

June 17, 2008

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

MINUTES
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SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

| | |
|---|------|
| The Rev. Albert Ahlstrom | 2012 |
| Mr. William Anderson | 2012 |
| The Rev. Edward Barnett | 2010 |
| The Rev. Rosalind Brathwaite | 2012 |
| *Mr. Robert Buescher, Treasurer | 2012 |
| Ms. Hope Card | 2010 |
| Mr. Gerald Erikson | 2010 |
| Dcn Charles Germain | 2010 |
| Mr. Gene Hiigel | 2010 |
| Ms. Barbara Holm | 2012 |
| The Rev. Dr. Jack Horner | 2012 |
| Ms. Barbara A. Johnson | 2012 |
| The Rev. Scott Kershner (resigned) | 2012 |
| The Rev. Perry Kirschbaum | 2010 |
| *The Rev. James Krauser, Secretary | 2010 |
| *Dr. Earl Marsan | 2010 |
| Ms. Minerva Melendez | 2010 |
| The Rev. Annemarie Noto, PhD | 2010 |
| *The Rev. David W. Olson, Bishop | |
| Dcn. Robert Rainis | 2012 |
| Mr. Brian Reardon | 2012 |
| The Rev. Dr. Robert Schoepflin | 2010 |
| Ms. Janet Siry | 2012 |
| *Mr. Hans Vogel, AiM | 2010 |

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| *Ms. Renee Wicklund, Esq. | 2010 |
| Mr. Jonathan Westerlund | 2010 |
| Ms. Grace Yukich | 2012 |

AUXILLIARY MEMBERS

Conference of Deans
Lutheran Men in Mission
Ms. Marion Steadman, Women of the ELCA

STAFF

The Rev. David Anglada
Ms. Connie Duever
Ms. Sarah Gioe
The Rev. Diane Loufmann
The Rev. Dr. Gary Mills
Mr. John Litke
Dcn. Gayle Ruege
The Rev. Robert Wollenburg

Boldface indicates present
*Member Executive Committee

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Vogel called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm and welcomed the returning and new members of the council. Members were asked to register their attendance, verify their contact information and indicate their willingness to lead devotions at a council meeting.

II. DEVOTIONS

Mr. Vogel led the devotion and prayer.

III. SYNOD COUNCIL ORIENTATION

A. Introductions and special guests

Members were asked to introduce themselves, identify their congregation and their responsibilities within the congregation, and also share with the group something they were looking forward to this summer.

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Vogel announced some adjustments to the printed agenda to accommodate the election of an executive committee.

Agenda adopted as amended

V. MINUTES

Approved as printed. Mr. Vogel took this opportunity to announce the Rev. Scott Kershner's resignation from the Synod Council.

VI. FIRST BALLOT FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VII. SYNOD COUNCIL ORIENTATION

Mr. Vogel provided a brief orientation of the responsibilities of Synod Council members. Informational Sheets (“Synod Council Composition and Duties” AND “Parliamentary Procedure in a Nutshell”) were distributed and reviewed.

(EXHIBIT A)

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *first ballot*. The top four candidates were:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Earl Marsan | 5 |
| Robert Schoepflin | 2 |
| Rosalind Brathwaite | 2 |
| Renee Wicklund | 2 |

A second ballot was taken.

VII. REPORT OF THE BISHOP

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

Bishop Olson discussed several of the suggestions he has made with regard to areas of synod policy and procedure, and made numerous observations about the “culture” of our synod. Bishop Olson noted that facilitation of a successful and efficient Synod Assembly and working with the staff in preparation for Bishop Rimbo taking office in August were included in his stated goals to the Synod Council in February. Report attached **(EXHIBIT B)**

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *second ballot* for executive committee.

The top four candidates were:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Earl Marsan | 6 |
| Robert Schoepflin | 5 |
| Rosalind Brathwaite | 3 |
| Renee Wicklund | 2 |

Members were instructed to vote for either Dr. Marsan or Pr. Schoepflin.

B. Appointments

1. Rev. Scott Kershner, Chair – Reference & Counsel
2. Rev. Paul Milholland, Chair – Assembly Planning Committee

Appointments accepted without objection

VIII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Mr. Buescher reviewed the documents provided to the Council including property and non-property assets, profitability, mission support. **(EXHIBIT C)**

A question was raised about what action the Synod Council takes in response to mission support reports and congregations/conferences behind in their support.

