

NC Synod Council Highlights

The NC Synod Council gathered in retreat via Zoom Friday & Saturday, September 11 & 12, 2020.

The council approved the following:

- the disaffiliation of Peace, Gibsonville.
- the Re-Gathering Task Force's [Recommendations for Phase 2.5](#).
- recommendations from the Michael Peeler/Virginia Casey Committee to distribute grants in the amount of \$571,614.
- the appointment of William & Frances Lefler Fund Trustees: Michael Abernathy, Tommy Page, and Doug Nelson.
- a recommendation from the Finance Committee to institute a Reimbursement Policy for Events.
- the constitutions of St. Paul's, Wilmington, and St. John's, Salisbury.
- the Rostered Leaders' Compensation Guidelines for 2021.
- a gift of \$1,000 from the Synod Council to the Eric West Family Dinner Fund.

In addition to staff and officer reports, the following information was received:

- the Audit Committee's report that the audit will be completed in March, 2021.
- the COVID-19 Relief Fund report showing the approval of 53 grants for a total of \$300,000.
- reports from Director for Evangelical Mission, Pastor Danielle DeNise on several outreach initiatives including South Durham Connections, Wild Faith Asheville, and The Dwelling, Winston-Salem.
- the ELCA's [Considerations for Remote Council and Congregation Meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) and the synod's [FAQ for Congregational Meetings, Fall 2020](#).
- an Assembly Committee report which included their consideration of in-person, online, and hybrid options for the 2020 assembly; decision coming in December.

As part of their time together in retreat, the Synod Council participated in conversation using the document, ["How Strategic and Authentic Is Our Diversity: A Call for Confession, Reflection, and Healing Action"](#) created by the ELCA's Task Force for Strategic Authentic Diversity and adopted by the 15th triennial ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2019. Pastor Cassie Overcash, chair of the council's Mission & Ministry Committee, led five sessions throughout the two-day meeting. This was an intentional look at different strategies to help with our synod with its ongoing work towards racial justice in the spirit of our [core values of Relationship and Reconciliation](#).