

Recommendations from the Resolutions Committee
Synod Assembly 2021

1. Resolution to Elect South Dakota Synod Council Members - DO PASS
2. Resolution for 2022 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff - DO PASS
3. Medicaid Expansion Resolution - DO PASS
4. Elect 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members - DO PASS
5. Support ELCA World Hunger Efforts - DO PASS
6. Land Acknowledgement Resolution - DO PASS
7. Recognition of Dr Carla Borchardt - DO PASS
8. Update to the Synod Constitution - DO PASS
9. Synod Council Ratification - DO PASS

Resolutions 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9 are presented *en bloc*.

Resolution #: 1
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Elect South Dakota Synod Council Members
Source: Resolutions Committee

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, ELCA elect the following conference nominees to the South Dakota Synod Council for a term of four years:

Medary Conference (Rostered)
Crossroads Conference (Lay)
Northern Plains Conference (Lay)
Prairie Rivers Conference (Lay)

Rev. Jackie Braun, Sinai/Volga
Anne Rieck McFarland, Sioux Falls
Kelly Nelson, Pierre
Bonny Hansen, Mitchell

Resolution #1
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: 2022 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff
Source: Committee for Support to Ministries and its Compensation Task Force

RESOLVED, that the “2022 Compensation and Guidelines for Rostered Ministers and Lay Staff,” prepared by a task force for the Committee for Support to Ministries and recommended by the committee for adoption, be adopted as the policy of the South Dakota Synod by the 2021 South Dakota Synod Assembly.

Resolution #3
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Resolution on Expanding Health Coverage to the Poor in South Dakota
Source: Crossroads, Medary, and Bear Butte Conferences

Whereas, Jesus said he would be found among the poorest people as we help them; and we live every day affirming our baptismal promises to strive for justice and to serve others following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, who healed the sick and spoke up for the marginalized; and

Whereas, Although someday there may be other options to provide for healthcare for our lowest-income uninsured neighbors, South Dakota currently has an option for Medicaid expansion, which would cover all the lowest-income adults ages 19-64, and which is the reality in 38 other states; and

Whereas, Medicaid expansion would end a serious health inequity, would cover vast unmet medical needs that cannot be met by the churches and other non-profits in addition to what they do already, and would save lives and provide treatments for disabilities, mental health and addictions. It would not only pay for healthcare but also support health workers and facilities, especially rural ones, and improve the general economy of the state; and

Whereas, Medicaid expansion would help prevent bankruptcies, hunger, and family financial havoc, and to turn down the federal funds available for this healthcare is to “walk by on the other side of the road” where an estimated 40,000 South Dakotans could be receiving needed health coverage; and

Whereas, South Dakota could provide Medicaid expansion for several years with no cost to the state, by accepting the new 2021 federal incentive covering all of South Dakota’s state share; and

Whereas, churches are encouraged by the Biblical witness and the ELCA to advocate for people in need;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that, with boldness of faith and love of neighbor, the South Dakota Synod ELCA urge South Dakota’s Governor and Legislature and state voters to secure the blessing of healthcare for the lowest-income South Dakotans by adopting Medicaid expansion for South Dakota; and

Be It Further Resolved, that congregations and conferences and the South Dakota Synod ELCA be provided with information encouraging and enabling them to advocate directly for this coverage, urging compassion and health for the poor; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Bishop of the South Dakota Synod communicate this resolution to the Governor and Legislature of South Dakota in a timely fashion.