Mr. Buescher indicated that conference mission support reports are distributed and reviewed at staff and deans meetings. Staff are assigned responsibility to contact “non-performing” or “underperforming” congregations.

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *third ballot* for executive committee:

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---------|
| Earl Marsan | 9 | Elected |
| Robert Schoepflin | 7 | |

A fourth ballot was taken to elect the next seat.

IX. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Mission Development Board

1. Synod Administration

Mr. Litke described the meaning of synod administration

a. Bethany, Brooklyn

Mr. Litke offered an overview of the issues concerning Bethany. He identified the resolutions as they would be presented. He noted that the resolution on synod administration had been previously acted upon, but that the state Attorney General had asked for an additional provision to be added.

Resolution 1 (EXHIBIT D)

WHEREAS, BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH (“BETHANY”) located at 1037 72nd Street, Brooklyn, New York, is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) rostered with the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (“Metro Synod”); and

WHEREAS, Section 13.24 of the Constitution of the Metro Synod provides that it may apply synodical administration when members of a congregation rostered with the Metro Synod have agreed that it is no longer possible for it to function as a congregation and that it is necessary for the Metro Synod to protect the congregation’s property and assets from waste and deterioration; and

WHEREAS, the Congregation of BETHANY has advised the Metro Synod that BETHANY is unable to carry on its mission and ministry under present circumstances; that the property of BETHANY needs to be protected from waste and deterioration; that BETHANY can no longer function as a congregation as a result of the reduction in both its membership and attendance at regular Sunday worship; that its expenses exceed its annual income; that it no longer engages a full-time Pastor; and that it conducts no mission outreach other than supporting the presence at its premises of Leif Ericson Day School a separately incorporated parochial school; that it is no longer financially able to support the presence of Leif Ericson Day School; and the Congregation has, for each and all of these reasons, requested as to whether Synod Council of the Metro Synod is willing to apply synodical administration and to take charge and control of the property of BETHANY to hold, manage and convey the same on behalf of the Metro Synod; and

WHEREAS, the Congregation and Council of BETHANY have, at a duly called and held joint meeting of its Council and Membership, at which quorums were present, on the 9th day of March, 2008, each duly adopted resolutions requesting that the Metro Synod accept BETHANY under synodical administration; and

WHEREAS, the METRO SYNOD is willing to accept the request for synodical administration and to take control of the property of BETHANY and

WHEREAS, the METRO SYNOD is willing to allow Leif Ericson Day School (LEDS), to remain in possession of the property they currently occupy at 1037 72nd Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228 upon the fulfillment of the following conditions (CONDITIONS):

1. once the By-laws of LEDS have been amended as commended by separate resolution of this Synod Council, and

- 2. once the Metro Synod has become the sole Member of LED S, and
- 3. once LED S has been accepted into and established as an organizational unit of the Metro Synod,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SC08:6/1

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council of the Metro Synod shall apply synodical administration of BETHANY and shall take charge and control of the property of BETHANY to hold, manage and convey the same on behalf of the Metro Synod and shall administer synodical administration to BETHANY and its members, and

RESOLVED, that upon the fulfillment of the above CONDITIONS, the Metro Synod shall allow Leif Ericson Day School to remain in possession of the property they currently occupy at 1037 72nd Street, Brooklyn, New York 11228.

ADOPTED as follows:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Total Council Members: | 26 (+ 1 vacancy) |
| Total Council Members Present at Meeting: | 17 |
| Total Votes in Favor of Resolution: | 16 |
| Total Votes Against Resolution: | 0 |

b. Leif Erickson Day School, Brooklyn

Resolution 2 (EXHIBIT E)

WHEREAS, a proposed draft of amended by-laws of the Leif Ericson Day School (attached hereto as Exhibit "A") was submitted to the Synod Council for consideration, and

WHEREAS, said amended by-laws are approved and accepted by the Synod Council as presented, and

WHEREAS, the Synod Council commends for acceptance said by-laws to the Congregation Members and Congregational Council of Bethany Lutheran Church ("Bethany") and to the Board of Directors of Leif Ericson Day School ("LED S") for the approval and adoption of same by each, and

WHEREAS, upon such approvals and adoption being granted by the foregoing entities, LED S shall become an organizational unit of the Synod and the Synod shall accept the position of becoming the sole Member of LED S,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SC08:6/2

