

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY

May 22-24, 2005
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, Michigan

Theme: Pray Faith Fully!

Sunday, May 22, 2005

2:30–10:00 p.m.	Prayer Chapel	Messiah Lutheran Church
2:30-7:00 p.m.	Registration	Messiah Lutheran Church
3:30 p.m.	Synod Council Meeting	Messiah Lutheran Church
5:00 p.m.	Voting Member Orientation	Messiah Lutheran Church
7:00 p.m.	Opening Eucharist	Messiah Lutheran Church

8:50 p.m.

PLENARY I - Messiah Lutheran Church

ORDER FOR OPENING

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes welcomed everyone to the 18th Synod Assembly. The Assembly participated in the Order of Opening of Assembly.

**GREETINGS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Bishop Alex Malasusa and Mrs. Ericah Malasusa from the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and announced that Bishop Mark Hanson, presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be with us tomorrow morning.

Bishop Skrenes asked that the Assembly thank the pastors of Messiah Lutheran Church, Marquette, Rev. Nancy Amacher and Rev. Timothy Bernard and the people of Messiah for hosting tonight's service. Rev. Virginia Eggert, Pastor of Faith, Ishpeming and Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee made some announcements.

Bishop Skrenes thanked Rev. George Kaiser and Rev. Katherine Finnegan and the rest of the Worship Committee for their work in planning the Assembly worship services.

Two representatives of Faith Lutheran Church, White Pine, Michigan, were present to receive the gifts of hymnals from the Assembly participants, presented by Bishop Skrenes.

Bishop Skrenes introduced the Synod Officers: Orice Walters, Vice President; Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, Secretary; and Rev. Stephen Cowen,

Treasurer. He also introduced Assembly Recording Secretary Karen Kolstad and Assembly Parliamentarian Rev. Douglas Johnson.

CREDENTIALS

2005 NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY MINUTES

COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Shirley Price, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 7:00 p.m., May 22, 2005:

Registered Voting Members	263
Clergy (including those under call and retired)	77
Lay Voting Members (69 male/117 female).....	186
Registered Visitors.....	61
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	324

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 1
RULES AND
ORDER FOR
PROCEDURE

Bishop Skrenes reported the Synod Council recommends adoption of Resolution Number 1, submitted by the Synod Council.

RESOLVED, that the Proposed Rules and Order of Procedure as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2005 Assembly. It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 1 WAS ADOPTED.

SA05.05.01

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 2
AGENDA AND
PROGRAM

Bishop Skrenes reported the Synod Council recommends adoption of Resolution Number 2, submitted by the Synod Council.

RESOLVED, that the Agenda and Program as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2005 Assembly.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2 WAS ADOPTED.

SA05.05.02

REPORT OF THE
NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Bishop Skrenes called upon Judy Mattson, Licensed Lay Minister from Zion, Skanee and Holy Cross, Baraga, who served as Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present their report as printed on Pages 98-103 of the Pre-Assembly Report. Also serving on the committee were: Norman Hongisto, Dan Laatsch, Jane Holm, Rev. David Christenson, Rev. Leonard Gilley, Gustav Petruske, Jr., and Rev. Joel Wight Hoogheem. Bishop Skrenes thanked the committee for their work.

Nominations were presented for the following positions:

Synod Consultation Committee – Clergy:

Rev. Cori Johnson and Rev. Norman C. Peterson.

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod Consultation Committee – Clergy.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

SA05.05.03

NOMINATING

COMMITTEE

2005 NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY MINUTES
REPORT

(continued)

Synod Consultation Committee – Lay Female:
Ruth Anne Connor, Lynn Paquin, Marsha Schultz and
Peggy Sholty.

SA05.05.04

No additional nominations were received from the floor.
It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod
Consultation Committee – Lay Female.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Consultation Committee – Lay Male:
Darrel Diers, Norman Hongisto, Todd A. Penrose and
Bruce Rundman.

SA05.05.05

No additional nominations were received from the floor.
It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod
Consultation Committee – Lay Male.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy:
Rev. David Christenson, Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom, Rev.
Susan Odegard and Rev. John Voelker.

SA05.05.06

No additional nominations were received from the floor.
It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod
Discipline Committee – Clergy.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Female:
Brenda Harkonen, Trudy C. Johnson, Jane Ring and Pat
VanEnkevort.

