

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY
May 14-16, 2009
Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan

Theme: Word Alive Jesus Christ!

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2009

1:30 p.m.	Registration	Messiah Lutheran Church
2:00 p.m.	Synod Council Meeting	Messiah Lutheran Church
4:30 p.m.	Voting Member and Visitor Orientation	Messiah Lutheran Church
6:30 pm.	Opening Worship	Messiah Lutheran Church

8:10 p.m.

PLENARY I – Messiah Lutheran Church

ORDER FOR OPENING

The Assembly participated in the Order of Opening of Assembly.

**INTRODUCTIONS,
GREETINGS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes welcomed all in attendance to the 22nd Annual Synod Assembly.

Bishop Skrenes introduced Ms. Evelyn Soto, ELCA Churchwide Representative; Dr. Tullitweni Mwinuka and Mr. Robert Charles from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; Mr. Euniace Bandio, also from the ELCT (from Gloria Dei, Hancock's companion congregation); Steve Olson, and Rev. Gary Grindeland representing Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan; Amy Johnson representing the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin; and Lon Bus from Madison, WI representing Lutheran Men in Mission.

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. George Kaiser, Sacristan, and Rev. Katherine Finnegan, Chair of the Worship Committee and thanked them and the committee for their ministry in planning the assembly worship services. Bishop Skrenes also announced that the offering from this evening's service and from the service on Saturday is intended for young men's and women's ministry. Congregations were urged to apply for grants from this fund; more information can be found in the packets.

Bishop Skrenes thanked Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for sponsoring tonight's reception. Thanks were also expressed to Jeannette Klimmek (Prince of Peace, Harvey) for serving as chair of the reception committee and Elaine Johnson (Bethlehem, Florence) for generally helping with many different things at the Assembly.

**INTRODUCTION
OF SYNOD
OFFICERS**

Bishop Skrenes introduced the Synod Officers: Pauline Kiltinen (St. Mark's, Marquette), Vice President; Rev. Douglas Johnson (Bethlehem, Florence), Secretary; and Rev. Stephen Cowen (Our Saviour's, Iron Mountain), Treasurer. He also introduced Karen Kolstad (Zion, Marinette) serving as Assembly Recording Secretary and Assembly Parliamentarian Susan Anderson (Sharon, Bessemer).

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Barb Maines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 7:40 p.m. May 14, 2009:

Registered Voting Members	246
Clergy (55 under call and 15 retired).....	70
Lay Voting Members (73 male/103 female).....	176
Registered Visitors.....	54
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	300

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 1
RULES AND
ORDER FOR
PROCEDURE

Bishop Skrenes announced that it is time to move the adoption of the Rules and Order of Procedure for this Synod Assembly. He reminded the Assembly of Rule 6 on page 115 of the Pre-Assembly Report and read a portion of this rule. He also announced that there is an additional rule proposed as part of this resolution and the Assembly received a copy of it. Bishop Skrenes then read proposed Rule Number 9:

9. There shall be a quasi-committee of the whole on Saturday morning, May 16, 2009, at approximately 9:30, for the whole Assembly to discuss the proposed social statement, "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust," and the Recommendations on Ministry Policies. The first discussion, on the social statement with implementing resolutions, shall be for a period of thirty minutes. At the conclusion of this first thirty-minute discussion, a second thirty-minute discussion will occur on the Recommendations on Ministry Policies and its four resolutions that have been transmitted by the ELCA Church Council to the Churchwide Assembly.

During this hour-long quasi-committee of the whole no motions will be in order. Each speaker will have two minutes to speak within each thirty-minute discussion. No speaker will address the Assembly more than once in each thirty-minute discussion, unless no other speakers seek recognition.

At the conclusion of the one-hour discussion in the quasi-committee of the whole, five votes will be taken by secret paper ballot. The first vote will ask whether the Assembly recommends approval of the social statement with implementing resolutions. The second through fifth votes will ask if this Assembly recommends approval of each of the four resolutions that comprise the Recommendations on Ministry Policies. The order in which they were proposed by the ELCA Church Council to the Churchwide Assembly will be the order of voting.