Resolution # 4
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Elect 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members
Source: Resolutions Committee

RESOLVED, that the 2021 South Dakota Synod Assembly elect the following voting members and alternates to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, August 8-12, Columbus, OH, nominated by conferences and the Synod Council:

PRAIRIE COTEAU CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Male (*changed to female)

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Dr. Ramona Hayes, Langford
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Alex Smith, Webster

Lay Female Voting Member: Annelies Seffrood, Summit
Lay Female Alternate: TBD

MEDARY CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Female

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Cassandra Lamb, Brookings
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Jonathan Dolan, De Smet

Lay Female Voting Member: Tiffany Lewis, Bruce
Lay Female Alternate: TBD

CROSSROADS CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Female, One Lay Male

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Chris Matson, Sioux Falls
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Jonathan Vehar, Sioux Falls

Lay Female Voting Member: Makenna Wallin, Sioux Falls
Lay Female Alternate: Cheryl Lundeen, Sioux Falls

Lay Male Voting Member: Sawyer Vanden Heuvel, Sioux Falls
Lay Male Alternate: Bill Woods, Sioux Falls

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Male

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. David Bentz, Elk Point
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Jeff Otterman, Yankton

Lay Male Voting Member: Mike Gillis, Yankton
Lay Male Alternate: David Spencer, Yankton

NORTHERN PLAINS CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Female, One Lay Male

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Leland Armbright, Aberdeen

Rostered Alternate: Deacon Kris Wollman, Pierre

Lay Female Voting Member: Mary O'Donnell, Tulare
Lay Female Alternate: Donna Crook, Redfield

Lay Male Voting Member: Greg Dean, Pierre
Lay Male Alternate: Stan Jung, Warner

PRAIRIE RIVERS CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Female (*changed to male)

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Becky Senner, Bridgewater
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Mindy Ehrke, Presho

Lay Male Voting Member: Jeff Tveit, Chamberlain
Lay Male Alternate: Holly Paulson, Wessington Springs

BEAR BUTTE CONFERENCE – One Rostered, One Lay Female, One Lay Male

Rostered Voting Member: Rev. Pam Power, Custer
Rostered Alternate: Rev. Erik Thone, Rapid City

Lay Female Voting Member: Cheryl Chapman, Rapid City
Lay Female Alternate: Deb Holz, Rapid City

Lay Male Voting Member: Malcom Chapman, Rapid City
Lay Male Alternate: Nicholas Breining, Pine Ridge

NOMINATED BY THE SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD COUNCIL

Youth: Truman Stoller, Madison
Youth Alternate: TBD

Youth (BIPOC):
Youth Alternate (BIPOC):

Synod Bishop: Bishop Constanze Hagmaier, Sioux Falls
Synod Vice President: Dennis Thompson

Resolution #5
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Support ELCA World Hunger Efforts

Source: The South Dakota Synod Hunger Team; Pastor Erika Lehmann, Chair; and the Bear Butte Conference

WHEREAS ELCA World Hunger provides immediate relief to those who are hungry, and connects people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, for long-term, sustainable change, and

WHEREAS ELCA World Hunger effectively reaches more places than we could ever do alone by working with congregations, global companion churches, Lutheran World Federation and other partners like Bread for the World, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief, and by funding relief and development projects that assist our sisters and brothers in need, and

WHEREAS ELCA World Hunger engages members of the ELCA through education and advocacy to help change the systems that perpetuate poverty, and we believe that God uses our hands to serve and love our neighbor, and uses our voices through our advocacy efforts to restore our world, and that through faithful advocacy we live out our Lutheran belief that governments can help advance the common good,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that our synod congregations be challenged to set aside at least one Sunday or special service each year to reflect on caring for those who are hungry and to bring an awareness of the work and ministry of ELCA World Hunger domestically and internationally, such as by participating in Souper Bowl Sunday, ELCA Good Gifts, or the 40 Days of Lent; and strive to educate members using ELCA World Hunger educational videos and other materials;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that congregations support state and local efforts to alleviate hunger; both by direct providing of food and through advocacy such as participation in Bread for the World's annual "Offering of Letters" and by signing up for ELCA Advocacy's Action Alerts at <http://support.elca.org/>

Resolution #6
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Land Acknowledgement Resolution
Source: Bear Butte Conference

WHEREAS, we, of the South Dakota Synod, have affirmed our baptismal calling to seek justice and peace; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in assembly, adopted a resolution in 2016 to Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery; and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America recognizes that the Oceti Sakowin, (the Seven Council Fires of the Lakota, Dakota, Nakota) the Arikara, and the Cheyenne, are the original inhabitants of South Dakota; and South Dakota is the current home of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and

WHEREAS, the land of South Dakota was taken by broken treaties and force; and

WHEREAS, healing and reconciliation is a process that begins with recognizing where we have been, so that we can move forward; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod leadership model a land acknowledgement at the start of all of its synod-level activities, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod invite other South Dakota ministries to do the same.

