

**SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mr. Leonel E. Avila	2020
<b>Mr. Adam A.D. Campbell (Youth)</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*Ms. Cynthia Corley</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>The Rev. Chryll Crews</b>	<b>2022</b>
S. Dcn. Steven Daniels	2022
<b>Mr. David Ehlers</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Ms. Monica Gavryszewski</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Ms. Hazel Goldstein</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Marva Jenkins</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Mr. John Litke, Treasurer</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Bishop Donald McCoid</b>	<b>2019</b>
<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>
S. Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill	2020
<b>Mr. Thomas Sargent</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Mr. Cecil Spurlock-Shackelton</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Garry Squire</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>Ms. Emma Turner (Young Adult)</i>	2020
<b>*Mr. Christopher Vergara</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*Ms. Renee Wicklund, VP</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams</b>	<b>2022</b>
Ms. Karen Woolley	2020

**STAFF**

**Dcn. Margy Schmitt Ajer**  
**Ms. Susan Brandt**  
**The Rev. Perucy Butiku**  
**Ms. Regina Daniels**  
**Mr. Branden Dupree**  
**Mr. Roberto Lara**  
*The Rev. Jonathan Linman*  
**Ms. Maria Rodas**  
**Synod Dcn. Gayle Ruege**

**Guests**

**Bold = present**

*Italics = excused absence*

\*Member of Executive Committee

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***Opening Devotions: Evening Prayer***

***Observer: S.Dcn. John Ogren***

***Call to Order: Ms. Renee Wicklund*** at 7:30 pm.

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda:** adopted
- 2. Adoption of the SC Minutes 27 April 2019:** adopted

**3. 2019 Synod Assembly debrief**

**4. Bishop's Report**

In his final report to Synod Council, Bishop McCoid spoke of his fondness for our Synod, his joy in serving as our Interim Bishop, and affirmed those serving in leadership positions in our Synod.

The members of Synod Council heartily and warmly thanked Bishop McCoid for his leadership and ministry.

**A. Calls**

**a. The Rev. Linda Bell: *retirement status effective 1 July 2019***

**ACTION SC19:06/01**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve retirement status for the Rev. Linda Bell effective 1 July 2019.

**ADOPTED**

**b. The Rev. Frank Nelson: *retirement status effective 1 September 2019***

**ACTION SC19:06/02**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve retirement status for the Rev. Frank Nelson, effective 1 September 2019.

**ADOPTED**

**c. The Rev. Robert Rainis: *renewal of OLFC***

**ACTION SC19:06/03**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council renew On Leave from Call with restrictions and limitations for the Rev. Robert Rainis effective 14 June 2019.

**ADOPTED (with 1 abstention)**

**d. The Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells: *On Leave from Call effective 30 April 2019***

**ACTION SC19:06/04**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council grant On Leave from Call status for the Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells effective 30 April 2019.

**ADOPTED**

**e. The Rev. Carol E.A. Fryer: *resignation from ELCA roster effective 31 July 2019***

**ACTION SC19:06/05**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council accept and receive the resignation the Rev. Carol E.A. Fryer from the ELCA roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament effective 31 July 2019.**

**ADOPTED**

**f. The Rev. Amy Kienzle: *resignation as Mission Developer / Park Church Co-op, Brooklyn***

**ACTION SC19:06/06**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council accept and receive the resignation the Rev. Amy Kienzle as Mission Developer for the Park Church Co-op, Brooklyn effective 19 May 2019.**

**ADOPTED**

**5. Report of the Vice President**

VP Wicklund reported that since our last SC meeting she has worshiped at Trinity, LES on May 5 for the installation of Pr. William Kroeze, at St. Paul's, Narrowsburg on May 25, at Advent, Mattituck on June 2, and at St. Barnabas, Howard Beach on June 9 for the anniversary celebration of Pr. William Baum.

She also met with several pastors of our synod: Pr. David Anglada on May 6, Pr. Lenny Duncan on May 8, Pr. Amy Kienzle on May 22, and Pr. Ernie Mossel on May 26. She attended a Mets game on June 7 with Pr. Bob Kasting, Pr. Marc Herbst and Pr. Eric Olson

On May 28, VP Wicklund hosted VP Gail Kiyomura of the Sierra-Pacific Synod.

VP Wicklund, along with Tom Sargent, Pr. Gerry Squire and Pr. Chryll Crews, met with pastors of the Western Queens conference to present response to their October 2018 letter concerning redevelopment.

On June 5 she attended a summit with Bishop Lecakes (Atlantic District-LCMS), Bishop McCoid, and Bishop-Elect Egensteiner on the future of Lutheran schools in our region.