The secretary of the Synod is instructed to report the vote totals on all five votes on behalf of this Synod Assembly to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly and to the ELCA Church Council.

Submitted Assembly resolution numbers 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 are withdrawn from any further consideration by the 2009 Synod Assembly with the votes occurring above as sufficient response by this Assembly to these resolutions.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 1
RULES AND
ORDER FOR
PROCEDURE
(continued)

Bishop Skrenes then asked that Synod Council Vice-President Pauline Kiltinen read the Supporting Statement from the Synod Council:

The Synod Council has moved this action for several reasons. We believe that it is essential that the issues before the Churchwide Assembly this summer in Minneapolis on human sexuality be the subject of our discussion at this Synod Assembly. The best way to discuss the issues is to provide for a more informal way of speaking to the issues themselves and not for or against the specific resolutions that have been submitted by the Synod's congregations. With this quasi-committee of the whole process, members of this Assembly will be able to address the social statement and the Recommendations on Ministry Policies in a total one hour of discussion on Saturday morning, with thirty minutes on the proposed social statement and implementing resolutions and thirty minutes on the Recommendations on Ministry Policies. Then a vote on the issues will take place, in the same manner and on the same issues that the Churchwide Assembly will vote on them in August. These votes will be counted and reported to the ELCA Church Council and the 2009 Churchwide Assembly and all will be able to see our convictions in this manner.

Many of the submitted resolutions to this Assembly are redundant, have controversial whereas clauses and do not speak fully to the matters before the ELCA. This rule will remove these resolutions from further consideration and will allow for debate and discussion on the central matters, which are the social statement and the Recommendations on Ministry Policies.

By adopting this rule proposed by the Synod Council, the Assembly will have a voice and a vote in these issues without getting bogged down in parliamentary procedure. When the Northern Great Lakes Synod votes, it will be clear what this Synod thinks of the proposed social statement and the Recommendations on Ministry Policies. Please be reminded too, that members of this Assembly will have time on Friday afternoon under the recommended agenda to attend a hearing on these issues. Most of our Synod's voting members of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly in Minneapolis will be present at the hearing.

The Synod Council urges adoption of this rule for the efficient use of our time, and for the opportunity for this Synod to express its opinions in a clear and direct way.

Bishop Skrenes reported the Synod Council recommends adoption of Resolution Number 1, who has moved and seconded it.

RESOLVED, that the Proposed Rules and Order of Procedure as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report, pages 115 to 122 and Rule 9 as presented to the Assembly, be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2009 Assembly. Discussion followed.

SA09.05.01

RESOLUTION NUMBER 1 WAS ADOPTED.

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, pages 123 and 124 be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2009 Assembly.

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

SA09.05.02

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2 WAS ADOPTED.

NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Keith Kolstad, Chair of the Nominating Committee, and asked him to present their report as found on pages 111-114 of the Pre-Assembly Report. Rev. Kolstad also introduced the other members of the committee.

Nominations were presented for the following positions:

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (6-year term):

Rev. Kevin Kaiser, Rev. Keith Kolstad, Rev. Dean Marin and Rev. Jonathan Schmidt.

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

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

SA09.05.03

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Female (6-year term):

Ruth Anne Connor and Pearl S. Larson

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Female.

SA09.05.04

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Male (6-year term):

Ronald Raisanen and Lee Samuelson

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Male.

SA09.05.05

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

Bishop Skrenes announced that the first ballot for all positions will take place tomorrow morning. The Assembly thanked the committee for their work with their applause.

RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. John Autio, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. Rev. Autio reported that at this time no additional resolutions have been submitted. Bishop Skrenes asked that the Assembly review the “Rules Governing Resolutions” from page 118 of the Pre-Assembly

Report. Bishop Skrenes reminded the Assembly that all resolutions are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday to Rev. Autio, Rev. Douglas Johnson, Synod Secretary or Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Assistant to the Bishop.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee. She introduced the committee and gave a few announcements. The Assembly thanked the Synod Assembly Planning Committee with their applause.

Rev. Lori Liverance, Our Saviour, Iron Mountain taught the Tanzanian “three claps” to the Assembly.

