

RECOMMENDATIONS, REPORT, AND NOTICE FROM THE SYNOD COUNCIL
South Carolina Synod Assembly June 8, 2024

*NOTE: *Items II, III, VI, and VII, and are recommendations for Action by the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly*

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I. ASSEMBLY: PROCEDURES AND ELECTIONS

The *Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions, South Carolina Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* provides the following constitutional provisions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions to guide the procedures and elections in the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly:

Bold = Constitutional Provisions
Lightface type = Bylaws
Italics = Continuing Resolutions

Chapter 7.
SYNOD ASSEMBLY

- †S7.01. **This synod shall have a Synod Assembly, which shall be its highest legislative authority. The powers of the Synod Assembly are limited only by the provisions in the Articles of Incorporation, this constitution and bylaws, the assembly’s own resolutions, and the constitutions and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**
- S7.01.01. The following committees shall be appointed by the bishop from the voting members of the Synod Assembly at least 30 days prior to the meeting of the assembly:
- a. Committee of Reference and Counsel. The duties of the Committee of Reference and Counsel shall be to report to the assembly with its recommendations all resolutions submitted to it. Resolutions of a general character which are not germane to pending questions or reports shall be submitted on no more than one page of 8 ½ x 11- inch paper to the synodical secretary no later than 15 days prior to the formal opening of the assembly. The committee shall provide copies of all resolutions to the voting members of the assembly. Other duties of the committee shall be to recommend special orders for the hearing of representatives, to grant or deny permission to distribute printed matter not issuing from the office of the secretary, and to give such assistance to the bishop as the bishop may desire in the course of the assembly.
- b. Committee on Conduct of Elections. The duties of the Committee on Conduct of Elections shall be to distribute and collect at the direction of the bishop ballots for all elections, to supervise the tellers in the counting of ballots, to report the results of all elections to the assembly, and to give such assistance to the bishop as the bishop may desire in the course of the assembly.
- S7.01.A23. *In reviewing proposed memorials, resolutions, and main motions, the Committee of Reference and Counsel may edit, prepare an alternative memorial, resolution, or motion, or consolidate into a single proposed action multiple memorials, resolutions, or main motions on the same or similar subjects. Whenever the Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends an edited or alternative memorial, resolution, or motion, the report to the assembly shall also contain the original maker’s text.*
- S7.01.B23. *The Committee of Reference and Counsel shall report its recommendations on memorials, resolutions, and main motions to the Synod Assembly. Such recommendations do not require a second. When the Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends approval, the committee’s recommendation shall be the main motion before the assembly. When the Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends the adoption of a substitute*

or alternative motion, the committee's recommendation shall be the main motion before the assembly. When the Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends referral, the committee's recommendation shall become the main motion before the assembly. When the Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends that the assembly decline a proposed memorial, resolution, or main motion, the recommendation shall be reported to the assembly. If the author or another voting member wishes to bring the declined proposed memorial, resolution, or main motion to the floor, the voting member may move the matter, and it shall become the main motion before the assembly, and the committee's recommendation shall be received for information.

