First Lutheran Church 3601 Dakota Ave South Sioux City, NE 68776 www.flcssc.org www.facebook.com/ firstlutheranssc www.twitter.com/@FirstSsc

First Lutheran Church

December 2020



Loving others in Christ for outreach to all, while providing for God's diversity.

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Text flcssc to 797979

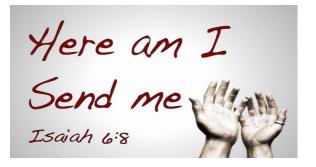
or use

http://text.flcssc.org



INSIDE

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Worship at First Lutheran

December 6

Second Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11 Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Psalm: <u>85:1-2, 8-13</u> Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Psalm: 126

Gospel: <u>John 1:6-8, 19-28</u>

December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Lesson: <u>2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</u> Second Lesson: Romans 16:25-27

Psalm: 89:1-4, 19-26 Gospel: <u>Luke 1:26-38</u>

December 27

First Sunday of Christmas

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7

Psalm: <u>148</u>

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Church Office 494-5461 Douglas Dill, Pastor 402/235-6969 pastordoug@flcssc.org Billy Denker, Spirit Connection Dir. 402/404-4212 bdenker@flcssc.org Ruthie Ailts, Custodian 494-6456 **Church Council** (* Executive Council) *Deb Kenny, President 712/490-2097 dkenny@flcssc.org

*Jarrod Knudsen, Vice President 712/898-1170

jknudsen@flcssc.org

*Mike Hunter, Treasurer 712/490-2998

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*Judy Blessing, Secretary 255-7775

jblessing@flcssc.org

Kathy Anders (kanders@flcssc.org) 274-4383

Jennifer Lieber (jlieber@flcssc.org) 712/212-6932

Michael Sigsbee (msigsbee@flcssc.org) 494-2418

Terry Sorem (tsorem@flcssc.org) 712/490-9271

Church Coordinators For:

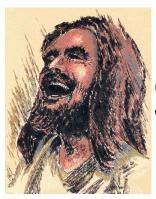
Altar Care: Billy Denker 402/404-4212

Lectors: Ushers:

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384





Christmas Eve Worship Pastor Doug

There have been many changes here, and there will continue to be changes. The year of 2020 has brought on many challenges and that combined with our own challenges necessitate changes. If you have not seen lately, the ELCA and other mainline denominations are facing a need for change as regular attendance declines.

Christmas Eve ushers in a change that God had planned from the beginning. We see pointers in the Old Testament that became clear from the Christian perspective, that the Son was coming to dwell among us. It is not that God has changed, but that we had changed, God's people had changed and how God was going to interact was going to change, but even that was planned on God's part.

The angels announce to the Shepherds that a savior was born today. Now, there was no reason to have a savior, if we had not needed one. The Son takes on human flesh and yet God is not done there, more changes for our sake were to come, but all foretold. The changes were in the church, notice lower case. The church is the assembly of the believers. How we assemble, where and what was done, needed change.

Hopefully you have made it this far. You are probably wondering, where is the Christmas Eve Worship stuff? I will get to that in a moment, but like any good worship, there is preparation before delivery. Please click the link to let me know you are reading this article. https://article.flcssc.org

This year our Christmas Eve worship will be held on Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m. This is based upon the recommendations of the Effective Church Group, which were adopted by the congregational council. In addition, this worship will be mostly traditional in style, with it being led by an organ and the band will assist with leading the congregation in singing. As of the writing of the article, this will be the intention. As you know, the pandemic has caused many adjustments to be made. There will still be a 9:30 a.m. worship that day as well.

There are changes coming in the ELCA in how to be church. How that will look is uncertain, but more information will be coming in early 2021. Many smaller congregations cannot afford a full -time pastor. Many congregations cannot even afford a part-time pastor. Being church, however, is more than about worshiping, it is about disciples serving. I am here on this journey with you. I pray that you will be supporting First Lutheran, serving God's people and be part of this journey of Abundant New Life that we will take part in.

Merry Christmas, God bless each of you as we walk in this journey together.