LAY SCHOOL FOR MISSION GRADUATES

Bishop Skrenes announced that Rev. Jonathan Schmidt serves as the Dean of the Lay School for Mission and coordinator for the Gladstone campus. The Lay School for Mission meets on five campuses around the synod: Bethany, Ishpeming, Zion, St. Ignace; Finlandia University, Hancock; Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner; and First, Gladstone. The other campus coordinators were introduced by Bishop Skrenes: Rev. Warren Geier at Bethany, Ishpeming; Orv Kabut and Rick Weiss at Zion, St. Ignace; Rev. Jimalee Jones at Finlandia; and Rev. Mary Weinkauff at Shepherd of the Lakes, Sayner. In the absence of Pastor Schmidt, Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Mary Weinkauff to assist in distributing the diplomas for those graduating from the Lay School for Mission. The Assembly congratulated the graduates with their applause.

ROSTERED PERSONS CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES AND RETIREMENTS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Stephen Cowen (and his spouse Cindy) and Rev. Katheryn King (and her spouse Dave Eitland) who are celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry.

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Paul Raappana (and his spouse Sandee) who is celebrating 40 years of ordained ministry.

Bishop Skrenes then introduced Rev. Robert Sutherland who is celebrating 50 years of ordained ministry. Pastor Sutherland addressed the assembly.

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Ingmar Levin and Nancy Kalweit (representing her husband D.C. Kalweit) who are celebrating 55 years of ordained ministry. Pastor Levin and Nancy Kalweit both addressed the Assembly. The other clergy being recognized is Rev. Les Niemi who was not able to attend the Assembly.

Bishop Skrenes announced that three pastors are retiring from full time ministry. Rev. Margaret Johnson (Prince of Peace, Eagle River) and Rev. Mark Bangert (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago) could not be present. Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Ted Koehl (and his spouse Fran) and invited Pastor Koehl to address the Assembly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND CLOSING
PRAYER

Rev. Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, made some announcements and led the assembly in prayer. The assembly is now in recess until 8:00 a.m. Monday morning.

RECEPTION

Messiah Lutheran Church, with financial support from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, hosted the reception honoring our Tanzanian visitors, Lay School for Mission graduates, clergy celebrating anniversaries of ordination and retiring clergy.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

7:00 – 8:15 a.m.

Registration at Northern Michigan University – Assembly Office

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Prayer Chapel – Room 2207

8:00 a.m.

Hymn sing, Bible Study and Prayer with Rev. Jim Chinery, First, Iron Mountain.

8:30 a.m.

PLENARY II – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

INTRODUCTION
OF SYNOD
STAFF

Bishop Skrenes introduced and thanked the synod office staff: Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Assistant to the Bishop; Wendy Black, Synod Youth Coordinator; Rev. Lee Goodwin, Executive Director of the Sabbath Project; 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.

INTRODUCTION
OF GUESTS

Bishop Skrenes introduced Ryan Jones, Manager of Lutheran Relationships for congregations in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Mr. Jones addressed the Assembly.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Barb Maines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 8:13 a.m., May 15, 2009:

Registered Voting Members	258
Clergy (56 under call and 15 retired).....	71
Lay Voting Members (75 male/112 female).....	187
Registered Visitors.....	60
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	318

FIRST BALLOT
FOR ALL
POSITIONS

Bishop Skrenes offered a prayer and then asked the Elections Committee, chaired by Rev. James Duehring (Prince of Peace, Harvey), to distribute the first ballot for all positions. An Elections Committee Report will be given as soon as the ballots have been tallied.

EXCUSED
ABSENCES

Bishop Skrenes read Synod Bylaw S14.21 regarding required attendance at Synod Assemblies by rostered persons. The following rostered persons requested excused absences for the 2009 Assembly: Rev. Nancy Amacher, Rev. Mark Bangert, Rev. Julie Ann Bynog, Rev. Katherine Finegan, Rev. Peter Gundersen, Rev. Paul Holmstrom, Rev. David Jensen, Rev. Nick

EXCUSED
ABSENCES
(continued)

Johannes, Rev. Margaret Johnson, Rev. Phillip Johnson, Rev. Jimalee Jones, Rev. Katheryn King, Rev. Wally Leno, Rev. Barry Levine, Rev. George Olson, Rev. Jonathan Schmidt, Rev. Rell Spickerman, Associate in Ministry Arlene Rajala, and Associate in Ministry Nora Tahtinen.