SA05.05.07

No additional nominations were received from the floor.
It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod
Discipline Committee – Lay Female.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Male:
Dan Berger, Paul Larmour, Gustav Petruske, Jr., R. Peter
Suomela.

SA05.05.08

No additional nominations were received from the floor.
It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod
Discipline Committee – Lay Male.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom,
Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner, WI, Chair of the
Resolutions Committee. Rev. Lindstrom reported that at
this time no additional resolutions have been submitted.
Bishop Skrenes reminded the Assembly that all resolutions
are due by 3:00 p.m. on Monday to any committee
member, Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, Synod Secretary or Rev.
Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Assistant to the Bishop.

LAY SCHOOL
FOR MISSION

GRADUATES

this year's Lay School for Mission graduates. Rev. David Echelbarger, Immanuel, Negaunee, who was unable to be present this evening, serves as the Dean of the Lay School for Mission. The other three campus coordinators were introduced by Bishop Skrenes: Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, First, Gladstone; Rev. Mary Weinkauff, Calvary, Minocqua; and Rev. Peter Jonas, First, Iron Mountain. Rev. Schmidt made comments about the Lay School for Mission and the coordinators presented the diplomas. The Assembly congratulated the graduates with their applause.

CLERGY

CELEBRATING

ORDINATION

ANNIVERSARIES

Bishop Skrenes asked Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, Synod Secretary, to assume the Chair of the Assembly. He introduced the following clergy celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry: Rev. David Jensen; Rev. Michael Laakko (and Denise); Bishop Thomas Skrenes (and Luanne).

Bishop Skrenes assumed the chair of the Assembly and introduced the following clergy celebrating 40 years of ordained ministry: Rev. Mark Bangert (and Kristi); Rev. Rell Spickerman (and Louise); and Rev. Dale Skogman (and Jo). Others celebrating this anniversary who were not able to attend were Rev. Harlin Haack, Rev. John Linna and Rev. Duane Priebe.

Bishop Skrenes introduced those present celebrating 50 years of ordained ministry: Rev. Rudolph Kemppainen (and Darley) and Rev. George Olson (and Ruth). Both clergy addressed the Assembly. Rev. Earl Bergh, also celebrating his 50th anniversary of ordination, was not able to attend.

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. George C. Krebs (and June) who are celebrating his 55th anniversary of ordination. Pastor Krebs spoke to the Assembly. Rev. Clarence Schnorr is also celebrating this anniversary but was not able to attend.

Rev. Otis Odlund, celebrating his 60th anniversary of ordination, was introduced by Bishop Skrenes. Pastor Odlund addressed the Assembly.

RETIREMENTS

Bishop Skrenes introduced those celebrating retirement this year: Rev. Richard Hutton (and Carolyn), Rev. Rell Spickerman (and Louise), and Nora Tahtinen, Associate in Ministry. All three retirees addressed the Assembly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AND CLOSING PRAYER

Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege gave some announcements and a closing prayer. The Assembly is now in recess until Monday morning.

Bishop Skrenes announced that we would be recognizing

RECEPTION

A reception sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans honoring Lay School for Mission graduates, clergy celebrating anniversaries of ordination and retiring clergy and Associate in Ministry was held in Magnuson Hall at Messiah Lutheran Church.

**MONDAY,
MAY 23, 2005**

Breakfast – on your own or at Messiah Lutheran Church (youth attending ELCA Youth Gathering in 2006 benefit)
Registration – Northern Michigan University
Prayer Chapel

8:30 A.M.

**HYMN AND
PRAYER**

PLENARY II – Great Lakes Rooms, University Center

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lay School Graduate, Linda Vallier, Bethany, Negaunee, led the Assembly in a hymn followed by a prayer.

INTRODUCTIONS

The Assembly read the theme text from Philippians 4:4-7. Rev. Virginia Eggert made several announcements as Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee.

**EXCUSED
ABSENCES**

Bishop Skrenes introduced the following guests at our Assembly: Rev. Carl Richard Evenson, Region 5 Coordinator; Rev. LeRoy Remmers, Wartburg Seminary.

