

July 20, 2004

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present

The Rev. Albert Ahlstrom  
The Rev. James Anderson  
Mr. William Anderson  
The Rev. Edward Barnett  
Mr. Leonard Bartkus  
The Rev. William Baum  
Mr. Carl Blomke  
Bishop Stephen Bouman  
Mr. Alan Chen  
Ms. Maria del Toro  
Ms. Elizabeth Hoffmann  
The Rev. Kathleen Koran  
The Rev. James Krauser  
Mr. John Litke  
Ms. Christina Lord-Barry  
The Rev. Fred McElderry  
The Rev. Annemarie Noto, PhD  
Mr. Patrick O'Brien  
Ms. Beverly Small  
Ms. Marion Steadman  
Mr. John Vercelletto  
Ms. Sharon Wilson

Excused

Mr. Bob Buescher, Treasurer-elect  
Ms. Chris Connell, DM  
Mr. Paul Jensen, Treasurer  
The Rev. Patt Margolis

Absent

Dr. Earl Marsan  
Ms. Katie Montano

STAFF

The Rev. Cherlyne Beck  
Ms. Joanne Strunck  
The Rev. Robert Wollenburg

AUXILLIARY REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Delores Gray, Women of the ELCA  
Judge Dan Joy, Lutheran Men in Mission  
The Rev. Gary Schulz, Deans

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Litke

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm

II. DEVOTIONS

The Rev. Fred McElderry

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Litke reviewed a few adjustments to the agenda. It was approved without objection.

IV. SPECIAL GUEST - Mr. Howard Capell, Synod Attorney

Mr. Capell was invited to discuss his role as the synod's attorney and to provide some background to the synod council on how we handle and deal with real property which comes under the control of the synod, i.e. synod administration. When a property comes under synod administration, the synod essentially takes over the responsibilities of the congregation council and assists the congregation in making decisions about its future. Synod administration provides the opportunity (and the challenge) for the synod to take title and manage the property in an orderly process. Mr. Capell advocates this happen before any other action or decisions are made. To protect the synod from liabilities these properties are then transferred into Limited Liability Companies with the synod as a sole shareholder.

Sale of property belonging to a religious corporation is subject to several requirements beyond what might be in our normal experience in daily life. Appraisals are necessary and the sale is

subject to the approval of the Attorney General's office. Mr. Capell reviewed, as example, the arrangements which were undertaken in the case of Christ, Yonkers.

The process of Title Search, Appraisal, Survey, and Zoning Analysis could take 6 months or longer. Once all of this information is in, it is then appropriate to consider all options, such as sale, redevelopment, partnership, etc. Mr. Capell cautioned that we take care not to have the dreaming stage about use, whether local or synodical, get ahead of the study and research process. He also stressed the importance for the synod council to have a plan of development for the long-term interests of the synod. In considering bids for property we employ fair value use, which means that we do not necessarily go for the highest amount of money but that which optimizes our ability to meet our long-term mission and ministry goals.

Mr. Capell talked about four properties under synodical administration and their particular circumstances:

- Atonement, Staten Island
- Redeemer, Hicksville
- St. Paul, Valley Stream
- Holy Trinity Hollis

Bishop Bouman stressed the importance of synod council knowing the process of synod administration. While the Mission Development Board (MDB) will manage the process, synod council makes the ultimate decision. Recommendations from the MDB will come to synod council in writing. He cautioned synod council about speaking about sensitive issues.

V. MINUTES, June 5, 2004, consideration of

Correction: Mr. Blomke and Mr. Vercelletto were not present as listed. With those corrections the minutes were approved as printed and distributed at the meeting.