**6. Strategic Plan**

**A. Gathered: Leadership Development Grants **EXHIBIT A****

**ACTION SC19:06/07**

**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**

**B. FMC**

**a. Engage GRO (architectural firm) for preliminary work for Christ Center, Harlem / Jehu's Table, Brooklyn**

**7. Treasurer's Report**

**A. Mission Support Report (31 May 2019)**

Treasurer Litke reported that Mission Support received in May totaled \$69,708.19, which is \$4,545 less than budgeted for May. Mission Support received year-to-date is \$284,323.52, which is \$5,277 less than budgeted year-to-date. Good news is that annual Mission Support Commitments are up \$54,000 from 2018 and \$238,981 from 2017.

**B. Financials (30 April 2019) EXHIBIT B**

**8. Old Business**

**A. Western Queens**

VP Wicklund reported that she met with the Western Queens conference on June 5 to present the response to the Western Queens Inquiry. SC members in attendance with her were Tom Sargent, Pr. Chryll Crews and Pr. Garry Squire.

She presented the following resolution:

Whereas members of the Western Queens Conference have expressed a desire to continue exploration of establishing a new ministry site or sites on their territory; and

Whereas the congregations of Christ Evangelical Lutheran, Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Philip, and St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church completed their ministry in the hope and desire that a new ministry site or sites could be established,

Therefore, be it resolved

That the Metropolitan New York Synod shall provide a financial record-keeping mechanism to record the net value of the assets released to the Synod by the three Western Queens congregations that completed their ministry; and

That this record-keeping mechanism shall record also the financial costs to the Synod of exploring and/or establishing and nurturing a new ministry site or sites in the territory of Western Queens; and

That the net value in the record keeping mechanism shall provide guidance for the financial resources available for exploration and/or establishment and nurturance of a new ministry site or sites in the territory of Western Queens; and

That the continuation of the record-keeping mechanism shall be considered again by the synod council no more than five years after establishment of the mechanism.

**ACTION SC19:06/08**

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Metropolitan New York Synod shall provide a financial record-keeping mechanism to record the net value of the assets released to the Synod by the three Western Queens congregations that completed their ministry; and**

**That this record-keeping mechanism shall record also the financial costs to the Synod of exploring and/or establishing and nurturing a new ministry site or sites in the territory of Western Queens; and**

**That the net value in the record keeping mechanism shall provide guidance for the financial resources available for exploration and/or establishment and nurturance of a new ministry site or sites in the territory of Western Queens; and**

**That the continuation of the record-keeping mechanism shall be considered again by the synod council no more than five years after establishment of the mechanism.**

**ADOPTED**

**B. Consultation Panel Report: St. Paul's, Rye Brook / William Ross**

Bishop McCoid reported that the Consultation Panel has completed its work with the congregation of St. Paul's and Mr. William Ross. The panel was unable to resolve the issue and recommended the situation be referred to the Discipline Committee.

**C. Jeffersonville Property offer**

**ACTION SC19:06/09**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council accept the offer of \$25,000 for the property located at 5 Main Street, Jeffersonville, NY.**

**ADOPTED (22 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)**

**D. MNYS 585 East 163 LLC offer**

**ACTION SC19:06/10**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council accept the offer of \$1,400,000 for the property located at 585 East 163<sup>rd</sup> St., Bronx.

**ADOPTED** (22 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

**E. Leif Ericson School**

VP Wicklund reported on student accepted by Lutheran Elementary School for enrollment.

**9. New Business**

**A. 2020 Synod Assembly theme: We are Church Together**

R. Lara reported on planning for the 2020 Synod Assembly.

**B. Election of the Executive Committee**

**ACTION SC19:06/11**

**RESOLVED**, that Mr. Christopher Vergara, Ms. Cynthia Corley, The Rev. Jeanine Owens, and The Rev. Daniel Peter Penumaka are elected to serve on the Executive Committee from June 2019 to June 2020.

**ADOPTED**

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

Bishop McCoid reported that the congregation of St. Paul's, Williamsburg notified the synod office of an upcoming special congregation meeting on June 9 to vote on disaffiliation with the ELCA. They were asked to postpone the meeting until the Bishop elect took office in August to begin the consultation process according to our constitution. They declined and scheduled their meeting. Synod representation was not present.

**10. Afterthoughts**

**11. Observers' Evaluation**

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: September 5, 2019\***

**Synod Council Meeting, **Saturday**, September 21, 2019**

June 14, 2019  
APPROVED 9/21/19

Synod Council of the Metropolitan New York Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
MINUTES

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**\*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 August 30.**

**All committees are to provide a digital copy of meeting minutes to Regina Daniels ([rdaniels@mnys.org](mailto:rdaniels@mnys.org)) for the synod files.**

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