

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD ASSEMBLY
May 16-18, 2013
Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan

Theme: Always Being Made New

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013

2:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Registration	Messiah Lutheran Church
3:30 p.m.	Synod Council Meeting	Messiah Lutheran Church
4:30 p.m.	Orientation for Voting Members and Interested Visitors	Messiah Lutheran Church
5:00 p.m.	Resolutions Committee Meeting	Messiah Lutheran Church
6:30 p.m.	Opening Worship	Messiah Lutheran Church

8:05 p.m. PLENARY I – Messiah Lutheran Church

ORDER FOR OPENING

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes welcomed all in attendance to the 26th Annual Synod Assembly. The Assembly then participated in the Order for Opening of Assembly.

**INTRODUCTIONS,
GREETINGS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bishop Skrenes thanked the pastors of Messiah Lutheran Church for hosting the worship service and other activities today. The Assembly thanked them with their applause.

Bishop Skrenes introduced the following: Carlos Peña, Vice President of the ELCA, representing Bishop Mark Hanson; Rev. Stan Olson, Wartburg Theological Seminary; Amy Johnson, Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin; Lon Buss, Lutheran Men in Mission; and Andrea Arey, Portico.

Bishop Skrenes announced that the synod's Worship Committee is responsible for our worship services. The chair of the committee is SuAnn Ambuehl of Bethany, Republic. Rev. George Kaiser serves as Sacristan. Bishop Skrenes thanked them for their ministry and the assembly thanked them with their applause.

Bishop Skrenes announced that the offering from this evening's service and from the service on Saturday will be divided between Mission Outreach Projects, Tanzanian Projects of our Companion Synod Committee and the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Bishop Skrenes thanked Lutheran Social Services for providing refreshments during registration. He also thanked the people of Prince of Peace, Harvey, for coordinating the reception this evening. Bishop Skrenes also thanked 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 Dr. Larry Pagel, (Messiah, Marquette), Treasurer. He also introduced Karen Kolstad (Zion, Marinette) serving as Assembly Recording Secretary and Assembly Parliamentarian Susan Anderson (Immanuel, Rhinelander).

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Jill Lemke, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 6:30 p.m. May 16, 2013:

Registered Voting Members	207
Clergy (46 under call and 19 retired)	65
(includes 4 young adults)	
Lay Voting Members (52 male/90 female).....	142
(includes 1 young adult)	
Registered Visitors.....	56
(includes 2 young adults and 1 youth)	
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	263

ASSEMBLY
BANNER

Bishop Skrenes thanked Rev. Chrys Levesque Hendrick for making the assembly banner in the sanctuary. The Assembly thanked her with applause.

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. Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Doug Johnson to present the resolution. Pastor Johnson also reminded the Assembly of Rule 6 on page 33 of the Pre-Assembly Report and read a portion of this rule.

Pastor Johnson reported the Synod Council recommends adoption of Resolution Number 1.

RESOLVED, that the Proposed Rules and Order of Procedure as presented in the Pre-Assembly Report, be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2013 Assembly.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 1 WAS ADOPTED.

SA13.05.01

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 2
AGENDA AND
PROGRAM

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Doug Johnson to present Resolution Number 2, submitted by the Synod Council.

Pastor Johnson reported the Synod Council recommends adoption of this resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Agenda and Program as presented in the Pre-Assembly Report, be adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod for the 2013 Assembly.

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

SA13.05.02

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2 WAS ADOPTED.

NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Douglas Johnson, Chair of the Nominating Committee. He presented their report as found on pages 97-98 of the Pre-Assembly Report.

Nominations were presented for the following positions:

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (2-year term):

Rev. Judy Kincaid and Rev. Steve Solberg

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (2-year term).

SA13.05.03

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

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

Rev. Jeremy Winter and Rev. Maxine Gray

No additional nominations were received from the floor.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations for Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (6-year term).