VI. REPORT OF THE BISHOP

A. Comments on issues of the wider church, synod, congregations, and the public arena.

1. St. Luke, Bay Shore. The bishop reviewed the situation in which the pastor has left the roster of the ELCA and continues to pastor the congregation. This puts the congregation in conflict with the ELCA constitution. Bishop Bouman and Vice-president Litke recently visited St. Luke's congregation council. Their approach was meant to leave the door open if St. Luke's wants to return to the ELCA in the future. The congregation has become a member of the Fellowship of Confessing Lutheran Church (FCLS) and has adopted a new constitution following an FCLS model, but indicating they wished to remain with the ELCA as well. Preliminary evaluation suggests that dual membership does not conform with our constitutional requirements... Bishop Bouman is considering requesting a referendum asking the entire congregation if they wish to remain in the ELCA. He will be in conversation with Lowell Almen about next steps.
2. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) national board meeting was recently hosted in New York City. A part of the agenda included a visit to the detention facility at Kennedy Airport. People from local congregations are helping with communications and visitations to these detainees. Focus on refugee and migration issues will be a large part of our ministry as we move into the future.

3. Public Religion and Urban Transformation. The author of this report did ethnic mapping of the Chicago area and looked at ways ethnicity and race are being addressed through spirituality. He has received a Lily grant to do a similar study in New York and has met with Bishop Bouman about it.
4. Lutheran Services-New York Alliance (LS-NYA) and United Lutheran Appeal (ULA) leadership have met and will be coming together under one umbrella. This will afford opportunity for more cooperative and effective ministry in the future.
5. The Lutheran Social Services (LSS)/Mt. Tremper meeting, requested by the Synod Assembly, was held recently. It was attended by 16 people and did not fulfill the attendance requirements of the resolution, but both LSS and Mt. Tremper remain hopeful of a win-win decision. The point Mr. Capell made about fair price/optimal price is important to this negotiation.
6. The Commission for Evangelical Outreach's first Go Congregation will be St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Liberty; the second will be Holy Trinity in Hollis, subject to final agreement with the congregations.
7. The synod has three consultations in process:
  1. St. John's Bronx, regarding long-term conflict in the congregation
  2. Zion-St. Mark's, regarding long-term conflict in the congregation
  3. The Rev. Barbara Lundblad, regarding charges filed by ten pastors in our synod because she performed a commitment ceremony for persons of the same sex.

B. Appointments

1. Commission for Evangelical Outreach

Synod council accepted the bishop's appointment of the Rev. Peggy Wuertele as chair of Events and Gatherings task group and the Rev. Micah Stumme as chair of Resources task group.

2. Candidacy Committee

Candidacy Committee. There are no appointments for this committee yet, but Pastor Cherlyne Beck reported that classes for the Latino candidacy track will be held in the synod office on July, 26 and will be taught by Region 7 Coordinator, the Rev. Judith Spindt. She also reported that ELCA Diaconal Ministry candidates in discernment were recently hosted in New York.

3. Financial Management Committee.

Synod council accepted the bishop's appointment of Mr. Paul Jensen to the Financial Management Committee.

C. Calls

**ACTION (SC04.7/1):**

**RESOLVED** that synod council call the Rev. Patti Welch as Chaplain to the Cathedral School and Minister for Education of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, without terminus, effective July 1,

**2004. This call is issued under ELCA continuing resolution 7.44.b.1.43**

**RESOLVED that synod council call Mr. Larry McFarland as Vice-Pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Bronx, \_ time, effective the date of his ordination. (Mr. McFarland will serve as vice-minister, effective July 1, until his ordination.) This call is issued under ELCA continuing resolution 7.44.b.1.5.**

**ADOPTED EN BLOC**

- D. Staff Reports — The Rev. Robert Wollenburg
1. Tanzania Endowment Fund for Education is at \$400,000 in contributions and (mostly) pledges. The campaign is to run through 2008, with the goal of raising one million dollars.
  2. Pastor Wollenburg briefly explained his work with the ELCA Foundation and encouraged congregations to establish Mission Endowment funds through the ELCA Pooled Endowment Fund.
  3. Pastor Wollenburg distributed a report of mission support for the first quarter. Please refer to **Exhibit A**. Performance is running a bit behind, but this is not unusual for this time of year. He discussed mission support visits to congregation councils and encouraged a focus on thanks for support and for gifts of ministry. These visits also afford opportunity to talk about the wider mission of the church. The main goal is relationship building.
  4. To enlarge on this relationship building, members of the bishop's executive staff are each being assigned congregations with whom to remain in contact throughout the year.
  5. On Thursday, November 4 Nancy Snell, former Director for Mission Support at ELCA, and Keith Mundy will be in the synod office at 10 am to talk about mission support. He encouraged synod council members to attend and to contact Ms. Donna Daniels at Ddaniels@mnys.org.

## VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

### A. Report from Treasurer Elect, Mr. Robert Buescher

#### 1. Comments by Vice-president Litke:

In consultation with the Financial Management Committee, Mr. Jensen and Mr. Buescher, Bishop Bouman dissolved the position of Business Manager and has contracted with Kiwi Partners to manage the synod's accounting. Mr. Robert Parker was let go and will be paid salary through August, plus accumulated vacation. The contract with Kiwi will reduce the cost of providing this function..

#### 2. Mr. Buescher's written report

*My term actually does not begin until August 1, 2004— but I make this report related to items that have been coordinated with Paul Jensen, prior to his departure on a well-deserved vacation.*

*We have completed an analysis to exactly identify the budget line items in the most recent financial reporting format, which tie directly and*

*exactly to the 2004 budget approved at the Synod Assembly a few years ago. These amounts will form the basis for comparison in monthly and year-to-date financial reports, which are planned to be issued within days after each month end, in a consistent format, and will have accuracy and integrity.*

*Since Rob Parker's departure, the Synod has engaged the services of Kiwi Partners, an organization whose sole business is to assist not-for-profit institutions in the execution of financial management responsibilities. Kiwi was chosen with high qualifications and broad experience, and excellent references, including from our Auditors, with whom they have worked on other engagements. Kiwi has been asked to perform the accounting functions, produce financial reports, and aid the Synod in budget preparation. After a period of time, they expect to recommend the skill level and nature of Synod employee(s) to perform the functions, as they depart.*

*Since July 14, two members of their staff have been assigned to the Synod office, both part time, and have been instructed to handle the day to day operations and, as a first priority, produce the financial reports for June 30 and year to date. We expect to see the first fruits of their efforts in the next several days. Next, they are scheduled to work with the Synod office staff, the Financial Management Committee and the Synod council in adjusting the draft budget for 2005.*

**B.** Budget considerations from the bishop

The bishop was asked to comment on his working document on budget revisions (**Attachment B**). These goals have been developed in consultation with Messrs. Jensen and Buescher, the Executive Committee, and staff.

A question and answer period followed the bishop's presentation.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A.** Election of Mission Development Board (MDB)

The charter of the MDB has been distributed previously and adopted by synod council. Vice-president Litke explained that fundamentally it is a management board, a coordinator of the process. Other appointed people will be working on individual projects. This board will be at the center of a lot of activity that will be important in where we go in the future. It requires people that can see the big picture.

Nominations were distributed in packets (**Attachment C**). There were no nominations from the floor. Vice-president Litke declared the nominations closed.

**ACTION SC04:7/2 The following persons were elected to the Mission Development Board of the Metropolitan New York Synod. Elected on behalf of the synod assembly: the Rev. Joanne Bond(clergy), Mr. Kamy Moghbeli (lay male), Mary Heller (lay**

**female); elected by synod council was the Rev. James Thomas.**

Those elected on behalf of the synod assembly will serve only until the next synod assembly in which elections are held (2006). Pastor Thomas, elected by synod council, will serve for four years. The charter calls for the bishop to appoint one more person from the synod council, giving the board a total of five members.

B. Congregations under synodical administration — no further reports

- Hope Lutheran Church, Scarsdale
- Christ Lutheran Church, Yonkers
- Holy Trinity, Hollis
- (Zion, Harlem)
- Atonement, Staten Island
- Redeemer, Hicksville

C. Mission Support Visits

It was suggested that when assignments are made council members visit on the territory on which they were nominated.

