

**Indiana Kentucky Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
2025 Synod Assembly
June 5-7, 2025**

**Crowne Plaza Union Station
Indianapolis, IN**

MINUTES

Thursday June 5, 2025

The 38th Annual Assembly of Indiana-Kentucky Synod was called to order by Bishop Timothy Graham at 2:04 PM with a land acknowledgement of the Native American tribes whose land we were meeting upon and led the Assembly in the liturgy for the opening of the Assembly. Bishop Graham welcomed those assembled and thanked them for being willing to serve the Synod at the Assembly to do the business of the Synod as part of the mission of the Synod. Bishop Graham introduced the special guests visiting the Synod Assembly on behalf of the ELCA.

Credentials Report: Pr. Alexa Kvande reported as of 2 PM, there were 128 Lay members and 83 Rostered Members registered for a total of 211 voting members present. Bishop Graham declared a quorum was present to do the business of the Synod.

Agenda and Rules: Synod Secretary Julie Slavens proposed the Assembly Agenda as recommended by Synod Council action SC/2025/9 on April 5, 2025. No other changes were made by the Assembly. Secretary Slavens then presented the Rules of the Assembly as recommended by Synod Council action SC/2025/10 on April 5, 2025. No changes were made to the rules by the Assembly.

Action SA/2025/01: The Agenda and Rules of the 38th Annual IN-KY Synod Assembly as recommended by Synod Council were seconded. Approved unanimously.

Notification of Appointment of Committees:

Secretary Slavens reported the following appointments of Synod Committees and Task Forces for the Assembly:

Minutes: Julie Slavens (ex officio), Ted Miller, DeeAnn Daniels, Mike Hoover, and Tina Smith.

Reference and Counsel: Pr. Tim Knauff, Chair; Pr. Vicki Garber, Josh Tatum, Synod Attorney, Chris Walda, and Pr. Dan Forehand, Synod Staff.

Elections: Mike Hoover, Chair; Pr. Grace Pardun.

Nominating: Julie Slavens, Chair; Pr. Libby Davis Manning (ECIC), Gina Moore (EVAN), Pr. Wendy Kalan (INDLPS), Pr. Kristin Schmid (LAF), Pr. Tim Diemer (NCC), Cory Dold (NEC), Pr. David Adams (NWIC), Hannah Limbong (SCC), Pr. Richard Gianzero (SEIC), Pr. Dan Forehand, Synod Staff.

Bishop asked the Assembly to thank those appointed for their work on these committees and service to the Indiana-Kentucky Synod.

Keynote Presentation: Bishop Tim presented the first of three keynotes relating to the theme of the Assembly: Faith, Hope, Love. The topic of this first keynote was "Faith: Gift, Anchor, Journey." Bishop Tim used I Corinthians 13:1-13 as the basis of his presentation. Key points were faith is a journey and a gift anchored in Christ. He spoke of his first year as Bishop and of getting to know the culture and people of the Synod. He allowed time for table discussion of faith as a gift in each person's life.

Presentation of the 2026-27 and 2027-2028 Synod Budgets:

Treasurer Harry Albers presented the budgets for the next two fiscal years. The Assembly was asked to adopt the budget for 2027-28 due to the fact there would be no in-person assembly in 2026.

Presentation of the 2025-26 Compensation Guidelines: Pr. Adrienne Meier presented the compensation guidelines on behalf of the Compensation Committee. Some adjustments were made for housing allowances and a 2.5% Cost of Living increase was given for salaries.

Voting Devices Introduction: Bishop Tim provided an explanation of the electronic voting process. Step by step instructions were given and a practice session was conducted. Another practice session will be conducted before the actual voting takes place.

Nominating Committee Report: Chair Slavens reported the nominees for Vice President, Synod Council, Consultation Committee, Discipline Committee, and the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board:

Vice President: (One Seat)(Four-year term)

Anne Simerman
Chris Walda
Dave Zehr

Lay Conference Positions:

East Central (Lay-Male) Larry Ahlersmeyer (two-year unexpired term)
Northwest Indiana (Lay-Female) Nicole Lee (second three-year term)
Eastern Kentucky (Lay Male) Mike Hoover (second three-year term)

Having no other nominations, Larry Ahlersmeyer, Nicole Lee, and Mike Hoover were elected by acclamation.

Chair Slavens reported one conference had a vacancy: North Central Indiana (Lay Female). This vacancy will be appointed by the Synod Council.

Action.SA/2025/02: Election of Larry Ahlersmeyer (East Central Conference), Nicole Lee (Northwest Indiana Conference), and Mike Hoover (Eastern Kentucky Conference) by acclamation of the voting members of the Synod Assembly to Synod Council Conference Lay Representatives with Larry Ahlersmeyer filling a two-year unexpired term and Nicole Lee and Mike Hoover serving three-year terms.

Rostered Ministers At-Large: (Three At-Large -- Three-year term)

Pr. Evangeline Anderson-Rajkumar
Pr. Bimen Limbong
Pr. Tim Diemer
Pr. Chris Duckworth
Pr. Dana Lockhart
Pr. Marjorie McDaniel

Pr. Kristin Rice – two-year term

Young Adult Representative: (One Position -- Three-year term)

Dana Abbring
Haley Matthias

Youth Representative: (Two-year term)

Kasey Kissner

Hearing no other nominations, the Election of three Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament and a young adult representative to the Synod Council will take place on Friday, June 6, at 1:30 PM per the Agenda.

Action: SA/2025/03: Election of Pr. Kristin Rice to the Synod Council as Rostered Minister of Word and Sacrament to two-year unexpired term by acclamation of the voting members of the Assembly.

Action: SA/2025/04: Election of Kasey Kissner to the Synod Council as Youth Representative for a two-year term by acclamation of the voting members of the Assembly.

