The 29th Annual Pacifica Synod Assembly was called into session by Bishop Murray Finck at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 5 at the Irvine Marriott. The ELCA’s Presiding Bishop, The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton joins us as the ELCA Churchwide Representative for this assembly. The Rev. Dr. Shauna Hannan is our Bible Study Leader. The main order of business for this assembly is the election of a new bishop, as Bishop Finck retires after serving the maximum of three consecutive 6-year terms. Some highlights of Thursday’s time together are pictured below:

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton reminded the assembly that the Bishop election process is a prayerful process and that the Holy Spirit is present throughout it all.

The Rev. Dr. Shauna Hannan based her study on the book of Psalms. She shared that there are 3 kinds of psalms:

- Orientation Psalms
- Disorientation Psalms
- Re-orientation Psalms

Thursday’s focus was on our call to praise and our motive for praise.

All four other Region 2 Bishops and their spouses gathered to bid Bishop Finck farewell and Godspeed. Pictured left to right: Rob Flynn, Bishop Guy Erwin (Southwest California Synod), Rhoda Finck, Barb Talmage, Bishop Stephen Talmage (Grand Canyon Synod), Bishop James Gonia (Rocky Mountain Synod), Debbi Holmerud and Bishop Mark Holmerud (Sierra Pacific Synod).
Above: Bishop Finck acknowledges and thanks current and former staff members for their service to the synod.

To Right:
In his final report to a synod assembly, Bishop Finck reflected on his years of service in the Pacifica Synod. He also shared about the two croissers meaningful to him during his ministry—one that he made himself and the other that he found.

To Left:
Associate in Ministry, Mel Kieschnick, and his wife Jane, were recognized for over 130 years of combined ministry.

Above & Below: Assistants to the Bishop, Tim Philips and Hitoshi Adachi help Bishop Finck distribute (toss) the large amount of t-shirts he had accumulated over his many years of ministry.

Above: Ecumenical partners such as the Right Reverend James Mathes, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, brought greetings to the assembly.
Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries

50th Anniversaries
Betty Darrow—Commissioning
David Kupka
Clifford Listug
R. Joseph Ramnarine

25th Anniversaries
Cheryl Corneliusen
Sharon Gunderson
Timothy Mason
Ruth Peterson

To Left:
Recognizing those called into ministry in our synod since last year’s assembly.

From left to right:
Brian Oltman (Resurrection, Coronado)
Terry Tuvey Allen (Pacifica Synod Staff)
Derek Fossey (Hope, Palm Desert)
Glen Egertson (LRCC, Oak Glen)
Jennifer Shaw (St. John’s, Palm Desert)
David Barber (Retired)

Conference Lay Recognitions

Sonshine Conference—Leslie Atkins
W. San Diego Conference—House Build Mission Team
(Mark, Susan & Jenny Mendoza, Bob Murphy, Chris Stoneberg)
Harvest Conference—Felipa (Laura) Canto
Raincross Conference—Beverly Erck
Big Bear Conference—Alan & Nancy Griesemer
Saddleback Conference—Ken Notthoff
Son & Surf Conference—Linda Cormican
Rejoice Conference—Keith Kruse
Hukilau Conference—Karen Radius Tellio
BISHOP ELECTION

Prior to Bishop Election Ballot Three, the eight of the nine remaining bishop candidates who were present at the assembly were provided the opportunity to respond to questions submitted in advance by assembly voting members and visitors.

The Rev. Andrew Taylor
The Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen
The Rev. David Nagler
The Rev. Agapito Aviles

The Rev. Tom Goellrich
The Rev. Jay Egenes
The Rev. Mark William Allert
The Rev. Sarah Birdsall Isakson

Bishop Finck congratulates and welcomes Bishop-Elect Andrew Taylor after his election on the Fifth Ballot.
BISHOP CELEBRATION DINNER & SYNOD YOUTH TEAM FUN!

On Friday evening, our synod gathered to celebrate Bishop Murray Finck and his ministry in our synod through personal reflections, photos and tributes.

To Left: Bishop Finck, wife Rhoda and grandson Erik listen as friends and colleagues share memories and best wishes.

To Right: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton recalled her first experience with Bishop Finck’s “Stretch & Pray” routines, which kept the audience smiling.

Above: Two of Bishop Finck’s children, Erin and Adam, shared the “Top Ten Reasons You Know Your Father is a Bishop”, along with heartfelt thanks and love for their father.

To Left: Singer, songwriter and personal friend Deborah Liv Johnson shared special music during the evening, including a song she wrote just for Bishop Finck.

To Left: Hula Palau presented by Keala Simoes

Synod Youth Team Members share a final selfie and group hug with Bishop Finck after presenting their report during Friday’s afternoon business session.
ASSEMBLY WORSHIP
VOTING RESULTS OF THE 2016 SYNOD ASSEMBLY
For a more detailed description of each Synod Council recommendation and resolutions submitted, please see Section 6 of the Synod Assembly notebook, found at www.pacificasynod.org

SA16.05.01 VOTED to approve the rules and agenda for the 2016 Pacifica Synod Assembly.

SA16.05.02 VOTED to approve the synod council recommended 2017-2018 budget.

SA16.05.03 VOTED to approve the Resolution of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of the Reverend Murray Dale Finck.

SA16.05.04 VOTED to amend the resolution with the following addition:
The staff and synod council are to bring a statistical and analytical report to the 2017 synod assembly which addresses the use of and challenges from this baseline salary recommendation and from the compensation policy.