Bishop Skrenes also reported on other rostered persons. Pastors who are currently on Leave from Call are: Rev. Nancy Amacher, Rev. Julie Summers Bynog, Rev. Thomas Evans and Rev. Kathryn King. Rev. Daniel Piel is on Leave from Call-Disability.

REPORT OF
THE BISHOP

Bishop Skrenes presented his Bishop's report as printed on pages 8-16 of the Pre-Assembly Report.

ROSTERED
PERSONS NEW
TO SYNOD

Bishop Skrenes announced the following persons who are new to the Northern Great Lakes Synod: Lori Hunter, Associate in Ministry from Prince of Peace, Eagle River; Rev. Nicholas Hopman, First Dollar Bay and Grace, South Range; Rev. Kevin Kaiser, Bethany, Amasa and Trinity, Stambaugh; Rev. Lloyd Luedeman, Bethany, Mohawk; Timothy Mulvaney, Licensed Lay Minister, First, Trenary; Rev. Steve Solberg and Rev. Marcia Solberg, Immanuel, Negaunee; Rev. David Van Kley, Messiah and St. Mark's, Marquette; Rev. James Wendt, Our Savior's, Marinette; Rev. Tom Lee, Retired and Rev. Eleanor Russey, Retired.

ORDINATIONS
AND
INSTALLATIONS

The following ordinations and installations were performed by Bishop Skrenes during May 2008-May 2009:

Ordinations

8/16/08	Lloyd Luedeman	Bethany, Mohawk
8/24/08	Kevin Kaiser	Zion, Cottage Grove, MN
11/16/08	James Wendt	Our Savior, Marinette
1/10/09	Nicholas Hopman	Chicago, IL

Installations

6/4/08	LaVonne Stephenson	Our Redeemer, Newberry
6/8/08	Lee Goodwin	The Sabbath Project
6/29/08	David Van Kley	Messiah & St. Mark's, Marquette
8/16/08	Lloyd Luedeman	Bethany, Mohawk
9/28/08	Kevin Kaiser	Bethany, Amasa/Trinity, Stambaugh
11/16/08	James Wendt	Our Savior, Marinette
2/22/09	Nicholas Hopman	First, Dollar Bay/Grace, South Range
3/22/09	Corinne Johnson	Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
4/5/09	Marcia Solberg	Immanuel, Negaunee
4/5/09	Steven Solberg	Immanuel, Negaunee

Associates in Ministry and Licensed Lay Ministers

1/25/09	Tim Mulvaney, LLM	First, Trenary
2/8/09	Lori Hunter, AIM	Prince of Peace, Eagle River

SEMINARIANS

Bishop Skrenes also announced seminarians present at the Assembly: Judy Mattson, Zion, Skanee; Max Miller, Gettysburg Seminary graduate assigned to our synod; Daniel Durbin from First, Gladstone; William Retza from Porterfield, Porterfield; and Kristin Rice from First, Iron Mountain. Michael Mannisto is also a seminarian from our synod (Grace, South Range) but is not with us today. Seminarian Kurt Hoover from Iowa has been assigned to our synod but could not be here at Assembly. The Assembly recognized these seminarians with their applause.

LUTHERAN MEN
IN MISSION

Lon Buss from Sun Prairie, WI was introduced by Bishop Skrenes. Mr. Buss spoke to the Assembly on behalf of Lutheran Men in Mission.

REPORT OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT

Pauline Kiltinen, Synod Vice President, presented her report to the Assembly. As part of her report, Pauline introduced the members of the Synod Council and thanked them for their ministry. The Synod Council also taught the Assembly a song about the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

INTRODUCTION
OF DR. TULTWENI
MWINKUA

Bishop Skrenes introduced Dr. Tultweni Mwinkua, Medical Coordinator of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania who spoke to the Assembly. Bishop Skrenes presented her with a gift after her address.

