

2017  
MINUTES  
VIRGINIA SYNOD ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
SYNODICAL OFFICE



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*Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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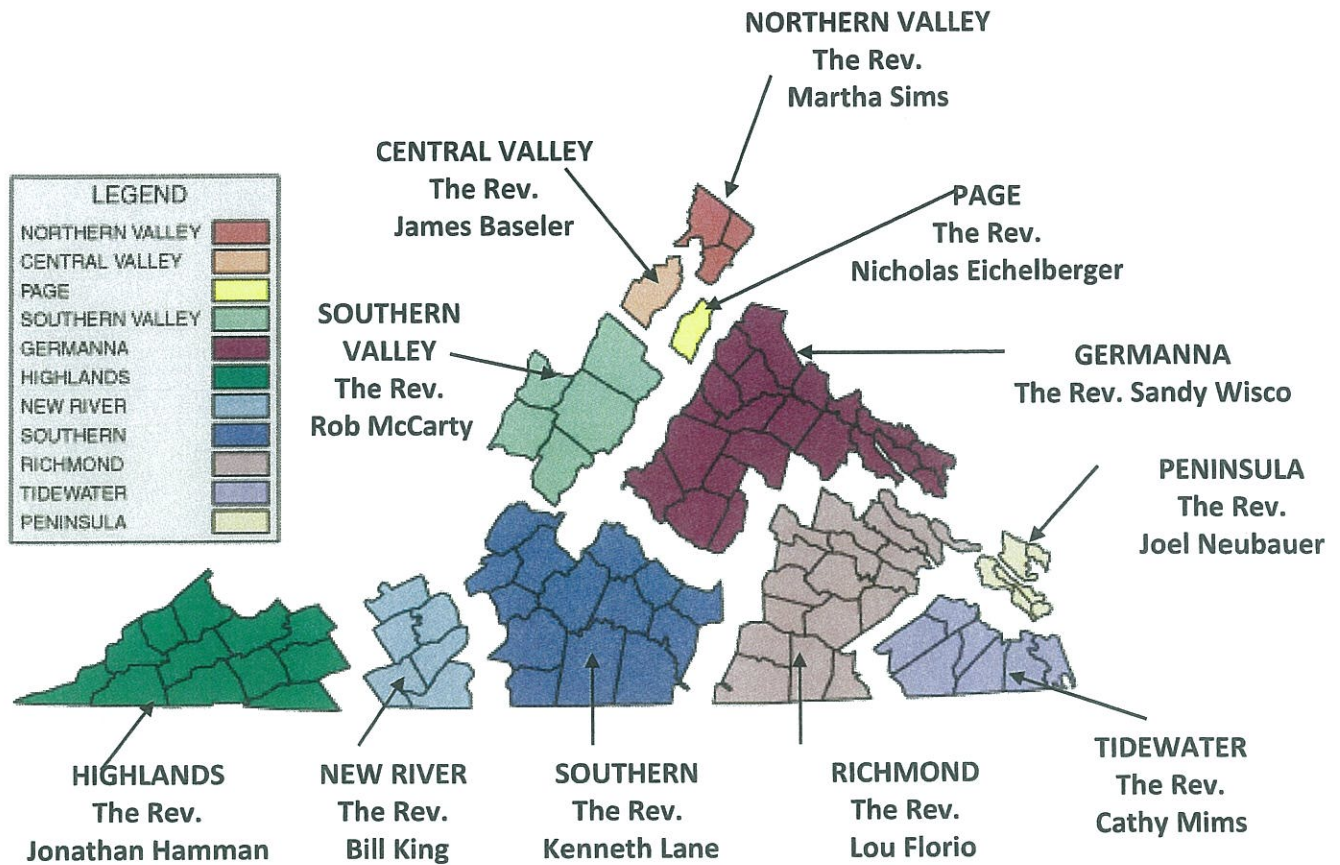
Revised June 1, 2017



**Evangelical Lutheran  
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God's work. Our hands.



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Preferred Phone: 540-672-7810

Preferred Email: p.nabers@att.net

---

**Nabers, The Rev. G. William (Bill)**

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Conference: CV

193 West Washington Street

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Preferred Email: prnabers@gmail.com

Spouse's Name: June Nabers

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**Nelson, The Rev. Sidney (Sid)**

Retired Pastor

Conference: OT

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Preferred Email: Nsidney511@msn.com

Spouse's Name: Sarah Nelson

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**Neubauer, The Rev. Joel (Joel)**

St. Mark Lutheran Church

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118 Old York-Hampton Highway

Yorktown, VA 23692

Preferred Phone: 757-775-3622

Preferred Email: pastor.joel.neubauer@gmail.com

Spouse's Name: Danielle Engle-Neubauer

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**Nickols, The Rev. James (Jim)**

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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7479 Richmond Road

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Spouse's Name: Janell Nickols

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**Nilsen, The Rev. K. Roy (Roy)**

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Spouse's Name: Anna Nilsen

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**Nilsen, The Rev. Kenneth (Kenn)**

Retired Pastor

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Preferred Email: nilsen@shentel.net

Spouse's Name: Dee Nilsen

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**Olivier, The Rev. Keith (Keith)**

St. John Lutheran Church

Conference: TD

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Preferred Phone: 757-226-0121

Preferred Email: pastor@stjohnnnorfolk.org

Spouse's Name: Christine Olivier

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**Olsen, The Rev. Peter (Peter)**

Retired Pastor

Conference: SV

1500 N Coalter Street, Apt. A-7

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Preferred Phone: 540-886-2687

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**Olsen, The Rev. Clifford (Cliff)**

Retired Pastor

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421 Crawford Street

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**Olson, The Rev. Richard (Rich)**

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Spouse's Name: Janyce Olson

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**Parvin, The Rev. Viktoria (Viktoria)**

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Preferred Email: viktoriaparvin@gmail.com

Spouse's Name: Landon Landon

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**Pedersen, The Rev. Arthur (Arthur)**

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204 Villa Drive

Poquason, VA 23662-1982

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Preferred Email: vadreams@aol.com

Spouse's Name: Dale Pedersen

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**Pence, The Rev. James (Jim)**

Zion Lutheran Church

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297 Zion Church Rd.

Waynesboro, VA 22980

Preferred Phone: 540-476-0476

Preferred Email: jpence3@me.com

Spouse's Name: Marcia Pence

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**Penman, The Rev. David (David)**

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

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Spouse's Name: Gail Penman

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**Peterson, The Rev. Dr. Brian (Brian)**

Lenoir-Rhyne Univ School of Theology

Conference: OT

4201 Main Street

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Preferred Phone: 803-451-1015

Preferred Email: bpeterson@ltss.edu

Spouse's Name: Linda Peterson

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**Peterson, The Rev. Ronnie (Ronnie)**

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Preferred Phone: 540-338-8320

Preferred Email:

Spouse's Name: Ione Mary Peterson

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**Peterson, The Rev. Kent (Kent)**

Mission Investment Fund

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Spouse's Name: Karen Peterson

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**Pingel, The Rev. Paul (Paul)**

Grace Lutheran Church

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Spouse's Name: Jill Pingel

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**Pipho, The Rev. Steven (Steven)**

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Spouse's Name: Debbie Pipho

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**Pocalyko, The Rev. Kathryn (Katie)**

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

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Spouse's Name: Dan Silverman

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**Price, The Rev. Kenneth (Ken)**

Retired Pastor

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Spouse's Name: Joe Price

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**Price, The Rev. J. Christopher (Chris)**

Virginia Synod ELCA

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Spouse's Name: Terry Price

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**Price, Mr. John (Doug)**

Conference: GR

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Spouse's Name: Lydia Price

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**Propst, The Rev. John (Austin)**

Redeemer Lutheran Church

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**Putnam, The Rev. Gordon (Gordon)**

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**Ramsey, The Rev. Dr. Janet (Jan)**

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Spouse's Name: Joe Ramsey

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**Ratcliffe, The Rev. Howard (Howard)**

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Spouse's Name: June Ratcliffe

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**Rathkamp, The Rev. Hugo (Hugo)**

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Spouse's Name: Hugo Rathkamp

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**Reynolds, Mrs. Mindy (Mindy)**

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**Ritchie, The Rev. James (Jim)**

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**Roberts, The Rev. Dennis (Dennis)**

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Spouse's Name: Maria Roberts

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**Robinson, The Rev. Nathan (Nate)**

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**Ronneberg, The Rev. Rodney (Rod)**

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**Rosenow, The Rev. William (Bill)**

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**Rosheim, The Rev. Waldron (Wally)**

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**Ruff, The Rev. Richard (Richard)**

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**Ruggles, The Rev. Donna (Donna)**

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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**Scanlon, The Rev. Leslie (Leslie)**

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**Schaack, The Rev. Edward (Ed)**

Attoway-Kimberlin Lutheran Parish

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**Scheidt, The Rev. Gary (Gary)**

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**Schroeder, The Rev. Gary (Gary)**

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**Schulz, The Rev. Stephen (Steve)**

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Spouse's Name: Judy Schulz

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Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Spouse's Name: Olga Schulz

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**Schweitzer, The Rev. Dr. Carol (Carol)**

Union Presbyterian Seminary

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Spouse's Name: John Schweitzer

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**Schweitzer, The Rev. John (John)**

First English Lutheran Church

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Preferred Email: pastor@felcrichmond.org

Spouse's Name: Carol Schweitzer

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**Shackelford, The Rev. Stephen (Steve)**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Preferred Phone: 434-239-2102

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Spouse's Name: Wanda Shackelford

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**Shaffer, The Rev. David (David)**

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**Shipley, The Rev. Kirk (Kirk)**

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Spouse's Name: Linda Shipley

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**Shoberg, The Rev. Lawrence (Larry)**

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**Shumate, The Rev. T. Joseph (Joe)**

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Wytheville, VA 24382

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**Sims, The Rev. Martha (Martha)**

Grace Lutheran Church

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Spouse's Name: George Sims

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**Sims, The Rev. George (George)**

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Spouse's Name: Martha Sims

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**Skole, The Rev. K. David (David)**

Christ Lutheran Church

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**Smith, Dr. Charles (Charles)**

Retired Deacon

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**Sonafelt, The Rev. Jeffrey (Jeff)**

Reformation Lutheran Church

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Spouse's Name: Tracy Sonafelt

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**St. Clair, The Rev. Paul (Paul)**

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Spouse's Name: Linda St. Clair

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**Staebler, The Rev. Jo Ann (Jo Ann)**

PALS Church

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**Sternberg, The Rev. Terrie (Terrie)**

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**Stevens, Ms. Lavelva (Lavelva)**

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**Taylor, The Rev. John (John)**

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**Taylor, The Rev. Karen R. (Karen)**

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**Trost, The Rev. Carl (Carl)**

Special Call

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**Tucker, The Rev. Andrew (Andrew)**

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**Utt, The Rev. James (Jim)**

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**Van Stee, The Rev. Karen (Karen)**

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**Wagner, Ms. Martha (Marty)**

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**Walker, The Rev. Robert (Bob)**

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Preferred Email:

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**Waltonen, The Rev. Timothy (Tim)**

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**Warne, The Rev. Thomas (Tom)**

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**Wertz, The Rev. John (John)**

St, Michael Lutheran Church

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224 Huntington Lane

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**Westermann, The Rev. Dwayne (Dwayne)**

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**Wiecher, The Rev. William (Bill)**

Military Chaplain

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Spouse's Name: Wynemah Hinlicky

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**Williams, The Rev. Meredith (Meredith)**

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**Williamsen, The Rev. Tom (Tom)**

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**Williams-Giersch, The Rev. Sonya (Sonya)**

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Star Tannery, VA 22654

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Spouse's Name: Richard Williams-Giersch

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**Wisco, The Rev. Sandra (Sandy)**

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**Yates, The Rev. Elizabeth (Liz)**

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**Yeich, The Rev. John (John)**

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**Young, The Rev. Dr. David (Dave)**

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Spouse's Name: Heidi David-Young

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**Ziegenfuss, The Rev. Murray (Murray)**

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**Zimmerman, The Rev. James (Jim)**

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**Zuber, Mr. Alexander (Alex)**

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THE VIRGINIA SYNOD  
of the  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
held at ROANOKE COLLEGE  
June 9th-11th

**FIRST MEETING**  
Friday, June 9, 1:00-6:00 P.M.

**Introduction of Ecumenical Guests**

Bishop Mauney introduced our Ecumenical Guests.

**Processional Worship and Call to Order**

Processional worship with Holy Communion, The Rev. Rafael Malice Padilla, music provided by ELCA's Global Musicians-Educators.

Bishop James Mauney called the Assembly to order at 2:27 PM.

**Organization of the Assembly**

**Report of the Committee on Official Roll**

Charles Downs called on Rev. Kathleen Miko, Chair of Official Roll, for the establishment of a quorum.

**Establishment of a Quorum**

The constitution of the Virginia Synod (S7.14.) states that "One-half of the members of the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum."

Chair of the Committee on Official Roll, reported that as of 1:30 PM.

157 Rostered Clergy,

270 lay voting members had registered for a total of

427 voting members.

The Vice-president declared that a quorum was present.

The committee requests that the full list of voting members be inserted in the Minutes of Synod when registration is completed.

**Assembly Committees**

Charles Downs announced the committees have been appointed, and they are listed in the Bulletin of Reports. He called attention to the parliamentary notes and constitutional provisions printed in the Bulletin of Reports or on the

Guidebook App, which relate to the order of business of the Assembly and voting procedures.

### **Review of Constitution and Parliamentary Notes**

Charles Downs provided a brief Review of written materials, to include selected parliamentary notes and constitutional provisions Bulletin of Reports page A6 thru A11, or your Guidebook App

Charles Downs introduced Mr. Mark Reed, as Parliamentarian.

### **Order of Business**

Charles Downs called on Lisa Geiger, for Recommendation #1-Order of Business (found on Order of Business –pg.). "The Order of Business is a detailed outline of the agenda to be approved and followed, and references location in Bulletin or Reports and Action Items." Lisa Geiger moved its adoption with amendments. It was approved.

VOTED To adopt the Recommendation on the  
S7.40.16 Assembly Order of Business.

### **Amendment to the Synod By-Laws**

Bishop Mauney called on Charles Downs to read and move the recommended change allowing all retired Rostered Ministers to have voice and vote at the Synod Assembly. It was approved.

### **Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel**

Charles Downs called on Mr. Darrell Short, Chairperson, for first report (Official Visitors).

RESOLUTION: BISHOP EMERITUS

WHEREAS the Rev. James F. Mauney has served faithfully as Bishop of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America from 1999-2017; and

WHEREAS, while serving as Bishop of the Virginia Synod, he has faithfully provided pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations, its ordained ministers and its other rostered ministers both in times of challenge and in times of celebration; and

WHEREAS he has exercised leadership for this synod by seeking God's vision for mission in the midst of the rapidly changing culture and changing church calling this church to be ambassadors for Christ; and

WHEREAS Bishop Mauney has led the synod and congregations in strengthening our mutual ministry with the agencies and institutions of the Virginia Synod; and

WHEREAS he has been a champion for the hungry, the poor, the imprisoned, and the hurting; and

WHEREAS the people and congregations of the Virginia Synod will continue to benefit from his witness, passion, and leadership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Virginia Synod at this assembly gives thanks to God for the ministry of the Rev. James F. Mauney and bestows on him the honorary title of BISHOP EMERITUS of the Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Signature of individual submitting the resolution *David C. Bink*  
 Signature of pastor or congregational president Chair, Ministerium Team Virginia Synod  
 Date May 3, 2017

Vote on Resolution on Recognition of Visitors, **Vote passed.**

### **Election of the Bishop - 1st Ballot**

Bishop Mauney called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director - ELCA Division of Global Missions and Elisabeth Smythe, Chair of the Election Committee.

"The presiding bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly by ecclesiastical ballot. Three-fourths of the votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot. If no one is elected, the first ballot shall be considered the nominating ballot." (ELCA 19.01.02)

Only registered delegates may vote. Results will be announced around 4:00pm. Nominees have until 8:00pm to submit an official Request to Withdrawal.

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Chaplain Carl Trost for prayer before voting.

### **Greetings from Roanoke College**

Bishop Mauney called on Rev. Chris Bowen, Chaplain of Roanoke College, who brought greetings on behalf of the college.

### **Announcements**

Bishop Mauney called on Skip Zubrod for break instructions and announcements.

### **Report of the Nominating Committee**

Charles called attention to the Nominating Committee Report found in the Bulletin of Reports and Biographical Data or the Guidebook App, He called on Skip Zubrod, to give the report.

#### *For Synod Council*

1 Lay (female)

4 Ministers of Word and Sacrament

1 male (1-year term) to fill a vacancy in the class of 2018

1 male, 1 female, one either; for three-year term.

*Consultation Committee* - class of 2023 (6 yr. term without consecutive re-election) 8 to be elected in total

4 Lay

4 Ministers of Word and Sacrament

Committee on Discipline (2 yr., 4 yr. and 6 yr. terms without consecutive re- election) 12 to be elected in total, two males and two females for each term

**Class of 2019**

2 Lay

2 Ministers of Word and Sacrament

**Class of 2021**

2 Lay

2 Ministers of Word and Sacrament

**Class of 2023**

2 Lay

2 Ministers of Word and Sacrament

**Nominations from the Floor**

Charles Downs called for nominations from the floor. Charles Downs declared the nominations closed. Charles Downs asked those nominated from the floor to fill out a Biographical Data form as soon as possible and to return them no later than 5:45 P.M. this evening.

