

## **Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee**

*“Actions on Synod Assembly resolutions/memorials”*

May 4-5, 2018 MAS Assembly

### **RC2018-01**

#### **Gun Violence Prevention Resolution**

The Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly, in response to several 2018 incidents of mass shootings and the ELCA Message on Community Violence adopted in 1994, resolved to establish a synodical task force to address issues of gun-related violence, as well as to speak about the negative impact of gun violence in communities within the synod. The Office of the Bishop is currently engaged in establishing this task force and in expressing the will of the synod to public officials and in public settings.

### **RC2018-02**

#### **The Revised Budget for Fiscal Year 2018**

The Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly adopted a resolution recommending adjustments to the proposed synod budget for Fiscal Year 2018 which was passed at the 2017 MAS Synod Assembly.

### **RC2018-03**

#### **The Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019**

The Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly reviewed and adopted a resolution with a draft budget for Fiscal Year 2019. This budget will be reviewed and adapted at the 2019 Synod Assembly.

### **RC2018-04**

#### **Memorial on the ELCA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ordination of Women**

The Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly memorialized the ELCA to encourage a variety of ways to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of women in two of the predecessor bodies of the ELCA. This memorial was sent to the ELCA Reference and Counsel Committee for consideration at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to be held in Milwaukee in August 2019. (The American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America each voted to ordain women at the respective national conventions in 1970.)

### **RC2018-05**

#### **Resolution concerning bylaws governing the Finance and Audit Committees**

The Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly amended the synod bylaws which included both an audit committee and a finance committee with essentially the same duties, except that the Audit Committee also was charged with conducting the audit. The change folded the two committees into one committee which is responsible to carry out the duties of the two committees, including the annual audit. Because the ELCA model constitution requires a synod to have an Audit Committee, but not a Finance Committee, that committee is referred to officially as the Audit Committee.