SA13.05.04

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

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

RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Elisabeth Zant, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. She introduced the other members of the Resolutions Committee. She also read Rules Number 1 and 2 in the “Resolutions” section of the “Rules Governing Resolutions” from page 37 of the Pre-Assembly Report. Pastor Zant reported that no additional resolutions have been received at this point. She also reminded the Assembly that all resolutions are due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday to Rev. Zant, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, Rev. Douglas Johnson, Synod Secretary or Rev. Katherine Finegan, Assistant to the Bishop.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

LAY SCHOOL
FOR MISSION
GRADUATES

Bishop Skrenes announced that Rev. Warren Geier serves as the Dean of the Lay School for Mission. The Lay School for Mission meets on six campuses around the synod: Bethany, Ishpeming; Zion, St. Ignace; Calvary, Minocqua; Finlandia Chapel in Hancock; First, Gladstone and the newest location, Emmanuel, Menominee. The campus coordinators were introduced by Bishop Skrenes: Rev. Warren Geier at Bethany, Ishpeming; Rev. Steve Gauger at First, Gladstone; Rev. Jeremy Winter at Zion, St. Ignace; Rev. Devon Barrix at Calvary, Minocqua; Rev. Greg Mileski at

LAY SCHOOL
FOR MISSION
GRADUATES
(continued)

Finlandia Chapel; and Rev. Lee Goodwin and Jerry Gentz at Emmanuel, Menominee. Bishop Skrenes read the names of those graduating from the Lay School for Mission and he and Rev. Geier presented the diplomas. The Assembly congratulated the graduates with their applause.

AGAPE CHOIR

The Agape Choir from Azania Front Lutheran Cathedral in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, blessed the Assembly with their singing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND PRAYER

Bishop Skrenes made some announcements and led the assembly in prayer. The assembly is in recess until 8:15 a.m. Friday morning.

RECEPTION

Prince of Peace Congregation in Harvey, hosted the reception honoring the Lay School for Mission graduates.

FRIDAY, MAY 17

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast by Messiah Men’s Group to benefit Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp – Messiah Lutheran Church

7:00 – 8:15 a.m.

Registration at Northern Michigan University – Assembly Office

8:15 a.m.

PLENARY II – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

HYMN AND
PRAYER

Jay Beech led the Assembly in singing and Rev. Steve Solberg, Immanuel, Negaunee, led the Assembly in an opening prayer.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL
SERVICES VIDEO

Bishop Skrenes made some announcements and then introduced a video greeting from Rev. James Holmberg who is on staff at Lutheran Social Services.

INTRODUCTION
OF SYNOD
STAFF

Bishop Skrenes introduced and thanked the synod office staff: Rev. Katherine Finegan, Assistant to the Bishop; Louise Ingalls, Secretary; and Betsy Koski, Bookkeeper. The assembly thanked the staff with their applause.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Jill Lemke, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 8:15 a.m., May 17, 2013:

Registered Voting Members	221
Clergy (51 under call and 19 retired).....	70
(includes 4 young adults)	
Lay Voting Members (55 male/96 female).....	151
(includes 1 young adult)	
Registered Visitors.....	61
(includes 2 young adults and 1 youth)	
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	282

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 2013 Assembly and will be entered in the Assembly minutes as excused: Bishop Emeritus Harry Andersen, Rev. Devon Barrix, Rev. David Christenson, Rev. Paul Holmstrom, Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Rev. Margaret Johnson, Rev. Kevin Kaiser, Rev. Nancy Kauppi, Rev. Katheryn King, Rev. Matthew Lamb, Rev. Robert Langseth, Rev. Thomas Lee, Rev. Norman Lund, Rev. John Shallow, Rev. Kari Vadis, Rev. Arthur Weiss, Rev. Thomas Wickstrom, Rev. Sally Wilke, Associate in Ministry Arlene Rajala and Licensed Lay Minister Clay Hillman.

ON LEAVE
FROM CALL

Bishop Skrenes reported on other rostered persons. Pastors who are currently On Leave from Call are: Rev. George Candea-Kromm, Rev. Barb Girod, Rev. Jennifer Johnson Wrege, Rev. Melinda Quivik, Rev. LaVonne Stephenson and Rev. Arthur Weiss. Rev. David Christenson is currently On Leave from Call-Disability.

CONGREGATION
LEFT SYNOD/ELCA

The following congregation has left this synod and the ELCA since our 2012 Synod Assembly: Wainola Lutheran, Wainola effective May 31, 2012.

ANNUAL
PAROCHIAL
REPORTS

Bishop Skrenes announced that each year congregations are required by their own constitutions to send to the synod an annual parochial report, which is due by February 20. As of today, only six congregations have yet to submit this report. Conversation continues with those congregations and their pastors.

