

**Sierra Pacific Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Minutes of the Thirty-first Annual Assembly
June 1-3, 2018
Sacramento, CA**

Friday, June 1, 2018 1:00 PM

The 31st Annual Assembly of the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America met under the theme “We are Church Together: This is our Neighborhood.” Bishop Mark Holmerud opened the Assembly on Friday, June 1, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency, Sacramento, California. Signing and simultaneous English to Spanish interpretation were provided during the business sections and worship.

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m.

Acknowledgement of special guests: Rozella Haydée White, Houston City Director for *Mission Year*; Dana Dutcher, Manager for Relationships–Asia and the Pacific, Madagascar, West and Central Africa of the ELCA Global Mission Unit; Assembly co-chairs Mary Wiberg and Pastor Tita Valeriano; David Swartling, Parliamentarian; and first-time voting members.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bp. Holmerud called on Mr. Randy Presuhn, Chair of the Credentials Committee, to present the number of people who had registered as of 1:00 PM on June 1, 2018.

LAY VOTING MEMBERS		
Male	47	36.7%
Female	79	61.7%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1.6%</u>
TOTAL LAY	128	61.2%

CLERGY VOTING MEMBERS		
Male	53	65.4%
Female	27	33.3%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1.2%</u>
TOTAL CLERGY	81	38.8%

TOTAL VOTING 209

<u>ALL VOTING MEMBERS</u>		
Male	100	47.8%
Female	106	50.7%
Non-Binary	3	1.4%
First Time Voting	53	25.4%
Youth / Young Adult	12	5.7%
Person of Color	13	6.2%
Language not English	7	3.3%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	16	7.7%

TOTAL VISITORS 71

Male	30	42.3%
Female	41	51.7%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Youth / Young Adult	6	8.5%
Person of Color	7	9.9%
Language not English	5	7.0%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	7	9.9%
Clergy	10	14.1%
Lay	61	85.9%

TOTAL ATTENDEES 280

Greetings from Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Committee (SPSYC): Sam Moore and Julia Maloney spoke about SPSYC, introducing the work of the committee and the impact it has had on its members.

STANDING RULES OF ORDER

Secretary Jeffrey Pennington drew the Assembly's attention to the Standing Rules of Order for Assemblies as distributed in the Assembly Handbook.

SA18.06.01 Secretary Pennington moved the Standing Rules of Order for Assemblies. The motion was seconded (hereafter in these Minutes all motions recorded as having been considered by the Assembly were previously seconded). **PASSED**

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SA18.06.02 Secretary Pennington moved the adoption of the proposed agenda as presented in the pre-Assembly handbook. **PASSED**

APPOINTMENT OF ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Secretary Pennington announced the appointment of the following individuals to the designated committees:

Synod Assembly Planning: Ms. Mary Wiberg, Co-Chair; The Rev. Tita Valeriano, Office of the Bishop, Co-Chair; The Rev. Mark W. Holmerud, Bishop, Office of the Bishop; The Rev. Katy Grindberg, Office of the Bishop; Ms. Laurie Gaumer, Office of the Bishop; The Rev. Kirsten Moore; The Rev. Dot Lundgren; Ms. Lisa Achen; Ms. Denyse Curtright; The Rev. Jason Bense

Planning Committee Advisory Members: Ms. Diane Niggli of Helms Briscoe Meeting Planners – consultant; Mr. Tom Hoegel and The Rev. Tim Huff, Big Dog Sound; Mr. Steve Johnson, St. John's Lutheran Church

Elections: Ms. Sue Hertless, Chair; Ms. Sheela Boddu, Synod Council Liaison; Ms. Pat Cash – liaison with Synod Nominating Committee; The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson – Staff Liaison, Office of the Bishop

Credentials: Mr. Randy Presuhn, Chair; The Rev. Mary Anne Fiene; The Rev. Mary Lou Petitjean; The Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom; Mr. Jeffrey Pennington – Synod Secretary – *ex-officio*

Resolutions Committee: The Rev. Steve Sabin, Chair; The Rev. Diane Bowers; The Rev. Joshua Serrano; Ms. Gail Kiyomura – Synod Council Liaison; Mr. Jeffrey Pennington – Synod Secretary – *ex-officio*; Bp. Mark W. Holmerud, Office of the Bishop – *ex-officio*

VOICE MOTION

SA18.06.03 Secretary Pennington moved to grant voice at the Assembly to lay members of the Bishop's staff, all lay members of the Discipling Teams and Synod Committees, all lay members of the Assembly Planning Committee, all non-ELCA pastors serving synod congregations and ministries, the directors or chief executive officers of the organizations known as “Ministry Partners,” and seminarians in internship/teaching parish assignments within this synod. **PASSED**

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Bp. Holmerud introduced the Assembly Host Conference Dean, Pr. Kirsten Moore, Calvary, Rio Linda, CA, Capitol Valley Conference, who welcomed the assembly members to Sacramento.

