

Minimum Compensation Guidelines
For the Year 2009
Clergy, Diaconal Ministers, and
Associates in Ministry
East Central Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA

Presented by the Leadership Support Committee and
 Synod Council and Synod Assembly of the
 East Central Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA

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I. RATIONALE

This report on compensation is a revision of the *2008 Minimum Salary Guidelines for Clergy, Diaconal Ministers, Associates in Ministry and Other Lay Professionals, East Central Synod of Wisconsin*. It is suggested that those who are responsible for the compensation of Pastors, Diaconal Ministers, Associates In Ministry, and church musicians use this report as an aid in determining what is fair and equitable compensation for church workers. For convenience, Appendices E & F contain a starting point for discussion on church musicians and support staff. In addition to this report, congregations may wish to consult other publications on compensation for church workers.

As congregations and church workers prepare their budgets for the coming new year, these guidelines would offer a few suggestions or principles that have guided this report. They are:

1. **The Mutual Ministry Principle:** Lutheran theology affirms that ministry belongs to the whole body of Christ. It is strongly recommended that each congregation establish a Committee to review and appraise the congregation's ministry. As part of the review of the congregation's ministry, it is important that the congregation makes clear its expectations of its pastor(s), diaconal staff, associates in ministry (together referred to as rostered staff) and other staff. Rostered staff and other staff must make clear their expectations of the congregation.

Evaluation (by the Personnel Committee, Evaluation Task Force, and/or Church Council, etc.) is strongly recommended. Forthright dialogue, rather than compensation adjustments, is to be used when unsatisfactory performance is an issue. Sample evaluation forms and suggestions for various methods of evaluation are available from the Resource Center.

Congregations are encouraged to establish a staff support committee (commonly called Pastor-Parish Relations committee or Mutual Ministry committee) to provide support to the pastor/other staff and to maintain an open and honest dialogue between them and members of the parish. (Guidelines are available from the Resource Center.) This committee's work is confidential and therefore should not be a part of the compensation setting process.

When it comes to compensation everyone worries about money! Pastors and church workers worry about their finances in the same way that church boards worry about funding their budgets. Should matters of compensation become irritants, it is important to seek qualified help. When problems arise, either for the congregation or the church worker, consult the Bishop's Office for help and guidance.

Congregations believe and trust in their Pastors and church workers. Pastors and church workers love their ministries and congregations. Matters of compensation should never become adversarial and harm the good relationship that exists in most parishes.

2. **The Information Principle:** Guidelines or recommendations can be useful only if they are understood. Those responsible for compensation in the parish need good, reliable information. Hopefully, this report can fill such a need. As congregations work through this report, they will learn more about what is expected and necessary for good compensation planning. It is also recommended that congregations stay current with the tax laws and recent changes in the tax laws. Sound tax strategies and planning can maximize the compensation of church workers.
3. **The Cost of Ministry Principle:** It costs money, time, and effort for a congregation to carry on an effective ministry. The cost of ministry is not the same as the remuneration given to the rostered staff. Remuneration or compensation is that amount of money that is paid to the church worker. This generally would include the basic compensation and housing allowance. These items accrue to the benefit of the worker. The cost of ministry includes all costs that a congregation incurs by virtue of having a church worker. This generally would include professional expenses, worker compensation insurance, car reimbursement, medical and pension plans. The cost of ministry is substantially higher than the compensation that church workers receive.

When preparing a budget, congregations are urged to separate the cost of ministry from the compensation paid to church workers.

All guidelines have limitations. Every issue of compensation can not be determined or settled in this report. Congregations, Pastors, Diaconal Ministers, and Associates In Ministry are encouraged to talk and negotiate with each other as mature Christian brothers and sisters. It is hoped that these guidelines will serve as an aid for such dialogue.

II. ANNUAL UPDATE

There are no significant changes in policy contained in this year's guidelines. Financially, the compensation amounts were adjusted for inflation, plus an additional amount to bring to almost complete the "catch-up" amount voted on at the synod assembly several years ago. Other financial components (books, housing, etc.) were also adjusted for inflation.

III. MINISTRY COST SUMMARY SHEET (In the left hand column is the schedule number on which more information may be found for that line item.)

PASTORS

Sched. I	Base Compensation.....	_____
Sched. II	Housing.....	_____
Sched. III	Social Security Allowance	_____
Sched. V	Health, Pension and Other Benefits	_____
Sched. VI	Ministry & Professional Expenses	_____
TOTAL.....		_____

DIACONAL MINISTERS AND ASSOCIATES IN MINISTRY

Sched. I	Base Compensation.....	_____
Sched. IV	Social Security (congregation's portion).....	_____
Sched. V	Health, Pension and Other Benefits	_____
Sched. VI	Ministry & Professional Expenses	_____
TOTAL		_____

The schedules to help complete the calculation for this worksheet are on the pages that follow. Each of the schedules contains a brief explanation of the synod guidelines and related IRS or other regulations. As you complete each of the schedules, please bring your resulting numbers forward to this summary page.

Time Agreement

Page	<u>Number of Weeks:</u>	
8, 13	Continuing Education	_____
9, 13	Vacation (Including _____ Sundays).....	_____
9, 13	Paid Parental Leave	
	Maternal.....	_____
	Paternal.....	_____
8, 25	Sabbatical.....	_____
	<u>Number of Days:</u>	
9, 13	Sick Leave.....	_____
9	Designated Holidays	_____
9, 13	Personal Leave.....	_____
	<u>Each Week:</u>	
9	Weekly Time/Day Off.....	_____

See Page 9 for an explanation of the components of the Time Agreement.

See Appendix D for calculation of additional dollars to be budgeted for the cost of the Time Agreement.

Schedule I Base Compensation

Base Compensation for ____ years experience.....

Additional Factors (See below):

Education

Responsibilities and Conditions of Service

Merit

Other

TOTAL (Bring to summary form)

Base Compensation

The Base Compensation is based on the number of years of experience the pastor has. At a minimum, the base compensation must be at least an amount within the range shown in the table on page 10. Exceeding the range shown in the table is acceptable and common, based on the additional factors listed below.

Congregations are encouraged to make a one-time new clergy education loan re-payment for your pastor as outlined on page 10 of these guidelines.

Additional Factors

The basic, minimum compensation guidelines have made no allowance for additional factors which may need to be considered in providing fair compensation for your Pastor(s)/Diaconal Minister(s)/AIM(s). When constructing a compensation package you should consider the following additional factors which affect compensation. Such factors might include:

Education:

- a. Advanced Degree.
- b. Second career experience - Congregations are encouraged to recognize the previous work experience of second career church workers. Congregations may fully or partially recognize previous experience in determining the base compensation, but some credit should be given in computing compensation.

Responsibilities and Conditions of Service:

- a. Two (or more) point parish.
- b. Senior Pastor with staff.
- c. Size or work load - Some congregations have special situations which merit increased compensation. Some church workers carry heavy work loads which merit increased compensation. Normally, however, a congregation should increase the staff, rather than the compensation when the work load becomes too great for an individual.

Merit:

- a. Exceptional work.
- b. Outstanding Community Service / Involvement

Congregations are free to determine which of the above factors deserve increases in the base compensation. There may be other factors which have not been considered in this report. The range in each level allows for flexibility, within the parameters established by years of service in the ministry. The range scale is on page 10.

Schedule II Housing (Pastors only)
Complete appropriate section:

No Parsonage:

Appx B 1. Housing Allowance. Minimum \$11,000, with higher expectations (see a. below) in certain geographic areas in the Synod. (Bring to summary form)

OR

Parsonage Provided:

- a. Utilities & Maintenance (ONLY if paid directly to pastor)
- b. Furnishings allowance for parsonage (ONLY if paid directly to pastor)
- c. Housing Equity
- Housing Allowance (Bring to summary form)

Housing Provisions (Note: Diaconal Ministers and Associates in Ministry are not included in this component.)

It is our goal that the housing portion of the compensation package treat Pastors equally, no matter whether they have their own homes, or live in a parsonage. Appendix B has a worksheet to help you calculate the necessary figures, which are based on the housing portion of the compensation package being calculated to be 30% of the base compensation of the Pastor.

