

## SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

<b>*Ms. Cynthia Corley</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Steven Daniels</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. George Dietrich</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>*Bishop Paul Egensteiner</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>*S. Dcn. David Ehlers</b>	<b>2022</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>Mr. Erich Markert</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Ms. Lily Sage Mathias</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Mx. Anna Moritz (Young Adult)</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>*The Rev. Jeanine Owens</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>The Rev. David Parsons</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Daniel Peter</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Mr. Aiden Sargent (Youth)</b>	<b>2023</b>
<i>Mr. Thomas Sargent</i>	<i>2022</i>
<b>*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Mr. Cecil (Chip) Spurlock-Shackelton</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*The Rev. Gary Squire</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>The Rev. Brooke Swertfager</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Ms. Renee Wicklund, VP</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wilson</i>	<i>2024</i>

**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**  
*Ms. Kaitlin Kowalec*  
**Mr. Roberto Lara**  
  
*The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski*  
**Ms. Maria Rodas**  
**S. Dcn. Gayle Ruege**  
**The Rev. Kevin Vandiver**

## GUESTS

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## MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE

**Opening Devotions:** *Pastor Daniel Peter Penumaka*

**Observer:** *Pastor David Parsons*

**Call to Order:** *Ms. Renée Wicklund at 9:45am.*

1. **Adoption of the agenda:** adopted as presented.

2. **Draft SC minutes 22 March 2022:** adopted as presented.
3. **Report of the Bishop**
  - A. **Calls**
    - a. The Rev. Dr. Martha Cruz: *Interim Pastor / Fordham, Bronx effective 3 Apr 2022*

**ACTION SC22:04/01**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to the Rev. Dr. Martha Cruz to serve as Interim Pastor for Fordham, Bronx effective 3 April 2022.

**ADOPTED**

- b. S.Dcn. Grace Sabella: *Holy Trinity, Rockville Centre, OLFC status effective 1 June 2022*

**ACTION SC22:04/02**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council grant On Leave from Call status to S.Dcn. Grace Sabella effective 1 June 2022.

**ADOPTED**

**B. Pastoral Care / Ecumenical & Interfaith participation**

- a. **Pastoral calls / meetings / visits with rostered leaders (12)**
  - **Congregation visits / Councils**
    - Our Saviour, Mineola / 100th Anniversary
    - Epiphany, Hempstead / Passion Sunday
    - Christ, Little Neck / Holy Closure
- b. **Worship Services**
  - **Funeral Mass: The Rev. William Paulsen**
  - **Funeral Mass: The Rev. Dr. Jane Gaeta**
  - **Chrism Mass**
- c. **Ecumenical Events**
  - **Lutheran – Anglican – Roman Catholic worship gathering**
  - **Lutheran Bishops at Yale Divinity School**
  - **LOFT event (Lutheran seminarians: Princeton, Yale, Harvard, and Union) @ Union Seminary**
  - **Chapel for the World @ JFK Luncheon fundraising event**

- **Episcopal – Lutheran collaborative ministry: Bp. Dietsche and Diocesan staff**

**d. Wider Church**

- **Conference of Bishops (now meet bi-weekly)**
- **Region 7 Bishops (meet weekly)**
- **Anti-racism Committee**
- **BET (monthly)**

**C. Communications / Events**

**a. Special Meeting of the Synod Assembly Agenda**

**ACTION SC22:04/03**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council present for adoption the proposed agenda for the Special Meeting of the Synod Assembly on May 6, 2022.

**ADOPTED**

**D. Staff / Updates**

**a. Synod Owned Properties**

K. Falco reported that properties are being well managed by M. Goodwin. Sale of Suffren cemetery will close in the coming week.

**b. Legal updates**

**4. Report of the Vice-President**

**A. End of Term**

**B. Succession Plan**

**C. Remaining Goals**

**D. Outgoing SC members**

- **S.Dcn. Steven Daniels**
- **S.Dcn. David Ehlers (nominated for re-election)**
- **Hazel Goldstein**
- **Pr. Marva Jenkins**
- **John Litke**
- **Pr. David Parsons (nominated for re-election)**
- **Tom Sargent (nominated for re-election)**
- **Pr. Daniel Peter Penumaka**
- **Pr. Robert Schoepflin**
- **Wendy Bean Tannenbaum**
- **Renée Wicklund**
- **S.Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams**

**5. Strategic Plan Report (given by Bishop)**

**A. 2025 Vision**

- a. Bishop / weekly meetings with Pr. William Baum and Renee Wicklund**
- b. Vision Team meeting: 19 Mar 2022 (in person) /next: April 30**
- c. Ministry Legacy Project Manager update**

R. Wicklund reported that someone is prayerfully considering this position.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

**A. Mission Support Report**

**a. Conference detail February and March**

J. Litke reported that the February 2022 Mission Support actuals through February 28, 2022, are \$26,560.32 which is \$28,700.13 less than YTD February 2021.

The March 2022 Mission Support offerings totaled \$88,022.92. YTD Mission Support actuals through March 31, 2022, are \$114,583.24 which is \$42,891.10 less than YTD March 2021.

**B. Financials (31 March 2022)**

**C. Annual audit**

J. Litke reported that the audit was just completed. The auditors will complete and submit the report. Donna-Mari will convene the Audit Committee to review the completed report.

**7. Old Business**

**A. 129 Russell Street, Brooklyn (former Messiah Lutheran Church): sale offer**

K. Falco reported that three offers are being vetted.

**ACTION SC22:04/04**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council grant authority to the Executive Committee to enter into contract with a buyer for the property located at 129 Russell Street, Brooklyn for a sale price of \$4,100,000 or higher.**

**ADOPTED (18 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions)**

**B. Giles Street, Bronx: update**

R. Wicklund reported that Synod Council gave approval for a former offer in the amount of \$760,000. The former offer has been withdrawn. A new offer from Van Cortland Jewish Center for \$850,000 has been received. We will proceed with contract.

**C. 1037 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Brooklyn: sale offer**

**ACTION SC22:04/05**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the sale of the property located at 1037 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Brooklyn to Levi Leifer (or entity controlled by him) in the amount of \$5,150,000.00.

**ADOPTED** (19 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

**D. 3 Church Road, Suffern: lease**

**ACTION SC22:04/06**

**RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council lease the property located at 3 Church Road, Suffern to Virgin Mary & St. Pakhomious Coptic Orthodox Church.

**ADOPTED** (19 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

**8. New Business**

**A. SC nomination for Secretary: The Rev. Robert Schoepflin**

**ACTION SC22:04/07**

**RESOLVED**, that the Rev. Robert Schoepflin be nominated for the office of Synod Secretary.

**ADOPTED**

**9. Afterthoughts**

**A. Devotions June: D. Parsons**

**B. Observer June: D. Ehlers**

**10. Observer's Evaluation**

**Executive Committee Meeting: June 2, 2022 via zoom**

**Synod Council Retreat: June 10-11 (*Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington*)**

**\*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 by May 26, 2022**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:56 am.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Schoepflin, Secretary