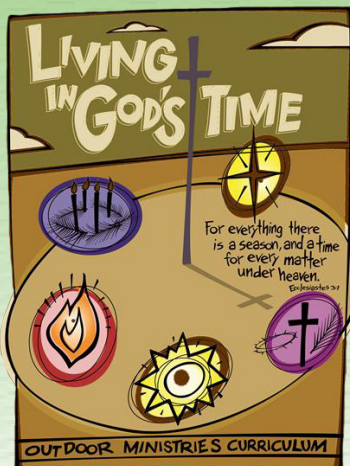
**KLEIN RANCH**



**NESODAK**

## FAITH FORMATION FOR TODAY'S GENERATION

Dear Friends in Christ,



The 1968 "Articles of Incorporation" state that the purpose of the ministry of Lutherans Outdoors in SD is to provide opportunities for the congregations of the SD (Synod) to corporately promote, operate, and develop programs for outdoor ministry. This was based on a belief that church and camp go together. Today more than ever in partnership with you, our owner congregations, I believe that your LOSD camps can be a driving agent to:

- greatly impact the faith formation of a generation
- support stronger churches
- generate more dynamic leaders and pastors
- connect faith and society in everyday life in SD

Together we are reaching more and more people with the love of Christ. Thank you for your partnership in ministry!

Rev. Layne Nelson - Executive Director

**Summer 2014 Theme**

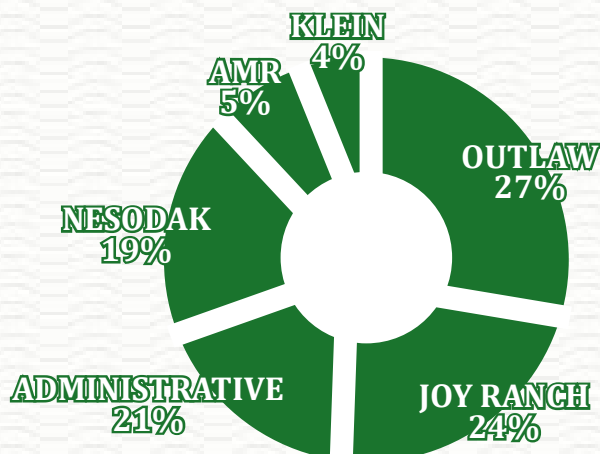
**New! CAMP ALBUM** with sheet music - designed to be used both at camp and in congregations.

In 2013 LO served 15,909 people, 12,130 at retreats and 2590 at summer camp and 1189 at day camp.

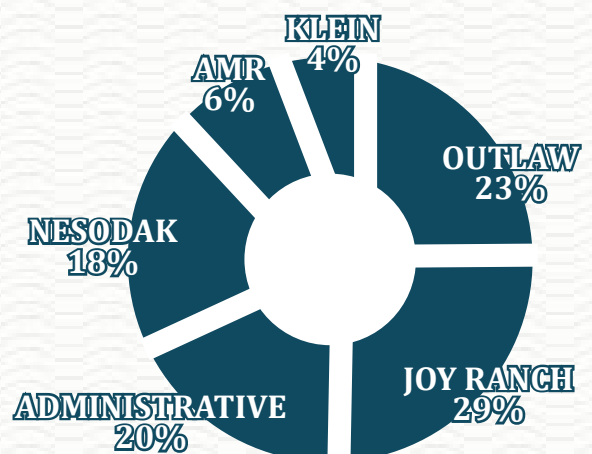
### 2013 FINANCIAL STATEMENT\*

A full financial report from the auditor, Thurman, Comes & Foley, is available in the Lutherans Outdoors in SD Inc. administrative office. Please call 605-274-5326

**REVENUE - \$2,228,374**



**EXPENSES - \$2,435,335**



\*As of print date numbers are unaudited. Does not include depreciation (\$609,373), in-kind Gifts (\$55,063), capital campaign income and expense. As of January 31, 2013 the balance in the Lutheans Outdoors endowment is \$798,425.45.

# TAKE TIME AWAY CONNECT GROW BE RENEWED



## ONLINE CONNECTIONS...

-  "Like" Lutherans Outdoors  
Outlaw Ranch (New!)  
NeSoDak (New!)  
Klein Ranch  
Joy Ranch on Facebook
-  Join our email list.
-  Follow @LOCamps & @JoyRanchSD on twitter
-  New! Follow LutheransOutdoors &



## SPECIAL EVENTS



**JOY RANCH**  
(605) 886-4622  
joyranch@losd.org

**LO Quilt Auction**  
Sunday, August 24  
Auction begins at 1pm  
Quilt Viewing  
begins August 21st

**Community Worship**  
Sunday, July 6  
All are welcome to join in worship  
with the Custer Community at  
Outlaw Ranch.



**OUTLAW RANCH**  
(605) 673-4040  
outlaw@losd.org



**NESODAK**  
(605) 947-4440  
nesodak@losd.org

**Sunday Worship**  
June 1 - August 17, 11am  
Worship at NeSoDak throughout  
the summer.

**LOSD Board Meeting**  
July 18-19  
The quarterly Board meeting will be  
held at Klein Ranch this summer.



**KLEIN RANCH**  
(605) 273-4441  
kleinranch@losd.org

### Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota

"Welcomes all to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation"

800-888-1464 • info@losd.org • www.losd.org



St. Dysmas  
Annual Report  
SD Synod Assembly  
June 13-14, 2014

**Who, or what, is St. Dysmas?**

- St. Dysmas is the name history has given to the penitent thief who asked Jesus to remember him when he came into his kingdom and whom Jesus promised would be with him in paradise.
- St. Dysmas is the 200+ men of the SD State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls and Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield who gather weekly to worship and learn about God's promises for them.

**Why support St. Dysmas?**

- Because Christ commands it. In Matthew's gospel Jesus promises to meet us in the face of the poor, the hungry and those in prison. We meet God in our neighbor.

**How does it help?**

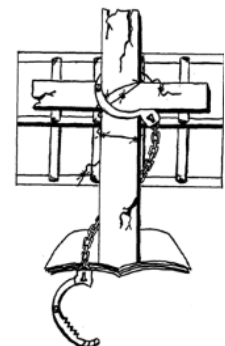
- It provides hope and support to those with little of either. Many, if not most, of the men do not receive mail or visitors. Ninety five percent of those in prison will be released someday. A solid faith sustains them in the challenges and obstacles they will encounter.

**What difference does my gift make?**

- It makes the difference between our being there or ceasing to exist. One third of our support comes from congregations, and two thirds comes from individuals. The support we receive from the ELCA, the SD Synod and Prison Congregations of America is not financial.

