

Section 2 – Reports of Assembly Committees

Report of the Nominations Committee

Committee Roster

Rev Richard Brown [L], Rev Colin Cameron [H/N], Rev Linda Douglas [T], Rev Wendell Grahlman [ES-S],
Rev Jouko Jyrkama [N], Rev Kimberlynn McNabb [A], Rev John Polacok [GB],
Bishop Michael Pryse [ES-S], Rev Bonnie Schelter-Brown [K/W], Rev Annette Smith [O/StL]

Nominations for Synod Council

(Note – A representative must be elected from both the Hamilton/Niagara and Northern Conferences.)

Lay Persons (Three to be elected) Term 2012 – 2016

Margaret Christenson [N]
Allan Greve [H/N]
Brian Koivu [N]
Michael Schuster [H/N]
Bonnie Weppler [O/StL]
Angela Yenssen [GB]

Clergy (Three to be elected) Term 2012 – 2016

Rev Colin Cameron [H/N]
Rev Susan Climo [T]
Rev Ann Krueger [T]
Rev Thomas Mertz [L]
Rev Stephen Scheidt [H/N]
Rev Roy Thakurdial [T]

Biographical Data for Nominees to Eastern Synod Council

(Note – A representative must be elected from both the Hamilton/Niagara and Northern Conferences.)

Lay Persons (Three to be elected) Term 2012 – 2016

Margaret Christenson *Congregation:* Zion, Sault Ste Marie *Conference:* **Northern**

- Occupation:* Retired Librarian – currently Volunteer CEO Prince Library
- Eastern Synod World Mission Committee – Member
 - Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Board of Governors – Member
 - Zion Lutheran Church, Sault Ste Marie – Church Council Member
 - Federated Womens’ Institutes of Ontario – Northern Board Director

Allan Greve *Congregation:* Grace, Hamilton *Conference:* **Hamilton/Niagara**

- Occupation:* Greve Health Solutions Inc. – Health Care Consultant
- Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada – Board Member
 - Hamilton and Halton Alzheimer Society – President
 - Probus Club of Hamilton – President
 - Ancaster Community Services - Volunteer

Brian Koivu *Congregation:* Trinity, Sudbury *Conference:* **Northern**

- Occupation:* Investors Group Financial Services Inc. – Financial Consultant
- Eastern Synod Council/Finance and Personnel Committee – Current Member
 - Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Board of Governors – Past Member
 - Synod Resource Development Committee – Past Member/Chair
 - Trinity, Sudbury Congregational Council -Chair

Michael Schuster *Congregation:* St John's, Hamilton *Conference:* **Hamilton/Niagara**

- Occupation:* Region of Waterloo – Commissioner of Social Services
- St John's, Hamilton Church Council – Chairperson
 - Eastern Synod Public Policy Committee – Chairperson
 - Victoria Park Community Homes – Chairperson
 - Employment Hamilton – Vice Chair

Bonnie Wepler *Congregation:* St John's, Montreal *Conference:* **Ottawa/St Lawrence**

- Occupation:* United Way Ottawa – Administrator
- Papua, New Guinea – Former ELCIC Missionary
 - Canadian Churches' Forum for Global Ministries – Current Board Member
 - The Mainstreeter – Current Virtual Assistant
 - Saint Paul University – Former Coordinator, Noon Hour Seminars and Student Speaker Series

Angela Yenssen *Congregation:* St Peter's, Neustadt *Conference:* **Georgian Bay**

- Occupation:* Age-Wise Solutions Inc. – Social Worker
- St Peter's, Neustadt – Current Worship Assistant
 - Good Shepherd, Brockville – Past Church Council Member
 - Good Shepherd, Brockville and Our Saviour, Owen Sound – Past Youth Leader
 - Good Shepherd, Brockville – Past Worship Assistant

Clergy (Three to be elected) Term 2012 – 2016

Rev Colin Cameron *Congregation:* Holy Cross, Burlington *Conference:* **Hamilton/Niagara**

- Occupation:* Holy Cross, Burlington – Pastor
- Eastern Synod Council – Current Member
 - Eastern Synod – Hamilton/Niagara Conference Dean
 - Burlington Youth Soccer Club – Coach
 - Eastern Synod Legal and Constitutions Committee – Current Member

Rev Susan Climo *Congregation:* Peace, Mississauga *Conference:* **Toronto**

- Occupation:* Peace, Mississauga – Pastor
- Toronto Conference Council – Member since May 2010
 - LutheransConnect.com – Board Member since Nov 2009
 - Eastern Synod Assembly 2010 and 2012 Local Arrangements Committee – Member
 - Planning for the World Day of Prayer for Christian Unity – ELCIC Representative since Jan 2011

Rev Ann Krueger *Congregation:* Westside, Barrie *Conference:* **Toronto**

Occupation: Westside, Barrie – Pastor

- Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness – Member
- Planning Committee for Rural Ministry Symposium 2006 and 2010 – Member
- 2008 Synod Assembly Local Arrangements Committee – Member
- London Conference – Youth Resource Person

