

SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SYNOD ASSEMBLY
Results/Summary

The 2009 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly was held Thursday, May 28-Saturday, May 30 at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center and the Fresno Convention Center in Fresno, California under the theme ***God's Work, Our Hands***.

303 lay and 204 clergy voting members were joined by 84 visitors for the business of the Sierra Pacific Synod and inspiring speakers and workshops.

Bishop Emeritus April Ulring-Larsen presented Bible Study sessions while **The Rev. John Rutsindintware**, General Secretary of the Lutheran Church of Rwanda, and **The Rev. Walt Perry, Executive Director of Fresno Metro Ministry**, offered keynote addresses. **Carlos Pena**, Vice-President of the ELCA, brought the Report of the ELCA and greetings from Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson. A wide variety of worship experiences was offered and two workshop sessions gave those present a variety of choices for information and personal growth.

Elected by District Caucuses to Discipling Teams include:

District A: Witness and Service DT - Stan Anderson, Trinity, Ft. Bragg

District B: Leadership DT - The Rev. Mary Lou Pettijean, Lord of Mercy, Sparks

Witness and Service DT - Gloria Baker, Peace, Grass Valley (completing a vacated term)

District C: Word and Sacrament DT - Arlin Aasness, Christ, El Cerrito

Witness and Service DT - Pr. Dawn Roginski (completing a vacated term)

Leadership DT- Carol Starr (completing a vacated term)

District D: Witness and Service DT - The Rev. Michael O'Berg, Messiah, Redwood City

District E: Leadership DT - Ann Brewer

Elected by the Assembly to Synod Council include:

Elaine Alexander, Treasurer

Karen Goldsmith, District A Lay Female

Rev Tom Beck, District B Clergy

Jayesh Hines-Shah, District C Lay Male

Gisela Daetz, District D Lay Female

Rev. Brian Malison, District E Clergy

Rev. Adissa Armand-Miller, At Large

Maurie Hamilton, Youth Member

In other business, resolutions were considered by the Assembly with the following results:

09-01 Book of Faith Resolution: *adopted*

09-02 Memorial Regarding Changes to Roster Policy: *adopted*

09-03 Change in Board of Pensions Policy: *adopted*

09-04 Support for Seminary Students: *referred to Synod Council for study and implementation as amended* (line 14: delete "attending ELCA seminaries" and replace with "seminarians who are in the ELCA candidacy process and ...")

09-05 Resolution on Environmental Stewardship: *adopted*

The Synod Budget as proposed by the Synod Council to the Assembly was referred, by consensus, back to the Synod Council for implementation.

The Assembly also passed two by-law changes.

By-law SB10.01.05 was changed as follows: Strike the words "*from nominations made by the Nominating Committee. They shall be elected*" so that the By-law will read: *The three members-at-large shall be elected for three year terms, arranged in three classes so that one at-large position is elected each year. The election of the at-large Council member at each Assembly shall take place after the elections for any other Council positions are completed.*"

By-law SB07.21.02 was added: *The youth from the Synod Youth Committee shall be voting members of the Assembly.*" This addition to the by-laws is being reviewed to determine constitutionality.