**What more can I do?**

- Come and visit! The key to our ministries success is the outside visitors who join us for worship on Thursday evenings. Many, if not most, of the men do not receive mail or visitors. Seeing a friendly face, an unfamiliar person who is not paid to talk to them, is life giving and sustaining. You may think this sounds like hyperbole but the hospitality, appreciation and warmth you will find will quickly change your mind.



St. Dysmas of South Dakota • 1300 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St • Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1779  
Telephone: 605-338-1735 • Fax: 605-271-5449 • Website: [www.stdysmas.net](http://www.stdysmas.net)

## Ten Things You Might Not Know About Augsburg Fortress

- 1 Augsburg Fortress is the ministry of publishing of the ELCA, but we receive no financial support except through the sale of resources to our partners in ministry.
- 2 We publish for two communities: congregations and higher education.
- 3 For congregations, we publish worship and music resources and faith formation resources for children, youth, and adults.
- 4 We create faith formation resources that are specifically Lutheran in their theological perspective, such as our comprehensive collection of Book of Faith resources.  
<http://www.augsburgfortress.org/bookoffaith>
- 5 In 2009, we launched a new ecumenical imprint, sparkhouse, to create dynamic faith formation resources for Lutherans and other Christians with similar theological perspective. <http://wearesparkhouse.org>
- 6 For higher education, our Fortress Press imprint publishes in three categories: education (textbooks), academic (specialized monographs), and reference.  
<http://fortresspress.com>
- 7 Augsburg Fortress is the #1 denominational publisher in the creation of innovative digital resources, with web-based subscription resources for worship, music, and faith formation; downloadable “a la carte” faith formation resources, 1350+ eBooks, and 1100+ POD (print on demand) titles.
- 8 Augsburg Fortress, sparkhouse, and Fortress Press are all very active in social media channels. A full list is available at <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/social.jsp>
- 9 Augsburg Fortress and sparkhouse offer free webinars every week on a variety of topics related to congregational life. <http://www.augsburgfortress.org/webinars>
- 10 We offer free eNewsletters to learn more about our resources. Sign up at:  
<http://augsburgfortress.org/eNewsSignup.jsp>  
<http://wearesparkhouse.org>  
<http://fortresspress.com>



**Augsburg Fortress**  
Creative. Christian.

**800-328-4648**







# CONCORDIA COLLEGE

Moorhead, Minnesota

## 2014 Annual Report to ELCA Synods and Congregations

### Greetings

Concordia abides in valuing its founding and heritage as a liberal arts college within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. At conclusion of this one hundred twenty-third academic year, the College continues to prepare students to be globally aware, intellectually capable, ethically grounded, religiously fluent, justice oriented, vocationally prepared, and compassionately guided.

### Strategic Plan

Concordia is in the midst of a five-year strategic plan, *“Whole Self, Whole Life, Whole World: The Plan for Concordia College, 2012 – 2017.”* The document, along with related progress reports, may be viewed online at <http://www.concordiacollege.edu/about/our-mission/strategic-plan>.

### Enrollment

2,505 undergraduate students, representing 34 states and over 30 countries, currently attend Concordia. These students come from a variety of cultural backgrounds and faith traditions. 62% are female, 38% are male, and 56% claim Lutheran affiliation. Concordia’s Student/Faculty ratio is 12 to 1.

### Offutt School of Business

In April 2013, Concordia formally dedicated the newly renovated Grant Center, home of the Offutt School of Business. As part of dedication festivities, the College welcomed Bill Gates, entrepreneur and global philanthropist, as keynote speaker. Concordia President William J. Craft commented, *“The imagination and philanthropic spirit that define the achievement and generosity of Bill Gates made him a splendid person to inaugurate the new home of Concordia’s Offutt School of Business, which expresses the innovative character of the College and its commitment to educating leaders dedicated to the common good.”*

### Commitment to Interfaith Cooperation

Because of its Lutheran dedication to prepare thoughtful and informed global citizens who foster wholeness and hope, cultivate peace through understanding, and serve the world together, Concordia has a growing commitment to practice interfaith cooperation. Within recent communication to President Craft, the director of faculty partnerships at the Interfaith Youth Corps in Chicago, Illinois wrote, *“Concordia College embodies not only the hospitality and generosity necessary for effective interfaith work, but a dedication to excellence in its pursuit. When other schools ask what exceptional interfaith engagement looks like, we hold up the shining star of Concordia College.”*

### Vocation and Ministry

Concordia continues to invest in a collaborative network of faculty and staff who tend to campus ministry, worship, spiritual practice, community outreach, justice journeys, and vocational exploration. The College remains at forefront among undergraduate institutions preparing students for theological study and leadership within the church. In 2013, ELCA Outdoor Ministries benefited from 52 Cobber students serving on summer staffs, coast-to-coast. Concordia graduates serve around the world within the ELCA’s Young Adults in Global Mission. Current students are now partnering with Lutheran World Relief in experiential learning, service, and internship experiences.

### Grateful

Thank you for commending Concordia College to students, and for the abundance of gifts which encourage and sustain our mutual work in the world. Soli Deo Gloria.

**Tom Schlotterback, Office of Vocation and Church Leadership**

901 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Moorhead, MN 56562

Ph: 218.299.3146



**Dear Friends,**

Warm greetings on behalf of President Kent Henning, our faculty, staff, students and alumni! Here are some highlights of recent additions or enhancements to the campus:

**Transforming Lives: Celebrate Vocation Week: March 24-30, 2014**

Grand View received a grant to develop a week to celebrate our gifts. This week is a time to celebrate who we are and what we all do to serve others, promote the common good and/or care for creation. The week will include many celebrations and activities as well as the Gifted Vikings auction. This auction is designed to showcase the gifts that we all have, and the variety of ways that we use those gifts for the benefit of others.

**Grand View to Join Heart of America Athletic Conference**

After applying for membership in December, Grand View has been accepted into the Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC). Grand View will remain a member of the Midwest Collegiate Conference and Mid-States Football Association through the 2014-2015 academic year, joining the HAAC for all sports, including football, for the 2015-2016 academic year. Go to [www.HAACsports.com](http://www.HAACsports.com) to learn more on the Heart of America Athletic Conference and its member institutions.

**Under Construction: Bowling Alley Takes Shape**

Since hosting Grand View's faculty and staff Christmas Open House in December the former AMF Lanes has become a construction site. Demolition is under way and approximately two-thirds of the existing bowling lanes will be removed to make room for additional flexible-use space and Grand View's state-of-the-art wrestling practice facility.