Rev Thomas Mertz *Congregation:* St Paul’s, Leamington *Conference:* **London**

Occupation: St Paul’s, Leamington – Pastor

- London Conference Council – Member since 2009
- Ontario Multi-faith Committee, Windsor-Sarnia –Member since 2009
- Redeemer, London – Interim Pastor since 2010

Rev Stephen Scheidt *Congregation:* Faith, Brantford *Conference:* **Hamilton/Niagara**

Occupation: Faith, Brantford – Pastor

- Brantford Hospital Chaplain’s Advisory Board – Member since 2007
- Eastern Synod & Spencer-Barche Scholarship Committees – Past Member (2000-2006)
- Ryandale Home for the Homeless – Past Board Member (2000-2006)
- Local Ministerial, Kingston, Ontario – Past Member (2000-2006)

Rev Roy Thakurdial *Congregation:* Bethesda, Unionville *Conference:* **Toronto**

Occupation: Bethesda, Unionville - Pastor

- Evangelical Lutheran Church, Guyana – Past President
- Lutheran World Federation – Advisor to Council on Programme Committee on Ecumenical Affairs
- Eastern Synod – Toronto Conference Council Member
- Eastern Synod Council – Member

Report of the Elections Committee

Committee Roster

Rev. Anne Anderson – Chairperson, Rev. Guenter Dahle,
Rev. Jun Gao, Don Statham, Susan Szozda

First Ballot for Synod Council – Lay

TERM: 2012 – 2016

Margaret Christenson (N)	113	Total Ballots Cast:	260
Allan Greve (H/N)	64	Invalid Ballots	0
Brian Koivu (N)	130	Valid Ballots	260
Michael Schuster (H/N)	104	Needed to Elect	131
Bonnie Weppler (O/StL)	151 Elected		
Angela Yenssen (GB)	76		

First Ballot for Synod Council – Clergy

TERM: 2012 – 2016

Rev. Colin Cameron (H/N)	151 Elected	Total Ballots Cast:	260
Rev. Susan Climo (T)	132	Invalid Ballots	0
Rev. Ann Krueger (T)	154 Elected	Valid Ballots	260
Rev. Thomas Mertz (L)	124	Needed to Elect	131
Rev. Stephen Scheidt (H/N)	89		
Rev. Roy Thakurdial (T)	137 Elected		

Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee

Committee Roster

Rev. Katherine Altenburg, William Bruhm, Rev. Dr. Mark Harris,
Rev. Ilze Kuplens-Ewart – Chairperson, Carol Meindl, Rev. Thomas Mertz,
Michael Schuster, Elaine Scott-Thomas, Rev. Adam Snook

MOTION 1.1

RELATING TO: Call on all levels of Government in Canada to develop and/or expand affordable supportive housing strategies

SUBMITTED BY: the Eastern Synod Director of Public Policy Advisory and Service Ministries

MOTION: Moved that this synod in Assembly call on all provincial, territorial, federal and municipal governments to develop and/or expand affordable supportive housing strategies that will

- prevent and alleviate homelessness and address the independent living needs of seniors and others facing challenges to independent living; and
- that delegates to this Assembly encourage their congregations and members to support such housing initiatives in their communities

RATIONALE:

- Long term housing instability can create a cycle where people keep moving in and out of shelters, hospitals or correctional facilities ... “the use of various emergency services is roughly 10 times more expensive than the provision of housing with support and/or instigate services..” (All Roads Lead to Home – Region of Waterloo 2007)
- The Federal government’s commitment to ongoing funding for homelessness alleviation and affordable housing ceases on March 31, 2014.
- The importance of housing to stabilize individuals and families is highlighted in the report “The Housing First Model: Immediate Access to Permanent Housing”. (E. Nick Faldo in Canadian Housing 2008). The Canadian Senate in their December 2009 sub-committee report on Cities, In from the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness makes a number of recommendations to address the housing needs of Canadians
- By 2016, 16.3% of the Canadian population will be over 65 and by 2025 one in five Canadians will be over 65 (CMHC)
- People with mental health issues are more vulnerable to homelessness and represent a visible portion of the homeless population. (CMHC Research Highlight Report - May 2011)
- 25% of Canadians over 55 years old want to remain in their present home for as long as possible even if there are changes to their health (Impacts of Aging of the Canadian Population on Housing and Communities – CMHC 2008)
- As the baby boom population ages more and more seniors will require some supports to live independently in the community or in a supportive housing setting (as opposed to a nursing home).

Rationale has been abridged

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

MOTION 1.2

RELATING TO: Calling on the Federal Government to take seriously the issue of poverty in Canada and to develop a Federal Anti-poverty strategy enshrined in legislation.

SUBMITTED BY: the Eastern Synod Director of Public Policy Advisory and Service Ministries

MOTION: Moved that this synod in Assembly call on the Federal Government to address the issue of poverty facing many Canadians by

- developing a Federal Anti-poverty strategy enshrined in legislation which includes a commitment for sufficient investment in social security and accountability for results,
- that delegates to this Assembly acquire and study the document *The Dollars and Sense of Solving Poverty* in their congregations, and
- encourage their congregations and members to advocate for poverty reduction initiatives with their respective Provincial governments.