**INTRODUCTION
OF SYNOD
STAFF**

The following rostered persons requested excused absences for the 2005 Assembly: Rev. Bayard Beach, Rev. Paul Engwall, Rev. Kenneth Gibson, Rev. Allen Goodrich, Rev. Paul Holmstrom, Rev. John Linna, Rev. Clarence Schnorr, Rev. John Voelker, Rev. Karen Wight Hoogheem, Robert Gardner (Licensed Lay Minister).

**CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Bishop Skrenes introduced and thanked the synod office staff: Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Assistant to the Bishop; Wendy Black, Synod Youth Coordinator; Roger Knuth, Synod Planned Giving Counselor; Kay Benedict, Officer Manager; Louise Ingalls, Secretary; and Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper. The Assembly thanked the staff with their applause.

Shirley Price, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the following report as of 8:30 a.m., May 23, 2005:

Registered Voting Members	279
Clergy (including those under call and retired)	85
Lay Voting Members (73 male/121 female).....	194
Registered Visitors.....	68
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	347

**FIRST BALLOT
FOR BISHOP**

Bishop Skrenes introduced ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, who is our ELCA Representative and will also be conducting the election of Bishop. Bishop Hanson assumed

FIRST BALLOT
FOR BISHOP
(continued)

the Chair of the Assembly. After scripture readings and explanation of the balloting, the blank ballots were distributed. Bishop Hanson led the Assembly in prayer. The ballots were collected and Bishop Hanson declared the first ballot for Bishop closed.

FIRST BALLOT
FOR OTHER
POSITIONS

Bishop Skrenes assumed the Chair of the Assembly. Ballots for the first ballot for other positions were distributed and cast. An Elections Committee Report will be given as soon as the ballots have been tallied.

BIBLE
STUDY

Bishop Alex Malasusa of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania presented the Bible Study.

NEW TO
SYNOD

Bishop Skrenes introduced the following rostered persons new to the Synod since the last Assembly: Rev. Lynn Hubbard, Eden, Munising and Christ, Shingleton; Rev. Barry Levine, Faith, Sault Ste. Marie; Rev. Susan Odegard, Gloria Dei, Hancock; Rev. Scott Williams, United, L'Anse; Darrel Diers, Associate in Ministry and Licensed Lay Minister, Northland Lutheran Retirement Community and St. James, Marinette.

KEYNOTE
ADDRESS

Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, presented the keynote address.

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Hanson assumed the Chair of the Assembly to receive the Elections Committee Report on the first ballot for Bishop. Warren Geier, Chair of the Elections Committee reported the following results :

Number of Ballots.....	263
Number of Invalid Ballots	2
Number of Valid Ballots.....	261
Needed to Elect.....	198
Rev. Thomas Skrenes.....	169
Rev. Nancy Amacher	17
Rev. David Jensen.....	12
Rev. Kim Beckmann.....	12
Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege	7
Rev. David Echelbarger.....	6
Rev. Lee Goodwin	5
Rev. Norman Peterson	5
Rev. Michael Laakko.....	3
Rev. Stephen Cowen.....	3
Rev. Robert Langseth.....	3
Rev. Jimalee Jones.....	3

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

Rev. Lance Roberts.....	2
Rev. Jonathan Schmidt.....	2
Rev. Timothy Bernard	2
Rev. Rell Spickerman	2
Rev. Nancy Kauppi.....	2
Rev. Peter Jonas	1
Rev. Margaret Johnson	1
Rev. Katie Gallagher.....	1
Rev. Peter Vorhes	1
Rev. Frederic Kinsey	1
Rev. George Kaiser.....	1

There was no election. Bishop Hanson reminded all whose names appeared on the ballot that this would be their only chance to remove their names. The second ballot will be prepared with the names of all remaining nominees.

Bishop Skrenes resumed the Chair of the Assembly and Rev. Warren Geier continued with the report of the Elections Committee.

Synod Consultation Committee – Clergy:

Number of Ballots.....	266
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	266
Needed to Elect.....	134

Rev. Norman C. Peterson.....	140
Rev. Cori Johnson.....	126

SA05.05.09

REV. NORMAN C. PETERSON WAS
DECLARED ELECTED AS SYNOD
CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – CLERGY.