**Grand View Graduate Programs Expand**

Grand View now is fully approved and set to launch four distinct graduate offerings for fall 2014: Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Master of Science in Sport Management, Master of Education (M.Ed.), and Master of Science in Organizational Leadership. Previously, Grand View offered one, leadership-focused degree with three tracks: Organizational Leadership, Nursing, and Education.

**Financial Empowerment Program Pilot Set to Launch**

Last fall in his State of the University Address, President Henning announced initial plans for a program to improve the way students and families plan and pay for their Grand View education. Planning has continued in recent months and recruitment is underway for a pilot group of freshman to test the Financial Empowerment Plan (FEP) beginning fall 2014. The FEP is built upon a set of mutual commitments between Grand View and participating students and has the potential to increase affordability, reduce student debt, and help students graduate on time. Former Grand View staff member, Beth Carlson, has returned to Grand View in a part-time position as Financial Empowerment Coach. Beth will begin conducting initial planning meetings with FEP pilot participants after financial aid packages are awarded in March.

**Grand View Awarded Legacy Grant**

In January, the Prairie Meadows Board of Directors approved a \$1,000,000 Legacy Grant to Grand View in support of the forthcoming Student Center Project. The award represents the largest possible gift Prairie Meadows awards through the Legacy Grant Program. Since 1995, Prairie Meadows has awarded nearly \$1.4 billion to Central Iowa non-profit organizations in support of vital community projects and programming.

**The Center for Renewal Continues**

The Center for Renewal, an outreach ministry of the University, continues its mission of renewing the saints and the church so that the light of Christ can be more brightly reflected in the world. In addition to events and services, the Center has also been doing a lot of work on how congregations can support and encourage ministry in daily life. For more information and a schedule of programs, go to [www.renewingchurch.org](http://www.renewingchurch.org).

If you have not visited Grand View University, or have not visited us for some time, we extend a special invitation for you to come for a visit sometime soon! Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers for the Colleges of the ELCA.

God's Peace and Joy,

The Grand View University Campus Community  
1200 Grandview Avenue / Des Moines, IA 50316  
1-800-444-6083 / [www.grandview.edu](http://www.grandview.edu)



ELCA Synod Assemblies 2014

Greetings from St. Olaf College!

Since 1874, St. Olaf College has educated students in an academic community shaped by its commitment to the Lutheran tradition. At St. Olaf, students work closely with dedicated faculty who challenge them to grow in mind, body, and spirit. St. Olaf has always seen its vital connection to the Lutheran tradition as enhancing its standing as one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the United States.

In both the curriculum and the co-curriculum, St. Olaf students explore theological issues and are challenged to choose their vocations in light of this exploration. All St. Olaf students take two religion courses, one focusing on the Bible and the other on Christian theology. The Harry C. Piper Center for Vocation and Career provides programs and services to assist students as they discern their vocations and prepare for their careers during their four years at St. Olaf.

The Martin E. Marty Professor of Religion and the Academy for 2013-15 is the Rev. Dr. Darrell Jodock '62. Dr. Jodock holds the MDiv degree from Luther Seminary and the PhD from Yale University. He founded the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding at Muhlenberg College and most recently served as the Drell and Adeline Bernhardson Distinguished Professor of Religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. Dr. Jodock is the author of numerous articles and books, including *The Church's Bible: Its Contemporary Authority* (Fortress, 1989). He is the co-editor of *Covenantal Conversations: Christians in Dialogue with Jews and Judaism* (Fortress, 2008).

We look forward to welcoming you to visit St. Olaf. Come to campus to join us at concerts, lectures, conferences, or summer camps. Or, visit the St. Olaf website at [www.stolaf.edu](http://www.stolaf.edu) to join in streamed events on-line. During the academic year, daily Chapel and Sunday morning worship services are held at Boe Memorial Chapel and streamed on-line at <http://www.stolaf.edu/church/chapel>.

We encourage you to send students to St. Olaf, we thank you for your prayers and support, and we wish you well.

David R. Anderson '74  
President



## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SYNODS

*Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.*

Wartburg, founded in 1852, is a selective liberal arts college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Students discover and claim their callings—connecting their learning with faith and values, their understanding of themselves and their gifts, their perspective on life and the future, and the opportunities for participating in church and community in meaningful ways.

- The Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible* debuted at Wartburg, allowing the college to welcome more than 1,000 guests to the gallery exhibit. Two volumes will remain on campus for the 2014 calendar year so community members, congregations, and students can continue to interact with its message, beauty, and creative spirit.
- Torrence Warren was hired as the new Pathways associate for vocation and mentoring.
- Wartburg's wrestling team and the women's outdoor track and field team won national championships. IAC Coaches of the Year include Monica Severson, women's golf; Rick Willis, football; Jennifer Walker and Doug Frazell, volleyball; Kirk Artist '06, men's soccer; and Steve Johnson, women's cross country. Artist also earned NSCAA Central Region Coach of the Year. Johnson also earned USTFCCCA Central Region Coach of the Year.
- Student Life was awarded a federal grant to implement a campus suicide prevention program and a new student organization, SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone), coordinated by Kelly Moeller '10.
- The annual Graven Award was presented to Iowa District Court Judge James Ellefson, a 1974 Wartburg College graduate and longtime attorney active in both the community and church.
- The Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Craig Hancock, performed in China and Japan during its May Term international music tour.
- Aman Gebremariam '13, a native of Ethiopia, and Sibusiso Kunene '14, from Swaziland, were among the 2013 winners of a \$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace grant to provide clean water for an Ethiopian village.
- Nearly 400 students exhibited 500 academic and co-curricular projects during Wartburg's second annual Research, Internship, and Creative Endeavor Day.
- The college was, for the third time, named "with distinction" to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. In 2013, there were 27 student-led service trips with 278 participants.
- Wartburg enhanced its Wartburg West program in Denver, Colo., through a groundbreaking new partnership with Saint John's Episcopal Cathedral.
- Raymond '65 and Judith '65 McCaskey, provided the college with its largest-ever gift commitment, an \$11.5 million contribution that will provide significant scholarship support to Chicago-area Wartburg students who demonstrate financial need.
- Wartburg received a \$2 million gift from Mike and Marge McCoy to establish the Mike and Marge McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission, now held by the Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans. The chair is intended to support the four pillars of the college's mission—leadership, service, faith, and learning, and strengthen its commitment to the exploration of vocation.
- Gary and Donna Hoover gave a \$1 million gift to create an endowed distinguished professorship in engineering science, which will support one of the college's fastest-growing academic programs. Dr. Daniel Black holds the distinguished professorship.
- Dr. Philip Geier, executive director of the Davis United World College Scholars program, received an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters.
- Dr. Susan Vallem '66, Wartburg College professor of social work, received the Iowa National Association of Social Workers' Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Dr. Karen Black, professor of music, college organist, and director of Kantorei Chapel Choir, was named Paul Bouman Chapel Choir Conductor for the 32nd annual Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival.
- Dr. Jennifer McBride, Board of Regents Chair in Ethics, was interviewed in the Nov. 27 issue of *The Christian Century* in an article entitled, *The Witness of Sinners*.

