

**Minutes of the Northwest Washington Synod
Thirty-third Annual Assembly**
(as corrected at the January 21, 2023 meeting of the NWWA Synod Council)

**Saturday, June 4, 2022
Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood**



PLENARY 1

WORSHIP

Opening worship began at 9:00 AM with a prayer by Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Andrew Yee, and Bishop Shelley Wee. Synod Administrator Traci Hall read scripture from Acts Chapter 1, verses 1-21 and Pastor Herbert Shao, Director of Evangelical Mission read from Romans. Bishop Shelley Wee read the Holy Gospel According to St. John followed by a speech about what is happening in our world during COVID times. Assistant to the Bishop, Andrew Yee led in prayer with the accompanying gospel band.

The first break began at 10:00 AM.

**OPENING OF THE ASSEMBLY
/CALL TO ORDER**

The Assembly was called to order by Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee at 10:20 A.M. Bishop Shelley gave thanks to Synod partner, Lutheran Immigration Refugee Services. Bishop Shelley also gave thanks to Trinity Lutheran Church, Pastor Hector, Pastor Jenna, and the entire IT staff.

Bishop Shelley introduced David Johnson a member of First Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon and is the Parliamentarian for the Assembly.

ORIENTATION

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee extended introduced Deacon Liz Colver, Assembly Planning Chair to offer a mini orientation.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee introduced registrars Becky Cole and Taryn Hauglie. Taryn announced as of 10:20 AM, 299 voting members registered. The Synod Council offered a motion to approve the agenda, this does not need a second as it comes from the Synod Council.

Tor Berg Pastor at First Lutheran in Bothell asked to amend the agenda to take resolution 1 and label resolutions 1 & 2, resolution 2 relabeled resolution 3 for clarity. This is a motion to amend the agenda.

Curt Eidem from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Everett approached the mic with a question regarding the resolutions. The resolutions are numbered A, B and C and the number should be corrected.

Pastor Tor answered Curt request, the numbers does not refer to resolutions themselves, that give Pastor Berg liberty to bring up whichever resolutions we deem in whatever order.

Bishop Shelley clarified what is being proposed in the resolutions-the first section are two resolutions, and in the second section, the third resolution is not necessary in numeric order.

ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved to amend the resolutions; label resolution 1, change to 1 & 2, relabeled resolution 2 to resolution 3 in the Synod Assembly agenda. The motion *carried*.

SA2022.01 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly amended the resolution to reflect the following: change resolution 1, change to 1 & 2, relabeled resolutions 2 to 3 in the Synod Assembly agenda.**

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved to approve the amended Synod Assembly agenda. The motion *carried*.

SA2022.02 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved the amended Synod Assembly agenda.**

STANDING RULES

The standing rules for this year's Synod Assembly are found on the Assembly page of the Northwest Washington Synod website in the material section of the Assembly guidebook app. Each voting member should have received an email yesterday evening stating the Reference and Counsel received a late resolution that they determined germane to the agenda. Synod Council, who met last night, amended the previously drafted standing rules to accommodate this addition. The update to the rules is reducing the amount of time to spend on each resolution from 30 minutes to 20 minutes. This will help our agenda handle the additional resolutions in the timeframe allotted.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee made a motion to approve the amended Standing Rules to reduce the amount of time spent on each resolution from 30 minutes to 20 minutes. These standing rules adoption requires a two-thirds vote. ***The motion carried.***

The Standing Rules were **adopted**.

SA2022.03 That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved proposed amended Standing Rules as presented.

Bishop Shelley turned the chairmanship over to Vice President Kay Edgerton. Kay Edgerton called Bishop Shelley to bring her report to the Assembly.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP

Vice President Kay Edgerton called upon Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee for her report. Refer to the written report and shared highlights.