Synod Consultation Committee – Lay Female:

Number of Ballots.....	264
Number of Invalid Ballots	1
Number of Valid Ballots.....	263
Needed to Elect.....	132

Ruth Anne Connor	195
Marsha Schultz.....	161
Lynn Paquin	81
Peggy Sholty	68

SA05.05.10

RUTH ANNE CONNOR AND MARSHA SCHULTZ
WERE DECLARED ELECTED AS SYNOD
CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAY FEMALE.

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

Synod Consultation Committee – Lay Male:	
Number of Ballots.....	267
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	267
Needed to Elect.....	134
Bruce Rundman	181
Todd A. Penrose.....	133
Norman Hongisto.....	118
Darrel Diers.....	85

SA05.05.11

BRUCE RUNDMAN WAS DECLARED ELECTED AS
SYNOD CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAY MALE.

The names of Todd A. Penrose and Norman Hongisto will
appear on the second ballot.

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy:	
Number of Ballots.....	267
Number of Invalid Ballots	1
Number of Valid Ballots.....	266
Needed to Elect.....	134
Rev. Susan Odegard.....	152
Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom.....	123
Rev. John Voelker.....	121
Rev. David Christenson	120

SA05.05.12

REV. SUSAN ODEGARD WAS DECLARED ELECTED
AS SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – CLERGY.

The names of Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom and Rev. John
Voelker will appear on the second ballot.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Female:	
Number of Ballots.....	264
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	264
Needed to Elect.....	133
Trudy C. Johnson.....	195
Jane Ring.....	158
Brenda Harkonen	87
Pat VanEnkevort.....	58

SA05.05.13

TRUDY C. JOHNSON AND JANE RING WERE
DECLARED ELECTED AS SYNOD DISCIPLINE
COMMITTEE – LAY FEMALE.

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Male:
Number of Ballots.....265
Number of Invalid Ballots0
Number of Valid Ballots.....265
Needed to Elect133

Gustav Petruske, Jr.....143
R. Peter Suomela.....141
Paul Larmour120
Dan Berger103

SA05.05.14

**GUSTAV PETRUSKE, JR. AND R. PETER SUOMELA
WERE DECLARED ELECTED AS SYNOD
DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – LAY MALE.**

REPORT
OF THE
BISHOP

Bishop Skrenes presented his Bishop’s report as printed on pages 12-18 of the Pre-Assembly Report. He highlighted several items from his report.

REPORT OF
THE VICE
PRESIDENT

Orice Walters, Synod Vice President, presented her report to the Assembly. As part of her report, Orice introduced the members of the Synod Council and thanked for their ministry to the Synod.

SECOND
BALLOT
FOR BISHOP

Bishop Hanson assumed the Chair of the Assembly to lead them in the second ballot for the election of a Bishop. The ballots contained the following names in this order: Rev. Thomas Skrenes, Rev. Nancy Amacher, Rev. Kim Beckmann, Rev. Nancy Kauppi. Bishop Hanson led the Assembly in prayer after the ballots were distributed. After the ballots were collected, he declared the balloting closed.

SECOND BALLOT
FOR OTHER
POSITIONS

Bishop Skrenes assumed the Chair of the Assembly to lead them in the second ballot for all other positions. The Assembly voted on the two remaining positions to be elected. Ballots for the second ballot for other positions were distributed and cast. The voting was declared closed after all the ballots had all been collected.

HYMN AND
PRAYER

Patricia Peltz, Lay School Graduate from First, Gladstone, led the Assembly in a hymn and a prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND LUNCH
RECESS

Rev. Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, gave some announcements. The Assembly is in recess until 1:00 this afternoon.

1:00 P.M.

PLENARY III – Great Lakes Rooms, University Center

HYMN AND
PRAYER

Lori Gravelle, Lay School Graduate from Grace, Pembine, led the Assembly in a hymn and a prayer.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Shirley Price, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the following report as of 1:00 p.m., May 23, 2005:

Registered Voting Members	282
Clergy (including those under call and retired)	88
Lay Voting Members (73 male/121 female).....	194
Registered Visitors.....	72
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	354

SECOND
BALLOT
FOR
BISHOP

Bishop Hanson assumed the Chair of the Assembly to receive the Elections Committee Report on the second ballot for Bishop. Rev. Warren Geier, Chair of the Elections Committee reported the following results:

Number of Ballots.....	272
Number of Invalid Ballots	1
Number of Valid Ballots.....	271
Needed to Elect.....	204

Rev. Thomas Skrenes.....	210
Rev. Kim Beckmann.....	28
Rev. Nancy Amacher	25
Rev. Nancy Kauppi.....	8

SA05.05.15

**BISHOP THOMAS SKRENES WAS DECLARED
ELECTED TO SERVE AS BISHOP OF THE
NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD, ELCA.**

Bishop Skrenes was joined by his spouse, Luanne, and addressed the Assembly.

