

Report on 2022 Synod Assembly resolutions and memorials

RC2022-01 Resolution on Energy and Carbon Dividend Act

This resolution called on the appropriate committees of the synod to encourage congregations to utilize carbon pricing basics in educational offerings and advocating for environmental justice through use of Lutherans for Restoring Creation resources. The EcoFaith staff sent out details about LRC resources regarding carbon pricing basics to its leadership list of about 400 people. In addition, this same information was included in the synod's enews to a list of more than 6,000 unique addresses.

RC2022-02 Memorial supporting the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

This resolution memorialized the Churchwide Office to instruct the ELCA Advocacy Office to advocate for the specific Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. The Office of the Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop forwarded this memorial to the Secretary of the ELCA for consideration at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly. This memorial was grouped with similar memorials from 15 other synods regarding "creation care" and passed overwhelmingly.

RC2022-03 Resolution on Substance Abuse and the Addiction Crisis

This resolution called on the development of a Synod Task Force to concentrate on substance abuse issues, especially within marginalized groups. The Bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod was also asked to share this resolution with the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA. A Synod Task Force on Addiction has been formed and has met.

RC2022-04 Memorial Concerning the Banning of Nuclear Weapons

This memorial called on the 2022 Churchwide Assembly to engage the ELCA United Nations and Advocacy offices to bring together the nine nuclear nations to implement the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, as suggested by the Back from the Brink campaign. Further, this memorial called on the Presiding Bishop to inform federal officials of the ELCA's advocacy on this issue. The Office of the Minneapolis Area Bishop forwarded this memorial to the Secretary of the ELCA for consideration at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly. This memorial was received by the Churchwide Assembly en bloc. (In addition, the Minneapolis Area Synod Council followed up on a proposed resolution that did not appear before the 2022 Synod Assembly, calling on the Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop to contact elected federal officials representing parts of the synod to call on them to support and take leadership on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Synod Council supported this proposal; the Office of the Bishop contacted Minnesota's two Senators and the five of the eight Members of Congress representing areas within the synodical boundaries.)

RC2022-05 Memorial on Emission Reduction

This memorial called on the Churchwide Organization to offer leadership in advocacy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including zero emissions by 2050, both through advocacy of elected officials and through education of congregants, including through use of the resources of Lutherans Restoring Creation, a national advocacy group. The memorial also called for transition from greenhouse gases to include funding for projects led by BIPOC groups. The Office of the Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop forwarded this memorial to the Secretary of the ELCA for consideration at the 2022 Churchwide

Assembly. This memorial was grouped with similar memorials from 15 other synods regarding “emissions reduction” and passed with a vote of 672-45.

RC2022-06 Revising the FY 2022 Synod Budget

This resolution authorized the adjustment of the Fiscal Year 2022 (February 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023) to reflect the most recent anticipation for fulfillment of mission support sharing from congregations. This resolution passed and the budget was adjusted.

RC2022-07 FY 2023 Synod Budget

This resolution proposed an anticipated budget for Fiscal Year 2023. That budget will be adjusted at the 2023 Synod Assembly to further reflect the most recent information about fulfillment of mission support sharing from congregations. This resolution passed and became the operating budget for the synod.

RC2022-08 Resolution supporting the Reception of Holy Cross Lutheran Church

This resolution offered excitement over the reception of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, a congregation formerly of the South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, into the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Holy Cross Lutheran would join the South Conference of the Synod, and the ELCA Churchwide Office of the Secretary would be notified about this new ELCA congregation. This resolution passed with great fanfare, and each of the resolveds was accomplished.