



Metropolitan Chicago Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Report on the Twenty-ninth Annual Assembly Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA

The Metropolitan Chicago Synod met in assembly June 10 to 11, 2016, at the Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, Illinois. This year's theme was Transformed and Transforming from Romans 12:2.

After devotions and the Order for the Opening of an Assembly, the parliamentarian was appointed, the agenda approved, and committees appointed. There were no elections at this year's assembly. Synod officers, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, gave reports updating the assembly on items that had occurred in the past year.

The assembly heard feature presentations from our Full Communion Partners:

- Bishop Sally Dyck, Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Bishop Jeffrey Lee, Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, and
- The Rev. Jorge L. Morales, Conference Minister, Illinois Conference, United Church of Christ.

In addition, a letter of greeting was read from the Archdiocese of Chicago from the Most Rev. Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago.

The assembly also heard updates from Portico Benefit Services, the ELCA Credir Union, and Augsburg Fortress. After lunch and conference meetings, the balance of the afternoon included two sessions of hearings and workshops. Including a session on Saturday, two resolutions and one memorial were debated and passed:

- RES. 02-16 Reactivating Lutheran Advocacy Illinois
- RES. 03-16 To Support ELCA World Hunger
- MEM. 04-16 African Descent Lutheran Lives Matter

A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist to which all were invited concluded the day's events. The offering of \$2,871 will be given to ELCA World Hunger.

Throughout the plenary sessions, participants heard eight mission moments, coordinated by the synod's Mission Interpreter Network, telling the story of congregations and partner ministries making a difference in their local communities, nationally, and around the world.

After devotions on Saturday morning, Bishop Miller gave his report where he explored what it means to be an open congregation and the importance of justice in responding to the world. Participants also heard the churchwide office report which updated the larger work of the church.

The 2016 budget and updates to the synod's Strategy for Ministry with Latino Communities were adopted as presented.

The day ended with a closing prayer and the Order for the Closing of an Assembly.

Final resolutions, photographs, links to videos, and a copy of the bishop's PowerPoint used during his report will be available at www.mcselca.org/assembly.