

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS OF THE 2018 METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The 401 voting members meeting May 11-12, 2018 at the Melville Marriott, in Melville, New York, approved three resolutions and one memorial, elected a Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, members of the Synod Council, Consultation Committee and Discipline Committee, Voting Members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly, and adopted budgets.

Memorial Adopted

SA 2018:05.02 The ELCA's 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Assemble memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to:

Call upon all synods in their 2020 assemblies to include celebration and special recognition of ordained women upon the 50th anniversary of authorizing this ordination practice; and

Call upon our seminaries, colleges, campus ministries, outdoor ministries, social ministry organizations, synods, and congregations to highlight women preachers, teachers, and speakers throughout 2020 in recognition of the diversity of gifts women's ordination has brought to our church; and

Call upon congregations throughout the ELCA to participate in the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women in our church through worship services, bible studies and other efforts to celebrate and recognize the importance and contributions of ordained women; and

Call upon all members of this church to examine our consciences, and confess our sins and complicity in whichever circumstances by the outright or silent actions women have faced including barriers, discrimination, or sexual harassment as they prepared for and served as ordained women in this church; and

Call upon this church to renew efforts in education on the intersection of the sins of sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, and classism, and develop healing interventions offering hope and support to those who experience these sins to the point of despair about ministry; and

Call upon our seminaries to include intentional coursework and resources to equip pastoral leaders in identifying and ministering in situations of gender-based discrimination and violence; and

Urge all congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization in 2020 to conduct a gender analysis wherein each can develop strategies to promote and protect gender equity and justice, with particular focus on addressing the areas of preparation for ministry, call process including first calls, mobility, compensation, ministry roles, and debt following seminary education; and

Call upon this church to establish goals and strategies in each synod of achieving for ordained women comparable compensation with that of ordained men in all calls by 2024, reporting the outcome of this action step at the Churchwide Assembly in 2025; and

Call upon this church to establish goals and strategies in each synod of achieving for ordained women access to ministry roles where women are currently underrepresented, with a particular focus on the challenges faced by women of color receiving viable first and second calls; and

Call upon the churchwide expression's Domestic Mission Unit to develop, undertake, and successfully complete a strategy specifically related to the debt of women of color after seminary; and

Call upon all candidacy committees to examine their practices in light of the findings in the 45th anniversary research; and

Request the Office of the Presiding Bishop to provide in 2025 updated research on achievement of these initiatives and other matters pertinent to the full and just participation of ordained women in this church; and

Request all church publications to plan features in 2020 on the ordination of women, lifting up the amazing talents and gifts this church has received from its ordained women, the barriers ordained women still experience in this church, and the steps outlined in this memorial to overcome these barriers; and

Invite the prayers of all members of this church for the successful outcome of these initiatives.

General Resolutions Adopted

SA 2018.05.01 Process for Election of the Bishop

RESOLVED, that the action of the Metropolitan New York Synod Council on April 21, 2018 adopting a process for the election of the next bishop in 2019 is affirmed.

SA 2018:05.03 MNYS to Use the Bridgebuilder Process

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod engage or accept a qualified facilitator from outside this synod to lead us through the Bridgebuilder process, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod invite Peter Steinke or another Bridgebuilder facilitator with similar experience to work with Larry Foster and Mary Ann Schwabe in integrating the Bridgebuilder and Natural Systems Processes, and be it further

RESOLVED, that funding for integrating the Bridgebuilder process and Natural Systems process be sourced from Transition Funds according to Synod Council determination.

SA 2018:05.08 Congregational Finance and Accounting

RESOLVED, that a Congregational Financial Accountancy Task Force be formed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Conference of Deans recommend members to this Task Force, who shall be appointed by the bishop with the advice and consent of the Synod Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force survey congregational practice both within and outside of the Metro New York Synod; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force develop a series of templates for financial reporting available to Metro New York Synod congregations for use at monthly Congregation Council meetings and Annual Meetings of the Congregations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force recommend attendant Best Practices to accompany the templates; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force report their work to the 2019 Synod Assembly for it to be voted on as the recommended basis for Congregational Financial reporting.

Budget Resolutions Adopted

SA 2018:05.06 Ratified a Revised Budget of \$5,702,745 for Fiscal Year 2018

SA 2018:05.07 Adopted a Proposed Budget of \$5,708,698 for Fiscal Year 2019

Elections Completed

SA 2018:05.04 Election by Unanimous Consent of Assembly

Secretary	The Rev. Robert Schoepflin
Treasurer	Mr. John Litke
Synod Council	The Rev. Marva Jenkins The Rev. Daniel Penumaka The Rev. David Parsons Ms. Hazel Goldstein Mr. Cecil Spurlock-Shackelton Mr. David Ehlers Synod Dcn. Steven Daniels Mr. John Ogren Mr. Adam A.D. Campbell, Youth Member
Consultation Committee	The Rev. Justin Lathrop The Rev. Peter Rustico
Discipline Committee	The Rev. Wibert Miller Synod Dcn. John Malone
Churchwide Assembly	Mr. Alex Lawrence Mr. John Litke Synod Dcn. Paul Lumpkin Ms. Marret Arfsten

SA 2018:05.05 First Common Ballot

Vice President	Ms. Petra Renee Wicklund
Synod Council	Synod Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum
Consultation Committee	The Rev. Jeane Warfield The Rev. Sonja Tillberg Maclary
Discipline Committee	Ms. Madelyn Soussoudis
Churchwide Assembly	The Rev. Ann Tiemeyer The Rev. Harriet Wieber

SA 2018:05.09 Second Common Ballot

Synod Council	The Rev. Chryll Crews
Churchwide Assembly	The Rev. Rebecca Pollicino

The Rev. Mark Erson
The Rev Kevin O'Hara
Ms. Cynthia Corley
Ms. Elizabeth Hoffmann
Ms. Susan Brandt
Mr. Christopher Vergara