The theme for this year's Assembly comes from Paul's letter to the Romans, "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and believing so that you may **Abound in Hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Bishop Shelley reflected on the Synod and how during this past year we have experienced church closings, social-relational complexities, and anxiety with Covid. In the time we are people of faith. As we acknowledge the reality of what is happening in this world, we also together, "Abound in Hope."

Bishop Shelley discussed the ministries of all kinds within the Northwest Washington Synod. Bishop Shelley invited the voting member to watch several videos from various congregations.

Bishop Shelley asked the voting members if they want more information on how your congregation can do ministry in more exciting ways. An event called "Sacred Space" is happening on September 24th at St. Andrew's in Bellevue to discuss how we can do ministry together.

TRANSITIONS

Bishop Shelley introduced Assistant to Bishop Andrew Yee's video discussing transitions within the Northwest Washington Synod.

Bishop Shelley discussed how the Synod can provide legacy teams to help with the moving toward the legacy process. The Synod will also provide pastoral care to the congregations. This past year, we give thanks to one congregation and two Synodical Authorized Worshipping Communities for their faithful ministry. We give thanks to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Issaquah merged with Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Issaquah, the closing of Seattle Taiwanese Lutheran Fellowship in Seattle, and Reborn Fellowship, Shoreline. Thank you for your ministry! We believe that as one congregation dies in this time and place, the God of resurrection lifts up good news to flourish. May the decisions made when a church is closing, continue to impact the world in powerful and meaningful ways. Congregations that have faithfully left legacies to the Synod have provided seeds for ministries that are flourishing. We are thankful to Shepherd of the Hills in Issaquah for helping fund the LiVE project. We are thankful for Open Door Ministries for their faithful ministry with the LGBTQ community and continued ministry with proceeds to continue their work going forward. Please invite us to talk about how your hopes and dreams in legacy and how legacy gifts are used to live into the diversity of Lutheran expression and ecology.

The LiVE Project, Living into Vocational Engagement, the Synod has completed the first year of the LiVE Project. LiVE is established to provide excellent and thought-provoking classes in scripture, culture, and community. The LiVE project is established to ask questions, form a community, and connect with God and one another. One sentence to define the LiVE project; **“Exploring what it means to be a Christian in today’s world together with others.”**

Bishop Shelley lifted up and thanked the Partners of the Synod-Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia.

Bishop Shelley thanked the congregations for donating Mission Support. The Synod has received more Mission Support dollars since 2009. “Abound in Hope”

Bishop Shelley thanked Vice President Kay Edgerton, the Synod Staff, and the congregations.

Let us be reminded that we are Abound in Hope, we have been given the good news of Jesus. Thanks be to God!

Vice President Kay Edgerton turned the chair over to Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee.

GRACE GRANTS

Vice President Kay Edgerton announced the 2022 Grace Grant recipients. Through Grace's generous legacy given to the synod, Grace Grants have been awarded to over 60 congregations and ministry sites in the Synod. \$450,000 has been given out during the last three years. Please visit the Synod website if you want information about Grace Grants.

The Grace Grants recipients are the following:

Name of Congregation/Ministry Site:	Project Name:	Amount approved
Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Washington	Exploring Young Adult Ministry in the NWWA Synod	\$2,000
Edmonds Lutheran Church	Social Justice Speakers Program	\$5,000
Family & Friends Gathering	Widening the Circle of Family & Friends	\$7,000
Gloria Dei	Gloria Dei Tiny House Build	\$2,000
Christ The Servant Lutheran Church	Jeff How Estate Property Rehab for Transitional Housing	\$10,000
First Lutheran Church, Bothell & Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW/Ministry to International Students & Scholars at UW	Exploration of Campus Ministry Opportunities at UW Bothell	\$4,100
Bethany Lutheran Church	Bethany Village -- An Affordable Housing Community	\$20,000
Grace Chinese Lutheran Church in Sammamish (Sammamish Grace)	Love Me Ministry	\$8,000
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church	Confirmation Tiny House Build	\$3,000
Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church	Faith and Family Resource Center	\$6,000

