

Northwest Washington Synod Twenty-fifth Annual Assembly
The Word of God is Source and Seed

Friday and Saturday, May 18 – 19, 2012
Everett, Washington



Friday, May 18, 2012

OPENING WORSHIP

The twenty-fifth annual Synod Assembly of the Northwest Washington Synod opened with worship at 10:00 am, with Bishop Wm Chris Boerger preaching and the Rev Nancy Winder presiding. Following worship, Bishop Boerger called the assembly to order at 11:03 am, immediately calling for a brief break for worship space to be returned to meeting space.

PLENARY 1

CALL TO ORDER

The bishop called the assembly to order at 11:30 am.

CREDENTIALS REPORT 1

Registrar Jan Cherry, Diaconal Minister, Bethany, Seattle, gave the initial credentials report of 286 voting members registered and present. The bishop asked those members of the assembly under the age of 18 to stand and the members of the assembly thanked them with applause for their participation.

QUORUM

Bishop Boerger declared a quorum and the assembly is in session.

ELECTRONIC VOTING

The bishop introduced the process and guided voting members through a series of biblical knowledge questions to ensure the equipment was functional and that voters understood how to use the equipment.

STANDING RULES

Vice President Georganne Robertson, Queen Anne, Seattle, speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, moved adoption of the Standing Rules. The Standing Rules were **adopted**.

SA2012.01 **That the Standing Rules of the 2012 Synod Assembly are adopted as presented.**

ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Georganne Robertson moved adoption of the Assembly Agenda. The motion *carried*.

SA2012.02 **That the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly Agenda is approved as presented.**

INTRODUCTIONS

Bishop Boerger introduced guests of the assembly: Bishop Dietrich Brauer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of European Russia and the Rev. Lena Bondarenko, Dean of the Central Deanery, representing one of our companion synods; the Rev Dr Mark Allan Powell, Trinity Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, Keynote Speaker; and the Rev Mark Wilhelm Churchwide representative; and the Rev Laurie Stumme-Diers, Bethany, Bainbridge, 2012 Assembly Coordinator.

NOMINATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Bishop Boerger announced the noon Friday deadline for submission of nominations and resolutions.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Synod Secretary the Rev Linda Larson presented a motion to add Bylaw S8.51.01 to the synod Constitution & Bylaws to allow appointment of the Synod Treasurer by the Synod Council, as opposed to election by the Synod Assembly. A two-thirds majority is required for the change to be accepted. The motion *carried*.

SA2012.03 **That the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approves Amendment 64 to the Synod Constitution & Bylaws:**

S8.51.01 **The treasurer of this synod shall be appointed by the Synod Council.**

Linda moved adoption of Amendment 68 to the Synod Constitution, concerning nominations for the positions of officers of the synod The motion *carried*.

SA2012.04 **That the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approves Amendment 68 to the Synod Constitution & Bylaws:**

S9.05. **The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one ~~two~~ persons for vice president; additional nominations may be made from the floor.**

S9.06. The Synod Council shall nominate at least one ~~two~~ persons for secretary; additional nominations may be made from the floor.

GREETINGS

The Rev Steve Olson brought greetings from Pacific Lutheran University.

LUNCH

The bishop declared the assembly in recess for lunch at 12:02 pm.

PLENARY 2

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop Boerger called the assembly back to order at 1:32 pm.

CREDENTIALS REPORT 2

Registrar Jan Cherry reported that 295 voting members had registered.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP

The Bishop temporarily relinquished the chair of the Assembly to Georganne Robertson, Synod Vice President, in order to give his report.

Bishop Boerger referred members of the assembly to his written report and spoke of the priorities of the church in this synod at this time. He has seen God at work in this synod raising up new leaders to serve the church, highlighting the ordination of Esau Cuevas and Emilio Benitez in February. With sixty percent of the clergy in the synod over the age of 50 and a significant drop-off in the number of pastors under age 40, the church will see a significant change in leadership over the next decade. There are people in this synod preparing for service on all four rosters of the church: clergy, Diaconal Minister, Associate in Ministry and Deaconess. The bishop thanked the Rev Nancy Winder, Assistant to the Bishop for Candidacy, and the members of the Candidacy Committee for their work and thanked the members the synod who have helped raise up new leaders for the whole church.

