

## Resolution Submission

### 2024 Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly

**RESOLUTION TITLE:** Allow recognized Outdoor Ministry sites in the Rocky Mountain Synod to send one ~~lay~~ voting member to Synod Assembly.

**Whereas**, the *Constitution, Bylaw and Continuing Resolutions of the Rocky Mountain Synod* allow all rostered leaders under call, to be voting members of the Synod Assembly (S7.21). But, those leaders serving in outdoor ministry settings who are not rostered; are not permitted to be lay voting members from their ministry contexts, because they are not designated or included in one of the three expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**Whereas**, the outdoor ministries of the Rocky Mountain Synod, in partnership with congregations, strive to strengthen, support, and lift-up the body of Christ by encouraging and facilitating spiritual growth in outdoor settings. Outdoor ministries offer a variety of programs that provide growth experiences for people of all ages and backgrounds through worship, study, service learning, games, and activities; and activates faith by living and working together in an intentional Christian community.

**“Whereas**, the enfranchisement of outdoor ministry participants will recognize vital ministry centers of the Rocky Mountain Synod who are not currently represented by this assembly.”

**Therefore, Be It Resolved:** That the Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA shall, amend its bylaws to include the following provision:

*S7.21.04. The recognized Outdoor Ministry sites within this synod, each may send not more than one voting member to Synod Assembly. The person sent under this section should be the Executive Director of the respective Outdoor Ministry site.*

**Submitted by:**

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Pr. Joel Pancoast – Zion Lutheran Church, Loveland  
Pr. Deb Abbott – Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Greeley  
Pr. Joe Natwick – Bethel Lutheran Church, Windsor  
Pr. Katie Emery – Sky Ranch Board of Directors  
Jeff Fairfax – Northern Colorado Synod Council Representative  
Lori Bode – Executive Director, Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp  
Dave Jarvis – Executive Director, Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp