



**The Minutes of the 30th Annual Synod Assembly
of the
Metropolitan Chicago Synod
of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Friday, June 9, 2017
Saturday, June 10, 2017
held at the
Tinley Park Convention Center
Tinley Park, Illinois**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



30th Annual Synod Assembly of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Friday, June 9, 2017 and Saturday, June 10, 2017
Tinley Park Convention Center
Tinley Park, Illinois**

Plenary Session One

Orientation of New Voting Members

At 8:30AM Secretary Srock gave a presentation to the voting members of the 2017 Assembly who were new to serving as an assembly voting member. The presentation included an explanation of their roles and responsibilities as voting members, the relationship of the synod to the congregations and to the churchwide expression, how the assembly functioned, a brief overview of the agenda, and procedures for parliamentary action during the plenary sessions.

Welcome

At 9:03AM Bishop Miller welcomed the voting members, visitors, and guests to the Thirtieth Annual Assembly of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Opening Worship

He then led the 2017 Assembly of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod in the Order for the Opening of the Assembly. At 9:06AM Bishop Miller declared the assembly to be in session.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

As the first order of business at 9:09AM, in consultation with the Synod Council, Bishop Miller appointed Ms. Joan Bundley as parliamentarian for this assembly. Ms. Bundley is a Registered Professional Parliamentarian with the National Association of Parliamentarians. Bishop Miller welcomed Ms. Bundley back to our assembly, as she has served our synod in this capacity in years past.

Introduction of the Assembly Planning Team

Bishop Miller then introduced the members of the 2016 Assembly Planning Team and had them stand as their names were read. He thanked them for their hard work in preparing for this year's assembly.

Assembly Planning Team:

Ms. Erma Alvarez, staff	Ms. Joan Church
Mr. Ken Church	Ms. Nanette Dahlke
Mr. Jeff Drake, staff	Rev. Michael Fick
Rev. Hector Garfias-Toledo, staff	Rev. Cynthia K. Hileman, staff
Ms. Vicki Hill	Mr. Steven Homberg, staff
Rev. Ray Legania, staff	Bishop Wayne Miller, staff
Ms. Yvette NewberryWhite	Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell
Ms. Mary Richardson, staff	Ms. Gloria Rowland
Ms. Sandra Schlauch, staff	Ms. Patricia Schmitt
Rev. Steven Srock	Rev. Sarah Stumme, staff
Ms. Patti Tregoning	Ms. Kathleen West
Ms. Beth Lawniczak, chair	

Bishop Miller then introduced and thanked our emcee for this year's assembly, Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell.

Introduction of the Assembly Committees

At 9:12AM Bishop Miller called upon our Vice President, Ms. Nanette Dahlke, who in consultation with the Synod Council, made the following appointments to the Assembly Committees.

Credentials and Courtesies Committee

Rev. Ray Legania, staff	Rev. Lester White
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Elections Committee

Rev. Lynn Bird	Rev. Robert Scott Castello
Mr. Doug Clark	Ms. Stephanie Collins
Rev. Linda Covey	Mr. Daniel Formeller
Mr. Teddy Gray	Rev. Gail Heidtke
Mr. Steven Homberg, staff	Ms. Elizabeth McDaniel
Ms. Shirley Moore	Mr. Tom Pfenning
Rev. Omega Varma-Sabbithi	Rev. Robert Klonowski, chair

Minutes Committee

Ms. Lynn Drey Miller
Rev. Steve Srock, chair

Ms. Patti Tregoning

Nominating Committee

Ms. Myrtis Brown
Rev. Rayford Grady
Ms. Judi Keippel
Rev. Kathy Nolte
Rev. Peg Otte
Ms. Patti Tregoning

Ms. Elaine Farmer
Rev. Cynthia K. Hileman, staff
Ms. Laura Leon
Mr. Kenneth Olson
Rev. Michael Russell
Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell, chair

Reference and Counsel Committee

Rev. Herbert Carlmark, advisor
Rev. Erin Clausen
Rev. Kyle Severson
Rev. Sue Allen, chair

Rev. Lawrence Clark
Rev. Laura Hall-Schordje
Rev. Janet Volk
Rev. Steven Srock, ex-officio

Sergeants at Arms

Deacon Patricia Gerber Bornholt
Rev. Hector Garfias-Toledo, staff
Rev. Rhonda Kral
Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska
Ms. Lisa Neubert
Rev. Joe Schultz

Rev. Joanne Fitzgerald
Deacon David Glover
Mr. Fernando Mercado
Rev. Chris Neptun
Rev. Rhonda Pruitt
Rev. Paul Pfeffer, chair

Report of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee

At 9:14AM Bishop Miller thanked Vice President Dahlke and then called upon the Rev. Lester White for the report of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee. He reported to the assembly that the total number of voting members registered as of 9:00AM was 217 with the number of voting members necessary for a quorum being 108. Bishop Miller declared a quorum to be present at 9:15AM.

Approval of the Agenda

Bishop Miller instructed the assembly to turn to the agenda for the assembly which was printed in the supplement to the Book of Reports located in the packets that the voting members had received at the time of registration. It was moved, seconded, and adopted.

Bar of the Assembly and the Rules of the Assembly

At 9:18AM Bishop Miller called upon Secretary Srock to explain the bar of the assembly. Secretary Srock instructed the assembly that the bar of the assembly was the area where voting members must be seated for their votes to be counted. Guest and visitors are asked to sit outside the bar during all plenary sessions.

The bar of the assembly included all tables and chairs within the stanchions and ropes across the back of the room. Only those voting members seated within the bar and wearing the proper credentials would be allowed to vote.

Regarding Elections at this year's assembly. Secretary Srock explained that the Elections Committee shall oversee the conduct of elections. In the packets that the voting members received when they registered was everything needed for the various elections that will take place during this assembly. Please check your packets and make certain that you have all of the materials required. He announced to the assembly that the Elections Committee would report the results of balloting in the elections by announcing the name of the person elected or by announcing the names of nominees qualified to appear on the next ballot. The results of all of the elections would be reported in the written reports of this year's assembly.

Secretary Srock then instructed the assembly regarding the procedures for addressing the assembly. He explained that there are three microphones: *green* for those speaking in favor of an action; *red* for those speaking in opposition; and *white* for points of order, information, personal privilege, or clarification. Voting members were asked to address their comments to the chair and to face the assembly while speaking. The order for speaking would be under the direction of the chair (Bishop Miller) and would alternate between those speaking in favor and those in opposition. Only those voting members seated within the bar and wearing the proper credentials would be allowed to address the assembly.

He also asked the assembly to refrain from applause or other displays of support or any displays of disapproval of the comments made at the microphones. We are a highly diverse synod with wide and varied opinions on a variety of matters that we have and will continue to have come before us to consider. We ask that respect be shown to everyone, especially those who may have an opinion and position very different from yours. Also, we ask that displays of partisanship, e.g. badges, buttons, articles of clothing, etc. not be worn while within the bar of the assembly, for the same reason.

Regarding the resolutions, this year's chair of the Reference and Counsel Committee, the Rev. Sue Allen, will present how we will handle the resolutions, the debate on those matters, along with their respective hearings, when it is time for those matters to be brought before the assembly.

These matters along with many others concerning how we will interact over the next two days are described in detail in the document entitled, *Rules of Organization and Procedure for the 2017 Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly*. Secretary Srock stated that this document has been reviewed and approved by the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Council and on their behalf, he was presenting it to this assembly for adoption and implementation. It appears in the Book or Reports immediately following the agenda. Since this comes to the assembly as a recommendation from the Synod Council it does not need to be moved or seconded. Bishop Miller acknowledged that the matter was properly before the assembly for consideration exclusive of quoted and highlighted constitutional provisions and bylaws that already are in force. The motion was adopted at 9:25AM.

Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel

At 9:26AM Bishop Miller called upon the Rev. Sue Allen, chair of the Reference and Counsel Committee to offer the assembly instructions on the resolutions that are to come before the assembly. Rev. Allen informed the assembly that we had received no resolutions for consideration. Bishop Miller thanked her and the members of the committee for their willingness to serve.