Four housing alternatives are considered below:

a. **Housing Allowance** - Some congregations provide their Pastors with a housing allowance in place of a parsonage. This figure should reflect the realistic fair rental value of a home in the community, and would normally include such costs as insurance, utilities and taxes. A minimum cash payment of \$11,000 is required for a housing allowance when a parsonage is not provided. In settings where housing costs are higher, such as in the average urban area, the housing allowance should be at least \$12,000 per year, or higher. See Appendix B for the appropriate forms to set this up. (See Appendix E for information on the IRS and the housing allowance and what your congregation must do to properly designate a housing allowance for your Pastor.)

b. **Parsonage** - When a parsonage is provided, the congregation should pay for utilities and maintenance. (For tax purposes it is usually to the pastor's advantage if items like utilities, maintenance, etc. be paid for directly by the congregation rather than to the pastor and then the pastor paying these expenses.) In addition, the synod expects that congregations provide the Pastor with an "equity" allowance. See below.

The Housing Equity - An equity allowance is placed in a separate category in the ELCA pension plan for the Pastor who may use this money for a down payment on a house at a later time. This provision makes home ownership possible for Pastors who are retiring or moving to a new call where a parsonage is not provided. The equity allowance can also provide a down payment to the widow or widower of a Pastor who needs to vacate the parsonage, due to the arrival of the new Pastor.

The ELCA recommends that either 3% of the Pastor's total compensation or 5% to 10% of the base compensation be designated and set aside as an equity allowance. Regardless of which figure is chosen the congregation and Pastor need to negotiate a figure that is mutually acceptable to both. This amount requires a minimum of \$2,025 per year for Pastors living in a parsonage.

c. **Clergy Couple Housing Compensation** - Each person of a clergy couple is entitled to the same housing allowance ordinarily provided a pastor who is not married to a pastor. Both pastors in a clergy couple are to receive a housing allowance. Each pastor's pension and benefit contributions are based on base compensation, plus self-employed Social Security offset, plus 30% when a parsonage is provided. When cash housing allowances are provided, the contributions for each pastor are based on the total of base compensation plus housing allowance(s).

This guidance relating to Clergy Couple Housing Compensation is offered to assist congregations and clergy couples at arriving at an equitable solution to compensation for both parties of a clergy couple and the congregation or congregations involved. It represents current ELCA policy and practice as expressed by the Division for Ministry, ELCA, and as endorsed by the Conference of Bishops and this Synod. Individual circumstances relating to Clergy Couple Housing Allowance will vary from time to time. It is important that congregations extending a call or calls to clergy couples develop a compensation package, including a housing allowance for each member of the clergy couple, in consultation with the Office of the Bishop, the clergy couple involved, and the appropriate representatives of the congregation or congregations involved. Congregations presently served by a clergy couple may wish to seek guidance and counsel in matters relating to housing allowance from the Office of the Bishop as part of its annual compensation review practice.

Schedule III Social Security Allowance- Pastors (See Schedule IV for Diaconal Ministers/AIMs, below)

Sched. I	Base Compensation from Schedule I.....	_____
Sched. II	NO PARSONAGE: Housing from Schedule II	_____
Sched. II	PARSONAGE: Housing from Schedule II.....	_____
	PARSONAGE: Fair rental value of parsonage (see below).....	_____

	Social Security Taxable Amount (Approximate).....	_____
		x .0765

	Social Security Allowance (Bring to summary form)	_____

Social Security Allowance (Note: Diaconal Ministers and Associates in Ministry are not included in this component.)

Your pastor is regarded by the IRS as self-employed in regard to social security taxes. This means that they pay the self-employment tax and in effect have to pay both the employers and the employees portion of what most of us know as the social security tax. Therefore, congregations should pay a Social Security Allowance. It is taxable income, yet it acknowledges the pastor's special tax situation.

Parsonage Fair Rental Value: In addition to any cash paid to the pastor for items listed in Schedule II, the fair rental value of a parsonage must be included by the pastor when figuring the amount of social security (self-employment) tax. The fair rental value is what the congregation would be willing to rent the dwelling in which the pastor lives to anyone else other than the pastor. There are many ways in which this may be determined, however, the method most commonly used is to approximate it at 30% of the pastor's base compensation. (i.e.: Multiply the base compensation by 1.3.)

General Comments on Social Security (Self-Employment Tax/FICA/Medicare)

Because the Social Security contribution changes from year to year, adjustments may need to be made annually.

a. Self-employment Tax (Pastors pay this entire amount).....	15.30%
b. Employee part of Social Security Tax (What most people pay for Social Security).....	7.65%
c. Difference that pastors pay over and above most people	7.65%

Schedule IV Social Security -Diaconal Ministers and AIMs (Congregation's portion)

Base Compensation from Schedule I.....	_____
Combined FICA and Medicare rate, subject to federal limitations	x .0765

Congregation's portion of Social Security (Bring to summary form).....	_____

Diaconal Ministers/Associates in Ministry (AIMs) pay Social Security taxes in the same manner as the vast majority of the American public. They pay 1/2 of the cost of the tax and the congregation as their employer pays the other half. This schedule determines the cost of the half of the tax which the congregation must pay.

Social Security is a combined tax which includes a FICA and a Medicare portion.

Schedule V Health, Pension and other Benefits

Social Security Taxable amount from Schedule III or VI.....
 Tax Sheltered Annuity Payments (TSA), if any.....
 Base amount for ELCA Pension and other Benefits Table

Page 11

(NOTE: All percentages come from table in Section V on page 11. Limit to min. and max. amount shown)

Medical and Dental: Base amount above _____ x _____%
 Disability/Survivor: Base amount above _____ x _____%
 Administration: Base amount above _____ x _____%
 Pension Plan: Base amount above _____ x _____%
 Additional Benefits
 Medical Reimbursement, Tax Sheltered Annuity, Additional Pension, etc.
 Total Pension and other Benefits (Bring to summary form)

The ELCA Pension and Benefits Plan

See the tables in Section V (page 11) for the Pension and Medical Insurance rates in effect for 2008 and how to calculate the expense. 2009 rates will not be available until late 2008. Please make sure that you use 2009 rates when calculating this expense. (These rates may be found by calling 800/352-2876 or visiting the ELCA Board of Pensions website at www.elcabop.org)

- a. Basic plan - The ELCA Basic Plan includes medical, dental, and pension coverage. The rates are determined annually by the ELCA Board of Pensions. It is expected that congregations will include coverage for both Pastors and their families. In some cases Pastors may elect to unbundle coverage for a working spouse who is covered by another medical plan.

Congregations are permitted to contribute extra monies to the pension portion of the ELCA Plans. These contributions are tax sheltered and can be used to enhance compensation without encumbering increased tax liability.

- b. Clergy Couple Medical - If both spouses are members of the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program, the premium is based on the higher of the two salaries. The Board of Pensions should be consulted and will calculate the amount of the premium each congregation should pay. Please see page 12 "Sponsoring Couples, Health Coverage."
- c. Medical Insurance Savings: Each congregation's and Pastor/Diaconal Minister/AIM's situation is unique. Full family medical coverage is the most common (and most expensive) form of insurance which congregations will be purchasing. However, from time to time congregations may have pastors which, for whatever reason, do not need this full family coverage. (Pastors may be single, may not have children, may have a spouse whose plan also covers them, etc.) In case medical insurance is unbundled, consult the Office of Bishop for reasonable and fair alternative uses. To protect both pastor and congregation, all unbundled monies must be retained in the congregational budget so that it is accessible should the unbundling option need to be recalled. Because of IRS mandated limits, should such unbundled monies be invested in alternate pension, please see a financial consultant to determine that you have not over funded any tax deferred account.

Schedule VI Ministry and Professional Expenses

Automobile Allowance	_____
a. Option 1 (Flat Fee Allowance).....	_____
Or b. Option 2 (Reimbursement per Mile).....	_____
Continuing Education.....	_____
Books, Journals, etc.	_____
Other	_____

Total Ministry & Professional Expenses (Bring to summary form)	_____

Automobile Allowance

Option 1. Flat Fee allowance.

Under this option, congregation should reimburse their professional leaders with a flat fee allowance based on:

- a. The setting of the parish. (Often rural parishes require more miles of their pastor than do urban parishes.)
- b. The past year’s experience of miles driven for the congregation
- c. Depreciation of the car and reasonable maintenance costs.
- d. Under this method, the allowance is taxable income to the person, and the expenses they incurred are deductible on Schedule A only to the extent that they exceed 2% of adjustable gross income.