KEYNOTE
SPEAKER

Bishop Skrenes introduced Dr. Audrey West who presented her keynote address to the Assembly. Bishop Skrenes presented her with a gift at the conclusion of her presentation.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Barb Maines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 9:45 a.m., May 15, 2009:

Registered Voting Members	265
Clergy (60 under call and 15 retired).....	75
Lay Voting Members (76 male/114 female).....	190
Registered Visitors.....	63
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	328

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Rev. James Duehring, Chair of the Elections Committee, reported the following results on the first ballot:

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy:

Number of Valid Ballots	240
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	240
Needed to Elect.....	121
Rev. Kevin Kaiser.....	92
Rev. Jonathan Schmidt.....	160
Rev. Dean Marin.....	99
Rev. Keith Kolstad.....	119

SA09.05.06

**REV. JONATHAN SCHMIDT WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – CLERGY.**

The names of Rev. Keith Kolstad and Rev. Dean Marin will appear on the second ballot.

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Female

Number of Ballots.....	238
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	238
Needed to Elect.....	120
Pearl S. Larson.....	117
Ruth Anne Connor	121

SA09.05.07

**RUTH ANNE CONNOR WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – LAY FEMALE.**

Synod Discipline Committee – Lay Male

Number of Ballots.....	237
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	237
Needed to Elect.....	119
Lee Samuelson.....	106
Ronald Raisanen	131

SA09.05.08

**RONALD RAISANEN WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – LAY MALE.**

**SECOND
BALLOT**

Bishop Skrenes offered a prayer and then asked that the Elections Committee distribute the second ballot.

**STEWARDSHIP
MOMENT**

Bishop Skrenes presented “We Thank God,” the stewardship program he designed for synod congregations. Each congregation is to pick up their three-ring-binder with the stewardship materials while at the Assembly.

**WORLD HUNGER
AWARDS
AND OFFERING
OF QUARTERS**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. John Kuziej, Chair of the Synod Hunger Committee. Rev. Kuziej presented the “Big Bear” award to Ascension, Minocqua. The “Bread Basket” award was presented to Lucy Leppinen and Brenda Hemming. The offering of quarters was then received for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

**TREASURER’S
REPORT**

Rev. Stephen Cowen, Synod Treasurer, presented his report as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report.

**ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Rev. James Duehring, Chair of the Elections Committee, reported the following results on the second ballot:

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy:	
Number of Valid Ballots.....	242
Number of Invalid Ballots	0
Number of Valid Ballots.....	242
Needed to Elect.....	122
Rev. Keith Kolstad.....	146
Rev. Dean Marin.....	96

SA09.05.09

**REV. KEITH KOLSTAD WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – CLERGY.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND PRAYER

Bishop Skrenes called upon Pastor Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, to give some general announcements and also some announcements regarding the special lunches. Bishop Skrenes closed the session with prayer. The assembly is in recess until 1:00 p.m.

11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch – on site

1:00 p.m.

Hymn sing, Bible Study and prayer led by Virginia Paulson.

1:30 p.m.

PLENARY III – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

THE SABBATH
PROJECT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Lee Goodwin, Executive Director of The Sabbath Project. Pastor Goodwin gave a video presentation on the project.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Barb Maines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 1:09 p.m., May 15, 2009:

Registered Voting Members	265
Clergy (60 under call and 15 retired).....	75
Lay Voting Members (76 male/114 female).....	190
Registered Visitors.....	65
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	330

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 3
CLERGY
COMPENSATION
GUIDELINES

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 2009 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.

SA09.05.10

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 4

Resolution Number 4, Synod Council, submitted by the Conferences, was presented by Synod Secretary Rev. Douglas Johnson. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

SYNOD
COUNCIL

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

IGO Conference (One)	Susan Anderson (2010)
Copper Country Conference (Two)	Lynn Lehto (2012)
Headwaters Conference (Three)	Ken Hoffman (2012)
	Rev. Norman Peterson (2012)
Four Rivers Conference (Four)	Paul Larmour (2011)
	Joan Pataconi (2012)
Menominee Valley Conference (Five)	Rev. David Christenson (2010)
Delta Conference (Six)	Ann Christensen (2012)
Three Lakes Conference (Seven)	Jack Armstrong (2012)
	Rev. David Hueter (2011)

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 –

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 4 WAS ADOPTED.