Pastor Doug

Anniversaries

Jeremiah and Brandi Johnson—December 19 Rick and Jennifer Lieber—December 3

Happy Birthday

Shane Benson—December 25
Stefani Blessing—December 15
Ned Buser—December 16
Cheryl Cale—December 10
Jerry Davis—December 17
Suzie Fischer—December 16
Todd Gehner—December 14
Bart Gotch—December 9
Shirley Hansen—December 28
Gary Hayes—December 24
Jean Hedquist—December 27
Kris Hunter—December 15

Vicky Johnson—December 28
Bryan Jones—December 20
Janice Knight—December 23
Jarrod Knudsen—December 2
Danielle Krontz—December 10
Sandy Larson—December 28
Shantell Martinez—December 23
Lee Mathiason—December 16
Nicki Oss—December 17
Jeff Prescott—December 24
Mary Wolf—December 14
Carol Zastrow—December 6

Youth Birthdays

Adelaide Bass—December 30 Addy Chytka—December 21 Blaine Fischer—December 21 Liam Fischer—December 22 Hailey Lieber—December 15 Jayla Martinez—December 17 Sylas Trautwein—December 4

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the following families. Please keep them in your prayers.

The family of Kyle Walz, who passed away Tuesday, November 17. Services were held Tuesday, November 24 at Waterbury Funeral Service in Sioux City.

Church Council Minutes

Church Council minutes are available upon request. Contact the office at 494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports are available upon request. Contact the office at 494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Thank You

First Lutheran-Thank you to the Boy Scouts for

putting up the snow fence this year!

Sandy Larson-Thank you all for the many calls I received, cards and food during my accident. Such good friends means so much!

Sophie Swanson-Thank you very much for the care package for finals week. I love the snacks and will utilize them during the next couple of weeks. I am doing well in school; am still at USD, studying English and Special Education. Again, thank you very much.

Social Ministry

Social Ministry is collecting food for families in need. Donations can be left in the shopping cart in the entryway.

Donate on Facebook

Did you know that you can now donate directly to the ministries of First Lutheran through the donate button found on many posts on our Facebook page (fb.com/firstlutheranssc)? Please consider supporting FLC ministries.

Resignation

Friday, December 4 will be my last day as your full-time secretary here at First Lutheran. I have enjoyed getting to know all of you in my (almost) 15 years of employment here. I look forward to seeing all of you if/when we can once again have worship in-person.

-Kerri Rahn

UNL Campus Ministry

All Nebraska Synod congregations have been asked to participate in giving towards a new campus ministry facility at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. If you want to give towards this worthwhile cause, please indicate so on your checks or in online giving by writing Campus Ministry-UNL in the memo line.

Festival of Trees

Due to the pandemic, there will be no Festival of Trees this year. Look for First Lutheran's tree next year!

Sponsor a Song

Would you like to sponsor a song for worship? There are many songs that we will use over and over. Normally songs are rented as part of our package we have with MultiTracks.com. However, if we use it often, it would be better to purchase it. The cost to do so is \$30 per song. If you would like to sponsor a song, please indicate this on your check or use online giving to give towards Sponsor a Song found under Worship and Music.

Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program

You can help First Lutheran's Food Pantry by buying a red "My Heart" bag. Here is what to do:

- 1. Visit <u>myHy-VeeCause.com</u> within 7 days of your purchase.
- 2. Remove the scratch-off layer on the Giving Tag to reveal the unique code.
- 3. Submit your code and select First Lutheran to receive a \$1 donation.

Your donation must be made within 7 days of your purchase, or the donation will be sent to the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program beneficiary—the monthly featured non-profit selected by store leadership at the store where you purchased the bag.

AmazonSmile

Do you shop at Amazon? Did you know that First Lutheran will receive a .5% donation from your purchase if you shop through smile.amazon.com/ch/47-6000954? \$145.47 has been raised from 16 donors since we joined the program.

How Have You Thought of Scarcity?