Resolution # 7
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Recognition of Leadership by Dr. Carla Borchardt
Source: Resolution Committee

WHEREAS, Dr. Carla Borchardt has now completed her terms of service to the South Dakota Synod-ELCA, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Borchardt has faithfully served the South Dakota Synod-ELCA through her work on the synod council as Crossroads representative through the term of 1999-2005; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Borchardt served the synod council as secretary from 2005-2013, presenting accurate renditions of actions taken at council meetings and synod assembly; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Borchardt led the South Dakota Synod-ELCA for two terms as Vice-President from 2013-2021, through the myriad of changes as a faithful child of God;

Therefore let it be RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod-ELCA, at this assembly, give thanks to God for the presence of Dr. Carla Borchardt and the faithful witness to the gospel given as she has led the South Dakota Synod-ELCA through ministry to the congregations, our neighbors in solidarity, and to the world;

And let it be further resolved that each of us learn from the example of this service to recognize and accept the call to service in the manner in which God has gifted us.

Subject: Resolution to Adopt Certain Amendments to the Constitution of the South Dakota Synod

WHEREAS, the 2019 Churchwide Assembly adopted amendments to the model constitution for synods; and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council at the March 2020 meeting, reviewed recommended changes and recommended to the Synod Assembly the adoption of non-required provisions of the model constitution for synods as amended in 2019, excluding S8.11.01, and including S7.32.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod amend the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the South Dakota Synod as follows:

Additions are underlined. Deletions are ~~struck through~~ in the text.

CHAPTER 7: SYNOD ASSEMBLY

S7.22. This synod may establish processes that permit retired rostered ministers, or those ~~designated as disabled~~ granted disability status, or on leave from call, on the roster of the synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.c. If the synod does not establish processes to permit the rostered ministers specified above to serve as voting members, they shall have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly.

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

S7.32. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, ~~The Synod Rules of Parliamentary Procedure~~ shall govern parliamentary procedure of the Synod Assembly, unless otherwise ordered by the assembly.

CHAPTER 8: OFFICERS

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

CHAPTER 10: SYNOD COUNCIL

S10.08. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of all meetings of the Synod Council.

~~S10.07~~01. To the extent permitted by state law, meetings of the Synod Council and its committees may be held electronically or by telephone conference, and notice of all meetings may be provided electronically.

CHAPTER 13: CONGREGATIONS

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

S13.40. ~~Synodically Authorized~~ Synod-authorized **Worshiping Communities**

CHAPTER 14: ROSTERED MINISTERS

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

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

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

CHAPTER 15: FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Resolution #9
Recommendation: Do Pass
Action Taken: _____

Subject: Resolution to Ratified Election of Synod Council Members Elected by Synod Council

WHEREAS, the 2020 South Dakota Synod Assembly was cancelled in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council acted in its capacity as stewards of the synod's ministries in filling vacancies on the Synod Council; and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council adopted Continuing Resolution S9.01.A20 in order to maintain staggered terms for Synod Council members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Synod, in congruent to S9.01.A20, ratify the elections of the following Synod Council members to terms expiring in 2024:

- Caylee White Eagle (Youth)
- Rev. Ramona Hayes (Prairie Coteau, Clergy)
- Dave Poppens (Crossroads, Lay Male)
- Rhonda Hansen (Southeastern, Lay Female)
- Rev. David Lund (Northern Plains, Clergy)
- Dave Anderson (Prairie Rivers, Lay Male)
- Malcom Chapman (Bear Butte, Lay Male)