FIRST BALLOT
FOR ALL
POSITIONS

Bishop Skrenes offered a prayer and then asked the Elections Committee, chaired by Rev. Chris Johnson (Christ the King, Escanaba), to distribute the first ballot for all positions. After the balloting was completed, the balloting was declared closed. An Elections Committee Report will be given at the earliest convenience.

MISSION
MOMENT #1

Slides of Confirmation events over the last 25 years at various synod congregations were shown. Rev. Tracy Polzin, Director at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, spoke to the Assembly about the mission and ministry at the camp.

REPORT OF
THE BISHOP

Bishop Skrenes presented his Bishop's report as printed on pages 3-5 of the Pre-Assembly Report.

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.

WORLD
HUNGER
OFFERING

Bishop Skrenes announced that it was time to collect the offering of quarters for World Hunger. The Assembly participated in the offering while watching a World Hunger video presentation.

**BIG BEAR AND
BREAD BASKET
AWARDS**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Beverly Hill from Bethany, Amasa representing the Synod World Hunger Committee to present the awards from the Committee. The traveling Big Bear Award was presented to Immanuel, Rhinelander. The Sunflower Bear traveling award was presented to Immanuel, Negaunee. The Bread Basket award was presented to Ann Christiansen of First, Gladstone.

**MBAGALA
PARISH
FUNDRAISER**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Norman Peterson, Immanuel, Rhinelander, and thanked him for his fund-raising efforts on behalf of Mbagala Parish in Dar es Salaam who lost their church building due to a fire last fall. So far, \$21,677.09 has been raised. Pastor Peterson addressed the Assembly.

**ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Rev. Chris Johnson, Chair of the Elections Committee, reported the following results on the first ballot for all positions:

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (2-year Term)	
Number of Valid Ballots	211
Number of Invalid Ballots	2
Number of Valid Ballots	209
Needed to Elect	105
Rev. Steve Solberg	131
Rev. Judy Kincaid	78

SA13.05.05

**REV. STEVE SOLBERG WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE CLERGY (2-YEAR TERM).**

Synod Discipline Committee – Clergy (6-year Term)	
Number of Valid Ballots	211
Number of Invalid Ballots	3
Number of Valid Ballots	208
Needed to Elect	105
Rev. Jeremy Winter	105
Rev. Maxine Gray	103

SA13.05.06

**REV. JEREMY WINTER WAS DECLARED ELECTED
SYNOD DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE CLERGY (6-YEAR TERM).**

Bishop Skrenes expressed thanks to the Elections Committee for all their work. The Assembly thanked the committee with their applause.

A motion was made and seconded to destroy all ballots.
THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

SA13.05.07

**KEYNOTE
ADDRESS**

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Stan Olson, President of Wartburg Theological Seminary, who presented the Keynote Address. After the address, Bishop Skrenes presented Rev. Olson with gifts.

HYMN AND
PRAYER

Jay Beech led the Assembly in singing and Karen Kolstad, Zion, Marinette, led the Assembly in prayer.

MISSION
MOMENT #2

Slides of church buildings from various synod congregations were shown. Rev. Bonny Kinnunen, First, Iron River, spoke to the Assembly about the importance of pastoral self-care.

ROSTERED
PERSONS NEW
TO SYNOD OR
MOVED WITHIN
SYNOD SINCE
LAST ASSEMBLY

Bishop Skrenes announced the following persons who are new to the Northern Great Lakes Synod or have moved within our synod since the last assembly: Rev. Kristin Rice (ordained September 29, 2012 and installed November 11, 2012 at Northern Lights Parish); Rev. Sally Wilke (ordained November 3, 2012 and installed December 9, 2012 at Grace, South Range and First, Dollar Bay); Rev. Tamra Harder (ordained February 22, 2013 and installed on March 3, 2013 at Bethany, Negaunee and March 10, 2013 at Emanuel, Skandia); Rev. D. J. Rasner (installed on June 3, 2012 at Gloria Dei, Hancock); Rev. Matthew Lamb (installed as Synod Missioner in Conference 7 on July 5, 2012); Rev. Kurt and Rev. Marybeth Kovanen (installed on January 20, 2013 at Christ Parish, Ironwood); and Rev. Kevin Kaiser (installed on February 24, 2013 at Bethany, Republic). Rev. Kris Ertl will be installed at Faith, Rock and First, Trenary on June 2, 2013. Rev. Peggy Rose is serving as Interim Pastor at First, Gladstone and Rev. Will Nordmark is serving as Interim Pastor at Prince of Peace, Eagle River. The Assembly recognized these rostered persons with their applause.

SEMINARIANS

Bishop Skrenes also announced seminarians present at the Assembly: Linda Forray (Gethsemane, Wallace); Terry Frankenstein (First, Gladstone); Adam Matyska (Ascension, Minocqua) and Diane Srutowski (Trinity, Stonington). The Assembly recognized these seminarians with their applause.

REPORT OF THE
TREASURER

Bishop Skrenes introduced Synod Treasurer Larry Pagel who presented his report to the assembly.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 3
CLERGY
COMPENSATION
GUIDELINES

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 3, submitted by the Clergy Compensation Task Force. Synod Secretary Rev. Doug Johnson read the resolved portion of the resolution. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Clergy Compensation Guidelines for 2014 as approved by the Synod Council hereby be adopted and recommended to this Synod's congregations.

SA13.05.08

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt the resolution.
RESOLUTION NUMBER 3 WAS ADOPTED.

Bishop Skrenes thanked Rev. Bill Jacobson and the Clergy Compensation Task Force for their work.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 4
SYNOD
COUNCIL

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

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.

Iron-Gogebic-Ontonagon Conference (One)	Rev. Timothy Nyikako (2016)
Copper Country Conference (Two)	Rev. Greg Mileski (2016)
Menominee Valley Conference (Five)	Eric Larson (2016)
Delta Conference (Six)	Rev. Christopher Johnson (2016)
Superior Central Conference (Eight)	Hayley Smith (2016)

SA13.05.09

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS,
HYMN AND PRAYER

Rev. Jim Duehring, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee gave some announcements. Jay Beech led the Assembly in singing and Bishop Skrenes led the Assembly in a prayer. The Assembly is now in recess until 1:00 p.m.

11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

HYMN AND
PRAYER

Jay Beech led the Assembly in singing and Synod Council member Kathy Lowery from First, Ewen, led the Assembly in prayer.

BIBLE STUDY

Bishop Skrenes announced a video presentation followed by a discussion led by Assistant to the Bishop Katherine Finegan.

1:30 p.m.

PLENARY III – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Jill Lemke, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 1:30 p.m., May 17, 2013:

Registered Voting Members	229
Clergy (54 under call and 19 retired)	73
(includes 4 young adults)	
Lay Voting Members (57 male/99 female).....	156
(includes 1 young adult)	
Registered Visitors.....	66
(includes 2 young adults and 1 youth)	
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	295

OFFERINGS
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes announced the following offering totals:
Thursday evening worship service - \$2,752.00
World Hunger offering (so far) - \$16,790.17

SYNODICAL
WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION

Bishop Skrenes introduced Fran Voyce, President of the Synodical Women's Organization, who presented the SWO report. Bishop Skrenes thanked her for her ministry and for her report.

LUTHERAN MEN
IN MISSION

Bishop Skrenes introduced Lon Buss from Lutheran Men in Mission. Mr. Buss addressed the Assembly. At the conclusion of his address, Bishop Skrenes presented him with a gift from the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

MISSION
MOMENT #3

Slides of congregational events from various synod congregations were shown. Rev. Bucky Beach, Campus Ministry of Michigan Technological University, spoke to the Assembly about Campus Ministry.

FINN FEST 2013

Bishop Skrenes introduced Dr. Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University, and Pauline Kiltinen, Synod Vice President, who gave a presentation on the upcoming Finn Fest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND PRAYER

Rev. Jim Duehring, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, gave several announcements regarding the forums. Bishop Skrenes closed the plenary session with a prayer.

2:30 p.m.

Forums and Workshops – Northern Michigan University

3:45 p.m.