RESOLVED, that the amended by-laws of LED S, as annexed hereto as Exhibit "A," be, and the same hereby are, approved and adopted by the Synod Council as the by-laws of LED S, and

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council, subject to the adoption and ratification of such amended by-laws by the Congregation Members and the Congregational Council of Bethany and the Board of Directors of LED S, accepts the position of Member of LED S and shall, from that point forward, fulfill the duties and responsibilities of Member of LED S, and

RESOLVED, that, upon adoption and ratification of said amended by-laws by the Congregation Members and the Congregational Council of Bethany and the Board of Directors of LED S, LED S shall become an organizational unit of the Synod and shall report annually to the Synod Council and to Synod assembly.

ADOPTED by voice vote

Resolution 3 (EXHIBIT F)

WHEREAS, Leif Ericson Day School ("LED S") is in the process of becoming an organizational unit of the Synod, and

WHEREAS, LED S has been operating, and is intending to continue to operate, its educational mission at the premises located at 1037 72~' Street, Brooklyn, New York ("School Premises"), and

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WHEREAS, the School Premises was owned by Bethany Lutheran Church (“Bethany”), which has requested that the Synod impose synodical administration, and

WHEREAS, Bethany has adopted a first closure resolution and, upon completion of its corporate governance process, intends to adopt the second resolution for closure and dissolution, and

WHEREAS, by resolution of this Synod Council duly adopted on June 17, 2008, the imposition of synodical administration has been agreed upon, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to synodical administration, title to the School Premises passes to the Synod, and

WHEREAS, in order to continue the educational mission of LEDS at the School Premises, certain immediate renovations and repairs are required, as follows:

- 1) replacement of the school windows; and
- 2) installation of foundation drainage system,
the total cost of which shall not exceed \$150,000.00,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SC08:6/3

RESOLVED, that the Synod immediately provide the repairs and renovations listed above, pursuant to written estimates, the total cost of which shall not exceed \$150,000.00.

ADOPTED as follows:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Total Council Members: | 26 (+ 1 vacancy) |
| Total Council Members Present at Meeting: | 17 |
| Total Votes in Favor of Resolution: | 16 |
| Total Votes Against Resolution: | 0 |

Resolution 4 (EXHIBIT G)

WHEREAS, Leif Ericson Day School (“LEDS”) is in the process of becoming an organizational unit of the Synod, and

WHEREAS, LEDS has been operating, and is intending to continue to operate, its educational mission at the premises located at 1037 72~ Street, Brooklyn, New York (“School Premises”), and

WHEREAS, the School Premises was owned by Bethany Lutheran Church (“Bethany”), which has requested that the Synod impose synodical administration, and

WHEREAS, Bethany has adopted a first closure resolution and, upon completion of its corporate governance process, intends to adopt the second resolution for closure and dissolution, and

WHEREAS, by resolution of this Synod Council duly adopted on June 17, 2008, the imposition of synodical administration has been agreed upon, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to synodical administration, title to the School Premises passes to the Synod,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SC08:6/4

RESOLVED, that the Synod, upon LEDS becoming an organizational unit of the Synod and the Synod becoming the sole member of LEDS, does hereby grant to LEDS for a period from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 (with the possibility for annual extensions), use and occupancy of the School Premises for the sum of \$1.00 for said one year period, with LEDS being responsible to: 1) maintain the School Premises in good, clean and serviceable condition, 2) pay all maintenance, insurance, operational and such other costs and expenses of any type or nature directly and/or indirectly relating to both the use and occupancy of the School Premises and the Synod’s ownership thereof.

ADOPTED by voice vote

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *first ballot of the second round* of balloting for executive committee. The top four (including ties) candidates were:

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Robert Schoepflin | 2 | Barbara Holm | 1 |
| Renee Wicklund | 4 | Rosalind Brathwaite | 1 |
| Brian Reardon | 2 | Annemarie Noto | 1 |
| Edward Barnett | 1 | Minerva Melendez | 1 |
| Barbara Johnson | 1 | Albert Ahlstrom | 1 |

By unanimous consent, members were instructed to vote for one of the top three candidates.

c. St. John’s, Bronx (EXHIBIT H)

Mr. Litke provided a brief history leading up to the current circumstances and presented a resolution for the appointment of Trustees for St. John’s, Bronx