**Report from the Tapestry Committee**

Charles Downs called on the Rev. Aaron Fuller for his report.

**Results of the 1st Ballot for Bishop**

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Elizabeth Smythe to announce and distribute the results of the 1st ballot:

**Results:**

Number of Votes Cast	390
Number of Invalid Votes Cast	35
Number of Valid Votes Cast	355
Number of Votes Needed for Election on this Ballot	266

There is no election on this ballot.



Results are as follows:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Goeres	Richard	34
Wertz	John	31
Miller Sims	Martha	25
Bayer Derrick	Kelly	23
Price	Chris	23
Delaney	Dave	22
Derrick	David	18
Humphrey	Bob	15
Milton	Phyllis	11
Ballentine	Andy	8
Mims	Cathy	7
Martin	Philip	6
Bouknight	Philip	5
Carr	Chris	5
Davis	Brett	5
Hamman	Jonathan	5
Largen	John	5
Roberts	Dennis	5
Sternberg	Terrie	5
Boynton	Jonathan	4
Drebes	David	4
Dukes	Debra	4
Sims	George	4
Utt	James	4
Williams	Meredith	4
Bohannon	Stephen	4
May	Jeffrey	3
Neubauer	Joel	3
Pingel	Paul	3
Armentrout	James	2
Bansemmer	Andrew	2
Bowen	Chris	2
Florio	Lou	2
Homesley	Scott	2
King	Bill	2

Mims	Scott	2
Pocalyko	Kathyrn	2
Sayers	Lyndon	2
Scanlon	Leslie	2
Tucker	Andrew	2
Young	David	2
Lohr	Randy	2
Atkinson	Harvey	1
Ballance	Bill	1
Bartholomew	Tracie	1
Baseler	James	1
Boggs	Derrick	1
Boschen	Hank	1
Church	Michael	1
Church	Terrie	1
Cobb	Judy	1
Gosswein	Katie	1
Griffin	Cheryl	1
Henrickson	Paul	1
Hinlicky	Wynemah	1
Lane	Ken	1
Larsen	James	1
Maier	Robert	1
Miller	Lauren	1
Moore	Heidi	1
Nabers	Bill	1
Noordzy	Henry	1
Olivier	Keith	1
Propst	Austin	1
Ronneberg	Rod	1
Skole	David	1
Soli	Karen	1
Sonafelt	Jeffrey	1
Tonnesen	Philip	1
Wengert	Timothy	1
Wooly	Rhoides	1
Wisco	Sandy	1
Anderson	Scott	1

Schneckloth	Clint	1
Strickland	Kevin	1
Northrup	Pam	1

Nominees have until 8:00 P.M to submit a request for withdrawal.

### **Report of the Officers**

Bishop Mauney called on Charles Downs for his report.

### **REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

Vice-President, Charles Downs gave report verbally. No written report was submitted.

Charles Downs reported Blythe Scott, Secretary was unable to attend and you can find the secretary's report in the Bulletin of Reports.

### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-OFFICIAL ITEMS**

#### **Report of The Secretary – Official Items**

**Report of the Archivist** – Regular attention has been given to the archives of the synod. Various items have been received for deposit and inquiries for information responded to. The James R. Crumley, Jr. Region 9 Archives, located at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Columbia, SC. The Virginia Synod Archives are now located in the Roanoke College Library.

**Certification of Minutes – Recommendation No. 1** – That the printed minutes of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Assembly of the Virginia Synod, ELCA, held on June 9-11, 2017, as certified by the bishop and secretary, be approved as the official protocol of the Assembly, with two copies to be deposited in the archives of synod.

#### **Roster Statistical Information**

#### **Accessions**

##### **By Ordination / Commissioning / Consecration**

The Rev. Angela Dunn ordained on September 17th, 2016.

The Rev. Tim Crummitt ordained on June 17th, 2016.

The Rev. Nate Huffman ordained on June, 11, 2016.

The Rev. Alex Zuber ordained on June, 10, 2017.

##### **By Transfer**

The Rev. Dennis Anderson from the Oregon Synod

The Rev. Derek Boggs from the North Carolina Synod.  
 The Rev. Wanda Childs transferred from the West Virginia Synod.  
 Mr. John Douglas Price, Deacon, from the Lower Susquehanna.  
 Florence Jowers, Deaconess, from the North Carolina Synod.  
 The Rev. Colleen Montgomery from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod.  
 The Rev. Heidi Moore from the Metro-DC Synod.  
 The Rev. Tina Melusky from the Lower Susquehanna Synod.  
 The Rev. Donna Ruggles from the NorthEastern Iowa Synod.

#### **By Dismissals to Other Synods**

The Rev. CeCee Mills to the North Carolina Synod.  
 The Rev. Judy Cobb accepted a call as assistant to the Bishop of the Delaware-Maryland Synod.  
 The Rev. John Myers to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.  
 Sister Jennie Myers to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.  
 The Rev. Judy Tavela to the West Virginia Synod.  
 The Rev. Marilu Thomas to roster of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.  
 Ms. Shanna VanderWel, Deaconess, Transferred to the Rocky Mountain Synod.  
 The Rev. Kate Costa to the Maryland-Delaware Synod

#### **Resigned from a Congregational Call**

The Rev. Lance Braun from The Legacy, National Lutheran  
 Communities & Services of Virginia.  
 The Rev. JoAnn Bunn from Mt. Tabor, Mt. Tabor & Redeemer, McKinley.  
 The Rev. Kate Costa from St. Luke, Culpeper  
 The Rev. Evan Davis from Trinity, Keezletown, & St. Jakob's- Spaders, Mt. Crawford.  
 The Rev. Wynemah Hinlicky on leave from call requesting family leave.  
 The Rev. Judy Tavela from St. Timothy, Vinton.  
 The Rev. John Myers from Bedford, Lutheran.  
 Sister Jennie Myers from Bedford, Lutheran.  
 The Rev. Eric Moehring, on leave from call.  
 The Rev. Joanna Stallings resigned from Lutheran Memorial, Blacksburg.

#### **Retirements**

The Rev. Lance Braun – 03/01/17  
 The Rev. Patti Covington – 06/12/17  
 The Rev. George Sims – 02/01/2017  
 The Rev. Judy Tavela – 11/03/2016

#### **Acceptances**

The Rev. Derek Boggs has accepted a call to Salem, Mt. Sidney  
 The Rev. JoAnn Bunn accepted a call to Gladesboro, Gladesboro  
 The Rev. Wanda Childs has accepted a call to Our Saviour, Christiansburg.  
 The Rev. Tim Crummitt accepted a call to St. Paul's, Hampton.  
 The Rev. Heidi David Young accepted a call to North Mtn. Parish, Interim, contract for services.  
 The Rev. Nate Huffman accepted a call to St. Michael, Virginia Beach.  
 The Rev. Tina Melusky accepted a call to Trinity, Newport News.

The Rev. Colleen Montgomery accepted a call to Holy Trinity, Wytheville.

The Rev. Heidi Moore, accepted a call to Resurrection, Fredericksburg.

The Rev. Victoria Parvin, accepted a call to St. Mark Lutheran Church (ELCA) of Charlottesville, VA.

The Rev. Alex Zuber, accepted a call to Stoney Man Parish, Luray

### **Deaths**

The Rev. Philip Carr 09/17/2016

The Rev. C. Jackson (Jack) Martin 11/16/2016

The Rev. Arthur S. Hanson 02/09/2017

### **Anniversaries**

- **Christ, Fredericksburg – The Rev. Richard Carbaugh and Pastor Anne J. Martin** – July 24, 2016 Pastor Carbaugh's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ministry at Christ Lutheran Church
- **Good Shepherd, Front Royal – The Rev. Neal Davidson** - celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary (June 28 1942)
- **St. Paul, Jerome – The Rev. Jeff May** - Established a 200th anniversary planning team. Established a Long Range Visioning Team

### **Bequests**

- **Christ, Fredericksburg – The Rev. Richard Carbaugh and Pastor Anne J. Martin** – \$45,493 gift received from the estate of Elsie M. Caldwell.

### **Blessings**

- **Christ, Fredericksburg – The Rev. Richard Carbaugh and Pastor Anne J. Martin** - July 2016 Major refurbishing of sanctuary pews.
- **Salem, Mt. Sidney – The Rev. Derek Boggs** – Called a new Pastor & joint mission efforts with Pleasant View Lutheran.
- **St. Paul's, Hampton – The Rev. Tim Crummitt** - In July, St. Paul's welcomed our new pastor, The Rev. Tim Crummitt, his wife Megan, and their dog, Ned.

### **Dedications**

- **Grace, Waynesboro – The Rev. Paul Pingle** - Organ rededication on January 31, 2017
- **The Chapel at Orchard Ridge - The Village at Orchard Ridge: A Community of National Lutheran Communities and Services, Inc., Chaplain William W. Bodlin** - The Opus 130, a tracker style pipe organ, created for the chapel by the Letoruneau Organ Company of Quebec, Canada was donated (\$500,000) by resident Richard Duesing in memory of his late wife, Phyllis Duesing. The organ was dedicated at a festival service of prayer and song on July 30, 2016. Chaplain William W. Bodlin presided.

- **St. Paul, Jerome** - Updated to sound system, updated chimes – computerized system. Renovated Gathering Room space for children and adult activities
- **Trinity, Stephens City – The Rev. Cam Keyser** –Prayer Garden and Columbarium dedicated at Sunday worship, October 23, 2016
- **Trinity, Keezletown – The Rev. Jim Kniseley** (Interim) - Our new elevator is being dedicated during the month of June, 2017

### Groundbreakings

- **St. Jacobs-Spaders Lutheran Church – The Rev. Jim Kniseley, Interim Pastor** – Feb. 26, 2017 - New Social Hall/ Community Center, Pastor Jim Kniseley presided.

### Major Additions

- **Salem, Mt. Sidney – The Rev. Derek Boggs** – Added sound abatement panels in our social hall.
- **St. Paul, Jerome – The Rev. Jeff May** - Creation Care - Environmental Stewardship plan adopted Bequest and Major Gifts policy adopted  
Led AED training for members Strengthened support of local causes - SVLM, Luke's Backpack, St. Jude's

### Miscellaneous

- **Salem, Mt. Sidney – The Rev. Derek Boggs** –  
Hosted a Bible study coordinated by the Stewardship of Life Committee entitled "Rediscover Macedonia", with guest speaker Cary Mangus, Synod Stewardship Specialist, which drew 75 attendees over two days.  
Hosted a Bible study coordinated by the Stewardship of Life Committee entitled "Rediscover Macedonia", with guest speaker Cary Mangus, Synod Stewardship Specialist, which drew 75 attendees over two days.

Partnered with Pleasant View Lutheran on worship events (e.g. Epiphany bonfire), Youth events, Vacation Bible School, fundraising Dinner Theater, and service projects (Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta County).

\* Implemented a protective policy to certify the backgrounds of those working with small children and other vulnerable adults.

Launched revamped website at SalemLutheranVA.org

Charles Downs called on Evan Davis, Treasurer, who presented his report. The 2018 Ministry Spending Program.

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

### Treasurer's Report to the 2017 Virginia Synod Assembly June 9-11, 2017

#### 2016: A Year of Faithful Generosity

2016 was a good year, thanks to our Lord and to you. Congregations gave \$1,749,594 to our synodical ministry in fiscal year 2016, which is almost \$165,000 more than in 2015. You have been increasing your mission support to our Synod and faithfully supporting our shared ministry. We ended the year with a surplus of \$63,200, thanks in large part to a strong final few months, positive investment returns, and a change in how we are presenting ForwardingFaith administrative costs (see next section below).

**Please do read the audited financial statements and make your Treasurer happy! *But, in case you somehow miss the wonder of perusing them, here are the highlights\*:***

Revenues	2016	2015
Mission Support from Congregations	1,749,594	1,584,726
Investment income and gains (losses)	162,143	(42,929)
Other individual contributions and income	185,087	205,394
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,096,824</b>	<b>1,747,191</b>
Expenses		
Virginia Synod Mission Support to our ELCA Churchwide Organization (39% of congregational giving)	646,133	575,347
Office of the Bishop, Synod Office, including all staff salaries and benefits and office operations	993,483	1,055,738
Grants to Ministry Partners	262,813	260,019
All other expenses	131,195	231,434
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,033,624</b>	<b>2,122,538</b>
<b>Surplus or (Deficit)</b>	<b>63,200</b>	<b>(375,347)</b>

*\*Totally not a substitute for the audited financial statements – see, you're not getting out of this.*

We have continued our efforts in fiscal year 2016 to make our financial reporting more transparent, simple, and clear. You may notice the Schedule of Designated-Temporarily Restricted Funds on Schedule A-1, Sheets 1-2, is shorter than it has been in the past. This is because we have been eliminating or consolidating funds with no ongoing purpose.

The funds you will see are mainly either contribution in-out funds (like World Hunger and Disaster Relief) or event registration funds (which collect the fees and expenses for events such as Winter Celebration, Power in the Spirit, and this very Synod Assembly). There are also a few other ongoing funds, such as scholarship funds, Papua New Guinea (our companion synod) funds, and the ForwardingFaith endowment.

### **ForwardingFaith Campaign Expenses**

One significant change to our reporting for 2016 and going forward is how we are presenting the administrative costs of running the ForwardingFaith campaign. In September 2015, the Synod Council approved this capital campaign to create an endowment to support youth ministry and faith formation in the Virginia Synod for years to come. One part of this was to approve the expenditure of \$294,500 from Synod reserves for campaign administrative costs, which includes the work of our consultants, logistics (graphic design, printing, video), and the pro-rated portion of the salaries of our staff members who work on the campaign.

Because these costs are coming from the Synod's reserve funds, the Synod Council decided the most accurate presentation of these costs would be to accumulate them for 2016 in a designated fund rather than within our income statement for the year. These costs for 2016 totaled to \$130,183 and can be found on Schedule A-1,

Sheet 2, of the audited financial statements. We will continue to accumulate campaign costs here in 2017 and 2018. We expect costs in 2017 to be approximately \$100,000.

It is important for you to realize as the Synod Assembly that had these costs been charged to the income statement, we would have finished with a deficit of (\$66,983) rather than a surplus of \$63,200. While these costs represent a current outflow of cash from the Synod, we believe that outflow is an important and worthwhile investment in our future.

Total campaign receipts were \$440,401 as of January 31, 2017, and now approach \$500,000. We are well on our way!

### **Proposed 2018 Ministry Spending Plan**

Please take a close look at the proposed 2018 Ministry Spending Plan and related Narrative explanation of that plan, which the Synod Council voted to recommend for your adoption as the Synod Assembly. The Narrative explains the plan in detail, including significant proposed changes from 2017 to 2018.

### **A Word of Thanks**

I want you to be under no illusions that I do the work to keep track of the finances of our Synod. As an elected volunteer who lives two hours away from the Synod office, I see my role as doing what I can to be the communications link between our wonderful financial team on the Synod staff, the Synod Council, and you. As such, my most sincere thanks go to those who manage our financial resources on a daily basis: Richard Hoffman, our Financial Consultant, Becky Walls, Office Administrator, Tammy Kasper,



Debbie Worley, and Lenae Osmondson, Administrative Assistants, and Skip Zubrod, who continues to serve as a volunteer Financial Consultant. Not only do they do an excellent job posting transactions, reconciling accounts, watching our expenses, and sending out great information, they have also taught me as a newcomer to the Synod's financial operations.

Most especially, thanks be to God for you and your congregation, because it is through your kingdom-centered generosity that we have more than enough to do what God has called us to do as one Body of Christ across the Commonwealth. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you have: [evanmdavis85@gmail.com](mailto:evanmdavis85@gmail.com), 540-497-3918.

Your brother in Christ,

Evan Davis

Synod Treasurer



## **2018 Narrative Ministry Spending Plan**

Revenue Projections

Spending Plan

Designated Funds

## Overview

The 2018 Ministry Spending Plan for the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was developed with two goals.

1. Continue our emphasis on simplicity and transparency. This has involved bringing all the costs associated with the regular ministry of the Synod into the spending plan, rather than accounting for some costs in designated funds. This means that the spending plan now reflects the total financial impact of the Synod's regular ministry and allows us to be better stewards of the resources God has graciously provided.
2. Increase the Synod's mission support to the Churchwide Organization of the ELCA from 40% to 42% (a majority of ELCA synods give 50% or more).

**The 2018 Ministry Spending Plan anticipates revenues of \$1,975,000 and allows for expenditures of \$2,005,251 to result in a projected deficit of \$30,251. This spending plan is submitted to the 2017 Virginia Synod Assembly for its consideration.**

## Revenues

Anticipated revenues come from the following sources:

Mission Support from Congregations: Over 131 pledges from our 146 congregations plus an estimate of unpledged giving	\$1,760,000	89.1%
Other Revenues: Income from investments, ELCA grant for Director for Evangelical Mission (DEM).	\$205,000	10.4%
Individual Giving	\$10,000	0.5%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,975,000</b>	

This projection for 2018 follows a very strong year for congregational mission support in 2016. Congregations gave \$1,749,594 to our synodical ministry in 2016, which is almost \$165,000 more than in 2015. The clear message here is that Virginia Synod congregations are increasing their mission support to the Synod and are faithfully supporting our shared ministry. Thanks be to God!

Other Revenues consist of a grant from the Churchwide Organization of the ELCA for the Director for Evangelical Mission (DEM) position as well as income from investments held by the ELCA Foundation and Thrivent Financial.