- S7.01.C11. *Resolutions which could not have reasonably been submitted before the 15-day deadline may be submitted to the Committee of Reference and Counsel after the opening of the assembly. A signer of the resolution, preferably its primary author, shall meet with the Committee of Reference and Counsel at the time appointed in the Rules of Procedure adopted for that assembly. Regardless of the recommendation of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, the consideration of such resolutions by the assembly shall require the approval by a two-thirds vote of voting members to place the resolution before the Synod Assembly. If a resolution is received after the deadline of 15 days prior to the formal opening of the assembly, the resolution shall be processed according to the provisions of this continuing resolution.*
- †S7.11. **A regular meeting of the Synod Assembly shall be held at least triennially.**
- S7.11.01. The Synod Assembly shall meet annually. The time and place shall be fixed by the assembly before adjournment or by the Synod Council.
- S7.11.02. Voting members shall attend meetings of the assembly.
- S7.11.03. The secretary shall distribute the *Bulletin of Reports* for the Synod Assembly to the voting members at least 15 days before each regular assembly.
- S7.11.04. At the regular annual meeting, the Synod Assembly shall approve a budget for the following fiscal year.
- 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 presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**
- S7.13. **Notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Synod Assembly shall be given by the secretary of this synod.**
- S7.14. **One-half of the voting members registered for the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum.**
- †S7.21. **The membership of the Synod Assembly, of which at least 60 percent of the voting membership shall be composed of laypersons, shall be constituted as follows:**
- a. **All ministers of Word and Sacrament under call on the roster of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.**
- b. **All ministers of Word and Service, under call, on the roster of this synod shall be voting members in the Synod Assembly.**
- c. **A minimum of one lay member elected by each congregation with fewer than 175 baptized members and a minimum of two lay members elected by each congregation with 175 or more baptized members related to this synod, typically one of whom shall be a man and one of whom shall be a woman, shall be voting members. The Synod Council shall establish a formula to provide additional lay representation from congregations on the basis of the number of baptized members in the congregation. The Synod Council shall seek to ensure that at least 45 percent of the lay members of the assembly shall be women and at least 45 percent shall be men.**
- d. **Voting membership shall include the officers of this synod.**
- †S7.21.01. Voting members shall begin serving with the opening of a regular Synod Assembly and shall continue serving until voting members are seated at the next regular Synod Assembly.

- †S7.21.02. If a special Synod Assembly is called and voting members at the previous assembly are unable to serve as voting members, where permitted by state law, the congregation through the Congregation Council may elect new members who shall continue to serve until the next regular Synod Assembly.
- S7.21.A21. *Each congregation of this synod shall be entitled to at least two lay voting members. Each congregation having 300 to 649 baptized members shall be entitled to one additional lay voting member. Each congregation having 650 to 999 baptized members shall be entitled to two additional lay voting members. Each congregation having 1000 or more baptized members shall be entitled to three additional lay voting members. Baptized members shall be based on the annual congregational report of each congregation for the year preceding the assembly. Each congregation of this synod shall be entitled to one additional lay voting member who is under the age of thirty at the time of the assembly. Each congregation of this synod shall be entitled to one additional lay voting member who is a person of color or whose primary language is other than English.*
- S7.22. **This synod may establish processes that permit retired rostered ministers, or those granted disability status, or on leave from call, on the roster of the synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.c. If the synod does not establish processes to permit the rostered ministers specified above to serve as voting members, they shall have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly.**
- S7.22.01. All retired ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service on the rosters of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.
- S7.22.02. All ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service granted disability status on the rosters of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.
- †S7.23. **The presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and such other official representatives of the churchwide organization as may be designated by the presiding bishop, shall have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly. Like privileges shall be accorded to those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.**
- S7.23.01. All ministers of Word and Sacrament on leave from call and all ministers of Word and Service on leave from call, who are on the roster of this synod in attendance at the Synod Assembly shall be voting members.
- S7.24. **Ministers under call on the rosters of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly as long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the rosters of this synod. Lay members of the Synod Assembly representing congregations shall continue as such until the opening of the next regular synod assembly, or unless replaced by the election of new members for a special synod assembly, or until they have been disqualified by termination of congregation membership.**
- †S7.25. **Except as otherwise provided in this constitution or in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* each voting member of the Synod Assembly shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod.**
- S7.26. **This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit lay representatives of authorized worshiping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.01.04., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21.**
- S7.26.A20. *Each authorized worshiping community of this synod shall be entitled to two lay voting members, one of whom shall be a man and one of whom shall be a woman.*
- S7.27. **This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council to grant a minister of Word and Sacrament from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by the Churchwide Assembly the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of that minister's service in a congregation of this church.**
- S7.27.01. A minister of Word and Sacrament from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in attendance at the Synod Assembly who has complied with the provisions of S14.15. shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote in the synod assembly during the period of that minister's service in a congregation of this synod. The bishop shall certify to the secretary at least 30 days before assembly those ministers of Word and Sacrament from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, serving

in an ELCA congregation of this synod who are eligible to be voting members.

- S7.28. Duly elected voting members of the Synod Council who are not otherwise voting members of the Synod Assembly under †S7.21. shall be granted the privilege of both voice and vote as members of the Synod Assembly.**
- †S7.31. Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of the Synod Assembly.**
- S7.32. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of the Synod Assembly, unless otherwise ordered by the assembly.**
- S7.32.A20. The following rules of procedure shall be in force at meetings of the Synod Assembly:*
- a. Unless otherwise determined by vote of the assembly, all speeches in general discussion shall be limited to two minutes and no member shall be permitted to speak the second time on the same subject when others desire to speak.*
 - b. A resolution of a general character which is not germane to the pending question or report shall be given by the proposer to a Committee of Reference and Counsel.*
 - c. All reports published in the Bulletin of Reports shall be received as information by the assembly by virtue of that fact without vote.*
 - d. All other reports shall be in writing and in such form as the assembly or the Synod Council may determine.*
 - e. The minutes of each assembly shall be submitted to the Synod Council for approval.*
 - f. The bishop and secretary shall, after making any necessary corrections therein, certify two copies of the printed minutes of each assembly as the official protocol of said assembly, and shall submit the same to the next regular assembly for approval and deposit in the archives.*
 - g. Holy Communion shall be administered at each assembly with the exception of assemblies held online or in regard for the safety of voting members.*
- S7.33. "Ex-officio" as used herein means membership with full rights of voice and vote unless otherwise expressly limited.**

**Chapter 9.
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- †S9.01. The Synod Assembly shall elect such officers of this synod and such other persons as the constitution and bylaws may require, according to procedures set forth in the bylaws. The Synod Assembly shall elect members of the Churchwide Assembly in accordance with bylaw 12.41.11. of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**
- S9.02. In all elections by the Synod Assembly, other than for the bishop, a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.**
- S9.03. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of at least seven persons and not more than 12 persons who shall be appointed by the Synod Council to serve for each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all elections for which nominations are made by the Nominating Committee. The size of the Nominating Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's continuing resolutions.**
- S9.03.01. The Synod Assembly shall elect voting members of the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA on the basis approved by that body. The Nominating Committee of this synod shall nominate twice the number of nominees for the places to be filled. In its nominations the committee shall seek to have equitable representation by the various geographic areas of this synod. After the regular voting members have been elected, rostered ministers, lay women, and lay men nominees receiving the next highest number of votes respectively shall constitute the alternates. If any voting member be unable to attend the assembly, they shall inform the bishop of this synod who shall fill all vacancies from the alternates in the order of the votes received.**
- S9.03.02. The Nominating Committee shall strive to ensure that all persons nominated for any position possess the necessary competence and experience for the position. The committee shall, insofar as possible,**

insure that all geographic areas of this synod are represented among the nominees.

- S9.03.03. Any nominations from the floor shall meet the same criteria as required for the position for which nominated.
- S9.03.04. Terms of service for members of the Synod Council and for persons elected by this synod to boards of trustees of the institutions to which this synod is related shall be limited to two consecutive terms of three years each. Terms of service begin at the conclusion of the Synod Assembly at which they are elected. Terms of service end at the Synod Assembly at which their successors are elected. Should the constitution of any institution or agency specify a term of office for board members other than three years, the constitution of the institution shall take precedence over this bylaw as far as length of term is concerned. In computing eligibility for continued membership on the Synod Council, boards on which the synod is entitled to representation, or other organizational units where applicable, at the conclusion of a full term, service which preceded such term without interruption shall be disregarded if its duration was shorter than half a term.
- S9.03.05. Any qualified person shall be eligible for election to and simultaneous service on one board and one committee. No person, except the bishop of synod, shall be eligible to serve simultaneously on two elective boards. No elected member of the Synod Council shall serve simultaneously on any other elective board or committee.
- S9.03.06. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot in accord with †S6.04. for Synod Council elections to assure Synod Council membership includes: at least one man and one woman who are persons of color and/or whose primary language is other than English; and nine geographic seats in accord with S9.03.02.; S12.01.20.; S12.01.21.; and S12.01.22. with three persons serving from each of the three geographic areas. A rotating basis for the election of lay men, lay women, and rostered ministers from each of the three areas shall be established for the Synod Council members elected from the areas with one lay man, one lay woman and one rostered minister elected each year; and nine at-large seats open to persons from across the territory of the South Carolina Synod, including one lay man, one lay woman, and one rostered minister to be elected each year; and one youth serving a two-year term.
- S9.08. **All elections shall be by ballot. In all elections, other than for the bishop, vice president and the secretary, the names of the persons receiving the highest number of legal votes, but not elected by a majority of the legal votes cast on a preceding ballot, shall be entered on the next ballot to the number of two for each vacancy unfilled. On any ballot when only two names appear, a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.**
- S9.09. **The result of each ballot in every election shall be announced in detail to the assembly.**
- †S9.10. **When notified by the secretary of this church, on behalf of the Nominating Committee of the Churchwide Assembly, the Synod Assembly shall nominate two persons in the specified categories for possible election by the Churchwide Assembly to the Church Council.**

(End of constitutional provisions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions to guide the procedures and elections in the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly)

RECOMMENDATION FOR ASSEMBLY ACTION ON BUDGET PROCEDURES

- *II. Recommends the “Mission Funding and Spending Plan Procedures (Budget Procedures)” to guide the adoption of the 2025-2026 Mission Funding and Spending Plan (Budget) for adoption by the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly.**

Mission Funding and Spending Plan Procedures

Should a 2024 SC Synod Assembly (“Assembly”) voting member desire to propose amendment of 2025-2026 Mission Funding and Spending Plan (“The Plan”), the following procedures will be followed for a proposed amendment to be considered “properly submitted.”

- a. Any proposed amendment to The Plan that increases a current program’s expense allocation, or that adds a new current program expense allocation proposal to The Plan, must include a corresponding decrease in some other current program proposal in the same amount; or identify an increase in revenues to offset the proposed expense.
- b. Proposed amendments to The Plan must be submitted to the secretary of the synod by 9:00 a.m. on June 5, 2024.
- c. Each proposed amendment or resolution to amend must be submitted using the synod’s on-line form.
- d. Each proposed amendment or resolution to amend must be cosponsored by not fewer than ten additional 2024 Assembly voting members. The voting member submitting the proposed amendment or resolution to amend must provide the name and telephone number of each cosponsor.
- e. The Synod Finance Committee shall meet at 11:00 a.m. on June 5, 2024, to consider each properly submitted amendment proposal. Synod Finance committee shall prepare a recommendation concerning each properly proposed amendment after considering the implications of said amendment if adopted by the voting members of the Assembly.
- f. During the consideration of The Plan by the Assembly, the Treasurer or Finance Committee shall report on the implication of each properly proposed amendments or resolutions to amend The Plan. This report will contain a recommendation from the Synod Finance Committee to the Assembly voting members.

**Regarding Votes to Appropriate Funds not Approved by Synod Council:
Chapter S10.04.**

Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the approval of the Synod Council shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption.

Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions, South Carolina Synod

RECOMMENDATION FOR ASSEMBLY ACTION ON MINUTES OF THE 2023 ASSEMBLY

Report of the Secretary

See *Minutes of the South Carolina Synod Assembly, June 8-10, 2023* (Full Directory and Minutes, pp. 91ff.)

- *III. In accordance with *S7.32.A20.f.* of the *Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the South Carolina Synod, ELCA*, I recommend that two copies of the *Minutes of the 2023 South Carolina Synod Assembly*, which have been certified by the bishop and the secretary as the official protocol of that assembly, be approved and placed in the archives.

IV. NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD ASSEMBLIES

Report of the Secretary

Notice is given by the Secretary in accord with *S7.13.*, *Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions, South Carolina Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*: The Synod Council fixed the time and place for the South Carolina Synod Assembly in accord with *S7.11.01.*:

2025 – June 12-14, Columbia SC

2026 – June 11-13, Columbia SC

2027– June 12, Online

V. RESOLUTION ON LIVING INTO THE UNITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.

The South Carolina Synod Assembly, June 8-10, 2023, adopted the *Resolution on Living into the Unity of the Body of Christ* (2023 Directory and Minutes, Full Directory and Minutes, pp.100f.)

The Synod Council, meeting in regular session on August 26, 2023, received the resolution affirmed the plans for implementation developed by Bishop Virginia Aebischer, and requested a report to be given to the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly.

WHEREAS, a *Resolution on Living into the Unity of the Body of Christ* was adopted at the South Carolina Synod Assembly, June 8-10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the resolution resolved that the bishop's office will provide to the conferences and congregations resources to help facilitate this intentional one year study, including opportunities for partnering and individuals to help lead study and discussion;

WHEREAS, the resolution resolved that a report be given to the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Synod Council receive the *Resolution on Living into the Unity of the Body of Christ* adopted by the South Carolina Synod Assembly; and be it further

Resolved, that the Synod Council affirm the plans for implementation developed by Bishop Virginia S. Aebischer and the Office of the Bishop; and be it finally

Resolved, that a progress report be given in each of the meetings of the Synod Council beginning November 13, 2023, with the goal of bringing a report to the South Carolina Synod Assembly, June 8, 2024.

The Synod Council, meeting in regular session on April 22, 2024, received the Report of the Task Force (Bible Team) on *Resolution on Living into the Unity of the Body of Christ* with gratitude and requested that Secretary Herlong present the report to the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly in *Recommendations, Notice and Report from the Synod Council*.

South Carolina Synod receiving Curriculum Gift for 2024-2025

The SC Synod Bible Team began meeting in the summer of 2023 to consider ways to fulfill the work of the Resolution on Living into the Unity of the Body of Christ that was passed at the 2023 Synod Assembly. This Bible Team includes Josh Kestner, Josh Knutson, Shelley Allen, Steven Gallego, Kevin Ogilvie, Lisa Isenhower, Bobby Morris, Joanna Gragg, Libby Bedenbaugh, Arden Hallman, Heather Apel, Deborah Poole, Wayne Kannaday, Ginny Aebischer. For a time, it also included Mark Buchan. This team meets together monthly to explore options for how to best resource and support the work of Bible Study and to gather the SC Synod together in Unity around God's Word. Updates on our activity has been shared at each meeting of the SC Synod Council. Now we are happy to share the results of our work with all of you.

We are excited to share that this team is writing a curriculum that is being offered as a gift to the entire Synod for use in Sunday School classes or with small groups. We have divided the curriculum into two sections. Section 1 will be sent to all congregations in early May and can be used in August, September, October, November, December and January. Section 2 will be released later in the fall and is intended to be used between March 2025 through August 2025. The material will come as units of study that can be used over a period of several weeks but are not dated because we wanted to make it user friendly and allow each of you to determine when you wish to use each part, and to give you freedom to explore the topics for the weeks that your group needs. In Section 1 topics include: "Introduction to What the Bible is and What the Bible is not," "The Gospel of Luke," "Advent," "Christmas," "Revelation". This Bible Team is also working to produce the same topics in a version that could be used with youth classes. Be on the lookout for the first half of this gift in early May. Many thanks to the Bible Team for offering this to everyone in the SC Synod.

In addition, this Bible Team is working on a video concept that we hope to produce this spring using short clips to explore various Biblical questions as *Food for Thought* and an opportunity to *Feast on Faith*. This part of our work is, indeed, a work in progress. We hope to produce these short videos for use on social media and anticipate that you will see some of this in the near future. In the meantime, keep reading the Scriptures together and living God's Word in the world.

The Rev. Virginia S. Aebischer, Bishop
ELCA South Carolina Synod

RECOMMENDATION FOR ASSEMBLY ACTION ON 2024 COMPENSATION GUIDELINES

- *VI. Recommends the 2025 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers, South Carolina Synod, for adoption by the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly.**

The *2025 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers* will be found on the documents page of the South Carolina Synod Assembly Web site under Recommendations and Notices. All documents to be used at assembly will be live at <https://scsynod.com/assembly/documents/>

The *2025 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers* will be moved, upon approval by the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly, to the Call Process and Compensation page of the South Carolina Synod Web site. After adoption by the assembly the document will be live at <https://scsynod.com/call-process/>

RECOMMENDATION FOR ASSEMBLY ACTION ON 2025-2026 BUDGET

See full detailed line-item Proposed Mission Funding and Spending Plan on the documents page of the assembly website at <https://scsynod.com/assembly/documents/>

- *VII. Recommends a Mission Funding and Spending Plan (Budget) in the amount of \$2,458,500 for the fiscal year February 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026, for adoption by the 2024 South Carolina Synod Assembly.**

See the 2025-2026 Proposed Mission Funding and Spending Plan and Pie Chart Documents on the next two pages.



Rev. W. Osborne Herlong, Jr., Secretary
Synod Council
ELCA Synod of South Carolina

**South Carolina Synod, ELCA
Proposed Mission Funding/Spending Plan 2025-2026**

| | Approved Mission Funding/Spending Plan <u>2024-2025</u> | Proposed Mission Funding/Spending Plan <u>2025-2026</u> |
|---|--|--|
| Mission Support and Other Revenue | | |
| Congregational Support Synod-Churchwide (1) | 2,360,000 | 2,310,000 |
| Fees-Assembly | 13,000 | 54,000 |
| Investment Income | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Other Income | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Carryover/Constitution Provision S15.14. (2) | 0 | 22,500 |
| Total Revenue | 2,445,000 | 2,458,500 |
| Benevolence and Expenditures | | |
| Mission Benevolence | | |
| ELCA Support (1) | 690,000 | 495,000 |
| SC Synod Ministries Support | 115,000 | 94,886 |
| Joint Ministries Region 9 Support | 11,000 | 11,000 |
| Bishop's Discretionary Fund | 5,000 | 4,000 |
| Archives | 6,000 | 6,098 |
| ELCA Regional Gift Planner | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Southern Seminary | 77,000 | 77,000 |
| SC Lutheran Retreat Centers | 54,000 | 59,000 |
| NovusWay | 12,800 | 14,000 |
| Newberry College | 12,800 | 10,000 |
| Lutheran Homes | 12,800 | 10,000 |
| Lutheran Services Carolinas | 12,800 | 13,000 |
| Totals | 1,019,200 | 803,984 |
| Ministries | | |
| Category 1-Rostered Ministry | 101,250 | 105,375 |
| Category 2-Congregations & Lay Leaders | 109,000 | 100,500 |
| Category 3-New Leader Development | 195,441 | 222,791 |
| Category 4-Connections & Resources for Ministry (3) | 135,474 | 315,550 |
| Totals | 541,165 | 744,216 |
| Operating Expenses | | |
| Salaries, Benefits and Related (4) | 793,000 | 819,000 |
| Operating Expenses | 91,635 | 91,300 |
| Totals | 884,635 | 910,300 |
| Total Benevolence and Expenditures | 2,445,000 | 2,458,500 |

Note #1 ELCA support for 2024/25 is 30% of unrestricted congregational support.
ELCA support for 2025/26 is 22% of unrestricted congregational support.

Note #2 S15.14. Except when such procedure would jeopardize current operations, a reserve amounting to no more than 16% of the sum of the amounts scheduled in the next year's budget for regular distribution to synod causes shall be carried forward annually for disbursement in the following year in the interest of making possible a more even flow of income to such causes. The exact number of dollars to be held in reserve shall be determined by the Synod Council.

Note #3 The 2024/25 and 2025/26 budgets for the annual assembly of \$52,000 (online) and \$230,000 (in person) [respectively] are included in Category 4 - Connections & Resources for Ministry.