Faculty, staff, students, and administrators find a sense of purpose and hope as they work together to proclaim the news of God's goodness at work in the world.

Darrel D. Colson  
President

Gail Sexton  
Coordinator of Church Relations and Faith Community Outreach

**Proposed Budget**  
02/01/2015 - 01/31/2016

	Adopted	Revised	Proposed
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>MISSION SUPPORT FROM CONGREGATIONS</b>	1,699,420	1,712,619	1,763,998
<b>Program Ministry Income</b>			
Pine Ridge Ministry Income	45,001	45,001	45,000
<b>Other Income Streams</b>			
SD Synod Mission Support	60,000	53,770	53,770
DEM Support Staff	15,000	15,000	15,000
Interest Income	13,500	13,500	7,500
SDS Transportation LLC Income	5,000	5,000	5,000
SDS Transportation/Plane Income	25,000	25,000	25,000
Misc Income	8,750	8,750	4,500
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,871,671</b>	<b>1,878,640</b>	<b>1,919,768</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
	<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>CHURCHWIDE MISSION</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Mission Support to ELCA	773,236	779,242	802,619
% of Mission Support	45.5%	45.5%	45.5%
Region III	16,560	15,380	15,380
<b>SHARED MINISTRIES</b>			
<b>South Dakota Sustained Ministries</b>			
Campus Ministry	121,928	122,411	135,969
Campus Ministry Capital	1,030	1,030	1,030
Lutheran Planned Giving	54,410	59,410	61,192
Heartland Ephphatha	5,982	6,006	6,180
Lutheran Youth Organization	3,605	3,605	3,605
<b>South Dakota Supported Ministries</b>			
SD Ministries Support	13,778	24,464	24,467
Luther Seminary	69,145	69,419	71,438
Lutheran Social Services	69,145	69,419	71,438
Lutherans Outdoors	34,485	34,621	35,628
Church Colleges	5,982	6,006	6,180
Flandreau Indian School Chaplaincy	13,522	-	-
Association of Christian Churches	2,000	2,000	2,000
Chapel in the Hills	1	1	1
Good Samaritan Society	1	1	1
<b>Total Shared Ministries</b>	<b>395,014</b>	<b>398,393</b>	<b>419,129</b>

**Proposed Budget**  
02/01/2015 - 01/31/2016

	<b>Adopted 2014</b>	<b>Revised 2014</b>	<b>Proposed 2015</b>
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD MINISTRIES</b>			
<b>Staff Leadership</b>			
Bishop	100,516	101,920	104,978
Associate Tesch	10,603	10,603	12,013
Associate Marone	76,977	76,977	79,286
Bishop/Associate Benefits	61,559	60,857	61,476
SDS Travel	38,698	46,257	46,066
Bishop/Assistants Travel & Cont Ed	20,800	20,800	20,800
<b>Program Ministries</b>			
Native American Ministry	78,084	75,010	120,525
Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator	14,007	14,007	14,403
Companion Synod Coordinator	10,700	10,701	10,984
<b>Support Staff and Office</b>			
Support Staff Salaries/Benefits	137,483	126,470	129,996
Resource Center Supplies	250	250	250
Synod Office Expenses	60,859	61,196	61,635
Augustana College	19,233	19,233	19,233
<b>Synod Leadership</b>			
Synod Council	6,000	6,000	6,000
Support to Ministries Committee	6,000	6,000	6,000
Candidacy Committee	6,000	6,000	6,000
Electronic Communications	2,500	2,500	2,500
Multicultural Ministry Committee	1,700	1,700	1,700
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	2,000	2,000	2,000
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500	1,500	1,500
Mission Strategy Committee	2,000	2,000	2,000
<b>Ministry Projects</b>			
Stewardship Project	4,000	4,000	4,000
Congregational Initiative Grants	1,236	1,236	1,236
Continuing Education Projects	1,000	1,000	1,000
Rural Ministry Projects	500	500	500
<b>Outreach Ministries</b>			
Multicultural Center	15,000	15,000	15,000
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000	4,000	4,000
Companion Synods	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Contingency</b>			
	2,656	6,908	-
<b>Subtotal SD Synod Ministries</b>	<b>686,861</b>	<b>685,625</b>	<b>736,081</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,871,671</b>	<b>1,878,640</b>	<b>1,973,209</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-53,441</b>

Proposed deficit is attributable to:

Increased funding to Campus Ministry for Black Hills State University. BHSU funding for prior years was obtained from a special SD Ministry reserve fund which is shrinking.

Increased funding to Native American Ministry - Pine Ridge Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministries (possible partial funding sources are being pursued).

# Open Space Explanation

## What we are asking of everyone:

- Go to the conversation that you feel most passionate about
- Let the spirit move you and your feet whenever and to wherever you feel led:
  - When the conversation you in are is finished, or
  - you've learned or contributed everything you want to, or
  - you feel ready for a new conversation

## What we are asking of discussion leaders:

- Write a clear succinct title and short description for your passion
- As much as possible in the space provided, gather people in a circle
- Share your passion, and then invite folks to also give shape to the conversation (see: "Guidelines for Open Space Conversation Leaders")
- Fill out and return the "Open Space Report Form"

## Main Question:

Where is the church being "unbound and free" for God's mission?

Explanatory questions:

- What are the promising developments that could point to a positive future for the church?
- What are you passionate about that you think could positively shape the future of the church?
- What is God doing in the world that you want to be part of?

## 5 Guiding principles...

1. *Whoever comes is the right people* ...we just need a few people with a passion for Jesus not the Bishop and 100 people to get something done. If something is to happen, who better than you to do it?
2. *Whenever it starts is the right time* ... "spirit and creativity do not run on the clock."
3. *Wherever it happens is the right place* ... space for conversation and new possibilities is opening everywhere all the time. Please be conscious and aware.
4. *Whatever happens is the only thing that could have* ... once something has happened, it's done—and no amount of fretting or rehashing can change that. Move on.
5. *When it's over, it's over* ... we never know how long it will take to resolve an issue, once raised, but whenever the issue or work or conversation is finished, move on to the next thing. Do the work, not the time.