Nominating Committee

At 9:28AM Bishop Miller called upon the Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell, Chair of the Nominating Committee to report on the work of the Nominating Committee. Rev. Thompson Powell presented the report of the committee. This was an opportunity for Bishop Miller then to offer a special word of thanks to the committee for continuing to lift up fine leaders for our synod who also reflect our commitment to racial and cultural diversity. Following the report, Bishop Miller declared that the Nominations Center would close at 12:00PM today.

Introduction of Special Guests

At 9:30AM Bishop Miller invited Vice President Dahlke to welcome our assembly guests that represented our wide range of partnerships in mission and ministry.

- Our Churchwide Representative, Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop and executive for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations
- The Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich, Advocate Healthcare Systems, Senior Vice President, Mission and Spiritual Care Advocate Health Care
- Mr. Mark Stutrud, President and Chief Executive Officer, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
- The Very Rev. Thomas A. Baima, Archdiocese Vicar for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
- Sister Mary Ellen Coombe, Associate Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations at the Archdiocese of Chicago
- Mr. Sarfraz Alam, Mr. Jon Nilson and Mr. Dan Olson, representatives of the Ecumenical-Catholic/Lutheran Covenant Renewal at the Archdiocese of Chicago

Bishop Miller thanked Vice President Dahlke and then invited the assembly to welcome our guests and the assembly did so with applause.

Announcements and Adjournment

At 9:31AM Bishop Miller declared that the assembly was in recess for a fifteen-minute break for refreshments.

Keynote Speaker

At 10:51AM Bishop Miller reconvened the assembly and then introduced our Keynote Speaker, Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop and Executive for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations in the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA.

Ms. Lohre previously served as assistant director of the Pluralism Project at Harvard University, Diana Eck's premier research project on religious diversity in the United States.

She is the first Lutheran and the youngest woman to serve as President of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Ms. Lohre came to the stage for her presentation.

The Ecclesiastical Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 11:01AM Bishop Miller called upon Rev. Robert Klonowski, the chair of the Elections Committee to explain the Ecclesiastical Ballot for Vice President and Secretary.

When Pastor Klonowski finished explaining the Ecclesiastical Balloting process, Secretary Srock ask for a moment of personal privilege, which he was granted by Bishop Miller. He explained that because of a personal health situation it would not be fair to the synod, his congregation, his family, or himself to serve another term as the Synod's Secretary. He asked that the members of the assembly respectively not vote for him but rather consider someone else to serve as secretary. He thanked the synod for allowing him to serve as the Synod's Secretary for the past two terms.

Vice President Dahlke also requested a moment of personal privilege. In her address to the assembly she also asked that the assembly not consider her for reelection as Vice President. She stated that after serving our synod for sixteen years as our Vice President that she did not feel called to serve another term. Bishop Miller graciously thanked her for many years of dedicated service to our synod.

At 11:10AM Bishop Miller called upon Peter Warmanen to offer a prayer prior to the balloting being open. Bishop Miller declared the balloting open at 11:11AM and closed the balloting at 11:18AM.

Greetings from Cardinal Cupich of the Archdiocese of Chicago

At 11:20AM Bishop Miller welcomed the Very Reverend Thomas A. Baima, Archdiocese Vicar for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. Father Baima read a letter of greeting from Cardinal Cupich. (Cardinal Cupich was unable to attend the assembly because of the funeral of the Metropolitan of Chicago in the Greek Orthodox Church, Metropolitan Iakovos.) Father Baima then gave his presentation reporting on the ongoing relationship and the ecumenical work of our two church bodies.

Report of the Lutheran Catholic Dialogue Committee

At 11:45AM Sister Mary Ellen Coombe and the Rev. Brian Wise presented the report of the Lutheran Catholic Dialogue Committee.

Announcements and Adjournment

Bishop Miller then invited Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell to the stage to make announcements. Pastor Thompson Powell mentioned that evaluations of the assembly would be e-mailed to participants. He then gave instruction regarding the box lunches and the transition to the Conference Meetings and led the assembly in a meal prayer. Bishop Miller then adjourned the assembly at 11:57AM and asked that the assembly reconvene at 1:20PM.