SA09.05.11

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 5

Bishop Skrenes announced that Resolution Number 5 was withdrawn by the makers of the resolution in favor of Resolution Number 6.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 6
SYNOD
CONFERENCE
REALIGNMENT
BYLAW

Bishop Skrenes announced Resolution Number 6. Rev. Douglas Johnson read the following section of the motion and announced that because this is a change to the Synod Constitution, it requires a 2/3 majority approval.

RESOLVED, that the bylaws of the Synod (S12.01.11) be amended as follows to realign Trinity in Trout Creek, Michigan and First in Trenary, Michigan in different Conferences:

(Portions deleted indicated by strikethrough and portions added in italics.)

Iron-Gogebic-Ontonagon Conference (Conference 1): The County of Gogebic and the southern half of Ontonagon County ~~excluding Interior Township~~ in the State of Michigan; the County of Iron in the State of Wisconsin.

(Explanation: This places Trinity, Trout Creek in Conference 1.)

Copper Country Conference (Conference 2): The Counties of Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and the northern half ~~and Interior Township~~ of Ontonagon County in the State of Michigan.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 6
(continued)

(Explanation: This removes Trinity, Trout Creek from Conference 2.)

Delta Conference (Conference 6): That portion of the County of Delta west of County H13 *and Mathias Township in the County of Alger* in the State of Michigan.

(Explanation: This placed First, Trenary in Conference 6.)

Superior Central Conference (Conference 8): The Counties of Marquette *and all of Alger County excluding Burt Township and Mathias Township* in the State of Michigan.

(Explanation: This removes First, Trenary from Conference 8.)

SA09.05.12

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 5 WAS ADOPTED
BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

NGLS WOMEN
OF THE ELCA
REPORT

Catherine Sanborn, President of the Synodical Women's Organization, presented their report. She also introduced the board members for the organization.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND PRAYER

Bishop Skrenes called upon Pastor Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, to give some general announcements and also some information regarding the forums, Choir Festival and Prayer Around the Cross. The session closed with prayer. The assembly is in recess until 8:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Forums and Workshops – Northern Michigan University and St. Mark's Lutheran Church

7:00 p.m.

Choir Festival – Great Lakes Rooms

8:30 p.m.

Prayer around the Cross

SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Registration at Northern Michigan University – Assembly Office

8:00 a.m.

Hymn Sing, Bible Study and Prayer with Amy Johnson, Executive Director of the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Madison.

8:30 a.m.

PLENARY IV – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Skrenes announced that the World Hunger Offering total so far is \$16,859.81 with more still coming in.

Bishop Skrenes called upon Pastor Virginia Eggert, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, to give some general announcements.

INTRODUCTION
OF MR. ROBERT
CHARLES

Bishop Skrenes introduced Mr. Robert Charles, Deputy General Secretary and Head of the Department of Social Services – health, education, Social Welfare and Women and Children Units of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania. Mr. Charles addressed the Assembly. Bishop Skrenes presented him with a gift after his address.

ELCA
CHURCHWIDE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Ms. Evelyn Soto, Associate Executive Director and Director for Resourcing Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Ministries. Ms. Soto addressed the Assembly on behalf of ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson. Bishop Skrenes presented her with a gift at the conclusion of her report.