Consultation Committee – Rostered (One Seat)(Six-year term)

Pastor David Hewitt Rostered
Pastor Dana Lockhart Rostered

Discipline Committee – Rostered (Three Seats)(Six-year term)

Pastor Amy Beitelschees-Albers Rostered
Pastor Erik Grayvold Rostered
Pastor Grace Pardun Rostered
Deacon Eric Black Rostered

Discipline Committee – Lay Female (One Seat)(Six -year term)

Teresa Cooksey

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board: Rostered (One Seat)

Pastor Caroline Satre Rostered

Bishop Tim asked for nominations from the floor for each committee position; one nomination for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board was made: Pastor Steve Wood.

Chair Slavens reported there were two Lay Male seats open on the Discipline Committee with no nominations. The Synod Council will be responsible for filling those seats. She reported one seat is for a six-year term and the other seat is for an unexpired five-year term.

Hearing no other nominations, the Election of Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament to the Consultation and Discipline Committees and the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board will take place on Friday, June 6, at 1:30 PM per the Agenda.

Action SA/2025/05: Election of Teresa Cooksey as a Lay Female Representative to the Discipline Committee for a term of six years by acclamation of the Assembly voting members.

Presentations of Resolutions: Bishop Tim requested Pr. Tim Knauff to the dais to present the resolutions submitted to the Assembly for its consideration. Pastor Knauff presented four resolutions for consideration. These resolutions will be discussed by the Assembly at a later time during the Assembly. The resolutions will be reviewed by the Reference and Counsel Committee and the Committee will make a recommendation on each resolution as to whether it should be adopted as presented or needs to be amended. The Committee may provide amendments to the resolution for the Assembly to consider.

The resolution topics include disinvestment for the sake of Lutheran Nonprofits, National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools, support of religious liberty and against Christian Nationalism, and transparency and Accountability in Support of LOMIK Camps.

Announcements were made relating to nominations from the floor that bio forms had to be submitted to the information desk by 5:30 pm and resolutions had to be submitted by 4:30 pm to the information desk with the required 50 or more signatures. Bishop Tim called the Plenary Session I closed after a motion and second to adjourn was adopted.

Recognition of Ordination Anniversaries and Congregation Anniversaries:

Bishop Tim recognized the pastors who were celebrating 25 years of ordination. If present he asked each person to stand: Pastor Douglas Givan, Pastor Laura Altman, and Pastor Leah Schade.

Bishop Tim then recognized those pastors who were celebrating 50 years of ordained ministry: Pastor Stephen Bull and Pastor William Peugeot. He asked if they were present to stand and be recognized.

Bishop Tim then recognized those pastors who had retired since the 2024 Synod Assembly: Reverend Bill Gafkjen and Reverend Jerri DeWitt. He asked those present to stand and be recognized.

Bishop Tim then announced the names of the congregations who were celebrating significant milestones. He asked representatives of the congregations to come forward to be recognized: Holy Trinity Lutheran, New Castle, 100 years; Emmanuel Lutheran, Merrillville, 100 years; Holy Trinity Lutheran, South Bend, 125 years; and Emmanuel Lutheran, LaOtto, 150 years.

Bishop Tim then introduced those who are new to the synod on first call. He asked them to stand and be recognized as well:

Ordination: Deacon Eric Black, Messiah Lutheran Fort Wayne,

First Call Candidates: Marc Cohen, Samuel Manoah, and Laura Applegate.

New to the Roster: Reverend Priscilla Geerdes, Assistant to the Bishop, Indianapolis, Reverend Kenneth Vogler, retired, Reverend Todd Wright, retired, and Deacon Adrienne Gray, Executive Director of the Lutheran Deaconess Association.

Special recognitions were given to Ted Miller for his 24 years of service as Synod Secretary and Synod Vice President and to Reverend Jerry O'Neal for his years of service as a member of the Synod staff. Former bishops Jim Stuck and Bill Gafkjen provided verbal tributes to both Ted and Jerry.

Bishop Tim made announcements pertaining to worship and the deadlines for submission of bio forms. He stated the second Plenary Session begins at 9:00 am on Friday, June 6.

Worship was held at 8 pm with Bishop Tim presiding and providing the sermon.

Friday June 6, 2025

Bishop Tim called Plenary Session II to order at 9:00 a.m. He asked IK Synod Disaster Coordinator Jayme Beneker to present on the work of the Synod with respect to disaster relief. Jayme spoke on the various relief projects relating to flooding in Kentucky and tornado damage in Indiana the Synod was involved and provided information on how members and congregations could help with these relief efforts.

Keynote Presentation II: After announcing last night's worship offering of \$4400 designated for the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Disaster Fund, Bishop Tim spoke on "Hope: A Longing, an Experience, and an Inspiration" as the second element of the theme of the Assembly. Focusing on living from the heart he stressed that God's dramatic story calls for our affirmation and acclamation to tell the story of Jesus, our true hope and the way of love.

ELCA Churchwide Greetings: After providing a preview of the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix during August 2025, Rev. Amy Reumann, ELCA Senior Director for Witness in Society, brought greetings and thanks from the Churchwide office. A video greeting from Bishop Eaton was played.

Bishop Tim provided information on the Breakout Sessions, lunch arrangements, and the Question-and-Answer period for the Vice President nominees during the third Plenary Session beginning at 1 pm.

Bishop Tim adjourned the second Plenary Session at 10:30 am.

Bishop Tim called to order the third Plenary Session at 1 pm. He asked Secretary Julie Slavens and Pr. Libby Manning to come to the Dais for the Question-and-Answer session for the candidates for Vice President. Secretary Slavens stated the candidates will be sequestered. Each one will have five minutes to answer the following question as determined by the Nominating Committee: Please give a brief address, including your bio, your understanding of the Vice President's role, and your vision for the Indiana-Kentucky Synod focusing on how the Synod can serve the youth and underrepresented groups in our Synod.