Lunch and Conference Meetings

During lunch, the eight synod conferences met in separate areas to conduct business.

Plenary Session Two

Portico Benefit Services Presentation

Plenary Session Two of the assembly was reconvened at 1:20PM. This session opened with a presentation from Ms. Jennifer Prinz, our Region 5 Representative of Portico Benefit Services.

ELCA Foundation Presentation

At 1:30PM, Bishop Miller invited Mr. Tim Urness, Regional Gift Planner from the ELCA Foundation, to the stage for his presentation.

Mission Moment

At 1:34PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Elyse Danckers to come to the center microphone for this assembly's next Mission Moment. She shared some information on the Waukegan to College Program.

LSSI Presentation and Report

At 1:37PM Bishop Miller introduced Mr. Mark Stutrud, president and chief executive officer of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois for LSSI's report to the synod.

Presentation of the ELCA Credit Union

At 1:45PM Bishop Miller asked that the assembly be shown a video featuring information on the ELCA Credit Union.

Report of the Synodical Treasurer and the Introduction of 2018 Budget

At 1:49PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Yvette NewberryWhite to the stage. Treasurer NewberryWhite offered her Treasurer's Report and then introduced next year's budget. As a part of her report, she stated that the 2018 Budget had been reviewed by the Synod Council and comes to the assembly as a recommendation from them. It therefore does not need to be moved or seconded. Treasurer NewberryWhite announced that there would be a hearing to discuss the budget that afternoon 2:15PM in the North Pavilion One room. Bishop Miller stated that if there were no objections, consideration of the budget would be tabled until Saturday morning after the hearing. There were no objections and the motion was tabled.

Mission Moment

At 1:57PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Mary Ann Smith to come to the center microphone for a Mission Moment. She shared some information on a Syrian refugee family.

Report of the Nominating Committee

At 2:01PM the Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell asked for a 15 minute delay because of a copier malfunction that has caused a delay in having the necessary documents prepared for distribution.

Report of the Synodical Constitution Review Committee

At 2:04PM Bishop Miller called upon Secretary Srock to move the adoption of the changes to the Synod Constitution and to explain the process that we would be using to consider these changes. On behalf of the Synod Council, Secretary Srock presented the four En-Bloc motions to the assembly and stated that they could be found in the Bulletin of Reports.

Since these motions were coming from the Synod Council they were properly before the assembly. Unless there were objections, consideration of the changes would be tabled until Plenary Session 3 after today's hearing to be held at 2:15PM in the Sam Tinley room.

Mission Moment

At 2:09PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Bev Moody to come to the center microphone for another Mission Moment. She shared some information on the Women's Network of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI).

Report of the Nominating Committee

At 2:13PM since the documentation was still not ready, Bishop Miller asked the assembly to sing a hymn. When finished, the report was still not ready, so we moved on to the Report of the Ecclesiastical Ballot for Vice President and Secretary.

Ecclesiastical Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 2:21PM Pastor Klonowski was invited to the stage to give the report of the ecclesiastical ballots for Vice President and Secretary. Pastor Klonowski presented the results of the first ballots and explained that only the names of those individuals who had received a vote on the First Ballot were eligible to have their names appear on the Second Ballot. If anyone who had received a vote(s) on the First Ballot and wanted to have their name removed from consideration, they need to complete and sign a "Withdraw from Consideration Request" form. He asked that individuals who had received votes for Vice President and wished to withdraw to raise their hands and he asked the Sergeant at Arms to distribute Withdrawal Forms to those individuals and that they bring them forward to the Secretary's Table in the front of the assembly. He then followed the same procedure for those wishing to withdraw their names from consideration for Synod Secretary.

Announcements and Adjournment

At 2:39PM Bishop Miller adjourned the assembly so that it could transition to Hearings and Workshops. He announced that the assembly would reconvene at 4:30PM.

Plenary Session Three

The Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 4:34PM Bishop Miller reconvened the assembly. At 4:35PM Bishop Miller recognized Vice President Dahlke, who moved to adjust the assembly's schedule. She moved that the following three items scheduled for Plenary Session 3 be moved to Plenary Session 4 on Saturday morning: The Second General Ballot, the speeches by the remaining nominees for Vice President and Secretary, and the Third Ballot for Vice President and Secretary. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Mission Moment

At 4:37PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Barbara Olson to the center microphone for the next Mission Moment. The topic of this Mission Moment is LSSI's Augustana Foster Care Program.

Consideration of the 2018 Synodical Budget

At 4:38PM Bishop Miller declared that the 2018 Budget of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod that was tabled earlier to allow for the “Forum on the Budget,” was now before the assembly. Treasurer Yvette NewberryWhite came to the stage. Bishop Miller asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, Bishop Miller called for a vote on the 2018 Budget and the budget was adopted at 4:40PM. He then thanked Treasurer NewberryWhite for her work and her dedication to our synod.

Consideration of the Proposed Changes to the Synodical Constitution

Bishop Miller then invited Secretary Srock to the stage to answer any questions from the floor which were not addressed in today’s hearing regarding changes to the Synod’s Constitution. Since there were no questions from the floor, the assembly moved directly to acting on the proposed four En-Bloc Motions sent to the assembly from the Synod Council.

At 4:41PM Secretary Srock on behalf of the Synod Council brought back to the assembly the previously moved motion.

Motion 1

RESOLVED That the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Council recommends to the 30th Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly that the following By-Laws to the Synodical Constitution be DELETED: S9.03.02., S10.01.01., S11.01.14., and S11.01.17.

A vote was taken and the motion was adopted.

At 4:42PM Secretary Srock on behalf of the Synod Council brought back to the assembly the previously moved motion.

Motion 2

RESOLVED That the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Council recommends to the 30th Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly that the following Continuing Resolutions to the Synodical Constitution be DELETED: S8.12.B87., S11.01.A99., S11.01.B99., S11.01.C99., S11.01.D99.

A vote was taken and the motion was adopted.

At 4:43PM Secretary Srock on behalf of the Synod Council brought back to the assembly the previously moved motion.

Motion 3

RESOLVED That the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Council recommends to the 30th Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly that the following By-Laws to the Synodical Constitution be AMENDED as presented: S8.11.01., S8.14.01., S8.55., S9.01.03., S10.01.01. S10.01.02., S10.01.03., S11.01.09. S11.01.10., 12.01.02., 12.01.03., S12.01.05., 12.01.04.

A vote was taken and the motion was adopted.

At 4:43PM Secretary Srock on behalf of the Synod Council brought back to the assembly the previously moved motion.

Motion 4

RESOLVED That the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Council recommends to the 30th Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly that the following Continuing Resolutions to the Synodical Constitution be AMENDED as presented: S7.21.A88., S7.21.B04., S9.01.A88., S11.01.E95.

A vote was taken and the motion was adopted.

Bishop Miller then thanked Secretary Srock and the members of the Constitution Committee for all their work on updating the Synodical Constitution. Once these changes have been reviewed and approved by the Churchwide Office of Secretary, they then can be incorporated into our governing document and we can begin using our revised constitution.

First General Ballot

At 4:44PM Bishop Miller asked the Rev. Robert Klonowski, Chair of the Elections Committee, to present the instructions for the First General Ballot. Following those instructions, he invited Pastor Chris Wogaman to offer a prayer before the assembly voted. Bishop Miller declared the voting open at 4:50PM and closed at 5:01PM.

The Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 5:01PM Bishop Miller invited Pastor Klonowski to return to the stage to give instructions for the Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary. Pastor Klonowski reported that the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes would have an opportunity to address the assembly on Saturday morning before the Third Ballot. Bishop Miller asked that Pastor Tim Lindstrom come to the white microphone and offer a prayer before voting. Bishop Miller declared the voting open at 5:14PM and closed at 5:19PM.

Mission Moment

At 5:20PM Bishop Miller invited Ms. Bridgette Otterbacker and Ms. Patricia Sparesus to the center microphone for the last Mission Moment of today. The topic of this Mission Moment is the Honduras New Baby Project.