RATIONALE:

- To-date the federal government has not taken action with regard to a November 24, 2009 motion passed in the House of Commons: “That with November 24, 2009 marking the 20 anniversary of the 1989 unanimous resolution of the House to eliminate poverty among Canadian children by the year 2000, and not having achieved that goal, be it resolved that the Government of Canada, taking into consideration the Committee’s work in this regard, and respecting provincial and territorial jurisdiction develop an immediate plan to eliminate poverty in Canada for all”
- Poverty continues to affect almost 10% of the Canadian population (3.2 million Canadians living in 2009). The National Council of Welfare estimates the public cost of poverty is double what it would take to provide each Canadian family an income above the poverty line (“the Dollars and Sense of Solving Poverty” – Fall 2011).
- The newsletter (Hunger eNews) for the Ontario Association of Food Banks estimates that one in 33 Ontarians goes hungry every month and needs to access food from a food bank or feeding program
- A “Poverty Free Ontario” June 2011 media release indicated that poverty in Ontario had increased from 11.2% of the population in 2007 to 13.1% of the population in 2009
- The United Nations Human Rights Council called on the Government of Canada in 2009 to develop a national strategy to end poverty
- Canada 2020 is a non-partisan, progressive centre working to create an environment of social and economic prosperity for Canada and all Canadians. In their November 2011 publication “The Canada We Want in 2020” poverty is identified as a threat to our social cohesion. A number of recommendations are made to the federal government on the importance of reducing poverty

The rationale has been abridged

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

MOTION 1.3

RELATING TO: A response to the work of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) and the ELCIC's commitment to diversity

SUBMITTED BY: the Eastern Synod Director of Public Policy Advisory and Service Ministries

MOTION: Moved that, in light of the ongoing work of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) and the ELCIC's commitment to diversity, the Synod Assembly calls on the Eastern Synod to form a volunteer, ad hoc committee that will invite and help shepherd the congregations of the Eastern Synod in

- confession and repentance of both our current racist attitudes and actions and the part we played in support of the policy of assimilation that denied the integrity of Aboriginal cultures and thereby created and perpetuated the residential school tragedy
- committing ourselves to working toward reconciliation and decolonizing the dominant culture
- planning to engage in on-going learning, reflection, and discussion based in scripture, the work of the TRC and related resources in order to uncover attitudes that are still present in our selves, church and society that were at the root of the residential schools;
- after the process of confession, repentance, self-learning, and reflection to humbly respond to invitations from communities that experience the debilitating effects of racism and with communities that live with privilege, to find ways to journey together, confronting the reality of racism.

The tasks of this committee will include:

- To begin to discern the context of the Eastern Synod in relation to diversity, racism, culture, and right relationships with First Nations Peoples
- To look in depth at the issues of diversity, racism, culture and right relationships
- To devise and commend processes for this work
- To engage others in the Synod and beyond in gathering resources (written, experiential, video, workshop, and training)
- To help the Eastern Synod to identify and celebrate the ways this process is life giving and helps us to live our faith.

RATIONALE: On Friday, February 24, 2012 The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), released its interim report together with a new historical publication, *They Came for the Children: Canada, Aboriginal Peoples, and Residential Schools B*. The report, together with the excellent historical publication, provide a wonderful opportunity for God's people to rediscover the truth about the treatment of First Nations Peoples in Canada and through this education, move toward reconciliation.

Out of the TRC has also come the recognition that most of the people who ran the residential schools were "faithful, well-meaning people who thought they were doing the will of God". God's

people today need to ask, "What about the faithful well-meaning people who think they are doing the will of God today"?

There were attitudes and cultural beliefs at the root of residential schools. One of the challenges of the TRC is to do the difficult work of uncovering which of those attitudes still exist and continue to shape us today.

The Eastern Synod of the ELCIC is committed to being "In Mission for Others." This calls us to be a diverse church. To truly engage such diversity means more than having a variety of skin colours in our congregations. We are called to do the work of understanding our own culture and intentionally living in right relationship across cultures.

Even though we, as Lutheran Christians, did not run residential schools, we must recognize that we had a part in the residential school reality and that we continue to be shaped by the attitudes that led to the residential schools.

Rationale has been abridged.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

MOTION 1.4

RELATING TO: Resolution Calling for Enlightened National Environmental Leadership and Action

SUBMITTED BY: the Eastern Synod Director of Public Policy Advisory and Service Ministries

MOTION: Moved that the Eastern Synod Assembly declare that, out of respect for all of creation and accepting our responsibility as stewards of creation, call for a vision and policies for the future of our country and our planet that

- acknowledge that Canada's Environmental Footprint — industrial, institutional, and individual— exceeds the planet's capability to sustain it,
- acknowledge that, according to the vast majority of climate scientists, global warming is caused by humans and is having an increasingly devastating effect on the planet's ecosystem, its flora and fauna, and on vulnerable human populations,
- move us from dependence on oil, gas, and coal to clean, sustainable energy sources such as solar, wind, tidal, and geothermal, in the process creating jobs,
- eliminate the current federal tax subsidies of over \$1 billion annually to oil and gas companies allocating those funds for environmentally responsible policies,
- through public education campaigns and financial incentives encourage conservation of energy by industry, government, public and private institutions, and individuals.