In addition to raising up new leaders, a priority has been support for new ministries – the bishop emphasized that it is important to try new things, to make mistakes for the sake of the Gospel. Among new ministries in this synod, he highlighted Grace Chinese, Seattle's efforts: Grace Chinese, Sammamish and New Fruit, a young adult ministry in North King/South Snohomish Counties; as well as Church of Steadfast Love, Columbia City Church of Hope, Bethel Ethiopian Lutheran Church; Luther's Table in Renton. The ELCA is the only mainline denomination holding weekly worship services for the homeless in the city of Seattle.

Average worship attendance in this synod from 2005-2010 increased by five percent in about 20 congregations; in 11 congregations attendance was flat; and in 73 congregations, attendance decreased by more than five percent. In the ELCA as a whole, 63 percent of congregations have

seen 5 percent or greater decline in attendance. The bishop would like to participate with church councils to discuss this issue.

Bishop Boerger thanked the members of the Synod Council for their service, particularly those finishing their terms. He praised Synod Vice President Georganne Robertson for her leadership and thanked Millie Fosberg, who is completing her service as Treasurer of the synod. Finally, he thanked his wife, DeDe Boerger, for her support.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Berg, First, Bothell thanked members of the Nominations Committee, the people who allowed their names to be put forth for various positions, and the Synod office staff for their gracious manner and hard work.

The Bishop reviewed the order in which the elections will take place on the first ballot, beginning with restricted positions for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly. Those people not elected will fall into the undesignated categories on succeeding ballots. Elections for Synod Council positions will also begin with restricted positions, and those not elected will fall into undesignated categories on succeeding ballots.

KEYNOTE 1

The Bishop introduced the Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell, who is on the faculty at Trinity Seminary in Ohio. His first presentation to the assembly focused on the role of the Bible in our faith and our congregational lives.

ASSEMBLY OFFERINGS

The offering from the opening worship service was \$3,741.02.

ELECTIONS 1

Synod Secretary – Linda Larson, Edison, Bow was the nominee, and with vote by a show of voting cards, the Bishop declared Linda Larson elected as secretary. Linda is filling the remainder of the term of the Rev Wes Howell, who resigned the position to take a call in another synod.

Lay Roster Member of Synod Council -- Jan Cherry, Diaconal Minister, Bethany, Seattle was the nominee, and with vote by a show of cards, the Bishop declared Jan Cherry elected to the Lay Roster position.

Youth member of Synod Council – Sojin Thompson, St Matthew's, Renton was the nominee, and with vote by a show of cards, the Bishop declared Sojin Thompson elected to the Youth position.

Person of color or whose primary language is not English of Synod Council – Esau Cuevas, El Camino de Emaus, Burlington and Jianhua 'Jimmy' Hao, Grace Chinese, Seattle were nominated. Voting was conducted with electronic voting machines, with the results to be reported at a later time.

Voting continued for the Clergy, Person of Color or whose Primary Language is Not English position of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly. Esau Cuevas, Jianhua 'Jimmy' Hao, and Timothy Whiteman were nominated. Voting was conducted with electronic voting machines, with the results to be reported at a later time.

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Georganne Robertson, Queen Anne, Seattle presented her report to the assembly, saying that the story of this synod is but one chapter in the life of the church, likening the assembly to a family reunion.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Linda Larson gave the report of the Secretary to the assembly.

RECESS

The Bishop declared the assembly in recess for 20 minutes.

Plenary 3

CALL TO ORDER

The bishop called the assembly to order at 3:55 pm.

CREDENTIALS REPORT 3

Registrar Jan Cherry reported that 311 voting members were registered.