Announcements and Adjournment

At 5:24PM Bishop Miller asked the Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell to come to the stage for announcements. Rev. Thompson Powell announced that the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist would be held in Exhibit Hall West at 5:30PM and that the assembly would reconvene on Saturday morning at 8:30AM. Bishop Miller then declared the assembly in recess and invited everyone to gather for worship.

Plenary Session Four

Opening Worship

The assembly reconvened at 8:34AM for worship with morning devotions led by the synodical Worship Team. When worship ended, Bishop Miller called the Fourth Plenary Session of the assembly to order at 9:03AM.

Report of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee

Bishop Miller then called upon the Rev. Lester White of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee, to give their final report. Pastor White reported that the total number of voting members registered as of 8:30AM Saturday was 410 with the number of voting members necessary for a quorum being 205. Bishop Miller declared a quorum present and thanked Pastor White and the committee for their work.

Report of the First General Ballot

At 9:04AM Bishop Miller asked the Rev. Robert Klonowski, Chair of the Elections Committee, to present the results of the First General Ballot. Rev. Klonowski asked for permission to read just the name of those who had received a sufficient number of votes to be elected and to have the results of the elections projected on the screens. Bishop Miller declared those receiving sufficient votes elected at 9:06AM.

Synod Council

1		Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority
	295	2	293	147	
	a.	Rev. Michael Russell *			293
	b.				
2		Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority
	293	2	291	147	
	a.	Daniel Feiertag - NrW			169
	b.	Clyde Walter - NE			122
3		Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority
	300	2	298	150	
	a.	Rev. Betty Landis - NE			128
	b.	Rev. Christiana Klein * - C			170
4		Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority
	284	5	279	141	
	a.	Myrtis Brown * - S			279
	b.				

5 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 299 3 296 148
 a. Mauricio Loewenstein * - W 142
 b. **Ivan Perez - C** 154

6 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 289 2 287 144
 a. **Michelle Knapp - NE** 160
 b. Tracy McClure – NW 127

7 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 287 5 228 142
 a. **Phyllis Doyle - C** 282
 b.

8 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 290 2 288 145
 a. **Rev. Rebekah Costello - NW** 146
 b. Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich 142

Youth Member:

9 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 280 3 277 140
 a. **Ben Grafe – N** 277
 b.

Young Adult:

10 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 293 2 291 147
 a. **Alyssa Dahlke – N** 154
 b. Rodger Jones, Jr. * - C 137

Discipline Committee

Laypersons:

11 Cast Invalid Valid Majority
 273 3 270 135
 a. **Erv Uhlman** 270
 b.

12	Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority	
	245	3	242	121	
	a.	Myrtis Brown * - S		242	
	b.	0			

13	Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority	
	a.				
	b.				

14	Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority	
	a.				
	b.				

Ordained Ministers:

15	Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority	
	276	2	274	138	
	a.	Rev. Linda Covey		125	
	b.	Rev. Anne Christiansen		149	

16	Cast	Invalid	Valid	Majority	
	285	3	282	142	
	a.	Rev. Robert S. Castello		282	
	b.	0			

Bold Type – person received majority of vote

* Person of Color or language other than English

The Report of the Second Ballot and the Third Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 9:07AM Bishop Miller invited Pastor Klonowski to return to the stage to present the results of the Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary.

Pastor Klonowski reported the results of the Second Ballot for Vice President and Secretary and stated that the two candidates for each office receiving the highest number of votes would now have an opportunity to address the assembly and invited them to come to the stage. Bishop Miller invited the two nominees for the Office of Synod Secretary; the Rev. Sue Allen and the Rev. Erin Clausen, to address the assembly. Pastor Sue Allen spoke first at 9:10AM followed by Pastor Erin Clausen at 9:13AM. Bishop Miller then invited the two nominees for the Office of Synod Vice President; Mr. Terry Henderson and Mr. Daniel Feiertag to come to the stage. Mr. Daniel Feiertag addressed the assembly first at 9:17AM and was followed by Mr. Terry Henderson at 9:20AM.