Finally, we direct our Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Michael Pryse, to

- write to our Prime Minister, conveying these declarations and calls for action,
- write to Eastern Synod congregations encouraging them to continue the greening of their homes, their buildings and their use of the planet's limited resources, and

- through proclamation and education to keep us ever mindful of the care for the creation that the Creator has entrusted to us.

RATIONALE: The rationale underlying this motion falls in a number of areas. These are some.

BIBLE, THEOLOGY, ACTIONS, EXAMPLES

Planet In Peril: God's Earth/God's People, by Jana Kelly and Harold Remus (commissioned by the ELCIC National Office) CONTENTS: 1. Paradigm Shifts: Climate Change/Global Warming, by Jana Kelly and Harold Remus, p. 3. 2. Planet in Peril – How Perilous is the Peril? by Jana Kelly, p. 4. 3. "Planet" – What's In A Name and How Did We Get Here from There? by Harold Remus, p. 6. 4. The Greening of Theology: Ecotheology by Harold Remus, p. 8. 5. "The Strange New World Within the Bible" – What Does the Bible Say About God's Earth? by Harold Remus, p. 10. 6. Greening Sacred Spaces: Faith in Action by Jana Kelly, p. 15. 7. "I believe . . ." by Jana Kelly and Harold Remus, p. 17. References, pp. 18, 20. Three Case Studies, p.24. <http://elcic.ca/Stewardship/Stewardship-of-creation/documents/PlanetInPerilStewardshipOfCreationInitiative.pdf>

CLIMATE CHANGE IS CAUSED BY HUMANS; URGENCY OF ACTION

Game Over for the Climate, By James Hansen, Director, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies / May 9, 2012 , "Global warming isn't a prediction. It is happening. . . . Every major national science academy in the world has reported that global warming is real, caused mostly by humans, and requires urgent action. The cost of acting goes far higher the longer we wait — we can't wait any longer to avoid the worst and be judged immoral by coming generations."
<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/05/10/opinion/game-over-for-the-climate.html?hp&pagewanted>

Rationale has been abridged.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

MOTION 1.5

RELATING TO: A call to non-violence

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Bosch, Tim Hegedus, Anne Anderson, Michael Hackbusch, Andre Lavergne, Harold Remus, Jim Bindernagel, Richard Walsh-Bowers, Michael Doan, Karen Jenkins, Brian Wilker-Frey, Annette Smith, Dale Finch, Robert Kelly, Nancy Kelly, Catherine House, Mike Schroeder, Mark Van House, Brian Kolm, Michael Hackbusch

MOTION: Moved that the Eastern Synod encourage its congregations and congregational members to reject violence as a controlling posture in all relationships:

- in domestic life, refusing all violent responses to spousal disagreements and child-rearing, including spanking and hitting;
- in our neighbourhoods and in our communities responding to criminal and other offences by speaking and acting for non-violent resolutions such as those practised through the Community Justice Initiative;
- in international relations, refusing to serve in the nation's military; and

- in our stewardship of the creation by a renewed “reverence for life” in all its forms, and
- B. That the Eastern Synod, through our Bishop Michael Pryse, encourage other synods and the national ELCIC to take similar official action.

RATIONALE: None provided

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

RELATING TO: A Resolution in support of the 2010 Interfaith Partnership Statement “A Time for Inspired Leadership and Action” and the eight United Nations “Millennium Development Goals.”

SUBMITTED BY: the Eastern Synod Public Policy Advisory Committee

MOTION: Moved that this synod in Assembly

- express its support for the 2010 Religious Leaders’ Summit / 2010 Interfaith Partnership Statement “A Time for Inspired Leadership and Action”^A together with the eight “Millennium Development Goals”^B to be achieved by 2015;
- join together with people in faith communities across Canada and around the world in calling for inspired leadership and action at this critical moment in history, urging our government representatives to work together for a future that allows all the citizens of the world to thrive;
- call upon the world’s political leaders present at the G8 and G20 global leaders’ summit to put the needs and values of the majority of the world’s population first and to take courageous and concrete actions to
 - ❖ address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable while simultaneously making structural changes to close the growing gap between rich and poor;
 - ❖ prioritize long-term environmental sustainability and reduce climate change, while addressing its impacts on the poor;
 - ❖ invest in peace and remove factors that feed cycles of violent conflict and costly militarism.
- And that during this Assembly, as people of faith and concerned global citizens, we will attempt to send this message to the leaders of the G8 / G20 nations gathering in Huntsville and Toronto,
 - ❖ calling them to implement, without delay, the Millennium Development Goals;
 - ❖ stating our intent to monitor the decisions our government leaders take, including decisions made at these G8 / G20 meetings;
 - ❖ stating our expectation that our leaders will follow-through on past promises and take bold new actions.