Pointe of Grace	Remodel of Children and Youth Space	\$3,100
Stillaguamish Cluster (via Peace Lutheran, Silvana)	Stillaguamish Cluster Summer worship and picnic	\$2,000
Vashon Lutheran Church	Vashon Care Network (Care Closet)	\$6,000
Trinity Lutheran Church (with Faith, North Lakewood and LINC NW)	Snohomish-Stillaguamish Collaborative Youth Ministry Internship	\$17,000
Emmaus Table at 7400 Woodlawn	7400 Woodlawn Baking Kitchen	\$15,800
Burlington Lutheran Church	Resurrection and Rest	\$9,600
Salt House Church, Kirkland, WA		\$12,100
Seattle Covenant Community Church	Youth Band Worship Team	\$3,800
El Camino de Emaús Lutheran Church	Evangelismo y Promoción	\$3,500
Bethesda Lutheran Church	"In the City for Good!"	\$10,000

Who knew that a few coins could help fund four grants that address World Hunger? This past fall, the Synod Hunger Team offer resources to the congregation to collect noisy offerings. Thanks to a wonderful response, (5) \$500 dollars are being announced. We hope more congregations will gather noisy offerings to support more grants next year.

The following are the noisy grant recipients:

Christ the Servant in Bellingham, providing meals to a tiny house village

Pointe of Grace in Mukilteo, for their community garden

Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW, providing for their student food pantry

The orchard gardens at Holy Cross in Bellevue, provide for the food bank

The REACH Community meal at Luther's Table in Renton

Bishop Shelley introduced a video from PLU President Allen Belton.

Bishop Shelley announced the first door prize drawing. Three swag bags from PLU University.

The first winner Barbara from Salem Lutheran, Mount Vernon.

The second winner Donna Young from Nativity Lutheran, Renton.

The third winner Sam Sseba from Prince of Peace, SeaTac.

ELECTION PROCESS

Bishop Shelley announced Pastor Rick Rouse from the Nominating Committee.

Pastor Rick Rouse thanked the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Pr. Katy McCallum Sachse, for her leadership. Katy has departed on her well-deserved sabbatical and is not able to be with us today. I want to also thank my fellow committee members, Debbie Trafton O'Neal, Pr. Kristi Lambing, and Susan Berg for their efforts in identifying excellent slate nominees.

Pastor Rick thanked each of the nominees who are allowing their names to go forward for consideration. Thank you for your willingness to share your gifts with Christ's church.

We are hopeful that you have had an opportunity to review the Nominee Bio Packet found on the synod webpage and in the Guidebook App.

The nominees are:

Synod Vice President

Kay Edgerton

Synod Council Lay Woman

May Denny

Cindy Shultz

Synod Council Rostered Minister Position

Rev. Hector Garfias-Toledo

Rev. Ann Rieke

Synod Secretary

Rev. Netsie Griffith

Synod Council Lay Man

(Person of color/Primary language other than English)

Salvador Cossio

Synod Council Lay Man-Unrestricted

Shane Lambing

Tim Surratt

Bishop Shelley welcome Pastor Paul Stumme-Diers to assist with the election and a word of prayer. Please vote now.

Bishop Shelley mentioned that 4 Stories of Hope to share. (Video) We give thanks to God for all

the ways the Spirit is moving in the Synod. The first story of abounding in God’s hope is from Monroe Congregations Partnership. Bishop Shelley thanked Pastor Brown and the leadership team for sharing stories and for helping other congregations dream about similar ecumenical partnerships.

The next-door prize comes from the Synod Children, Youth, and Family Committee. This committee helps our leaders from around the synod who work with children, youth, and their families, connect, support, and collaborate – we are grateful for their work! This drawing is just for those youth members present today.

The winner is Nora Orensby.

