

# SOUTH CAROLINA LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION CONSTITUTION

As Revised by the Sixty-Fourth Annual Convention  
(February 19, 2011)

## ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization functioning under this constitution shall be South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission (SCLMM) ~~Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)~~ of the ELCA.

## ARTICLE II: AFFILIATION

The SCLMM shall be ~~an organization of~~ **affiliated with** the South Carolina Synod, ELCA.

## ARTICLE III: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

**Section 1.** This organization shall support and endeavor to strengthen the witness of the South Carolina Synod and shall promote its activities and programs **as approved by the SCLMM Executive Committee**

**Section 2.** The SCLMM shall seek to aid in the spiritual, intellectual and social development of the men of the church and to deepen commitment to Christ and participation in the life of His Church.

**Section 3.** It shall **endeavor to** give financial support to the development and growth of congregations in the South Carolina Synod with special emphasis on mission congregations, primarily new starts, but also redevelopments. New starts are defined as areas where the ELCA has not previously developed a ministry. Redevelopments are defined as any additional attempts by the ELCA's Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission Unit and SCLMM to redevelop a ministry where a previous new start has failed to result in a self-supporting ministry.

**Section 4.** It ~~shall endeavor to~~ **may** support special projects as determined by the Synod organization.

**Section 5.** It ~~shall endeavor to~~ **may** encourage support of the purposes and projects as set forth by the Lutheran Men in Mission, ELCA.

## ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1. ACTIVE UNIT MEMBERSHIP** - Active membership shall include any congregation (or parish) unit organization of Lutheran Men which adopts this constitution, which received an organizational charter from the SCLMM or any predecessor organization of the SCLMM, and which makes annual financial contributions to the SCLMM.

**Section 2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** - Associate membership shall be open to a Lutheran Men's group **or other Christian organizations** which participate in and support the objectives of the organization but which is not organized and chartered as a unit or which does not make annual financial contributions to the SCLMM.

## ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

**Section 1.** This organization shall meet annually at such time and place as may be determined by the annual convention and if in default thereof, by the SCLMM Executive Committee.

**Section 2.** The President may call special meetings whenever in his judgment the work of the organization may require same. At the request in writing of a majority of the Executive Committee, the President shall be required to call such meetings.

## ARTICLE VI: DELEGATES

**Section 1.** Any Lutheran man who attends the SCLMM annual convention and registers as a delegate and is a member of any congregation or parish unit organization of SCLMM which meets the definition of ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP in Section 1 of ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP may have voice and vote during the convention. In addition, members of the SCLMM Executive Committee and the pastors on the role of ordained ministers of the South Carolina Synod shall be seated as delegates.

**Section 2.** A quorum shall consist of at least one-half of the official registered delegates.

## ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.** The officers shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Promotional Secretary, and a Pastoral Advisor who shall be elected from among the active membership, and who shall be members in good standing of the South Carolina Synod.

**Section 2.** These officers and the SCLMM Executive Director shall be elected or appointed in such manner and for such time as defined in the SCLMM Constitution and SCLMM Constitution Bylaws. The SCLMM Executive Committee shall fill vacancies occurring between annual meetings.

**Section 3.** The SCLMM Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers, together with the Presidents of the Conference Organizations discussed in Article X of this Constitution, the immediate Past President of the SCLMM, the Board of Directors of the SCLMM and the Bishop of the South Carolina Synod or the Bishop's representative.

**Section 4.** Job descriptions approved by the SCLMM Executive Committee will define the duties of the elected officers, the appointed Executive Director, and other members of the SCLMM Executive Committee.

**Section 5.** The SCLMM Executive Committee shall transact all necessary business between conventions. Whenever deemed wise, the President shall appoint subcommittees **and/or taskforces** to apportion the work of SCLMM between meetings.