RECOMMENDATION: Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

MOTION 2.1

RELATING TO: A Motion in support of missionary Brian Rude

SUBMITTED BY: Ann Salmon, Deborah Ann Taylor

MOTION: Moved that the Eastern Synod endorse the following motion passed by an overwhelming majority at the synod assembly of Alberta and the Territories on May 25, 2012:

“That the World Missions Committee of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, in cooperation and consultation with Synod Council and Executive” develop a strategy to financially support the work and ministry of the Rev. Brian Rude in El Salvador.”

And that the Eastern Synod, in this assembly, direct its Synod Council and Executive to work in close cooperation and consultation with the Synod of Alberta and the Territories to support the work and ministry of the Rev. Brian Rude in El Salvador.

RATIONALE: None provided

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be ruled Out of Order.

MOTION 2.2

RELATING TO: Synod Professional Staff Remuneration

SUBMITTED BY: Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, Tom Doherty, Christian Schweter, Linda Douglas, Ruth Boothby

MOTION: That the Treasurer of this Synod, starting in 2014, provide in the Synod Assembly financial Reports a detailed breakdown of individual Synod Professional Staff remuneration.

RATIONALE:

- Just as congregations are aware of the salaries and benefits of their pastors, officers and staff whom they support through their offerings, so should Synod Assembly be aware of the salaries of their officers, whom each congregation supports through benevolence.
- This disclosure would be in keeping with the Bishop and Synod Council’s promise, in the AGL Synod Covenant, of “being transparent in financial reporting to congregations and members”.
- This information would build trust.
- In 2012, \$352,600 (p. 8-21) is too large of a number not to be accounted for in greater detail.
- It is in keeping with societal trends of accountability for non-profit and public organizations.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be referred to the Synod’s Privacy Officer and to Synod Council.

MOTION 2.3

RELATING TO: Part-Time, Contract Ministry

SUBMITTED BY: The K-W Conference Council

MOTION: Moved that the Eastern Synod in Assembly refer to Synod Council the task of preparing for 2014 Eastern Synod Assembly an assessment of Percentage Time Call/Contract Ministry. The assessment will look at the challenges and opportunities within the conferences of the Synod and report on relevant findings, procedures, and/or recommendations.

RATIONALE: Ministry is changing, including the role of the pastor, the relationship between pastor(s) and congregation(s), the professional expectations of rostered ministers, the financial and relational expectations of congregations, the increasing demands being made upon conferences, clusters and areas, the support and guidance the synod Office is asked to provide, and more. Old models of ministry, including the “one full time pastor, one full time congregation” model, have become much less normative. New models have emerged and continue to emerge, (eg. Contract, Part-Time, Percentage Time...) but not all of these models are helpful, and much of what is to come remains ambiguous.

During this time of transition, pastors and congregations are experiencing confusion and anxiety. New situations, unknown to us, are challenging previous understandings, and are calling into question practices, and even vocabulary, which have served us in the past.

In order to assist the synod, its rostered leaders and its congregations through this time of transition and change, it is requested that the Professional Leadership Committee of the Eastern Synod address the following issues:

- Call
 - ❖ Consider implementing a synodical policy that rostered leaders who are paid less than what is mandated by the Compensation Schedule will no longer be considered full-time;
 - ❖ Consider how the Synod, Conferences and/or Areas might support changing models of ministry (congregations moving from two pastors to one, full-time changing to part-time, pastoral chaplaincies changing to seminarian chaplaincies, “hiring” rostered leaders as contract employees for limited or compartmentalized roles), with a view toward helping the church embrace its theology of Call.
- The current situation
 - ❖ Consider the categorizing of all models of ministry by rostered leaders as Called Ministry.
- Part-time and “Percentage-time” Calls
 - ❖ Create a clear process which enables congregations and rostered leaders to move from a full-time to a part-time Call;
 - ❖ Clarify how “percentage-time” ministry compares to “full-time” ministry in tasks and remuneration in light of new Canada Revenue Agency rules around capping taxable “ministry” income and the revised expectations for Clergy Residence Deductions;
 - ❖ Examine the “percentage-time” policies and strategies of our sister synods in the ELCIC;

- ❖ Consider revising synodical policy so that rostered leaders who are serving part-time need to consult with the Calling agency and the Synod Bishop to pursue supplementary income.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be referred to the Committee on Professional Leadership.

MOTION 3.1

RELATING TO: A Substitute Motion to replace R & C 1-5, Pertain to Non-violence

SUBMITTED BY: N/A

MOTION: Moved that the Eastern Synod in convention declare its support for the historic Lutheran position that, while violence is sometimes tragically necessary in pursuing justice in the world, it is always preferred that non-violent solutions be sought in situations of conflict.

Therefore we commit ourselves:

- To use non-violent communication in our interactions with one another;
- To encourage our communities to pursue restorative practices in instances of violence in social life;
- To encourage governments and those who protest government actions and policies to engage one another honestly and non-violently;
- To encourage the government of Canada to pursue, and to encourage other nations to pursue, non-violent solutions to international conflicts through the United Nations and other multilateral and bilateral organizations

We also commit ourselves to encourage and support those whose vocation includes the pursuit of justice and peace, mediation, conflict resolution, restorative practices, diplomacy, peace-keeping and peace-making.

