

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C. SYNOD OF THE ELCA
ELECTRONIC SYNOD COUNCIL MEETING
September 6 - 8, 2025

The Synod Council conducted a meeting through electronic communications in order to address the following motion:

SC25.09.34 For the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod to join other church organizations, including 6 other ELCA synods, in signing on to a lawsuit that would challenge the authority of ICE to raid houses of worship in hopes of overturning the actions on the basis of the freedom of religion.

This is moved by Bishop Hirsch and seconded by Bishop Ortiz; Seconded by Barbara Bilodeau.

The following identifies the members who voted on the motion by means of a responding electronic mail message:

Voting:

Bishop Phil Hirsch, Bishop
Patrick Anderson, Vice President
Barbara Bilodeau, Secretary
Pr. Judith VanOsdol, DC – Rostered
Breeze Lawless, Fairfax - Lay
Pr. Kelsey Kresse, Fairfax – Rostered
Rachad Ya Ntima Esengo, Maryland – Lay
Pr. Eric T. Randolph, Maryland - Rostered
Anita Smallin, Montgomery – Lay
Pr. Kari Parsons, Montgomery – Rostered
Pr. Alexander P. Stall, Jr., Potomac – Rostered
Deborah Tyler, Virginia - Lay
Pr. Elijah Mwitanti, Virginia - Rostered
Edyn Wheeler, At-Large Young Adult
Ethan B, At-Large Youth

Not Voting:

Mike Gutzler, Treasurer
Camille Trott, DC – Lay

All 15 votes cast were in favor, no abstain, and no votes opposed. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara A. Bilodeau
Secretary