

**SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS**

<b>Mr. Leonel E. Avila</b>	<b>2020</b>
Mr. Adam A.D. Campbell (Youth)	2020
<i>*Ms. Cynthia Corley</i>	2020
<b>The Rev. Chryll Crews</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Steven Daniels</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Bishop Paul Egensteiner</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Mr. David Ehlers</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>Ms. Monica Gavryszewski</i>	2020
<b>Ms. Hazel Goldstein</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Marva Jenkins</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>*Mr. John Litke, Treasurer</i>	2022
<b>The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski</b>	<b>2020</b>
S. Dcn. John Ogren	2020
<b>*The Rev. Jeanine Owens</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>The Rev. David Parsons</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*The Rev. Daniel Peter</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill</b>	<b>2020</b>
<i>Mr. Thomas Sargent</i>	2020
<b>*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe</i>	2020
<i>Mr. Cecil Spurlock-Shackelton</i>	2022
<b>The Rev. Garry Squire</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Ms. Emma Turner (Young Adult)</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*Mr. Christopher Vergara</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*Ms. Renee Wicklund, VP</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>S. Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams</i>	2022
<i>Ms. Karen Woolley</i>	2020

**Bold = present**

*Italics = excused absence*

\*Member of Executive Committee

**STAFF**

*Dcn. Margy Schmitt Ajer*  
**Ms. Susan Brandt**  
*The Rev. Percy Butiku*  
**Ms. Regina Daniels**  
**Mr. Brandon Dupree**  
**Mr. Roberto Lara**  
**The Rev. Jonathan Linman**  
**Ms. Maria Rodas**  
**S. Dcn. Gayle Ruege**  
**Mr. Mark Goodwin**

**Guests**

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**Opening Devotions:** *Pr. Jonathan Linman*

**Observer:** *Christopher Vergara*

**Call to Order:** *Ms. Renee Wicklund at 5:24 pm.*

- 1. Adoption of the agenda:** adopted.
- 2. Draft SC minutes 15 Oct 19:** adopted as amended.

**3. Report of the Bishop**

**A. Installation / Conference Visits / Ordinations**

- a. Thoughts on the Installation
- b. Conference Visits since the last SC meeting
  - Delaware-Hudson Conference
  - SE Queens Conference
  - SW Brooklyn Conference
  - Western Suffolk Conference

Conference visits are completed in 1-3 days (depending on size of the conference and geography) and include:

- Worship in one or more congregations
- Conference meeting with lay and ordained leaders
- 30 minute individual meetings with each pastor

The remaining 13 conference visits are scheduled through the end of 2020

Bishop is participating in meetings of Candidacy Committee.

**B. Calls**

- a. **The Rev. Martha Cruz:** *Interim Pastor / St. Thomas, Nyack effective 6 Oct 2019*

**ACTION SC19:12/01**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to The Rev. Martha Cruz as Interim Pastor for St. Thomas, Nyack, effective 6 October 2019.

**ADOPTED**

- b. **The Rev. Gladys Diaz:** *Assistant to the Bishop / Invitation to Extended Service effective 6 Jan 2020*

**ACTION SC19:12/02**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Invitation to Extended Service to the Rev. Gladys Diaz serving the Metropolitan New York Synod as Assistant to the Bishop effective 6 Jan 2020.

**ADOPTED**

- c. **The Rev. Jean Montas:** *Chaplaincy ministry*

**ACTION SC19:12/03**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to The Rev. Jean Montas to Chaplaincy ministry effective 17 December 2019.

**ADOPTED**

- d. The Rev. Percy Butiku: *Mission Developer / Christ Center, Harlem effective 6 Jan 2020*

**ACTION SC19:12/04**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to The Rev. Percy Butiku as Mission Developer for the Christ Center at Transfiguration, Harlem effective 6 January 2020.

**ADOPTED**

- e. The Rev. Kimberli Lile: *Director of Spiritual Care / Wartburg effective 11 Nov 2019*

**ACTION SC19:12/05**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to The Rev. Kimberli Lile as Director of Spiritual Care at the Wartburg, Mt. Vernon, effective 11 November 2019.

**ADOPTED**

- f. The Rev. Martha Jacobi: *Retirement status effective 1 Nov 2019*
- g. The Rev. Michael Dickson: *Retirement status effective 1 Dec 2019*
- h. The Rev. Jonathan Linman: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 January 2020*
- i. Deacon Margaret Schmitt Ajer: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 January 2020*

**ACTION SC19:12/06**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve retirement status for The Rev. Martha Jacobi, effective 1 November 2019 and for The Rev. Michael Dickson, effective 1 December 2019; and grant On Leave from Call status for The Rev. Jonathan Linman, effective 1 January 2020 for Deacon Margaret Schmitt Ajer, effective 1 January 2020.

**ADOPTED**

**C. Appointments (reported)**

- a. The Rev. Marianne Tomecek *Interim Pastor / Grace, Uniondale*
- b. The Rev. Donald Lemke: *Interim Pastor / Trinity, Middle Village*
- c. The Rev. Percy Butiku: *Tanzania Companionship Committee/African Nationals Ministries Coordinator*
- d. The Rev. Rebecca Seely: *MNYS Candidacy Committee Coordinator*

**e. Hazel Goldstein: *Financial Management Committee***

**D. Wider Church Grants (grants made by the Bishop) EXHIBIT A**

**E. Communications / Metric Review (3Q)**

Roberto Lara gave the metric review.