## ...and one law...

### The Law of Two Feet

"Law of two feet:" If at any time during you find yourself led in a new direction or you are no longer learning or contributing, use your two feet to go someplace else.

# Open Space Topic Submission Form

## Main Question:

Where is the church being “unbound and free” for God’s mission?

Explanatory questions:

- What are the promising developments that could point to a positive future for the church?
- What are you passionate about that you think could positively shape the future of the church?
- What is God doing the world that you want to be part of?

**Write a title and clear one-sentence description of your topic here:** (Please write legibly)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

How can contact you while you are at the assembly? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Assembly Office Use Only:



## **South Dakota Synod Assembly**

### **Convener Guide for Open Space Session Topics**

Serving as a convener for an Open Space topic is an important role. Enough form needs to be given to help start the conversation, but not so much that it interferes with the creative workings of the group. If needed, remind participants of the Two Laws.

1. Open Space is a group process, with the primary function of the convener to help facilitate the conversation of the whole group. The convener should:
  - Identify a scribe (you may do it yourself or ask for a volunteer);
  - Start the discussion by framing the session topic;
  - Ensure that the report is filed with Session Title, Convener, participants, summary of discussion, and any Next Step items identified.
  
2. In leading discussion the Convener should make sure that all wishing to participate. In Open Space it is our passion that makes us uniquely qualified to address the topic. Some starting questions to get the conversation started?

#### **Where is the church being “unbound and free” for God’s mission?**

Given the topic of this session:

- What are the promising developments that could point to a positive future for the church?
  - What are you passionate about that you think could positively shape the future of the church?
  - What is God doing in the world that you want to be part of?
  - What is the problem we are trying to address?
3. Allow the first few minutes to frame the conversation. There may be multiple topics that arise and may discover that new groups form based on where the Spirit is leading.
  
  4. Continuing the Conversation
    - What gifts/resources do we already bring?
    - What gifts/resources do we still need?
    - What are the next steps?
  
  5. Group the group to a close at the end of the session.
  
  6. File the session report.

# Open Space Session Report Form

**Session Title:**

**Convenor:**

**Participants:**

**Summary of discussions:**

**What will we do now? What needs to happen next?**

# Rules of Parliamentary Procedure

## South Dakota Synod, ELCA

### Introduction

- 0.01 The purpose of any system of parliamentary procedure is to provide a structure within which a deliberative body may conduct its business with the greatest degree of efficiency consistent with full and free debate. These rules of order have been prepared for use in the Synod Assembly of the South Dakota Synod of the ELCA. They reflect generally accepted principles of parliamentary law and procedure, simplified, and modified for their specific purpose.
- 0.02 The presiding officer of the Assembly should be identified as the President of the Assembly, and should be addressed as Mr. President or Madam President.

### Motions and Resolutions

- 1.00 There are two kinds of motions that may come to the floor of the Assembly. *Substantive* motions propose actions that determine the policy and program of the Synod. These are usually presented in the form of **resolutions**. Only one substantive motion may be on the floor at a time. *Procedural* motions determine the procedures the Assembly follows in dealing with substantive motions and in conducting its business.

(To illustrate, motions to amend, to substitute, to table, to adjourn or recess and so on are procedural motions. A procedural motion may be made while there is a substantive motion on the floor. Although only one procedural motion may be on the floor at a time, one procedural motion may displace another. For example, a motion to refer a substantive motion may be displaced by a motion to adjourn, a point of order, or a call for the orders of the day. Some procedural motions may interrupt the actions of the Assembly in order to change its direction.)

- 1.01 a. Resolutions may be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by the Synod Council, Conference Councils or Assemblies, Synod Boards and Task Force Committees, the Regional Center for Mission Coordinating Council, Congregations of the Synod, Synod Auxiliaries, other ELCA Synod Assemblies, the Synod Bishop, Conference Caucuses, the Resolutions Committee, or corresponding Churchwide Expression of the ELCA. Resolutions from individuals must gain the approval of one of the above groups before their resolution will be considered. Every resolution shall have a specified source. The source of a resolution is the chair or designee of the entity submitting the resolution.

When sources of resolutions know that their resolutions may be controversial or pertaining to sensitive issues, the sources are encouraged to arrange for a meeting with the Resolutions Committee. These arrangements for a meeting should be made with the committee chairperson prior to the convening of the Assembly.

- b. The Resolutions Committee, by direction of the Bishop shall meet early enough to complete preliminary work prior to the beginning of the meeting of the Assembly to allow time during the meeting of the Assembly:
- 1) for consultation with sources.
  - 2) to deal with resolutions submitted during that meeting.

## Rules of Parliamentary Procedure

### South Dakota Synod, ELCA (continued)

- c. The order for presentation of resolutions shall be determined by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee, the Bishop, and Chair of the Synod Council. At the beginning of each plenary session the Assembly is to be informed of the intended schedule of all pending resolutions and may take action to change the order of presentation of resolutions.
  - d. All resolutions or amendments dealing with one issue shall be presented together to the Assembly prior to action moved on any single resolution.
  - e. As resolutions are received at the Synod Office, they should be edited for form and grammar by a committee appointed by the Bishop.
- 1.02 Resolutions shall include a title reflecting the content of the resolution, its origin, and a number assigned by the Committee.
- 1.03 The Committee, in consultation with the source of the resolution, may edit and revise each resolution for clarity and consistency.
- 1.04 The Committee must present each resolution substantially as it is received but may propose amendments. The sources of resolutions should be informed of Resolutions Committee recommendations prior to plenary presentation. Consultation with source of resolution is required in the case of substantive amendments prior to plenary presentation.
- 1.05 The Committee may also draft such resolutions it deems necessary or is directed by the Assembly.
- 1.06 The Committee shall forward each resolution to the Assembly with one of the following recommendations:
- 1.06.01 **Do Pass**  
"Do Pass" indicates the Committee's approval of the resolution and places it on the floor of the Assembly. No further motion or second is needed.
  - 1.06.02 **Do Pass as Amended**  
"Do Pass as Amended" indicates the Committee's approval of the Resolution modified by the Committee's amendment(s) and places the Resolution and the Committee's amendment(s) on the floor without further motion or second. Both Resolution and amendment(s) are considered together.
  - 1.06.03 **No Recommendation**  
"No Recommendation" indicates the Committee's inability or unwillingness to make a common recommendation. For the Resolution to be considered, it must be moved and seconded from the floor of the Assembly.
  - 1.06.04 **Commit to Committee**  
"Commit to Committee" places a motion on the floor of the Assembly to refer the Resolution to one of the Synod Boards or Committees.