The following was taken from "Daring Greatly" by Brene' Brown, Gotham Books, 2012 Pg. 28

One way to think about the three components of scarcity and how they influence culture is to reflect upon the following questions. As you're reading the questions, it's helpful to keep in mind any culture or social system that you're a part of, whether your classroom, your family, your community, or maybe your work team:

- 1. Shame: Is fear of ridicule and belittling used to manage people and/or to keep people in line? Is self-worth tied to achievement, productivity, or compliance? Are blaming and finger-pointing norms? Are put-downs and name-calling rampant? What about favoritism? Is perfectionism anissue?
- 2. Comparison: Healthy competition can be beneficial, but is there constant overt or covert comparing and ranking? Has creativity been suffocated? Are people held to one narrow standard rather than acknowledged for their unique gifts and contributions? Is there an ideal way of being or one form of talent that is used as measurement of everyone else's worth?
- 3. Disengagements: Are people afraid to take risks or try new things? Is it easier to stay quiet than to share stories, experiences, and ideas? Does it feel as if no one is really paying attention or listening? Is everyone struggling to be seen and heard?

As pastor, my question to you is this: Have you been living into scarcity, rather than abundance that God gives us in Jesus the Christ? We have abundance, if we are willing to claim it.

Shutterfly

Do you shop at Shutterfly? If you shop through <u>flcssc.shutterflystorefront.com</u>, we will receive 8% of your purchase!

New Opportunities

As you may have read elsewhere in this newsletter, Kerri Rahn, our Full-Time Office Manager of nearly 15 years, has accepted the offer to work in the accounts payable department of Bomgaars.

What a year of change 2020 has been, hasn't it? I find myself repeatedly thanking God for the ways you, First Lutheran, have kept stepping up and persevering, not merely enduring, in prayer through each of the ups and downs 2020 has brought into our midst: friends and family members who have struggled for every breath; friends and family who've lost their battles; worshipping in our cars and in our homes but not in our Sanctuary; anticipating the reopening of our Sanctuary and lamenting the need to close it again. Celebrating the number of families we've fed this year. Over 300 families in three weeks of November, and mourning that all of Siouxland's families aren't able to secure the food and basic necessities they need. We've smiled and laughed. We've cried and sobbed. Sometimes it's been hard to remember we have an unchanging and immutable God.

I know some of you are wondering how we'll go on without Kerri: it *has* been almost 15 years now. The Council and I want to assure you that our office ministries will continue, likely with some hiccups along the way. In fact, some of you are already stepping up and busy at work learning what Kerri's taken on over these years (and if you're only now hearing of Kerri's departure, it's still not too late – actually, it's *never* too late – to call me or a council member to talk about how God may be wanting to use your time, talent, experiences, education, etc. here).

I also want to assure you that although we're unable to be in the building and worshipping or studying together in person each week, very possibly through the end of the year, "Church" goes on ... we – you and I – continue to be and bring the Church to Siouxland. Worship continues at 9:30 each Sunday and now you don't have to

worry about whether or not you want to brave the cold to get there! We're still providing food to our neighbors. We're praying for one another and for those people and circumstances that are in our hearts and on our minds. You may not hear Kerri's cheery voice on the other end of a telephone line, but Now continues to be a good time to make cheery calls to those who have no one to talk to. That reminds me, too, that some of us aren't as familiar or as comfortable with texting or Social Media or our Church App. You may have no idea how appreciative someone is when they're given the gift of an email that's been printed out just for them or have been walked through a simple tutorial on how to navigate Facebook. That, Church is what it means to be Church.

I want to thank you in advance for your patience and the grace that comes with being Church together. We *are* the Church, and I can't wait to see what more God has in store for us!

Pastor Doug

Giving to First Lutheran

Although our Church building has to remain closed, our ministry remains "open for business" as we reach out in mission to the community. We continue to reach many viewers with our worship offerings.

Of course, ministry and mission, whether within or beyond the walls of a church building, require income – our gifts, tithes, and offerings. It probably comes as no surprise, though, that our offering receipts have decreased since we've had to pause worshipping in our Church building. Many of us have been trained from childhood to bring our coins, cash, or checks to worship with us so we can place them in the offering plate as it's passed; and no offering time means no opportunity to give. But, we think we've found a way to make it easier for you.

Currently, we have five ways you can give, or catch-up on your giving:

1.**TEXT**: Text the word "GIVE" to 402-557-0882, then follow the instructions texted back to you. 2.**APP**: (did you know we have an app!?!) https://app.flcssc.org/

3. **CHECK** Sent to the office at 3601 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City NE 68776

4. AUTOMATIC PAYMENT can be arranged through your bank, or in our e-Giving at https://give.flcssc.org

5. AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWL can also be arranged through your bank, or with e-giving 6. FACEBOOK Many of the posts on our Facebook have an option to give.