**4. Report of the Vice President**

**A. Activities and Visits**

**B. Western Queens Update**

**C. Zion German Evangelical Lutheran Church, Brooklyn**

**D. St. Paul's, Williamsburg**

**5. Strategic Plan Report**

**A. Co-Chairs: Bp. Egensteiner / Pr. Bill Baum**

Bishop reported the appointment of Pr. Bill Baum to serve as Co-Chair of our Synod's Strategic Plan.

He announced the formation of two (2) Advisory Groups to shepherd the priorities (ELCA):

One Advisory Group to focus outwardly for the sake of the World (Evangelism, Advocacy)

One Advisory Group to focus inwardly for the sake of the Church (Congregations, Leadership)

*For the Sake of the World Working Group*

+ Pr. Kevin Vandiver / To be named: Co-Chairs

➤ Evangelism Task Force (Chair to be named)

➤ Advocacy Task Force (Christopher Vergara, Chair)

*For the Sake of the Church Working Group*

+ Pr. Marc Herbst / Pr. Chris Mietlowski : Co-Chairs

➤ Leadership Task Force (chair to be named)

➤ Congregations Task Force (chair to be named)

**C. Leadership Development Grants EXHIBIT B**

**ACTION SC19:12/07**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Leadership Development Grants reviewed by the Leadership Development Grant Review Team and recommended by the Executive Committee.**

**ADOPTED**

**6. Treasurer's Report**

**A. Mission Support Report (30 November 2019)**

In John Litke's absence (illness), R. Wicklund reported that Mission Support received in November totaled \$57,585.77, which is \$28,132.75 less than budgeted for the month. Mission Support received year-to-date is \$720,380.54, which is \$29,454.05 less than budgeted year-to-date.

**B. Financials (31 October 2019)**

**7. Old Business**

**A. Contract for sale: MNYS 585 East 163 LLC**

**ACTION SC19:12/08**

**RESOLVED, that the approval of the Agreement, prepared by the MNYS's legal counsel, Capell Barnett Matalon & Schoenfeld, LLP, for sale of the Property to Purchaser, for the price of One Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00), in "as is" condition and subject to all approvals as required by New York law, is hereby ratified and approved; and it is further**

**RESOLVED, that the execution of the Agreement by the Rev. Robert P. Schoepflin, as Secretary of the MNYS, as sole member and manager of MNYS 585 East 163 LLC, be and hereby is ratified; and it is further**

**RESOLVED, that any one of the officers be and is hereby empowered and directed to act on behalf of MNYS, as sole member and manager of MNYS 585 East 163 LLC, be and hereby is authorized, empowered and directed to sign, verify and cause to be filed such petition or other paper or papers, as may be required to obtain approval from the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York and/or the Courts of the State of New York, as may be required by New York State law of such sale to Purchaser, based on the terms and conditions as recited in the Agreement, for the price of One Million Five Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00), in "as is" condition; and, in the event that such approvals shall be obtained, to thereafter execute, acknowledge and deliver a good and sufficient deed and all such other documents as may be required to convey title to the Property and to pay all customary and/or required closing costs, transfer taxes, broker, attorney and other professional fees incurred in connection with the sale of the property; and otherwise do all**

such things as may, upon advice of Capell Barnett Matalon & Schoenfeld LLP, counsel to MNYS, be reasonable, necessary, proper or convenient in order that the terms, provisions and agreements of the contract of sale be fulfilled and the transactions contemplated therein be effectuated; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the net proceeds from the sale of the Property, after payment of the customary and/or required closing costs, transfer taxes, broker, attorney and other professional fees relating to the sale, be utilized in furtherance of the religious purposes for which MNYS was formed, in accordance with its Certificate of Incorporation and Constitution and By-Laws; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that MNYS will not become insolvent following the above-mentioned transaction; and it is further

**RESOLVED**, that the dissolution of MNYS is not contemplated following the above-mentioned transaction.

**ADOPTED (18 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSECTIONS)**

**B. Amendment to Contract: 6309 Fourth Ave, Brooklyn**

R. Wicklund reported that at the October SC meeting, the SC gave authorization for the EC to approve the amendment to the contract for the property located at 6309 Fourth Ave, Brooklyn with the Developer (Fifth Avenue Committee) after its final negotiations with the School Construction Authority had concluded. The amendment was reviewed by Secretary Schoepflin. The Synod closed on this property on November 26.

**8. New Business**

**A. Healing Center Grant**

**ACTION SC19:12/09**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve a grant to The Healing Center AKA Trinity Healing Center, Inc. in the amount of \$25,000.00, as reviewed by the Wider Church Fund Grant Review Team.

**ADOPTED**

**B. St. Paul's, Williamsburg**

**ACTION SC19:12/10**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council does not grant approval for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Williamsburg, to terminate its relationship with the Evangelical

**Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) because, *inter alia*, the proper constitutional procedures for terminating its relationship with the ELCA were not followed by the congregation.**

**ADOPTED**

**9. Afterthoughts**

**10. Observers' Evaluation**

**Bp. Egensteiner closed the meeting at 7:10 with prayer, including Godspeed and Farewell and a blessing, which all members participated in, of Jonathan Linman on the conclusion of his ministry with and in the Synod.**

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: January 9, 2020\***

**Synod Council Meeting: January 14, 2020**

**\*Proposed items for the Synod Council agenda should be submitted to Gayle Ruege ([gruege@mnys.org](mailto:gruege@mnys.org)) for consideration by the Executive Committee on or before January 6.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Secretary**