Bp. Holmerud introduced Assembly Chaplains Pr. Monique Ortiz, Santa Maria y Santa Marta Lutheran Church and San Francisco Night Ministry, San Francisco, CA and Pr. Lyle Beckman, San Francisco Night Ministry. They introduced the work of the Night Ministry. Pastor Ortiz led the opening prayer.

ECUMENICAL GREETINGS

Bp. Holmerud introduced Bp. Barry Beisner, Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, who brought greetings from the Episcopal Church in America and the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ROSTERED LEADERS TO THE SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD

Assistant to the Bishop Pr. Katy Grindberg introduced the new rostered leaders who have come to the synod during the past year either by transfer or in their first call:

Transferred from Another Synod:

Deacon Linda Rube – Pacifica Synod
The Rev. David Bates – Southwest Washington Synod
The Rev. James Carr - Metropolitan Chicago Synod

The Rev. Sherri Delvin – Metropolitan Chicago Synod
The Rev. Sarah Erickson – Central States Synod
The Rev. Stephanie Johnson- Grand Canyon Synod
The Rev. Don Larson – Southeastern Minnesota Synod
The Rev. Tim Philips – Pacifica Synod
The Rev. Nelson Rabell-Gonzalez – New Jersey Synod
The Rev. Robert W. Swartz- Lower Susquehanna Synod
The Rev. Teresita “Tita” Valeriano - Southwest California Synod
The Rev. Bill Wessner – Northeast Ohio Synod

Ordinations/Consecrations/Additions to the Roster (First Call):

Deacon Suzanne O’Dea – Consecration – Calvary Lutheran, Eureka, CA
The Rev. Sharon Amundson – Mariposa Lutheran, Mariposa, CA
The Rev. Stephen Jahn – First Lutheran, Orland, CA
The Rev. Samee Singkeovilay – Christ Lutheran, Visalia, CA
The Rev. Eduardo Trejo-Soto – Iglesia Luterana El Buen Pastor, Salinas, CA

New non-ELCA Clergy serving SPS Congregations:

The Rev. Ed Hilton (PCUSA), Christ the King Lutheran -- Tahoe City, NV
The Rev. Jerilyn Dahlke (PCUSA), St. Stephens Lutheran -- El Dorado Hills, CA

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE, PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AT-LARGE POSITION

Ms. Pat Cash, Chair of the Sierra Pacific Synod Nominating Committee, read the standing rules for nominations to the At-Large Position.

RECEIPT OF THE SYNOD FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT

Synod Treasurer Linda Lownes reported that at the end of April she received the audit report and that it is included in the assembly book. She asked that if anyone had questions that they see her one-on-one, as we are only receiving it not discussing it at this meeting.

CONVERSATION ON JUSTICE FOR WOMEN SOCIAL STATEMENT, part 1

Synod Assembly co-chair Ms. Mary Wiberg led the first part of a two-part conversation and panel discussion on the ELCA’s Justice for Women social statement.

GREETINGS AND REPORTS

- **Portico update**, by Ms. Mary Beth Galey, Director of Sponsor Relationships and Development, Portico Benefit Services. Ms. Galey showed a brief video on Portico and updated the assembly on the latest developments at Portico.
- **Mt. Cross Lutheran Bible Camp**, presentation by Adam Erickson, co-executive director of Mt. Cross.

ELECTION OF SYNOD VICE PRESIDENT

Gail Kiyomura: 246

Elaine Whitney: 96

KEYNOTE ADDRESS #1, delivered by Ms. Rozella Haydée White, former Director for Young Adult Ministry for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and currently Houston City Director for Mission Year, an organization committed to walking with young adults as they fall in love with Jesus and the city, come alive in their gifts and purpose, build beloved community across dividing lines and become advocates for God's justice in our neighborhoods and world.