REPORT OF THE SYNOD SECRETARY

Bishop Shelley invited Pastor Deanna Wildermuth to the stage to present the report of the secretary. Pastor Deanna gave thanks to the church for serving. The milestone anniversary for the Synod rostered ministers for 2022:

Anniversary	Word and Sacrament
5	Mary E Scott
10	Arhiana S. Shek Dill
	Deborah Lynn Boyce
	Esau Cuevas-Benitez
	Ivar D Hillesland
	Leslie A Mahraun
15	G Mark Griffith
	Kacey C Hahn
	Ryan R Rouse
	Sara E Wolbrecht
20	Gretchen E Mertes
	J David Thomas
	Mary C Bosell
25	David C Hahn
	Deanna M Wildermuth
	Hector Garfias-Toledo
	Jean M Barrington
30	Arda L. Skinner
	Eric P Finsand
	Valinda I Morse

35	Erik R Wilson-Weiberg
	John A LaMunyon
	Katherine H Hawks
40	Gary L Rothenberger
	Gary W Dalenius
	James L Sack
	Joe H Kutzke
	Marillyn J. Schultz
	Paul E Hoffman
	Robert F Beicke
	Thomas J Rohde
45	Mark D Houglum
	Michael T Clifford
	Brian Burchfield
45	Stephen P Luttio
	Wayne E Bacus
50	Carl N Gabrielson
	Mark R Johnson
	Paul A Fauske
	Paul H J Feiertag
	Richard V Anderson
55	Allan H Bruck
	James C Leistikow
	Maynard W Atik
	Philip H Maakestad
60	Donald A Cornell
	Donald H Maier
	Robert F Winkel
65	Herbert W Siefkes
	Jack F Hustad
70	Paul L Wietzke

Anniversary	Word and Service
15	Jan Dronberger Cherry
	Marie L Preftes-Arenz
	Tammie Ann Zarfos

	Troy F Ward
35	Allen G Roehl
	Bette J Schneider
	Carolee Grumm
	Catherine R Mutschler
	Cheryl C Storey
	Estelle B Morley
	Marlys M. Waldo
	Nan Beth Walton
40	Elizabeth A Steele
40	Madelyn H Busse

Bishop Shelley thanked the Lutheran Counseling Network for the self-care door prize donation. The winner of the next-door prize is David Dietman of Bethesda of Mountlake Terrace.

LUNCH BREAK

Bishop Shelley announced Deacon Liz Colver for lunch announcements. Synod Assembly lunch is at 12:15 and the Assembly will start promptly at 1:15 PM.

PLENARY 2

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee introduced registrars Becky Cole and Taryn Hauglie. Becky Cole announced as of 1:15 PM, 300 voting members registered.

ELECTION BALLOT RESULTS

Bishop Shelley invited Paul Stumme-Diers to announce the report of the ballot. There is no need for another ballot! A total of 293 ballots. The result is as follows:

Synod Vice President
Kay Edgerton-278 votes

Synod Secretary
Rev. Netsie Griffith-281

Council-Lay Man, POC
Salvador Cossio-282

Council-Rostered Minister
Rev. Hector Garfias-Toledo-191-Winner
 Rev. Ann Rieke-96

Council-Lay Woman
 Mary Denny-136
Cindy Shultz- 146-Winner

Council-Lay Man
Shane Lambing-154-Winner

Tim Surratt-124

Bishop Shelley declares the nominees in bold above elected. Congratulations. Thank you to all the nominees for allowing their names to go forward.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Bishop Shelley invited Bart Brosten the Synod Treasurer to present the 2022-2023 Synod Budget. The budget information is located on the website. Bart closed by sending thanks to the Finance Committee; Malcolm McCallum, Jerry Myers, John Okan, and the great support of Deacon Dianne Johnson and Pastor Herb Shao.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Treasurer Bart Brosten moves the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) shall be capped at \$1,573,730 and that motions to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a recommended offsetting decrease and that Fiscal 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) General Fund receipts more than \$1,573,730 be disbursed as directed by the Synod Council. ***The motion carries.***

