



NATIONAL AND SYNODICAL RESPONSIBILITIES  
(Adapted from 1995 Convention Resolution NC95-11)

- A. That the NATIONAL CHURCH STRUCTURE serves and relates to SYNODS and to STRUCTURES BEYOND THE ELCIC;
- 1) *That the NATIONAL CHURCH has the responsibility to nurture the IDENTITY, UNITY AND VISION of the ELCIC;*
  - 2) *That the PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISION-MAKING resides with the NATIONAL CHURCH in the following areas:*
    - i. Policies and standards for rostered leaders
    - ii. Mission in the world
    - iii. Public policies for the church in society
    - iv. Development of stewardship resources
    - v. Policies, standards and resources for worship
    - vi. Ecumenical and cooperative relationships with other churches
    - vii. Relationships with ELW, special interest conferences and other Lutheran organizations
    - viii. Pension and benefit programs
    - ix. GHDA
    - x. Colleges and church schools
  - 3) *That the NATIONAL CHURCH has additional responsibilities:*
    - i. To facilitate communication, consultation and cooperative programming among synods (e.g. conference of bishops, relationships with synod councils, communication to synod conventions, Rasmus, publications)
    - ii. To provide national support, where agreed, in areas of synod responsibility (e.g. youth gatherings, stewardship, seminary curricula, CECF)
- B. That SYNODICAL STRUCTURES relate to the CONGREGATIONS and to the NATIONAL CHURCH STRUCTURE;
- 1) *That EACH SYNOD COOPERATES AND COLLABORATES with the national church and other synods for the following purposes:*
    - i. To nurture the identity, unity and vision of ELCIC
    - ii. To support the mission of the church
    - iii. To coordinate common standards
    - iv. To address common concerns
    - v. To develop covenants for partnership in specific areas of mission
  - 2) *That PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISION-MAKING resides with the SYNODS in the following areas:*
    - i. Theological education and leadership (seminaries, candidates, continuing education)
    - ii. Addressing issues of church and society on the territory of the synod
    - iii. Resource development and fundraising
    - iv. Mission in Canada
    - v. Establishing and supporting specialized ministries (e.g. camps, chaplaincies, outdoor ministries)
    - vi. Supporting existing congregations and leaders in mission and ministry (e.g. worship, learning, witness, service, support, youth)