Many people also make individual gifts to the Synod throughout the year, with some of these gifts being quite significant. We have budgeted a conservative estimate of these individual gifts for 2018.

## Expenditures

Total expenditures fall into the following main categories:

### EXPENSES

Mission Support to ELCA Churchwide Organization	739,200.00
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#### Office of the Bishop

Deans	15,000.00
Synod Staff - Salaries and Benefits (including travel & living expenses)	692,000.00
Ecumenical Support	6,500.00
<b>TOTAL Office of the Bishop</b>	<b>\$ 713,500.00</b>

#### Synodical Ministry

Stewardship	\$ 15,000.00
Youth Ministry General Expenses	\$ 6,500.00
Candidacy Committee	\$ 40,000.00
Orientation to New Leaders in Virginia Synod	\$ 3,000.00

#### VIRGINIA SYNOD, ELCA - 2018 PROPOSED MINISTRY SPENDING PLAN

Fiscal Year: February 1 through January 31

Mission Area	2018	Notes
Gathering of the Ministerium	\$ 4,000.00	
Boundary Training	\$ 1,000.00	
First Call Theological Education	\$ 4,000.00	
Power in the Spirit	\$ 5,000.00	
Communications	\$ 11,000.00	
<b>TOTAL Synodical Ministry</b>	<b>\$ 89,500.00</b>	

#### Grants to Ministry Partners

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary	106,456.00
Roanoke College	12,240.00
Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy	2,550.00
Grace Inside Prison Chaplains	11,820.00
Lutheran Family Services of Virginia	14,280.00
National Lutheran Communities & Services	1,360.00
Virginia Lutheran Homes	8,000.00
Region 9 of ELCA	8,500.00
Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp	29,455.00
Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center	12,390.00
Mission Development Grant	5,000.00
Campus Ministry Grants to Congregations	85,000.00
<b>TOTAL Grants</b>	<b>\$ 297,051.00</b>

# VIRGINIA SYNOD, ELCA – 2018 PROPOSED MINISTRY SPENDING PLAN

Fiscal Year: February 1 through January 31

## Mission Area 2018

### Synod Council Activities

Synod Council Expenses	10,000.00
Insurance Premiums	12,000.00
Legal Retainer Fees	1,000.00
Audit	14,000.00
Archives	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL Synod Council</b>	<b>\$ 38,000.00</b>

### Synod Office Operations

Postage	6,000.00
Office Supplies	10,000.00
Telecommunications	12,500.00
Temporary Help	2,500.00
Vanco Credit Card Processing Charges	2,500.00
Maintenance	5,000.00
 Bank Charges	 2,500.00

Leasing - Copiers	25,000.00
Payroll Processing	4,500.00
Help Desk Support	5,500.00
Rent - Norfolk and Waynesboro offices	15,000.00
Rent - Bittle Hall, Salem	29,000.00
<b>TOTAL Synod Office</b>	<b>\$ 120,000.00</b>

## VIRGINIA SYNOD, ELCA - 2018 PROPOSED MINISTRY SPENDING PLAN

Fiscal Year: February 1 through January 31

Mission Area	2018	Notes
<u>Contingencies &amp; Other</u>		
Furnishings & Equipment	3,000.00	
Bishop's Discretionary Fund	5,000.00	
<b>TOTAL Other</b>	<b>\$ 8,000.00</b>	0.4%
 <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	 <b>\$ 2,005,251.00</b>	 100%
 <b>NET SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	 <b>\$ (30,251.00)</b>	

Here are a few additional highlights to explain the different ministry areas and most significant changes:

**\*Mission Support (Apportionment) to ELCA:** Bishop Mauney and the Synod Council set a goal to increase our support to 42% of congregational giving, which this budget accomplishes. Every month we remit to the churchwide office 42% of the prior month's congregational giving. A majority of ELCA synods give 50% of their congregational giving or better. As such, we are still catching up to our brothers and sisters around the church but we are moving in the right direction.

**Office of the Bishop:** "Office of the Bishop" refers not to the literal building in which Bishop and his staff works, but to the people themselves. This area covers the full salaries and benefits of our Bishop, his or her Assistants (who are ordained pastors), and other Synod staff. This includes health, disability, basic group life insurance, and retirement plan contributions administered by Portico Benefit Services as well as travel reimbursements and continuing education. The ability for the Synod staff and others from around the state to meet electronically via Zoom (an online meeting platform) is a tremendous help in saving time and lowering travel costs.

**Synodical Ministry:** Most of the ministry we do as the Virginia Synod is carried out by the Synod staff whom we support through salaries and benefits. This spending area refers to the costs for ministries the Synod directly organizes and carries out. Many such ministries and events are self-supported through registration fees, however some are covered by the spending plan.

For example, our synodical youth events are mostly covered by registration but we have a small budgeted amount to pay for music licenses and other miscellaneous costs. This area also supports the vital work done by our Candidacy Committee, financial aid to Virginia Synod seminarians, and leadership development events like Orientation for New Leaders and First Call Theological Education and Boundary Training for all rostered ministers.

**Grants to Ministry Partners:** Every year the Synod passes on about 15% of its funds to a variety of ministry partners who work alongside us across the Commonwealth. Just as congregations support the national church through their mission support to the Synod, they also provide for:

- **Lutheran Higher Education:** Roanoke College, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
- **Lutheran Outdoor Ministry:** Caroline Furnace, Hungry Mother
- **Advocacy:** Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy
- **Senior Living & Care:** Virginia Lutheran Homes, National Lutheran Communities & Services
- **Care for Children, Families, and Adults:** Lutheran Family Services of Virginia
- **Prison Ministry:** Grace Inside
- **Campus Ministry:** Grants to congregations hosting campus ministry
- **Our Region in the ELCA:** Region 9, which supports the six synods in the Southeast.

This budget proposes an increase in support to three organizations: Grace Inside prison chaplaincy and our two Lutheran outdoor ministries in Virginia, Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center (Fort Valley) and Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center (Marion). The increases reflect the Virginia Synod's commitment to care for these ministries which were most significantly impacted by the close of the United Lutheran Appeal. In order to mitigate this impact, the four larger partners (Roanoke College, Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, National Lutheran Communities and Services, and Virginia Lutheran Homes) committed to support Grace Inside and the camps directly for a transitional period. As the partners' support decreases, the Synod committed to step up and replace this direct support.

Obviously, all three of these ministries are central to our mission. Grace Inside provides desperately needed pastoral care to people who need to hear the gospel in their time of incarceration. Caroline Furnace and Hungry Mother are a vital component of faith formation especially for children and youth but also for adults. While all our partners have financial need, these three ministers have fewer funding streams than the others and, as such, need additional support from our congregations.

**Synod Office Operations:** As we shift toward doing more things electronically, our costs are shifting as well. You will notice budgeted costs for IT support and online payment processing. Our Synod Staff do an excellent job monitoring costs to be faithful in stewardship of our resources. Notably, we have recently restructured our copier contract and across synodical ministry we use less paper as documents are accessed electronically. There is still room for growth in this area.

### **A Note on Designated Funds and the Balance Sheet**

The Synod also receives and disburses a great deal of other funds throughout the year that are not part of the spending plan. These are handled by our designated accounts. These accounts are generally of two types:

1. **Event Registration:** Registration fees paid for self-supporting events, including Synod Assembly, youth events like Lost and Found, Winter Celebration, and Kairos; ACTS (Ambassadors Community for Theological Study), Gathering of the Ministerium, and more. When we take into account all the registration fees and costs of each event for the year, the surplus or deficit is then closed to the spending plan. That means these accounts start at zero every new year (we do not accumulate a running balance from prior years).
2. **Designated Giving:** Funds that are collected, held, and then distributed for a specific purpose, including ELCA World Hunger, giving to our companion synod in Papua New Guinea, memorial gifts, and endowments like Forwarding Faith and the proposed new Virginia Synod Mission Endowment Fund.

At any given time, the Synod's assets are made up almost entirely of cash and investments, which are allocated between unrestricted net assets and these designated funds (temporarily restricted net assets, in accounting-speak).

We have worked diligently to reduce the number of designated funds so that all regular costs are included in the spending plan and only true designated funds remain. Particular thanks go to Richard Hoffman, our Synod's Financial Consultant, for taking this on and providing excellent monthly reporting.

### **ForwardingFaith Administrative Support**

In September 2015, when the Synod Council approved the ForwardingFaith campaign to endow youth ministry and faith formation in the Virginia Synod for years to come, it also appropriated funds from Synod reserves to cover the administrative costs of running the campaign. The total funds appropriated for the campaign come to \$294,500.

We are tracking these costs in an account designated for the purpose, which you can find on the 2016 balance sheet. As such, these costs are not being charged in our spending plan and are not affecting the Synod's "bottom line."

However, it is important for you, the Synod Assembly, to be aware that these costs are being spent and represent a current cash outflow. Of course, this is an investment in the future of our Synod's ministry and will be repaid many times over. In fiscal year 2016, we spent \$130,183, which includes the cost of design, consulting, and the pro-rated salaries, benefits, and travel of our staff members who spent part of their time running the campaign. In fiscal year 2017, we anticipate costs of approximately \$100,000.

Most importantly, we give thanks for the nearly \$500,000 collected so far toward the campaign, out of almost \$2 million promised and pledged.

### **Conclusion**

While this spending plan anticipates a small deficit, our challenge to each congregation is to prayerfully consider increasing their giving by one or two percent. This increase along with our work to steward our resources would allow us to increase our giving; to the ELCA, The Lutheran World Federation, World Hunger as well as ending 2018 in the black. By bringing all our regular costs into the spending plan, we become much more transparent so everyone can see the synod's financial position much more clearly.

As always, it will be important for the Synod Assembly to carefully consider all our ministry spending areas to make sure we are fully resourcing each ministry in as faithful a manner as possible.



Charles Downs called on Bishop Jim Mauney for his report.

## REPORT OF THE BISHOP

### **REPORT OF THE BISHOP**

The theme for the 2017 Virginia Synod Assembly will be "Ambassadors for Christ: Forwarding Faith globally, ecumenically, into the future, into our daily living."

We have been having a synodical Forwarding Faith Campaign for the past two years. Our theme verse is: "Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." Psalm 71:17

As I complete my service as Bishop of the Synod, it seems right to have a final emphasis and a theme around "forwarding faith", not only in raising funds for the future, but also continuing to be ambassadors of Christ who desire to forward faith to those yet to know the joy and hope of Jesus Christ.

Our ELCA representative will be the Reverend Rafael Malpica Padilla who is in charge of global missions for the ELCA. He will help us to consider how to be Ambassadors of Christ, forwarding the faith globally. Throughout our Synod assembly we will hear from our young adults in global mission (YAGMs) who will be telling us about the mission they are doing as they seek to forward faith to people in southern Africa and Australia. We will also be blessed to have the ELCA Global Band that will lead us in our worship in Bast gymnasium.

On Saturday morning of the assembly, The Rt. Reverend Mark Bourlakas, the Bishop for the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Virginia, will help us to think about being Ambassadors for Christ, forwarding faith ecumenically.

On Saturday evening, as we celebrate an ordination service and worship together as the Synod, we will preach upon being Ambassadors of Christ, forwarding faith into the future.

Sunday morning we will send us out as ambassadors of Christ, forwarding faith in our daily living.

I want to commend the work of the whole synod in these months since our assembly in June 2016. We have been so blessed by the leadership of our Synod Council, our synod staff, our deans, and hundreds of our rostered and lay leaders across this synod who gave their best for excellent events for our youth and adults. We have come to take the happening of these events for granted, but each takes more and more publicity, energy, special work to not only make them happen, but also to have them maintain and grow in participants. The foundation of trust that our staff, synod leaders from our congregations, and coordinators create for our events cannot be overemphasized.

The Executive Committee has taken on extra work as we entered this final year. We thank Vice President Charles Downs, secretary Blythe Scott, treasurer Evan Davis, and Dana Cornett and Meredith Williams for their extra meetings, advice, and work in this time of transition with fall gatherings and campaign.

We are grateful to the Transition Team that has been meeting since November 7, 2015. I am grateful for the fall conference gatherings which they held to explain the election of the bishop process and to conduct a synod survey allowing people to list the gifts and the concerns they have as the synod anticipates the election of a new bishop. I want to thank: the Chair, Ms. Blythe Scott, Secretary of the Synod; Mr. Charles Poston, the Tidewater conference; the Reverend Larry Shoberg, the Peninsula conference; the Reverend Lou Florio, the Richmond conference; Mr. David Raecke, the Germanna conference; Mr. Mark Reed, the Page conference; the Reverend Jim Utt, the Northern Valley conference; the Reverend Karen Van Stee, the Central Valley conference; The Reverend Karen Taylor, the Southern Valley conference; Mr. Bob Yates, the Southern conference; Ms. Jody Smiley, the New River conference; Ms. Elizabeth Smythe, the Highlands conference; Ms. Maren Corliss, the LYO President; Ms. Becky Walls, synod support staff, for their participation on this important committee.

#### **THE ONGOING EMPHASES IN OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE VIRGINIA SYNOD - 2011-2017**

As Ambassadors for Christ, the things we are focusing on for these years:

- Tending to the Spirit of the Body of Christ
- Leading with excellence
- Treasuring Christian Formation
- Caring for the most vulnerable
- Knowing our neighborhood to do God's Mission

#### **GOALS TOGETHER:**

**EVERY CHILD IN VIRGINIA WILL BE FED ON OCTOBER 31, 2017.** The altar's bread and the food closet's bread are connected. The food pantry line and the altar rail are connected.

But in this final year, we turned our attention especially upon having a healthy synod and a healthy campaign in place for a new bishop to take office with on September 1, 2017.

So as we approach the coming time of transition of leadership, we are making the right steps for that time to go smoothly and to help establish the newly elected bishop.

1-The events and programs that are valued by this synod continue to be offered with excellence, and they are in the planning through December 31, 2017.

2-We finished 2016 with very good financial health and with all our months fully reconciled with a clean audit completed by the end of March 2017. We received 2017 commitments from 136 congregations which is wonderful. These commitments will provide our budgeting for 2017 and 2018 with as solid an undergirding as possible. We finished March 2017 with our receipts \$10,000 to the good over expenses and with congregational giving ahead of schedule.

3-The synod staff is completing standard operating procedures for all of the synod processes that occur within our work.

4-Job descriptions continue to be updated.

5-The directory and data base are being updated.

**6-Our call processes are very active. We are completing six call processes, but have had ten more begin the process.**

**7-The Candidacy Committee continues to welcome, guide, and approve candidates for rostered leadership in our church.**

**8-We are grateful to the Transition Team that held conference gathering meetings through the fall, but will also guide the synod assembly's election of the bishop, the Friday evening of appreciation, the summer's transition, and the installation of the new bishop in September. I want to thank Blythe Scott for her leadership as we prepare for the coming election, transition, and installation of our new bishop.**

**9-We continue to grow the ForwardingFaith Campaign.**

**10 – We begin to consider how to help a newly elected bishop transition into their new call through the summer and beginning with September 1, 2017.**

#### **TENDING TO THE SPIRIT OF THE BODY:**

**1- In 2016, The Deans and members of the transition team held gatherings in each of our eleven conferences around the election of a new bishop process, the completion of a synodical survey to help the people of our synod consider the gifts desired for their new bishop. There were close to 500 leaders who attended them. Ms. Ellen Hinlicky, Pr. Chris Price, or I opened each conference gathering with devotions and a brief overview of the ForwardingFaith Campaign, especially the coming steps for the Lead Gifts and Congregational emphases of the Campaign.**

**2-The Deans of our conferences continue being the first contact for rostered leaders and congregations with questions and concerns. They have provided excellent pastoral care and wisdom, and they speak to the high morale we have in the life of the synod's ministerium. Each month, as deployed partners of the Office of the Bishop, they gather our leaders together in our conferences across the commonwealth. I want to express my deep gratitude on behalf of all of us for the excellent work of our deans!! As of May 1, our deans are: Tidewater, The Rev. Cathy Mims; Peninsula, The Rev. Joel Neubauer; Richmond, The Rev. Lou Florio; Germanna, The Rev. Sandy Wisco; Page, The Rev. Nick Eichelberger; Northern Valley, The Rev. Martha Sims; Central Valley, The Rev. Jim Baseler; Southern Valley, The Rev. Robert McCarty; Southern, The Rev. Ken Lane; New River, The Rev. Bill King; Highlands, The Rev. Jonathan Hamman.**

**In our job description of the deans we have in italics the following: “to act as a confidant to rostered leaders and provide pastoral care often in consultation with the Bishop, but also providing a first line conversation that does not need to be shared beyond the conference conversation, maintaining confidentiality in all such relationships.”**

**This reveals the important work of being both a confidant and a resource for the rostered leaders and for the needs of the conference and its congregations. We are blessed by their giftedness!**

**3- To build up the Spirit of the Body, our rostered leaders come together in their conferences monthly and some meet bi-weekly for study, prayer, planning, worship with both preaching and sacrament, and time for conversation together.**

**4-We have a Ministerium Covenant that nearly all our rostered leaders have signed and a very active Ministerium Team that seeks to keep this covenant before us as a foundation for our work together and within our congregations we serve. I want to recognize Pastor David Derrick for his chairing this Team and for Christie Huffman, Jim Utt, Kathleen Miko, Cheryl Griffin, Drew Tucker, Ann Jones, Mark Cooper, Mike Maxey, Mindy Reynolds who served as a think tank for the life and joy of our Ministerium.**

**5-Our institutions:**

Twice a year, the CEOs of our synod's institutions seek to come together for sharing, learning, support with me. We are blessed with a rich cadre of faithful leaders who love this synod and who offer advice, financial support, cutting edge advice for our work together. They are each an excellent leader for this time in the life of their ministry too! How blessed we are to have their partnership! I encourage you to read each of their reports and to note how this synod through their many ministries touch tens of thousands of people every year. No single congregation could have a seminary, a college, two camps and conference centers, ministry to all our state prisons, lovely and large campuses for seniors in six places across the state, education and learning and outreach to families, children, homebound in hundreds of homes as well as a network of schools for special needs children. But together as synod, all of us do!