D. November 2004 Synod Assembly

The adjourned May 2004 Synod Assembly will be held at Saint Peter's Manhattan on November 20, 2004. Staff will process registration. It will include worship and one item of business — considering the 2005 synod budget.

E. Congregation Constitutions — no report

Secretary Krauser

F. 2003 Report from Diaconal Council (**Attachment D**)

Vice-president Litke expressed the need to draw up a form on which the Diaconal Council makes an annual report, as the deans do. Reports will be due February of each year.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. AUXILLIARY ORGANIZATIONS

A. Deans — the Rev. Gary Schulz

Pastor Schulz briefly described to the council the role and duties of the deans. Their fall retreat will deal with changes in their responsibilities, which continuously evolve and grow. He suggested, with their increasing responsibilities, the deans should meet throughout the summer instead of recessing from May through August.

B. Women of the ELCA — Ms. Delores Gray

- Ms. Gray encouraged participation at the annual fall retreat at St. Paul's in the Bronx on September 18. The theme is Jesus Lifted Me
- Our Sister's Place information can be found on the website
- Work has begun on 2006 retreat, which will gather under the theme Act Boldly
- The Women of the Metro New York ELCA were contacted to be in dialogue with Israeli women, but they declined to participate.

C. Lutheran Men in Mission (LLM)

- LMM is working with Pastor Timothy Kennedy of Yorktown Heights on a retreat at Koinonia in October.
- There will also be a retreat on November 13 at Cross of Christ, Babylon
- Judge Joy commented on the attention being paid to ministry among young men at the national level and the effort to replicate this at the synod level.

D. Youth — No report

E. Diaconal Council — No report other than annual report (Attachment D)

XI. NEXT MEETING POTENTIAL TOPICS — September 21, 2004

- Draft of Synod Assembly minutes (Secretary Krauser asked for five volunteers to help him review it.)
- Personnel policy
- Urban Empowerment Fund Charter
- Committee appointments
- Compensation guidelines
- Hold October 19 open for possible meeting since our agenda is so large.

XII. CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm. Closing prayer was led by Pastor Kathleen Koran.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Strunck  
Administrative Assistant to the Bishop

Attachment

A



***Contribution Summary by Conference***  
***February 1, 2004 - June 30, 2004***

<b><i>Conf ID</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Yearly Commitment</i></b>	<b><i>Commitment To Date</i></b>	<b><i>Contributions This Period</i></b>	<b><i>Variance To Date</i></b>
01	Hudson	\$124,699.00	\$51,957.92	\$54,119.24	\$2,161.32
02	Delaware/Hudson	\$98,500.00	\$41,041.67	\$44,339.64	\$3,297.97
03	Tappan Zee	\$179,406.00	\$74,752.50	\$51,843.71	(\$22,908.79)
04	Eastern Nassau	\$145,400.00	\$60,583.33	\$62,983.42	\$2,400.09
05	Western Nassau	\$91,200.00	\$38,000.00	\$33,360.74	(\$4,639.26)
06	Southwest Nassau	\$92,268.00	\$38,445.00	\$33,342.26	(\$5,102.74)
07	Peconic	\$119,680.00	\$49,866.67	\$45,494.85	(\$4,371.82)
08	Western Suffolk	\$177,679.00	\$74,032.92	\$73,730.46	(\$302.46)
09	Manhattan	\$131,905.00	\$54,960.42	\$45,544.50	(\$9,415.92)
10	Bronx	\$36,800.00	\$15,333.33	\$14,377.95	(\$955.38)
11	Staten Island	\$34,500.00	\$14,375.00	\$18,101.73	\$3,726.73
12	Queens Southeast	\$44,750.00	\$18,645.83	\$18,903.93	\$258.10
13	Queens Southwest	\$27,500.00	\$11,458.33	\$13,254.72	\$1,796.39
14	Queens Northeast	\$16,700.00	\$6,958.33	\$8,259.23	\$1,300.90
15	Queens Northwest	\$29,100.00	\$12,125.00	\$11,048.00	(\$1,077.00)
16	Brooklyn Bridges	\$26,404.00	\$11,001.67	\$11,239.01	\$237.34
17	South Shore (Brooklyn)	\$30,499.00	\$12,707.92	\$11,327.00	(\$1,380.92)
18	Southwest Brooklyn	\$44,500.00	\$18,541.67	\$26,838.34	\$8,296.67
<b><i>Totals:</i></b>		\$1,451,490.00	\$604,787.50	\$578,108.73	(\$26,678.77)