## Rules of Parliamentary Procedure

### South Dakota Synod, ELCA (continued)

- 1.06.05     **Do Not Pass**  
"Do Not Pass" indicates the Committee's recommendation not to pass the Resolution. For the Resolution to be considered, it must be moved and seconded from the floor of the Assembly.
- 1.07         A resolution is presented to the Assembly by a representative of the Committee with its recommendation.

#### Amendments

- 2.00         Amendments may alter or even reverse the purpose or effect of the original Resolution.
- 2.01         A Resolution may be amended by "striking" or "deleting" parts of it, "inserting" or "adding" material, or by both. Any voting member may make an amendment. A second is required. The President may require the voting member making the substantive amendment to provide a written copy of the amendment to the Secretary of the Assembly before a vote is taken on the amendment.
- 2.02         Amendments may be made to a resolution, to previous amendments, or in some cases to procedural motions. Each amendment is considered in order, and at each point, passing an amendment modifies the next stage of the matter.
- 2.03         When an amendment is moved, made and seconded, the amendment becomes the primary substantive motion on the floor and is the subject of discussion. When discussion on the amendment is complete, the Assembly votes whether to change the original resolution (Yes) or not (No). If the amendment passes, then the question is on the amended resolution.
- 2.04         Resolutions, amendments, and other actions require a simple majority to pass unless specifically noted.

#### Procedural Motions

- 3.00         Certain motions may be made and acted upon while there is a substantive motion on the floor. A procedural motion may be on the floor at the same time as a substantive motion and may be displaced by further procedural motions. Those motions permitted by these rules in order of precedence are as follows-
- 3.01         **"I move we adjourn."** This motion cannot interrupt a speaker. It requires a second. It is not debatable. Requires a majority vote to pass. When there is no further business, the President may declare the Assembly adjourned without a motion.
- 3.02         **"I move we recess for \_\_\_\_\_ minutes, or until \_\_\_\_\_."**  
This motion may not interrupt a speaker. It requires a second. It may be amended. It is not debatable. It requires a majority vote to pass. The President may declare a recess without a motion.
- 3.03         **"I call for the orders of the day."** This motion may interrupt a speaker. It does not require a second. It is not debatable, and it requires no vote. It enables the Assembly to return to its Agenda and time schedule. The President may invoke the Orders of the Day without a motion.

## Rules of Parliamentary Procedure South Dakota Synod, ELCA (continued)

- 3.04        **"I rise to make a point of order."** May interrupt a speaker. Does not require a second. It is not debatable. It requires no vote because the President rules. The President may rule on points of order without a call for a ruling.
- 3.05        **"I appeal the decision of the President."** May interrupt a speaker and does not require recognition by the President. Requires a second. The President may indicate the reasons for the ruling and the appellant or may state his or her objection. No further debate is allowed. Requires a majority to pass. A tie will sustain the President.
- 3.06        **"I call for a division of the Assembly."** This provides for a vote by standing. It may interrupt a speaker. It may be requested by any voting member and is required if 50 voting members support it. It is not debatable. The President may request a division if uncertain of the result of a voice vote.
- 3.07        **"I call for the division of the question."** This requires the resolution to be divided into its separate parts. It may not interrupt a speaker. It requires a second. It is not debatable. It requires a majority.
- 3.08        **"I move that nominations be closed."** May not interrupt a speaker. Requires a second. It is not debatable. Because it restricts discussion, it requires a two-thirds majority to pass. If further nominations are not forthcoming, the President may declare nominations closed.
- 3.09        **"I move that we suspend the rules and...."** It may not interrupt a speaker. Requires a second. It is not debatable. Because it delays the discussion of the issue on the floor, it requires a two-thirds majority to pass. The only rules that may be suspended are the parliamentary rules.

The following motions have no order of precedence or rank among themselves.

- 3.10        **"I move to lay \_\_\_\_\_ on the table."** Requires a second. It is not debatable. It requires a majority to pass. If the motion is passed, the matter that is tabled is no longer under consideration until the Assembly votes to take it from the table. (See 3.13).
- 3.11        **"I move that we proceed to vote on the resolution before us,"** or **"I move the previous question."** It may not interrupt a speaker (calls of "Question" are out of order). Requires a second. Because it forces debate to an end and restricts full and free discussion, it requires a two-thirds majority to pass. If there are no more speakers and it is clear that discussion is finished, the President may proceed to call for the vote. One may not make this motion at the end of a speech on the motion on the floor.
- 3.12        **"I move that we refer ... to...."** It cannot interrupt a speaker. This motion requires a second. It is debatable. It requires a majority vote to pass.

The following motions are in order whenever there is no other business on the floor.

- 3.13        **"I move we take \_\_\_\_\_ from the table."** It requires a second. It is not debatable. It requires a majority vote to pass. This motion reverses the action of 3.10.
- 3.14        **"I move we reconsider...."** This motion asks that a previous action be reopened for further discussion and another vote. It may interrupt a speaker. It requires a second. The proposer of the motion must have voted on the winning side in the previous action. It is debatable. It requires a majority vote to pass.

**Rules of Parliamentary Procedure**  
**South Dakota Synod, ELCA** (continued)

**Speaking by Voting Members**

- 4.00 When a voting member wishes to speak on a matter before the Assembly, the following procedure should be followed.
- a. Go to a microphone.
  - b. Wait to be recognized.
  - c. State your name and position (voting member, advisory).
  - d. Make your comments – 2 minute limit
  - e. If you have motions to make, make them. If you make a substantive amendment or one that is long or involved, you must provide a written copy of the motion to the Secretary of the Assembly before the vote is taken if requested by the President.
- 4.1 The proposer of a motion has first opportunity to speak on the motion, if it is debatable.
- 4.2 The President will seek to facilitate open and balanced discussion.

**Amendment of Rules**

- 5.00 These rules may be amended at a Synod Assembly by a Resolution approved by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Assembly.