Pr. Manning read the question to each candidate in the order of Dave Zehr, Chris Walda, and Anne Simerman and monitored the time. Each candidate answered the question in the allotted five minutes.

Credentials Report: Rev. Alexis Kvande provided the following report: As of 12:30 pm, 102 Rostered members, 5 Deacons, and 162 Lay Members were registered. The total number of eligible voters is 269.

Vice President Election: Bishop Tim reported 50 percent of the votes cast plus one vote is required for the election of the Vice President. After Bishop Tim provided instruction on the voting devices and a prayer was said prior to voting, the Assembly was given time to vote for the Vice President.

240 votes were cast; 121 are needed for election. Anne Simerman – 178; Chris Walda – 42; and Dave Zehr – 20. Anne Simerman is elected as the Vice President of the Synod.

Action SA/2025/06: The Synod Assembly elected Anne Simerman as Vice President of the IK Synod for a term of four years.

Synod Council Elections – Rostered: Secretary Slavens provided the names of the candidates for the three seats for Rostered members of the Synod Council for a three-year term: Rev. Evangeline Anderson-Rajkumar; Rev. Tim Diemer; Rev. Chris Duckworth; Rev. Bimen Limbong; Rev. Dana Lockhart; and Rev. Majorie McDaniel. The Assembly was given a few minutes to vote for up to three candidates. 236 votes were cast. 50% of the votes cast plus one vote (119) are needed to be elected. The results of the vote

were: Rev. Bimen Limbong: 143; Rev. Evangeline Anderson-Rajkumar: 142; Rev. Marjorie McDaniel: 130; Rev. Chris Duckworth: 107; Rev. Tim Diemer: 83; Rev. Dana Lockhart: 70.

Action SA/2025/07: The Synod Assembly re-elected Rev. Evangeline Anderson-Rajkumar and Rev. Bimen Limbong; and elected Rev. Marjorie McDaniel as rostered representatives to the Synod Council for three-year terms.

Secretary Slavens presented the candidates for the Young Adult Representative to the Synod Council: Dana Abbring and Haley Matthias. 224 votes were cast and 113 were needed for election (50% plus one vote.). The results of the ballot were Dana Abbring: 97; and Haley Matthias: 127.

Action SA/2025/08: The Synod Assembly elected Haley Matthias as the Young Adult Representative to the Synod Council for a three-year term.

Election for Synod Committee Members: Secretary Slavens presented the candidates for the Consultation Committee: Rev. David Hewitt and Rev. Dana Lockhart. For the Discipline Committee of three seats for Rostered members: Rev. Amy Beitelschees-Albers; Rev. Erik Grayvold; Rev. Grace Pardun; and Deacon Eric Black. For one seat on the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky: Rev. Caroline Satre and Rev. Steve Wood. Rev. Steve Wood was a nomination submitted from the floor in a timely manner to be considered for election. All successful candidates must receive 50% of the votes cast plus one vote. The results of the votes were as follows:

Consultation Committee: 225 votes cast; 113 needed for election. Rev. Dana Lockhart: 133 and Rev. David Hewitt: 92.

Discipline Committee: 230 votes cast; 116 needed for election. Rev. Grace Pardun: 184; Deacon Eric Black: 176; Rev. Amy Beitelschees-Albers: 150; Rev. Erik Grayvold: 132.

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky: 240 votes cast; 121 needed for election. Rev. Steve Wood: 125; Rev. Caroline Satre: 115.

Action SA/2025/09: The Synod Assembly elected Rev. Dana Lockhart as a Rostered member to the Consultation Committee, Rev. Amy Beitelschees, Rev. Grace Pardun, and Deacon Eric Black as Rostered members to the Discipline Committee, all for six-year terms and Rev. Steve Wood as the Synod Representative to the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Board for a three-year term.

The results of the elections are in Appendix A.

Vice-President's Report: Synod Vice-President Ted Miller referred to his written report in the Bulletin of Reports. As this was his final report as Vice President he thanked the past officers who served with him, especially those who served multiple terms, Bishops Jim Stuck and Bill Gafkjen, Treasurers Gary Philpy and Chris Walda, Secretary Judy Bush and his model as Synod Vice President, Judy Rehmel for their service and example of being servant leaders. He stated two very important relationships were God and his family. He felt serving on Synod Council enhanced his relationship with both and the Synod Council over the years felt like family as well. He thanked the Synod Council members, currently serving and retiring, and thanked all who support the Synod's various ministries as well as the ELCA Synod vice presidents serving our 65 Synods and especially his church family at Gloria Dei in Crestview Hills, Kentucky. He also thanked his family but most especially his wife of 48 years, Lisa, who the Assembly thanked with a round of applause.

Secretary's Report: Julie Slavens provided a report by thanking Ted Miller for his service as vice president and to the Synod over the past 24 years. She reiterated how helpful he was to her and she will continue to lean on him in the future. She will find a way to include him in other Synod committees and activities. She also thanked his wife for her support of Ted as his positions required many days away from home and family time. Julie also encouraged members of the Assembly to consider donations to the Gafkjen Leadership Endowment fund as the committee planned to grant awards in the fall of 2025.

Treasurer's Report: Harry Albers presented information on the state of the Synod's financial condition and reported it was in good shape for the beginning of 2025. He provided more information about the budget and answered questions from members of the Assembly about the budget.

Bishop Tim provided information about the second set of repeating breakout sessions. He stated the next Plenary Session will begin at 4:15 pm. Bishop Tim declared the second Plenary Session closed at 2:35 pm.

Bishop Tim declared the third Plenary Session open at 4:20 pm.

Bishop Tim took approximately 30 minutes for a question-and-answer session from members of the Assembly.