# Attachment C

Nominee	From	Category	By	Willingness to Serve
David Rommereim	Good Shepherd, Brooklyn	Clergy	Self	Ok
Jack Malfatti	3rd, Rhinebeck	Clergy	B. Malfatti	Ok
Jay Longan	Trinity, Middle Village	Clergy	W. Baum	Ok
Joanne Bond	Cross of Christ, Babylon	Clergy	W. Baum, B. Swertfager	Considering
John Jurik	(Interim) Zion, S.I.	Clergy	C. Connell	Ok
William Bogholtz	Our Saviour, S.I.	Clergy	C. Connell, W. Bogholtz	Ok
William Damrow	St. Luke's, New Rochelle	Clergy	B. Swertfager	No information
Paul Nordeen	Retired (Bethlehem, Brooklyn)	Clergy	Self	Ok
Leroy Ness	Retired (Kingston)	Clergy	Ahlstrom	Ok
Diane Wildow	Zion, Brooklyn	Clergy	Bartkus	Ok
James Thomas	St. Paul's, Bronx	Clergy	Self	Ok
Mary Heller	St. John's, Poughkeepsie	Lay Female	W. Baum	Ok
Dawn Helene	Grace & St. Paul, Manhattan	Lay Female	S. Wilson	Ok
Loraine Larsen	Immanual, Kingston	Lay Female	A. Ahlstrom	OK
Kamy Moghbeli		Lay Male	Alan Chen	Ok
Paul Jensen	Staten Island	Lay Male	W. Baum	Ok
Leonard Bartkus		Lay Male	Self	Ok
Arthur O'Donnell	Eltingville, S.I.	Lay Male	Self	OK

The procedure we will follow is:

By written ballot, after all nominations are closed, we will elect one clergy, one lay male, and one lay female on behalf of the Synod Assembly, to serve until the next Assembly at which elections are held. At that time the elected persons and others will be candidates for election by the assembly. From those nominees not elected to the seats selected by the Synod Assembly, the Synod Council will elect one additional person to a 4 year term.

The Bishop will appoint one member of the Synod Council to this board. Once all five members of the board are known, the Bishop will appoint one of the five to serve as chair.

Written ballots require a majority of the votes cast to declare an election. If there is no election on the first ballot, a second ballot will be used that contains the candidates with the two highest votes from the first ballot (plus ties). Should there be a tie on the second ballot, the vote of the chair will be used to break the tie on the second ballot.

Additional information received about some candidates is below:

***For William Bogholtz***

Cited the following reasons for being a nominee:

- Knowing that you had envisioned a dean serving on the MDB
- With the experience I've had going through the process
- With my concerns for local involvement in the whole process

***For Loraine Larsen***

She is former president of synodical unit of W/ELCA.

