

MOTIONS

MOTION 1 **Nebraska Synod Council**

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Appointment of 2023 Synod Assembly Planning Team

PROPOSED ACTION: That the following individuals be appointed as members of the 2023 Synod Assembly Planning Team:

- Pr. Emily Johnson-Christ, Louisville
- Pr. Heidi Wallace-Bethany, Lyons
- Ric Miller, Morning Star, Omaha
- Ron Lofgren, St. John's, Norfolk
- Pr. Jan Peterson, Augustana, Omaha
- Elizabeth Florian-Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Hastings
- Pr. Elisabeth Pynn Himmelman, Campus Ministry/Kearney & First, Kearney
- Morgan Tranmer, Nebraska Synod staff
- Timothy Siburg, Nebraska Synod staff

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas

MOTION 2
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Motion to amend the FY2022 Assembly Approved Budget

PROPOSED ACTION: That the Synod Council adopt the FY2022 Amended Budget, as proposed.

BACKGROUND: The FY2022 operating budget was adopted by the Synod Assembly at its meeting on June 5, 2021 (see accompanying Operating Fund Statement of Activities). This Budget was based on the facts, circumstances and trends at that time and the assumptions, while conservative, appeared to be reasonable based on the unknown economic impact of the pandemic. It was reasonable to assume that Mission Share and other revenue included in the FY2022 Approved Budget should be reduced significantly from prior years for FY2022. As a result, the FY2022 Approved Budget reflected total revenue of \$3,053,800, including Mission Share of \$2,815,000, and reflected a net operating deficit of (\$97,145).

As a result of more current information, revenue and expense assumptions for FY2022 have changed with more positive expectations. The proposed Amended FY2022 Budget (see accompanying statement) reflects total revenue of \$3,133,300, including Mission Share of \$2,900,000. In addition, based on current facts and assumptions, Total Expenses will remain similar to the Assembly Approved Budget, with increases in the broader Ministry Expenses and reductions in Salaries & Operations Expenses. We anticipate that the proposed amended operating deficit for FY2022 will be (\$15,877), which will be funded by the Synod Contingency Fund. Therefore, the Amended Budget for FY2022 is recommended by the Synod Budget & Finance Committee for adoption by the Synod Council.

SPONSORED BY: Dan Friedlund on behalf of the Synod Budget and Finance Committee

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Nebraska Synod of the ELCA
Statements of Activities - Operating Fund

	FY2021	FY2022	
	Actual	Assembly Approved Budget	Proposed Amended Budget
Revenue:			
Mission Share	\$ 2,983,142	\$ 2,815,000	\$ 2,900,000
General Fund	66,314	62,000	66,000
Property Interest Income	17,552	16,800	16,800
Endowment Income	40,000	45,000	40,000
Investment Income, net	68,278	57,000	57,000
Other Income	52,388	58,000	53,500
Total Revenue	3,227,674	3,053,800	3,133,300
Expenses:			
Churchwide Ministries	1,613,831	1,522,071	1,568,900
Nebraska Synod Ministries			
Oaks Indian Center	16,466	15,554	16,024
Midland Lutheran College	5,000	5,000	5,000
Lutheran Family Services	158,012	149,119	153,622
LSTC & Wartburg	119,143	112,431	115,826
Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministry	67,178	63,401	65,315
Nebraska Campus Ministries	154,075	145,399	149,790
Mission Field Nebraska Support	87,000	87,000	87,000
Seeking the Spirit Within	24,473	24,300	24,300
Sub Total	631,348	602,205	616,877
Leadership Ministries			
Candidacy	3,608	12,500	5,000
Parish Ministry Associates	5,000	5,000	5,000
Candidate Visitations	-	3,500	1,500
First Call Mentoring	3,521	4,500	4,500
Rural Ministries	-	2,500	2,500
Global Mission	714	4,000	4,000
Cluster and Committee Expense	-	1,000	1,000
Communications	3,374	15,000	12,000
Sub Total	16,217	48,000	35,500
Salaries & Operations			
Staff Salaries & Benefits	682,248	763,370	704,500
Office Operations	210,363	215,300	223,400
Sub Total	892,611	978,670	927,900
Total Expenses	3,154,007	3,150,945	3,149,177
Net Revenue over (under) Expenses	\$ 73,667	\$ (97,145)	\$ (15,877)

MOTION 3
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion efforts

PROPOSED ACTION: to appoint two members of the Nebraska Synod Council to the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee of the Synod for two-year renewable terms.

BACKGROUND: It has become clear in the work of the JEDI Committee that succeeding in its goal of broadening the diversity of the Synod will involve significant effort and resources. Having members of the Synod Council on the Committee will help increase connection to the Council and provide for Council perspectives on proposed actions of the Committee and/or Council.

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas, on behalf of the Committee

Report of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee
Nebraska Synod Council meeting June 2, 2022

The JEDI Committee continues to meet approximately every other month to discuss means to increase the diversity of the Nebraska Synod. It engaged participants through a workshop at Re:Formation in October, and was the impetus for having Dr. Lawrence Chatters (Executive Associate Athletic Director—Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the University of Nebraska) address the Nebraska Synod Assembly on June 3.

Though initial intentions included identifying effective anti-bias training for use throughout the synod, research shows that training alone is of little if any value in overcoming bias and increasing diversity within organizations. Rather, it takes a unified strategy that involves a multi-pronged approach to addressing the matter.

To that end, the Committee is seeking assistance and resources in helping to identify or develop such a strategy. The Committee is requesting that one or two Synod Council members be appointed to the Committee in order to strengthen ties with the Synod Council. Additionally, the Committee strongly encourages including a line item for diversity efforts in synod budgets in order to provide needed resources and to emphasize the importance of this effort in the life of the synod.

The Committee also advocates including diversity efforts in the portfolio of one (or more) members of the Nebraska Synod staff so that staff time and effort is available to assist in the identification and implementation of a diversity strategy.

The Committee continues to research efforts of other synods in expanding diversity and looks forward to the work and the progress yet to come in the Nebraska Synod.

MOTION 4
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendation of PMA Certification for Annette Block

PROPOSED ACTION: That the recommendation of the PMA Steering Committee that Linda Jasch (Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Syracuse) be certified as a Parish Ministry Associate be approved.

BACKGROUND: PMA Steering Committee has completed its interviews with Annette Block and after thoughtful discernment is recommending her for certification as a PMA. We hereby request that the synod council agenda include consideration of this recommendation.

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas, on behalf of the PMA Steering Committee

MOTION 5
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendation of PMA Certification for Joyce Kolbo

PROPOSED ACTION: That the recommendation of the PMA Steering Committee that Joyce Kolbo (American Lutheran Church, Gothenburg) be certified as a Parish Ministry Associate be approved.

BACKGROUND: PMA Steering Committee has completed its interviews with Joyce Kolbo and after thoughtful discernment is recommending her for certification as a PMA. We hereby request that the synod council agenda include consideration of this recommendation.

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas, on behalf of the PMA Steering Committee

MOTION 6
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendation of PMA Certification for Fred Bredehoeft

PROPOSED ACTION: That the recommendation of the PMA Steering Committee that Fred Bredehoeft (Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Syracuse) be certified as a Parish Ministry Associate be approved.

BACKGROUND: PMA Steering Committee has completed its interviews with Fred Bredehoeft and after thoughtful discernment is recommending him for certification as a PMA. We hereby request that the synod council agenda include consideration of this recommendation.

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas, on behalf of the PMA Steering Committee

MOTION 7
Nebraska Synod Council

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Approval of Recommendation of PMA Certification for Dwight Brummels

PROPOSED ACTION: That the recommendation of the PMA Steering Committee that Dwight Brummels (St. John's Lutheran Church, Randolph) be certified as a Parish Ministry Associate be approved.

BACKGROUND: PMA Steering Committee has completed its interviews with Dwight Brummels and after thoughtful discernment is recommending him for certification as a PMA. We hereby request that the synod council agenda include consideration of this recommendation.

SPONSORED BY: Bishop Brian Maas, on behalf of the PMA Steering Committee