

***Affirmation of Our Commitment to Serve
On the Synod Council of the Rocky Mountain Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America***

We increase synod capacity to do God's work by strengthening connections between and within all expressions of our church. Specifically:

We are Lutheran: We are grace-centered in Christ and are Biblically and confessionally grounded. Our faith is renewed constantly in experience of the living Word through Baptism, the Lord's Supper, at the cross and resurrection.

We are Church: As the Body of Christ, our interdependence is a gift from God that we are called to live out. Our stories, weekly worship, service and gifts are regularly magnified beyond us through collaborative partnerships that are local, synodical, national and global through the ELCA and beyond.

We are Evangelical: By the work of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, we can be open, gracious, strong, and forgiving toward everyone.

We are Empowered: Our leadership increases our collective wisdom and facilitates needed change. We discern what God is doing in our midst and join God through our actions.

With God's Help We Will:

- Exercise our responsibilities and duties as Council members with all the care, loyalty, and fidelity they are due.
- Tend to our individual and corporate spiritual well-being through the study of the Word, prayer, and fellowship.
- Have a working knowledge of, and abide by, the Constitutions, Bylaws, Continuing Resolutions, applicable policies and procedures of the Rocky Mountain Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- Fulfill our legal and fiscal responsibilities to the Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- Treat all matters relating to Council deliberations with transparency unless the nature of the matter dictates confidentiality may be appropriate.
- Actively engage in the governance of the synod by adequately preparing for and participating in all Council and synodical meetings, performing assigned tasks, and serving as ambassadors of the Council within the Rocky Mountain Synod.
- Respect the opinions, ideas, points of view, and critical evaluations of other Council members, staff, and guests.
- Consult and debate in a manner that fosters openness, trust and resolution, while seeking at all times the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- Put aside public difference if, after consultation and debate, the Council reaches a decision with which we do not personally agree; thereafter publicly supporting such decision to the limits of our conscience.
- Encourage and participate in both self- and community-wide reflection on the Council's activities in order to facilitate continuous improvement.