Reference and Counsel Committee Report: Pastor Tim Knauff, the Chair of the committee, presented four resolutions to come before the Assembly. R-01-25 concerned disinvestment of use of ELCA funds related to Elon Musk businesses. R-02-25 concerns the recognition of the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools and the role of the Lutheran church in the establishment of these schools. R-03-25 concerned the support of religious freedom and against Christian Nationalism and was submitted by the East Kentucky Conference. R-04-25 concerned the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky and its responsibility to the IK Synod in regard to actions taken to close camps.

The Chair presented R-02-25 for discussion and vote first as it was reviewed by the committee and the committee recommended it for adoption as presented. There was no discussion on this resolution. It passed by voice vote of the Assembly.

Action SA/2025/10: The Synod Assembly unanimously adopted resolution R-02-25 regarding the church's role in the Indian Boarding Schools.

The Chair then presented R-03-25 for consideration by the Assembly. The committee reviewed the resolution on support of religious liberty and against Christian Nationalism. The committee recommended adoption of the resolution as presented. There was no discussion on the resolution. It passed by voice vote of the Assembly.

Action SA/2025/11: The Synod Assembly unanimously adopted resolution R-03-25 concerning support of religious freedom and against Christian Nationalism.

The Chair then presented R-04-25 concerning the actions of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board to close a camp for the summer of 2025. The Chair also presented the committee's recommendation of the resolution after its review of the original resolution. After some discussion on the original resolution a motion was made to vote on the reviewed version presented by the committee and close debate on the original resolution. This motion was seconded and passed. Discussion continued on the reviewed resolution. A motion was made to adopt the reviewed resolution and the motion was seconded. The motion passed.

Action SA/2025/12: The Synod Assembly adopted the reviewed resolution R-04-25 as recommend by the committee concerning the actions of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana Kentucky Board.

The Chair then presented R-01-25. The original resolution was presented and the reviewed resolution was presented. The reviewed resolution was submitted by the committee and the committee recommended it as a substitute resolution. Per Rule 10, the original resolution could be discussed and amendments offered for it. Then discussion of the substitute resolution may take place with amendments offered for it. When all amendments are addressed, the Assembly will then determine whether the substitute motion is to be substituted as the original motion.

The Assembly then considered the original resolution. A motion was made to strike the first RESOLVED paragraph. It was seconded and the motion passed. A motion to remove the third paragraph was withdrawn after discussion. A motion was made to remove the word "illegal" from the last RESOLVED paragraph. The motion was seconded and the motion passed. A motion was made to move the previous question meaning to consider the amended original resolution. This motion passed. Then the previous question was considered to adopt the original resolution as amended. The previous question was adopted.

The substitute resolution was then considered by the Assembly. A motion was made and seconded to amend the last paragraph to state the IK Synod to memorialize to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly the bullet points stated in the substitute resolution. The motion passed. A motion was made and seconded to postpone consideration of this resolution indefinitely. This motion failed. A motion was made and seconded to call the question. The motion passed. A motion was made and seconded to refer the resolutions to review the resolutions to the Reference and Counsel Committee. The motion passed. The Committee will review and present its recommendation on Resolution 01-25 during the Saturday Plenary Session.

Bishop Tim made announcements concerning the agenda for Saturday and adjourned the Plenary Session III at 5:50 pm.

Saturday June 7th

Plenary Session IV: Bishop Tim opened this session at 9:05 a.m.

Keynote Presentation III: Bishop Tim presented a keynote with the theme Love. Asking the questions: How do we love? and How do we bridge the gap with those who aren't here?

Final Credentials Report: Pastor Kvande presented a final report stating as of 9:05 a.m. 162 lay members and 107 rostered members were registered for a total of 269 voting members.

FY 2026-27 and FY 2027-28 Budgets: Treasurer Harry Albers presented the Budget for the next two fiscal years as included in the Bulletin of Reports. The budgets included salaries for two Assistants to the Bishop and part-time staff positions as needed. The Budgets were recommended by the Synod Council (SC/2025/14). After the presentation of the budget, the floor was open for discussion.

There were motions made and seconded to amend the budgets and all motions were defeated. The amendments were to provide \$5000 each to Valparaiso University, Wittenburg University and Capital University, to provide \$10,000 to each of the previously named universities resulting in \$15,000 going to each university per budget year, and to provide \$16,000 to Trinity Seminary per budget year. The budgets for each fiscal year were approved.

Action SA/2025/13: The Assembly approved the Budget for FY 2026-2027 and for FY 2027-2028 as presented.

Adoption of Revised Compensation Standards: Pr. Priscilla Geerdes Assistant to the Bishop, reported out the proposed changes to the compensation standards for Word and Sacrament and for Word and Service positions in IN-KY Synod, the proposal coming from Synod Council Action (SC/2025/15). The Compensation Standards were included in the Bulletin of Reports for the Assembly. On Recommendation of the Synod Council, Assembly was asked to approve the standards.

Action SA/2025/14: The Assembly approved the 2025 Compensation Standards as presented.

Reference and Counsel Committee Report -- Continued: Pastor Tim Knauff, the Chair of the committee, returned to present to the Assembly for discussion R-01-25, the reviewed and revised resolution per the action of the Assembly in the previous Plenary Session. The Chair presented the approved revised resolution and the reviewed revised (substitute) resolution. After some discussion but no amendments, a motion was made and seconded to close discussion. Since no amendments were made to either resolution, the Assembly must vote on one or the other to adopt. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the revised reviewed (substitute) resolution. The motion passed.

Action SA/20254/15: The Assembly approved the Substitute Resolution R-01-25 as presented.

This concluded the committee's report.

All adopted resolutions are in Appendix B and the original resolutions are in Appendix C.