The Assembly broke for the day to attend hearings on proposed resolutions and on the proposed 2019-20 budget.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bp. Holmerud called on Mr. Randy Presuhn, Chair of the Credentials Committee, to present the number of people who had registered as of 8:30 AM on June 2, 2018.

LAY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	100	36.5%
Female	170	62.0%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1.5%</u>
TOTAL LAY	274	62.3%

CLERGY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	104	62.7%
Female	59	35.5%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1.8%</u>
TOTAL CLERGY	166	37.7%

TOTAL VOTING 440

ALL VOTING MEMBERS

Male	204	46.4%
Female	229	52.0%
Non-Binary	7	1.6%
First Time Voting	132	30.0%
Youth / Young Adult	26	5.9%
Person of Color	29	6.6%
Language not English	20	4.5%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	39	8.9%

TOTAL VISITORS 108

Male	48	44.4%
Female	60	55.6%
Non-Binary	0	0.00%

Youth / Young Adult	10	9.3%
Person of Color	12	11.1%
Language not English	10	9.3%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	13	12.0%
Clergy	16	14.8%
Lay	92	85.2%

TOTAL ATTENDEES 548

GREETINGS

Greetings from Chaplain John Ault, Navy Recruiting Command for Chaplaincy

Chaplain Ault introduced the Synod Assembly to the military chaplaincy program and told the Assembly that we need people who love Jesus to take care of our sailors and marines.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP

Mrs. Debbie Holmerud gave a warm introduction to Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop Mark Holmerud. Bishop Holmerud individually introduced and thanked the synod staff, thanked those members of Synod Council currently going off council, and acknowledged the officers.

He told the assembly that we have to keep working towards becoming a more multicultural, ethnically, and economically diverse synod and church, and called on the Synod to become an anti-racist, culturally competent body that can speak about these issues from the heart.

He challenged us to ask—and answer—the hard questions: Who are our neighbors? Whom have we overlooked? What is causing our fears? He posited that we may have to give up our love affair of our buildings if we’re to go out into the community, into the neighborhood, and that we may need to find ways to repurpose our *third* greatest asset—property. (Our first asset is our faith; our second asset is the people of our congregations.)

He then highlighted three concrete examples of being church “better together”:

- 1) Multiple point parishes as a model;
- 2) Ecumenical partnerships;
- 3) Rwanda parish model.

Bishop Holmerud also spoke about ways to raise up more leaders and provide leaders to congregations in need: synodically authorized ministers and TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) candidates for the pastorate.

With regards to the proposed FY19 synod budget, Bishop Holmerud made the following observations:

1) he explained that the budgeting process for synods and congregations differ, e.g., if the synod’s income exceeds its budgeted expenses, it may not spend any of the excess but is limited by the approved budget, and if the synod’s expenses exceed its income, it must institute a “spending plan” process as outlined in the synod constitution;

2) he uplifted the amazing generosity of congregations and individuals towards churchwide efforts and was confident that congregations and their members would support the continuing work of the synod as reflected in the proposed missional budget for FY19.

Bishop Holmerud mentioned that the 2019 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly would be one day only, on Saturday, May 11, 2019, in Lodi, CA. It is anticipated that this one-day assembly will represent a cost savings of nearly \$80,000 in typical assembly-related expenses. He also encouraged the implementation of a new funding model for synod assemblies whereby congregations include in their mission support what they normally allocate for registration costs for synod assembly.

Lastly, Bishop Holmerud announced that he will not be seeking re-election as bishop in 2020.

MISSION CONVERSATION, led by newly installed Director of Evangelical Mission Pastor Tita Valeriano

Pastor Valeriano introduced Pastor Samee Singkeovilay, leader of the Lahu worshipping community in Visalia, CA and uplifted Christ Lutheran Church, Visalia, for its support of this new ministry.

She also challenged congregations to become *vital* congregations.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS #2, delivered by Ms. Rozella Haydée White, former Director for Young Adult Ministry for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and currently Houston City Director for Mission Year

COMPANION SYNOD GREETINGS

The Rev. Medardo Gomez, Bishop of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, brought greetings from the Salvadoran Lutheran Church and shared with the Assembly the work being done by the church in El Salvador.

REPORT OF THE RACIAL AND ETHNIC MISSION STRATEGY DISCIPLING TEAM (REMSDT), Ms. Sheela Boddu, Pastor Linda Boston, Ms. Stephanie Leong

Ms. Leong reminded the Assembly of Resolution 2016-6 *Regarding the Sierra Pacific Synod Racial Ethnic Mission Strategy Discipling Team* and what the Assembly had undertaken to do.

Pastor Boston updated the Assembly on the work which has been done over the last year to reconstitute the REMSDT and to provide a strong foundation for moving forward.

REPORT OF THE SYNOD VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President Elaine Whitney thanked the local hosts, the organizing committee, the bishop's staff, invited guests, and outgoing members of the Synod Council for their service on Council. She talked about her life serving her neighbors and about the role of lay leaders in the church.

Ms. Whitney spoke about her work on the Charlottesville Listening Project, which is helping residents of Charlottesville, VA to connect with Lutheran leaders from throughout the country in efforts to combat racism. She also related her experiences as a participant in "A.C.T.

(awaken, confront, transform) to end Racism” activities in Washington, D.C., organized in April 2018 by the National Council of Churches, of which the ELCA is a member. The main activities took place on the 50th anniversary of the death of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The purpose of the event was to confront our national legacy of racism and to transform the hearts and minds of people and institutions through truth-telling strategies in church life.

The remainder of the morning session included a worship service followed by lunch over breakout gatherings for the conferences.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bp. Holmerud called on Mr. Randy Presuhn, Chair of the Credentials Committee, to present the number of people who had registered as of 1:20 PM on June 2, 2018.

LAY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	109	37.2%
Female	180	61.4%
Non-Binary	4	1.4%
TOTAL LAY	293	63.1%

CLERGY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	107	62.6%
Female	61	35.7%
Non-Binary	3	1.8%
TOTAL CLERGY	171	36.9%

TOTAL VOTING 464

ALL VOTING MEMBERS

Male	216	46.6%
Female	241	51.9%
Non-Binary	7	1.5%
First Time Voting	139	30.0%
Youth / Young Adult	29	6.3%
Person of Color	31	6.7%
Language not English	20	4.3%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	41	8.8%

TOTAL VISITORS 109

Male	49	45.0%
Female	60	55.0%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Youth / Young Adult	11	10.1%
Person of Color	12	11.0%
Language not English	10	9.2%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	13	11.9%
Clergy	16	14.7%
Lay	93	85.3%

TOTAL ATTENDEES 573

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED FY 2019 (2019-2020) BUDGET

SA18.06.04. Treasurer Lownes moved the adoption of the Council-Recommended Budget proposed by the Synod Council.

PASSED, 306 yes, 38 no

RESOLUTIONS

Bp. Holmerud introduced Pastor Steve Sabin, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. He thanked all of the members of the Resolutions Committee for their hard work.

SA18.07.05. On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, which had vetted the resolution, Pastor Sabin moved adoption of Sierra Pacific Synod Resolution 2018-1 *Regarding Sierra Pacific Synod Compensation Guidelines*.

Pastor John Valentine moved to divide the question and withdraw Resolve 2 from the Resolution and to consider Resolves 1 and 3.

PASSED

Consideration of Synod Resolution 2018-1

SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD RESOLUTION 2018-1

REGARDING SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD COMPENSATION GUIDELINES

WHEREAS in 2011, the Sierra Pacific Synod in Assembly adopted a process for the determination of appropriate compensation for its rostered Ministers, and

WHEREAS that process presumes that—annually in Assembly—the Sierra Pacific Synod will modify the “baseline compensation” as appropriate to reflect current economic realities, and

WHEREAS for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 the appropriate “baseline compensation” figure for full time rostered Ministers in the Sierra Pacific Synod was at a level of \$53,200, and

WHEREAS the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, California Consumer Price Index for the period December 2016 to December 2017 acknowledged a cost of living increase of 3%, therefore be it

RESOLVED that Sierra Pacific Synod’s 2018-2019 Compensation Guidelines reflect as appropriate baseline compensation for full time Rostered Ministers of \$54,800 for the period, July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED that Sierra Pacific Synod’s Sunday Pulpit Supply Guidelines for the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 be:

- One Service \$275
- One Service and Adult Class \$350
- Two Services \$350
- Two Services and Adult Class \$400

In addition, for the period starting July 1, 2018 the congregation will provide travel reimbursement in the amount of \$0.545 per mile (based on current IRS mileage reimbursement rates) and full payment for other expenses incurred by the supply pastor.