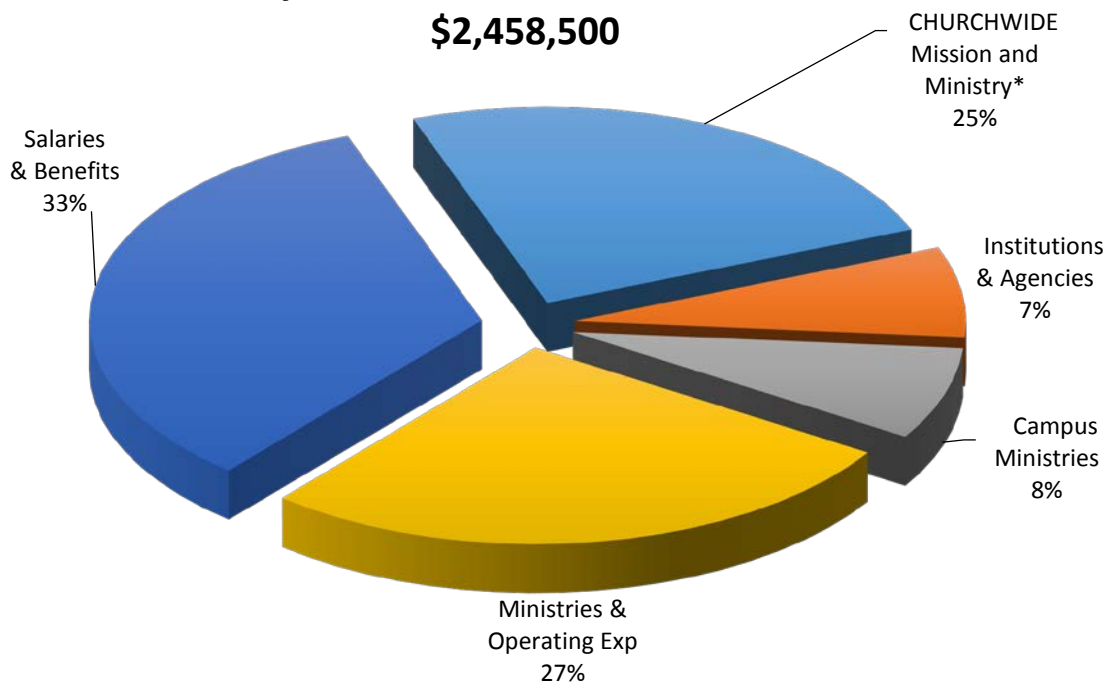
Note #4 The 2025/26 budget for salaries includes a 3.2% cost of living increase for the non-rostered staff. Rostered staff will be at or above compensation guidelines.

South Carolina Synod, ELCA 2025-2026 Proposed Mission Funding/Spending Plan

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| \$600,886 | Churchwide Mission and Ministry |
| \$183,000 | Institutions & Agencies |
| \$187,791 | Campus Ministries |
| \$667,823 | Ministries & Operating Expenses |
| \$819,000 | Salaries & Benefits |
| ----- | |
| \$2,458,500 | |

Mission Support from Congregations to Synod and Churchwide Ministries

\$2,458,500



Ministries & Operating Expenses

Category One

Rostered Ministry

Category Two

Congregations & Lay Leaders

Category Three

New Leader Development

Category Four

Connections & Resources for Ministry

Discretionary Fund/Archives/ELCA Gift Planner

Operating Expenses

Campus Ministries

The Citadel

Clemson University

College of Charleston

Converse College

Lander University

Medical University of South Carolina

University of South Carolina - Spartanburg

University of South Carolina - Columbia

Winthrop University

Wofford College

Institutions & Agencies

SC Lutheran Retreat Centers

Lutheran Homes of SC

NovusWay Ministries

Newberry College

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary

Lutheran Services Carolinas

*ELCA Support for 2025-2026 is 22% of unrestricted congregational support