QUASI COMMITTEE
OF THE WHOLE

Bishop Skrenes announced that it was now time to move to the Quasi Committee of the Whole and the Assembly’s consideration of the Proposed Social Statement and Ministry recommendations. He read Rule Number 9 that was adopted as part of Resolution Number 1. Each part of the discussion was 30 minutes in length. At the conclusion of the discussions, Bishop Skrenes announced that the Assembly was now to cast ballots on the five votes. The order that they were proposed by the ELCA Church Council to the Churchwide Assembly will be the order of voting. Bishop Skrenes called upon Pastor James Duehring, Chair of the Synod Assembly Elections Committee, Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, and the elections committee to pass out the ballots. He then offered a word of prayer and the Assembly cast their votes. After the ballots were collected, Bishop Skrenes declared the voting closed. The report of the results will be heard as soon as the votes are tallied.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Barb Maines, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 10:24 a.m., May 16, 2009:

Registered Voting Members	266
Clergy (60 under call and 15 retired).....	75
Lay Voting Members (77 male/114 female).....	191
Registered Visitors.....	76
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	342

The Assembly thanked the Credentials Committee and the Elections Committee for their work with their applause. Bishop Skrenes also thanked Lori Hunter and Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege for their work on the choir festival last evening. He also thanked Rev. Steve and Cindy Cowen for the service of Prayer around the Cross.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 7

Synod Treasurer Rev. Stephen Cowen presented Resolution Number 7, Amended Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

AMENDED
FISCAL
YEAR 2009
BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the amended Fiscal Year 2009 budget in the amount of \$2,186,572 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report on page 140-141 be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 7.

SA09.05.13

RESOLUTION NUMBER 7 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 8
FISCAL
YEAR 2010
BUDGET

Synod Treasurer Rev. Stephen Cowen presented Resolution Number 8, Fiscal Year 2010 Budget. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Year 2010 budget in the amount of \$1,619,417 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report on page 140-141 be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 8. Discussion followed.

SA09.05.14

RESOLUTION NUMBER 8 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 12
SUPER
MAJORITY
RESOLUTION
FOR
CHURCHWIDE
ASSEMBLIES

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 12. Rev. Douglas Johnson read the following:

RESOLVED, that the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly memorialize the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to add the following provision to the rules of procedure for the Assembly: "Any motion to come before this Churchwide Assembly regarding changes in this Church's current policy and practice for the rostering of ordained ministers, diaconal ministers, associates in ministry, and deaconesses shall require a two-thirds vote by the Assembly for adoption."

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 12. Discussion followed. A voice vote was taken but a division of the house was called. A standing vote was tallied; the results were 131 Yes, 65 No and 8 Not Voting.

SA09.05.15

RESOLUTION NUMBER 12 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 16
CHRISTIAN
PRINCIPLES
TO
DISAGREEMENTS

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 16. Rev. Douglas Johnson read the following:

RESOLVED, that, regardless of the outcome of the sexuality proposals, the ELCA establish methods, procedures, and teaching that help its people to apply Christian principles to disagreements among them and especially to bear one another's burdens, love the neighbor, and respect the bound consciences of those with whom they disagree.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 16. Discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the “Resolved” clause with the addition of the words “be memorialized to” after the word ELCA.

SA09.05.16

THE AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION
NUMBER 16 WAS ADOPTED.

Rev. Douglas Johnson read the “Resolved” clause with the amendment:

RESOLVED, that, regardless of the outcome of the sexuality proposals, the ELCA be memorialized to establish methods, procedures, and teaching that help its people to apply Christian principles to disagreements among them and especially to bear one another’s burdens, love the neighbor, and respect the bound consciences of those with whom they disagree.

SA09.05.17

RESOLUTION NUMBER 16 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes called upon Rev. John Autio, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, to give the committee’s report. Rev. Autio reported that the committee received three additional resolutions but because of the nature of the resolutions, none of them will be brought to the Assembly for consideration. Bishop Skrenes expressed his thanks for the work of the committee and the Assembly thanked the committee with their applause.

2010 SYNOD
ASSEMBLY

Bishop Skrenes called upon Rev. Douglas Johnson, Secretary of the Synod. Rev. Johnson announced that the 23rd Annual Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod will be Sunday, May 16 through Tuesday, May 18, 2010 at Finlandia University in Hancock.

REPORT ON
2009 RESOLUTION
NUMBER 10

A question was raised from the Assembly about Resolution Number 10 adopted by the 2009 Assembly in regards to the formation of a Synod “Dream Team.” Both Bishop Skrenes and Pauline Kiltinen spoke to the Assembly regarding this resolution.