**6-A Synod Call Team has sought to provide better ongoing contact with congregations in the call process. I am grateful to Pastors William Stewart, Kathleen Miko, Stephen Bohannon, Joel Neubauer, David Young, Scott Homesley for their wisdom and assistance.**

**7-Ecumenism-I am very grateful for the work of our synod's Ecumenical Officer-Pastor Eric Moehring. He is a very respected and beloved leader among the churches of Virginia! How important it is that we not only seek to maintain but strengthen our relationships with our sisters and brothers across the Christian spectrum.**

**8-Pastor David Delaney and I alternated writing a Bible Study for Monday mornings, and we sent out readings for the Lutheran Confessions and Catechisms on Wednesday mornings.**

**9-The 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly was held in New Orleans, August 7-13. Bishop Eaton was outstanding as presider, preacher, and presenter. Her 53 minute address that you can see on YouTube was the best I have heard. All our voting members were in their seats throughout the whole assembly! The Virginia Synod's voting delegation was the Reverend Jonathan Boynton from Grace, Winchester; Mr. Richard Corliss from Saint Timothy, Norfolk; Diaconal Minister Christie Huffman from Epiphany, Richmond; Ms. Karen Griffith from Our Saviour, Virginia Beach; the Reverend Linda Motley from the Floyd parish; Mr. Chris Moomaw from St. Peter, Toms Brook; Mr. David Raeke from Our Saviour, Warrenton; Ms. Blythe Scott, secretary of the Synod; Ms. Jody Smiley from St. Michael, Blacksburg.**

## **II. LEADING WITH EXCELLENCE**

**1-We have a vital Candidacy Committee that oversees the care of those who are inquiring about professional ministry or are engaged as candidates for ministry. Three candidates approved for ordination were assigned to the Virginia Synod: Suzanne Stierwalt, Marty Wagner, and Alex Zuber. In addition, Jim Farnsworth was approved and was assigned to the NE Pennsylvania Synod. Christine Roe was approved and assigned to the Allegheny Synod. She was ordained on January 27 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Yorktown, Virginia. She accepted a call to a cooperative between Faith**

United Lutheran Church, Houtzdale, Pennsylvania, and First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania. Joseph Yucha was approved and assigned to the Chicago Metropolitan Synod. Joseph was ordained as the associate pastor at Faith Lutheran church in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, May 14, 2017.

2-The Church Vocations Conference was held in August for inquirers and candidates for ministry in the Church as a rostered leader. The Rev. Harvey Huntley, who has now completed his work as the region nine coordinator, was the presenter for this past year's vocation conference held at Eagle Eyre conference center. His presentations were around the new Candidacy manual and process which the ELCA had produced in 2016.

3-Our Ministerium Team created a timely Gathering of the Ministerium, October 17-19, 2016, learning more about the Office of the Bishop and the coming 500th Recognition of the Reformation with Bishop Suzanne Dillahunty from the Southern Ohio Synod, Bishop Richard Graham from the Metro DC Synod, Bishop Matthew Riegle from the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod, Bishop Charlene Kammerer from the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, and Bishop Ted Glick from the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. The Ministerium Team has already completely planned the Gathering of the Ministerium for the newly elected bishop, October 9-11, 2017, at Virginia Beach.

4-Mindy Reynolds continued her excellent work in promoting the Healthy Congregations program among our congregations and rostered leaders. We are seeing an increase in the number of workshops happening across the synod for congregations in pastoral transition. She provided an online course for training some new pastors as Facilitators in Healthy Congregations.

5-An orientation for new rostered leaders, interns, and their spouses was held September 12-13, 2016 at the Synod Office and Roanoke College. The first evening was hosted by Roanoke College, and the following day, Brandon Oaks of Virginia Lutheran Homes and the Minnick School of Lutheran Family Services provided tours of their facilities and an overview of their ministries.

6-A three day retreat for First Call rostered leaders and their mentors was held in November at Massanetta Springs. The Rev. Dr. Carol Schweitzer, professor of Pastoral Care at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, was our presenter around the topic of family systems.

7-Mindy Reynolds and Lenae Osmundson continued to offer opportunities in professional boundary training. This training is to help our pastors and deacons to be aware of the need for the church to be a safe place and for their ministries to be ones of pastoral care and presence for the most vulnerable. Our calling is a sacred trust. Therefore our calls and our words and actions need to be absolutely trustworthy.

### **III. TREASURING CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

1-The Rev. David Delaney has oversight of this emphasis.

2-Dr. Phyllis Milton continues to emphasize conversations in Christian Formation across the synod, to give leadership in the ACTS program, and to further develop the Roots & Wings Program. Dr. Phyl is an excellent resource for you in Christian Education, and we are blessed to have her!

3-Roots & Wings sent out 52 excellent weekly publications for parents and grandparents to share their faith with their children. I am grateful for the faithful team that meets with Dr. Milton and for Lenae Osmundson who keeps these very creative publications up to date and sent out on-line weekly!

**4-On October 6-8, Roots & Wings co-partnered with Camp Caroline Furnace to provide a retreat for both full and part time workers with children, youth and family ministry. Diane Bayer served as retreat presenter and Pastor Phyllis Milton lead worship. Debbie Streicher, the President of the ELCA Christian Formation Network, presented around the theme, "Faith Milestones".**

**4- Ambassadors Community of Theological Studies-we are celebrating the 15th year of the ACTS program, and we give thanks to God for our founder, The Reverend Dr. Jean Bozeman, and for her successor, the Reverend Dr. Phyllis Milton, for their combined leadership that has helped this community to grow larger and to go deeper in faith. From these courses have come nearly 700 students who are leaders in our congregations and our Virginia Synod. How grateful we are to the people of Grace Lutheran Church in Waynesboro for their hosting our courses all 15 years! We are so very grateful to Owen Keefer, his new associate, Tyler Wertmann, and the Reverend Paul Pingel for their ongoing skills and support in making this school possible for our laity. How grateful we are for all of those who have served as small group leaders. We are grateful for all of the wonderful refreshments and lunches prepared at Grace. And we rejoice in the new remote sites that have been created across the Synod.**

**The fall course 2016 was taught by Dr. Terri Elton, Associate Professor of Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul Minnesota. The title of the course was "It's Not About You, It's About You. Joining God's Work in Process – a Biblical Look at Leadership." Remote sites were at Gloria Dei, Hampton and at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bluefield, West Virginia. 53 students were registered for this wonderful course.**

**The spring course 2017 was led by the Reverend Dr. David Delaney who taught the course, "The Introduction to the Old Testament". There were 63 students enrolled in the course with a remote site for the first time in Grace, Chesapeake.**

**5-Power in the Spirit - Last July, Elizabeth Smythe completed her twelfth and final Power in the Spirit as coordinator, and we welcomed in The Rev. David Drebes as our new coordinator for 2017. How grateful we are for the devoted, loving service Elizabeth rendered and the meaningful events with gifted speakers and workshops we have had under her leadership. I am grateful for the power in the spirit planning team. I give thanks for the new beginning of Pastor David Drebes as the new coordinator for this important summer event. The theme for 2016 was "By Gods Grace: This is most certainly true" that dwelled in the mysteries of God's grace guided by the powerful insights of Martin Luther's small catechism. Our speakers for this event were the Reverend Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Luther Studies at Wartburg College in Dubuque, Iowa, and Bishop Ted Gulick, the Assistant Bishop from the Episcopal diocese of Virginia, served as our Bible study leader.**

**6-Dr. Hinlicky, Tise Professor in Lutheran Studies at Roanoke College, sent out his fifth and final year of 8 annual writings leading up to 2017, on the passionate faith of Martin Luther. He wrote about this last year: "After some years in preparation, we are now in the anniversary year 2017 and the final installment of our monthly series, commencing in September and concluding in May. In this series we will trace the steps Luther took from the famous posting of the 95 Theses through the controversies which followed up to and concluding with his burning of the papal bull. Most of these texts can be found in Luther's Works, Volume 31, but we will post the reading after the introduction as we have been doing. By 1518 the indulgence controversy had led Luther to the earliest clear formulation of the doctrine of justification by faith, as may be seen in December's reading of the Theses on the Remission of Sins."**

Dr. Hinlicky's papers have been so well written that Augsburg Fortress is wanting to publish them. We have been truly blessed by the heartfelt writing of this great Luther scholar who is known around the world as a gifted teacher and writer. Thank you Dr. Hinlicky for these five years of investment for the deepening of our understanding of Martin Luther and his theology!

7-Pastor David Delaney reports: Ministry with Youth and Young Adults in the Virginia Synod in 2016 and 2017 has been characterized by the same enthusiasm and joy that has been the hallmark of this ministry for decades and even generations. Over the last program year we have involved more than 780 youth from 67 congregations in our various synodical youth events, and our adult leadership continues to grow in both numbers and skill. More than 40 youth served in planning and other synodical leadership positions during that time. We also hear stories regularly of how this energy is manifested back in congregations as adults agree to serve as advisors and local leaders, congregations seek out college students and other young adults to contribute to Christian formation, and young people live out lives of discipleship, evangelism, and service to others.

The function of youth ministry oversight continues to be strong in the synod as well, with all positions for youth and adults filled for both the Youth Ministry Committee and the Lutheran Youth Organization Board. Pastor Jonathan Boynton (Grace, Winchester) agreed to serve as the YMC chair and was instrumental in bringing that group to full strength.

We are looking forward to settling into the new registration processes that were developed over the past year, and we will continue to update our safety and training processes for adult leaders as the coming year unfolds.

The youth of Virginia were also very glad to have the opportunity to participate in the conversations leading up to the transition to a new bishop in 2017, and congregations have been very diligent in lifting up youth to positions of leadership and participation in the Main Assembly as voting members as well as the Youth Assembly.

Due to a death in Synod family, we needed to cancel Bishop's Day for 2017, but our system of inviting small group leaders to indentify young people with gifts for ministry – the well-known "green card" program – continues to inspire conversations between adults and youth around the topic of vocational discernment.

Our steady campus ministries, including several that have found renewed energy during 2016-2017, continue to be another important component for encouraging youth and young adults in their own faith and commitment, while providing some of the most visible opportunities for service in the entire church.

As the next years unfold, youth and young adult ministries, along with our vibrant outdoor ministry opportunities, will become increasingly important venues for engaging young people to consider whether they are being called to public ministry. The ELCA, along with all mainline denominations, is anticipating a dramatic shortage in the number of pastors who will be available to serve congregations in the next several years. We will never try to push young people into public ministry if God is calling them in a different direction, but we are hopeful that maintaining this discipline of conversation around vocational discernment will allow young people who may not have considered a church vocation to consider that possibility in a serious and structured way.

God keeps sending us young people, and so we will continue to keep this ministry strong, following the Spirit's lead to raise up new youth ambassadors for Christ year by year.



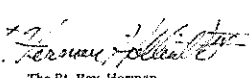
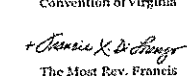

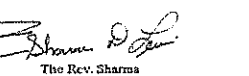

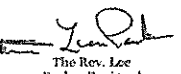
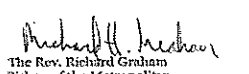
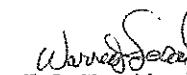
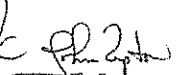
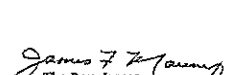
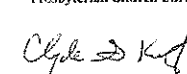
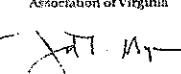
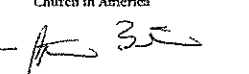
#### IV. CARING FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

1-I must absolutely commend the chair of our hunger task group, Mr. Eric Carlson, and the members of the hunger task group for their persevering in our desire that every child be fed through a universal breakfast plan at their school. Let me thank these participants in our task force through the years: Beverly Polk, Ellen Greene, Eric Carlson, Garry Lautenschlager, Heidi Flatin, Julie Swanson, Kelly Schumacher Fuller, Kim BoBo, Kim Yucha, James Somerville, Lous Shepherd, Marco Grimaldo, Harvey Atkinson, Kelly Derrick, Scott Benson, Risse Snelgrove, and Sonya Williams-Giersch.

It became an ever increasing uphill project with the inability to move forward last year with statewide legislation. The challenge, then, is for each school district to adopt such a universal breakfast approach so that every child might eat without the concern of stigma attached to a before school breakfast that they might eat before the school begins in the cafeteria that also precludes them from socialization with others before school.

Accordingly senior ecclesiastical leaders of Virginia created a document entitled, "Of daily bread for the education of our children." Within that document the leaders said, "we believe that the quality of education, the readiness and ability for learning, and a greater chance of equal opportunity for learning within the classroom are all far more likely to be achieved when every child can begin the day on a full stomach."

The following supporting ecclesiastical leader's are listed:

 The Rev. David L. Chapman Executive Minister Baptist General Convention of Virginia	 The Rt. Rev. Mark Allen Bourlakis Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia	 The Rt. Rev. Herman Hollerith IV Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia
 The Most Rev. Francis Xavier DiLorenzo Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Richmond	 The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia	 The Rev. Sharma D. Lewis Bishop of the Virginia Conference United Methodist Church
 The Rev. David K. Shumate Executive Minister of the Virginia District Church of the Brethren	 The Rev. Lee Parker Regional Minister of the Disciples of Christ in Virginia	 The Rev. Richard Graham Bishop of the Metropolitan Wash. DC Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 The Rev. Warren J. Letane, Jr. Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Church USA	 The Rev. John Upton Executive Director Baptist General Association of Virginia	 The Rev. James F. Mauney Bishop of the Virginia Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 The Rev. Clyde G. Kratz Executive Conference Minister Virginia Mennonite Conference	 The Rev. Dr. John Myers Association Minister Eastern Virginia Association Southern Conference UCC President VCC	 The Rev. Jonathan Barton Executive Conference Minister Virginia Council of Churches



**I commend Eric Carlson for his continued leadership in lifting up summer feeding programs and congregational feeding programs from the hunger task force. He is a well-known figure across the Commonwealth and with the office of the first lady in terms of his training congregations and encouraging congregations to consider how they might be about feeding children. I am grateful for all of our congregations that participate in feeding people in need across this Commonwealth, and I am grateful for the partnership with Lutheran Family Services of Virginia in the many ways they serve the disadvantaged among us.**

**2-President Tobias Eleasar made a request in late fall of 2015 from our synod for 5,000 malaria nets for the children of his islands district in Papua New Guinea. We have currently received \$37,275 for this project! With less than \$13,000 to go it is our hope that by earmarking 50% of the Synod Assembly offerings we might be able to reach our goal with this assembly.**

**3-While we did not pursue getting a specific count of the number of our congregations participating in the ELCA's "God's Work, Our Hands" through our 2016 Virginia Synod Week of Service, our September 15 Weekly Update demonstrated that our congregations across the Commonwealth did a great variety of service projects in the communities around them.**

**Many of the Lutheran volunteers sported their yellow "God's Work, Our Hands" t-shirts. I commend our congregations and our agencies and institutions that have made this an annual way for Lutherans to be serving out in their community.**

## **V. KNOWING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS THAT WE MIGHT DO GOD'S MISSION**

**1-I continue to serve as Director for Evangelical Mission for the Virginia Synod, assisted with Pastor Chris Price and Pastor Evan Davis in mission advancement and with Ellen Hinlicky and Cary Mangus assisting in mission support.**

**2-We received guidance in 2016 from the Strategy Team for Mission with Pastor William Stewart, Charlottesville, chair, Pastor Harry Griffith, Va. Beach, Dr. Jody Smiley, Blacksburg, Pastor Evan Davis, Harrisonburg, and from our Stewardship Table with Pastor John Wertz, St. Michael, Blacksburg; Pastor Bill Nabers, St. Paul, Strasburg; Pastor Paul Pingel, Grace, Waynesboro; Tom Bartkiewicz, Our Saviour, Warrenton; Cary Mangus, Christ, Roanoke; Ellen Hinlicky, College, Salem.**

**3-Over the past three years we have sent 23 pastors for training in mission development and redevelopment.**

**4-We continue to actively support the development of the Bedford Mission though our full-time mission developers, Pastor Jon Myers and Sister Jennie Myers, received a call from the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod in January 2017. The congregation has contracted with Pastor Hank Boschen to serve as an interim pastor and the Synod Council has designated \$5000 to assist in this ministry. The Synod Council voted to provide financial support for Reformation Lutheran, Newport News that ended in December 2016.**

**5-Ellen Hinlicky and Cary Mangus have been our Stewardship Consultants in 2016-2017 offering workshops in the new Ventures Program of the ELCA and Town Meetings among the conferences of our synods.**

6-Our All Inclusive Outreach Team serving now as "Tapestry" has moved to the format of meeting by zoom for all its meetings. We invite all interested persons from across the Commonwealth who would wish to join in conversation of how to make us an ever stronger diverse church to meet with us. Our final meeting before the Virginia Synod Assembly meets will be May 1 at 7:30 PM.