Don't forget: if you have trouble remembering your offering, both our text and app have a "recurring" option that will send your offering to FLC every week or month (you choose), regardless of whether or not you're in the building! And you can always arrange for Automatic Payment or Withdrawal through your bank!

We can't begin to say enough THANK YOU for your faithfulness and continued generosity for our FLC ministries and missions. Together we're making a difference!

Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is in the church entryway. On the tree are names of underprivileged children and names of seniors, as well as names of less fortunate children from our own congregation. Please call the church office (494-5461) if you would like to give a gift to a child or senior this year! Gift suggestions are listed on each tag. Presents need to be returned to the church no later than **Sunday, December 13**. Please attach the name tag to your presents. All gifts **must** be unwrapped in gift bags.

Annual Meeting

The annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for January 17 at 10:30 a.m. How the meeting will take place (in-person, online, etc.) is still up in the air. We are planning an in-person meeting,

but may have virtual hybrid with Microsoft Teams and in-person. Look to Timely Tidbits for updates.

The agenda and mission support plan will be available upon request after the December council meeting.

College Care Packages

Six care packages were sent out his year. A big thank you to Jill Gill and Linda Swanson for filling them all and mailing them out. Prayers for all students as they complete the semester.

God Has Accomplished a Lot!

God has accomplished so much here at First Lutheran, and I want to thank each of you for your part in what has been done. In 2020 we had to work through worshiping in person, not in person, in person again and now not in person. There is still more that needs to be done.

Because of generous donations and patience and commitment by each of you and the council, we did some extraordinary things in 2020. Of course, the real credit goes to the Love of God for us in Jesus. Without that love, we could not have made it this far. Each of you have helped along the way and made the difference.

As we enter the new year, with new Mission Support Plans and new challenges, the council asks that you consider how you may continue to respond to spread the Word and how we may continue to spread the whole gospel of Jesus. Let me recap some of the great things that happened, are happening, and our hopes for tomorrow.

At our annual meeting we made a commitment to become as healthy of a congregation as we could, for the sake of the mission given us by Jesus. Way to go First Lutheran, what a fantastic goal. COVID came along and we had to shut down. However, because of the commitments and changes of the past, we were able to expand

our online worship, and even more throughout the year.

More electronic communication was made available through more texts, emails and the introduction of an app to put on your tablets and phones. All along we have tried to keep everyone in touch where we could. We went back to mailing newsletters to those without internet access. Each of you were encouraged to reach out to the homebound. The council was still able to meet because of the Microsoft Teams that was already in place.

In the Spring, we had a generous donation to build a shelter in the parking lot and upgrade our online offerings. Terry Sorem started the construction of the shelter. It ended up being a bigger project than anticipated, but it also received upgrades that benefits many people. The shelter now has lights and electric plugs available. A wedding and a funeral were able to be held in the shelter this summer. It was used by the Optimist Club to honor youth. We used the shelter for concerts, movies, and the Flea Market. The scouts used it along with other groups who had activities in the shelter.

Stating in April of this year, we moved Food Bank outside. This was challenging at first, especially with the cold, rain, and wind. It took time to get this running smoothly, but it did. Food Bank would use the shelter to hold the food and we did a drive thru style to feed those in need during this pandemic. We still do drive thru style but house the food inside currently. The need for food has kept on growing, and because of generous people, we can supply the needs.

The shelter was put in to provide a worship space, but it has provided a space for the gospel to be preached, to be heard and to be sent into the world. Not only in words but, more importantly, in action. The band put on weekly worship and so many of you attended the parking lot worship. Thank you, band, for all your hard work. Billy Denker felt called to lead the

band and is still doing so now. Outdoor worship started much earlier this year and was done every week, vs. the two times a month of last year. For those that did not feel comfortable with coming to a parking lot worship, it was still streamed. The love of God in Christ Jesus was revealed for anyone with ears to listen.

Because of upgrades to the online streaming, we went from 600 plays of our videos a month with our videos to over 13,000 a month now! The gospel is reaching more people, and not just in Siouxland. We now stream the worship in eight different social media sites plus have an app to watch on Roku and FireTV. We are now streamed in eleven different locations. The gospel is getting out because of your generosity!

