

Lutheran-Episcopal Coordinating Committee
Five Year Plan 2008-2012 + Four Year Plan 2013-2016

Goal: We would like to facilitate ways for Called to Common Mission to live in the life of congregations and parishes, synods and dioceses, and the wider church

Latest update: May 27, 2014

2008: Meeting held October 14-15, 2008 in Des Moines, Iowa

- Hearings re Lutheran-Episcopal ongoing joint work on flood disaster relief in Iowa
- Hearings from the Lutheran and Episcopal heads of chaplaincy re issues around worship at military bases and the need for provision of Lutheran & Episcopal sacramental worship
- Reviewed ELCA proposed social statement on human sexuality and Anglican Communion St. Andrews document
- Reviewed McCoid document on full communion and the role of coordinating committees
- Discussed request for guidelines/best practices for Lutheran-Episcopal joint/federated/consolidated parishes

2008 Outcomes:

- Press release re joint ecumenical work around Iowa flood relief
- LECC resolution requesting advocacy from the two churches to the military for provision of sacramental worship for Lutheran and Episcopal military personnel
- LECC resolution requesting that the appropriate offices of the two churches develop joint guidelines for Lutheran-Episcopal joint parishes

2009: Meeting held June 2-3, 2009 in Chicago

- Shared major accomplishments and concerns before our church bodies
 - Anglican Consultative Council meeting May 2009
 - Episcopal Church General Convention (July 8–17, 2009, Anaheim, CA)
 - ELCA Churchwide Assembly (August 17-23, 2009, Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Focused reports on specific ministries being shared in ECUSA & ELCA: national cooperation and local grassroots ecumenism
 - Mission/evangelism/congregational life representatives from each church: the Rev. Steve Bouman (ELCA) and the Rev. Suzanne Watson (TEC)
 - Report on invitation from Lutheran Social Services in Iowa for the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa to cooperate in their mission and ministry
- Discussion of resources and publicity for promoting local celebrations of the 10-year anniversary of CCM (January 2011)
- Met jointly with the Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee
- Received demonstration of new CCM website from Epiphany Church in Marina, CA:
<http://www.epiphanymarina.org>

2009 Outcomes:

- Adopted a three-year plan for LECC's work
- Received and reviewed ELCA guidelines for federated and union congregations under full communion agreements
- Appointed a task force to plan for a possible national celebration of the 10-year anniversary of CCM (January 6 or 8, 2011 on both presiding bishops' calendars per ecumenical officers)

- Created and adopted “Guidelines Concerning Voice and Vote for Clergy Serving under Exchangeability Provisions of Full Communion Relationships”; to be reviewed by the ELCA Office of Secretary and Episcopal Church Canon Lawyer, then distributed by the two ecumenical offices as information to bishops, dioceses and synods.
- Adopted a motion encouraging specific cooperation between youth and young adult offices of both churches

2010: Meeting held April 6-7, 2010 (with April 5 as travel day), Chicago, hosted by ELCA

- Sharing major accomplishments and concerns before our church bodies –follow up:
 - Episcopal Church General Convention (July 8–17, 2009, Anaheim, CA)ELCA Churchwide Assembly (August 17-23, 2009, Minneapolis, Minnesota)
- Hearings on theological education
 - Seminaries: Ellen Wondra (TEC), Jonathan Strandjord (ELCA)
 - Life-long formation/non-traditional models: Susanne Watson-Epting (TEC), Richard Brusehoff (ELCA), Laura Wilhelm (ELCA)
- Work on resources and publicity for promoting regional and local celebrations of the 10-year anniversary of CCM (January 2011)
- LECC request for joint mission and ministry arising from this meeting

2010 Outcomes:

- Updated 3-year plan to 2012 and beyond
- Resources for regional and local celebrations of the 10-year anniversary
 - By summer, set of prayers (ecumenical officers to distribute through LERN, EDEIO, bishops)
 - By December, a 2011 calendar of CCM anniversary events for print distribution
- “Guidelines Concerning Voice and Vote for Clergy Serving under Exchangeability Provisions of Full Communion Relationships” from 2009 meeting ready for distribution

2011: May 1: TEC-ELCA-ACC-ELCIC Celebration of 10 Year Anniversary of CCM & presiding bishops’ joint pastoral letter

