

**A resolution to amend the Minneapolis Area Synod Constitution**

**WHEREAS**, the following changes to the Minneapolis Area Synod Constitution are recommended by the Reference & Counsel Committee and the Synod Council; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Minneapolis Area Synod in Assembly adopt the following constitutional changes

**1. Amend Bylaw S6.03.05 to conform with changes made to the Augsburg College constitution by addition of the underlined text and deletion of the stricken text:**

S6.03.05. This synod acknowledges its responsibility to provide spiritual guidance and leadership resources to Augsburg College. It is further acknowledged that this synod is responsible for electing ~~persons~~delegates to the Governing Membership of Augsburg College and, in partnership with the ELCA, providing financial support to church higher education of the ELCA.

~~This synod~~The Synod Assembly shall elect ~~29~~ 8 persons to the Governing Membership. ~~The Synod Assembly shall elect 20 persons and the Synod Council shall elect nine person.~~ Election shall be for a two-year term. No delegate may serve more than two consecutive terms.

**2. Adopt Bylaw S7.11.01, at the recommendation of the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly:**

S7.11.01 The time and place of the Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly shall be determined by the Synod Council. The time and place for the next regular assembly normally shall be announced 6 months prior to the assembly.

**3. Amend Bylaw S7.23.01, at the recommendation of the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly by addition of the underlined text and deletion of the stricken text:**

S7.23.01 Retired ~~ordained ministers~~ Ministers of Word and Sacrament on the roster of this synod shall, in caucus, elect 10% of their number to be voting members of the Synod Assembly prior to the first business session of each regular and special meeting of the Synod Assembly; all others shall be advisory members with voice but not vote.

44 **4. Adopt Bylaw S723.02, at the recommendation of the Minneapolis Area Synod Council**  
45 **(parallel bylaw to S7.23.01):**

46 S7.23.02 Retired Ministers of Word and Service on the roster of this synod shall, in caucus, elect  
47 10% of their number to be voting members of the Synod Assembly prior to the first  
48 business session of each regular and special meeting of the Synod Assembly; all others  
49 shall be advisory members with voice but not vote.  
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52 **5. Adopt the following constitutional amendments, as recommended by the 2016 ELCA**  
53 **Churchwide Assembly, in order to provide parallel structure to what is required for**  
54 **Ministers of Word and Sacrament:**  
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56 **S14.33. The minister of Word and Service shall become a member of the congregation**  
57 **upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple**  
58 **congregations, the minister of Word and Service shall hold membership in**  
59 **one of the congregations.**  
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61 **S14.34 Each minister of Word and Service on the roster of this synod shall submit a**  
62 **report of his or her ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior**  
63 **to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.**  
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65 **S14.42. No minister of Word and Service shall accept a call without first conferring**  
66 **with the bishop of this synod. A minister of Word and Service shall respond**  
67 **with an answer of acceptance or declination to a letter of call within 30 days of**  
68 **receipt of such call. In exceptional circumstances with the approval of the**  
69 **bishop of this synod and the chair of the Congregation Council of the**  
70 **congregation issuing the call, and additional 15 days may be granted to**  
71 **respond to a letter of call.**  
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73 **S14.47. All ministers of Word and Service under a call shall attend meetings of the**  
74 **Synod Assembly, and the ministers of Word and Service of congregations**  
75 **shall also attend the meetings of the conference, cluster, coalition, or other**  
76 **area subdivision to which the congregation belongs.**  
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83 *Recommended by: Minneapolis Area Synod Council, January 26, 2017, March 23, 2017*  
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