SA2022.04 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) shall be capped at \$1,573,730 and that motion to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a recommended offsetting decrease and that Fiscal 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) General Fund receipts more than \$1,573,730 be disbursed as directed by the Synod Council as presented.**

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Treasurer Bart Brosten moves the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) General Fund Budget as presented. **The motion carries.**

SA2022.05 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved the General Fund Budget adopted for Fiscal Year 2023 (ending January 31, 2024) General Fund Budget as directed by the Synod Council as presented.**

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Treasurer Bart Brosten moved the General Fund Budget adopted for Fiscal Year 2024 (ending January 31, 2025) shall be capped at \$1,626,570, and that motion to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a recommended offsetting decrease and that Fiscal 2024 (ending January 31, 2025) General Fund receipts more than \$1,626,570 be disbursed as directed by the Synod Council **The motion carries.**

SA2022.06 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved the General Fund Budget adopted for Fiscal Year 2024 (ending January 31, 2025) shall be capped at \$1,626,570, and that motions to increase any expenditure item in said fund shall include a**

recommended offsetting decrease and that Fiscal 2024 (ending

Erik Kindem from Peace West Seattle approached the mic with a question, the “real rent fund” is a part of both budgets can you say something about how much is dedicated to that effort.

Bart answered the funds are in this year’s budget and the \$1,200 a year.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Treasurer Bart Brosten moved the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024 (ending January 31, 2025) General Fund Budget. **The motion carries.**

SA2022.07 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024 (ending January 31, 2025) General Fund Budget as directed by the Synod Council as presented.**

Bishop Shelley thanked Bart and the Finance Team for their work at keeping faithful, healthy, stewardship of resources in the synod. Thank you to the congregations and members of the synod for continued mission support.

CONGREGATIONS CELEBRATING MINISTRY MILESTONES

Bishop Shelley congratulated the congregations who are celebrating ministry milestones this year:

Shepherd of the Valley in Maple Valley, celebrating 50 years.
Faith Lutheran in Redmond, celebrating 75 years.

RESOLUTIONS

Bishop Shelley invited Pastor Tor Berg Chair of the Reference in Council Committee.

Pastor Tor explained his role as the Chair. The work is about bringing resolutions to the floor of the assembly. The job is done by receiving those resolutions, helping the author of those authors to edit to make sense, and attending to the actual work in ministry before us. This time will bring **Resolution B: Call for review of granting disability status to persons experiencing Mental Illness**

Therefore, be it resolved that the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly memorialize the 2022 Churchwide Assembly to ask Portico Services and the Conference of Bishops to review the

requirements of the Portico Disability program for persons suffering mental illness, and be it further

Resolved that specific attention be given to the ways in which timing related to the rostered minister's resignation affects potential eligibility for coverage, and be it further

Resolved that a report of this review be given to the Church Council by its 2023 fall meeting.

Bishop Shelley explained to the Assembly members who wish to speak for or against this resolution may take their voting card and proceed to the appropriate microphones-green mic for the resolution and red mic if they speak against the resolution. White cards can speak at either microphone.

A few reminders from our standing rules:

- We will have up to 30 minutes per resolution.
- No person shall speak in debate more than once on the same question, or longer than two (2) minutes. Our parliamentarian will keep tabs on the time for you – and give you a warning when there are 30 seconds remaining.
- After four people have spoken in a row on the same side of the motion, and no one is in line to speak on the other side, the previous question will be automatically called.
- You may not speak to the motion and then call the question.

Ryan Marsh from Salt House approached the microphone to speak for resolution B. Ryan spoke on how this resolution is vital for mental health and working better with Portico.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved the adoption resolution B, call for review of granting disability status to persons experiencing Mental Illness
The motion carries.