WHEREAS, ST. JOHN’S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (St. John’s) located at 1343 Fulton Avenue, Bronx, New York is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Of America (ELCA) rostered with the Metropolitan New York Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church In America (Metro Synod), and

WHEREAS, Section 13.24 of the Constitution of the Metro Synod provides that it may apply synodical administration when the membership of a congregation has become so scattered or so diminished in numbers as to make it impractical for such a congregation to fulfill the purposes for which it was organized and also provides that it may apply synodical administration when it is necessary for the Metro Synod to protect a congregation’s property and assets from waste and deterioration, and

WHEREAS, the Congregation Council is either unable or unwilling to seek/negotiate the pastoral Leadership necessary for mission development of the congregation at this time. and the Congregation Council refused to accept Synod approved interim pastors or the constitutional role of Conference Dean, and

WHEREAS, members of St. John’s have advised the Metro Synod that St. John’s is unable to carry on it’s mission and ministry under present circumstances; that St. John’s can no longer fulfill it’s mission and purposes within the community it intended to serve; and that the property of John’s needs to be protected from waste and deterioration, and

WHEREAS in November of 2005 Synod Council, resolved to apply synodical administration and take charge and control of the property of St. John’s to preserve it for the congregation and take such measures as may be necessary to restore the pastoral care, governance, and management of the congregation to be in accord with the governing documents of the synod and the congregation, and

WHEREAS by petition to the Supreme Court of the State of New York the Metropolitan New York Synod has requested the court to affirm and effect the transfer of administration of the civic and ecclesiastical affairs of St. John’s Lutheran Church,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SC08:6/5

RESOLVED, that the following persons be appointed Trustees of St. John’s Lutheran Church: The Rev. James Sudbrock, The Rev. Dr. Gary Mills, and Mr. John Litke and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Trustees of St. John’s Lutheran Church have full powers to hold and manage the property of St. John’s on behalf the Synod Council and of the congregation and to administer synodical administration to St. John’s and its members.

ADOPTED as follows:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Total Council Members: | 26 (+ 1 vacancy) |
| Total Council Members Present at Meeting: | 17 |
| Total Votes in Favor of Resolution: | 16 |
| Total Votes Against Resolution: | 0 |

d. Bethlehem, Brooklyn (EXHIBIT I)

Mr. Litke reviewed the current situation and pressing circumstances at Bethlehem, Brooklyn – fielded questions and made clarifications – and presented a resolution for the appointment of Trustees for Bethlehem, Brooklyn

WHEREAS, BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH located at 490 Pacific Street, Brooklyn, NY is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Of America (ELCA) rostered with the Metropolitan New York Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church In America (Metro Synod), and

WHEREAS, Section 13.24 of the Constitution of the Metro Synod provides that it may apply synodical administration when the membership of a congregation has become so scattered or so diminished in numbers as to make it impractical for such a congregation to fulfill the purposes for which it was organized and also provides that it may apply synodical administration when it is necessary for the Metro Synod to protect a congregation’s property and assets from waste and deterioration, and

WHEREAS, Bethlehem leadership has stated to synod representatives that they do not believe they can regain financial solvency without the assistance of the synod, and

WHEREAS, in September of 2007 the Synod Council of the Metro Synod resolved to apply synodical administration to Bethlehem and take charge and control of the property of Bethlehem to hold, manage, and convey the same on behalf of the congregation and to administer synodical administration to Bethlehem and its members and

WHEREAS, by petition to the Supreme Court of the State of New York the Metropolitan New York Synod has requested the court to affirm and effect the transfer of administration of the civic and ecclesiastical affairs of Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of all that has been stated above, be it:

ACTION SCO8:6/6

RESOLVED, that the following persons be appointed Trustees of Bethlehem Lutheran Church: The Rev. David Parsons, The Rev. Dr. Gary Mills, and Mr. John Litke and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Trustees of Bethlehem Lutheran Church have full powers to hold and manage the property of Bethlehem on behalf the Synod Council and of the congregation and to administer synodical administration to Bethlehem and its members.