FAITH ACTION NETWORK (FAN) OFFERING OF LETTERS

Kari Lipke, Intern, spoke on behalf of the organization. FAN offers an opportunity for assembly members to write letters to Washington State's senators and representatives; blank paper is available at the FAN display for writing your own message and also provides three sample letters regarding the Supplemental nutritional assistance program, renewal of the Child care tax credit, and renewal of the Violence Against Women Act. In addition, thank you letters are available for the senators from this state, who have supported legislation on these three subjects.

ELECTION RESULTS 1

Paul Anderson reported the results of balloting:

For the 2013 Churchwide Assembly Clergy Person of Color or whose Primary Language is Other than English, Esau Cuevas received 109 votes; Jimmy Hao received 87; and Tim Whiteman received 42. There will be a runoff between Esau Cuevas and Jimmy Hao.

For the 2013 Churchwide Assembly Youth/Young Adult position, Micah Berg received 58 votes, Tony Rhodes received 28, and Vanessa Unti received 107. Bishop Boerger declared Vanessa Unti *elected*.

For the Synod Council Youth position, Sojin Thompson was *elected*.

For the Synod Council Clergy Person of Color or whose Primary Language is Other than English, Esau Cuevas received 125 votes and Jimmy Hao received 104. Esau Cuevas was *elected*.

ELECTIONS 2

A runoff election for the position of Clergy Person of Color whose Primary Language is Other than English was held using electronic voting devices.

CHURCHWIDE REPRESENTATIVE

The Rev Mark Wilhelm shared a video from Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson. Among many statistics given was the commitment on the part of Lutherans to hunger and disaster relief: Lutherans of the ELCA gave more than \$19 Million to World Hunger last year and \$10 Million to Disaster Relief. Members and congregations of this synod gave \$160,000 to World Hunger and \$155,000 to disaster relief.

SYNOD TREASURER

Millie Fosberg, Burlington, Burlington reported that the current fiscal year continues to bring both challenges and opportunities for the synod. Challenges include the need for constant monitoring of income and lower-than-desired balances in reserve funds. She thanked congregations for their financial support of the work of the synod.

In the most recent fiscal year, the synod received \$1,272,209 in mission support from congregations a decrease of \$51,453.66 from the previous year and the lowest amount in fifteen years. The synod transferred 45.5 percent, or \$578,855.06, to the Churchwide organization. In addition to supporting the Churchwide organization, the synod shared \$153,999.96 with other agencies and social ministry organizations, a decrease of \$23,868.89 from the previous year. Congregations forwarded \$472,820.03 through the synod to 77 designated ministries during this period.

Synod salaries decreased by \$34,000 this year; the staff is finding ways to be more efficient and Millie thanked the staff for their work.

In the first quarter of the current fiscal year, mission support is modestly improved.

Following her report, Bishop Boerger noted that the synod staff compensation has decreased by 11 percent from three years ago and the morale of staff is beginning to suffer.

2013 SPENDING CAP

Wayne Daley, Bethany, Bainbridge, Chair of the Synod Finance Committee, moved adoption of the 2013 General Fund Spending Cap at 1,318,000. Following some discussion, it was noted that the amount of the cap ought to have set at \$1,318,800. It was moved and seconded to amend the 2013 Spending Cap; the motion *carried*. The motion to approve the 2013 Spending Cap as amended *carried*.

SA2012.05

That the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approves a cap of \$1,318,800 for the Fiscal Year 2013 General Fund Budget and that motions to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a recommended offsetting decrease, and that the Fiscal Year 2013 General Fund receipts in excess of \$1,318,800 be disbursed as directed by the Synod Council.

KEYNOTE 2

Mark Alan Powell presented his second keynote address.

ELECTIONS REPORT 2

Paul Anderson reported that, for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly Clergy Person of Color or Whose Primary Language is other than English, Esau Cuevas received 115 votes and Jimmy Hao received 100 votes. Bishop Boerger declared Esau Cuevas *elected*.