SA2022.08 **That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved to adopt resolution B, call to review of granting disability status to persons experiencing mental illness - *Therefore, be it resolved that the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly memorializes the 2022 Churchwide Assembly to ask Portico Services and the Conference of Bishops to review the requirements of the Portico Disability program for persons suffering mental illness, and be it further, Resolved that specific attention be given to the ways in which timing related to the rostered minister's resignation affects potential eligibility for coverage, and be it further Resolved that a report of this review be given to the Church Council by its 2023 fall meeting as directed by the Synod Council as presented.***

The next resolution brought forward is Resolution A: Reparations & Land Return.

Resolution A: Reparations & Land Return

Resolved, that the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly memorialized the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to encourage all individual ELCA members, as well as congregations, synods, ministries, colleges, seminaries, camps, associated organizations, and partners, to “support creative programs resulting in reparations for stolen hands” in partnership with Indigenous peoples, including returning land (and any structures built on it) to Native tribes, and when direct return is not feasible or desirable by the tribes, to return the proceeds from the sale of the land to the ELCA Native American Ministry Fund or other local Native-led ministries or organizations.

Pastor Erik Kindem from Peace Lutheran in West Seattle approached the microphone and provided a deeper context for the memorial. He supports the adoption.

Kay Edgerton, a member of Nativity Lutheran in Renton as an Indigenous person, supports resolution A.

Pastor Priscilla Paris-Austin of Immanuel Lutheran in Seattle speaks in favor of resolution A.

Pastor Terry Kyлло, a member at Burlington Lutheran Church in Burlington and speaks in favor of resolution A.

Kathleen Logan did not speak against the resolution however express to widen only helping Indigenous people but also the African Americans as well.

Pastor Diakonda Gurning from Bethel Lutheran, Seattle speaks against resolution A.

Kim Peterson from Ballard First Lutheran in Seattle speaks for resolution A.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved the adoption resolution A, Reparations, and Land return.

The motion carries.

SA2022.09

That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approved to adopt resolution A, Reparations and Land Return Resolved, that the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly memorialized the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to encourage all individual ELCA members, as well as congregations, synods, ministries, colleges, seminaries, camps, associated organizations, and partners, to “support creative programs resulting in reparations for stolen lands” in partnership

with Indigenous peoples, including returning land (and any structures built on it) to Native tribes, and when direct return is not feasible or desirable by the tribes, to return the proceeds from the sale of the land to the ELCA Native American Ministry Fund or other local Native-led ministries or organizations as directed by the Synod Council as presented.

The next Resolution is Resolution C,

***BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Northwest Washington Synod Assembly direct the 2022 Churchwide Assembly to empower the ELCA Church Council to conduct a comprehensive audit of the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the ELCA, and related governance documents, examining how the Church's three expressions work collaboratively; and be it further*

***RESOLVED** that the comprehensive audit examine unintentional gaps in checks and balances, particularly with regard to the autonomy of synodical bishops; and be it further*

***RESOLVED** that the ELCA Church Council engage a third-party auditor specializing in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility to interrogate the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions, and related governance documents; and be it further*

***RESOLVED** that the ELCA Church Council model transparent leadership practices by sharing the results of the audit in a public statement to the ELCA.*

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved the adoption of Resolution C, Audit of Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the ELCA
The motion carries.

Paul Oldenkamp from Phinney Lutheran Church in Seattle approached the microphone to speak for resolution C with a proposed amendment to the resolution. In the second resolved after synodical bishops, add "rostered ministers, and synod and congregation councils." Paul explains the addition to the resolution is to make changes in the gaps in checks and balances not only for actions taken by synod bishops. There are certain parts of our government documents that gives an extremely broad autonomy to synod council and pastor to broaden authority. The purpose is to cover more parts of the ELCA in this review of checks and balances.

Pastor Kacey Hahn St. Matthew Lutheran Renton, speak for resolution C.

Pastor Darla DeFrance from Columbia City Church of Hope opposed resolution C.
Pastor Joanne Engquist sits on the Church Council of the ELCA and spoke for resolution C.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved to approve the proposed amended resolution C. In the second resolve, after synodical bishops, add "rostered ministers, and synod and congregation councils."