The tapestry team sponsored a five-week Lenten series entitled, "Being Church Together in a Changing World." Navy chaplain Aaron Fuller began the series, Directors for Evangelical Mission from three different synods provided the three middle sessions, and I was the final presentation. Webinars were presented by The Rev. Aaron Fuller, The Rev. Erika Uthe, The Rev. Deb Stehlin, The Rev. Justin Grimm, and Bishop Jim Mauney. The presentations were accompanied with a weekly devotional blog provided by The Rev. Brett Davis, The Rev. Phillip Martin, Michelle Tucker, Emily Pilat, and The Rev. Harry Griffith. I am very grateful for the time and input of these leaders.

We continue to emphasize congregations getting to know all who live within the neighborhoods that surround the facilities. What if we discover there is a rich diversity waiting to hear if they matter to the church and whether there might be an invitation to become a part of the church?

The members this past year have been: Melinda Jud, The Rev. Harry Griffith, The Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Emma and Sylvia Eley, Sue Clemens, The Rev. Aaron Fuller, Tim Waltonen, Janice Bunting, The Rev. Lou Florio, Bobbi Skinner-White, The Rev. Drew Tucker, and The Rev. John Wertz.

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS:**

We were delighted to have Ms. Emily Pilat to become our Director for communications last May. She brings excellent skills in video, photography, and an ability to write articles and announcements important for the life of our Senate. The weekly update has continued to be a colorful, helpful, and informative way of communicating with the Synod. Because of her gifts, we are able to do flyers, folders, booklets, vimeos, videos, and in-house printing and production.

Every single month, we are blessed by the ongoing work of George Kegley and Dwayne Westermann and their excellent Virginia Lutheran that is teeming with what is happening around the synod and ELCA! They and Emily are now providing us a creative, wonderful digital record of the life of the synod for decades to come.

## **VI. CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Mr. Skip Zubrod has continued his excellent work as a resource to congregations in matters of updating or questions about their constitution. But more than that, Skip keeps our Virginia Synod Constitution up to date.

## **VII. ForwardingFaith CAMPAIGN:**

I want to express my deepest appreciation to all who have contributed and been a part of the forwarding faith campaign thus far. We are truly doing this together in every way!!! Since last assembly, Ellen Hinlicky, Becky Walls, Chris Price, Lenae Osmundson, and all our synod staff have been adapting to an expanding \$2 1/2 million campaign: recruiting new leaders, seeking to add staff, sending out one letter after another, seeking to get 100% involvement from rostered leaders and now congre-

gations, moving to a congregational phase even while completing the lead gift phase with its conference gatherings and personal contacts, keeping up with a growing list of pledges, and gifts coming in new payment sources. But our staff and area coordinators and volunteers remain joy filled, patient with each other, professional and considerate with all calls that come in, and very intentional in the work we do for the sake of the synod's life. At last year's assembly we reported a campaign total of \$1,532,000. Now in April 2017 we have a campaign total of \$2,040,107.85!

Last year I wrote:

'As a result of a Feasibility Study conducted in the fall of 2014, the Synod Council voted in September 2015 to launch a campaign to establish an endowment that will ensure the synod's ongoing youth and faith formation ministry for generations to come, and to strengthen churchwide youth ministry in the ELCA. The goal is to raise \$2 million for the synodical ministry and \$500,000 for the ELCA's *Always Being Made New Campaign*. The Rev. Mike Ward, a partner of GSB Consulting, conducted the Feasibility Study and is the consultant to the Virginia Synod's ForwardingFaith campaign. The Synod Council authorized up to \$294,000 of the Synod's reserves to be used to raise a minimum of \$2.5 million. As of April 2016, \$520,000 has already been raised, primarily from Synod Council members (100% of whom are participating in the campaign), Synod staff, rostered leaders (99% of active pastors and deacons) and Lead Gift donors.'

#### SYNOD OFFICERS:

Mr. Charles Downs has been serving as our vice President of the Virginia Synod for the past two years. This past year has been an even more difficult year with the bishop transition happening. It calls upon the Vice-President to be even more involved with planning, with transition, with planning of budgets, and with an heightened awareness of what is happening in the Synod. Charles is a very proactive vice-president. He also is a very active and successful attorney, a faithful lay leader of Christ Lutheran in Roanoke, and serves as the chair of the Board of Trustees for Virginia Lutheran Homes. He has traveled to Chicago to meet with other ELCA Vice-Presidents, he is well known among the people of our Synod, he attends and is a small group leader at our city youth events, has already served six years as a member of the Synod Council, and now chairs our Synod Council meetings with great skill. Add a sense of humor and a lawyers ability to get to the issue quickly, and you have a good understanding of what a gift we have in our Vice-President, Charles Downs!

Blythe Scott, our Synod Secretary, has had quite a year! She has not only given oversight to the minutes of our Synod Council, but she has also been the chair of our transition team. This has meant many extra phone calls and meetings. We are grateful for her upbeat spirit, her willingness to get engaged in the full life of the Synod, and the skills she brings to the business of the Synod.

Mr. Evan Davis, our Synod Treasurer, is an accountant in Harrisonburg and provides an excellent set of skills as our Treasurer. He has helped us to sharpen our accounting procedures, and he has helped to make the reporting of our finances much more transparent. He serves us in a time when we are dealing not only with our normal budgetary business, but also dealing with a 2 1/2 million dollar campaign with all its new income streams for receiving of funds. We are also receiving funds for our malaria initiative for children in the islands district of Papa New Guinea. Evan has also enabled us to move from having many designated accounts to us now having a more simple budgetary process. This will become evident in the budgets and their narratives that you will see in the treasurer's report. As a former excellent pastor himself, he understands the life of the parish and the life of the Synod. It is wonderful to have a treasurer who desires our offerings to be used for mission and outreach.

How grateful I am to be advised and accompanied by such a talented set of officers. I hope you will express your appreciation to them.

#### **SYNOD COUNCIL:**

We have had an active Synod Council that likes to engage in lively discussion, asking good questions, creating and serving on task forces, encouraging strong partnership with the whole ELCA, seeking transparency in our reporting, and wanting the very best for the life of our synod! Ms. Dana Cornett, an attorney in Harrisonburg, and a member of Muhlenberg, has served on the Synod Council for six years and three years on the executive committee of the Synod Council. She has been a wise adviser, an advocate for strong partnership with the whole church, and she has helped us time and again in matters of church property with county government, the closure of congregations, and being a gracious resource for lay leaders in their congregations. Pastor Kelly Derrick, Pastor Chris Carr, and Pastor Meredith Williams complete a three-year term and are willing to serve another term if elected. Pastor Paul Pingel was appointed to serve a year on the Synod Council and is willing to continue service if elected. We are very grateful for the talents and the time and faithfulness that these four pastors have rendered to us in these past years.

#### **OFFICE OF THE BISHOP:**

The Office of the Bishop works as one unified team with a vision to be ambassadors of Christ for all whom we serve.

The Rev. Dr. David Delaney (full-time) is well known among so many in our Virginia Synod! He provides the oversight for the youth events and the planning groups, but he also encourages all youth and adults to see themselves as Ambassadors for Christ. He is a well known youth leader across our whole ELCA. Being a doctor of early church patristics, he a teacher at heart. He is well engaged with the campus ministry at Roanoke College. David serves on the boards of the two camps. This past year he taught workshops at Power in the Spirit, he led the Spring Course of ACTS in an introduction to the Old Testament, and he even teaches Hebrew to several students through the year. As an Asst. to the Bishop, he steps in wherever he is needed. He has been a wonderful colleague in service to this synod for the past sixteen years.

The Rev. Chris Price (3/4 time) serves as the Asst. to the Bishop in the East, staffing our Candidacy Committee, and the First Call program of our synod. He visits congregations and rostered leaders in the eastern part of the synod, creatively seeking to help support, strengthen, and even begin new ministries alongside lay and rostered leaders. He fosters conversations within conferences and groups of congregations about planning for the future. As a gifted parish pastor for over thirty years, Chris knows the life of the parish, brings a caring heart that listens very well, and has the treasured ability to speak truth in love. In our ForwardingFaithCampaign he has taken charge of the Lead Gifts Component which has resulted in over \$1.6 million. He is a wise and trusted advisor to me. Chris has served on the board of trustees of Roanoke College for 25 years.

Diaconal Minister Mindy Reynolds (1/2 time) loves our Ministerium and our congregations. She works with our MinisteriumTeam and its Gathering in Virginia Beach in October. She has taken the leadership of our Healthy Congregations Program and provides tremendous support and resourcing for its proactive help for congregations and leaders. We gave her the difficult assignment of overseeing our Synod's boundary training, and enlisting the participation of all the members of our Ministerium. She does all things thoroughly and well. She does all things professionally and kindly.

**Dr. Phyllis Milton** (contract for service 20 hours) is a ball of energy with a particular passion for Christian Formation. Along with the ACTS Team, she has strengthened the ACTS program with larger classes, new ideas for alumni, and intentional planning for this community of Ambassadors for Christ. The planning team for Roots & Wings and she continue to provide excellent resources to help parents and grandparents share their faith with their children. A new retreat for those who work in family ministries has been created called Renew and Retreat. She has been a most talented colleague!

**Ms. Ellen Hinlicky**, (40% time) the Director for the ForwardingFaith is a very proactive thinker and energetic leader who is so well suited for this work. She brings development work from several former positions and she absolutely loves the church in its efforts to be the face of Christ to others. She has become the face for the campaign being in contact with so many pastors and lay leaders across the Commonwealth. She maintains a can-do spirit about this campaign, and we are fortunate to have her confidence and experience to complete this campaign successfully.

**Ellen Hinlicky** (60% time) and **Cary Mangus** (hourly) are our dynamic duo of Stewardship for this synod! They are excellent resources for year round stewardship, stewardship programs, the creation of endowments and policies. Cary maintains Town Hall meetings around Stewardship in conferences west of the first line of mountains.

**Ms. Becky Walls** (full-time) serves as our Synod Office Manager. Becky is gifted in computers, finances, clerical work, people skills, and deep faith. She has brought extensive training to the support staff, changed phone systems, and has created a solid base for operations. She is now the foundation for all of the finances within the ForwardingFaith campaign. Becky has been the spark that helped us to move to the quick reconciliation each month of our finances and the sense of teamwork that we have in our office.

**Ms. Debbie Worley** brings the memory to our work in the synod office having now served 20 years in the Synod office. She provides support for the Candidacy Committee and will quickly complete whatever task is laid before her. She is most gracious in responding to the needs of those who call and to the synod staff who ask for one thing after another. When she began with us computers were just beginning to be used, and Debbie was given the task of website and helping us stay up-to-date with our computers.

**Ms. Lenae Osmondson** is the face of the synod office especially for the Tidewater and Peninsula Conferences. Lenae is most personable and wonderful with details. She takes initiative quickly and well. I am very grateful to Pastor Rick Goeres and First Lutheran in Norfolk for offering their former library as the Eastern Office of the Bishop. She works well with Pastor Price in the work of the Richmond, Peninsula, and Tidewater conferences. Her handiwork is seen in the work of the Synod Council meetings, the scheduling of conference gatherings, the work of Roots and Wings, ACTS, the synod assembly, the work of the deans, healthy congregations, boundary training,, and the Gathering of the Ministerium and First Call.

Our Financial consultant is **Mr. Richard Hoffman**. He comes from a strong financial background from GE. In partnership with our treasurer, Evan Davis, with Becky Walls, and Skip Zubrod, we now have a much more transparent financial record keeping and reporting system. We are reconciled in our finances the first day of each month. Our 2017 audit was completed March 16, 2017 with a clean audit!

Ms. Tammy Kasper brings a quick mind, skill in computers, entering the registrations for our events, helping with bookkeeping, even putting work sites together from time to time. She, too, is a very bright and upbeat person who will gladly take on whatever task is given to her.

Mr. Skip Zubrod now serves as our non-stipendiary Financial Consultant. You will find him here Monday through Friday for several hours each day. This former Vice President for finances at Roanoke College and CEO of Virginia Lutheran Homes offers help in our finances, bank reconciliations, constitutional matters, and advising this bishop who has learned so much wisdom from him.

After serving this synod for over thirty years of totally donated legal work and counsel, our Synod Attorney, Mr. Mark Reed, completed his absolutely reMARKable career of service December 31, 2016. Mark, in these very same years, also served this synod as Secretary for 8 years and then as Vice-President of the synod for 8 more years! Mark also has served as the Chair of Reference and Council several times in the past. He is serving as the Parliamentarian for this assembly. He is serving on the Transition Team as the representative from the Page Conference.

The synod is now being given excellent Legal Counsel through his wife, Nancy Reed, and his son, David Reed!

We are blessed with the work of The Rev. William Stewart (Hourly). We receive a wide variety of Mobility Papers and we need a careful reader and evaluator of these introductions to pastors across the country who have an expressed interest in the Virginia Synod. He has many years of experience in this as an Assistant to the Bishop in the old Central Penn Synod of the LCA, as well as a Dean and mission developer in the Virginia Synod. All of this experience makes him a good assessor and interviewer. This work takes many hours of reading, being on the phone, interviewing. Through his work we have identified some excellent pastors who now serve among us in this synod.

More personally,

It has been such a holy privilege to serve as bishop among you these 18 years. I have sought to honor, respect, and love you in the light of the gospel, but I have seen the light of the gospel in the wonderful ways you have lived the faith. I have loved getting to know the youth of our synod for 29 years at our synod events. I have learned so much from the Ministerium, the Synod Council, and the CEOs of our institutions. I have had the good fortune of having working relationships and friendships with our synodical officers through every year. I have loved driving to every congregation of the Synod, and I have loved the spectacular scenery of this wonderful Commonwealth! One of the greatest joys has been to discover how extensive, complex high quality ministry provided by all of our institutions and the gifted leadership of our Presidents and CEO's.

Lynda and I give thanks for all of the opportunities that we have had serving together in this call as Bishop. We truly see the best of the church just about all the time. And in that view, we have a great hope about what the Holy Spirit is doing among us. I do give great thanks to God for such a loving and encouraging partner in ministry. She is a wonderful wife, grandmother, and mother who now spends much of her time in Charlotte, NC, helping a new family of faith to grow. I remain a very blessed husband who has been returned again and again to a more vibrant faith by observing the conduct and faith of my dear, patient spouse.

Wherever we are, we are always ambassadors for Christ. May my life tell everybody about Jesus wherever I go. In all that we do together, may it all be done for the glory of God.

Thank you for these years together.  
Bishop James F. Mauney

Bishop gave his report. His Support Staff and Assistants were introduced at the evening banquet. They are:

Becky Walls  
 Debbie Worley  
 Lenae Osmondson  
 Tammy Kasper  
 Richard Hoffman  
 Lisa Allagas  
 Ellen Hinlicky  
 Emily Pilat  
 Deacon Mindy Reynolds  
 Rev. Phyllis Milton  
 Rev. Dave Delaney  
 Rev. Chris Price  
 Skip Zubrod

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REPORT OF OFFICERS

Charles called on Debbie Mitens for the Report of Committee on Report of Officers. Reports were adopted.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REPORTS OF OFFICERS

**Approximately 4:40PM -**

**Friday**

The Reports of the Officers are before you. On behalf of the Synod Council, I acknowledge the receipt of the reports and offer thanks to those who have presented for their faithful leadership.

I move that the reports be acknowledged as received and that two copies of the printed minutes of the Twenty Eighth Annual Assembly of the Virginia Synod as certified by the bishop and secretary be placed into the archives of synod.

#### **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service Presentation**

Bishop Mauney called on Christine Gedim, Assistant Director for Foster Care at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) for a presentation.

### **Introductions and Recognitions**

Bishop Mauney called all rostered leaders new to the Synod to come on stage. They introduced themselves during session #3:

#### *By Ordination*

The Rev. Angela Dunn – Rader, St Paul Timberville. VA

The Rev. Nate Huffman – Associate St Michael, Virginia Beach

The Rev. Alex Zuber - Stony Man Parish Luray, VA Saturday

#### *By Transfer*

The Rev. Colleen Montgomery – Holy Trinity, Wytheville from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod

The Rev. Tina Melusky – Trinity, Newport News from the Lower Susquehanna Synod

The Rev. Wanda Child - Our Savior, Christiansburg from the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod

Deacon Florence Jowers - Retired Minister of Word and Service from the North Carolina Synod

The Rev. Heidi Moore - Resurrection, Fredericksburg from the Metro-DC Synod.

The Rev. Dennis Anderson - Retired from the Oregon Synod

The Rev. Donna Ruggles-Retired from the NorthEastern Iowa Synod.

Deacon John Douglas Price - Retired from the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

Interns and Sr. Seminarians serving in VA Synod

#### *Interns*

Felicia Swartz

#### *Sr. Seminarians*

Marty Wagner

Alex Zuber

### **RECOGNITION OF CONGREGATIONAL ANNIVERSARIES**

during session #3

(50 year increments)

Good Shepherd	Front Royal, VA	75
Corinth	Rural Retreat, VA	125
New Mt. Olive	Fairfield, VA	175
St. James	Mt. Jackson, VA	175
St. Peter	Toms Brook, VA	175
St. Stephen	Strasburg, VA	175
Sharon	Ceres, VA	200



Hebron

Madison, VA

300

**Announcements**

Charles Downs called on Skip Zubrod for announcements.