Option 2. Reimbursement per Mile

Under this option, the congregation should reimburse their professional leaders for auto expenses on a per mile basis. (See www.irs.gov or use a search engine like www.google.com and search for “Standard Mileage Rate.”)

- a. The 2008 IRS rate is 50.5¢/mile. Please use the 2009 rate, for 2009.
- b. Reimbursements should be paid monthly.
- c. Under this method, the reimbursement is not taxable income for the person.

Continuing Education

Two weeks, including Sundays, must be allowed at a minimum for continuing education. The Letter of Call includes provision for continuing education. \$900 per year is a minimum base. Due to costs for housing, transportation, etc., that accompany continuing education opportunities, a higher figure should be considered. The Letter of Call states that continuing education funds may be accumulated for up to three years. Continuing education funds not spent at the end of a pastor’s call are lost.

Books, Journals and other Published Resources.

An amount of \$400 per year is recommended. This amount is to be a reimbursement allowance, and is to be based only on actual expenditures. Books, etc., purchased become the pastor’s property.

Other Ministry and Professional Expenses.

- a. Congregations are also strongly encouraged to budget financial support and time for the rostered staff and spouses’ retreat, spouses’ retreat and Synod Theological Conference. This should be a minimum of \$425, available to the pastor only if used. Whether the time off is taken from “continuing education” or “additional time away” needs to be determined with the congregation’s other staff and council.
- b. Malpractice-Liability Insurance. Congregations are recommended to provide this coverage for all church workers.
- c. Sabbatical leave. Sabbatical leaves are encouraged to provide an opportunity for the pastor to have an extended period of time for personal enrichment, study, spiritual growth, travel, skill development and/or research. This is the adopted policy of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the East Central Synod of Wisconsin for all congregations. Congregations are asked to adopt a sabbatical leave policy at the earliest opportunity. A more complete explanation of the Sabbatical Leave is provided in Appendix C of these Compensation Guidelines.
- d. Other Professional Expenses - Congregations should reimburse the Pastor and all church workers for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Some examples would include the fees charged for the Professional Leadership Conference, Synod Assembly, Official meetings, parking costs, professional association dues, telephone, etc.

Time Agreement - Vacation and Leave Time

a. Vacation

Pastors are to be allowed four weeks vacation each year. These weeks include Sundays. Legal holidays are not considered vacation days. Consideration is encouraged to grant additional weeks of vacation with longer terms of ministry.

Diaconal Ministers & AIMs: It is recommended that vacation for Diaconal Ministers/AIMs be on the following basis:

1 Year	2 Weeks
2 Years	3 Weeks
3+ Years	3 Weeks or more

When a pastor's, Diaconal Minister's, or AIM's services are required on recognized holidays, time off with pay may be taken at another time which causes minimum disruption to the congregation.

Special circumstances may require that the professional leader and church council negotiate the carrying over of unused time into the following year. Time spent in outdoor ministries and retreats with congregation youth and family groups or work on synod or churchwide committees should not be considered vacation time or educational leave when it is part of the congregation's local program of ministry or ministry through synodical or churchwide structures. At least one full day free of church leadership responsibilities is to be granted each week. (See "b" below.) Parish emergencies may require a change in schedule from time to time.

Many congregations choose to grant one or more Sundays or weekends to their pastor as personal time beyond the vacation agreement.

At the time of a First Call, out of care for our pastors:

1. A model of weekly time off is expected to be worked out between the congregation, the candidate, and the Bishop; and
2. A First Call for a full-time pastor that offers less than one full day off per week, four weeks paid vacation, and two weeks continuing education leave will not be signed by the Bishop.

b. Weekly Time/Day Off

For the health and well being of both pastor and congregation, it is important for the pastor to have some uninterrupted time and space each week to devote to personal and family life. Certainly this calls for a full day off each week. In addition, other blocks of free time are necessary and desired.

To determine the work schedule for the remaining 6 days in the week, one possible model is to divide each day into 3 "time blocks" – morning, afternoon, and evening. Of those 18 "blocks," a reasonable expectation would be approximately 14 working blocks per week. To be sure, the nature of ministry is such that some flexibility of schedule will be needed in any given week. In addition, not all the blocks of time are equal in length. But over the course of the year, the work time should reflect this average.

Church work can involve a great deal of time on evenings and weekends. Pastors and congregations are encouraged to find creative ways to schedule ministries and meetings so that the evenings and weekends are not always filled. They will also need to work together to find ways to handle parish emergencies when the pastor is benefiting from time off. One resource that many in ministry have found valuable in these areas is the work of Roy Oswald and others at the Alban Institute. For more information, please visit or call the Synod Resource Center, or contact Alban at (800) 486-1318 or www.alban.org

c. Other Time Off

Concerning sickness or disability, congregations need to consult the Pastor's "Letter of Call" or the Diaconal Minister's/AIM's "Letter of Appointment". These letters will determine the conditions of compensation during illness or disability.

Regarding parental leave this report recommends that mothers be granted six weeks leave with full pay, and that fathers be granted two weeks leave with full pay. Parents who are adopting children should be granted the same amount of leave time. Parental leave may also be granted at other times, e.g. during times of severe illness, trauma, or death. Congregations are encouraged to establish a policy of emergency leave, before an emergency arises.

Full-time vs. Part-time

The components of compensation listed above (pages 4 through 10) assume full time work. In the case of less than full time work, it is encouraged that for those people who work 20 or more hours a week that the pension and medical benefits be extended to them. Vacation time would be adjusted proportionally based on the ratio of part-time hours to full time hours.

IV. MINIMUM COMPENSATION TABLE

Base Compensation Range.

Please note that while salaries may not fall below the low number in the range, they may be above the high. Currently in our synod there are clergy whose base compensation is above the high range shown for a given number of years of experience. Please remember to carefully consider the additional factors listed on page 4 of the guidelines when determining your Pastor's base compensation.

Experience	Pastor**	AIM w/Masters	AIM	AIM w/Qual/Exp
Range in Years *		Diaconal Min.	w/Bachelors	Theologically Trained
Yr 0-5 years	\$32,160-46,525+	\$31,553-44,475+	\$29,892-42,125+	\$26,571-37,450+
Yr 6-10	\$36,435-51,525+	\$34,679-48,300+	\$32,853-45,750+	\$29,203-40,650+
Yr 11-15	\$39,595-56,475+	\$36,989-52,150+	\$35,042-49,400+	\$31,148-43,900+
Yr 16-20	\$42,295-60,450+	\$38,963-55,225+	\$36,912-52,315+	\$32,811-46,500+
Yr 21-25	\$44,535-64,600+	\$40,600-58,750+	\$38,463-55,400+	\$34,190-49,250+
Yr 26-30	\$46,535-68,350+	\$42,062-61,400+	\$39,849-58,150+	\$35,421-51,700+
Yr 31+	\$48,535-75,075+	\$43,525-66,475+	\$41,234-63,000+	\$36,652-55,975+

* See Appendix A for a year by year minimum guideline for salaries based on each year of experience. We encourage the use of the above table, instead of the year by year grid, in order to foster discussion of the additional factors shown on page 4 when determining the compensation portion of your pastors compensation.

** Congregations are asked to give serious consideration to making a gift of up to \$5,000 to help pay off any new Pastor's educational loans. The money should be repaid directly to the loaning organization.

V. TABLES FOR BENEFITS & BENEFITS SUMMARY

ELCA PLANS

1. The rates for participation in the ELCA Plans change each year. Please use the current forms produced by the Board of Pensions. Any questions should be addressed to them directly at 800/352-2876. (Their website is www.elcabop.org) These rates are determined as a percentage of defined compensation, which includes the base compensation, housing, Social Security allowances and TSA (if applicable). For those who live in a parsonage housing is figured at 30% of the sum of base compensation plus Social Security allowance. You may arrive at the amount upon which these benefits are based by using the Compensation Guidelines Worksheet and working toward the line on Schedule V (on page 7) labeled Base amount for ELCA Pension and other Benefits Table.

2008 Contribution Rates (Use 2009 for actual)			
Rate class 2 for sponsored members	Rate ¹	Monthly Minimum	Monthly Maximum
The following chart contains ELCA health plan rates for 2008.			
HEALTH BENEFITS			
Member	12.20%	\$461	\$623
Member & Spouse	21.40%	\$806	\$1,091
Member & Children	21.40%	\$806	\$1,091
Member, Spouse & Children	30.50%	\$1,152	\$1,558
Retirement	10.0 to 12.0% ^{2,3,4}		
Disability	2.00%		
Survivor	0.00% ⁵		
Administration & Retiree Support	0.70% ⁶		

- 1 Rates are a percentage of defined compensation.
- 2 Contribution for employees of ELCA church institutions is 6% to 12% as determined by the institution.
- 3 Contribution for lay employees of ELCA congregations is 6% to 12% as determined by the congregation.
- 4 If a member participated in a predecessor plan on Dec. 31, 1987, was at least age 45 on that date, and has continuously been a sponsored member of an ELCA retirement plan since Jan. 1, 1988, the total employer retirement contribution must be at least 11%.
- 5 Survivor Benefits Plan contribution is suspended.
- 6 Retiree support contribution helps provide health coverage during retirement for members who served one of the ELCA predecessor church bodies.

Sponsoring couples

Benefits for couples in ELCA church service

When couples are sponsored in the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program (by the same or different congregation or organization), each employer will make contributions for their participation in the Health Benefits Plan; Regular Pension Plan; Survivor Benefits Plan; and Disability Benefits Plan.

Monthly billing for coverage Each employer(s) is billed monthly for coverage.

Pension, survivor and disability coverage — Pension, survivor and disability coverage is fairly straightforward. Each employer is billed a percentage of each spouse's annual defined compensation for these benefits. By doing so, the appropriate amounts are set aside for future pensions for both spouses and in case of disability, or for the beneficiaries' needs in case of death(s). In addition, each employer is billed a small fee for administrative expense and for retiree support.

Health coverage — Couples are considered as one family for the sake of fulfilling deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses under the ELCA Health Benefits Plan. The compensation level of the spouse with the higher defined compensation determines the total cost of the family's health coverage. The total cost of the coverage is then prorated according to the defined compensation of each spouse. Each employer pays the appropriate pro-rated share of the total coverage cost.

The 2008 monthly coverage continuation rates will be as follows (2009 numbers, not available at time of printing):

Retired members and others continuing coverage

Retired members make their own contributions for ELCA health coverage (and for their eligible dependents). A portion of the contribution may be paid by the ELCA for members who participated in a predecessor health plan.

Coverage continuation members include pastors, rostered laypersons and lay employees (or their eligible dependents) who continue health, lump-sum survivor or disability benefits coverage under the program when on leave from call, upon separation from service, or other status causing loss of eligibility.

Health Benefits

Type of Coverage	Medicare-primary	ELCA primary
Members who are retired, on leave from call, spouses, surviving spouses, or continuing coverage after loss of eligibility	\$282 per person	Under age 60: \$524 per person Ages 60-64: \$640 per person
Children of an on leave, deceased, divorced, retired member, or continuing coverage after loss of eligibility.	\$282 (rate for all children in the family if all children have Medicare-primary coverage)	\$367 (rate for all children in the family if at least one child has ELCA-primary coverage)
Children extending coverage after loss of eligibility	\$282 per child	\$367 per child

Survivor Benefits

Type of Coverage	Lump-Sum Survivor
Members who are on leave from call	\$6

Disability Benefits

Type of Coverage	Continuing disability for interim pastors
Members who are on leave from call after completing an interim or term call from a synod council or under a term call from a synod council and between assignments	\$19 per \$1,000 of coverage*

* Coverage must be purchased for two-thirds of the defined compensation earned during the last 12 months of employment, rounded to the nearest \$500.

PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES

1. Automobile Expenses:
 - a. Monthly Allowance, as agreed upon by congregation/parish professional.
 - b. Cost per mile reimbursement at IRS rate. 2008 = 50.5¢/mile.
Please see www.irs.gov or use a search engine like www.google.com and search for "2009 Standard Mileage Rate."
2. Continuing Education: \$900 per year. Continuing education time of two weeks per year, which may be accumulated up to six weeks over a three year period.
3. Professional Books and Journals: \$400 per year.
4. Insurance, et. al.: includes malpractice and worker comprehensive coverage.

2009 Comp Guidelines; March 2008

LEAVE TIME

1. Continuing Education: Two weeks per year, which may be accumulated up to six weeks over a three year period.
2. Regular vacation: Minimum of four weeks with Sundays per year. Additional Sundays may be granted.
3. Sick leave: Full compensation until ELCA Disability Plan takes effect. See Letter of Call or Appointment for specific details.
4. Parental leave: Maternal = 6 weeks with full compensation.
Paternal = 2 weeks with full compensation.
5. Personal leave: As mutually agreed upon.

APPENDIX A

MINIMUM BASE (BASIC COMPENSATION)

The **Minimum** Compensation for Pastors, Diaconal Ministers, and Associates in Ministry for 2009 is as follows:

Service Years	Pastor Base	AIM w/Masters Diaconal Ministers	AIM w/ Bachelors	*1 AIM w/Qual/Exp. Theologically Trained
New Grad**	32160	31553	29892	26571
1	32885	32083	30395	27017
2	33610	32613	30897	27464
3	34335	33143	31399	27910
4	35060	33673	31901	28356
5	35785	34203	32403	28803
6	36435	34679	32853	29203
7	37085	35154	33304	29603
8	37735	35629	33754	30003
9	38385	36104	34204	30403
10	39035	36579	34654	30804
11	39595	36989	35042	31148
12	40155	37398	35430	31493
13	40715	37808	35818	31838
14	41275	38217	36206	32183
15	41835	38626	36593	32527
16	42295	38963	36912	32811
17	42755	39299	37231	33094
18	43215	39635	37549	33377
19	43675	39972	37868	33660
20	44135	40308	38186	33943
21	44535	40600	38463	34190
22	44935	40893	38740	34436
23	45335	41185	39017	34682
24	45735	41478	39295	34928
25	46135	41770	39572	35175
26	46535	42062	39849	35421
27	46935	42355	40126	35667
28	47335	42647	40403	35913
29	47735	42940	40680	36160
30	48135	43232	40957	36406
31	48535	43525	41234	36652
32	48935	43817	41511	36899
33	49335	44109	41788	37145
34	49735	44402	42065	37391
35	50135	44694	42342	37637
36	50535	44987	42619	37884
37	50935	45279	42896	38130
38	51335	45572	43173	38376
39	51735	45864	43450	38622
40	52135	46156	43727	38869

** See note on page 10 regarding educational loan repayment for new pastors.

*1 Persons in this category include Diaconal Ministers/Associates in Ministry (AIMs) who have the qualifications and/or experience for the position, but do not have a college degree. Theological training is one of the requirements for a Diaconal Minister/AIM.

2009 Comp Guidelines; March 2008

14 HA: \$2000
CE: \$900
Books: \$400

APPENDIX B

HOUSING ALLOWANCE

The housing allowance which you pay your Pastor in cash and the housing allowance the IRS allows your Pastor on an income tax return might not be the same number. The reason for this is that the IRS includes more expense items when calculating a housing allowance than the absolute minimum items these guidelines mention (insurance, utilities and taxes). The following information is extracted from an ELCA Board of Pensions information sheet. To get more complete information, please contact the Board of Pensions (800/352-2876 or www.elcabop.org). They also have available a free Minister's Guide for Income Tax which your Pastor can request.

Federal income tax laws allow Pastors to exclude from gross income a housing allowance that is designated by the congregation or church organization. This applies to Pastors living in a church provided parsonage or in a home owned or rented by the Pastor. It is important to note that a housing allowance can be excluded *only if it is officially designated* as such in a resolution, meeting minutes or budget before payment is made.

A housing allowance may be based on the value of a furnished home (parsonage) provided by the congregation or an amount paid to the Pastor within certain guidelines. The amount of housing allowance that can be excluded from taxable income is always the *smallest* of the following three amounts:

the amount, officially designated in advance, as "housing allowance," by the Pastor's congregation/church organization as housing allowance; **OR**

the amount spent for the Pastor's primary residence (down payment, mortgage principal and interest, utilities, taxes, insurance, furnishings, maintenance, etc.); **OR**

the fair rental value of the Pastor's home including furnishings and cost of utilities (owned or rented).

Some IRS allowed expenses typically incurred by Pastors owning or renting their own home:

- Down Payment
- Housing loan interest and principal
- Real Estate commissions, escrow fees
- Property Taxes
- Homeowner's insurance
- Personal property insurance on contents
- Umbrella liability insurance
- Structural maintenance and repair
- Landscaping, gardening and pest control
- Furnishings (purchase, repair, replacement)
- Decoration and redecoration
- Utilities (gas, electricity, water) and trash collection
- Local Telephone expense (base charge)
- Homeowner's association dues/condominium fees
- Monthly rent payments

Some IRS allowed expenses typically incurred by Pastors living in a parsonage

- Utilities (gas, electricity, water) and trash collection
- Local telephone expense (base charge)
- Decoration and redecoration
- Structural maintenance and repair
- Landscaping, gardening, and pest control
- Furnishings (purchase, repair, replacement)
- Personal property insurance on pastor-owned contents
- Umbrella liability insurance

HOUSING EQUITY AND HOUSING ALLOWANCE DESIGNATION

The housing portion of the compensation package is suggested to equal 30% of the Pastor's base compensation, with a minimum requirement of \$11,000 (\$12,000 in urban settings where housing costs are higher). The forms below will help you calculate the amount for your Pastor. There are separate forms depending on whether your Pastor lives in a parsonage or his/her own home. Please bring the resulting number to schedule II, page 5.

No Parsonage:

It is suggested that you enter 30% of the Pastor's base compensation into line 1 of Schedule II (page 5). It is required that you enter at least \$11,000.

Parsonage Provided:

The goal of this calculation is to determine the amount of the housing equity number for the Pastor staying in a parsonage.

To calculate the housing equity number for a Pastor staying in a parsonage you will first need to determine the fair rental value of the parsonage. The fair rental value of the parsonage is what the congregation could reasonably expect to rent the parsonage for to someone else. There are any number of ways that this can be determined. Two easy methods to approximate fair rental value include:

Ask a local realtor who is familiar with the rental value of homes in your community what he/she believes the parsonage could be rented for. **OR**

Determine the amount the parsonage could reasonably be expected to sell for, if it were for sale. (This is called Fair Market Value.) Next find out what the interest rate is on 10 year Treasury Bonds and add 4% to that figure (to approximate the return a landlord might expect to net). Multiply the property's Fair Market Value by the Treasury Bonds+4% figure to approximate fair rental value for one year.

Housing Equity Calculation:

- 1. Enter the larger of \$11,000 (\$12,000 urban) or 30% of your Pastor's base compensation _____
- 2. Enter the Fair Rental Value figure (see above) _____
- Subtract line 2 from line 1. _____

Compare the number above to the minimum housing equity number and enter the larger number here. This is your housing equity figure for Schedule II, (page 5) _____

The minimum housing equity required by the synod is \$2,025.

The following forms may be utilized in developing a Housing Allowance Program for the pastor.

- No.1 Form for presentation of Minister's estimate of expenses qualifying under the Pastor's housing allowance.
- No.2 Draft language for action on a housing allowance by the church council.
- No.3 Draft notification to the minister by the congregation (church council) of approved housing allowance.

PASTOR'S ESTIMATE OF HOUSING EXPENSE

To: (Name of Congregation)

From: (Name of Pastor)

Date: _____

Re: Housing allowance for year extending from _____, 200__ to _____, 200__

The amounts set forth below are the amounts I expect to spend during the period _____ (as above) to rent or otherwise provide a home for my family and I.

Item

- 1. Rent on leased property or payments on purchase of a home (including down payment, acquisition costs, mortgage payments of principal). \$ _____
 - 2. Garage rental (if not included above)..... _____
 - 3. Utilities (gas, electricity, water, sewer, oil, telephone, refuse removal charges, firewood, TV Cable), _____
 - 4. Insurance (homeowner's, fire, extended coverage, liability, contents, flood) _____
 - 5. Repairs and maintenance..... _____
 - 6. Furnishings and improvements..... _____
 - 7. Interest and taxes (may want to itemize these separately) _____
 - 8. Other housing expense (list in detail) _____
- TOTAL _____

(Minister's Signature)

DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR CHURCH COUNCIL ACTION ON HOUSING ALLOWANCE

The _____ Committee advised the church council that under the tax laws an ordained minister of the Gospel is not subject to Federal Income Tax with respect "to the rental allowance paid as part of compensation to the extent used to rent or provide a home." Where the pastor owns a home this amount of the allowance will be an amount equal to the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus cost of utilities.

The council, after considering the statement of the Rev. _____ setting forth estimates of the amount expected to be spent to rent or otherwise provide a home during the period _____ 200__ to _____, 200__, and in light of the Federal Income Tax law and of the established compensation level, on motion duly made and seconded, and adopted the following resolution:

Resolved that the Rev. _____ receive a compensation of \$_____ for the year _____, and a housing allowance of \$_____ for the year, the housing allowance to be so designated in the official records.

(Secretary's Signature)

NOTIFICATION OF HOUSING ALLOWANCE BY CONGREGATION (EMPLOYER)

Date _____

Dear Rev. _____:

This is to advise you that at a meeting of the church council held on _____, your housing allowance for the year _____ was officially designated and fixed in the amount of \$_____. Accordingly, \$_____ of the total compensation payable to you during the year _____ will constitute housing allowance and the balance will constitute "compensation" (as interpreted by the Income Tax Law).

(Secretary's Signature)

APPENDIX C

SABBATICAL LEAVE

Purpose: Sabbatical leave is recommended for clergy and associates in ministry as a time for renewal of one's professional and personal life. A sabbatical leave is a significant time away from congregational responsibilities; a time to receive, to be nurtured, to dig deeper into one's self, and to reflect on the call to ministry and relationship to God. Sabbatical leave should be holistic, including time for prayer, reflection, relaxation, and refreshment of body and spirit, as well as further developing gifts for continuing ministry. Sabbatical leaves may vary and invite different considerations in each congregation and in each ministry. Congregations and clergy both benefit from study, growth, and renewal and long-term mutual ministry is revitalized and stimulated.

Sabbatical Times and Duration

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has strongly recommended (but cannot require) that a Sabbatical Leave policy be adopted for all pastors serving parishes. In the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, this is also the recommended policy and is one that is increasingly being adopted by many congregations. Adoption by all congregations is strongly recommended. At the time of a Call process, a Sabbatical Leave policy should be discussed. If a pastor is already serving a congregation without such a policy, implementation of a Sabbatical Leave policy should be discussed and/or adopted at the earliest opportunity.

It is the intention of this Synod that after every 5 years in a full time parish call, or having served 6-8 years total time in ministry, a sabbatical shall be offered to any rostered staff person in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin. A sabbatical may be granted at an earlier point if deemed appropriate. The Synod Bishop will assist in determining the benefits of a sabbatical outside the normal guidelines. The duration of a sabbatical is 3 months or more. The sabbatical may be divided into two sections of time. The sabbatical must be completed within a year of the first day of the initial sabbatical.

Time and length of sabbaticals are to be negotiated between the rostered staff, the appropriate congregational committee and the council. It is recommended that the Bishop be notified while a sabbatical is being negotiated. This is particularly important when synodical support is being requested as part of the sabbatical. A sabbatical leave should imply (to both the congregation and the pastor) that there will be a return to the same position of ministry held prior to the sabbatical.

Coverage and Costs during the Sabbatical

The congregation will continue to fund full compensation and benefits for the rostered staff on sabbatical. The congregation, with Synod and conference support, is responsible for providing interim ministry during the sabbatical. Coverage should be provided by congregational members, trained synodical lay ministers, and the clergy of neighboring congregations. The congregation(s) may assist with costs of the sabbatical activity. Creative long term mutual funding between rostered staff and the congregation for sabbatical activities is encouraged. Special or outside funding may be available depending on the goals and purposes of the sabbatical. Sabbaticals for part time rostered staff or those in shared ministries may require special considerations.

Sabbatical Application

Name _____ Congregation _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Include the responses to these questions in your plan:

- What are your learning and personal goals?
- Why are they important to your ministry?
- How will your time be spent?
- How will your congregation benefit from these sabbatical goals?
- How will you share your sabbatical experience with your congregation?
- What financial concerns need to be addressed?