ADOPTED as follows:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Total Council Members: | 26 (+ 1 vacancy) |
| Total Council Members Present at Meeting: | 17 |
| Total Votes in Favor of Resolution: | 16 |
| Total Votes Against Resolution: | 0 |

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *second ballot of the second round of balloting* for executive committee

The top four (including ties) candidates were:

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Robert Schoepflin | 3 |
| *Renee Wicklund | 8 |
| Brian Reardon | 4 |

The third round of balloting for executive committee was conducted

2. Financing

a. Our Saviour, Manhasset (EXHIBIT J)

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan New York Synod (MNYS) has offered to award mission support grants on a competitive basis to proposals of merit and

WHEREAS, the Church of Our Saviour Lutheran, Manhasset (COSL) has submitted a proposal that is acceptable to the Metropolitan New York Synod in whole or in part, therefore be it:

ACTION SC08:6/7

RESOLVED, that The Metropolitan New York Synod award a matching funds monetary grant to COSL from the Mission Reinvestment Fund, and not to exceed \$250,000 during the interval from August 2008 to July 2011 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod intends that that this award will partially support outreach to youth and partially support building renovations and be it further

RESOLVED, that the award is subject to the following terms and conditions being accepted in writing by Church of Our Saviour Lutheran:

- COSL affirms that the purpose of the grant is to support outreach to youth and building rehabilitation; and
- The grant will be paid by check to COSL in quarterly installments that, in aggregate, match received or irrevocably granted funds for the stated purposes of this proposal, up to a maximum of \$250,000. The MNYS Treasurer and COSL representatives will determine appropriate document justification for each quarterly request for matching funds; and
- COSL representatives will meet annually with the MNYS Mission Director to discuss the project progress and an assessment of risks to the project’s successful completion; and
- COSL will provide a written annual report for each MNYS fiscal year during which matching funds are granted to the MNYS Mission Director by March 1, of the succeeding fiscal year. This report will include a statement of the proposed goals and a narrative of what was accomplished. It will include a balance sheet and revenue and expense report for the congregation’s most recently completed fiscal year; and
- COSL will nominate at least one person to participate in the MNYS mission interpreter program; and
- COSL will register at least one person for a MNYS-sponsored training event each year of the grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that The Mission Director and the Bishop are authorized to make administrative adjustments to the terms and conditions of this award. Any such adjustments must be reported in writing to the next meeting of the Synod Council after the adjustments are made.

ADOPTED by a voice vote

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *first ballot of the third round* of balloting for executive committee

The top four (including ties) candidates were:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Edward Barnett | 6 |
| Minerva Melendez | 2 |
| Robert Schoepflin | 2 |
| Annemarie Noto | 2 |
| Jack Horner | 1 |
| Barbara Johnson | 1 |
| Brian Reardon | 1 |

The members were instructed to vote for one of the first four candidates on the second ballot.

b. Oceanside, Oceanside (EXHIBIT K)

Whereas the Metropolitan New York Synod (MNYS) has offered to award mission support grants to proposals of merit and

Whereas Oceanside Lutheran, Oceanside has submitted a proposal that is acceptable to the Metropolitan New York Synod, therefore be it:

ACTION SC08:6/8

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod award a monetary grant to Oceanside from the Mission Reinvestment Fund, not to exceed \$126,000 during the interval from August 2008 to July 2012 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod intends that that this award will partially support building renovations and newly called pastoral staff and be it further

RESOLVED, that The award is subject to the following terms and conditions being accepted in writing by Oceanside Lutheran:

- Oceanside affirms that the purpose of the grant is to support renewal of spiritual growth and building rehabilitation; and the grant will be paid by check to Oceanside monthly installments; and
- Oceanside representatives will meet annually with the MNYS Mission Director to discuss the project progress and an assessment of risks to the project’s successful completion; and
- Oceanside will provide a written annual report for each MNYS fiscal year during which funds are granted to the MNYS Mission Director by March 1 of the succeeding fiscal year. This report will include a statement of the proposed goals and a narrative of what was accomplished. It will include a balance sheet and revenue and expense report for the congregation’s most recently completed fiscal year; and
- Oceanside will nominate at least one person to participate in the MNYS mission interpreter program; and
- Oceanside will register at least one person for a MNYS-sponsored training event each year of the grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that at the termination of the grant period, Oceanside may make application to the Synod Council for release from Synod Administration; and be it

RESOLVED, that the Mission Director and the Bishop are authorized to make administrative adjustments to the terms and conditions of this award. Any such adjustments must be reported in writing to the next meeting of the Synod Council after the adjustments are made.