**Evening Prayer**

Bishop Mauney called on The Rev. David Delaney to introduce the Youth Assembly and have evening prayer.

**SECOND MEETING**

Friday, June 9, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Banquet and evening honoring The Reverend Doctor James F. Mauney and staff.

**THIRD MEETING**

Saturday, June 10, 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

**Morning Worship**

Gathering hymns. Bishop Mark Bourlakas served as the preacher for morning worship. Deacon Mindy Reynolds lead the worship.

**Report of the Committee on Minutes**

Bishop Mauney called on Debbie Mintiens for the report.

Motion to adopt the Report of the Committee on Minutes was seconded and approved.

**Report of the Committee on Conduct of Elections****Election of the Bishop - 2nd Ballot**

Bishop Mauney called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director - ELCA Division of Global Missions and Elizabeth Smythe, Chair of the Election Committee. Pastor Malpica-Padilla brought attention to the biographical information in the Bulletin of Reports and in the Guidebook App.

"Three-fourths of the votes cast on the second ballot shall be necessary for election." (ELCA 19.01.02)

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Chaplain Carl Trost for prayer before voting. The election process was conducted.

Charles Downs directed prayer before voting.

There will be 3 separate ballots.

The first for Synod Council electing: 1 Male Minister of Word and Sacrament for the Class of 2018, BY ACCLAMATION, 1 Lay Female, BY ACCLAMATION and for the Class of 2020, BY ELECTION, 3 Ministers of Word and Sacrament (1 Male, 1 Female and 1 Open).

The second ballot is to elect 6 members for the Consultation Committee:  
3 Lay and 3 Ministers of Word and Sacrament for a 6-yr. term.

The third ballot is for electing 6 members to the Committee on Discipline:  
Two members (1 Lay and 1 Ministers of Word and Sacrament) for the Class of 2019, 2021, and 2023.

Charles Downs called on Chaplain Carl Trost for prayer before voting.

Charles Downs called on **Jennifer, representative for Turning Technologies**, for an explanation of how to use the voting machines.

Results:

Synod Council (5 to be elected)

1 Lay Female

4 Ministers of Word and Sacrament (1 Male, class of 2018) and (1 male, 1 female, one either Class of 2020)

Lay

- Judy Castele – by acclamation

Word and Sacrament, class of 2018 (1 yr. term)

- Rev. Paul Pingel – by acclamation

Class of 2020 (3 yr. term) Elected with # votes:

- Rev. Chris Carr – 222 votes

- Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick – 211 votes

- Rev. Meredith Williams – 225 votes

Consultation Committee (8 to be elected) - six-year term

4 Lay Male or Female

#### 4 Ministers of Word and Sacrament male or female

##### Lay

- Leroy Hamlett – by acclamation
- Linda Meyer - by acclamation
- Charles Poston - by acclamation
- Dana Cornett - by acclamation

##### Ministers of Word & Sacrament

- Rev. Andrew Bansemer - by acclamation
- Rev. Lauren Miller - by acclamation
- Rev. Chris Price - by acclamation
- Rev. Martha Sims - by acclamation

All elected by acclamation

Committee on Discipline. 12 to be elected – (2-year, 4-year, and 6-year terms without consecutive re-election).

##### Class of 2019

- Anita Poston – by acclamation
- Paul White - by acclamation
- Rev. Stephen Bohannon - by acclamation
- Rev. Terri Sternberg - by acclamation

##### Class of 2021

- Connie Fauber - by acclamation
- Louis Rossiter - by acclamation
- Rev. Derek Boggs - by acclamation
- Rev. Cynthia Keyser - by acclamation

##### Class of 2023

- Jennifer Bradshaw - by acclamation
- Rev. William Boldin - by acclamation
- Rev. Kenneth M. Ruppar - by acclamation
- Rev. Sandra Wisco - by acclamation

All elected by acclamation

#### **Announcements**

Skip Zubrod gave announcements for the break.

## **Results of the 2nd Ballot for Bishop**

Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Elizabeth Smythe to announce the results of the 2nd Ballot for Bishop:

Votes Cast - 388

Invalid Votes – 0

Legal Votes Cast – 388

Votes Needed for Election - 291

Seven (7) finalist with number of votes:

1 – John Wertz Jr. - 86

2 – Richard Goeres, Sr. - 70

3 – Kelly Bayer Derrick - 70

4 – Bob Humphrey - 31

5 – John Largen - 31

6 - Cathy Mims - 30

7 – David Drebes – 16

Incomplete

The top 7 were announced to be listed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ballot

## **Recommendation from Synod Council**

Charles Downs called on for Recommendation #2 found in the Bulletin of Reports or in the Guidebook App. (Rostered Leader 2018 Compensation Guidelines)

**- Approved**

## **REPORT OF THE SYNOD COUNCIL**

### **Meetings and Areas of Responsibility**

**Meetings** – A special meeting of the Council was held on June 11, 2016, following the Synod Assembly. Regular meetings of the Synod Council were held; September 15-17, 2016; February 3-4, 2017; March 24-25, 2017; and June 8, 2017.

**Areas of Responsibilities** – The Synod Council is served by five Standing Committees as follows: Executive Committee, Consultation Committee, Committee on Discipline, Finance and Budget Committee and Mutual Ministry Committee. Also, reporting to the Council is the Candidacy Committee and the Tapestry Team

The President of the Virginia Synodical Women's Organization, Women of the ELCA, the President of the Virginia Lutheran Men in Mission, and those who chair the Candidacy Committee and the Ministerium Team serve as advisory members of Council.

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY

**The 2017 Assembly** – Arrangements were made by the Council for the Assembly to be held on the campus of Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia, on June 9-11, 2017. The theme of the Assembly will be: *“Ambassadors for Christ: Forwarding Faith.”*

The Synod Council designated the 2017 Assembly offerings to be split in half between the New Guinea Islands District (PNG) mosquito nets and to support our ForwardingFaith Campaign.

## ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Ratification of Appointment of Deans - The Council ratified the following persons as deans of the conferences noted below:

Tidewater	The Rev. Cathy Mims
Peninsula	The Rev. Joel Neubauer
Germannia	The Rev. Sandy
Wisco Northern Valley	The Rev. Robert Jones
Central Valley	The Rev.
James Baseler Page	The Rev. Nick Eich- elberger
Southern	The Rev. Ken Lane
New River	The Rev. Bill King
Highlands	The Rev. Jonathan Hamman
Richmond	The Rev. Lou Flo-
rio Southern Valley	The Rev. Robert
McCarty	

2. Roanoke College-ratified the appointments of the following Board Members: Mr. Michael McCartin, Mrs. Ann McCartin, Mr. Michael A. Martino, and Mr. Thomas A. Stevens.
3. Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center – ratified the appointments of the following Board Member: The Rev. Grady (Buddy) Beaver.
4. Lutheran Family Services of Virginia – ratified the appointments of the following Board Members: The Rev. Lou Florio, Mr. Robert Burger, and Ms. Lisa Alderman.

5. Virginia Lutheran Homes-ratified the appointments of the following Board Members: Ms. Nancy K. Overstreet and Marie L. Malinchak.
7. The Rev. Jonathan Boynton to serve as the Chair of the Youth Ministry Committee.
8. The Rev. Paul Pingel will fill the vacant position on the synod council.
9. Ms. Chi Chi Ugochukwu will serve as the young adult representative.
10. Ms. Karen Griffith to serve as churchwide assembly delegate.

## ITEMS FROM SYNOD COUNCIL COMMITTEES

1. Formation of the Election Team for the 2017 bishop election with the following mandate to guide the process of 2017 bishop's election in the Virginia Synod.
2. In response to the resolution passed at the 2016 assembly Synod Council addressed and assigned members to write prayers that were distributed and posted on the synod website.
3. Updated the synod's constitution, bylaws and continuing resolutions based from the changes made at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.
4. Sold the church property of Furnace Hill.
5. Worked together with the transition team to offer fall conference gatherings to each conference of the synod to provide educational opportunities concerning the election process and the ministry of a synodical bishop.
6. Received and approved the request from the following congregations, St. Peter, Toms Brook; St. Stephen, Strasburg; and St. Matthew, Toms Brook to officially become the North Mountain Lutheran Parish.
7. Approved adding an office position of Financial Consultant, Non-Stipendiary.
8. Updated the recommended maternity and paternity family leave which will be reflected in the 2018 rostered minister support guidelines.



## ACCESSIONS

### By Ordination / Commissioning / Consecration:

- Nathan Huffman was ordained at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church in Roanoke, Virginia on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and has accepted the call to serve as Associate Pastor at St. Michael Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach beginning June 1, 2016.
- Timothy Crummitt was ordained at First English Lutheran Church in West Virginia, West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod, on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and has accepted a call as Pastor to serve St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hampton beginning July 1, 2016.
- Angela Dunn was ordained at Rader's Lutheran Church in Timberville, Virginia on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and has accepted a call as Pastor to serve Timberville Parish (St. Paul's and Rader in Timberville) beginning January 19, 2017.

### By Transfer:

- The Rev. Derek Boggs transferred from the North Carolina Synod.
- Ms. Florence Jowers, Deacon, transferred from North Carolina Synod.
- The Rev. Colleen Montgomery transferred from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod.
- The Rev. Tina Melusky transferred from the Lower Susquehanna Synod.
- The Rev. Wanda Childs transferred from the West Virginia Synod.
- The Rev. Heidi Moore transferred from the Metro-DC Synod.
- The Rev. Donna Ruggles transferred from the Northeastern Iowa Synod.
- Mr. John Douglas Price, Deacon, transferred from the Lower Susquehanna Synod

### Dismissals to other Synods:

- The Rev. CeCee Mills transferred to the North Carolina Synod.
- Ms. Shanna VanderWel, Deacon, transferred to the Rocky Mountain Synod.
- The Rev. Judy Tavela transferred to the North Carolina Synod.
- The Rev. Joanna Stallings transferred to the North Carolina Synod.
- The Rev. Marilu Thomas transferred to the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.
- The Rev. Judy Cobb transferred to the Delaware-Maryland Synod.
- The Rev. Jon Myers transferred to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.
- Sister Jennie Myers transferred to the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod.

### Resigned from a congregational call:

- The Rev. Evan Davis resigned from Trinity, Keezletown and St. Jacob's, Mt. Crawford.
- The Rev. JoAnn Bunn resigned from Redeemer, McKinley and Mt. Tabor, Mt. Tabor.
- The Rev. Judy Tavela resigned from St. Timothy, Vinton.
- The Rev. Jon Myers and Sister Jennie Myers resigned from Bedford, Bedford.
- The Rev. Joanna Stallings resigned from Luther Memorial, Blacksburg.
- The Rev. Lance Braun resigned from The Legacy of the National Communities and Services of Virginia.

### Retirements:

- The Rev. Judy Tavela retired from St. Timothy, Vinton on November 3, 2016.
- The Rev. George Sims retired from the Director of Philanthropy at National Lutheran Communities and Services on February 1, 2017.
- The Rev. Daniel Jungkuntz retired from the Peninsula Pastoral Services on
- The Rev. Lance Braun retired on March 1, 2017.
- The Rev. Eric Moehring retired from Christ, Richmond on May 1, 2017.

### Acceptances:

- The Rev. Derek Boggs has accepted a call to Salem, Mt. Sidney.
- The Rev. JoAnn Bunn has accepted a call to Gladesboro, Gladesboro.
- The Rev. Timothy Crummitt has accepted a call to St. Paul's, Hampton.
- The Rev. Nate Huffman has accepted a call to St. Michael, Virginia Beach.
- The Rev. Tina Melusky has accepted a call to Trinity, Newport News.
- The Rev. Colleen Montgomery has accepted a call to Holy Trinity, Wytheville.
- The Rev. Heidi Moore has accepted a call to Resurrection, Fredericksburg.
- The Rev. Wanda Childs has accepted a call to Our Saviour, Christiansburg.

### Deaths:

- |                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| • The Rev. Philip Carr              | 09/17/2016 |
| • The Rev. C. Jackson (Jack) Martin | 11/16/2016 |
| • The Rev. Arthur S. Hanson         | 02/09/2017 |



## F. FINANCES

1. **Regular Review of the Financial Program** – Since the Ministry Spending Plan reflects the program of the synod for mission and ministry and sets certain priorities, the Synod Council, especially through the counsel of its Finance and Budget Committee and the Treasurer of Synod, regularly reviewed the current financial position of synod, and made adjustments as seemed warranted.
2. **Audits** – The Synod Council made arrangements with the Roanoke firm of Kennett and Kennett, Certified Public Accountants, to secure an audit of the treasurer's books. The audit was completed on March 16, 2017.
3. **Investments** – The Synod Council's Finance and Budget Committee regularly reviews synodical funds available for investment. Investments are made in accordance with the Investment Policy adopted by the Synod Council at its March 2015 meeting.
4. **Spending Program for 2018** – The proposed 2018 ministry spending plan is based on anticipated income from congregations and supports the mission and ministry of the synod and churchwide organization. The spending plan will be reviewed by the Synod Council after the level of congregational support is more accurately determined by receipt of Statements of Intent for the year of 2018. Details of the 2018 spending are found on the following page.

### Synod Council Recommendations

#### Recommendation Number 1

To approve the Order for Business as the agenda of the 2017 Assembly of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

#### Recommendation Number 2

That the 2018 minimum compensation base be increased by 1% over the 2017 level. This recommendation is being made after considering that the base level was held constant from 2016 to 2017. While the Synod Council realizes medical insurance costs continue to be significant, it also recognizes the importance of reasonable increases in support for our rostered ministers. In addition, all rostered ministers continuing to serve in the Virginia Synod would receive a 1.75% step increase in base salary.

The minimum base salary for a pastor serving in the Virginia Synod would be set at \$42,149 for pastors with a parsonage and \$53,154 for pastors with housing allowance; and the minimum salary of a rostered layperson serving in the Virginia

Synod would be set \$40,151 for a person with a Bachelor's Degree and \$42,906 for a person with a Master's Degree.

The Synod encourages all congregations to meet or exceed these minimum compensation recommendations.

**Recommendation Number 3**

That the foregoing Certificate of Audit of the accounts of the Treasurer of the Synod for the Fiscal Year ending January 31, 2017 be approved.

**Recommendation Number 4**

That the 2018 Ministry Spending Plan be given general approval.

Charles Downs calls on Recommendation #3 found in the Bulletin of Reports or in the Guidebook App (Certification of Audit)

**-Approved**

**Auditors Report  
from Kennett & Kennett**

VIRGINIA SYNOD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SALEM, VIRGINIA

OFFICERS AND SYNOD STAFF

Bishop  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Financial Advisor (Part Time)  
Director for Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
Coordinator for Healthy Leaders (Part Time)

The Rev. James F. Mauney  
Charles Downs  
Blythe Scott  
Evan Davis  
Richard Hoffman  
The Rev. David K. Delaney  
Mindy Reynolds

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditor's Report

Exhibit A – Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets-Modified Cash Basis January 31, 2017

Exhibit B – Statement of Support, Revenue, and Expenses-Modified Cash Basis for the  
Year Ended January 31, 2017

Exhibit C – Statement of Cash Flows-Modified Cash Basis for the Year Ended January 31, 2017

Notes to Financial Statements

Supplemental Information:

Independent Auditor's Report on Supplementary Information

Exhibit B-1 – Unrestricted Funds – Statement of Support, Revenue, and Expenses-Modified Cash Basis –  
For the Year Ended January 31, 2017

Schedule A-1 – Schedule of Designated-Temporarily Restricted Operating Funds For the Year Ended  
January 31, 2017

Schedule A-2 – Schedule of Changes in Notes  
Receivable – Churches For the Year Ended January 31, 2017

Schedule A-3 – Schedule of Investments at December 31, 2016

JANUARY 31, 2017

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Synod Council of Virginia Synod,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Salem, VA

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (a nonprofit organization) which comprise the statement of assets, liabilities, and net assets-modified cash basis as of January 31, 2017, and the related statements of support, revenue, and expenses-modified cash basis and the statement of cash flows-modified cash basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets of Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of January 31, 2017, and its support, revenue, expenses and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

***Basis of Accounting***

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

***Other Matter***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental information (see table of contents) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

***Report on Summarized Comparative Information***

We have previously audited the Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's financial statements for the year ended January 31, 2016 and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated May 12, 2016. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended January 31, 2017, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

March 16, 2017

*Kennett & Kennett PC*  
Certified Public Accountants  
Roanoke, Virginia

Exhibit AVIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICASTATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASISAS OF JANUARY 31, 2017

Current Assets:			
Cash - checking	\$	653,493.33	
Certificate of deposit Wells Fargo		50,902.25	
Certificates of deposit (4) - Mission Investment Fund		94,665.80	
Certificate of deposit First State Bank		<u>10,000.00</u>	\$ 809,061.38
Fixed Assets:			
Furniture and equipment		72,873.89	
Automobiles		99,287.97	
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(114,830.87)</u>	57,330.99
Investments - At Market Value:			
Wells Fargo Advisors		26,775.26	
ELCA Pooled Endowment Accounts		1,435,410.09	
Thrivent Deferred Annuity		71,975.19	
Thrivent Investment Account		<u>1,053,761.16</u>	2,587,921.70
Other Assets:			
Church Development Loans			<u>30,392.00</u>
Total Assets			<u>\$ 3,484,706.07</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>			
Current Liabilities:			
Payroll taxes and withholdings	\$		525.00
Long-Term Liabilities:			
			<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities			525.00
Net Assets:			
Unrestricted	\$	1,834,015.23	
Designated		<u>1,650,165.84</u>	<u>3,484,181.07</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets			<u>\$ 3,484,706.07</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Exhibit B

VIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES-MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2017

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total Year Ended 1/31/2017</u>	<u>Total Year Ended 1/31/2016</u>
<b>Support and Revenue:</b>				
Income from congregations (benevolence remittances)	\$ 1,749,593.82	\$ -	\$ 1,749,593.82	\$ 1,584,726.45
Non-cash contribution income	15,823.81		15,823.81	-
Investment income	97,487.88		97,487.88	78,863.50
Realized/Unrealized gain (loss) on Investments	64,654.81		64,654.81	(121,792.37)
Other income	169,263.36		169,263.36	205,394.26
Special benevolences and other designated receipts (Schedule A-1)	-	935,612.86	935,612.86	522,361.45
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>2,096,823.68</b>	<b>935,612.86</b>	<b>3,032,436.54</b>	<b>2,269,553.29</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, apportionment	646,133.05		646,133.05	575,346.92
Virginia Synod Causes:				
Office of Bishop	568,013.80		568,013.80	609,940.79
Programming and communications	75,303.48		75,303.48	128,809.70
Educational institutions and agencies	117,080.00		117,080.00	115,525.00
Campus ministry	82,661.96		82,661.96	88,154.87
Social ministry organization and agencies	35,365.92		35,365.92	30,942.58
Outdoor ministries	27,705.00		27,705.00	25,396.25
Synodical council activities	36,332.11		36,332.11	78,442.48
Synod assembly	(15,396.37)		(15,396.37)	(9,061.93)
Regional Center for Missions	8,436.00		8,436.00	8,436.00
Synod Office	425,469.41		425,469.41	445,796.91
Contingencies and Other	4,308.15		4,308.15	-
Depreciation & Loss on Disposition of Old Assets	22,211.66		22,211.66	24,808.21
Remittances of special benevolences and other designated receipts expenses	-	816,665.04	816,665.04	452,213.89
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,033,624.17</b>	<b>816,665.04</b>	<b>2,850,289.21</b>	<b>2,574,751.67</b>
Excess of support and revenue over expenses (deficit)	63,199.51	118,947.82	182,147.33	(305,198.38)
Net Assets January 31, 2016	1,770,815.72	1,531,218.02	3,302,033.74	3,607,232.12
<b>Net Assets January 31, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 1,834,015.23</b>	<b>\$ 1,650,165.84</b>	<b>\$ 3,484,181.07</b>	<b>\$ 3,302,033.74</b>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



Exhibit CVIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICASTATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS-MODIFIED CASH BASISFOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2017

## Cash Flows From Operating Activities:

Excess of support and revenue over expenses (deficiency)	\$ 182,147.33
Non Cash (income) expenses included in excess of support and revenue over expenses (deficiency):	
Depreciation and loss on disposition of equipment	22,211.66
Realized (Gain) Loss on Sale of Investments	3,152.09
Unrealized (Gain) Loss on Investments	(66,403.92)
(Increase) Decrease in:	
Church development loans	6,974.00
Increase (Decrease) in:	
Payroll taxes and withholdings	(2,696.10)
Net cash provided by (used in) operations	145,385.06

## Cash Flows From Investing Activities:

Purchase of auto and equipment	(37,734.67)
Proceeds from sale of assets	-
Proceeds from sale of investments	368,379.52
Purchase of investments	(317,318.16)
Net cash provided by (used in) Investing Activities	13,326.69

## Cash Flows From Financing Activities:

Proceeds from new borrowings	-
Principal payments on notes payable	-
Net cash provided by (used in) Financing Activities	-

Increase (decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	158,711.75
--	------------

Cash and Cash Equivalents 1/31/16	650,349.63
-----------------------------------	------------

Cash and Cash Equivalents 1/31/17	\$ 809,061.38
-----------------------------------	---------------

## Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flows Information:

Cash payments for:	
Interest	\$ -
Income Taxes	\$ -

Cash and Cash Equivalents consists of cash, money market accounts and certificates of deposits included in Current Assets. Money market accounts and certificates of deposits included in investments are not considered cash for this cash flow statement.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTE 1 – NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

#### Nature of Activities

Virginia SYNOD, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is the headquarters for a grouping of over 150 Lutheran Congregations of the ELCA (The Virginia District). The Virginia SYNOD has oversight for the collection of remittances from the Virginia district members and the administration of the ELCA's programs and services for the district.

#### Basis of Accounting:

The financial statements are presented on a modified cash basis of accounting. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized in the year in which they are received and disbursements are recognized in the year in which they are paid. Fixed assets and equipment are capitalized and depreciated under the straight line method. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Fund Accounting

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the Synod, the accounts of the Synod are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. This is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purposes. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund; however, in the accompanying financial statements, funds that have similar characteristics have been combined into fund groups. Accordingly, all financial transactions have been recorded and reported by fund group.

The assets, liabilities, and fund balances of the Synod are reported in three self-balancing groups as follows:

- (1) Operating funds, which include unrestricted and restricted net assets, represent the portion of expendable funds that is available for support of Synod operations.
- (2) Plant funds represent resources temporarily restricted for plant acquisitions and funds expended for plant.
- (3) Permanently restricted net assets represent funds that are subject to restrictions of gift instruments requiring in perpetuity that the principal be invested and the income only be used, or funds that have been restricted by actions of the Synod Council or Synod Assembly requiring that the principal not be expended for varying terms of years

As of February 1, 2015, the SYNOD Council has elected to reclassify the plant fund and permanently restricted funds to operating funds to simplify the accounting and presentation of financial information. The funds were not donor restricted but restricted by the SYNOD Council.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash, money market accounts and certificates of deposit included in the Current Asset section of the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets – modified cash basis. Any money market accounts and certificate of deposits included in the Investment section of the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets – modified cash basis have been set aside by The Virginia SYNOD as Investments and are not considered Cash and Cash Equivalents for these financial statements.

NOTE 1 – NATURE OF ACTIVITIES AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES  
(CONCLUDED):

Date of Management's Review

Management has evaluated subsequent events through March 16, 2017, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF PLANT ASSETS IS AS FOLLOWS:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net</u>
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 72,873.89	\$ 62,189.95	\$ 10,683.94
Automobiles	<u>99,287.97</u>	<u>52,640.92</u>	<u>46,647.05</u>
Total	<u>\$ 172,161.86</u>	<u>\$ 114,830.87</u>	<u>\$ 57,330.99</u>

Depreciation expense for the year amounted to \$19,496.02. Additional expense of \$2,715.64 was charged under this category for obsolete equipment which was donated or scraped or sold.

NOTE 3 – LEASE COMMITMENTS:

The Synod has leased Bittle Hall from Roanoke College for use as its headquarters for a period of five years from July 1, 2003. Starting July 1, 2008 the lease renews annually. The monthly rental is \$2,423.25, which is adjusted for inflation at the end of each year of the lease. The Synod also has leased office space in Norfolk, Va. The monthly rental is \$500.00 per month. The Synod also has leased office space in Waynesboro, Va. The monthly rental is \$270.00 per month.

The Synod has leased a color copier/printer, postage meter and folder.

Lease commitments at January 31, 2017 consisted of the following for these items:

Payable in first succeeding year	\$62,571.84
Payable in second succeeding year	23,493.99
Payable in third succeeding year	3,596.24
Payable in fourth succeeding year	-0-
Payable in fifth succeeding year	-0-

NOTE 4 – PENSIONS:

The Synod contributes 12% of each employee's wages to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's National Pension Plan in each employee's behalf. The account is maintained in the employee's name. The amount remitted by the Synod to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the year ended January 31, 2017 was \$63,475.81.

## NOTE 5 – FAIR VALUE:

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Accounting standards set a framework for measuring fair value using a three-tier hierarchy based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market.

Financial assets and liabilities valued using level 1 inputs are based on unadjusted quoted market prices within active markets. Financial assets and liabilities valued using level 2 inputs are based primarily on quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active or inactive markets. Financial assets and liabilities using level 3 inputs were primarily valued using management's assumptions about the assumptions market participants would utilize in pricing the asset or liability. Valuation techniques utilized to determine fair value are consistently applied.

Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using:

<u>January 31, 2017</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Quoted Prices In active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)</u>	<u>Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)</u>	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</u>
Cash	\$ 48,278.26	\$ 48,278.26	\$ -	\$ -
Pooled investment account:				
Domestic equities	1,641,478.62	1,641,478.62	-	-
International equities	-	-	-	-
Fixed income instruments	898,164.82	898,164.82	-	-
Limited partnerships	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 2,587,921.70</u>	<u>\$ 2,587,921.70</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

To the Synod Council of Virginia Synod,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Salem, VA

We have audited the financial statements of Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (a nonprofit organization) as of and for the year ended January 31, 2017, and have issued our report thereon dated March 16, 2017, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole.

The accompanying supplemental information is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

March 16, 2017

*Kennett & Kennett PC*  
Certified Public Accountants  
Roanoke, Virginia

VIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES-MODIFIED CASH BASIS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2017

Operating Revenue:		
BE/Mission Support	\$	1,749,593.82
Non-Cash Contributions		15,823.81
Interest Income		4,462.37
Dividend Income		38,580.19
Thrivent Endowment Fund Income		54,445.32
Realized Gain(Loss) on Investments		(3,152.09)
Unrealized Gain(Loss) on Investments		67,806.90
Other Revenues		<u>169,263.36</u>
Total Support and Revenue		<u>2,096,823.68</u>
Expenses:		
ELCA Apportionment	\$	<u>646,133.05</u>
Virginia Synod Causes:		
Office of Bishop:		
Conference of Deans:		
Deans - Expenses		12,871.54
Deans - Compensation		450.00
Staff:		
Staff Salary/Housing/SS Equiv		331,592.14
Staff Pension/Health Ins.		145,635.35
Staff Continuing Education		1,026.45
Staff Travel Living		50,448.23
Car Expense		4,981.12
Call Process		11,156.28
Counseling Services		2,842.69
Ecumenical:		
ERC - Committee Expense		800.00
ERC - Council of Churches - Grant		<u>6,210.00</u>
Total Office of Bishop		<u>568,013.80</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Exhibit B-1  
Sheet 2

Programming and Communications:

Christian Education	
CE - Power In The Spirit	\$ 5,612.37
Stewardship:	
ST- Committee Expense	355.90
ST - Resource Persons	11,500.00
Youth Ministry:	
YM - Committee Expenses	1,900.47
YM - LYO Board	245.19
YM - Regional Youth Mtg.	157.67
YM - Servant Event	(4,793.72)
Appalachian Ministries:	
AM - Grant/Amer	351.00
Mission Partners:	
MP - Committee Expenses	3,650.90
Va Missions:	
VM - Grants - Emergency	11,000.00
Candidacy:	
CC - Expenses	8,672.79
CC - Annual Conference	35.00
CC - Candidate Processing Fees	(220.00)
CC - Financial Aid	24,000.00
Leadership Support:	
LSC - Day Of Ministerium	5,044.07
LSC - 1st Call Theological Ed	40.78
Communications:	
Communications Materials	5,101.06
Va. Lutheran - Honorarium	2,650.00
	<hr/>
Total Programming and Communications	75,303.48

Educational Institution and Agency:

Seminary Support	104,700.00
Roanoke College	12,380.00
	<hr/>
Total Educational Institution and Agency	117,080.00

Campus Ministry:

Campus Ministry Agencies	69,362.04
Covenant Congregations	13,299.92
	<hr/>
Total Campus Ministry	82,661.96



Exhibit B-1  
Sheet 3

Social Ministry Organization and Agencies:

VICPP	\$ 2,550.00
Chaplain Services/Churches - VA	9,180.00
Lutheran Family Services	14,280.00
National Lutheran Home	1,356.00
Virginia Lutheran Homes	<u>7,999.92</u>

Total Social Ministry Organization and Agencies	<u>35,365.92</u>
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Outdoor Ministry:

Caroline Furnace Camp	19,455.00
Hungry Mother Camp	<u>8,250.00</u>

Total Outdoor Ministry	<u>27,705.00</u>
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Synod Council Activities:

Synod Council - Expenses	10,526.35
Mutual Ministry Committee	75.80
Transition Team	672.47
Insurance Premiums	10,946.00
Legal Retainer Fees	61.49
Audit Support	<u>14,050.00</u>

Total Synod Council Activities	<u>36,332.11</u>
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Synod Assembly

Assembly Expenses	<u>(15,396.37)</u>
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Total Synod Assembly	<u>(15,396.37)</u>
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Regional Center

8,436.00

Synod Office:

Support Staff Salaries	212,965.76
Support Staff Pensions/Health	52,167.99
Support Staff - Employer SS	24,718.96
Office Oper. - Postage/Mail	8,163.39
Office Oper. - Office Supplies	20,340.37
Office Oper. - Telecomm.	13,169.59
Office Oper. - Misc.	(2,312.88)
Office Oper. - Vanco Charges	2,087.39
Office Oper. - Maint/Repairs	5,399.88
Office Oper. - Credit Card Charges	310.30
Office Oper. - Bank Charges	5,366.62
Office Oper. - Leasing	28,413.63
Office Oper. - Payroll Processing	5,098.50
Office Oper. - Network	5,497.07
Office Oper. - East	14,992.24
Office Oper. - Rent	<u>29,090.60</u>

Total Synod Office	<u>425,469.41</u>
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See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Exhibit B-1  
Sheet 4

Contingencies and Other	
Office Furnishings & Equipment	\$ 2,403.15
Office Oper. - Depreciation Expense	19,498.02
Loss On Disposition Of Equipment	2,715.64
Contingencies	750.00
Office Of Planned Giving	<u>1,155.00</u>
Total Contingencies and Other	<u>26,519.81</u>
Virginia Synod Causes:	
Total Synod Causes	<u>1,387,491.12</u>
Total Expenses	<u>2,033,624.17</u>
Excess of Support and Revenue	
Over Expenses (deficit)	<u>\$ 63,199.51</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

## VIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## SCHEDULE OF DESIGNATED-TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2017

	Balance (Deficit) 1/31/2016	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers Between Designated Accounts	Balance (Deficit) 1/31/2017
<u>CONTRIBUTIONS IN AND OUT</u>					
World Hunger	\$ 14,119.78	\$ 114,600.17	\$ 114,474.18	\$ -	\$ 14,245.77
Designated Advance Gifts	24,052.09	7,760.89	27,409.37	(2,569.50)	1,834.11
Mission Partners	4,818.54	9,734.78	13,548.32	-	1,005.00
Missionary Support	1,975.00	6,525.00	7,525.00	-	975.00
Miscellaneous Special Benevolences, ELCA	15,184.45	180.00	15,364.45	-	-
ELCA Disaster Relief	9,224.36	28,732.15	37,162.19	-	794.32
United Lutheran Appeal	1,659.37	466.00	1,587.00	-	538.37
Lutheran Family Services of Virginia	1,653.00	2,664.40	4,142.40	-	175.00
Lutheran Theo So Seminary	-	20.00	-	-	20.00
VA Lutheran Homes	-	17.59	-	-	17.59
National Lutheran Home	-	22.41	-	-	22.41
Roanoke College	-	20.00	-	-	20.00
Misc. Special Benevolence VA	51,442.26	1,284.00	14,142.56	(38,583.70)	-
Local Disaster Relief	4,238.05	3,174.00	7,412.05	-	-
Total Contributions In & Out	128,366.90	175,201.39	242,767.52	(41,153.20)	19,647.57
<u>Congregational Life Activities</u>					
Winter Celebration Youth Event	19,785.96	56,126.73	69,745.01	-	6,167.68
7th Day Youth Event	-	18,014.68	18,014.68	-	-
Kairos Youth Event	-	51,075.00	51,075.00	-	-
Youth Ambassador School	-	2,275.41	2,275.41	-	-
Lost and Found Youth Event	-	32,674.57	32,674.57	-	-
Youth Event Scholarships	4,816.75	-	-	(4,816.75)	-
Youth and Young Adult Resources	618.53	100.00	100.00	(618.53)	-
Power in the Spirit	-	33,335.47	34,695.47	1,360.00	-
Power in the Spirit Scholarship	8,195.37	-	-	(1,360.00)	6,835.37
Roots & Wings	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	-
Total Congregational Life Activities	33,416.61	194,601.86	209,580.14	(5,435.28)	13,003.05
<u>Outreach</u>					
All Saints, Chesterfield Closure	-	-	-	139,220.39	139,220.39
PNG Scholarship	30,300.05	8,240.73	-	-	38,540.78
Youth to Youth Project	23,978.99	-	-	-	23,978.99
PNG Community Center - Ladies Project	-	35,320.10	34,397.76	1,955.00	2,877.34
Mission Team	270,720.41	-	-	(270,720.41)	-
VALMM 100 Member Club	4,297.00	4,947.80	4,800.00	-	4,444.80
Women Clergy Retreat	3,379.15	-	-	-	3,379.15
Total Outreach	332,675.60	48,508.63	39,197.76	(129,545.02)	212,441.45

