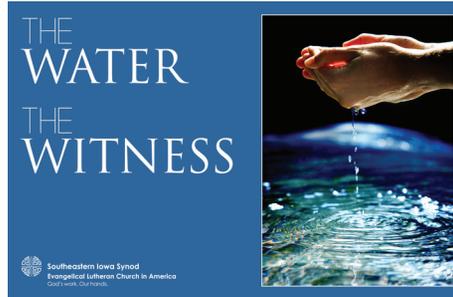




News from the Southeastern Iowa Synod

Summer 2018

The 31st Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod was held May 18 and 19, 2018, at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center Coralville, Iowa. Over 400 voting members and visitors gathered around the theme “The Water and The Witness.”



Mikka McCracken, Director of Planning and Engagement with ELCA World Hunger served as the churchwide representative providing updates and stories of the work we do together as the ELCA. Bishop Julian Gordy of the Southeastern Synod shared of our connections throughout the nation and in ministry. The primary business of this year’s assembly was action on the Synod Governance Proposal and subsequent election of synod council members, the synod nominating committee, the synod consultation committee, and synod discipline committee, as well as several resolutions. As well as election of voting members to the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Bishop Michael Burk presided over the assembly, including the Friday evening service of Holy Communion. In his report, Bishop Burk provided highlights of our shared ministry since we last gathered in assembly, providing his assessment of ways we share in “The Water and the Witness” talking about congregational vitality and outreach.

Additionally, there was an interactive learning center event on Friday afternoon which allowed assembly participants to learn about partner ministries like Lutheran Services in Iowa, Bread for the World, Peace not Walls, ELCA World Hunger, and more. There were prayer activities, artistic expression and advocacy work.

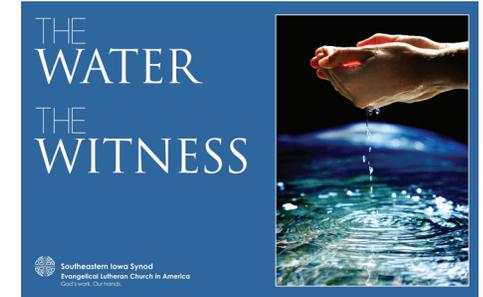
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Positions elected were Synod Secretary, members of the Synod Council, members of the Synod Nominating Committee, members of the Synod Consultation and Disciple Committees, and representatives to the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Resolutions adopted included: 1) Memorial on the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women: a resolution encouraging those in the Southeastern Iowa Synod and beyond to recognize, celebrate and memorialize the contributions of ordained women. 2) Peace not walls: a resolution encouraging the synod to memorialize and urge the 2019 Churchwide Assembly and elected officials petitioning for changes in due process, and U.S. foreign aid to protect children. 3) Preventing gun violence, a resolution encouraging individuals and congregations to address issues of gun violence in worship, education, and public discourse. 4) A courtesy resolution of thanksgiving for the assembly and various ministries of the Southeastern Iowa Synod. Visit the www.seiasynod.org/assembly for the full text of resolutions.

Other business included the approval of the 2019 synod budget and minimum compensation guidelines. Congregations and rostered leaders celebrating anniversaries were celebrated. The synod assembly offering, a culmination of the “The Water and The Witness” buckets project was designated to water related ministries of the ELCA. More than \$60,500 was given by congregations and individuals.

Visit the www.seiasynod.org/assembly for more details about the assembly and to access videos, photos, and full texts.

The 2019 Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be held May 10-11, 2019, at Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, Iowa.

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