Bishop's Report: Bishop Tim presented his report to the Assembly as Bishop reflecting on his first year as Bishop and his first Synod Assembly. He thanked the Synod staff for their support and patience and members of the Synod Council. He especially thanked Ted Miller for his service to the Synod and his support of Bishop Tim during his first year as Bishop. He then asked Pastor Dan Forehand to provide a report. Pastor Dan reported on projects he would be working on during the rest of 2025, including a Lilly Grant on strengthening the connection between the Synod and its congregations. He noted this would require participation in surveys by members and asked for members to look for this request in August.

A motion to adjourn the Assembly was made and passed. Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Closing of the Assembly:

Installation of the Synod Vice President, Synod Council Members, and Committee members took place at the closing worship at the end of the Assembly.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie M. Slavens
IK Synod Secretary

APPENDIX A

Vice President <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four-year term (one seat)			
Number of Votes Cast		Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)	
240		121	
Resolved	Name	Number of Votes	Percent of Votes
Yes	Anne Simerman	178	74.17%
	Chris Walda	42	17.50%
	Dave Zehr	20	8.33%

Synod Council <input type="checkbox"/> Rostered Minister <input type="checkbox"/> three-year term (three seats)			
<u>Number of Votes Cast</u>		<u>Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)</u>	
<u>236</u>		<u>119</u>	
<u>Resolved</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>	<u>Percent of Votes</u>
<u>Yes</u>	<u>Rev. Bimen Limbong</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>60.59%</u>
<u>Yes</u>	<u>Rev. Evangeline Anderson-Rajkumar</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>60.17%</u>
<u>Yes</u>	<u>Rev. Marjorie McDaniel</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>55.08%</u>
	<u>Rev. Chris Duckworth</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>45.34%</u>
	<u>Rev. Tim Diemer</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>35.17%</u>
	<u>Rev. Dana Lockhart</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>29.66%</u>

Synod Council <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Two-year term (one seat)			
Number of Votes		Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)	
224		113	
Resolved	Name	umber of Vote	ercent of Votes
Yes	Haley Matthias	127	56.70%
	Dana Abbring	97	43.30%

Consultation Committee Rostered Minister Six-year term (one seat)			
Number of Votes Cast		Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)	
225		113	
Resolved	Name	Number of Votes	Percent of Votes
Yes	Rev. Dana Lockhart	133	59.11%
	Rev. David Hewitt	92	40.89%

Discipline Committee - Rostered Minister Six-year term (three seats)			
Number of Votes Cast		Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)	
230		116	
Resolved	Name	Number of Votes	Percent of Votes
Yes	Rev. Grace Pardun	184	80.00%
Yes	Deacon Eric Black	176	76.52%
Yes	Rev. Amy Beitelschees-Albe	150	65.22%
	Rev. Erik Grayvold	132	57.39%

Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Indiana Kentucky Board Rostered Minister Three-year term (one seat)			
Number of Votes Cast		Number of Votes Required (Simple Majority)	
240		121	
Resolved	Name	Number of Votes	Percent of Votes
Yes	Rev. Steve Wood	125	52.08%
	Rev. Caroline S	115	47.92%

APPENDIX B

R-01-25 APPROVED

WHEREAS Christ identifies his disciples as those who feed the hungry, satisfy the thirsty, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner (Matthew 25:31-46); and

WHEREAS Lutheran Services in America (LSA) and its affiliates, and Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) are partners in ministry with the ELCA and its predecessor bodies; and

WHEREAS public posts on X (formerly Twitter) in February, 2025 claimed that "Lutheran Family Services and affiliated organizations" are a "money laundering operation" that "must end"; and

WHEREAS LSA, its affiliates, and Global Refuge as nonprofits are subject to oversight as required by law to maintain said status; and

WHEREAS LSA, its affiliates, and Global Refuge have been given legitimate, congressionally appropriated grants and contracts for the work they do in the social service arena; and

WHEREAS Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton released a public statement "ELCA Responds to False Accusations on X" on February 7, 2025¹;

WHEREAS the ELCA's Office of Corporate Social Responsibility has an established "Social Criteria Investment Screen: Policies and Procedures"² that "assist[s] this church in evaluating the types of investments it wishes to hold" as approved by the ELCA Church Council; and

WHEREAS the Office of Corporate Social Responsibility's "Boycott Policy: Policies and Procedures"³ identifies issues and criteria as well as appropriate procedures for decisions related to boycotts; and

THEREFORE the 2025 Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly resolves to memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly as follows:

¹ <https://www.elca.org/news-and-events/elca-presiding-bishop-responds-to-false-allegations>

² <https://resources.elca.org/corporate-social-responsibility/social-criteria-investment-screens-policy>

³ <https://resources.elca.org/corporate-social-responsibility/boycott-policy>

- To instruct the Church Council to review its investments and their alignment with the screening and boycott policies of the ELCA in light of Bishop Eaton’s rejection of the false public claims on X;
- To instruct the Church Council to report a summary of findings and proposed solutions, made available by video via the ELCA’s social media channels as well as by written report, with links to both to be emailed to all ELCA email list subscribers no later than March 1, 2026.