SECOND
BALLOT
FOR
OTHER
POSITONS

Bishop Skrenes assumed the Chair of the Assembly and Rev. Warren Geier continued the report of the Elections Committee:

Synod Consultation Committee – Lay Male:

Number of Ballots.....	258
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	258
Needed to Elect.....	130

Todd A. Penrose.....	166
Norman Hongisto.....	92

SA05.05.16

**TODD A. PENROSE WAS DECLARED
ELECTED AS SYNOD CONSULTATION
COMMITTEE – LAY MALE .**

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy:

Number of Ballots.....	260
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	260
Needed to Elect.....	131

ELECTIONS	Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom.....	158
(continued)	Rev. John Voelker.....	102

SA05.05.17

REV. DOROTHY LINDSTROM WAS
DECLARED ELECTED AS SYNOD
DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – CLERGY.

OFFERING
OF QUARTERS

Rev. John Kuziej, Chair of the Synod Hunger Committee, discussed the offering of quarters and led the Assembly in prayer. The offering of quarters for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal followed.

DESTRUCTION
OF BALLOTS
SA05.05.18

A motion was made and seconded to destroy the ballots from the elections.

MOTION CARRIED.

TSUNAMI
VIDEO

The Assembly watched a video presentation on the Tsunami Relief, introduced by Rev. John Kuziej.

INTRODUCTIONS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Catherine Malotky from the ELCA Board of Pensions. She will be available for individual consultations as needed.

Roger Knuth, Synod Planned Giving Counselor, was introduced by Bishop Skrenes. He spoke to the Assembly.

TREASURER'S
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes called upon Rev. Stephen Cowen, Synod Treasurer, to give his report.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 9
SEXUALITY
RECOMMENDATIONS

Resolution Number 9, Sexuality Recommendations, submitted by Bishop Thomas Skrenes and the Synod Council, was presented by Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee recommends adoption.

WHEREAS, the 2005 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will this summer be asked to adopt three recommendations from the ELCA Church Council concerning homosexuality; and

WHEREAS, there exists within this Church and synod considerable disagreement on these matters; and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council wishes to provide time for voting members of this Synod Assembly to discuss and to offer opinions to the Churchwide Assembly on the substance of this important issue; therefore be it

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 9
(continued)

RESOLVED, that this 2005 synod assembly shall vote by ballot on the three recommendations on sexuality that are being brought by the ELCA Church Council, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this discussion occur at a time established by the chair of the Assembly, that all points of order be waived, that no amendments to the recommendations be accepted and after a period of one hour debate evenly divided as close as possible between the proponents and opponents of these recommendations, the assembly would proceed to vote, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the record of the count of the votes cast on each of the three recommendations be forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA as an indication of this synod assembly's position on these recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2005 Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly accept other resolutions directly related to the sexuality recommendations as information only, and that such resolutions be removed from further consideration by this Assembly.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Resolution Number 9 by striking the last "Be it resolved." Discussion followed.

SA05.05.19

THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NUMBER 9
WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 122 TO 115.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Resolution Number 9 by changing the third resolved to read "Be it further resolved that the record of the count of the votes cast on each of the three recommendations be forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA as a non-directing sense of this synod assembly's positions on these recommendations provided for informational purposes only." Discussion followed.

SA05.05.20

THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NUMBER 9
WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 141 TO 99.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Resolution Number 9 by deleting the first and third resolved and end the second resolved at the "vote." The motion was defeated.