Motion by Pr. Ahlstrom to postpone consideration until the next meeting. Second.

After brief discussion the motion was approved. Pr. Horner suggested it might be helpful to invite some members of Oceanside to the next meeting.

Bishop Olson reported the results of the *second ballot of the third round* of balloting for executive committee

The top four (including ties) candidates were:

- *Edward Barnett 6
- *Minerva Melendez 6
- Robert Schoepflin 2
- Annemarie Noto 1

Mr. Buescher moved that due to the late hour we accept the top two members.

Approved

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Constitutions

St. John’s – St. Matthew – Emmanuel, Brooklyn: Approved (with suggested corrections)

B. Synod Council Retreat 2008

The original retreat scheduled for 7 Jun 2008 was cancelled. A new date for the Synod Council retreat on 22 Nov 2008 has been tentatively set. Council members were asked to check their calendars and indicate at the July meeting whether they are able to attend.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel Policy amendments (**EXHIBIT L**)

1. Severance Benefits for Executive Staff (13.1.1)
2. Severance Benefits for Administrative and Support Staff (13.1.2)
3. Amendment to 13.2 Paragraph 2
Where separation from employment is by termination without prejudice, separation pay in the amount of one week's salary per each of service (calculated as in Section 11.2) for executive Staff and one week's salary per every two years of service for administrative/support staff with a minimum of ~~two~~ three weeks salary will be granted.
Remainder before and after remains unchanged.
4. Amendment to 14.2 Procedure
The Synod policy considers both qualifications and creditable service, when separating employees. When the Bishop and the Synod Council (through the Executive Committee) determine that staff reduction is necessary, the procedure below is used. The Personnel Officer is responsible for administration of the procedure.

ACTION SC08:6/9

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council approve the Executive Committee's proposed amendments to the Metropolitan New York Synod Personnel Policy.

ADOPTED by a voice vote

B. Pastors Compensation Guidelines 2009

Pr. Mills highlighted the report. He indicated that congregations have already started to contact the synod asking for the 2009 guidelines. Pr. Mills also reported that the Board of Pensions figures and COLA figures are not yet available and will have to be taken into account as they are released.

Step raise is now \$500 per year (from \$465); housing allowance is increased from \$14,500 to \$15,000.

Pr. Ahlstrom noted that the mileage allowance needs to be adjusted to .505 per mile.

Approved with mileage correction

C. Bishop-elect's compensation (***S10.03.01.C***)

Executive Committee presented compensation package: total cash comp. \$107,218 (based on salary guidelines, incl. \$50,000 housing allowance).

Approved without objection

- D. Election of Executive Committee
*Dr. Marsan
*Ms. Wicklund
*Pr. Barnett
*Ms. Melendez
- E. Executive Committee & Synod Council Schedule
A list of the scheduled meetings for both Executive Committee and the Synod Council was distributed to members and will be posted on the website.
- F. Correction of resolution numbers from months of Sep and Nov 2007
Editorial request to correct the numbering of Synod Council actions taken in September and November 2007 to reflect the correct year.
Approved
- X. DEANS REPORT (no report)
- XI. YOUTH REPORT (no report)
- XII. AUXILLIARY ORGANIZATIONS
- A. Women of the ELCA
Twenty-four (24) women from Metro New York have registered to attend the Triennial Gathering in Salt Lake City, Utah, July 10-13, 2008. Pr. Rosalind Brathwaite (on the national board) will be running for re-election. Pr. Heidi Neumark will be one of the keynote speakers and Ms. Lily Wu of synod staff will facilitate a panel discussion.
- XIII. OTHER
- A. Bishop-elect Rimbo has held two meeting in planning the Rite of Installation: October 12 at 3 pm – Central Synagogue – Lexington Ave. & 55th Street, NYC
- Offering to be divided: 1/3 to the Fund for Leaders in Mission; 1/3 to the Romania Fund; 1/3 to Trinity Place Shelter (Trinity 100th St.).
- B. Pr. Barnett commented on behavior toward candidates for bishop which he believed was inappropriate.
- C. Ms. Melendez expressed appreciation that all the necessary documents for the Council meeting were printed, organized and prepared for council members.
- XIV. CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn at 8:28pm. Second / **Approved**
Bishop Olson closed with prayer.

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