Brief Description of Plan:

Applicant _____ Date _____

Congregation President _____ Date _____

cc: Bishop

APPENDIX D

OTHER PASTORAL SERVICES

From time to time your pastor(s) will not be available to lead worship services (including occasional services, weddings, funerals, etc.), teach classes, etc., due either to their obligations to the church at large (attending conferences, continuing education, assisting the Bishop, helping sister congregations, etc.) or vacation or to other time off. As such the congregation will need to make alternate provisions for many of the duties which are usually performed by a pastor. Most often congregations will request the services of another pastor on a "supply" basis to fill these needs. The two most commonly required services include the leading of worship services and the teaching of confirmation or other classes. In most cases actual travel expenses will be approximated by reimbursing at the IRS mileage rate. However, there may be additional travel expenses (meals, lodging, compensation for time, etc.) that may need to be reimbursed when greater distances are traveled. The following provides minimum guidelines for compensation of Supply Pastors.

Minimum compensation for Supply Pastors:

Reminder:
IRS mileage for 2008 is 50.5¢/mile.
(Use 2009 rate for 2009.)

Worship Services:

(Worship services include weekly services, occasional services, weddings, funerals, etc.)

Congregations: Please remember to pay your supply pastor(s) within two weeks of services provided.
Pastors: Please remember that the congregation's treasurer needs a listing of your travel expenses and services provided.

- One Worship Service: \$125 + Actual Travel Expenses
Two Worship Services: \$150 + Actual Travel Expenses
More than Two Worship Services: As Agreed + Actual Travel Expenses

Confirmation or other Pastoral Teaching:

Each Class: \$50 + Actual Travel Expenses

Additional Dollars needed to be Budgeted by Congregation for Time Agreement

To aid the congregation in the preparation of their budgets, the following schedule is provided to estimate the cost of the time agreement which you have made with your pastors.

Number of Days a Supply Pastor is needed to lead worship:
Multiply by \$125 if one worship service per day, \$150 if two.....(rate) x
Cost for supply pastor
Add \$25 per day to approximate the cost of travel expenses
Cost for Worship Supply

Number of Confirmation or other classes.....
Multiply by \$50 for each class(rate) x
Cost for instructions
Add \$25 per day to approximate the cost of travel expenses
Cost for Confirmation and other classes

Other Pastoral Services (Visitation, counseling, etc.)

There are times when a congregation may call or contract with a pastor to do other ministry on a part-time basis (visitation, counseling, etc.) Congregations should be aware that the cost of these services is often up to 30% higher than the "hourly rate" of a full time pastor.

Please note, your congregation may incur other expenses. However, the above are the most common expenses.

APPENDIX E

PART-TIME CHURCH MUSICIANS (less than 20 hours per week)

An approach to determining compensation of part-time church musicians follows. We urge you to use the fairest method to determine a just compensation.

1. Number of Hours/Week

The church musician's work covers a broad spectrum of activities, some of which is "visibly" observed by the congregation (worship services, rehearsals) but much of which goes "unseen" (music selection, practice time, rehearsal preparation, etc.). In order to determine the number of working hours/week for a church musician it is advisable that the following worksheet be filled out together by the personnel committee, pastor and musician:

HOURS/WEEK MUSICIAN'S DUTIES

- _____ a) Worship Service
- _____ b) Choir Rehearsals
- _____ c) Practice time (maintenance of technique and repertoire)
- _____ d) Preparation for rehearsals (reviewing and selection of music, marking scores, ordering materials needed, etc.)
- _____ e) Service planning, consultation with clergy
- _____ f) Meetings: staff and worship/music committee; organist and choir director; congregational
- _____ g) Administrative tasks: maintenance of the music library, copyright procedures, developing and administering the annual budget as approved by the Church Board.
- _____ h) Program building and recruiting; liturgical and musical training and enrichment for the congregation.
- _____ i) Auditioning and engaging soloists or small "special music" groups for worship services.
- _____ j) Special music programs; planning and scheduling hymn-sings, special services, concerts, performance productions.
- _____ k) Composition and arrangement of music for particular needs of the service; or for voicing of the choirs, etc.
- _____ l) Looking for and review of new compositions and editions, reading of musical and liturgical materials.
- _____ m) Continuing education: teaching or attending church music workshops professional meetings, lessons.
- _____ n) Instrument maintenance and care (organ, piano, handbells, etc.) and demonstrations.
- _____ o) Custodial work (furniture and instrument moving); setting up and clearing rehearsal and performance areas.
- _____ p) Writing articles for church publications; developing publicity material for newspapers, radios, etc.
- _____ q) Other
- _____ Total

OR (see next page)

Another appropriate formula to determine pay is that 3 hours of preparation are needed for each worship service.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \text{ Allow 3 hours for preparation} \\ + \text{ _____ (fill in 1 hour for each service to be played)} \\ \hline \text{_____ Total hours for which payment is to be made} \\ \times \text{ _____ hourly rate of pay} \\ \hline \text{_____ Fee before additional to compensate lack of benefits.} \\ + \text{ _____ 10\% since those working less than 20 hours per week receive no benefits other than FICA} \\ \hline \$ \text{ _____ (compensation)} \end{array}$$

2. Level of Competency

The level of competency is determined by using the categories of AIM or Lay Minister (page 14 of these guidelines) that most closely matches the experience and training of the musician. Simply apply the dollar per hour from the appropriate level of competence and multiply by the number of hours worked per week to determine compensation.

Additional Minimum Recommended Fees for Part-time Organists:

Weddings	\$100
Funerals	\$ 75 (church should notify funeral home of fee)
Wedding Rehearsals	\$ 50 each

COMPENSATION GUIDELINES FOR SECRETARIAL AND CUSTODIAL STAFF:

Please check local community levels of pay and reimbursement.

SUPPORT STAFF

Most congregations are well-served not only by their Called and Professional staff but also by those whose ongoing ministry would be classified under the heading "Support Staff". This category covers the dedicated servants of God who function as Administrative Assistants, Secretaries, Custodians, and others who serve in full and part-time positions in support of the congregational ministry. . Sometimes, despite the best intentions of congregations, these employees are inadvertently overlooked because they usually labor "behind the scenes" and often on days and in ways when the worshipping congregation is not present. These employees should always be given consideration and care when issues of remuneration and employee benefits are considered.

The Compensation Guidelines manual cannot presume to share compensation minimums and ranges for Support Staff due to wide variations in local situations and individual responsibilities. This Synod does, however, wish to give some guidance and advice as congregations seek to responsibly care for all those who are employed in support of their programs and buildings and offices. We offer the following as a guideline for review:

1. **Have job descriptions and expected hours of work been put in writing for Support Staff?**
The presence of job descriptions and time expectations can often help identify areas of additional need or situations where adjustments of expectations should be discussed.
2. **Has the "line of supervision" been adequately explained so that both the Support Staff and those responsible for supervision have come to agreement?**
Clear supervisory lines assist the support staff and the congregation in knowing when and whom to contact if special needs for the employee's time or special concerns about the employee arise. The "oh, we'll let the Secretary do that" syndrome can be avoided.
3. **Have the levels of compensation been compared within the local community with other like positions? Has this been done at least once every two years?**
Often dedicated support staff who have been long-term employees have "fallen behind" others who labor in a similar category in the community. A fair comparison through the local Chamber of Commerce or local companies can usually be made without compromising the confidentiality issues of an individual's pay. Fair compensation levels let congregations feel good and help congregational employees know they are cared for.
4. **Have issues of vacation, flex time, paid time off in case of illness, and paid holidays been reviewed regularly?**
Congregational employees need the same kinds of "time off" policies that local businesses offer for their employees. Comparisons through local Chambers of Commerce can again be easily secured.
5. **Has a fair policy for full and part time support staff been adopted which explores, and possibly implements, retirement benefits, disability coverage, life insurance, and medical benefits?**
The ELCA offers many of these through the Board of Pensions and allows support staff to be fully covered in many of the same ways as pastors. Sometimes such benefits allow a dedicated employee to serve his or her Lord as a full time employee of a congregation rather than leaving for private industry. Many of these benefits can also be worked out through private insurers in a local community. Often these plans can result in significant help to the employee in ways which do not result in a greatly increased tax burden to the employee.
6. **Has a policy of "continuing education" been reviewed for support staff and congregational monetary and time support made available so that such continuing education might be taken?**
Often we forget that new machinery or computers or programs come out every year. Who better to learn about new ways to increase a congregation's efficiency and proficiency than the support staff? Sometimes support staff need intentional reminders and expectations because they are so dedicated to getting the job done that they won't spend time away without encouragement. Almost always, time spent in continuing education brings more benefit back home than the continuing education event cost.