Forums and Workshops – Northern Michigan University

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
BANQUET

Banquet / Program – Great Lakes Rooms, University Center
During the banquet there was recognition of the following clergy:

- Rev. Ralph Backman (and his spouse, Hilma) celebrating 60 years of ordained ministry. They were not present.
- Rev. Chris Laursen (and his spouse, Margaret) celebrating 55 years of ordained ministry. They were not present.
- Rev. Robert Langseth (and his spouse, Deloris) celebrating 55 years of ordained ministry. They were not present.
- Rev. Douglas Pohlman (and his spouse, Susan) celebrating 50 years of ordained ministry. They were not present.
- Rev. Douglas Schoen (and his spouse, Marilyn) celebrating 40 years of ordained ministry and retirement. Pastor Schoen addressed the Assembly.
- Rev. Jon Magnuson (and his spouse, Diana) celebrating 40 years of ordained ministry. Pastor Magnuson addressed the Assembly.
- Rev. Philip Johnson (and his spouse, Rene) celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry.
- Rev. Craig Mansur (and his spouse, Kari) celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry.
- Rev. David Hueter (and his spouse, Sandy) celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry.
- Rev. Douglas Johnson (and his spouse, Elaine) celebrating 25 years of ordained ministry.

BANQUET
(continued)

- Rev. Gerald Anderson (and his spouse, Susan) celebrating retirement. Pastor Anderson addressed the Assembly.
- Rev. J. Lee Goodwin (and his spouse, Jeannie) celebrating retirement. Pastor Goodwin addressed the Assembly.
- Rev. Kenneth Michaelis (and his spouse, Joanne) celebrating retirement. Pastor Michaelis addressed the Assembly.
- Rev. John Shallow (and his spouse, Sue) celebrating retirement. They were not present.

Pastor Chad Anderson, Beaver American Lutheran, Pound and Porterfield Lutheran, Porterfield, presented Mission Moment #4 on Synod Debt Retirement.

SATURDAY, MAY 18

7:00 – 8:00 a.m.

Prayer Breakfast to benefit Youth Ministry – Messiah Lutheran Church

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Registration at Northern Michigan University – Assembly Office

8:30 a.m.

Worship – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

9:50 a.m.

PLENARY IV – Great Lakes Rooms, Northern Michigan University

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Skrenes thanked the Worship Committee and Jay Beech for the worship service. Pastor Jim Duehring, Chair of the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, gave a few announcements.

MISSION
MOMENT #5

Slides of deceased clergy from the Northern Great Lakes Synod were shown. John Weaver, Trinity, Iron River, spoke to the Assembly about the congregation’s joint efforts regarding “Sunday School” in their area.

CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes introduced Jill Lemke, Chair of the Credentials Committee, who presented the following report as of 10:00 a.m., May 18, 2013:

Registered Voting Members	230
Clergy (54 under call and 20 retired)	74
(includes 4 young adults)	
Lay Voting Members (57 male/99 female).....	156
(includes 1 young adult)	
Registered Visitors.....	68
(includes 2 young adults and 1 youth)	
TOTAL REGISTERED PERSONS	298

Bishop Skrenes thanked Jill for her work and the Assembly thanked her with their applause.

REV. MZINGA
AND AGAPE
CHOIR

Bishop Skrenes introduced Rev. Charles Mzinga from Azania Front Cathedral Church in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He addressed the Assembly. The Agape Choir also blessed the Assembly with their singing.

ELCA
REPRESENTATIVE

Bishop Skrenes introduced Mr. Carlos Peña, Vice President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He presented the report from the ELCA. Bishop Skrenes presented him with gifts upon the conclusion of his presentation.

QUAKE EVENT
AT FINLANDIA
UNIVERSITY

The Assembly was joined via Skype by the participants at the Youth Quake at Finlandia University in Houghton, Michigan. Soren Schmidt led the Assembly and the Quake participants in the Lord's Prayer.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 5
AMENDED
FISCAL YEAR
2013 BUDGET

Bishop Skrenes announced that it was time to deal with the budget resolutions. He presented Resolution Number 5 and read it. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the amended Fiscal Year 2013 budget in the amount of \$1,298,496 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 5.

SA13.05.10

RESOLUTION NUMBER 5 WAS ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 6
FISCAL YEAR
2014 BUDGET

Bishop Skrenes presented Resolution Number 6, Fiscal Year 2014 Budget and read it. The Synod Council recommends adoption.

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Year 2014 budget in the amount of \$1,245,365 as printed in the Pre-Assembly Report be hereby adopted by the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

It was moved and seconded by the Synod Council to adopt Resolution Number 6.

SA13.05.11

RESOLUTION NUMBER 6 WAS ADOPTED.