PASSED 313 YES, 30 NO

Consideration of Synod Resolution 2018-1a

Ms. Sara Sattler moved to amend by substitution.

Amendment PASSED

**SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD RESOLUTION 2018-1a
REGARDING SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD COMPENSATION GUIDELINES**

WHEREAS in 2011, the Sierra Pacific Synod in Assembly adopted a process for the determination of appropriate compensation for its rostered Ministers, and

WHEREAS that process presumes that—annually in Assembly—the Sierra Pacific Synod will modify the “baseline compensation” as appropriate to reflect current economic realities, and

WHEREAS for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 the appropriate “baseline compensation” figure for full time rostered Ministers in the Sierra Pacific Synod was at a level of \$53,200, and

WHEREAS the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, California Consumer Price Index for the period December 2016 to December 2017 acknowledged a cost of living increase of 3%, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the bishop's office is authorized to consult with a retired pastor or a pastor with a minimum of 25 years of rostered service, to affirm a negotiated contract of an appropriate compensation package that is less than the factored baseline for a call or interim contract.

PASSED 323 YES, 34 NO

ELCA CHURCHWIDE REPORT

Bishop Mark introduced Ms. Dana Dutcher, Manager for Relationships—Asia and the Pacific, Madagascar, West and Central Africa of the ELCA Global Mission Unit, who brought greetings from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and The Rev. Dr. Rafael Malpica Padilla, Executive Director of Global Mission. Ms. Dutcher recognized the work of Mark Carlson, Lutheran Office of Public Policy in California, who will be retiring in December 2018. Ms. Dutcher also highlighted the work being done in our three companion synods: Salvadoran Lutheran Church, Taiwan Lutheran Church, and Lutheran Church of Rwanda.

GREETINGS FROM LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

Presentation by Carol Roberts, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Stephanie Casenza, Director of Development, of Lutheran Social Services of Northern California about the work LSS is doing.

ELECTIONS OF CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

Conference 1: **Stephen Fratallone 236**, Craig Slane 90
Conference 2: **Pr. Dawn Roginski 227**, Pr. Ned O'Donnell 121
Conference 3: **Jeanne Miller 219**, Mary Tidwell 103,
Conference 4: **Pr. James Allen 321**
Conference 5: **Joshua Hayes 304**, Michael Angeletti 48
Conference 6: **Laurie Gaumer 235**, Barbara Grace 125
Conference 7: no nominee
Conference 8: **Pr. Sylvia Mueller 330**
Conference 9: **Danielle Haar 312**
Youth/Young Adult: **Catherine Slabaugh 323**
Person of Color/
Primary Language other than English: **Pr. Tuhina Rasche 245**, Stephanie Leong 101

GREETINGS AND REPORTS

- **Video presentation and report on Rwanda Schools Project**, by Karl Smith
- **Greetings from Pr. John Rutsindintwarne**, Lutheran Church of Rwanda PICO project
- **Report from the Hunger Network**, discussion between Edie Lott and Nick Hayes about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), followed by informational video about SNAP

SUNDAY, June 3, 2018

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bp. Holmerud called on Mr. Randy Presuhn, Chair of the Credentials Committee, to present the number of people who had registered as of 8:30 AM on June 3, 2018.

LAY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	109	37.1%
Female	181	61.6%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1.4%</u>
TOTAL LAY	294	63.1%

CLERGY VOTING MEMBERS

Male	108	62.8%
Female	61	35.5%
<u>Non-Binary</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1.7%</u>
TOTAL CLERGY	172	36.9%

TOTAL VOTING 466

ALL VOTING MEMBERS

Male	217	46.6%
Female	242	51.9%
Non-Binary	7	1.5%

First Time Voting	139	29.8%
Youth / Young Adult	29	6.2%
Person of Color	31	6.7%
Language not English	20	4.3%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	41	8.8%

TOTAL VISITORS 110

Male	49	44.5%
Female	61	55.5%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Youth / Young Adult	11	10.0%
Person of Color	12	10.9%
Language not English	10	9.1%
PoC <i>or</i> Language	13	11.8%
Clergy	16	14.5%
Lay	94	85.5%

TOTAL ATTENDEES 576

ECUMENICAL GREETINGS

The Rev. Minerva G. Carcaño, Bishop of the San Francisco Area of The United Methodist Church, extended greetings on behalf of the California Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church and spoke about the warm ecumenical relations between our two churches.

