

Overland Park, Kan. • June 6-8

Ms. Connie Harris, Emanuel, Hutchison, KS
Mr. Jonathan Heerboth, Christ, Webster Groves, MO
Rev. Kristin Ross – Overland Park, Overland Park, KS
Rev. Tom Wehrman– St. John, Pittsburg, KS
Chair – Rev. Phil Vickers First Mission Hills, KS
Parliamentarian - Mr. Dallas Rakestraw, Reformation, Wichita, KS
Staff Liaison – Rev. Susan Candea

The agenda of the Synod Assembly will allow up to one half hour for individuals to voice issues of conscience and concern. Each person speaking shall be allowed up to three minutes to voice a concern. There shall be no response to any speaker or discussion of any issue following the presentations.

Any person who is certified as a voting member of the Synod Assembly may present an issue of conscience or concern. Each person desiring to voice a concern must submit his/her name and a statement of subject matter to the Resolutions Committee. Contact Rev. Phil Vickers, committee chair by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 7, 2019 by leaving a message (with contact information) in the assembly office.

MOTION SHEET for resolutions or amendments to resolutions[illegible]

Central States Synod 2019 Synod Assembly

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2018 Central States Synod Assembly Actions

Number	Subject	Action
SA 18.01	Resolution to become “Green Congregations” Congregations encouraged to become “green Congregations” by forming Green team that will <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate building and grounds & take at least two steps each year to reduce impact on environment Education & encourage members to help care for God’s creation Encourage person “green discipleship” and actions Communicate with & respond to work of CSS LRC Mission Table	Adopted – work with LRC for communication plan and resources
SA 18.02	Season of Global Awareness – Remembering Companion Synods Designate Epiphany Season – Season of Global Awareness Designate one Sunday in Epiphany – Sunday of Celebration for the Global Church Designate Sunday, October 7, 2019 – Sunday of solidarity with Companion Synod in Russia Designate Sunday, May 5, 2019 – Sunday of solidarity with Companion Synod in Papua New Guinea	Adopted – work with Companion Synod Team for a communication plan
SA 18.03	Lutheran Family & Children Services of Missouri Resolved to use bulletin insert on weekend of May 11 & 12, 2019 and include in prayers	Adopted - information received from LFCS and sent out through synod communications
SA18.04	Memorial on ELCA 50th Anniversary of Ordination of Women Transmit memorial to 2019 Churchwide assembly Call upon congregations to participate in 50 th anniversary Renew efforts in education on sins of sexism Urge congregations, synods, churchwide in 2020 to conduct gender analysis Establish goals and strategies for ordained women & transgendered individual to have comparable compensation to male colleagues by 2025 Establish goals and & strategies for ordained women of color to receive 1 st & 2 nd calls and address debt Request Presiding Bishop provide update in 2025 Request all church publications plan features in 2020 on ordination of women	Adopted – transmitted memorial to churchwide office
SA 18.05	Lutheran Senior Services Provide bulletin inserts and prayer petitions for September 15-16, 2018	Adopted – information to be sent out through synod communications
SA18.06	Congregations that have left the ELCA Express appreciation for ministry of Trinity, Abilene KS, Salem, Axtell, KS, and Our Savior’s, Norway, KS	Adopted – Chaplain offered prayer
SA18.07	Congregations that have closed Faith, Prairie Village, KS Children’s Memorial, Kansas City, MO	Adopted – Chaplain offered prayer
SA18.08	Retirements Express appreciation for those who served	Adopted - Assembly stood and gave applause
SA18.09	Faithful Departed Express appreciation for the lives of the ministers who have died	Adopted – Assembly stood and sang

Resolution SA 19.01

Lutherans Restoring Creation

Submitted by Lutherans Restoring Creation Mission Table

As children of God, formed of the very soil of Earth and called to serve and protect all that God has made (Genesis 2:4b-15), we live in gratitude as a part of all Creation. As people of faith, we care deeply about our children and generations to come, the provision of sufficient and pure water for people, animals, and crops, clean air to breathe, and access to life-giving, healthy environments for all God's creatures, including humans. We recognize how interconnected we are with all of Creation and how our actions impact the present and future health of the planet.

We acknowledge that humanity has contributed to the harm of God's Creation through pollution, excess consumption, wasteful behaviors, and greed. We see the effects of climate change around the world and in our own communities in flooding, drought, wildfires, and the frequency and intensity of storms. We seek to learn together how we can live now and move into the future in ways that are more sustainable and life-giving for all. We seek God's guidance to move forward together in faith, not fear, to love God, Earth, and our neighbors.

Therefore, be it resolved that the congregations of the Central States Synod will

- continue to commit to become "green congregations" with the formation of Green Teams (or Creation Care Teams),
- educate members about new partnerships between the ELCA and ecoAmerica through its Blessed Tomorrow program (<https://elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy/Environment>) and between the Central States Synod and Kansas Interfaith Action (<https://www.kansasinterfaithaction.org/news>),
- utilize those partnerships to provide guidance, resources, and empowerment for advocacy and action on behalf of those most affected by the effects of climate change,
- connect with the CSS Lutherans Restoring Creation Mission Table* to share your stories as we continue to create a network of Creation Care across the Synod,
- and strengthen our personal and communal commitments as stewards of God's Creation.