R-02-25

APPROVED

**NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR
INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, from 1819 to 1969, countless Indian day schools and over 520 Indian boarding schools operated in the United States, with 417 receiving federal support [1], where Native children were forcibly taken from their families and communities, prohibited all expression of Native language and culture, and required to perform manual labor [2], with a goal to “Kill the Indian in him, and save the man” [3]; and

WHEREAS, religious organizations collaborated with the federal government in operating more than half of these federally-funded schools; and predecessor denominations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) operated Bethany Indian Mission Boarding School in Wittenburg, Wisconsin [4], and other non-federally funded boarding schools, day schools, and related institutions [5]; and

WHEREAS, these schools were part of a larger strategy of physical and cultural genocide that included forcing Indigenous people and Tribal Nations off of their original homelands and onto reservations so that settlers and governments could claim the stolen land for themselves, undermining sovereignty [6], and perpetrating extermination in multiple other ways; and

WHEREAS, boarding school students, which at one point included over 83% of all Native children [7], often suffered physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological abuse that caused deep trauma for the children, their families, their tribal communities, and subsequent generations [8]; and an untold number of children died while at boarding schools (nearly 1,000 identified to date) [9]; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA has committed to work against injustices and toward healing as stated in “The Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery” (2016)

[10] and the “Declaration to American Indian and Alaska Native People” (2021) [11], therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to address the legacies of our church’s role in Indian Boarding Schools through the following actions:

1. Actively invite and equip all congregations, synods, and affiliate ministries to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools annually on or near September 30th;
2. Broaden and deepen awareness at congregation, synod, and churchwide levels of Christian and Lutheran roles in Indian boarding schools, through creation of adult and children/youth educational programs and materials and through consistent publishing of articles in all of the church’s publications;
3. Provide on-going recognition of and support for the growing network of lay people and clergy volunteering their time in the work of the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools (see www.elca.org/IndianBoardingSchools) to locate all known records related to the ELCA’s predecessor bodies’ involvement with Indian boarding and day schools and to educate others about Indian boarding schools;
4. Encourage ELCA affiliate ministries to commit to learning the truth of their involvement with Indian boarding schools, in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative; and to responsibly create paths to healing and repair;
5. Organize and care for all information in the ELCA’s possession that was recorded about Indian boarding and day schools and the students who attended them, forcibly or otherwise; carry out this work in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative and the ELCA Archives; recognize that this information belongs to and is a source of healing for student survivors, their descendants, communities, and Tribal Nations; and ensure that the records and research are made accessible to Indian boarding school survivors and their families in a responsible manner; and
6. Identify sources of funding to sufficiently support research and organizing efforts; and to sufficiently support digitization and labeling of all ELCA Indian boarding school archival records.

NOTES

Author: Elizabeth M. Address, Co-lead (lay volunteer), [ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools](#); liz@solbrack.com, 651-983-8105 (m)

1. "Indian Boarding Schools in the United States." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. January 2025: <https://boardingschoolhealing.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Indian-Boarding-Schools-Map-.pdf>
2. David Treuer, *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America From 1890 to the Present* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2019): 141.
3. "'Kill the Indian in him, and save the man': R.H. Pratt on the Education of Native Americans." Carlisle Indian School Digital Resource Center. Accessed February 15, 2025. <https://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/teach/kill-indian-him-and-save-man-r-h-pratt-education-native-americans>
4. Anna M. Peterson, "Norwegian Americans and the Bethany Indian Mission," *Currents: The Newsletter of the Norwegian-American Historical Society* (Volume 189, Fall 2023): 6-9.
5. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, *Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report Volume II - List of Other Institutions* (Appendix F), July 2024, <https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative>
6. Ned Blackhawk, *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2023): 333-337.
7. "US Indian Boarding School History." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Accessed February 15, 2025. <https://boardingschoolhealing.org/education/us-indian-boarding-school-history/>
8. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, *Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report Volume II*, July 2024, 15, <https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative>
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10. "ELCA Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery," Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, 2016, https://resources.elca.org/wp-content/uploads/Repudiation_Doctrine_of_DiscoverySPR16.pdf
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R-03-25

APPROVED

**Resolution in Support of Religious Liberty and
Against Christian Nationalism**

WHEREAS in agreement with the work of the ELCA Bishops of Wisconsin: Bishop Paul Erickson, Greater Milwaukee Synod, Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, East Central Synod of Wisconsin, Bishop Felix Malpica, La Crosse Area Synod, Bishop Martin Halom, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, Bishop Katherine Finegan, Northern Great Lake Synod, and Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the executive order signed by President Trump on February 6, 2025, that established a new "Task Force to Eradicate Anti-Christian Bias," charged with the task to "identify any unlawful, anti-Christian policies, practices, or conduct by an agency," the Order raises numerous questions, such as who decides what is "Christian", what does "eradicate" mean, what does "unlawful anti-Christian policies, practices, or conduct" mean, and "to what agencies does this refer"?; and

WHEREAS although the Order may sound like it promotes Christian unity and protection of Christianity, it is a threat to the religious pluralism on which our nation was founded, does not actually protect Christians, and promotes a particular kind of Christianity (i.e., Christian Nationalism), a dangerous conflation of fundamentalist Christianity, conservative politics, and fierce patriotism that distorts what it means to be an American citizen and an engaged Christian in society; and

WHEREAS Christian Nationalism distorts the Gospel and turns Jesus and Christianity into a weapon for power and division, instead of a movement of love and justice;

WHEREAS in this Order the Trump administration purports to have given itself authority over the Church in defining Christianity, a task that belongs to the Church in governance over itself; and

WHEREAS the Order violates the separation of church and state; and

WHEREAS the Order creates a more hostile environment for Christians and all citizens who believe differently than the current administration and its religious advisors; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to

call upon the President of the United States and to urge the federal government and all elected officials to protect religious freedom, not to align with any one religious ideology, and to honor the constitutional principle of religious freedom for each member of society.