2011: Meeting held October 19-20, 2011 in Marina, CA, hosted by Jon Perez and TEC

- Sharing major accomplishments and concerns before our church bodies
- See Epiphany Lutheran and Episcopal Parish in action, talk to folk about that experience, participate in its life
- Resources for joint campus ministries: Stanford and University of California Berkeley
- Status of full communion of each church with Moravians
- Discuss establishing a Face Book identity for the coordinating committee

2011 Outcomes:

- Communique sent to Sierra Pacific Synod and Diocese of California re joint campus ministry
- Hearings with 4 joint congregations and 3 campus ministries and chancellor of the diocese on canonical challenges to joint ministry especially in achieving governing documents acceptable to synods and dioceses for full communion partnerships, communication with Episcopal officer for mission development about canonical changes
- Communication with chancellors and bishops reminding them of the “Guidelines Concerning Voice and Vote for Clergy Serving under Exchangeability Provisions of Full Communion Relationships”

- Appointed subcommittees for participation in joint meeting with Canadian Anglican-Lutheran Joint Commission in February 2012
- Adopted 4-part publicity plan:
 - press release after meetings,
 - posting minutes of meetings on LECC ELCA website (need to mirror that on Episcopal Church website),
 - article authored by Budde on full communion coordinating committees for professional ecumenists for academic ecumenical journal,
 - establish LECC Face Book presence

2012: February 16-18: Subcommittee of LECC (Perez, Petersen, Budde) met with Canadian Joint Anglican-Lutheran Commission, Niagara Falls

Feb 2012 Sub-committee Outcomes:

- committed to collaborative project to develop a devotional series bulletin insert for Epiphany 2013 for electronic distribution across all four churches; to be authored by Budde, Perez, Petersen from LECC and Richard, Pamela, Allen from JALC; drafts due April 15
- committed to send letter from the JALC and LECC co-chairs to the presiding bishops asking for clarification as to how we might support their joint meetings
- committed to seek to hold a joint meeting of JALC and LECC in February 2013

2012: Meeting held May 30-31, 2012 in Chicago, hosted by the ELCA

- Meeting jointly and contiguously with the Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee to strategize 1-2 collaborative projects
- Hosted 3 guests from the Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission of Canada: André Lavergne (Evangelical Lutheran Church In Canada), Peter Wall (Anglican Church of Canada), Bruce Myers (Anglican Church of Canada)

2012 Outcomes:

- Joint LECC-JALC devotional series has been developed for distribution to parishes and dioceses/synods, designed for Epiphany 2013
- Committed to a 3-year meeting pattern: joint meeting with JALC, joint meeting with Lutheran-Moravian (and possibly Episcopal-Moravian) Coordinating Committee; LECC meeting
- Submitted motion to the appropriate agencies of TEC and ELCA recommending placement of the Four Chaplains of the Dorchester on the two churches' respective liturgical calendars of commemorations
- Appreciative Inquiry/Asset-based Planning Process: "Imagining our Future Together"; Mark Burkhardt, ELCA Director for Congregational Centers for Mission, as facilitator
 - Identification of LECC Assets, Gifts, Strengths
- Identification of 4 Task Groups to carry LECC work forward:
 - Task group to respond to Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036: Alan Scarfe (lead), Kay Beach, Lowell Almen
 - Task group to develop an online resource for expressions of joint ministries: Nedi Rivera (lead), Jon Perez, Sherman Hicks
 - First Call/Fresh Start Formation Task Group: Alan Scarfe & Donald Kreiss (co-leaders)
 - Communications Task Group: Jill Dierberg (lead), Mitzi Budde, Jon Perez

Lutheran-Episcopal Coordinating Committee Four Year Plan 2013-2016

2013: February 6-8, 2013, Niagara Falls, hosted by the Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission of Canada

- Met jointly and contiguously with the Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission of Canada
 - Planning group for joint meeting with Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission of Canada: Canadian hosts, Margaret Rose, Don McCoid, Mitzi Budde, Alan Scarfe
 - Discussed possibility of further collaborative projects, such as the 2013 joint Epiphany devotional
- Reports from the Task Groups established at the May 2012 meeting

Feb 2013 Outcomes:

- Task group on Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036: Alan Scarfe (lead), Kay Beach, Lowell Almen, Don Kreiss – plan developed for process of study; Almen will write foundational paper.
- Task group for developing online resource for expressions of joint ministries: Nedi Rivera (lead), Jon Perez, Sherman Hicks – presented new CCM webpage: <http://www.epiphanymarina.org/call-to-common-mission.php>
- Communications Task Group: Jill Clark (lead), Mitzi Budde, Jon Perez –
 - Developed process for LECC FaceBook page updates: Jill Clark.
 - Article on the task and function of full communion coordinating committee accepted for publication in *The Journal of Ecumenical Studies* in early 2013: Mitzi Budde.
- First Call/Fresh Start Formation Task Group: Alan Scarfe & Don Kreiss – deferred for now.
- Coordinated work with the Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission of Canada to produce a statement on cooperation (“A Word to the Churches”) for the four presiding bishops (TEC, ELCA, ACC, ELCIC) summarizing achievements of 12 years of full communion, hopes for the future, shared witness, and what can be addressed together still from our shared context.
- Joint pastoral letter from the 4 presiding bishops issued June 27, 2013: http://www.episcopalchurch.org/sites/default/files/a_word_to_the_churches.pdf.
- ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson and Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori issued joint pastoral statements on the U.S. Senate’s passage of immigration reform (June 28, 2013) and on World Refugee Day (June 20, 2013).

2013: July 14-16, 2013: LECC members attended Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee meeting, Bethlehem, PA

July 2013 Outcomes:

- Attended Lovefeast of Christian Unity (Moravian, Episcopal, Lutheran), Central Moravian Church
- Learned about Moravian culture and history in the U.S.
- Heard about Moravian, Episcopal, Lutheran bishops’ collaborative work on full communion mission centers
- Visited Esperanza for Bethlehem neighborhood mission, Moravian-Lutheran partnership at St. John’s Windish Lutheran Church

2013: December 4-5, 2013; Chicago.

- Receive and review report from Task group on Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036: Alan Scarfe (lead), Kay Beach, Lowell Almen, Don Kreiss
- Reports from other Task Groups (Communications, Joint Ministries)

- Joint Presiding Bishops' Pastoral Letters
- Consider the request to appoint a task group to develop a FAQ document with guidelines and best practices for joint church plants and joint parishes, potentially using some of the parishes of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon as prototypes
- Develop ecumenical officer's guide for ordinations and consecrations? (request from EDEIO, Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia)
- Begin discussion of Reformation 2017

December 2013 Outcomes:

- Considerable discussion and editing of draft response to on Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036
- Shared examples of growing and deepening joint and shared Lutheran-Episcopal ministries
 - Report from Sherman Hicks re Joint Meeting of the Diversity & Ethnic Ministries of the Episcopal Church and the Ethnic Specific/Multicultural Ministries of the ELCA, held Oct 24-25, 2013 at the Episcopal Church Center in New York
- Celebrated pastoral letters and statements issued jointly by the respective presiding bishops
- Endorsed the formation of a task group to address canonical issues around joint and joint ministries, to be organized by Margaret Rose.

2014: January 9, 2014: video conference call re draft response to Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036; response finalized

January 28, 2014: Bp. Scarfe presents LECC Response to Episcopal Church General Convention Resolution A036 to the Standing Commission for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations of The Episcopal Church.

2014: November 5-7, 2014; Detroit. Joint meeting with JALC?

- Focus: Joint parishes, with visits to joint Latino ministry and Spirit of Hope urban gardening project
- Continue Task Group reports and work
- Address Youth, Young Adult Ministries
- Continue discussion of Reformation 2017

2015: May 2015; Meeting to be held in Washington, DC?

- Focus: Public Voice/Advocacy
- Environmental policy initiatives
- Potentially joint meeting with Lutheran-Moravian Coordinating Committee or JALC?
- Joint new bishops' school? Bishop Clay Matthews?
- Continue discussion of Reformation 2017

2015: June: Episcopal Church General Convention, Utah – LECC response (or progress report) to 2013 General Convention Resolution A036 due

2016: Meeting TBD

- Theological education: educating & credentialing seminary graduates to serve in exchangeability calls with full communion partners (Note: Moravian Seminary in Bethlehem, PA is developing an educational track for this)