*Be sure to stop by the LRC Mission Table display table for more information as we support one another. Also, visit <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/> for lots of resources and inspiration.

Resolution SA 19.02
Lutheran Senior Services

Lutheran Senior Services was built by generous hearts who gave of their time, their talents, and their financial resources. Throughout a history of caring which has stretched through 160 years, countless individuals have been partners in serving the needs of seniors in Missouri and Illinois. Lutheran Senior Services is a faith-inspired, mission-driven, not-for-profit network that specializes in enhancing life for seniors ages 62-plus, as they help them “Live Life to the Fullest.” Lutheran Senior Services has 21 locations in Missouri and Illinois for quality senior living and exceptional healthcare.

At all residential communities, plus a Hospice program, at least one chaplain offers pastoral care and leadership to both residents and staff. Lutheran Senior Services is owned by 105 Lutheran congregations from both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as an example of cooperation between our church bodies. Additionally, Lutheran Senior Services provides over \$10,000,000 a year in benevolent charity care for those older adults who have outlived their resources.

Because all congregations of the Central States Synod are made up of people who either have older adults in their family relations or are older themselves, knowledge and information regarding their choices for Senior Services and choices of living arrangements is important. Our congregations and their leaders can also be both references and advocates to seniors needing information.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, all congregations of the Central States Synod will use the provided bulletin inserts and the suggested intercessory prayer on the third weekend of September 2019 as a way of informing our brothers and sisters in Christ of how God is at work through this ministry with seniors.

And be it further resolved that we offer a loud and boisterous “Because Jesus Lives, We Love and Serve! Alleluia!” for the work of ministry being done through Lutheran Senior Services.

SIGNED:

Roy Christell, Living Lord Lutheran Church (Lake Saint Louis, MO)

Resolution SA 19.03

Designation of Bethany Lutheran Home Association Sunday

Bethany Home was established by the Augustana Lutheran Synod Convention held at Elim Lutheran Church in Marquette, Kansas, in November of 1911. The Bethany Home Association Board of Directors hereby acknowledges the gift(s) of love and financial support awarded as a result of previous Bethany Home Sundays, and are grateful for all of the prayers and support given by the people of the Central States Synod.

In an effort to enhance the gifts given by our Central States Synod congregations and take advantage of Match Madness matching gift opportunities in the Salina, Lindsborg, and McPherson area, the Board requests your continued prayers and financial support, and

Further, the Board requests adoption at the 2019 Central States Synod Assembly that Bethany Home Sunday be observed on March 1, 2020, in support of our mission as a ministry partner of the ELCA.

Submitted by Pastor James A. Strasen, President of the Bethany Home Association Board of Directors

Resolution SA 19.04
A SEASON OF GLOBAL AWARENESS
Remembering our Companion Synods

Because it is vitally important for the people, the congregations, and the leadership of the Central States Synod to be aware that we are part of a world-wide community of faith that is called to bear one another's burdens, share our unique gifts with one another, and both share and receive the unique witness to the gospel that is present in the church as it is embodied in the many different countries, cultures, and languages around the world, the Companion Synod Team calls upon the Voting members of the Central States Synod Assembly to adopt the following resolution.

Be it resolved that the Epiphany Season be designated as a **Season of Global Awareness** for all congregations within the Central States Synod and that congregations intentionally lift up the church around the world through prayer, song, publicity and in any way appropriate to the context of the congregation.

Be it also resolved that the congregations of the Central States Synod designate at least one Sunday during the Epiphany Season as a **"Sunday of Celebration for the Global Church."** This Sunday would focus not only on our Companion Synods in Papua New Guinea and Russia, but also the Global Ministry we share in through the Global Mission Arm of the ELCA such as Missionary Sponsorship, Young Adults in Global Mission, and our support of Projects that promote the witness of the Gospel, works of compassion and Justice ministry around the world.

Be it also resolved that **Sunday, October 6th, 2019** shall be designated as a Sunday of solidarity with and prayer for our Companion Synod in Russia, the "Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and Far East" (ELCUSFE) with a special focus on the Far Eastern Deanery. *This date was chosen because the first Sunday in October is widely observed by the churches in Russia as a harvest Sunday when they give thanks and celebrate the completion of the fall harvest.*

Be it also resolved that **Sunday, April 26th, 2020** be designated as a Sunday of solidarity with, and prayer for our Companion District, the Kotte District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea (ELCPNG). *This date is chosen because it is Easter 3 when the story of the Walk to Emmaus is often read, a story often used to illustrate the Accompaniment Model of Global Mission. Another lesson often read is the story of Jesus having breakfast with Peter and the Disciples on the shore of lake Tiberias and calling on Peter to "Feed my sheep." This is also a lesson that reminds us of our vocation to feed God's sheep throughout the world.*

The Central States Synod Companion Synod Team will provide resources for mission education and worship for the Epiphany Season, and additionally, prayer requests, recent news and communications from our Companion Churches prior to the two Companion Synod Sundays to help us to "accompany one another" in our journey as followers, servants and witnesses to Jesus Christ in our respective parts of God's world.