CONVERSATION ON JUSTICE FOR WOMEN SOCIAL STATEMENT, part 2

Pastor Connie Winter-Eulberg led the second part of this conversation by moderating a panel discussion on the social statement.

YOUTH CONVOCATION REPORT

Messrs. Chase Beardsley and Charlie Meredith spoke about the Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Committee (SPSYC) and the work it does, including the retreats for elementary, middle, and high school students.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO SYNOD CONSTITUTION BYLAW 7.22.01.

SA18.06.06. Secretary Pennington moved to approve changes to Synod Constitution Bylaw 7.22.01. regarding change in the percentage of the total number on the combined retired rosters who shall be selected as voting members at the Synod Assembly.

S7.22.01. Not less than 90 days prior to the convening of the Assembly, the Secretary of the Synod shall mail a letter to all retired ordained ministers, retired associates in ministry, retired deaconesses, and retired diaconal ministers on the combined rosters of the Synod, asking if they are willing to serve as a voting member of that year's Assembly.

From the list of those who reply affirmatively, the secretary shall designate a number equal to ~~10~~ 5% of the total number on the combined rosters who shall be selected as voting members. The names of those replying affirmatively shall be placed in alphabetical order, and the persons selected shall be chosen alphabetically, moving down the list from the alphabetical point where the previous year's list of voting members left off. Alternates shall be designated by continuing down the list in alphabetical order, but alternates who are not seated as voting members will continue to be eligible the next year. The secretary shall notify all retired rostered persons of the results of this process.

PASSED (2/3 vote required for approval), **219** (81%) **YES**, 52 (19%) **NO**

ELECTIONS FOR SYNOD COUNCIL

Youth: Sophia Hofmann, **elected by Acclamation**

Young Adult: Nicholas Hayes, **elected by Acclamation**

Member-at-Large: Pr. Gregg Brown, **elected by Acclamation**

RESOLUTIONS (cont.)

SA18.06.07. Pr. Adisa Armand moved to introduce Resolution 2018-2 ANTI-RACISM GUIDELINES AND STRATEGY.

PASSED 254 YES, 22 **NO**; Resolution moved to the floor for consideration

SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD RESOLUTION 2018-2 ANTI-RACISM GUIDELINES AND STRATEGY

WHEREAS racism knows no boundaries and penetrates religious and secular communities throughout our synod and our world, and

WHEREAS we have committed ourselves to becoming an anti-racist church and encouraging people to unlearn racial stereotypes and to work towards the elimination of racism, and

WHEREAS the Sierra Pacific Synod proclaims the power of God's love that calls us to protect and insure justice for the disenfranchised and vulnerable, and

WHEREAS the 2016 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly called for the Racial/Ethnic Mission Strategies Discipling Team in consultation with the Synod Council to draft a synod-wide strategy to dismantle structures of systematic racism within our synod, and

WHEREAS at the 2018 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly there is a higher percentage of guests who are people of color, ethnicities, and speakers of languages other than English, than those who are voting members, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod Council, in consultation with the Racial/Ethnic Ministries Discipling Team, present guidelines and a strategy to dismantle structures and behaviors of systemic racism within our synod at our 2019 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly.

SA18.06.08. Ms. Sheela Boddu moved to refer the Resolution to the Racial and Ethnic Mission Strategy Discipling Team.

PASSED 155 YES, 111 NO. Resolution 2018-2 *Anti-Racism Guidelines and Strategies* was referred to the REMSDT.

Business meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION, INSTALLATION, AND CLOSING OF ASSEMBLY

The Assembly closed with a worship service presided over by The Rev. Katy Grindberg and The Rev. Mark W. Holmerud, with The Rev Medardo Gomez preaching. Bishop Holmerud installed the newly elected Vice President and Synod Council members during the service.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey A Pennington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey A Pennington, Secretary
Synod Pacific Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America