***For Paul Nordeen:***

- 1. Name** Nordeen, Paul  
**Address** 159 Maujer Street, Brooklyn, New York 11206-1220
- 2. Phone:** 718 387-5594 \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** (optional) [paulnordeen@iglide.net](mailto:paulnordeen@iglide.net)
- 3. Age** I'm 61.  
**Congregation** Bethlehem, Pacific Street, Boerum Hill **Conference** Brooklyn Bridges
- 4. Racial/Ethnic Information** Caucasian  
Primary Language other than English: None
- 5. Current Position/Employment** Retired Pastor; Truck Driver
- 6. Church Leadership Positions** (maximum of 3)  
Treasurer, Brookly/Staten Island Pastor's Conference (LCMS)  
Pastor, St. Mark's, Bushwick (LCMS)  
Lutheran Women's Missionary League Pastoral Advisor
- 7. Community Leadership Positions** (maximum of 3)

Martin Luther High School Board of Directors, Secretary

Better Living Ecumenical Realty Center, Secretary/Treasurer

Kings County Chapter of Thrivent, Various Offices

8. **Candidate Statement:** (maximum of 25 words) Having served the church in Brooklyn for 38 years I know that declining churches must change to focus on their mission and not their self-preservation.
  
9. **Submitted by:** Paul Nordeen, 718 387-5594, [paulnordeen@iglide.net](mailto:paulnordeen@iglide.net)

Additional Comments:

I have always been on the clergy roster of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies. At the same time I have only had pastoral positions at LCMS churches and thus served local church agencies within the Atlantic District of the LCMS.

Having seen what has happened to a majority of our churches in Brooklyn I am convinced that tempered with great love and appreciation for what the “remnant” in these churches have done, that same remnant must be confronted head on with the choice of change or the death of the ministry they have fought so long to preserve.

### ***For Arthur O'Donnell***

Eltingville Lutheran Church, Staten Island

Former Council President of Atonement Lutheran Church, Staten Island

Career Senior Banker with 30+ years of strategic planning, project management and financial analysis experience including real estate and facilities management responsibilities.

Former Council President with recent experience of the discernment process that resulted in a decision for a congregation at risk to close.

On a personal note, I will be attending Union Theological Seminary this September so I will be near for easy consultation as needed.

### ***For David Rommereim***

I worked with asset development in Oakland and San Leandro California wondering whether congregation's should close or redevelop. In SW Booklyn that is our sincere perdicaments as we search for a corporate identity and a strong entry into the future. I feel it MDB is a good move by the synod.

### ***For James Thomas:***

The Rev. James R. Thomas (DOB 7-15-1950)

Pastor - St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bronx, NY

Ordained 1976.

Current Church Involvement:

Metro NY Synod Candidacy Committee

Board Member - Lutheran Social Services of Metro NY

Community Involvement

Board Member - Momentum AIDS Project of New York

Board Member - Global Health Ministries

Work and Church Experience includes

1988 - 1995 - Assistant to the Bishop

Minneapolis Area Synod

1990 - 1994 - Board Member, National Council of Churches of

Christ in the USA

2000 - Present - Chaplain, (Lt. Col.)

106th Rescue Wing New York

Air National Guard,

Grebreski Airport

Westhampton Beach, NY

Additional Skills

Conflict Resolution (3-10-03 Received certificate from

Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service, RE:

Managing and Resolving Workplace Conflicts)

PHD - University of Minnesota December, 1998

STM - Union Seminary 1985

M.Div. - Christ Seminary (SEMINEX 1976)

BA - Concordia College, Seward, Nebraska 1972

David Rommereim	Clergy	
Jack Malfatti	Clergy	
Jay Longan	Clergy	
	Clergy	
John Jurik	Clergy	
William Bogholtz	Clergy	
	Clergy	
Paul Nordeen	Clergy	
Leroy Ness	Clergy	
Diane Wildow	Clergy	
James Thomas	Clergy	

Mary Heller	Lay Female	
Dawn Helene	Lay Female	
Lorraine Larsen	Lay Female	
	Lay Female	
	Lay Female	
	Lay Female	

Kamy Moghbeli	Lay Male	
Paul Jensen	Lay Male	
Leonard Bartkus	Lay Male	
Arthur O'Donnell	Lay Male	
	Lay Male	
	Lay Male	
	Lay Male	

# Attachment D



## The Diaconate of Metropolitan New York Synod Report for 2004 Synod Assembly

### Calling of the Diaconate

The church continues to be the self-giving servanthood of Jesus in the midst of the world. The presence of a diaconate in the world can help to remind, inspire, organize and lead the church in a renewal of its commitment to servant ministry. The primary area of service is within the congregations and other agencies of our synod. But the total calling and ministry of the deacon is formed by a combination of the needs of our congregations and community, and always with a diaconal focus on doing and enabling servant ministry. The synodical diaconate is also connected to the wider church with a ministry connected ecumenically.