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Schedule A-1  
Sheet 2

	Balance (Deficit) 1/31/2016	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers Between Designated Accounts	Balance (Deficit) 1/31/2017
<u>Ministry</u>					
Day of the Ministerium	\$ -	\$ 22,826.75	\$ 22,826.75	\$ -	\$ -
Total Ministry	-	22,826.75	22,826.75	-	-
<u>Miscellaneous</u>					
Synod Assembly Expenses	-	108,782.27	108,782.27	-	-
Previous Budget Unspent Funds	133,406.19	-	503.82	140,746.34	273,648.71
General Fund Reserve Account	-	-	2,794.78	38,583.70	35,788.92
ACTS Scholarships	10,483.04	-	-	(3,632.47)	6,850.57
ACTS	-	10,439.50	14,071.97	3,632.47	-
Healthy Congregation Ministry	12,932.79	550.00	1,408.72	275.00	12,349.07
Koontz Bequest	50,011.36	-	-	-	50,011.36
Bozeman Endowment Fund	26,808.42	100.00	-	200.00	27,108.42
Messiah, VB Closing	693,581.15	-	7,000.00	-	686,581.15
PNG Bishop's Travel	1,955.00	-	-	(1,955.00)	-
Project Connect	2,166.54	-	-	(2,166.54)	-
Furnace Hill Closing	4,212.08	-	4,212.08	-	-
ULA-1 Carolina Furnace	(7,549.97)	1,766.60	4,585.98	11,358.35	989.00
ULA-2 Chaplain Service PM	(1,990.13)	1,086.47	2,874.85	4,333.51	555.00
ULA-3 Hungry Mother	(4,456.90)	868.00	2,763.38	7,220.28	868.00
ULA-4 Virginia Lutheran Homes	(4,299.08)	25.00	1,738.37	6,032.45	20.00
ULA-5 Lutheran Family Services	(3,591.40)	923.00	3,066.38	5,734.78	-
ULA-6 Lutheran Theological SS	(5,151.90)	35.00	1,753.37	6,910.27	30.00
ULA-7 National Lutheran Commission	(4,709.98)	30.00	1,668.37	6,373.35	25.00
ULA-8 Roanoke College	(4,579.21)	35.00	1,678.37	6,252.58	30.00
ULA-9 Undesignated Fund	48,444.67	5,770.90	-	(54,215.57)	-
Gunsten Memorial Fd For Mission & Ministry	12,942.24	265.00	13,207.24	-	-
Forwarding Faith	76,154.00	363,797.49	-	450.00	440,401.49
Forwarding Faith Campaign Expenses	-	-	130,182.92	-	(130,182.92)
Total Miscellaneous	1,036,758.91	494,474.23	302,292.87	176,133.50	1,405,073.77
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 1,531,218.02	\$ 935,612.86	\$ 816,665.04	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,650,165.84

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Schedule A-2VIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICASCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NOTES RECEIVABLE -- CHURCHESFOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2017

<u>Parish - Congregation</u>	<u>Balance 1/31/2016</u>	<u>New Loans</u>	<u>Curtailments</u>	<u>Balance 1/31/2017</u>
St. Mark - Luray	\$ 37,366.00	\$ -	\$ 6,974.00	\$ 30,392.00
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 37,366.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,974.00</u>	<u>\$ 30,392.00</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

## VIRGINIA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2016

	<u>Cost Basis</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Unrealized Gain (Loss)</u>
Wells Fargo Advisors	\$ 26,775.26	\$ 26,775.26	\$ -
ELCA Pooled Investment Accounts	1,361,340.26	1,435,410.09	74,069.83
Thrivent Deferred Annuity	71,975.19	71,975.19	-
Thrivent Investment Account	<u>1,061,307.22</u>	<u>1,053,761.16</u>	<u>(7,546.06)</u>
	<u>\$ 2,521,397.93</u>	<u>\$ 2,587,921.70</u>	<u>\$ 66,523.77</u>
Unrealized Gains/(Loss) End of Year	\$ 66,523.77		
Unrealized Gains/(Loss) Beginning of Year	<u>(1,283.13)</u>		
Unrealized Gains/(Loss) Current Year	67,806.90		
Realized Gains/Loss Current Year	<u>(3,152.09)</u>		
Total Realized/Unrealized Gains	<u>\$ 64,654.81</u>		

Detail - ELCA Pooled Investment Accounts

Trust For Mission #270772	\$ 227,052.12	\$ 289,666.53	\$ 62,614.41
Mission Support #270792	63,895.52	74,627.04	10,731.52
Unrestricted Copenhaver Fund #270922	226,744.00	271,563.16	44,819.16
Small Congregation Ministry Fund #270927	17,039.62	18,889.84	1,850.22
Messiah/All Saints Closing #272158	<u>826,609.00</u>	<u>780,663.52</u>	<u>(45,945.48)</u>
	<u>\$ 1,361,340.26</u>	<u>\$ 1,435,410.09</u>	<u>\$ 74,069.83</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

## **Report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel**

Charles Downs called on Darrell Short, chair of Reference and Council to begin caring for Resolution on Bishop Emonds. Page E1 in the Bulletin of Reports and the Guidebook App. Approved without opposition

### **Report from ELCA Representative**

Bishop Mauney called on the Rev. Rafael Malpica-Pidilla for his report.

### **Report from Power in the Spirit**

Bishop Mauney called on Elizabeth Smythe, past coordinator for the Power in the Spirit, to give her report.

### **Announcements**

Bishop Mauney called on Skip Zubrod for announcements.

### **Mealttime prayer**

Bishop Mauney called on Chaplain Carl Trost for meal prayer.

### **Recess – Lunch.**

**FOURTH MEETING**  
**Saturday, June 10, 1:30 - 5:00 P.M.**

**Report from the Committee on Conduct and Elections**

Charles Downs called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla and Elizabeth Smythe to distribute Biographical Information on the 7 finalists

**Election of the Bishop - 3rd ballot**

Charles Downs called on the Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla to explain the process. Speeches were limited to 5 minutes. The sequence of speeches were determined by nominees randomly selecting a number. The Election Committee asked for no applause after individual speeches.

"The third ballot shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes on the second ballot, and two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for election." (ELCA 19.01.02)

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Chaplain Carl Trost for a prayer before voting.

Voting was conducted using voting machines

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla announced the results of the third ballot with number of votes:

Votes cast - 409

Votes needed to be elected – 274

No election on this ballot

1 – Bob Humphrey - 112

2 – Kelly Bayer Derrick - 104

3 – Richard Goeres - 79

**CAMPAIGN REPORT**

Bishop Mauney called on Stephanie Hamlett, Campaign Chair for her report.

Bishop Mauney called on Jonathan Hornbaker, Grace Winchester who gave a powerpoint presentation, and Jean Bozeman, Lead Gift Contributor for her report.

Bishop Mauney asked the assembly to reflect and answer questions about the Forwarding Faith campaign.



## **Synod Council by Class**

Charles Downs recognized the Synod Council by Class

### Term Expiring 2017

The Rev. Chris Carr	Christ the King, Richmond
Dana Cornett	Muhlenberg, Harrisonburg
The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick	St. Phillip, Roanoke
The Rev. Meredith Williams	Ascension, Danville

### Term Expiring 2018

The Rev. Paul Pingel	Grace, Waynesboro
The Rev. Cheryl Griffin	St. Stephen, Williamsburg
Debbie Mintiens	Emmanuel, Woodstock
Matthew Wertman	Grace, Waynesboro

### Term Expiring 2019

Molly Beyer	Bethel, Winchester
Barry Proctor	Redeemer, Bristol
Darrel Short	St. Paul, Shenandoah
Jody Smiley	St. Michael, Blacksburg

## **Break**

## **Election of the Bishop 4th Ballot**

Charles Downs called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla to explain the process. Each nominee will be asked the same question in a rotating order, answers are limited to 2 minutes, no applause.

The fourth ballot shall be limited to the three persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes on the third ballot, and 60 percent of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. (ELCA 19.01.03)

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Chaplain Carl Trost for prayer before voting.

Votes were cast using voting machines. The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla announced the results of the 4th ballot.

Total votes cast – 403

Valid votes cast - 403

Number needed for election – 242

No election on this ballot

1 – Bob Humphrey - 162

2 – Kelly Bayer Derrick - 129

3 – Richard Goeres - 112

(On subsequent ballots, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of votes on the previous ballot. (ELCA 19.01.02))

#### RECOGNITION OF 25<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

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#### RECOGNITION OF 35<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. John D. Herman

The Rev. Mark S. Briehl

#### RECOGNITION OF 40<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. Gordon R. Putman

The Rev. Richard M. Carbaugh

The Rev. Robert R. Ward

#### RECOGNITION OF 49th ANNIVERSARY as an AIM

Ina R. Berkey

#### RECOGNITION OF 50<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. Edward R. Schaack

#### RECOGNITION OF 55<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. Daniel I. Jungkrantz

The Rev. Floyd Addison Jr.

The Rev. Paul T Jersild

The Rev. Richard N. Umberger

## RECOGNITION OF 60<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

The Rev. Arthur J. Henne

The Rev. Charles H. Mayer

## RECOGNITION OF THOSE RETIRING THIS PAST YEAR

The Rev. Lance Braun - The Legacy at North Augusta, Staunton VA

The Rev. Patti Covington -Hebron, Madison, VA.

The Rev. Eric Moehring - Christ, Richmond, VA

The Rev. George Sims – National Lutheran Communities &  
Services, Winchester, VA

## Global Missions

Bishop Mauney introduced the YAGM Video featuring Mary Proctor, Emily Dietrick, and Emily Edmonds.

## Report from Mission Investment Fund

Bishop Mauney called on Kent Peterson to bring greetings.

## Announcements

Report from David Derrick - Gathering of the Ministerium Team

ELCA Appalachian Ministry Task Force – Andrew Tucker

Campus Ministry – Andrew Tucker

Bishop Mauney called on Skip Zubrod for closing announcements

## Mealtime Prayer

Bishop Mauney called on Chaplain Carl Trost for mealtime prayer.

## FIFTH MEETING

**Saturday, June 11, 8:00 P.M.**

Lay Voting Members, Pastors, Visitors and Delegates to the Virginia Synod and Lutheran Youth Organization Assembly gathered at St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church in Roanoke for the Assembly Service of Ordination and Holy Communion.

Presiding Minister and Preacher-Bishop James F. Mauney, College, Salem

**SIXTH MEETING**  
**Sunday, June 11, 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.**

**Opening Prayer, Word, and Necrology**

Bishop Mauney presided at the opening Service of the Word and Reading of the Necrology, including the celebration of life and service of:

The Rev. Phillip Carr	Sept 17, 2016
The Rev. C Jackson (Jack) Martin	Nov 16, 2016
The Rev. Arthur S Hanson	Feb 9, 2017

**Introduction of Glocal Band Members**

Bishop Mauney presented Rev. Alex Auber his cred as ordained pastor.

Bishop Mauney thanked those who provided leadership and the worship on Saturday evening.

**Region 9 Coordinator – The Rev. Ruth Hamilton**

**Report of Committee on Minutes**

Bishop Mauney called Ms Debbie Mintiens for the report. The Committee on Minutes, having reviewed the minutes for Saturday, June 11, 2016 session, and finding them in good order, recommends that the minutes be approved. The Committee further recommends that the Bishop and/or his Assistant and the Synod Secretary be granted permission to review the minutes from Sunday, June 12, session and edit them as may be necessary. It was moved, seconded and approved

**VOTED** to adopt the Report of the Committee on Minutes.

**Approval of the 2018 Ministry Spending Program**

Charles Downs called on Evan Davis to present the 2018 Ministry Spending Program.

Charles Downs then called on The Rev. Meredith Williams to present Recommendation #4 2018 Ministry Spending Program for approval. It was approved.

**Report of Committee on Transportation**

Charles Downs called on The Rev. Jim Larsen for the report. The report was received.

The committee processed 84 travel vouchers and approved 84 vouchers, totaling \$3076.08 in transportation reimbursements.

8 attendees donated their reimbursements, totaling \$192.58

### **Report of Committee on Official Roll**

Charles Downs called on The Rev. Kathleen Miko for her report.

The Committee on Official Roll reports the following:

Ministers of Word and Sacrament - 159

Ministers of Word and Service - 2

Lay Voting Members Registered - 270

Official Visitors Registered - 19

Visitors Registered - 39

Total Registered - 489

Rostered leaders absent with excuse - 85

Rostered leaders absent without excuse - 10

Lay voting members absent with excuse -

Lay voting members absent without excuse

### **Report of Reference and Counsel - General Resolutions**

Charles Downs called on Darrell Short for a report. He presented the General Resolution 2017:

## **GENERAL RESOLUTION 2017**

### **GENERAL RESOLUTION 2017**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Virginia Synod in Assembly return grateful thanks to Almighty God that we have been enlightened through the Assembly theme, Ambassadors for Christ: Forwarding Faith

**RESOLVED**, that special recognition and appreciation be accorded the following through whom Christ has shared His joy:

- Our dear Bishop James F. Mauney, D.D., for his faithful, steadfast ministry among us as our spiritual leader, for bringing the word of God with him everywhere he goes and for his faithful chairing of this Assembly, and to Charles Downs for his gifted and gracious leadership in his chairing of the assembly.

- The Rev. Chris Price, The Reverend Dr. Dave Delaney, Mindy Reynolds, Dr. Phyllis Milton, Richard Hoffman, Debbie Mintiens, Assembly Assistant, Elizabeth Smythe, Election Committee Chair and the entire synodical staff for their gracious and untiring assistance in providing a smooth-running Assembly.
- Barbara Atkinson, George Arthur, Sue Dugas, Terry Price Jean Rosendahl, Nancy Spraker, Janet Uhl, Bob Yates, LuAnn Yates, Karen Zubrod, and all volunteers and members of the Local Arrangements Committee.
- Members and Chairs of all committees.
- 2016-2017 Virginia Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Board:  
 12th grade representative: Michaela Loving – Mt. Zion, New Market (President)  
 11th grade representative: Isaac Wilson – Christ, Fredericksburg  
 10th grade representative: Turner Barger –Epiphany, Richmond  
 9th grade representative: Mari Bachman – Grace, Winchester  
 8<sup>th</sup> grade representative: Chas Downs – Christ, Roanoke  
 Multi-cultural representative: Jasmine Jones – Reformation, New Market  
 Chaplain: Pastor Bill Nabers – St. Paul, Strasburg  
 Advisor: Christina Hodges - St. Timothy, Norfolk  
 At-Large Representative: Emily Martinez – St. Timothy, Norfolk  
 Definitely Abled: Sara Osborn – St. Stephen, Williamsburg  
 Advisor: Michael Tate – Emmanuel, Virginia Beach
- Dr. Michael Maxey, President of Roanoke College, and members of the College Staff for their gracious hospitality and delicious meals.
- The Reverend Carl Trost for serving as the Assembly Chaplain and for his able assistance in handling campus arrangements
- The Reverend John McCandlish, Assembly Worship Coordinator, and all worship assistants who lifted our spirit in worship.
- Mark Reed for serving as our Parliamentarian and bring keeping order tin our proceedings

#### **Ecumenical Guests:**

The Rev. Conor Alexander  
 Rev. Jonathan Barton  
 Bishop Mark Bourlakas  
 The Rev. Joseph Lehman  
 The Rev. Stephen R. Stanley

Rector, St Francis Church, Virginia Beach, VA  
 General Minister VA. Council of Churches  
 Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern VA.  
 Our Lady of Nazareth Catholic Church  
 Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we especially recognize:

- The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director – ELCA Division of Global Missions for his inspirational thoughts, insights and guidance throughout the Assembly.
- The Right Rev. Mark Bourlakas, The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Long, and The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, who gifted us with their proclamation of the gospel.
- Kevin Barger, organist Saturday evening, and the Global Musicians-Educators, Assembly Musicians who re-presented Christ and led us and fed us with their gifts of music.
- Emily Pilat whose foresight has freed us all from the tedious task of writing a bulletin insert or newsletter article so that we may fondly reminisce about our time at [Synod Assembly to our congregations. The summary of the Synod Assembly will be available on http://www.vasynod.org](http://www.vasynod.org) web site at noon on Wednesday.
- Last, and most importantly, to every member of the Virginia Synod Assembly – for your loyalty and faithfulness in responding to the call to serve as voting members and visitors. We pray that you are lifted up by serving God, the ELCA, our Synod, and your congregation as Ambassadors for Christ. God’s continued blessings to and through you as you return to your vocational call to family and daily work.

*(End of Resolution)*

The Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends adoption of this resolution.

Resolution was approved.

### **ELCA Questions and Answers**

Bishop Mauney called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director - ELCA Division of Global Missions

Bishop Mauney presented the Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla with a gift.

### **Report of Youth Assembly**

Bishop Mauney called upon, Michaela Loving, Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) President to give the report of the Youth Assembly. The report was read and received.

## **Announcements**

Skip Zubrod gave announcements.

## **Unfinished Business**

Charles Downs announced the time for Synod Council meeting following assembly closing. Other business was completed.

## **Report of the Committee on Conduct of Election**

Charles Downs called on The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla to conduct the **5th Ballot for Bishop**

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla called on Chaplain Carl Trost for prayer before voting. Election was done using voting machines.

Votes cast - 384

Votes needed for election - 193

Need vote –

The Rev. Rafael Malpica-Padilla introduced the new Bishop, The Rev. Bob Humphrey

Break

## **Recessional Worship and Closing of Assembly**

The Worship – The Rev. Dr Cynthia Long, Chaplain Western State Hospital, served as preacher, The Rev. Ken Albright, Grace and Glory, Lake Monticello, and Bishop Mauney served as Installer of Leadership:

Committee on Discipline

Committee on Consultation

Synod Council

Closing of the Assembly

YAGM

Deans