

**Chronology of Activities
Related to
The Churchwide Organization's Function, Form, and Funding
April 2003 – August 2005**

April 2003

Function/Ministries:

- The ELCA Church Council adopted ELCA statements of mission and vision, and churchwide strategic directions and commitments.

June 2003

Form/Structure:

- The Planning Team held its first discussion of the paper that articulates premises and principles whereby structure and governance are evaluated.

Funding/Budget:

- The Planning Team held its first discussion of the 2004 current operating budget.

July 2003

Function/Ministries:

- The Planning Team approved recommendations from an *ad hoc* committee pertaining to implementation of the communications audit.

Form/Structure:

- The Planning Team approved a revised edition of the paper that articulates premises and principles whereby structure and governance are evaluated. Subsequently the paper was distributed to churchwide staff.

Funding/Budget:

- The Planning Team held its second discussion of the 2004 current operating budget.

August 2003

Research:

- Results of a survey of synod bishops, assistants to synod bishops, the ELCA Church Council, and churchwide staff on churchwide ministries, structure, and budget will be discussed by the Planning Team.

Function/Ministries:

- Core teams will meet to develop the agenda for six roundtables: one for each strategic direction and one on mission funding.
- The Churchwide Assembly will consider actions that pertain to the strategic planning process and evangelism strategy as well as related memorials.

Form/Structure:

- The Churchwide Assembly will consider actions that delegate certain matters related to churchwide structure to the Office of the Bishop and the ELCA Church Council. A closed session of the council, Conference of Bishops, and advisors is planned to discuss process and timing

Funding/Budget:

- The Planning Team will have its third discussion about the 2004 current operating budget.
- The Churchwide Assembly will consider actions that delegate certain matters related to the 2004 churchwide budget to the Office of the Bishop and ELCA Church Council. Immediately prior to the assembly, the Conference of Bishops will discuss mission funding.

September 2003

Function/Ministries:

- Regional gatherings of synodical leaders with churchwide representatives will discuss churchwide ministries in the context of exploring mutual roles and responsibilities.
- Roundtables will be held related to the strategic directions on congregations, public church, global mission/ecumenical/interfaith relationships, and leadership.

Form/Structure:

- A definitive proposal on restructuring the churchwide organization will be distributed to and discussed by the Cabinet of Executives. Subsequently it will be distributed to churchwide staff, the ELCA Church Council, Conference of Bishops, boards, steering and advisory committees.
- A convocation for churchwide staff is scheduled for discussion of the proposal.
- Boards, steering and advisory committees have the opportunity to respond to the restructuring proposal.

Funding/Budget:

- A proposed 2004 current operating budget (in two configurations) will be distributed to and discussed by the Cabinet of Executives, and subsequently distributed with the restructuring proposal.
- Boards, steering and advisory committees have the opportunity to respond to the budget proposal.

October 2003

Function/Ministries:

- Regional gatherings of synodical leaders and churchwide representatives continue.
- Roundtables will be held related to mission funding and the strategic directions on evangelical outreach and public church.
- The Conference of Bishops will receive a progress report related to research, the regional gatherings, and roundtables.

Form/Structure:

- The Planning Team will discuss the restructuring proposal and responses received to date.
- The Conference of Bishops will have the opportunity to formulate a response to the restructuring proposal.
- Boards, steering and advisory committees have the opportunity to respond to the restructuring proposal.

Funding/Budget:

- The Planning Team will discuss the 2004 budget proposal and responses received to date.

- The Conference of Bishops will have the opportunity to formulate a response to the budget proposal.
- Boards, steering and advisory committees have the opportunity to respond to the budget proposal.

November 2003

Function/Ministries:

- Regional gatherings of synodical leaders and churchwide representatives continue.
- The Planning Team will discuss reports from the roundtables and begin integration of the reports into an action plan for the 2004-2005 biennium.
- The convocation for churchwide staff will include discussion of the reports.
- The ELCA Church Council will receive a report on the roundtables and the associated work of the Planning Team, regional consultations with synods, research, and pertinent actions of the Churchwide Assembly.
- Churchwide staff will begin intra- and inter-unit discussions on implementation of the strategic directions and mission funding objectives.

Form/Structure:

- The Planning Team will continue its discussion of the restructuring proposal.
- The convocation for churchwide staff will include a presentation on and discussion of the restructuring proposal.
- The ELCA Church Council will receive the proposal on restructuring and the responses received from all sources. The council's action on the proposal will determine next steps. The Planning Team is reserving the week following the council meeting for attention to the actions of the council.

Funding/Budget:

- The Planning Team will continue its discussion of the 2004 budget proposal.
- The convocation for churchwide staff will include discussion of the budget proposal.
- The ELCA Church Council will receive the budget proposal and the responses received from all sources. The council's action on the proposal will determine next steps.

December 2003 - January 2004

Function/Ministries; Form/Structure; Funding/Budget:

- Churchwide staff continues intra- and inter-unit discussions on implementation of the ELCA Church Council's actions.

February 2004

Function/Ministries; Form/Structure; Funding/Budget:

- Formal implementation begins of the decisions made by the ELCA Church Council at its November 2003 meeting relative to strategic planning, structure, governance, and the 2004 budget.
- Implementation proposals and plans pertaining to the communications audit are reported to the Office of the Bishop and the Planning Team.

Spring 2004

Function/Ministries; Form/Structure; Funding/Budget:

- There is the possibility of a synodical/churchwide consultation focused on the strategic direction on evangelical outreach.

August 2005

Function/Ministries:

- The Churchwide Assembly will receive a progress report on the strategic plan.

Form/Structure:

- The Churchwide Assembly will consider pertinent constitutional and bylaw amendments.

Funding/Budget:

- The Churchwide Assembly will consider the 2006-2007 budget proposal.