Bishop Skrenes expressed thanks to Synod Treasurer Larry Pagel and Synod Bookkeeper Betsy Koski for their work. The assembly thanked them with their applause.

RECOGNITION
OF WENDY
BLACK

Bishop Skrenes introduced Wendy Black who has served as the NGLS Youth Coordinator. Bishop Skrenes, on behalf of the synod, presented Wendy with a plaque and a Lutheran Study Bible to express their appreciation for her work. Wendy addressed the Assembly.

OFFERINGS
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes announced the following offering totals:
Thursday evening and Saturday morning worship services - \$5,378.36
World Hunger offering (so far) - \$17,823.94
Mbagala Church - \$100.00 additional (\$21,777.09 new total)

RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Bishop Skrenes called upon Rev. Elisabeth Zant, Chair of the Resolutions Committee. Rev. Zant reported that no additional resolutions had been submitted. The Assembly thanked the Resolutions Committee with their applause.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 7
SUFFICIENT,
SUSTAINABLE
LIVELIHOOD
FOR ALL

Bishop Skrenes introduced Resolution Number 7, Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All, submitted by Headwaters Conference Clergy (Conference Number 3) and asked Rev. Doug Johnson to read the resolved portion of the resolution with corrections. The Synod Council recommends approval of this resolution.

WHEREAS, the counties in the Northern Great Lakes Synod are home to some of the highest rates of poverty in their states¹ and

We have become dependent on the stores and services such as gas stations, retail stores, restaurants, fast food chains, hotel/motel chain and hair salons that employ a lower percentage of full time help and large numbers of part time help at or near minimum wage and

Many part time workers will be scheduled less than 28-30 hours a week so that their employers will not need to offer them health insurance benefits and

Part time status creates the need for two or more jobs while still not having sufficient income, health benefits or sick leave and

WHEREAS, the ELCA has adopted a Social Statement² which says: “In Jesus Christ, God’s reign intersects earthly life, transforming us and how we view the systems of this world. Our faith in God provides a vantage point for critiquing any and every system of this world, all of which fall short of what God intends. Human impoverishment, excessive accumulation and consumerism driven by greed, gross economic disparities, and the degradation of nature are incompatible with this reign of God.”

Through human decisions and actions, God is at work in economic life. Economic life is intended to be a means through which God’s purposes for humankind and creation are to be served. When this does not occur, as a church we cannot remain silent because of who and whose we are; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Northern Great Lakes Synod in Assembly encourage its members, congregations and pastors to participate in an educational activity such as reviewing *A Social Statement on: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All*, and/or a book study about economic justice using a resource like *Nicked and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich, and/or becoming familiar with the employment practices in their community and surrounding area.

RESOLUTION
NUMBER 7
(continued)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northern Great Lakes Synod in Assembly encourage its members, congregations and pastors to learn the stories of those who are struggling with unemployment or under-employment and to learn how economic policies impact the working poor in our synod and beyond.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Northern Great Lakes Synod in Assembly challenge its members, congregations and pastors to make one change in their discretionary spending that enable them to assist the working poor through their congregation’s discretionary fund or local and ELCA organizations that work towards alleviating poverty.

¹Based on information from Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Madison, WI

²A Social Statement on: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All, Adopted by the sixth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, meeting in Denver, Colorado, August 16-22, 1999.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution. Discussion followed.

SA13.05.12

RESOLUTION NUMBER 7 WAS ADOPTED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop Skrenes announced that we have concluded our legislative responsibilities and thanked Rev. Douglas Johnson, Synod Secretary, for his work and ministry. The Assembly thanked Secretary Johnson with their applause. Bishop Skrenes and the Assembly also thanked the remainder of the people at the head table with their applause.

2014 ASSEMBLY

Bishop Skrenes called upon Rev. Douglas Johnson, Secretary of the Synod. Rev. Johnson announced that the 27th Annual Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod will be Sunday, May 18 through Monday, May 19, 2014 at Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan.

ORDER FOR
CLOSING OF
THE ASSEMBLY

Bishop Skrenes led the Assembly in the Order for Closing of Assembly. Jay Beech led the Assembly in a song. The 26th Assembly of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America was declared adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Date

Rev. Douglas Johnson, Secretary

Karen Kolstad, Recording Secretary

Pauline Kiltinen, Vice President

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