We therefore request Synod Council and the Director of Public Policy Advisory and Service Ministries to identify or develop resources to help congregations study and work toward restorative practices and just peace in the world, and to respond to violence in the home, at work and at school, and in that perpetrated against creation.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that as a Substitute Motion for 1-5.

MOTION 3.2

RELATING TO: The Future of the ELCIC in the event of a failure of Restructuring

SUBMITTED BY: David Pfrimmer, Robert Kelly, Dorothy Frook, William Shafer Bart Beglo, Kristine Lund, Tim Hegedus, Tanya Ramer, Allen Jorgenson

MOTION: Moved that, should the ELCIC Synods fail to develop realistic and sustainable proposals for restructuring, and should the National Church Council be unable to

bring forward restructuring proposals to their Fall 2013 meeting to maintain the ministry of the national church, NCC be called upon to

- develop a proposal for an orderly process to wind down the current national structure, and
- appoint an interim secretariat or other means to facilitate the cooperation and collaboration of ELCIC synods in national and international organizations and initiatives in the future.

RATIONALE: It is the hope that Synods and the NCC will be successful in developing restructuring proposals that enable the ELCIC to reorganize to effectively be “in mission for others.” However, there are serious concerns about implications of the actions taken by Synods given the financial situation across the church and the unintended consequences of these decisions not to proceed with the ELCIC Restructuring Taskforce’s recommendations. There is not an unlimited amount of time available to the ELCIC to make critical decisions for its’ future. Provisions need to be made to honour the national office’s responsibilities and to preserve the important work identified by National Bishop Susan Johnson in her report to the 2012 Synod Assemblies. It is the hope that this resolution will convey the urgency of this situation and the need for specific proposals for the national church and synods to consider.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be adopted.

MOTION 3.3

RELATING TO: A motion regarding healthcare funding for refugee claimants

SUBMITTED BY: Ilze Kuplens-Ewart, Katherine Altenburg, Thomas Mertz, Adam Snook, Michael Schuster, William Bruhm, Elaine Scott-Thomas, Carol Meindl

MOTION: Moved that this synod in assembly direct the Bishop to write to the Prime Minister of Canada and express our concern at the cuts in refugee health coverage announced by the federal government. Further, we ask the National Bishop to explore issuing a public statement together with other faith leaders condemning the federal government’s decision and joining those in the medical community and other faith communities to call for the reinstatement of full health care coverage to the refugee claimants. We also encourage congregations and members of the ELCIC to express their concern and calling for reinstatement of full health coverage to refugee claimants.

RATIONALE: The Lutheran church internationally is in the unique position of having a highly significant role in refugee care: director of CLWR, Robert Granke, has told us that the LWF is second only to the **International Red Cross** in providing care to refugees internationally. As a result, the Lutheran church is able to speak from a position of considerable experience in the area of refugee health.

Those who have applied for asylum as refugees are by their very nature in need of particular support, both to their physical and mental health. PTSD is a psychiatric disorder that does not disappear over time, rather becomes latent and can re-

emerge even in senior years if untreated. The side-effects of PTSD include aggression and substance dependency and have been shown to have a continued impact on the family.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be adopted.

MOTION 3.4

RELATING TO: Thanks

SUBMITTED BY: Reference and Counsel

MOTION: That the Assembly express its thanks to the Rev. Jeff Smith, Convention Manager, to the Rev. Guenter Dahle, Asst. Convention Manager, to the members of the Local Arrangements Committee, to the Registrar and registration team, to the scores of stewards and volunteers, and to the synod office and technical staff, for the enormous amount of work that has gone into the planning, conduct, and warm hospitality of this Assembly;

and that this Assembly expresses its thanks to the Worship Design Team, our musicians, lectors, and all whose love and talent has gone into the planning and carrying out of the Assembly's worship life;

and that this Assembly expresses its thanks to our Bishop, the Rev. Michael Pryse, to his assistants, the Rev. Riitta Hepomaki and the Rev. Mark Harris, and to the synod staff, Cathy Caron, Stephanie Clayton, Christine Archer, and Lynn Becker, for their tireless partnership in ministry.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be adopted.

MOTION 3.5

RELATING TO: Unfinished Business

SUBMITTED BY: Reference and Counsel

MOTION: That, at the conclusion of this Assembly, any items of unfinished business be referred to the Synod Council for consideration and action.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that this motion be adopted.

Report of the Committee on Report of the Bishop

Committee Roster

Rev. Hans Borch – Chairperson, Rev. Susan Climo, Liga Dekmeiers, Linda Grainger, Judy Lindeman, Rev. Debra Johnston, Robert McGee

The members of the Committee on the Report of the Bishop would firstly like to thank Bishop Michael for providing a passionate, serious report filled with some hard realities.

Taking our lead from you, we decided to follow suit and to provide an Olympic style rating for your report. Taking everything into consideration, acknowledging the fact that the highest grade you provided was an 8, and after serious discussion over dinner, it was decided to award your report a solid . . . 9. There were two primary reasons for only providing a nine: we agreed with the member of Synod Council – you were verbose - and secondly, the only person we knew who was perfect lived a couple of thousand years ago, and was crucified for it. We're not ready to let that happen at the moment.