LIVE REPORT
FROM THE
LANGSETHS
IN TANZANIA

Bishop Skrenes announced that the Assembly would enjoy a “special treat” this morning. Through the wonder of technology, the Assembly was able to hear live greetings from Rev. Robert and Deloris Langseth in Tanzania. The Langseths gave an update on several projects that are on-going in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania, the NGLS Companion Synod.

11:45 a.m.

Closing Worship – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Rev. James Duehring, Chair of the Elections Committee, announced the following results of the voting at the conclusion of the Quasi Committee of the whole:

SOCIAL STATEMENT

Shall the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly recommend approval of the social statement, “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust,” and its implementing resolutions?

133 YES 104 NO

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

RECOMMENDATIONS ON MINISTRY POLICIES: RESOLUTION 1
Shall the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly recommend approval of
the Recommendations on Ministry Policies: Resolution 1?
127 YES 110 NO

Resolution One proposes that the ELCA commit itself to finding ways to allow congregations that choose to do so to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships.

RECOMMENDATION ON MINISTRY POLICIES RESOLUTION 2
Shall the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly recommend approval of
the Recommendations on Ministry Policies: Resolution 2?
107 YES 120 NO

Resolution Two proposed that the ELCA commit itself to finding a way for people in such publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders of this church.

RECOMMENDATION ON MINISTRY POLICIES RESOLUTION 3
Shall the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly recommend approval of
the Recommendations on Ministry Policies: Resolution 3?
137 YES 99 NO

Resolution Three proposes that, in the implementation of these resolutions, the ELCA commit itself to bear one another's burdens, love the neighbor, and respect the bound consciences of all.

RECOMMENDATION ON MINISTRY POLICIES RESOLUTION 4
Shall the Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly recommend approval of
the Recommendations on Ministry Policies: Resolution 4?
105 YES 112 NO

Resolution Four proposes the following:

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America call upon its members to commit themselves to respect the bound consciences of those with whom they disagree regarding decisions on the call and rostering of individuals in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships, in this church and with churches ecumenically and globally; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this church, because of its commitment to respect the bound consciences of all, declare its intent to allow structured flexibility in decision-making regarding the approving or disapproving in candidacy and the extending or not extending of a call to rostered service of a person who is otherwise qualified and who is living or contemplates living in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America make provision in its policies to eliminate the prohibition of rostered service by

ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT
(continued)

members who are in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the appropriate churchwide unit(s) be directed to develop, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council be directed to approve, appropriate guidelines for a process by which congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization could hold people publicly accountable in their relationships who are in or contemplate being in lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and who seek to be on the rosters of this church; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Appeals be directed to develop, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council be directed to approve, appropriate amendments to “Definition and Guidelines for Discipline” and the Vocation and Education program unit be directed to draft, in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, and the Church Council be directed to approve, appropriate amendments to the “Vision and Expectations” documents and the Candidacy Manual to accomplish the intent of this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that additional policies be developed, as necessary, so that those whom this church holds responsible for making decisions about fitness for rostered ministry in general and for call to a specific ELCA ministry may discern, and have guidance in discerning, the fitness for ministry of a member living in a publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationship; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that this church continue to trust its established processes and those to whom it has given the responsibility to discern who should and should not be rostered or called to public ministry in this church.

Bishop Skrenes announced that Rev. Douglas Johnson, Secretary of the Synod, will send these results to Churchwide ELCA.

MOTION TO
DESTROY BALLOTS
SA09.05.18

A motion was made and seconded to destroy the ballots from the elections. Bishop Skrenes thanked the Elections Committee for their work.

MOTION CARRIED.

ORDER FOR
CLOSING AND
ADJOURNMENT

Bishop Skrenes led the Assembly in the Order for Closing of Assembly. The Twenty-second Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was declared adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.

Date

Doug Johnson, Secretary

Karen Kolstad, Recording Secretary

Pauline Kiltinen, Vice President

Approved by the Synod Executive Committee per S11.01.11.f