SA05.05.21

RESOLUTION NUMBER 9 WAS
ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 9
AS AMENDED

The amended adopted Resolution Number 9 states:

WHEREAS, the 2005 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will this summer be asked to adopt three recommendations from the ELCA Church Council concerning homosexuality; and

WHEREAS, there exists within this Church and synod considerable disagreement on these matters; and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council wishes to provide time for voting members of this Synod Assembly to discuss and to offer opinions to the Churchwide Assembly on the substance of this important issue; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 2005 synod assembly shall vote by ballot on the three recommendations on sexuality that are being brought by the ELCA Church Council, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this discussion occur at a time established by the chair of the Assembly, that all points of order be waived, that no amendments to the recommendations be accepted and after a period of one hour debate evenly divided as close as possible between the proponents and opponents of these recommendations, the assembly would proceed to vote, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the record of the count of the votes cast on each of the three recommendations be forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA as a non-directing sense of this synod assembly's positions on these recommendations provided for informational purposes only.

REPORT OF
THE ELCA

Bishop Skrenes introduced Bishop Mark Hanson to present his report from the ELCA.

SYNOD YOUTH
COORDINATOR

Bishop Skrenes called upon Wendy Black, Synod Youth Coordinator, to give her report to the Assembly.

OFFERING OF
QUARTERS

It was announced that the offering of quarters for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal totaled \$13,041.91.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, gave some announcements.

CLOSING HYMN
AND PRAYER

Rev. Mary Weinkauff, soon to be retired from Calvary, Minocqua, led the Assembly in a hymn and prayer. The Assembly is in recess until Tuesday morning.

**BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION**

A celebration honoring the 75th birthday of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp was held at the Marquette Armory.

**TUESDAY,
MAY 24**

Breakfast – on your own or at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church (benefit for the ministry at Faith Lutheran, White Pine, MI) Prayer Chapel

8:30 a.m.

Eucharist – Great Lakes Rooms, University Center

10:00 a.m.

Plenary IV – Great Lakes Rooms, University Center

**CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Shirley Price, Chair of the Credentials Committee, presented the following report as of 8:00 a.m., May 24, 2005:

Registered Voting Members	282
Clergy (including those under call and retired)	88
Lay Voting Members (73 male/121 female).....	194
Registered Visitors.....	72
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	354

Bishop Skrenes thanked Shirley and the other members of the Credentials Committee, Ruth Anne Connor and Jean Mitchell, for their work.

INTRODUCTIONS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Devon Barrix who recently graduated from Luther Seminary. He is nominated at Faith, Rock and Bethany, Perkins. Also introduced was Scott Ehle, St. James, Rudyard, who has completed his second year at Wartburg Seminary. Scott will be serving his internship in Osseo, Wisconsin. Sherrie Nelson, serving as intern at Bethany, Escanaba, was also introduced.

**SYNOD
WOMEN’S
REPORT**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Cam Martin, President of the Northern Great Lakes Synod Women's Organization, to present her report.

**RESOLUTION
NUMBER 3
CLERGY
COMPENSATION
GUIDELINES
FOR 2006**

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 3, submitted by the Clergy Compensation Task Force. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Clergy Compensation Guidelines for 2006 as approved by the Synod Council hereby be adopted and recommended to this Synod’s congregations.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 3 WAS ADOPTED.

SA05.05.22

RESOLUTION

NUMBER 4

SYNOD

COUNCIL

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 4. Synod Council recommends approval.

WHEREAS, the synod constitution and bylaws provide for the election of the Synod Council by the Synod Assembly (S10.01. and following bylaws); therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following persons nominated by the conferences be hereby elected to the Synod Council with terms expiring at the conclusion of the Synod Assembly in the year indicated herein.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| IGO Conference (one) | Pastor Fran Strong (2008) |
| Copper Country Conference (two) | Pastor Peter Vorhes (2007) |
| Four Rivers Conference (four) | Bruce Tusa (2008) |
| Menominee Valley Conference (five) | Phyllis Gottschalk (2008) |
| Delta Conference (six) | Jana Aho (2006) |
| Three Lakes Conference (seven) | Pastor David Letscher (2008) |
| | Vicki Petruske (2006) |
| Superior Central Conference (eight) | Elmer Moasio (2008) |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following youth nominated by the Synod Council be hereby elected to the Synod Council with terms expiring at the conclusion of the Synod Assembly in the year indicated herein.

One position open – Lindsay Dean (2007)

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 4 WAS ADOPTED.