7. Has the congregation given visibility and credibility to the Support Staff?

Are their names known to the members?

Has anyone said a public “thank you” lately?

Are support staff recognized in such a way that shows the congregation is proud of its employees and their work?

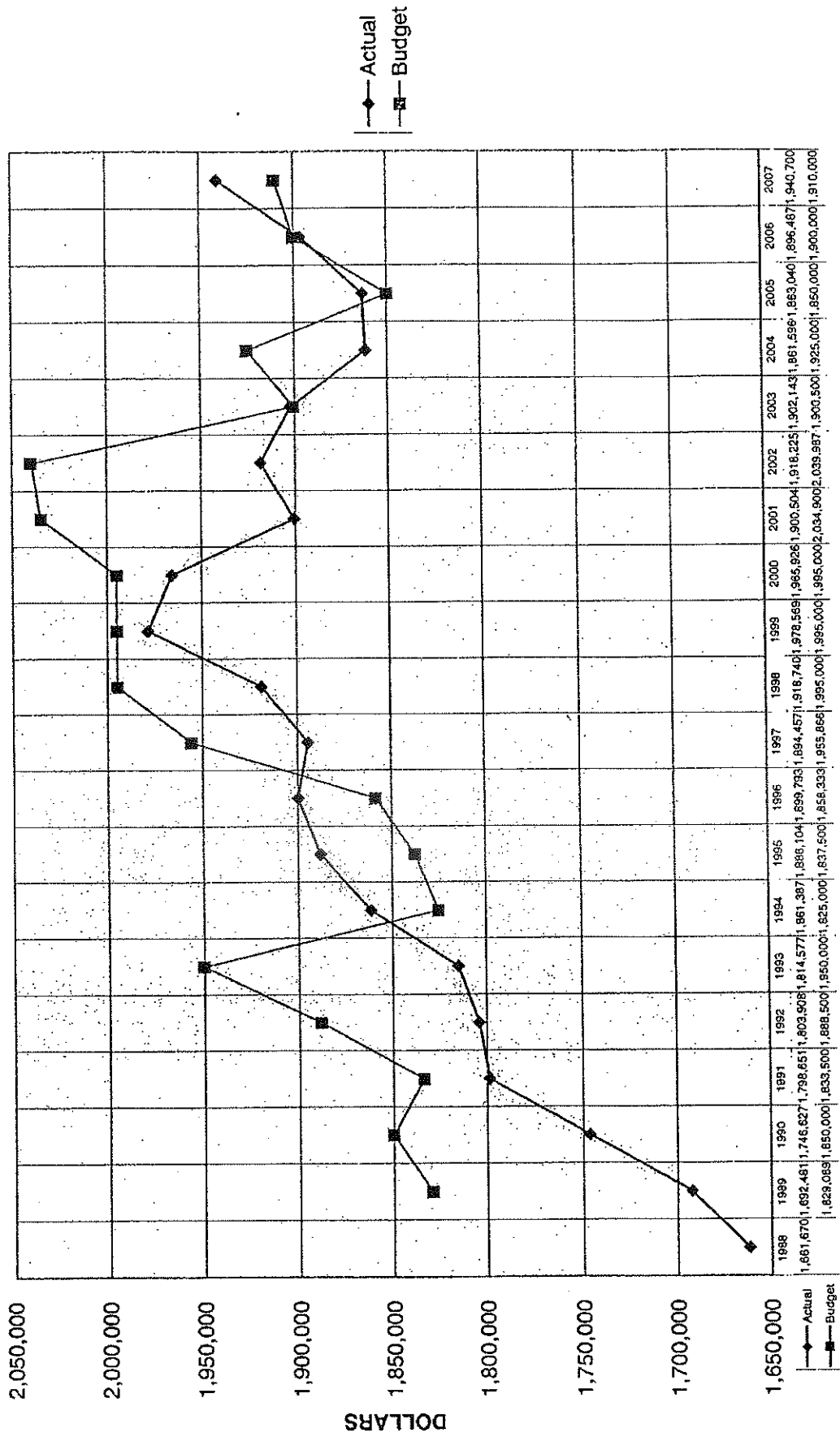
Has someone sat down and asked if all the equipment works, if it is efficient, if it needs repair or replacement?

Is a system of feedback in place so that the support staff feel appreciated and not isolated?

A committee or an individual needs to show care, concern, and promote justice for the support staff just as most congregations do for their pastors and rostered staff. Support staff are often “unsung heroes” in a congregation. They do the work that is usually unnoticed when it is done correctly and they often become the ones who correct a mix-up or problem before it becomes unsolvable. Support staff are those who have chosen a church vocation because they care. Let us always care for them.

MISSION SUPPORT

YEAR



2009 Budget - Presented To Synod Assembly

4/8/08

Operating Budget Summary

	Budget 2009	Budget 2008	Unaudited 2007	Comments
1. From Anticipated Income	\$2,121,000	\$2,106,860	\$2,093,544	
2. Grand Total Expense Budget	(2,121,000)	(2,106,860)	(2,093,544)	
3. To Unrestricted Synod Reserves	(0)	0	(0)	
Adjustments				
4. Subtract Capital Spending	0	0	(2,036)	Autos excluded-purchased on credit. Excluded write-offs; purchased: check scanner, coffee maker, desk, lateral file cabinet, lamp; Resource Center software
5. Subtract Principal Paid	(9,068)	(16,805)	(29,873)	building and cars (building last payment 6/2008; car last payment 11/2011)
6. Add Depreciation	31,000	33,000	30,596	
7. Cash Gain/(Loss)	\$21,932	\$16,195	(\$1,314)	Please see treasurer's report for details & comments
8. % of Mission Support to Benevolence*	66.9%	67.6%	69.2%	
9. % of Expenses that are Benevolence*	61.5%	61.7%	64.1%	

* Benevolence here is defined as Synodical Partnerships, Ecumenical Partnerships, Regional Mission, Synod Ministry Initiatives, and Local Ministries.

Revenue

	Budget 2009	Budget 2008	Unaudited 2007	Comments
1. General Mission Support	1,950,000	1,925,000	1,940,700	
2. Synod Assembly	60,000	57,000	42,066	
3. Interest Income	18,000	21,860	18,833	
4. Grants & Other Income	55,000	50,000	52,401	\$41,901 ELCA grants, \$10,500 Siebert Grant;
5. Resource Center Income	0	0	0	
6. Rent & other income from Crossways	23,000	45,000	39,544	
7. Total Receipts	2,106,000	2,098,860	2,093,544	
8. Transfer From Resource Center Designated Materials Fund	0	0	0	
9. Other income (e.g. For Building Fund)	0	0	0	
10. Fund Appropriations	15,000	8,000	0	Building Fund
11. Total Receipts and Transfers	2,121,000	2,106,860	2,093,544	

The "Grants" line reflects a few different grants received from various sources. Expense items throughout the budget reflect the specific availability of these grants.

Expenses

I. ELCA SYNODICAL AND ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIPS

	Budget 2009	Budget 2008	Unaudited 2007	Comments
(a) Financial Support to ELCA	1,072,500	1,058,750	1,076,363	55% of General Mission Support; an additional \$6,978.44 was given to the ELCA of the 2007 surplus
(b) ELCA Donations - ELCA	0	0	20,914	
(c) ELCA Special Ministry	0	0	15,000	
(d) Seminars	130,000	128,000	124,000	3% incr. would be \$131,840; Requested \$132,984
(e) Colleges and Universities	0	0	0	No request received
(f) Lutheran Campus Ministry	0	0	15,400	New in 2008
(g) Young Adult Ministries	1,000	15,400	1,000	Requested \$1,000
(h) Lutheran Outdoor Ministry	1,000	1,000	500	No request received
(i) Lutheran Office for Public Policy	14,750	14,750	14,750	Requested \$15,200
(j) Wisconsin Council of Churches				
(k) TOTAL	1,219,250	1,218,900	1,267,927	62.5% of mission support 57.5% of total expenses

57.5% of the expenses in the budget are for ELCA and ecumenical partnerships. We recommend that our commitment to meeting the needs of seminaries remain a top priority. Lutheran campus ministry continues to remain a major concern. They are looking for donations.

