

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>The Rev. E. Patricia Avila</i>	2026
Ms. Aniah Benitez	2028
<i>Dr. Raymond Cheung</i>	2024
Ms. Monique Davis	2026
The Rev. George Dietrich	2024
*Bishop Paul Egensteiner	2025
*S. Dcn. David Ehlers	2026
S.Dcn. Philip Jenks	2026
*Mr. John Litke, Treasurer	2023
<i>Mr. Erich Markert</i>	2024
<i>Ms. Lily Sage Mathias</i>	2024
The Rev. Ernst Mossi	2026
<i>The Rev. David Parsons</i>	2026
S.Dcn. Denise Rutherford Gill	2028
Mr. Thomas Sargent	2026
*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.	2026
Mr. Cecil (Chip) Spurlock-Shackelton	2026
*The Rev. Gary Squire	2024
The Rev. Brooke Swertfager	2024
*Mr. Christopher Vergara, VP	2026
<i>The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wilson</i>	2024
The Rev. Kristin Wuerffel	2028

Bold = present

Italics = excused absence

*Member of Executive Committee

STAFF

Ms. Regina Daniels
The Rev. Gladys Diaz
Mr. Branden Dupree
Ms. Karen Falco
S.Dcn. Donna-Mari Fieldsa
Mr. Mark Goodwin
Mr. Roberto Lara
The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski
Ms. Maria Rodas
S.Dcn. Gayle Ruege
Ms. Leticia Silva

GUESTS

Observer: S. Dcn. David Ehlers

Call to Order: VP Vergara at 1:46 pm

Welcome Aniah Benitez / S.Dcn. Denise Rutherford Gill / Pr. Kristin Wuerffel

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda:** adopted as presented
- 2. Adoption of the Synod Council minutes 9 September 2023:** adopted as presented

SA2023 Summary of Actions / posted (for report)

3. Old Business

A. Mission Reinvestment Guidelines

ACTION SC23:11/01

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Mission Reinvestment Guidelines as presented.

ADOPTED

B. Tithing Proposal: 300 Genesee Ave, Staten Island

ACTION SC23:11/02

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Tithing Proposal: 300 Genesee Avenue, Staten Island.

ADOPTED

4. New Business

A. Property: 47-14 Glenwood Street, Little Neck, NY

ACTION SC23:11/03

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the sale of the property located at 47-14 Glenwood St, Little Neck, NY 11362 for \$3,800,000 to the Chung Hua Guan Yin Shan Buddhist Association.

ADOPTED (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

ACTION SC23:11/04

RESOLVED, that if sale of the property located at 47-14 Glenwood St., Little Neck, NY to the Chung Hua Guan Yin Shan Buddhist Association does not take place, the Metropolitan New York Synod Council hereby approves the acceptance of an offer to purchase the property by a subsequent purchaser for at least \$3,200,000.

ADOPTED (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

B. Property: 70-74 W 126th Street, New York, NY

ACTION SC23:11/05

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the sale of the property located at 70-74 W 126th Street, New York, NY for \$3,400,000 to a third party purchaser c/o Amir Haghani, ASH 26 LLC.

ADOPTED (14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

ACTION SC23:11/06

RESOLVED, that if sale of the property located at 70-74 W 126th Street, New York, NY to a third party purchaser c/o Amire Haghani, ASH 26 LLC. does not take place, the Metropolitan New York Synod Council hereby approves the acceptance of an offer to purchase the property by a subsequent purchaser for at least \$3,150,000.

ADOPTED (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

C. St. Peter's, Port Jervis / Property sale request: 5 Hudson St, Port Jervis (SBL #8-2-16).

ACTION SC23:11/07

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council take no exception to sale of the property located at 5 Hudson St. Port Jervis (SBL #8-2-16) by the congregation of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Port Jervis, NY.

ADOPTED (15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

D. Appointment / Elections

a. SC Young Adult: Aniah Nieto Benitez (Unidad y Fé)

- Fill the unexpired term through May 2024
- Term Jun 2024 – May 2028

b. CWA2025 MNYS Young Adult: Aniah Nieto Benitez

ACTION SC23:11/08

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council ratify the Executive Committee's appointment of Aniah Nieto Benitez to fill the Young Adult unexpired term through May 2024.

ADOPTED

ACTION SC23:11/09

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council appoint Aniah Nieto Benitez to fill the open ballot for Synod Council Young Adult from June 2024 – May 2028 and serve as the MNYS Young Adult voting member to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly.

ADOPTED

c. 2024 open ballots: for appointment at January 2024 SC meeting

- South Shore Brooklyn lay man
- SC Youth (16-18 yrs)
- Consultation Committee (6 year term) / 2 Clergy and 2 Lay

E. 2024 Housing Allowances

ACTION SC23:11/10

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the designated 2024 Housing Allowances as presented.

ADOPTED

F. Executive Committee Election

- Pr. Evelyn “Patty” Avila
- S.Dcn. David Ehlers
- S.Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill
- Thomas Sargent
- Pr. Garry Squire

ACTION SC23:11/11

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council elected Mr. Tom Sargent, S.Dcn. Denise Rutherford Gill, S.Dcn. Dave Ehlers and The Rev. Patty Avila to serve on the Executive Committee.

ADOPTED

5. Report of the Bishop

A. Calls

- a. **The Rev. Andrew Patty: *Term call (Two-Year) / St. John's, Manhattan eff 29 Oct 2023***

ACTION SC23:11/12

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a two-year term call to the Rev. Andrew Patty to serve as pastor to St. John's, Manhattan, effective 29 October 2023.

ADOPTED

C. Appointments (for announcement)

- a. **The Rev. Rebecca Pollicino: *Intentional Interim Pastor / Gloria Dei, Huntington Station and King of Kings, Melville***
b. **S.Dcn. Donna-Mari Fieldsa: *MNYS Worship Committee***

C. Staff

- a. **Property / Legal Updates**
Karen Falco gave updated

At this point SC went into Executive Session.

b. Personnel

After discussion of two issues, one relating to personnel and one not, the SC came out of Executive Session.

D. Pastoral Care / Ecumenical & Interfaith participation

- a. **Pastoral calls / meetings / visits with rostered & lay leaders (38)**
- **Congregation visits / Councils**
 - **Epiphany-Epifania, Hempstead / Grace, Uniondale: Bishop visit**
 - **St. Luke's, Times Square, Manhattan: anniversary**
 - **Gloria Dei, Huntington Station: anniversary**
 - **Our Savior, Croton-on-Hudson: anniversary**
 - **Incarnation, Bridgehampton: Bishop visit**

- **St. Michael's, Amagansett: Bishop visit**
- **Our Saviour, Jamaica: Pr. Robert Fritch retirement**
- **Cross of Christ, Babylon: anniversary**
- **Abiding Presence, Fort Salonga: anniversary**
- **Covenant, Ridgewood: Pr. Michael Ross funeral**

b. MNYS Committees & Groups / Lutheran Partners

- **Manhattan Conference Ministerium (1:1 meetings with 10 pastors)**
- **Brooklyn Conference Ministerium (1:1 meetings with 8 pastors)**
- **Hudson Conference Ministerium (1:1 meetings with 7 pastors)**
- **Delaware-Hudson Conference Ministerium (1:1 meetings with 7 pastors)**
- **Western Queens (Upper) Ministerium (1:1 meetings with 7 pastors)**
- **Long Island Lutheran Middle and High School Bid for Kids annual event**
- **Seafarers International Board**
- **First Call Theological Retreat**
- **Candidacy Retreat**
- **Bishop's Retreat / Pastors**
- **Bishop's Retreat / Synod Deacons**
- **BET (monthly)**
- **Conference of Bishops**
- **Region 7 Bishops (weekly)**
- **Lutheran Transitional Ministry Association / Residential Week**

E. Vision Team

a. Meeting: September 16

5. Report of the Vice-President

A. 2024 EC / SC meeting schedule

Will be distributed in December.

7. Treasurer's Report

A. Mission Support (YTD Oct 2023)

J. Litke reported that the October 31, 2023, Mission Support offerings totaled \$59,142.78, and YTD Mission Support actuals through October 31, 2023, are \$594,271.41 which is \$22,586.81 more than YTD October 2022.

B. Financials

C. FY 2025 Budget

J. Litke presented proposed budget for questions. Vote will be taken at January SC meeting.

8. Afterthoughts

A. Observer for January 2024 meeting: TBD

9. Observer's Evaluation

Meeting adjourned with prayer by Bishop at 3:34 pm.

Executive Committee Meeting: January TBD

Synod Council meeting: January TBD

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Schoepflin, Secretary