**Section 6.** The SCLMM Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as the committee may decide. One such meeting shall be to ~~arrange~~ **assist the incoming president with the arrangements for** the program of the annual convention. **The incoming president has the responsibility for arranging the annual convention program.**

**Section 7.** The SCLMM Executive Committee shall present a report of its activities at the annual SCLMM convention. This report will be presented by the SCLMM President or Executive Director. The report will be an overview of what business the SCLMM Executive Committee has done since the last annual convention.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Section 1.** The SCLMM Executive Committee shall appoint the Executive Director for a one-year term of office from March 1 through the following February 28. The Executive Director shall be recognized and installed for a new year of service to SCLMM at the annual convention at the same time the elected officers are installed in convention. The Executive Director shall be eligible for reappointment to consecutive terms.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director shall be responsible for the duties as recorded in his job description approved by the SCLMM Executive Committee. The SCLMM ~~Executive Personnel~~ Committee shall evaluate his performance/effectiveness not less frequently than annually.

**Section 3.** The SCLMM Personnel Committee, consisting of the Immediate Past President SCLMM and the ~~two preceding past~~ SCLMM Past Presidents, shall meet with the Executive Director, as appropriate, and serve as the liaison between the Executive Director and the SCLMM Executive Committee.

**Section 4.** There will be a line item in the annual budget of SCLMM to cover the cost of reimbursable expenses ~~and salary~~ of the Executive Director. The Executive Director will submit, at his discretion, written requests for reimbursement for expenses incurred ~~and salary earned~~ to the SCLMM Treasurer. The SCLMM Treasurer will, as appropriate, provide checks to the Executive Director for services rendered to SCLMM.

#### **ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES AND DIRECTORS**

The incoming President, with the approval of the Executive Committee at its November meeting each year, shall appoint such operational committees and Board of Director's members as are needed to facilitate the promotion of the programs of SCLMM for the coming business year. The SCLMM business year begins 1 March. The names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of the appointed/ approved Directors and chairmen of operational committees should be provided to the SCLMM Communications Director immediately following the January Executive Committee meeting for inclusion in the next year's SCLMM Reports and Directory.

#### **ARTICLE X: CONFERENCE ORGANIZATIONS**

**Section 1.** There shall be as many Conference Organizations as there are Conferences in the South Carolina Synod. The names of all Conference Organizations shall be those of the several Conferences of said Synod and their boundaries should conform therewith. Exceptions are authorized subject to approval of the SCLMM Executive Committee. Two or more conferences in the South Carolina Synod may wish to merge together to operate as one for the purpose of being an organizational entity (Conference) within the SCLMM. If so, proposed mergers should be approved at the Conference meetings of the affected Conferences and a recommendation for the proposed merger including a SCLMM Conference name should be made to the SCLMM Executive Committee. Once approved by the SCLMM Executive Committee the change becomes effective immediately.

**Section 2.** It shall be the duty of each Conference Organization to care for the growth of Lutheran Men in its territory **with the support of the SCLMM Executive Committee.**

**Section 3.** Each Conference Organization shall annually elect a president and such other officers as may be necessary for the effective transaction of its business. Such elections shall be held not later than December 15th each year. **In conferences that do not have an elected president, the SCLMM president may appoint the conference president or point of contact.** The names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of the elected officers should be provided to the SCLMM Communications Director not later than December 15th each year for inclusion in the next year's SCLMM Reports and Directory. Each Conference Organization shall meet at least semi-annually and preferably on a quarterly basis.

**Section 4.** Each Conference Organization ~~shall~~ **may** adopt a constitution that is in harmony with the constitution of SCLMM.

**Section 5.** All actions and proceedings of a Conference Organization shall at all times be subject to review by the SCLMM Executive Committee.

**Section 6.** Membership in Conference Organizations shall consist of Congregational Units or other Men's organizations within the Conference boundaries of the South Carolina Synod which adopt the programs of SCLMM. **The Executive Committee may realign individual units to other conferences so that specific units may be better served through the new conference alignment.**

#### **ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any convention, provided notice of such amendment shall have been posted on the SCLMM website ([www.sclmm.org](http://www.sclmm.org)) and in the Epistle at least thirty days prior to the Annual Convention and shall have been approved by the SCLMM Executive Committee and is not in conflict with the South Carolina Synod Constitution.

#### **ARTICLE XII: RATIFICATION**

After adoption, this constitution shall not become operative until it has been approved by the Synod Council of the S. C. Synod, ELCA