II. MINISTRY THROUGH SYNOD STAFF

	Budget 2009		Budget 2008		Unaudited 2007		Comments
	Specific Salaries Not Budgeted	Budgeted	Specific Salaries Not Budgeted	Budgeted			
(a) Bishop Salary		375,142		364,216		366,593	
(b) Assoc. Bishop Salary		109,080		101,000		87,910	
(c) Office Mgr./Secretary/Bookkeeper		13,504		13,066		11,028	
(d) Resource Center Director/Contracted Serv-RC		18,174		17,518		14,819	
(e) Deployed Staff Salary		4,500		4,500		2,080	
(f) Total -- Synod Staff Salaries		10,000		10,000		8,708	
(g) Pension, Maj. Med., etc		6,000		6,000		3,012	
(h) Social Security (Ordained)		4,000		4,000		1,635	
(i) Social Security (Lay)		2,000		1,600		1,699	
(j) Continuing Education		0		0		0	
(k) Travel Expenses (Hotels/Meals)		2,500		2,200		1,600	
(l) Auto Expenses (Incl. Insurance)		3,000		4,500		2,181	
(m) Workshops, Retreats, etc		1,000		1,000		0	
(n) Workers Compensation							
(o) Bishop transition costs							
(p) Sabbatical Funding							
(q) Stewardship Director Expenses							
(r) Mission Director Expenses							
(q) TOTAL		548,900		529,600		501,264	

The cost for the contracted service is offset by income included in Grants and Other Income.

Includes Resource Center

Includes Resource Center

Includes Resource Center

B & AB \$1000 each; Includes Resource center & staff

Bishop election in 2006.

To build fund for staff sabbaticals (1% of ordained salaries)

28.1% of mission support

25.9% of total expenses

2009 budget amounts for salaries are 3% above 2008 budget amounts.

III. MINISTRY THROUGH SYNOD COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

	Budget 2009	Budget 2008	Unaudited 2007	
(a) Leadership Support	22,520	22,300	22,000	
(b) Evangelical Outreach	3,000	3,700	0	
(c) Candidacy	9,000	15,400	7,213	
(d) Youth	14,700	14,700	12,277	
(e) Admin (Other)	8,000	3,000	7,788	
(f) ELCA Ministries	0	0	0	
(g) Task Forces	0	0	0	
(h) Ecumenical Relations	0	0	0	
(i) Stewardship/Enrichment	0	0	0	New item for 2004 budget
(l) Total	57,220	59,100	49,277	

2.9% of mission support
2.7% of total expenses

Amounts in the budget for "Candidacy" and "Leadership Support" reflect functions mandated by the constitution of churchwide ELCA. The leadership support item includes items such as programs for AIMS, new pastors, and retired pastors, and for theological conferences and continuing education.

IV. MINISTRY THROUGH SYNOD ASSEMBLY

	Budget 2009	Budget 2008	Unaudited 2007	Comments
(a) Assembly Planning & Programming	55,000	52,000	42,340	
(b) Assembly Minutes & Rpts (Printing)	5,000	5,000	3,263	3.0% of mission support
(c) TOTAL	60,000	57,000	45,602	2.7% of total expenses

This part of the budget reflects costs directly associated with the annual Synod Assembly. The expenses for the assembly are intended to be fully covered by registration costs. (Note that the \$60,000 in the proposed budget here exactly offsets the \$60,000 in the "Revenue" section.)

V. MINISTRY THROUGH SYNOD OFFICE

	Budget <u>2009</u>	Budget <u>2008</u>	Unaudited <u>2007</u>	Comments
(a) Debt Retirement/Principal Paid	N/A	N/A	N/A	
(b) Interest Expense	5,000	5,000	4,492	Bal. Sheet Item; Adjust. in Summary
(c) Utilities	8,000	8,000	7,165	Building Loan was refinanced in 2003 for a lower interest rate.
(d) Fire & Police Protection	4,500	5,500	3,897	
(e) Equipment Purchase	N/A	N/A	N/A	Bal. Sheet Item; Adjust. in Summary
(f) Equipment & Building Maintenance	7,000	7,000	4,852	
(g) Insurance	7,000	7,000	5,157	
(h) Telephone	6,000	8,000	5,282	
(i) Supplies	4,500	5,000	3,961	
(j) Printing	7,000	7,000	5,784	Extra line & ISDN line added in 1/01
(k) Postage	7,500	9,400	6,723	
(l) Contracted Services	9,000	10,000	7,369	
(m) Auditing & Accounting	4,500	5,500	4,200	
(n) Equipment Lease	1,500	1,500	1,353	
(o) Communication	6,500	6,500	4,770	Newsletter
(p) Licenses & Fees	3,000	3,000	2,067	See Below (a)
(q) Bank Charges	600	600	496	
(r) Depreciation, Other Losses	31,000	33,000	30,596	
(s) Building & Maintenance Reserve	9,000	9,000	9,000	To ensure available funds for long term building maintenance
(t) Technology/Office Equipment Reserve	5,000	5,000	5,000	See Below (b)
(u) Crossways Expenses	0	0	19,891	See Below (c)
(v) TOTAL	126,600	136,000	132,035	6.5% of mission support 6.0% of total expenses

(a) Licenses and fees include expenses for lighting and signs around the building, expenses associated with our pre-tax medical reimbursement plan, and a copyright use permit.

(b) Establish reserve for office equipment replacement (copier) and technology maintenance.

(c) Crossways expense of \$20,000 is budgeted in salary, postage, and supplies. These expenses are reimbursed by Crossways. Therefore, the income offsets the expenses.

VI. MINISTRY THROUGH REGION 5 AND CHURCHWIDE SHARED STAFF

	Budget <u>2009</u>	Budget <u>2008</u>	Unaudited <u>2007</u>	<u>Comments</u>
(a) Regional Center for Mission	6,830	7,060	7,200	
(b) TOTAL	6,830	7,060	7,200	7.0 cents per baptized member
				0.4% of mission support 0.3% of total expenses

This expense is for a regional (12 synods) director, part time assistant, and office space. The directors primary responsibility is to facilitate the inter-synod call process.

VII. SYNOD MINISTRY INITIATIVES

	Budget <u>2009</u>	Budget <u>2008</u>	Unaudited <u>2007</u>	<u>Comments</u>
(a) Salary Subsidy	0	0	0	
(b) Interim Ministry Subsidy	38,000	40,000	33,368	
(c) TOTAL	38,000	40,000	33,368	2.1% of mission support 1.9% of total expenses

The salary subsidy dollars are used to provide salary assistance to pastors within our Synod. (No longer in budget)

The interim ministry item is a program whereby we would establish full-time intentional ministry in our parishes when pastoral vacancies occur. The dollars would be used for interim ministry training, networking, as a buffer to provide medical coverage between assignments if needed, and ESPECIALLY a salary subsidy for congregations challenged to afford a full time interim pastor. More dollars, however, are needed if we are to seriously be able to succeed in fully subsidizing interim pastors when that subsidy is needed.

VIII. SYNOD MINISTRY THROUGH RESOURCE CENTER

	Budget <u>2009</u>	Budget <u>2008</u>	Unaudited <u>2007</u>	<u>Comments</u>
(a) Travel	2,800	2,800	2,168	Requested \$3,300
(b) Membership	0	0	(3,557)	Non-ELCA church membership fees
(c) Lending Materials	10,000	10,000	15,262	Requested \$10,000
(d) Board Meetings	400	400	711	Requested \$500
(e) Maintenance & Equipment	3,000	3,000	609	Requested \$3,000
(f) Printing	0	0	0	
(g) Postage	3,000	3,000	1,973	Requested \$3,000
(h) Phone	2,000	2,000	1,685	Requested \$2,400
(i) Office Supplies	3,000	3,000	3,226	Requested \$3,300
(j) Workshops	0	0	493	
(k) TOTAL	24,200	24,200	22,570	Total Request \$25,500

1.3% of mission support
1.1% of total expenses

This is a section of the budget is intended to maintain separation between expenses for the Synod Resource Center and other Synod operations.

Compensation and benefits for the Synod Resource Center staff have been moved to Section II (Ministry through Synod Staff) since the Resource Center is an integral part of the synod operations.

IX. LOCALLY INSPIRED MINISTRIES

	Budget <u>2009</u>	Budget <u>2008</u>	Unaudited <u>2007</u>
(a) Local Ministries	40,000	35,000	34,300
(b) TOTAL	40,000	35,000	34,300

New item for 2004 budget

Local ministries will receive donations from the Synod. This money is applied for and granted by the Synod Council.