The Companion Synod Team of the Central States Synod – ELCA

Ms. Rebecca Blocksome
Rev. Jon Brudvig
Mr. Jim Cooper
Rev. Susan Candea
Ms. Emily Greble
Rev. Keith Holste

Rev. Penny Holste
Mr. Gary Kallansrud
Mr. Alex Lang
Mr. Daniel Lilienkamp
Ms. Peggy Schaefer
Rev. Gary Teske

Resolution SA 19.05
Memorial for Increased Accountability in Cases of Sexual Misconduct

Rationale:

“Nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.” (Luke 12:2)

In 2007, Tarana Burke sparked the #metoo movement, which sought to bring light to incidents of sexual misconduct while also seeking to support the victims of said misconduct, particularly in underprivileged communities. This movement took off in 2017 with allegations against and revelations about highly visible individuals within society. The list of perpetrators also includes multiple public members of the church at large.

In light of the #metoo movement, how instances of sexual misconduct are handled is decidedly important to maintaining public trust so that the church can continue our faithful proclamation of the Gospel. As followers of Christ, we acknowledge that we are all broken people living in a broken world. We are called as the church, by virtue of our baptism, to act in ways that maintain the public trust so that our proclamation of the good news of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ can continue to be spread to all nations. This call includes fostering a community where victim's stories can be heard and believed without fear of recrimination as well as where victims can find advocates to help them navigate what it means for perpetrators to have forgiveness while still being held properly accountable and called to repentance.

Resolved:

Be it resolved that the Central States Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) clearly and explicitly renounces sexism and sexual misconduct in all its forms and its continued impact on the church and the communities that we serve. Further, we repent of all the ways in which we have been complicit, either explicitly or implicitly, in acts of sexism and sexual misconduct. We also commit to higher standards of accountability for those who commit acts of sexism or sexual misconduct, thus fulfilling the promise of Jesus that the truth has the power to set us free of the powers of sin and evil that attempt to bind us.

Be it further resolved that the Central States Synod memorializes the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA to clearly and explicitly renounce sexism and sexual misconduct in all its forms as well as its continued impact on the church and the communities that we serve.

Be it further resolved that the ELCA Churchwide Assembly is called upon to repent of all the ways in which we have been complicit, either explicitly or implicitly, in acts of sexism and sexual misconduct and then commit to higher standards of accountability for those who commit acts of sexism or sexual misconduct, by enacting the following measures:

- Direct the crafting of “Trustworthy Servants of the People of God” so that it frees and empowers victims of sexual misconduct, who are either in candidacy or rostered, to come forward without fear of being removed from the candidacy process/roster or experiencing other forms of recrimination.
- Direct the seminaries and colleges/universities of the ELCA to take steps to increase the visibility of Title IX policies. (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that provides: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.)
- Commit to a renewed diligence on matters pertaining to sexual misconduct which prevents misconduct from being dismissed or hidden.

Submitted by The Rev. Micha Sievenpiper, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Missouri

Resolution SA 19.06

RETIREMENTS

The following persons have served the Church faithfully, using their gifts and abilities to build up the Body of Christ, and have now retired from active ministry on the roster of the Church since the last Central States Synod Assembly;

The Rev. Bruce Freeman
The Rev. Bruce Adamson
The Rev. David Miller
The Rev. Brian Elster
The Rev. Steven Little
The Rev. David Fulton
The Rev. Kendra Nolde
The Rev. James Bennett
The Rev. Lawrence Block

Resolved, That the Central States Synod in Assembly expresses appreciation to the above-named retired persons by standing and giving applause in thanksgiving for them and their service to the Church.

Submitted by: Resolutions Committee

Resolution SA 19.07
FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Baptized, we welcome one another as fellow members of the Body of Christ and workers with us in the Kingdom of God. Our merciful God gives us particular companions to know and to love in our pilgrimage here on earth. Since our last convening:

The Rev. Donald Fallon
The Rev. A. Karl Boehmke
The Rev. Kenneth J. Knutson
The Rev. Sally Fahrenthold
The Rev. Gerald Buss
The Rev. Henry Liskey
The Rev. John Mann
The Rev. Edward Schroeder
The Rev. Raymond A. Mai

have passed through the gates of death to life eternal, and we remember them before God with reverence and affection, thanking God for their faithful service.

Resolved, That the Central States Synod in Assembly stands to sing praise for our faithful departed rostered leaders, in the words of the hymn, "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" verses 1 & 4.

Submitted by: Resolutions Committee

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,

who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;

we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,

con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.