R-04-25 APPROVED

WHEREAS Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana-Kentucky (LOMIK) has played a vital role in the faith formation of children, youth, and adults across the Indiana-Kentucky Synod for generations, and many of our synod's leaders have been shaped by their experiences there; and

WHEREAS the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and LOMIK are separate but closely connected entities, with our congregations providing the primary audience for LOMIK camps and the Synod providing ongoing financial support for their work; and

WHEREAS all summer camp programming at Lutheran Hills was cancelled in 2025; and

WHEREAS the Indiana-Kentucky Synod has a vested interest in the future health, safety, theological alignment, and sustainability of LOMIK ministries, and in ensuring faithful stewardship of synod funds and resources; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the 2025 Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly affirms its continued support for outdoor ministry and its deep concern for the wellbeing, safety, and vitality of LOMIK and its camps; and be it further

RESOLVED that the 2025 Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly directs the Synod Council to engage LOMIK leadership in a process of accountability and communication, and requests a written report from LOMIK to be submitted to the Synod Council by November 1, 2025, to include:

- An account of the events leading to the cancellation of programming at Lutheran Hills;
- A summary of current staffing and personnel policies;
- Clarification of LOMIK's denominational and theological identity, including any partnerships with leaders or institutions outside the ELCA;
- A description of LOMIK's plans for safe, sustainable, and theologically faithful operations in the years to come; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Synod Council shall report back to the Synod, through either the Synod Assembly or another appropriate forum, on the outcome of this engagement, and offer any recommendations for strengthening the partnership and the responsible use of synod funds.

APPENDIX C

R-01-25

A Call to the ELCA Churchwide for Disinvestment for the Sake of Lutheran Nonprofits

WHEREAS, Christ identifies his disciples as those who feed the hungry, satisfy the thirsty, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner (Matthew 25:31-46); and

WHEREAS, Lutheran Services in America (LSA) and its affiliates, and Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) are partners in ministry with the ELCA and its predecessor bodies; and

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2025, Michael Flynn falsely claimed on X (formerly Twitter) that “Lutheran Family Services and affiliated organizations” are a “money laundering operation” that “must end”; and

WHEREAS, Elon Musk shared Michael Flynn’s post saying “The @DOGE team is rapidly shutting down these illegal payments”; and

WHEREAS, LSA, its affiliates, and Global Refuge are nonprofits subject to oversight as required by law to maintain said status; and

WHEREAS, LSA, its affiliates, and Global Refuge have been given legitimate, congressionally appropriated grants and contracts for the work they do in the social service arena; and

WHEREAS, the “Department of Government Efficiency” is not a congressionally approved, constitutionally sanctioned entity, or in any way elected by the registered voters of this country; and

WHEREAS, the Churchwide offices of the ELCA are to use funding from its donors in ways that reflect the overall mission of the ELCA; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA’s Office of Corporate Social Responsibility already recommends not investing in corporations benefiting from the most egregious denial of the rights of humans as political and civic beings to have equal access and participation in legal and political decisions affecting them; therefore

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Indiana Kentucky Synod memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA to direct the office of Corporate

Social Responsibility to create an investment screen that requires Portico, the Mission Investment Fund, the ELCA Federal Credit Union, and other financial arms of the ELCA to divest from the publicly traded businesses of Elon Musk including but not limited to Tesla and halt the use of products and services of any such company; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Indiana Kentucky Synod memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA to require churchwide employees and departments cease the use of products, technologies, and services connected to the privately owned businesses of Elon Musk such as but not limited to X (formerly known as Twitter), OpenAI, or SpaceX/Starlink for purposes related to their official positions in the Churchwide Office; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Indiana Kentucky Synod memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA to direct churchwide offices not to use any service, product, or technology connected to Elon Musk's businesses until he has ceased his illegal operations in US and State governments and has written a public letter of apology addressed to the ELCA's church council, the board of directors for LSA, and the board of directors for Global Refuge for taking illegal actions that harmed the livelihood of the people ministered by said organizations.

R-02-25

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, from 1819 to 1969, countless Indian day schools and over 520 Indian boarding schools operated in the United States, with 417 receiving federal support [1], where Native children were forcibly taken from their families and communities, prohibited all expression of Native language and culture, and required to perform manual labor [2], with a goal to "Kill the Indian in him, and save the man" [3]; and

WHEREAS, religious organizations collaborated with the federal government in operating more than half of these federally-funded schools; and predecessor denominations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) operated Bethany Indian Mission Boarding School in Wittenburg, Wisconsin [4], and other non-federally funded boarding schools, day schools, and related institutions [5]; and

WHEREAS, these schools were part of a larger strategy of physical and cultural genocide that included forcing Indigenous people and Tribal Nations

off of their original homelands and onto reservations so that settlers and governments could claim the stolen land for themselves, undermining sovereignty [6], and perpetrating extermination in multiple other ways; and

WHEREAS, boarding school students, which at one point included over 83% of all Native children [7], often suffered physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological abuse that caused deep trauma for the children, their families, their tribal communities, and subsequent generations [8]; and an untold number of children died while at boarding schools (nearly 1,000 identified to date) [9]; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA has committed to work against injustices and toward healing as stated in “The Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery” (2016) [10] and the “Declaration to American Indian and Alaska Native People” (2021) [11], therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana Kentucky Synod Assembly memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to address the legacies of our church’s role in Indian Boarding Schools through the following actions:

1. Actively invite and equip all congregations, synods, and affiliate ministries to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools annually on or near September 30th;
2. Broaden and deepen awareness at congregation, synod, and churchwide levels of Christian and Lutheran roles in Indian boarding schools, through creation of adult and children/youth educational programs and materials and through consistent publishing of articles in all of the church’s publications;
3. Provide on-going recognition of and support for the growing network of lay people and clergy volunteering their time in the work of the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools (see www.elca.org/IndianBoardingSchools) to locate all known records related to the ELCA’s predecessor bodies’ involvement with Indian boarding and day schools and to educate others about Indian boarding schools;
4. Encourage ELCA affiliate ministries to commit to learning the truth of their involvement with Indian boarding schools, in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative; and to responsibly create paths to healing and repair;

5. Organize and care for all information in the ELCA's possession that was recorded about Indian boarding and day schools and the students who attended them, forcibly or otherwise; carry out this work in partnership with the ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative and the ELCA Archives; recognize that this information belongs to and is a source of healing for student survivors, their descendants, communities, and Tribal Nations; and ensure that the records and research are made accessible to Indian boarding school survivors and their families in a responsible manner; and
6. Identify sources of funding to sufficiently support research and organizing efforts; and to sufficiently support digitization and labeling of all ELCA Indian boarding school archival records.