For the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, four positions are designated for clergy. With Esau Cuevas elected and Bishop Boerger filling one of those positions, there will be election of two additional clergy during tomorrow's session. In the Lay Female category, the Synod Vice President and the elected Youth/Young Adult position are filling two positions so tomorrow's elections will include one additional Lay Female position. Three Lay Male positions will also be filled tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

Bishop Boerger adjourned the assembly until 8:30 am tomorrow, following Evening Prayer.

Saturday, May 19, 2012

PLENARY 4

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop Boerger called the assembly to order at 8:30 am and the worship team led the assembly in song as the work of the assembly began.

CREDENTIALS REPORT 4

Registrar Jan Cherry reported that 313 voting members were present as of 8:30 am.

ELCA MALARIA VIDEO

A video produced by the ELCA Churchwide organization on the ELCA Malaria initiative was presented to the assembly.

ELECTIONS 3

Members of the assembly were invited to vote for two for Synod Council, Lay Female from Susan Berg, Joanne Nieman Hinkel, Millie Fosberg, Liv Mothershead, and Sherianne Caldwell.

Members of the assembly were invited to vote for Synod Council, Lay Male; Aaron Korneliussen,

Nativity, Renton was *elected*.

Members of the assembly were invited to vote for four for Synod Council, Clergy from Jeannine Daggett, Zion, Everett; Eric Finsand, Christ the Servant, Bellingham; Mark Griffith, Mount Si, North Bend; Jimmy Hao, Grace Chinese, Seattle; John Okan, Immanuel, Everson; Scott Postlewait, Grace, Des Moines; and Pam Russell, Prince of Peace, Shoreline.

Members of the assembly were invited to vote for two for 2013 Churchwide Assembly, Clergy, from Chris Berry, Christ the Servant, Bellingham; Jeannine Daggett, Zion, Everett; Gary Dalenius, Holy Cross, Everett; Eric Finsand, Christ the Servant, Bellingham; Jimmy Hao, Grace Chinese, Seattle; Chris Hogstad, Light of the Cross, Bothell; G. Lee Kluth, PLU; Linda Larson, Edison, Bow; John Lindsay, Lutheran Church in the San Juans; Jim Lindus, Trinity, Freeland; John Okay, Immanuel, Everson; Tim Whiteman, Central, Bellingham; Deanna Wildermuth, Holy Trinity, Mercer Island, and Amanda Zentz, First, Mount Vernon.

For the position of Churchwide Assembly Member, Lay Female, members of the assembly were asked to vote for two from Susan Berg, First, Bothell; Sherianne Caldwell, Luther Memorial, Seattle; Jan Cherry, Diaconal Minister, Bethany, Seattle; Elaine Harrison, Faith, Seattle; and Joanne Nieman Hinkle, Saint Andrew's, Bellevue.

Members of the assembly were invited to vote for three for 2013 Churchwide Assembly, Lay Male from Fritz Baesman, Lutheran Church in the San Juans; Micah Berg, First, Bothell, Tony Rhodes, Advent, Mill Creek.

2013 BUDGET PROPOSAL (Appendix A)

Wayne Daley, Bethany, Bainbridge, Chair of the Finance Committee, speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, moved adoption of the 2013 Budget as presented. The motion to approve *carried*.

SA2012.06 That the Synod Assembly approves the 2013 Synod Budget as proposed.

Bishop Boerger thanked Wayne for his two terms as chair of the Finance Committee and his service on the Synod Council.

REFERENCE & COUNSEL 1

The Rev Tor Berg, First, Bothell, Chair of the Reference & Counsel Committee moved adoption of Resolution B – Malaria Campaign Challenge. It was moved and seconded to amend the first 'be it resolved' to replace the words 'this appeal' with 'Malaria Campaign Challenge'. The amendment was approved by voice vote. The amended resolution *carried*.

SA2012.07 Be it resolved that the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly set a minimum goal of \$150,000 as our goal for the Malaria Campaign Challenge; and

Be it further resolved that the members of this assembly be invited to join the Synod Council and Synod Hunger Team to make a personal pledge toward meeting this goal; and

Be it further resolved that the members of this assembly bring specific resources to their congregations so that all members of the Northwest Washington Synod be invited to participate in this effort to control malaria.

