SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS OF THE 2011 METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The 418 voting members meeting May 13-14, 2011 at the Melville Marriott in Melville, New York, approved resolutions, elected leaders, amended governing documents and adopted budgets.

Memorial Resolution Adopted

SA2011.05.02 A Memorial Calling the Church to Speak Against and Act to Prevent Bullying, Harassment, and Related Violence

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Assembly encourages new partnerships among our congregations, the synods, the Churchwide Organization, outdoor ministries, campus ministries, Lutheran School Associations, Lutherans Concerned North America, Lutheran Social Service organizations, public schools, counseling centers, and other governmental organizations in order to support and offer preventative programs addressing bullying, harassment, and other related violence especially with higher-risk populations; and

RESOLVED, that these partnerships be encouraged to create or join with existing preventative programs that

- a. utilize positive, inclusive, empowering, and developmentally appropriate materials,
- b. raise participants' awareness about the issue,
- c. focus on prevention,
- d. seek to change bystander behavior into ally behavior, and
- e. create partnerships between youth and adults; and

RESOLVED, that these partnerships seek funding for these efforts from a combination of existing funds and new funding sources not otherwise accessible individually such as foundation grants, synod and other Lutheran organizational grants (for example Thrivent, Wheat Ridge Ministries, Women of the ELCA, etc.), and private and governmental funding sources, and

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod memorializes the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to encourage, support, and publicize new partnerships in ministry that emerge in our church addressing the prevention of bullying, harassment, and related forms of violence.

General Resolutions Adopted

SA2011.05.03 A Resolution Supporting the Implementation of the Goal Adopted at the 2010 MNYS Assembly to Provide for a Minimum of 10 Percent Representation for Youth and Young Adults on the Synod Council, Synod Committees, Taskforces, Etc., and in Congregations

- RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod establish a taskforce to develop a plan to encourage and seek youth and young-adult participation on Synod Council, and on Synod Committees, taskforces, etc.; and
- *RESOLVED*, that the taskforce will be formed within 120 days and meet within 150 days of the passage of this resolution; and,
- RESOLVED, that the deans and pastors shall encourage youth and young-adult participation and identify youth and young adults of mature faith in their conferences who would be willing to participate on Synod Council, and on Synod committees, taskforces, etc., and that the deans shall report their activities in this matter to the taskforce for 10% representation; and
- RESOLVED, that congregations encourage youth and young-adult participation and identify youth and young adults of mature faith in their congregations and encourage their participation in their own congregations, on Synod Council, and on Synod committees, taskforces, etc., and report their activities in this matter for 10% representation.

SA2011.05.04 A Resolution in Support of the Synod Council's Strategic Planning

- RESOLVED, that this Assembly of the Metropolitan New York Synod supports the Synod Council's efforts to coordinate and undertake a strategic-planning process with all deliberate speed; and
- RESOLVED, that this Assembly of the Metropolitan New York Synod supports the Synod Council's commitment to provide regular updates on the strategic-planning process it undertakes; and
- *RESOLVED*, that the strategic plan be presented to the 2012 Assembly of the Metropolitan New York Synod for adoption.

SA2011.05.10

A Resolution Related to By-Law for Audit Committee

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Assembly adopt the following bylaws:

S11.05.01. The Audit Committee membership shall consist of five persons appointed by the synod council for three year terms. Two of members shall be members of the synod council. Reappointments may be made for one additional term. The chairperson shall be appointed by the vice president of the synod council. Members of the financial management committee and synod employees shall not be members of this committee.

Election of members of the synod council to the Audit Committee serve the full three year term beginning on the first day of the month following election, or less if Council membership is terminated.

Successors to the original 3 member's terms begin on February 1 of any year, and responsibility begins with the review of the Independent Auditor's Report and Management Letter published for the year just completed.

S11.05.02. The functions of the Audit Committee shall be to:

- a. Recommend to the synod council the appointment of an independent auditor.
- b. Meet with the independent auditor to discuss the scope and approach of the audit.
- c. Review and evaluate the reports prepared by the independent auditor particularly with respect to any identified weaknesses in the synod's internal accounting and management controls and any recommendations for improvements in such controls.
- d. Monitor and report to the synod council the progress of remedial actions that may be an appropriate response to the report of the independent auditor.
- e. Review the annual financial statements with the independent auditor.
- f. Conduct periodic inquiry into synod procedures for ensuring expenditures (especially in sensitive areas such as professional fees, compensation, and travel and entertainment) are appropriate in nature and reasonable in amount.
- g. Provide the synod secretary with minutes of all meetings.

Budget Resolutions Adopted

SA2011.05.08 Ratified an Adjusted Budget of \$3,318,228 for F.Y. 2011 SA2011.05.09 Adopted a Budget of \$3,318,565 for F.Y. 2012

Elections Completed

SA2011.05.01 SA2011.05.07 First Common Ballot Second Common Ballot

Synod Council—One Year Mr. Jonathan Westerlund Ms. Bobbi Paulik

Church Council Ms. Christine Connell Ms. Nicole George

Prepared by The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Secretary

¹ Assembly was to elect two lay female nominees for ELCA Church Council, one of whom will be elected at the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August.