Pastor Klonowski then gave instructions to the assembly regarding the Third Ballot for Vice President and Secretary. At 9:24AM Bishop Miller asked that Pastor Christopher Buresh come to the white microphone and offer a prayer before voting. Bishop Miller declared the voting open at 9:25AM for Vice President and at 9:28AM for Secretary and declared the voting closed at 9:29AM.

Mission Moment

At 9:30AM Bishop Miller asked Meredith Graves to introduce Ms. Susan Centner to the assembly who spoke on the topic of the Wellness Walk to Wittenberg.

Presentation of the ELCA World Hunger Appeal

At 9:33AM Bishop Miller invited the Rev. Robin Brown, Associate Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster, in the Mission Advancement Unit of the ELCA, for an update on our synod's One Million Dollar World Hunger Campaign.

Report of the Bishop

At 9:39AM Bishop Miller relinquished the chair of the assembly to Vice President Nan Dahlke in order to give his report. At 10:30AM Vice President Nan Dahlke returned the chair to Bishop Miller. *(A copy of Bishop Miller's Power Point Report is available online at the Metropolitan Chicago Synod website: www.mtselca.org/assembly)*

A Refreshment Break

At 10:31AM Bishop Miller invited the assembly to take a fifteen-minute break for refreshment.

Reconvening of the Assembly

At 10:53AM Bishop Miller called the assembly back to order and spoke briefly about the duties and responsibilities of the Synod Secretary and thanked Secretary Srock for his years of service to the synod.

Report of the Synodical Secretary

At 10:56AM Bishop Miller called upon the Synod Secretary, Rev. Steven Srock, for his report to the assembly. Secretary Srock thanked the synod for the opportunity and privilege of serving the synod for the past eight years. He reminded the assembly about the importance of record keeping and maintaining the congregation's (and the synod's) governing documents. The assembly thanked Secretary Srock for his service with acclamation.

Report of the Vice President

At 11:06AM Bishop Miller spoke about the years of sixteen years of service that Vice President Dahlke had provided to the synod as its Vice President and to her years of service prior to that as a member of the Synod Council. He then invited her to the stage to give her final Vice President's Report. Vice President Dahlke thanked her family for their support during all her years of service and the synod for the opportunity of serving our synod and the greater church as our synodical Vice President. The assembly thanked Vice President Dahlke for her service with acclamation.

The Report of the Third Ballot for Vice President and Secretary

At 11:21AM Bishop Miller invited Pastor Klonowski to return to the stage to present the results of the Third Ballot for Vice President and Secretary. Pastor Klonowski reported the results and announced that Mr. Terry Henderson had received sufficient votes to be elected as the new Vice President of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod and that the Rev. Erin Clausen had received sufficient votes to be elected as the new Secretary of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod.

Report of the Third Ballot for Vice President

Number of votes cast:..... 285
Number of illegal votes cast:..... 5
Number of legal votes cast:.....280
Number of votes needed for
election on this ballot (Majority):.. 141
Terry Henderson:..... 238
Daniel Feiertag:..... 42

Report of the Third Ballot for Secretary

Number of votes cast:..... 259
Number of illegal votes cast:..... 4
Number of legal votes cast:..... 255
Number of votes needed for
election on this ballot (Majority):...129
Rev. Erin Clausen:..... 196
Rev. Sue Allen:..... 59

At 11:23AM Bishop Miller declared Mr. Terry Henderson elected as Vice President and the Rev. Erin Clausen elected as Secretary. The assembly responded with acclamation and Bishop Miller invited them both to the stage to greet the assembly. At 11:25AM Mr. Terry Henderson spoke to assembly and at 11:24AM the Rev. Erin Clausen did, also. At 11:26AM Bishop Miller led the assembly in the Order for Installation of our two new synodical officers.

Mission Moment

At 11:28AM Bishop Miller invited Pastor Kristian Johnson to the center microphone for our final Mission Moment of this assembly. The topic of this Mission Moment is solar panels in El Salvador.

Report of the ELCA Representative

At 11:31AM Bishop Miller welcomed back our Churchwide Representative, Ms. Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop and Executive for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations in the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, who will bring us the Report of the ELCA. Ms. Lohre gave her report.