SA05.05.23

RESOLUTION

NUMBER 5

SYNOD COUNCIL

MEMBERSHIP

Synod Secretary, Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, presented Resolution Number 5, Synod Council Membership. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the following changes be made to the bylaws S10.01.10. and S10.01.11.c. of the constitution of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, the words underlined added to the existing bylaws, and the words struck through deleted:

S10.01.10. The Synod Council shall consist of... annually, and one ~~two~~ youth who has ~~have~~ not attained the age of twenty-two ~~twenty~~ years to be elected by the Synod Assembly to serve a two year term. No elected member...two consecutive terms.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 5
(continued)

S10.01.11 c. The Synod Council shall submit the name of one youth to the Synod Assembly for election to the each available youth position.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that bylaw S10.01.15. be adopted:

S10.01.15 A representative of the Synodical Women's Organization and of the Lutheran Youth Organization may serve as an advisory member of the Synod Council with voice but not vote.

SA05.05.24

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution Number 5.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 5 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 6
ENDOWMENT
FUND
DISTRIBUTION

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 6, Endowment Fund Distribution – S11.01.61.i, submitted by the Endowment Fund Board. Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Northern Great Lakes synod approve the disbursement of not more than \$15,000 per year, for three years, a total disbursement of \$45,000, in Endowment principal pursuant to S11.01.61.i. for the expenses of a development person to represent the Northern Great Lakes Synod Endowment Fund.

SA05.05.25

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution Number 6.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 6 WAS ADOPTED.

KEYNOTE
ADDRESS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Bishop Alex Malasusa, who presented the keynote address.

HOMOSEXUALITY
DISCUSSION

Pursuant to Resolution Number 9, the Assembly engaged in a one hour "committee of the whole" discussion concerning the ELCA Church Council recommendations to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly on the issue of homosexuality.

The voting results on the Church Council recommendations were as follows:

Recommendation #1: Yes – 183; No – 45, Abstain – 16

Recommendation #2: Yes – 175; No – 44; Abstain – 24

Recommendation #3: Yes – 79; No – 130; Abstain – 34

There were also 8 blank ballots included in the voting.

OFFERING
TOTALS

It was reported to the Assembly that the Tanzania Project offering totaled \$2,576 and the Seminarian Support offering totaled \$2,943.26.

2005 NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY MINUTES
EVERGREEN
INITIATIVE

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Peter Jonas, First, Iron Mountain, Michigan, who reported to the Assembly on the Evergreen Initiative, a \$30,000 Siebert Foundation grant that will be used to provide financial assistance to clergy wishing to participate in ministry renewal and spiritual direction.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10
TO PRAYERFULLY
SUPPORT THE
MISSION OF
THE SALVADORAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Resolution Number 10, To Prayerfully Support the Mission of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, submitted by Rev. Timothy L.H. Bernard, Rev. Nancy Amacher, Rev. Jon Magnuson, Rev. Laurel Halvorson Bernard and the Joint Council of Messiah/St. Mark's Parish, Marquette, was presented by Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee recommends adoption.

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran people, historically, have been silenced through threats, abductions, economic repression, murders and other violence to its people, and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church is a respected, prophetic voice for the people of El Salvador, and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church has been recently victimized in an attempt to silence its prophetic voice through the brutal murder of Salvadoran Lutheran University guard, Manuel de Jesus Martinez, and

WHEREAS, Medardo Gomez, Bishop of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, himself views this as an effort to silence the church and the university known for "promoting a critical conscience in society, accompanying the people in their struggles for justice and in giving opportunities of education for the poor in El Salvador," and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northern Michigan University, Messiah and St. Mark's Churches in Marquette have a sister parish relationship with the Lutheran Church of the Martyrs in the community of Monsenor Romero in El Salvador,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the gathered Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod

- Enter in solidarity through our prayers with Bishop Medardo Gomez, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church and their mission of being a faithful and

prophetic voice for the Salvadoran people.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10
(continued)

- Support Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson in his letter to Salvadoran President Elias Antonio Saca calling for a full investigation to the murder of Manuel de Jesus Martinez and increased security on the university campus, and
- Condemn the forces in El Salvador and in the United States of America that are attempting to silence the people of God.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

It was moved and seconded to amend Resolution Number 10 by striking “and in the United States of America” in the last section of the resolved.

