



## Synod Council Highlights—March 12-13, 2021—via Zoom

The council approved:

- the congregational constitutions of Christ, Greensboro, and Abiding Presence, Fuquay-Varina, as well as the revised bylaws of Agape+Kure Beach Ministries, Inc.
- grants to Lutheridge, Lutherock, & Agape+Kure Beach Ministries from the COVID-19 Relief Fund
- a grant to LTSS from the COVID-19 Relief Fund
- the moving of funds to a Bishop's Transition Fund
- a revised Synod Foundation Investment Allocation Policy
- that the 2022-2023 Mission Support Formula (set at 10% of regular giving); the 2022-2023 Budget, and the 2022 Compensation Guidelines, all be brought to assembly for approval
- the establishment of a fund to support the council's Feb. 6, 2021 motion to explore and shape a practice of reconciliation in the synod for communities of color, committing \$90,000 of the 2020 surplus, \$11,000 from reserve funds, and \$49,000 from the closing of Joy of Discovery, for an initial amount of \$150,000 to be given in consultation with congregations/communities of color
- the revised Peeler/Casey priorities for funding grants
- and affirmed the current Re-Gathering Task Force guidelines and approved that NC Synod staff abide by the Re-Gathering Guidelines; whatever the guidelines are at any given time
- /ratified four Home Mission Foundation Board Members for 3-year terms beginning May 1, 2021 and ending April 30, 2024, for: John Fisher, George Kluttz, William Coffey, and Terry Edwards
- /ratified Rick Herman to fulfill the unexpired term of Jim Huddle for LSA/LFS Board (term expires September 2023)

In addition to staff and officer reports, the following information was received:

- Bishop Tim's report included information about the ELCA Conference of Bishops (COB): Tim serves on that Roster Committee and the Committee for Justice for Women; also, we are a Pilot Synod for Quality of Call and the Sensemaker Tool. There is now a new ELCA First Call process: everyone gets assigned to their home synod. Tim has read 180 Confidential Reports to the Bishop from rostered ministers of the synod and has responded personally. There have been several pandemic issues: some pastors face losing their calls, rostered ministers are having such a difficult time, working hard, pivoting. Synod staff is trying many things to support them.
- The 2021 Assembly/Bishop's Election will be online and registration is now open. Early Bird registration will be through April 15. Everyone must be registered by May 1; there will be no late registration. The theme is *Collaboration: Strength for the Journey*. Assembly Information Sessions will include a tutorial for on-line voting. Voting members may attend one or all three of them on May 22, 23, and 24. [Watch the assembly webpage for details](#). ELCA Vice President Bill Horne will be the Churchwide Representative and will conduct the bishop's election.
- Pastor Emily Hartner gave a report from ELCA Church Council updated us about their conversations on Directions & ..., Future Church, Sanctuary Church, Strategy for a Diverse Church, Government & Civic Engagement Social Message. highlighting both the Youth Gathering (July 24-28, 2022 in MSP Also the 2022 CWA is set to happen in person in Columbus OH
- Treasurer Paul Phillips reported that Mission Support was down but only slightly.
- Received the yearly report from the trustees of the NC Synod Foundation from trustees Dan Boone and Doug Nelson.