Recognition of Anniversaries and Welcome Rostered Leaders New to our Synod

At 11:59AM Bishop Miller invited Vice President Dahlke back to the stage to recognize the congregations and rostered leaders who are celebrating anniversaries this year and to introduce and welcome rostered leaders who are new to our synod.

Recognition of Rostered Leaders New to our Synod

Vice President Dahlke then recognized the rostered leaders who are new to our synod during the past year. She introduced those leaders and asked that they stand and be recognized.

Christopher Buresh	Associate Pastor Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Palos Heights
Stephen Dickens	Chaplain Hope Palliative and Hospice Care, Palatine
Kurt Hendel	Retired Pastor
Daniel Joyner-Miller	Associate Pastor of Youth and Family St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Naperville
James Kegel	Retired Pastor
Timothy Linstrom	Pastor Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Lincolnshire
Jared Olson	Pastor St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wheaton
Andrew Rindfleisch	Pastor Bethel West Lutheran Church, Chicago
Pamela Shearman	Program Director Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants, Chicago
Matthew Smith-Laubenstein	Pastor Grace Lutheran Church, Libertyville
Harold Therwanger	Pastor First Immanuel Lutheran Church, Chicago
Peter Warmanen	Pastor Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Arlington Heights
David Wegner	Pastor Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest
Lauren Wegner	Pastor Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest
Christopher Wogaman	Pastor Trinity Lutheran Church, Park Forest

When all the names had been read, Bishop Miller invited the assembly to acknowledge these individuals with applause.

Recognition of Anniversaries

Vice President Dahlke then recognized the congregations celebrating significant anniversaries and asked that their members who were present stand as their congregations' names were read.

Congregation Name Anniversary

Ebenezer Lutheran Church Chicago	125 years
Trinity United Lutheran Church Waukegan	125 years
Calvary Lutheran Church on Spaulding Chicago	75 years
Our Saviour Lutheran Church Lansing	75 years
Trinity Lutheran Church Warrenville	75 years
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit Chicago	50 years

When all the names had been read, Bishop Miller invited assembly to acknowledge the congregations with applause.

Vice President Dahlke then recognized the rostered leaders of our synod who are celebrating significant anniversaries and mentioned that they had been honored at a luncheon on May 10, 2017, at Marcello's Restaurant in Chicago at which time they were presented with a certificate. She introduced those leaders and asked that they stand and be recognized.

Rostered Leader Anniversary

John H. Johnson	65 years
Martin Marty	65 years
James Scherer	65 years
David E. Miller	60 years
Jerrold Swanson	60 years
Kenneth Schroeder	55 years
Mark Wiberg	55 years
David Langseth	55 years
Franklin Orton	55 years
Arnie Pierson	55 years
Jean Duran	25 years
Timothy McKenzie	25 years

Timothy Robertson 25 years

Sue Rothmeyer 25 years

When all the names had been read, Bishop Miller invited assembly to acknowledge these individuals with applause.

Final Report of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee

At 12:03PM Bishop Miller called on the Rev. Lester White of the Credentials and Courtesies Committee for a Resolution of Thanks. It was moved, seconded, and adopted.

Authorization to Make Necessary Technical Corrections

At 12:06PM Bishop Miller then called upon Vice President Dahlke for a final resolution. She moved that the Synodical Secretary be authorized to correct punctuation, references to resolutions and other positions, and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the assembly in connection with positions adopted, and that the Synod Council's Executive Committee be given authority to approve the minutes of this assembly. It was seconded and adopted at 12:07PM.

Announcements and the Closing of the Assembly

At 12:07PM Bishop Miller called the Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell to the stage for final announcements. Bishop Miller then led the assembly in "Order for the Closing of the Assembly". Bishop Miller declared that the 30th Assembly of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod was adjourned at 12:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Steven J. Srock
Secretary, Metropolitan Chicago Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

(The PowerPoint of Bishop Miller's Report is available online at www.mtselca.org/assembly. Also available online are a summary report of this year's assembly, election results, the 2018 Synod Budget, the updated Synod Constitution, final versions of the resolutions that were adopted, and photos of the gathering.)