More people have signed up for electronic giving and re-occurring giving. We have started to receive donations to fund ministry from people outside of Siouxland. How can you give? First, give in time. Here is how one person is: We have a new custodian, Ruth Ailts, who gives of her time to keep the building clean for all that come to First Lutheran. LeAnn's last day was November 23. She needed time to be able to take care of her family. We give thanks for all the hard work she put in. LeAnn and Ruth have worked together to provide for a smooth transition.

In the past we have had skits for stewardship. We have asked for donation cards so we could plan for mission. We have asked that the donation cards be brought in and then we sent them back to each of you. This year, we ask that you prayerfully consider how you can support the mission of First Lutheran, "Christ has called us to: Invite, Connect, Disciple and Go." All of this we do to realize the vision, "Cultivating Lives for God: Every Leader is a disciple-maker, Every Member is engaged and Every Week we welcome new guests." Guests are in person and online and those that hear about the missions and partake in mission.

Need more information on how to be engaged? Reach out to the pastor, or a council member. Reach out and become engaged in the Abundant new life here at First Lutheran. If you have not read it yet, here is an article on becoming engaged. https://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/becoming-engaged-top-5/

As we now enter Advent, with Christmas to come, we, together, will walk in something new and exciting. Look for more information to come on being engaged in a journey group. Your leaders are being engaged in training, so we can engage each of you, so you can engage others.

With God's hand leading us by the Holy Spirit, we will truly become disciples of Jesus together and experience the abundant new life here, because of Jesus.

December Flower Chart

December 6 (Altar) Given by Sandy Larson; Lance and Linda Swanson and family; and Brent and Melissa Larson and family in memory of Wilbur Larson.

December 13 (Altar) open

December 20 (Altar) Given by Randy and Kerri Rahn in memory of JoAnn Addison.

December 27 (Altar) Given by Don and Lucy Gagnon in memory of their son Darrell and in honor of their December birthdays and many blessings.



<u>DECEMBER 20</u>—CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP @ 5:00 (TRADITIONAL)

JANUARY 17—ANNUAL MEETING @ 10:30

JANUARY 24—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:00

<u>FEBRUARY 28</u>—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:00

Newsletter Survey

Thanks for reading the newsletter. Now that you have made it through, please let us know that you did. Just click on nls.flcssc.org. Thank you in advance.



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November 2020

To: Nebraska Synod Congregations

Re: Synod Council Recommended Amendments to Synod Constitution

Included with this letter are proposed Synod Council recommended amendments to the current Synod Constitution as well as a summary explanation. These amendments were reviewed by the Synod Constitution Review Team in December 2019 and approved by the Synod Council at their September 18, 2020 meeting.

Synod Council recommended amendments require a notice to congregations at least six months prior to the Synod Assembly at which action is to be taken. These amendments will be included on the agenda of the June 4-5, 2021 Assembly.

This information will be also be included in the annual Assembly Bulletin of Reports that will be made available prior to Synod Assembly.

Blessings,

Dara Troutman

Synod Vice President

aara d. Growmen

The Synod Assembly shall elect fourteen representatives from the mission cluster units on a rotating basis according to S9.02.01. Half shall be clergy and half will be lay persons. There shall be two nominees for each position. The bishop and synod vice-president will be voting members ex-officio. The remainder of the voting members shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from an at-large slate of candidates consistent with S6.04.

\$9.15. Two persons for each position on the Synod Council shall be submitted to the Synod Nominating Committee for presentation to the Synod Assembly. The Nominating Committee will allocate positions on a rotating basis among the mission cluster units according to geographical representation as indicated in \$9.02.01. so as to assure appropriate representation among clergy and laity, males and females.

\$10.03. The functions of the Synod Council shall be to:

- Exercise trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of this synod.
- b. Recommend program goals and budgets to the regular meetings of the Synod Assembly.
- c. Carry out the resolutions of the Synod Assembly.
- d. Provide for an annual review of the roster of ministers of Word and Sacrament and the roster of ministers of Word and Service, receive and act upon appropriate recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, and make a report to the Synod Assembly of the Synod Council's actions in this regard.
- e. Issue letters of call to rostered ministers as authorized by Chapter 7 of the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA.
- f. Fill vacancies until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly at which regular elections are scheduled to occur, except as may otherwise be provided in the constitution or bylaws of this synod, and determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of this synod.
- g. Report its actions to the regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- Perform such other functions as are set forth in the bylaws of this synod, or as may be delegated to it by the Synod Assembly.
- Authorize staff positions.