We want to thank you for your honesty and candour in your report. You did not sugar-coat the facts, and while they may have been hard to hear or a surprise to some, they were facts that needed to be heard.

We appreciated the concept of mentoring, challenging and provoking. It reminds us that Paul urges us to provoke one another, in love.

You gave us low marks for increasing our diversity; while we recognize that Michael Harvey is here to promote and encourage our congregations to become inviting, we would encourage you to seek further ways and means to encourage congregations to increase the diversity in the church. Perhaps a couple of specific suggestions to encourage us out of our comfort zones of asking or inviting people like ourselves would have been helpful.

You began your report by commenting about covenants – about promises – promises acted upon, not just spoken. You mentioned to us that promises and actions together become a covenant. You mentioned that we are a Synod believing God calls the whole church.

You have laid a challenge at our feet that we, as congregations and individual members thereof, need to pick up and act upon. You have identified that our lowest marks are at the congregational level. If God calls the whole church, then the whole church, every congregation, mission, committee, and member needs to know that they have been called by God to be in Mission for Others.

You have provided a wonderful example for us to follow, you have mentored us along the way and with this report, we're hoping you have also provoked us to act upon our promises to be a Covenant people.

Report of the Committee on Minutes

Committee Roster

Rev. Ann Krueger – Chairperson, Rev. Wendell Grahlman,
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, Jane Wahl, Don Wilker

The committee has reviewed the drafts from session one through four and recommends that they be adopted as reviewed.

Report of the Registration Committee

Committee Roster

Alice Bartleman, Wilma Marie Bindernagel, Pauline Duench-Miller,
Irene Fancy – Registrar, Rev Christine Grahlman, Rev. Wendell Grahlman

Total eligible clergy delegates	<u>290</u>
Total registered clergy delegates	<u>165</u>
Total eligible lay delegates (congregational)	<u>235</u>
Registered youth delegates	<u>6</u>
Registered lay officers and lay Synod council	<u>7</u>
Registered diaconal delegates	<u>2</u>
Registered lay delegates (congregational)	<u>111</u>
Total registered lay delegates	<u>126</u>
Total eligible clergy and lay delegates	<u>525</u>
Total registered clergy and lay delegates	<u>291</u>
Required quorum is 1/3 of eligible voters (see MS/02 Art. X Sec. 5)	<u>175</u>
Registered visitors	<u>14</u>
Registered, other non-delegates	<u>18</u>
Registered volunteers	<u>18</u>
Sub-total	<u>50</u>
Grand total attendees at Assembly	<u>341</u>

LAY DELEGATES – ASSEMBLY 2012

Notes

Only registered lay delegates who attended the assembly on July 5-8, 2012 are listed. Delegates are listed in order of province, congregation city and congregation name. Youth delegates have been listed separately.

Youth Delegates to Assembly 2012

NAME	CONGREGATION	LOCATION
Anna Baumann	St Matthew's/St Timothys Parish	Sudbury, ON
Ben Bestvater	St Ansgar	Toronto, ON
Jackie Lather	St Peter's	Zurich, ON
Catherine Polvi	Resurrection	Halifax, NS
Sophie Ruprecht	St John	Ottawa, ON
Sara Watson	St James	New Dundee, ON

Lay Delegates to Assembly 2012

NAME	CONGREGATION	LOCATION
Heather Jensen	New Denmark Parish	New Denmark,NB
Elizabeth Payne	New Denmark Parish	New Denmark,NB
William Bruhm	Northfield & District Parish	West Northfield,NS
Tammy Crouse	St Paul's	Bridgewater, NS
Melinda Kerwin	St John's	Mahone Bay, NS
David Winfield	Resurrection	Halifax, NS
Kristine Arth	First	Port Colborne, ON
Nalini Badley	Epiphany	Toronto, ON
Margaret Barlow-White	St John's	Waterloo, ON
Marion Bartman	Listowel-Wallace Parish	Listowel,ON
Kathleen Beattie	St Peter's	Kitchener, ON
Debbie Bender	Trinity	Tavistock, ON
Gail Bennie	Faith	Hamilton, ON
Merv Blake	St Mark's	Chesley, ON
Alan Bluhm	Reformation	Kitchener, ON
Ruth Boothby	Christ/Bonhoeffer	Thornhill, ON
Linda Borland	St Matthew's	Welland, ON
Karen Bowman	Listowel-Wallace Parish	Listowel,ON
Peter Buckley	Advent	Toronto, ON
Leila Carnegie	Agricola	Toronto, ON
Margaret Christenson	Zion	Sault Ste Marie, ON
Ronald Christenson	Zion	Sault Ste Marie, ON
Bruce Cook	St Peter's	Gads Hill, ON
Marla deGraaff	Faith	Ottawa, ON
Marg Deichert	St Peter's	Zurich, ON
Liga Dekmeiers	Resurrection	Orleans, ON
Paula Desrosiers	Good Shepherd Barrhaven Anglican Lutheran Ministry	Ottawa,ON
Brian Dessler	St John's	Petawawa, ON
Michael Doan	St Luke's	Ridgeway, ON
Sophie Doyle	St Ansgar	Toronto, ON
Hugh Drogemuller	Trinity	London, ON
Susan Dupuis	Zion	Pembroke, ON
Debbie Elligsen	St Peter's	Brodhagen, ON
Greg Elliott	Zion	Pembroke, ON
Danielle Elliott	Westside	Barrie, ON
Dorothy Emmerson	Faith	Brantford, ON
Shirley Fingler	Peace	Pickering, ON
Barbara Finn	St James	Elmira, ON
Lorna Freymond	Maynooth-Raglan Parish	Maynooth,ON
Dorothy Frook	Trinity	Walkerton, ON
James Gates	Redeemer	Fisherville, ON