SA05.05.26

THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10 WAS ADOPTED BY A
VOTE OF 100 TO 97.

SA05.05.27

RESOLUTION NUMBER 10 WAS
ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10
AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran people, historically, have been silenced through threats, abductions, economic repression, murders and other violence to its people, and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church is a respected, prophetic voice for the people of El Salvador, and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church has been recently victimized in an attempt to silence its prophetic voice through the brutal murder of Salvadoran Lutheran University guard, Manuel de Jesus Martinez, and

WHEREAS, Medardo Gomez, Bishop of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, himself views this as an effort to silence the church and the university known for “promoting a critical conscience in society, accompanying the people in their struggles for justice and in giving opportunities of education for the poor in El Salvador,” and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northern Michigan University, Messiah and St. Mark’s Churches in Marquette have a sister parish relationship with the Lutheran Church of the Martyrs in the community of Monsenor Romero in El Salvador,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the gathered Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod

- Enter in solidarity through our prayers with Bishop Medardo Gomez, the Salvadoran Lutheran Church and

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10
AS AMENDED
(continued)

- their mission of being a faithful and prophetic voice for the Salvadoran people.
- Support Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson in his letter to Salvadoran President Elias Antonio Saca calling for a full investigation to the murder of Manuel de Jesus Martinez and increased security on the university campus, and
 - Condemn the forces in El Salvador that are attempting to silence the people of God.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 11,
GAY AND
LESBIAN
WELCOME
AND HATE
CRIME LAWS

Resolution Number 11, Gay and Lesbian Welcome and Hate Crime Laws, submitted by Rev. Tari Stage-Harvey, Rev. Katheryn King, Rev. Thomas Evans, Rev. Kim Beckmann, and Rev. Jamie Gallagher, was presented by the Resolutions Committee. They recommend adoption.

WHEREAS, violence against gays and lesbians rose 4% last year in Michigan*, and

WHEREAS, gays and lesbians are members of the body of Christ and we are called to love one another as we have been loved standing boldly as one body against hate and violence, and

WHEREAS, our arguments in the church are often seen as anti-gay/lesbian thereby feeding into the violence and we forget in the midst of such arguments to affirm our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters as fellow members of the body of Christ,

RESOLVED, that the congregations of the Northern Great Lakes Synod welcome gays and lesbians as partners in the body of Christ, and stand boldly beside each other to lobby our legislators and governor to include “sexual orientation” to the hate crime law in Michigan.

*As reported in National Coalition in Anti-Violence 2004 report. Wisconsin is not included in this resolution because they already include sexual orientation in their state’s hate crime law and they have not seen a dramatic increase in violence.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

It was moved and seconded to amend Resolution Number 11 by replacing “gays and lesbians as partners in” with “all people into” and conclude the resolved with the word Christ. The motion to amend the resolution was defeated.

THANKS

Bishop Skrenes asked that the Assembly recognize and thank the Resolutions Committee with their applause.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 7

Synod Treasurer Rev. Stephen Cowen presented Resolution Number 7, Amended Fiscal Year 2005 Budget. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the amended Fiscal Year 2005 budget in the amount of \$1,608,243.00 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report Addendum on pages 19-23 be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution Number 7.

SA05.05.29

RESOLUTION NUMBER 7 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 8

Synod Treasurer Rev. Stephen Cowen presented Resolution Number 8, Fiscal Year 2006 Budget. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Year 2006 budget in the amount of \$1,076,000.00 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report Addendum on pages 19-23 be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution Number 8.

SA05.05.30

RESOLUTION NUMBER 8 WAS ADOPTED.

SYNOD
ASSEMBLY
2006

Bishop Skrenes gave a few final announcements. He thanked all for their excellent participation. It was a good Assembly. Next year's Synod Assembly is scheduled for May 18-20, 2006 (Thursday through Saturday) at Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan.

ORDER FOR
CLOSING AND
ADJOURNMENT

Bishop Skrenes led the Assembly in the Order for Closing of Assembly. The Eighteenth Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was declared adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Date

Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, Synod Secretary

Karen Kolstad, Recording Secretary

Date

Orice Walters, Synod Vice President