Bishop Boerger asked members of the assembly to consider making a pledge and putting the pledge in the offering plate during worship this morning. The Synod Council has pledged more than \$15,000 to the Malaria Campaign Challenge.

MALARIA GRIGOT

Dianne Johnson, Associate in Ministry, Lord of Life, Renton addressed the assembly on malaria – the nature of the disease, impact of prevention efforts, and the importance of education in the eradication plans. \$10 will pay for the nets, medication, and education needed for a family. Dianne asked members of the assembly to advocate for participation in the project with senators and legislators and to give to this important work.

BISHOP'S AWARD

Bishop Boerger presented the ninth annual Bishop's Award to Dianne Johnson for her work in educating and advocating for the eradication of Malaria.

KEYNOTE 3

Mark Alan Powell presented another Bible Study as the third piece of his presentation, taking the Parable of the Prodigal Son as his text.

RUSSIAN BISHOP

Bishop Dietrich Brauer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of European Russia, one of the Northwest Washington Synod's Companion Synods, and Lena Bondarenko, Dean of the Central Deanery were welcomed by Bishop Boerger. Bishop Brauer reported that the church is no longer primarily German, that they have strong leaders graduating from the seminary in St Petersburg, and that they need spiritual and financial help. Bishop Brauer especially thanked Eva Mader, Grace, Bellevue for her assistance, along with Team Russia.

Bishop Brauer presented Bishop Boerger with a stole made by one of the congregations in Russia and Bishop Boerger presented Bishop Brauer with a pectoral cross.

HATCHERY VIDEO

A video about the Ethiopian Chicken Hatchery project was presented to the assembly.

BREAK

The assembly recessed at 10:20 prior to worship.

FESTIVAL WORSHIP

Michael Trice, Associate in Ministry, preached and Bishop Boerger presided. Following the Eucharist, rostered leaders of the church who reached milestones in their service were recognized and celebrated.

The following members of the roster of this synod were recognized:

Associates in Ministry – 25 Years

Allen Roehl
Larry Johnson
Arletta Anderson
Bette Schneider
Carolee Grumm
Catherine Mutschler
Cheryl Storey
Estelle Morley
Nan Beth Walton

Clergy – 25 Years

Erik Wilson-Weiberg
Jeffery R. Russell
John A. LaMunyon
Katherine Hawks

Clergy – 35 Years

Brian Red Burchfield
Mark D. Houglum
Michael T. Clifford
Stephen P. Luttio
Wayne E. Bacus

Clergy – 50 Years

Donald H. Maier
Donald A. Cornell
James E. Miley
James W. Schoeld
Robert F. Winkel

Clergy – 60 Years

A. Wallace Johnson
Karl J. Danielson
Maynard Kragthorpe
Paul L. Wietzke

LUNCH

Following worship, Bishop Boerger recessed the assembly for lunch at 12 noon.

PLENARY 5

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop Boerger called the assembly to order at 1:35 pm.

FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT

Jan Cherry presented the final credentials report to the assembly:

Total Voting Members Present	324
Lay Voting Members	194
Female	108
Male	86
Clergy	130
Persons of Color or Whose Primary Language Is Other than English	12
Observers	5
Visitors	20

ELECTIONS 4

Paul Anderson reported the results of balloting

For Synod Council, Lay Female, 227 ballots were cast, with 114 needed to elect. Susan Berg received 142, Joanne Nieman Hinkel 58, Millie Fosberg 121, Live Mothershead 72, Sherianne Caldwell 47. Bishop Boerger declared Susan Berg and Millie Fosberg *elected*.

For Churchwide Assembly, Lay Male, 237 ballots were cast, with 119 needed to elect. Fritz Baesman received 232, Micah Berg 273, Tony Rhodes 235. The bishop declared Fritz Baesman, Micah Berg, and Tony Rhodes *elected*.