The motion failed.

Stephanie Dikes a member of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church speaks for resolution C.

Pastor Chelsea Globe Pastor at the University of Washington speaks for resolution C.

Nicole Anderson member of Holy Trinity on Mercer Island moved to add the word “accessibility” and remove the word “and,” to read: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and *Accessibility* to interrogate the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions, and related governance documents; and be it further. This is in relation to resolution A, which the Assembly just passed. The change is to support individuals with both physical and mental illness as well as other disabilities to function in our Synod specifically.

Pastor Tor expressed to add the word “accessibility would be out of order.

Speaking on behalf of the Synod Council, Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee moved to approve the proposed amended resolution C. In the third resolve, add “Accessibility” after Inclusion.
The motion carries.

SA2022.10 That the 2022 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly approves the proposed amended resolution C. In the third resolve, add “Accessibility” after the word Inclusion as directed by the Synod Council as presented.

Pastor Tor thanked Pastor Lara Forbes and Pastor Rebecca Langholz for helping on the Reference in Counsel Committee.

Bishop Shelley asked the Assembly to enjoy a video from the Candidacy Committee.

BREAK

The bishop declared a break of twenty minutes and encouraged members of the assembly to be back in their seats at 2:55 PM.

PLENARY 3

FINAL CREDENTIALS REPORT

Bishop Shelley thanked Trinity Education Foundation for an awesome video. Bishop Shelley introduces Becky Cole and Taryn Hauglie for the final credential report.

A. Members of the Synod Assembly

- 1. Total voting members present: 300**
- 2. Lay person present: 185**
 - a. Women: 107**
 - b. Men 75**
 - c. Non-Binary 3**
- 3. Rostered Ministers present: 115**
 - a. Word and Service: 11**
 - b. Word & Sacrament: 104**
- 4. Persons of color or whose primary language is other than English present: 27**
- 5. Youth members present: 12**
- 6. Young Adult members present 18**
- 7. Observers (persons with voice but without vote): 13**
- 8. Visitors/volunteers present: 29**

We have University of Washington and Western Washington University door prizes together.

Kevin Bates from Magnolia Lutheran in Seattle-Winner
Ned Coplin from Maple Leaf in Seattle-Winner

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Bishop Shelley congratulated Kay Edgerton for her second term as Vice President for Synod Council.

Vice President Kay Edgerton presented her VP report and gave thanks to Synod Council member whose terms have ended.

Eric Peoples

James Colver
Deanna Wildermuth
Deacon Amy O'Collins
Beth Lewis

Those who are continuing:
Treasurer Bart Brosten
Amani Austin (Youth Member)
Lauren Ode-Giles (Young Adult Member)
Ivar Hillesland
Rebecca Langholz
Sherianne Caldwell
Sam Sseba
Elly Stitt

We also appointed Luke Allgeyer to be the Word and Service

Synod Secretary Netsie Griffith
Shane Lambing
Cindy Shultz

The next video and door prize is from Camp Lutherwood.

Tor Berg from First Bothell-Winner

Thank you Rick Steves for all your work.

Our assigned Churchwide Representative was unable to attend the Assembly. Vice President Kay Edgerton stepped in to share about the partnership with the wider church. Please don't miss out on these upcoming events:

Embody the Word, 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, OH

Rostered Ministers Gathering "Rekindle the Gift Within You"
July 17-20 2023
Phoenix, AZ

The next video is from Prince of Peace in Seatac.
The last video is from Portico.

BISHOP SHELLEY'S LAST REMARKS

Bishop Shelley thanked Liz Colver for being the Chairperson, Susan Berg oversees Synod Assembly, the rest of the staff, and Rick Steves.

We are Abound in Hope! Stand for the final Blessing!

ADJOURNMENT

The assembly was adjourned at 4:00 PM.