The ultimate purpose for diaconate ministry is mission and outreach—to the poor, the suffering, and those without the Gospel. All of this is dedicated to the memory of the servant Jesus, whose self-giving diakonia is at the core of all ordered ministry. As the deacons witness and serve in daily life, the love and ministry of the risen Lord is brought to all that are touched by those ministries.

### Mission of the Diaconate Council

The Synod Diaconate Council is established to organize and supervise the overall activities of the diaconate, including reviewing applications and evaluating candidates to be prospective deacons. The goal is to make available for the needs of the wider church a cadre of servants committed to the diaconal outreach throughout the synod and the communities the synod serves. The Council is also responsible for helping to keep the ministries of the deacons connected and serving actively and appropriately. In this regard, under the oversight of the Bishop and in consultation with the congregations they serve, the Council may support and recommend that deacons may be deployed from time to time, to service throughout the Synod.

### Members of the Diaconate Council

The Rev. Dr. William Hurst, Synod Representative  
Deacon Peter Slingerland, Chairperson  
Jo Ann Tatlian, Support Staff  
The Rev. David Anglada  
Deacon Thomas Farrell  
The Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

The Rev. John Malfatti  
Deacon Donna Nekarda  
The Rev. Patt Margolis  
Deacon Gayle Ruege  
Deacon Edward Tatlian  
Deacon Carol Straub, Ex-officio

## Diaconate Roster

- The Metropolitan New York Synod has 75 deacons on the active roster, 10 on leave and 5 retired. The ministries of the deacons include service in:

Youth	Bible Study/Teaching
Nursing Home	Prison
Visitation/Homebound	Immigration
Worship	Bereavement /Card
Men's and Women's Group	Hospital

- Eight new Synodically Rostered Deacons were set apart on January 24, 2004 at St. Luke's in New York City. The new deacons include:

Clifford Armogan, St. Paul's in Richmond Hill	Penny Liles, Our Saviour in Patchogue
Cathy Boyce, Immanuel in Kingston	Julieann Martell, St. Peter's in Baldwin
Marge Frieman, Emmanuel in Pleasantville	Roberta Paulik, Christ in Freeport
Brenda Larsen, Trinity in Kingston	Vicki Struss, Trinity in White Plains

- There are currently 8 candidates who have made application to the Diaconate Council to participate in an internship that might lead to a call as a Synodically rostered deacon.
- Effective with the current internships, all diaconate candidates are now required to satisfy the process requirement to participate in a Psychological Evaluation to be conducted by the Lutheran Counseling Center in Mineola. This will assist in the overall assessment to the fitness of each candidate.

## Diaconate Life

- A Deacon Retreat was held at Graymoor Retreat Center on March 19, 2004. 26 deacons attended and was lead by Pastor Hurst in a discussion about "Wordsmithing", discussing tools that can be used to study and proclaim the Word.
- Pastor/Deacon Retreat was held on April 26, 2003 at Trinity, White Plains where the subject, "Stewards of the Word" was presented by Bishop Bouman and Pastor Hurst.

## Diaconate Leadership

- Deacon Edward Tatlian resigned his position as Council Chairperson on December 2003 and Deacon Peter Slingerland assumed those duties.
- The Council is in the process of establishing positions as Diaconate Coordinators who will help coordinate a more community based focus on local ministries, communications to diaconate membership, spiritual and technical training, and support to deacons who are hurting or ill. Generally the Coordinators will be organized by combining our Synod Conferences to provide an increased local support as needed.