Churchwide Assembly, Lay Female, 230 ballots were cast, with 115 needed to elect. Susan Berg received 93, Sherianne Caldwell 20, Jan Cherry 38, Elaine Harrison 50, Joanne Nieman Hinkle 29. The bishop declared there was no election and moved Susan Berg, Elaine Harrison, and Jan Cherry forward for the next ballot.

Churchwide Assembly, Clergy, 236 ballots were cast, with 123 needed to elect. Chris Berry received 47, Jeannine Daggett 45, Gary Dalenius 19, Eric Finsand 34, Chris Hogstad 13, G. Lee Kluth 47, Linda Larson 42, John Lindsay 21, Jim Lindus 35, John Okan 11, Deanna Wildermuth 50, Amanda Zentz 31, Jimmy Hao 57, and Tim Whiteman 19. The bishop declared there was no

election and Chris Berry, Jeannine Daggett, G Lee Kluth, Linda Larson, Jim Lindus, Deanna Wildermuth, Amanda Zentz, and Jimmy Hao forward for the next ballot.

Members of the Assembly were asked to vote for two clergy for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly. Following that, they were asked to vote for one Lay Female.

REDISCOVER MACEDONIA

Rena Connell and the Rev Jerry Buss, Director for Evangelical Mission, announced the synod's stewardship event. *Rediscover Macedonia* is a day-long event with bible study and workshops.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Linda Larson moved adoption of Amendment 65, which comes from the 2011 Churchwide Assembly, and addresses the role of the Synod Council and the Presiding Bishop in the event a bishop becomes unable to serve. The motion *carried*.

SA2012.07 **That the 2012 Synod Assembly amends the synod constitution as follows:**

S7.12. **Special meetings of the Synod Assembly may be called by the bishop with the consent of the Synod Council, and shall be called by the bishop at the request of one-fifth of the voting members of the Synod Assembly.**

- a. The notice of each special meeting shall define the purpose for which it is to be held. The scope of actions to be taken at such a special meeting shall be limited to the subject matter(s) described in the notice.**
- b. If the special meeting of the Synod Assembly is required for the purpose of electing a successor bishop because of death, resignation, or inability to serve, the special meeting shall be called by the Synod Council after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ~~in cooperation with the Synod Council~~.**

Linda moved adoption of Amendment 66 to the constitution, which amends section S8.23. The motion to approve *carried*.

SA2012.08 **That the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly amends the synod constitution as follows:**

S8.23. In the event of the death, resignation, or disability of the bishop, the vice president, after consultation with the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall convene the Synod Council to arrange for the conduct of the duties of the bishop until a new bishop shall be elected or, in the case of temporary disability, until the bishop resumes full performance of the duties of the office.

SA2012.10 **We are Resolved, as the Northwest Washington Synod in assembly: To express our thanks and praise to Loren and Mary Ann Anderson for their great service; and**

To wish them great joy in retirement along with our prayers for continued service to the world. In Jesus' Name. AMEN

Tor moved adoption of Resolution A, Candidates' Tuition Support on behalf of the Reference & Counsel Committee. The motion to adopt *carried*.

SA2012.11 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT the northwest Washington Synod Assembly vote to, through its Candidacy Committee and Clusters, encourage all congregations in the synod to fund synod candidates' seminary tuition through local endowments, the synod scholarship fund, or other means; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Washington Synod adopt a ten-year goal of full tuition funding for all candidates.

Bishop Boerger relinquished the chair of the assembly to the Vice President in order that he might speak in favor of the next resolution.

Tor moved adoption of Resolution D, PLTS and CLU Merger. The motion to approve *carried*.

SA2012.12 **Be it resolved that the Northwest Washington Synod in assembly affirms this ongoing process between PLTS and CLU and**

Be it further resolved that we look forward to the ways in which this merger will support our mutual work in serving the call of God to our vocation in the west and in the world and

Be it further resolved that the Bishop of this synod communicate this resolution with the Presidents of both schools.

Georganne Robertson returned the gavel to Bishop Boerger.