**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES  
SUMMARY**

<b>TO ACCOMPLISH THIS:</b>	<b>YOU SAY THIS:</b>	<b>Interrupt Speaker</b>	<b>2nd Needed</b>	<b>Debatable</b>	<b>Can It Be Amended</b>	<b>Vote Required</b>	<b>Can It Be Reconsidered</b>
<b><i>I. RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: RC = Resolutions Committee, VM = Voting Member of the Assembly</i></b>							
Recommended "Do Pass"	RC: " I move adoption."	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
"Do Pass as Amended"	RC: " I move adoption as amended."	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
"No Recommendation"	VM: "I move adoption of # ____."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
"Commit to Committee"	RC: "I move we refer # ____ to ____."	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
"Do Not Pass"	VM: "I move adoption of # ____."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
To Amend a Resolution/Motion:	VM: "I move to amend the motion by (deleting) (adding)."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
<b><i>II. PROCEDURAL MOTIONS INTRODUCED BY VOTING MEMBERS FROM THE FLOOR:</i></b>							
To Adjourn the Meeting:	"I move that we adjourn."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
To Recess the Meeting:	"I move that we recess (for)(until) ____."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
To Return to the Agenda:	"I call for the orders of the day."	Yes	No	No	No	None	No
To Protest a Breach of Rules:	"I rise to make a point of order."	No	No	No	No	Chair rules	No
To Object to Ruling of the Chair:	"I appeal the decision of the Chair."	Yes	Yes	Chair only	No	Majority	Yes
To Verify a Voice Vote:	"I call for a division of the assembly."	Yes	50	No	No	None	No
To Vote on Separating the Parts of the Motion:	"I call for the division of the question."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	Yes
To Close Nominations:	"I move that nominations be closed."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority	No
To Suspend Rules Temporarily:	" I move that we suspend the rules and ____ so that ____."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority	No
To Suspend Consideration of a Motion Temporarily:	"I move to lay # ____ on the table."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
To End Debate and Amendments:	"I move the previous question."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority	No
To Refer a Resolution:	"I move that we refer # ____ to ____."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
To Consider a Tabled Motion:	"I move we take # ____ from the table."	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
To Reconsider a Previous Action:	"I move we reconsider (action)."	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	No
To Request Information:	"Point of information."	Yes	No	No	No	None	No



## **Chapter 7. SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

- +S7.01.** This synod shall have a Synod Assembly, which shall be its highest legislative authority. The powers of the Synod Assembly are limited only by the provisions in the Articles of Incorporation, this constitution and bylaws, the assembly's own resolutions, and the constitutions and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- +S7.11.** A regular meeting of the Synod Assembly shall be held at least biennially.
- S7.11.01. The Synod Assembly of the South Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall meet annually.
- S7.12.** Special meetings of the Synod Assembly may be called by the bishop with the consent of the Synod Council, and shall be called by the bishop at the request of one-fifth of the voting members of the Synod Assembly.
- a. The notice of each special meeting shall define the purpose for which it is to be held. The scope of actions to be taken at such a special meeting shall be limited to the subject matter(s) described in the notice.
  - b. If the special meeting of the Synod Assembly is required for the purpose of electing a successor bishop because of death, resignation, or inability to serve, the special meeting shall be called by the Synod Council after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- S7.13.** Notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Synod Assembly shall be given by the secretary of this synod.
- S7.13.01. Notice of the date, time and place of the meeting of the Synod Assembly shall be published in official publications established by this Synod or mailed to the ordained ministers, Associates in Ministry, deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and diaconal ministers, under call, on the official lay rosters of this synod and congregations, not less than 90 days before the meeting of the Assembly.
- S7.14.** One-half of members of the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

**+S7.21.** The membership of the Synod Assembly, of which at least 60 percent of the voting membership shall be composed of lay persons, shall be constituted as follows:

- a. All ordained ministers under call on the roster of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.
- b. All associates in ministry, deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and diaconal ministers, under call, on the official lay rosters of this synod shall have both voice and vote as lay voting members in the Synod Assembly, in addition to the voting membership of lay members of congregations provided in item +S7.21.c.
- c. A minimum of one lay member elected by each congregation with fewer than 175 baptized members and a minimum of two lay members elected by each congregation with 175 or more baptized members related to this synod, normally one of whom shall be male and one of whom shall be female, shall be voting members. The Synod Council shall establish a formula to provide additional lay representation from congregations on the basis of the number of baptized members in the congregation. The Synod Council shall seek to ensure that, as nearly as possible, 50 percent of the lay members of the assembly shall be female and 50 percent shall be male. Additional members from each congregation normally shall be equally divided between male and female.
- d. Voting membership shall include the officers of this synod.

S7.21.A07

*Any congregation of this synod which elects a 16-21 year old as a voting member shall be granted one additional voting member. Any congregation of this synod which elects a person of color and/or a person whose primary language is other than English as a voting member shall also be granted one additional voting member. The number of lay voting members per congregation is determined by the following scale:*

<b>* Baptized Member Increments</b>	<b>** Lay Voting Members</b>	<b>+ 16-21 Year Old Member</b>	<b>+ Person of Color and/or Non-English Origin</b>	<b>Maximum Total Lay Voting Members</b>
0– 500	2	1	1	4
501 – 1000	3	1	1	5
1001 – 1500	4	1	1	6
1501 – 2000	5	1	1	7
2001 – 2500	6	1	1	8
2501 – 3000	7	1	1	9
3001 – 3500	8	1	1	10
3501 – 4000	9	1	1	11
4001 – 4500	10	1	1	12
4501 – 5000	11	1	1	13

*\*Figures used are the published baptized membership totals from the most recent South Dakota Synod Handbook.      \*\*Goal of a balance of female/male voting members.*

S7.21.B02

*Ordained Ministers from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by a Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of called or contracted service in a congregation of this synod, in accord with ELCA churchwide bylaw 8.72.12.*

- S7.21.C02 ELCA pastors serving as interim pastors, under contract to a congregation of this synod, shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of contracted service in a congregation of this synod.*
- S7.21.D02 Licensed Lay Ministers certified by the South Dakota Synod, under contract to a congregation of this synod, shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of contracted service in a congregation of this synod.*
- +7.21.01.** Voting members shall begin serving with the opening of a regular Synod Assembly and shall continue serving until voting members are seated at the next regular Synod Assembly.
- S7.22.** Retired ordained ministers, retired associates in ministry, retired deaconesses, and retired diaconal ministers on the roster of this Synod may serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly if they are elected by their congregations and if the 60 percent minimum representation of lay persons required by +S7.21. is satisfied.
- All retired ordained ministers, all ordained ministers on leave from call, all associates in ministry on leave from call or retired, all deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on leave from call or retired, and all diaconal ministers of this church on leave from call or retired, all of whose names appear on the rosters of this synod, shall have the privilege of voice but not vote at all meetings of the Synod Assembly.
- S7.23** The presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council shall also have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly. Like privileges shall be accorded to those additional persons whom the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.
- S7.24.** Ordained ministers under call on the roster of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly so long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the roster of ordained ministers of this synod. Associates in ministry, deaconesses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and diaconal ministers of this church serving under call on the roster of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly so long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the official lay roster of this synod. Lay members of the Synod Assembly representing congregations shall continue as such until replaced by the election of new members or until they have been disqualified by termination of membership. Normally, congregations will hold elections prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- +S7.25.** Except as otherwise provided in this constitution or in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, each voting member of the Synod Assembly shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod.
- S7.26.** This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of authorized mission settings formed with the intent of becoming chartered congregations and authorized worshiping communities of this 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 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.
- S7.27.** This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council to grant an ordained minister 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.

**S7.28.** Duly elected voting members of the Synod Council who are not otherwise voting members of the Synod Assembly under +S7.21. shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote as members of the Synod Assembly.

**+S7.31.** Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of this synod.

**S7.32.** The Synod Rules of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern the procedure of the Synod Assembly.

**S7.33.** "*Ex-officio*" as used herein means membership with full rights of voice and vote unless otherwise expressly limited.

**S7.40. Committees of the Synod Assembly**

S7.40.10. **Credentials Committee**

S7.40.11. Prior to the Synod Assembly, the Synod Bishop shall appoint three persons to act as a Credentials Committee. This committee shall report when requested on the number of voting members, visitors, advisors, and others in attendance.

S7.40.20. **Election Committee**

S7.40.21. Prior to the Synod Assembly, the Synod Bishop shall appoint three ordained ministers and three laypersons to an Election Committee to supervise elections and announce the results to the Synod Assembly.

S7.40.30. **Resolutions Committee**

S7.40.31. Each conference shall elect one representative to a Resolutions Committee. The Synod Bishop shall appoint two representatives at large, and shall designate the convener of the committee. In the case of a vacancy, the Synod Bishop will appoint a replacement.

S7.40.32. The committee shall elect its own leadership.

S7.40.33. The committee shall receive all resolutions, prepare them, and make recommendations on them in accordance with the Synod Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for transmission to the Synod Assembly.

S7.40.34. The committee shall draft such resolutions as it is instructed to draft by the Synod Assembly, and may draft others it deems necessary.

**S7.50. Conference Caucus**

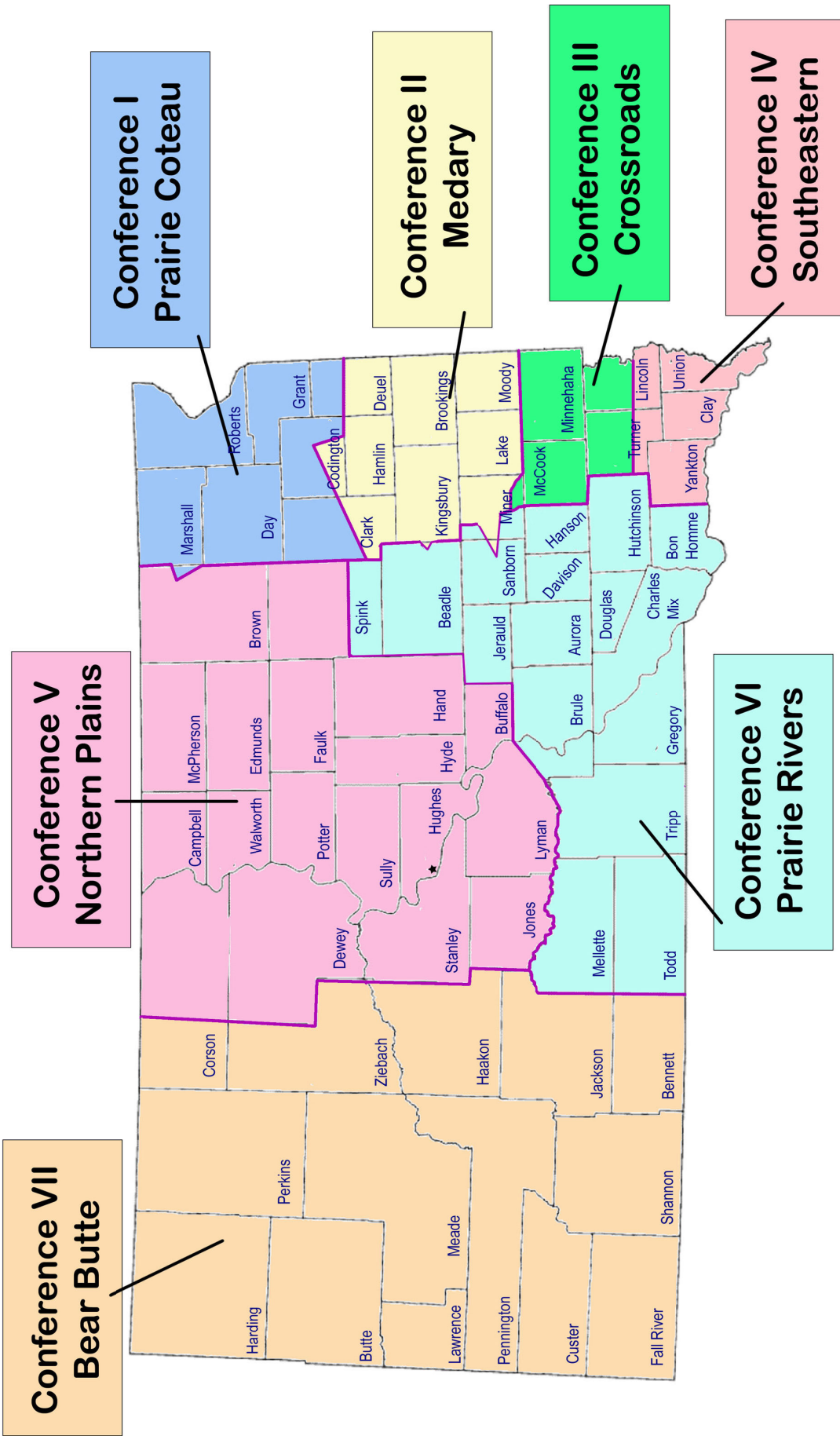
S7.50.10. The members of the Synod Assembly from each conference shall constitute the conference caucus.

S7.50.11. The caucus may draft resolutions for submission to the Resolutions Committee.

S7.50.12. The caucus may discuss resolutions, and transact such other business as the voting members determine.

S7.50.13. The caucus shall meet at the call of the Bishop, the President of the Conference or the request of 15 percent of the voting members of the conference.

S7.50.14. The officers of the conference shall serve as the leadership of the caucus.



**South Dakota Synod Conference Map**