\$10.08. No member of the Synod Council shall simultaneously be an employee and called staff member of a financial beneficiary institution or agency of this synod. This section shall not apply to temporary or seasonal employees.

S11.06. The synodical bylaws for the Consultation Committee and Discipline Committee shall automatically be amended to conform to amendments in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America constitution and bylaws.

*These Synod Council recommended amendments were reviewed by the Synod Constitution Review team in December 2019. The Synod Council approved these amendments at their September 18, 2020 meeting. Synod Council recommended amendments require a notice to congregations six months prior to the Synod Assembly at which action is to be taken. These amendments will be included on the agenda of the June 4-5, 2021 Synod Assembly.

S9.03. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of fourteen representatives of mission cluster units with consideration given to geographical representation and gender balance, alternating between clergy and lay persons. There shall be seven clergy and seven lay people from the mission cluster units. The members of the committee shall be elected by the Synod Council. Terms shall be for two years with one-half being elected annually. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms. There shall also be an officer from each synod organization for men, wemen and youth on the committee. The Synod Council shall appoint one of its members to serve on the committee. Nominations from the floor shall also be permitted. Each floor nomination shall be presented as an additional nominee within a specific category named by the Nominating Committee and shall therefore meet the same criteria as other nominees in that category. Biographical data shall be provided for each nominee. Each nominee should have given prior consent to serve if elected. (moved from bullet point c. below)

This Committee shall serve the Syned Assembly and the Syned Council and perform other duties assigned to it by the syned. The bishop of the syned shall be an ex officio member of the committee.

- a. This committee shall have the responsibility for nominating persons for service on committees, boards, and other entities of the synod. To fulfill this function, this committee shall meet regularly and shall request from congregations, professional leaders, and other possible sources, the names and qualifications of persons whose abilities will enhance the fulfillment of the mission of the synod.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall strive to ensure that all persons nominated for any position possess the necessary competence and experience for the position. All persons elected to any position shall strive to represent this synod and not just a particular geographic area.
- Nominations from the floor shall also be permitted. Each floor nomination shall be presented as an additional nominee within a specific category named by the Nominating Committee and shall therefore meet the same criteria as other nominees in that category. Biographical data shall be provided for each nominee. Each nominee should have given prior consent to serve if elected. (Moved out of this bullet point and to end of S9.03 paragraph above.)
- d. All nominees, including those nominated from the floor, and as otherwise prescribed by these bylaws, shall be reported by the Nominating Committee.
- e. The Synod Nominating Committee may consider candidates in addition to those forwarded from other sources.
- f. The Nominating Committee is encouraged to consult with existing committees before making nominations.
- \$9.14. Voting members to the Churchwide Assembly shall be elected by the Synod Assembly.

SUMMARY OF 2021 SYNOD COUNCIL RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO NEBRASKA SYNOD CONSTITUTION Requires vote of Synod Assembly Approved by Synod Council on 9/18/20

SECTION	EXPLANATION
\$9.03.	Strikes redundant language regarding Nominating Committee process. Removes reference to fourteen Mission Cluster units to allow every Mission Cluster a nominee to the Nominating Committee, as well as the seven clergy and seven lay members.
\$9.14.	Strikes 50/50 clergy/lay proportion that is inconsistent with required Churchwide 60/40 proportion. Removes reference to fourteen Mission Cluster units to allow every Mission Cluster a Churchwide Assembly Voting Member nominee.
\$9.15.	Strikes redundant provision regarding representation on Synod Council of mission cluster units, lay/clergy and gender, also addressed in S9.02.01. and 12.60.14.
\$10.03.	Removes program goals as an item of required Synod Council reporting to Synod Assembly. (b) Adds language clarifying timing of elections to fill Synod Council vacancies. (f)
S10.08 .	Strikes provision that is unclear/unnecessary.
S11.06.	Replaces synodical with synod.