ELECTIONS 6

Paul Anderson reported that 227 votes were cast, with 114 needed to elect. Jimmy Hao received 179 votes, Linda Larson received 139 and Deanna Wildermuth received 118 votes. Bishop Boerger declared Jimmy Hao and Linda Larson *elected*.

BREAK

Bishop Boerger recessed the assembly for a short break.

PLENARY 6

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop Boerger called the assembly to order at 3:15 pm.

ELECTIONS 7

Paul Anderson announced the results of voting for Synod Council, Clergy. 246 ballots were cast, 123 votes needed to elect. Jeannine Daggett received 157 votes, Eric Finsand 111, Mark Griffith 102, Jimmy Hao 171, John Okan 57, Scott Postlewait 163, Pam Russell 150. Bishop Boerger declared Jeannine Daggett, Jimmy Hao, Scott Postlewait, and Pam Russell *elected*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shelley Wickstrom, Region 1 Coordinator, has been elected Bishop of the Alaska Synod and Bishop Boerger was asked to be her mentor.

Next year's assembly will be three days in Lynnwood and will include election of a new bishop for the synod. Any member of any congregation in the synod may nominate a pastor of the ELCA for this position.

REFERENCE & COUNSEL 3

Tor Berg moved adoption of Resolution E, Marriage Equality. The motion to approve *carried*.

SA2012.13

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Washington Synod meeting in assembly affirms Marriage Equality in Washington state as a public policy that provides social support and social trust for same-sex couples and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Washington Synod meeting in assembly encourages its congregations and members to study Scripture and the ELCA Social Statements *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* and *Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective*, and to prayerfully consider how to publicly respond if a Marriage Equality referendum appears on the November 2012 ballot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laurie Stumme-Diers announced that the survey is posted on Survey Monkey; please take the time to evaluate the 2012 Assembly. There are boxes for recycling any materials you do not choose to retain. Video of the assembly can be ordered from Spiritborne. Laurie thanked all the volunteers who made the event a success.

BISHOP'S REFLECTIONS

Bishop Boerger appreciated the good work of the assembly. The work gets a little messy sometime, but God is with us. We are reminded of who we are and whose world we live in. the bishop thanked his assistants Jan Nesse, Jerry Buss, and Nancy Windsor for their tireless work for the synod and thanked the synod administrative staff for keeping everyone productive and organized.

ASSEMBLY CLOSURE

Following closing prayers, Bishop Boerger declared the 2012 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly closed at 4:23 pm.

BUDGET HISTORY AND PROPOSED SPENDING AUTHORIZATION	2012	2013
	* Spending Authorization	Proposed Budget
INCOME		
CSM/ELCA	15,000	15,000
Mission Partnership Support (Benevolence)	1,250,000	1,300,000
Interest	3,000	3,000
Other Income		800
Gifts		
Total Income	1,268,000	1,318,800
EXPENSES		
Churchwide Share	568,750	598,000
Partnerships		
Campus Ministries	63,000	64,260
Consultation to Clergy	10,000	10,000
Lutheran Community Services NW	10,000	10,000
FAN(Lutheran Public Policy Office)	7,500	7,500
Luther Seminary	26,350	27,000
Pacific Lutheran Seminary	26,350	27,000
	Partnership TOTAL	145,760
Shared Mission Resources/Region 1	56,250	65,000
Program support (to be allocated)	4,206	4,206
Candidacy, Outreach		
Office of the Bishop		
Staff compensation and benefits	422,359	430,806
Office expenses + travel	72,500	75,000
	Total Expense	1,318,772
	735	28

* Assembly approves the Proposed Budget; Synod Council approves detailed Spending Authorization based on the Approved Budget and actual income. This column shows the Spending Authorization

Budget Total

The Synod Council moves . . .

that the General Fund Budget adopted for Fiscal Year 2013 shall be capped at \$1,318,800, and

that motions to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a recommended offsetting decrease, and

that Fiscal 2013 General Fund receipts in excess of \$1,318,800 be disbursed as directed by the Synod Council.

Budget

The Synod Council moves the adoption of the 2013 General Fund Budget as presented.