NAME	CONGREGATION	LOCATION
Petra Georges	Christ/Bonhoeffer	Thornhill, ON
Alice Gillespie	St Pauls	Cambridge, ON
Emily Green	Emmanuel	Toronto, ON
Nelson Grigg	St James	New Dundee, ON
Mary Growden	St Peter's	Warton, ON
John Hamalainen	Trinity	Sudbury, ON
Angela Hauke	Faith	Oshawa, ON
Reinhard Helbing	Trinity	London, ON
Carolyn Hertzberger	St Philip's	Kitchener, ON
Shirley Hickey	Bethany	Woodstock, ON
Bill Hoffard	Zion	Stratford, ON
Shirley Johnson	St David's Anglican Lutheran Church	Orillia, ON
Gwen Kalbfleisch	Zion	Philipsburg, ON
Doug Kearns	St Philip's	Toronto, ON
Ingrid Keibel-Beer	Faith	Fergus, ON
Barbara Koontz	St Ansgar	London, ON
Uli Kuebler	St John's	Waterloo, ON
Marilyn Kutschke	St Matthew's	Sudbury, ON
Tracey Lantz	St Matthew's	Hanover, ON
Susanne Leifso	Elmwood-Brant Parish	Elmwood, ON
Skai Leja	St Andrew's Latvian	Toronto, ON
Judy Lindeman	Transfiguration	Hamilton, ON
Dianne Long	Sullivan-Williamsford Parish	Sullivan, ON
Brenda Maes	Trinity	Ayton, ON
Laura Mann	St Paul's	Guelph, ON
Robert McGee	Redeemer	London, ON
Wayne Michael	St Peter's	Ottawa, ON
Rick Michel	Holy Cross	Newmarket, ON
Dilys Miehm	St Mark's	Kitchener, ON
Kimberly Mitchell	St Peter's	Cambridge, ON
Linda Mittleholtz	St James	Mannheim, ON
Terttu Myrskog	Agricola	Toronto, ON
Fred Nolting	Good Shepherd	Brockville, ON
Carolyn Orth	Redeemer	Toronto, ON
Judy Parker	St Matthew's	Sudbury, ON
Eric Pedersen	Grace	Oakville, ON
Angie Pemberton	South Dundas Parish	Williamsburg, ON
Scott Porter	St John	Ottawa, ON
Dianne Querengesser	St Luke's	Kitchener, ON
Bette Rempel	Faith	St Catharines, ON
Linda Rickert	St James	St Jacobs, ON
Kyla Riedstra-Wiesner	Holy Trinity	Belleville, ON

NAME	CONGREGATION	LOCATION
Dianne Ritz	St Peter's	Kitchener, ON
Andrew Robison	Mount Calvary	Ottawa, ON
Stacey Russell	Faith	Deep River, ON
Tim Schaner	St Matthews	Kitchener, ON
Murray Schlueter	St James	North Easthope, ON
Krista Schott	St Mark's	Wellesley, ON
Geraldine Schroeder	Christ	Peterborough, ON
Michael Schuster	St John's	Hamilton, ON
Elaine Scott-Thomas	Grace	Eganville, ON
Dianne Sharp	Faith	Port Elgin, ON
Don Statham	Our Saviour	Owen Sound, ON
Ralph Steffen	Peace	Mississauga, ON
John Stiefelmeyer	St James	Renfrew, ON
Susan Szozda	Holy Cross	Burlington, ON
John Tromp	St Timothy's	Pembroke, ON
Wilhelm Von Seefried	Bethesda	Unionville, ON
Jane Wahl	Christ	Waterloo, ON
Angela Wand	St John's	Waterloo, ON
William White	St John's	Waterloo, ON
Don Wilker	Augsburg	Brampton, ON
Johanna Wong	First	Toronto, ON
Anne Woolner	Mount Zion	Waterloo, ON
Angela Yenssen	St Peter's	Neustadt, ON
Judy Zieske	St Matthews	Kitchener, ON
Arthur Zittlau	St Paul's	Leamington, ON
Anne Altosaar	St John Estonian	Montreal, QC
Charlotte Corwin	Christ The Redeemer	Dollard-Des-Ormeaux, QC
Carol Meindl	St John's	Montreal, QC
Ingeborg Randall-Cooke	St Paul	Saint-Laurent, QC