Author: Elizabeth M. Andress, Co-lead (lay volunteer), [ELCA Truth-Seeking & Truth-Telling Initiative on Indian Boarding Schools](#); liz@solbrack.com, 651-983-8105 (m)

NOTES

1. "Indian Boarding Schools in the United States." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. January 2025: <https://boardingschoolhealing.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-Indian-Boarding-Schools-Map-.pdf>
2. David Treuer, *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America From 1890 to the Present* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2019): 141.
3. "'Kill the Indian in him, and save the man': R.H. Pratt on the Education of Native Americans." Carlisle Indian School Digital Resource Center. Accessed February 15, 2025. <https://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu/teach/kill-indian-him-and-save-man-r-h-pratt-education-native-americans>
4. Anna M. Peterson, "Norwegian Americans and the Bethany Indian Mission," *Currents: The Newsletter of the Norwegian-American Historical Society* (Volume 189, Fall 2023): 6-9.
5. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, *Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report Volume II - List of Other Institutions* (Appendix F), July 2024, <https://www.bia.gov/service/federal-indian-boarding-school-initiative>
6. Ned Blackhawk, *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2023): 333-337.
7. "US Indian Boarding School History." National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Accessed February 15, 2025.

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9. Matthew Brown. "Survivors Say Trauma from Abusive Native American Boarding Schools Stretch Across the Generations." *AP*. Updated November 5, 2023. <https://apnews.com/article/native-american-boarding-schools-victims-3f927e5054b6790cef1c6012d8616ad6>
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R-03-25

Resolution in Support of Religious Liberty and Against Christian Nationalism

Whereas, in agreement with the work of the ELCA Bishops of Wisconsin: Bishop Paul Erickson, Greater Milwaukee Synod, Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, East Central Synod of Wisconsin, Bishop Felix Malpica, La Crosse Area Synod, Bishop Martin Halom, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, Bishop Katherine Finegan, Northern Great Lake Synod, and Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin;

Whereas, the executive order signed by President Trump on February 6, 2025, that established a new "Task Force to Eradicate Anti-Christian Bias," charged with the task to "identify any unlawful, anti-Christian policies, practices, or conduct by an agency," the Order raises numerous questions, such as who decides what is "Christian", what does "eradicate" mean, what does "unlawful anti-Christian policies, practices, or conduct" mean, and "to what agencies does this refer"?

Whereas, although the Order may sound like it promotes Christian unity and protection of Christianity, it is a threat to the religious pluralism on which our nation was founded, does not actually protect Christians, and promotes a particular kind of Christianity (i.e., Christian Nationalism), a dangerous conflation of fundamentalist Christianity, conservative politics,

and fierce patriotism that distorts what it means to be an American citizen and an engaged Christian in society;

Whereas, Christian Nationalism distorts the Gospel and turns Jesus and Christianity into a weapon for power and division, instead of a movement of love and justice;

Whereas, in this Order the Trump administration purports to have given itself authority over the Church in defining Christianity, a task that belongs to the Church in governance over itself;

Whereas, the Order violates the separation of church and state; and

Whereas, the Order creates a more hostile environment for Christians and all citizens who believe differently than the current administration and its religious advisors, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly memorialize the 2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America." to call upon the President of the United States and to urge the federal government and all elected officials to protect religious freedom, not to align with any one religious ideology, and to honor the constitutional principle of religious freedom for each member of society.

R-04-25 UNREVIEWED

Resolution for Transparency and Accountability in Support of LOMIK Camps

WHEREAS Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana-Kentucky (LOMIK) has played a vital role in the faith formation of children, youth, and adults across the Indiana-Kentucky Synod for generations, and many of our synod's leaders have been shaped by their experiences there;

WHEREAS the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and LOMIK are separate but closely connected entities, with our congregations providing the primary audience for LOMIK camps, and the synod providing ongoing financial support for their work;

WHEREAS all summer camp programming at Lutheran Hills was cancelled in 2025, reportedly due to staffing shortages that raised concerns about safety, staffing practices, and leadership oversight;

WHEREAS additional concerns have been raised about unclear or inconsistent hiring and firing practices, a lack of public transparency in leadership decisions, and the theological identity of LOMIK, particularly in light of the involvement of individuals affiliated with the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), a denomination that has actively sought to undermine the ELCA in some regions;

WHEREAS the Indiana-Kentucky Synod has a vested interest in the future health, safety, theological alignment, and sustainability of LOMIK ministries, and in ensuring faithful stewardship of synod funds and resources;

1. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Indiana-Kentucky Synod affirms its continued support for outdoor ministry and its deep concern for the wellbeing, safety, and vitality of LOMIK and its camps;

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Synod Assembly respectfully requests that the Synod Council engage LOMIK leadership in a process of accountability and communication, and requests a written report from LOMIK to be submitted to the Synod Council by November 1, 2025, to include:

- An account of the events leading to the cancellation of programming at Lutheran Hills;
- A summary of current staffing and personnel policies;
- Clarification of LOMIK's denominational and theological identity, including any partnerships with leaders or institutions outside the ELCA;
- A description of LOMIK's plans for safe, sustainable, and theologically faithful operations in the years to come;

3. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Synod Council report back to the Synod, through either the Synod Assembly or another appropriate forum, on the outcome of this engagement, and offer any recommendations for strengthening the partnership and the responsible use of synodical funds.