SA16.05.05 VOTED to approve the Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Leaders of the Pacifica Synod as amended.

The Pacifica Synod Council recommends to the 2016 Synod Assembly for approval a one and one-half percent (1.5%) increase in the Baseline Salary for Rostered Leaders (Pastors, Diaconal Ministers and Associates in Ministry) of the Pacifica Synod for the year 2017. This action would bring the current baseline salary (including salary and housing allowance) to $62,741 for pastors.

The Synod Council encourages congregations to use the Compensation Worksheets available online at www.pacificasynod.org.

The staff and synod council are to bring a statistical and analytical report to the 2017 synod assembly which addresses the use of and challenges from this baseline salary recommendation and from the compensation policy.

SA16.05.06 VOTED to approve the bylaw changes to S10.07, S10.07.01, and S10.07.02.

SA16.05.07 VOTED to cease debate.

SA16.05.08 VOTED to approve Resolution 16-01: Resolution to Confront Racism and White Privilege.

SYNOD COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

VICE PRESIDENT
Ms. Lori Herman: 262 (Elected)

SECRETARY
Ms. Angela (Gangstad) Jackson: 182 (Elected)
Ms. Judy Franz: 81

LAY AT LARGE, MALE
Mr. Paul Coulter: 171 (Elected)
Mr. Darrel Timan: 88

LAY AT LARGE, FEMALE
Dr. Ann Dew: 127
Ms. Jan Neuhaus: 130 (Elected)

SONSHINE CONFERENCE #1, CLERGY
The Rev. Laurie Line: 14 (Elected)

HARVEST CONFERENCE #3, LAY
Ms. Beckey Draper: 24 (Elected)

REJOICE CONFERENCE #9, LAY
Ms. Greta Goellrich: 38 (Elected)

NEW TRANSFORMATION & REDEVELOPMENT FUND:
The Rev. Jay Egenes: 241 (Elected)
Ms. Rachel Line: 229 (Elected)
Mr. Fred Luhman: 222 (Elected)

The Rev. Tim Philips, Pacifica’s Director of Evangelical Mission presented a Resolution of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of the Rev. Murray Dale Finck conferring the honorary title of Bishop Emeritus to Bishop Finck. The resolution was overwhelmingly approved by the assembly.
### Bishop Election Results—First Ballot
The First Ballot for Bishop Election was declared invalid due to a clerical error.
The First Ballot was re-cast with the following results:
- Number of Votes Cast: 333
- Number of Illegal Ballots: 2
- Number of Legal Ballots: 331
- Number of Votes Needed for Election: 249

The Rev. David C. Nagler: 90
The Rev. Andrew A. Taylor: 72
The Rev. Tom Goellrich: 36
The Rev. Jay Egenes: 27
The Rev. Agapito Aviles Jr: 24
The Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen: 24
The Rev. Sarah Birdsall Isakson: 19
The Rev. Mark William Allert: 15
The Rev. Dr. Karoline M. Lewis: 4
The Rev. Jeffrey Frohner: 3
The Rev. Wilbert Miller: 3
The Rev. David Jorstad: 2
The Rev. Jeff Lilley: 2
The Rev. Richard Ajer: 1
The Rev. Glen Egerton: 1
The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Hand: 1
The Rev. Heidi Hester: 1
The Rev. Mark Holmerud: 1
The Rev. Noah Johnson: 1
The Rev. Paul Kirchner: 1
The Rev. Kim Krogstad: 1
The Rev. Tim Philips: 1
The Rev. Laura Ziehl: 1

### Bishop Election Results—Second Ballot
Report of the second ballot for Bishop:
- Number of votes cast: 332
- Number of Illegal Ballots: 0
- Number of Legal Ballots: 332
- Number of votes needed for Election: 249

The Rev. David C. Nagler: 106
The Rev. Andy Taylor: 85
The Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen: 30
The Rev. Tom Goellrich: 30
The Rev. Jay Egenes: 27
The Rev. Agapito Aviles Jr: 20
The Rev. Mark William Allert: 10
The Rev. Sarah Birdsall Isakson: 10
The Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis: 10

### Bishop Election Results—Third Ballot
Report of the third ballot for Bishop:
- Total votes Cast: 336
- Total Number of Invalid Ballots: 1
- Total Number of Legal Ballots: 335
- Number of Votes Needed for Election: 224

The Rev. David C. Nagler: 137
The Rev. Andy Taylor: 63
The Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen: 34
The Rev. Agapito Aviles Jr: 33
The Rev. Tom Goellrich: 29
The Rev. Jay Egenes: 20
The Rev. Mark William Allert: 9
The Rev. Sarah Birdsall Isakson: 6
The Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis: 4

### Bishop Election Results—Fourth Ballot
Report of the fourth ballot for Bishop:
- Total Votes Cast: 336
- Total Number of Invalid Ballots: 1
- Number of Legal Ballots: 335
- Number of Votes Needed for Election: 224

The Rev. David C. Nagler: 188
The Rev. Andrew A. Taylor: 97
The Rev. Terry Tuvey Allen: 50

### Bishop Election Results—Fifth Ballot
Report of the fifth ballot for Bishop:
- Total Votes Cast: 339
- Total Number of Invalid Ballots: 0
- Number of Legal Ballots: 339
- Number of Votes Needed for Election: 170

The Rev. Andrew A. Taylor: 174
The Rev. David C. Nagler: 165

**The Rev. Andrew A. Taylor is elected bishop of the Pacifica Synod!**