



Minutes to the January 2014 Board Meeting

## **January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

### **Members in Attendance:**

Todd Buegler  
Erik Ullestad  
Mike Ward  
Tom Schwolert  
Valery Taylor Samuel  
Jeremy Myers  
Julie Luttinen Miller  
Sue Megrund  
Benjamin Morris  
Paul Amlin

### **Members Absent:**

Yvonne Steindahl

**Opening Devotions were led.**

**New board members, Tom Schwolert and Sue Megrund were introduced.**

### **Review of October Minutes.**

Motion to accept minutes - Julie  
Mike Ward 2nds Motion  
Minutes approved

### **Todd gave Directors Report**

Practice discipleship discussed.  
Erik reported on the annual review given to Todd.  
Need for succession plan in case of emergency discussed.  
suggested that ELCA Succession plan be reviewed as a possible model..

**Paul Amlin gave Churchwide report.**

Meeting Adjourned for the day.

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## **Friday, January 31**

### **Opening devotion given by Erik**

All checked in with Strategic Plan (including areas championed)  
lengthy discussion about membership goals in plan

After all checked in it was decided that with new members “Champion” roles would be shuffled.

New Strategic Plan champions are:

- Membership - Julie
- Governance - Erik
- Partnerships - Sue
- Extravaganza - Ben
- Financial Diversity - Tom
- Practice Discipleship - Jeremy
- Valerie - Diversity

### **Network Branding**

Discussion of adding “Children” as a designator to the role of the Network added.

### **Mike initiated a conversation regarding our involvement in the ELCA Capital Campaign**

- Board had a discussion of the Network’s role within the campaign
  - Julie made motion that the Board send a memo to the ELCA Church Council requesting involvement in the process. Todd will send this memo.
  - Unanimously approved

### **Discussion of needs of the board.**

Diversity  
Female  
Business acumen

Erik unanimously voted as President  
Benjamin unanimously voted as secretary.

The meeting was adjourned

Addendum: Copy of the letter to Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

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**elca youth ministry network**  
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To: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton  
From: ELCA Youth Ministry Network Board of Directors  
Date: January 30, 2014  
Subject: ELCA Campaign

In response to the actions of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly to add \$4 million to the ELCA Campaign for the purpose of youth and young adult ministry, the Board of Directors of the ELCA Youth Ministry Network respectfully requests the following of the ELCA Churchwide Staff and Church Council in respect to those funds:

1. The ELCA Youth Ministry Network would like to be a partner with the ELCA in raising those funds.
2. We ask that the funds raised be utilized in the next 3-5 years for special ministry initiatives and not be raised for the purpose of building an endowment. We believe the youth and young adults of today need to benefit from those funds
3. We ask that before determination of how the funds should be used is made that representatives from the ELCA Youth Ministry Network and the following organizations be gathered together to dream about how they can be used to establish the goals of the funds raised:
  - a. ELCA Outdoor Ministry Network
  - b. LACE
  - c. Other invited to the Faith Formation Summit
4. Some ideas that we have already had for those funds could include:
  - a. Service/Learning opportunities for young adults
  - b. "Gap year" opportunities
  - c. Summer and one year inner city and rural opportunities to do youth ministry
  - d. Vocational discernment events
  - e. Youth Core Leadership events
  - f. Regional youth leaders training events
  - g. Innovation grants to networks or congregations to advance children, youth, and family ministries
  - h. Resources around suicide and homicidal ideation for young men and boys
  - i. Young people connecting with each other after the gathering
  - j. Many, many, more

The Network has long appreciated our partnership with the Churchwide expression. Our hope is that we can continue to work together for further strengthen faith formation within ELCA congregations.

In Christ,

The Board of Directors of the ELCA Youth Ministry Network	
Erik Ullestad (chairperson)	Sue Megrund
Dr. Jeremy Myers	Tom Schwolert
Julie Miller	Valerie Samuel Taylor
Todd Buegler (ex-officio)	