

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Rev. Albert Ahlstrom 2012
Mr. William Anderson 2012
***The Rev. William Baum** 2012
The Rev. Rosalind Brathwaite 2012
Ms. Kelsey Brown 2012
***Mr. Robert Buescher, Treas.** 2012
Ms. Christine Connell, DM 2014
***Ms. Maria del Toro, Vice President** 2014
Dcn Charles Germain 2014
Ms. Hazel Goldstein 2012
Ms. Barbara Hansen 2014
Mr. Gene Hiigel 2014
Ms. Barbara Holm 2012
The Rev. Brenda Jack 2012
***Ms. Barbara Johnson** 2012
The Rev. Perry Kirschbaum 2014
Dr. Carlos Lopez 2014
Dcn. John Malone 2014
***Ms. Minerva Melendez** 2014
The Rev. Craig Miller 2014
***The Rev. Paul Milholland** 2014
Dcn. Bobbi Paulik 2012
Mr. Brian Reardon 2012
***The Rev. Robert A. Rimbo, Bishop** 2014
The Rev. Kit Robison 2014
***The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.** 2014
Mr. Jonathan Westerlund 2012

27 Voting Members

AUXILLIARY MEMBERS

STAFF

The Rev. Perucy Butiku
Ms. Sarah Gioe
The Rev. Dr. Jack Horner
The Rev. Kathleen Koran
The Rev. Jonathan Linman
Mr. John Litke
The Rev. Dr. Gary Mills
Dcn. Gayle Ruege
Ms. Kathleen Schmidt

GUESTS

**The Rev. Leo E. ("Jay") Longan, Conference
of Deans**
Mr. Tom Massey (Daxko T2)
Ms. Lori Swann (Daxko T2)

Bold = present
Italics = excused absence
*Member of Executive Committee

Devotions: *Rev. Craig Miller*
Observer: *Ms. Barbara Hansen*

Call to Order: VP Del Toro called us to order 5:05 pm and welcomed Ms. Hazel Goldstein to synod council

1. **Adoption of Agenda:** adopted as presented.
2. **Adoption of Minutes: 24 January 2012:** adopted as presented.
3. **Bishop's Report**
 - A. **Committee on Congregational Viability Norms** **EXHIBIT A**
Pr. Wm. Baum gave report on work of committee and informational meetings in the synod that have been held thus far.

B. Strategic Plan: Draft (Mr. Tom Massey)

Tom Massey led the council in a review and discussion of the draft strategic plan. Key aspects of the plan will be published on the synod website for review and response. In a pause in our discussion, VP Del Toro called for a time of silent prayer for our work.

C. Appointments

- a. The Rev. John Flack: Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialog: Long Island
- b. Ms. Barbara Hansen: Environmental Stewardship Committee
- c. Mr. Pat Almonrode: Environmental Stewardship Committee

Bp. Rimbo reported that these appointments had been made.

D. MNYS Employee Handbook

Bp. Rimbo reported that the Executive Committee (as personnel committee) has reviewed and approved the revised handbook.

E. Congregations: for report

- a. New Hope, Valley Stream
 - Pr. Perucy Butiku reported on the fire. She thanked everyone for their prayers.
- b. St. Thomas, Bronx
 - Bp. Rimbo reported that an advisory panel had been appointed to meet with congregation and make a report to the bishop.
- c. Grace, North Branch
 - Bp. Rimbo reported on letter received from congregation, and reiterated that congregation has to call a pastor rostered in the ELCA.
- d. Grace Lutheran School / Queens Lutheran School
 - Bp. Rimbo reported on his visit with schools and their joint planning.

F. Legal Updates

- a. Property formerly Bethlehem, Brooklyn
 - Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported that appeal has been perfected by the appellants and that synod's response will be filed by our attorney. Should have a decision by mid-June.
- b. St. Luke's, Bronx
 - Ms. Schmidt reported that there are several legal issues being dealt with.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Robert Buescher presented his report. **EXHIBIT B**

A. Financial Management Committee Report

No report.

5. Constitutions

- A. Our Saviour's Atonement, Manhattan** – constitution received and reviewed
- B. Ascension, Franklin Square** – constitution received and reviewed
- C. St. Peter's, Springfield Gardens** – constitution received and reviewed
- D. NY Finnish** – constitution received and approved
- E. Third, Rhinebeck** – constitution received and approved
- F. Trinity, Staten Island** – amendments received and approved

6. Synod Assembly 2012

A. Memorandum: Procedures/Requirements for SA Resolutions and Memorials

EXHIBIT C

B. Proposal: 2013 Synod Assembly

Upon motion made, seconded and approved, it was determined to vote on Item 7A (bishop election procedure), prior to consideration of this resolution on the 2013 Synod Assembly.

ACTION SC12:02/02

RESOLVED, that the 2013 Metropolitan New York Synod Assembly be a one day assembly, devoted to our life together, but including necessary business.

ADOPTED

C. Nominations for Treasurer

7. Old Business

A. Process for Election of Synodical Bishop EXHIBIT D

ACTION SC12:02/01

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council recommend to the 2012 Synod Assembly that it adopt the proposed procedure for the election of the synodical bishop in 2014.

ADOPTED

B. Congregations under synod administration *(monthly report)*

Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

C. Congregational Loan Status / Synod Properties update *(monthly report)*

Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

D. Pending

a. Zion/Sion, 119th Street, Manhattan

b. Studley Contract

c. Manhattan Latino Strategy

d. Working Group for Racial and Ethnic Awareness and Sensitivity

e. Christ Chinese, Brooklyn

Pr. Gary Mills noted that he will be meeting with the congregation.

f. Office Space Task Force

8. New Business

A. Housing Allowances EXHIBIT E

ACTION SC12:02/03

RESOLVED, that the housing allowances for rostered staff as specified be approved.

ADOPTED

9. Other Reports

Dcn. Charlie Germain presented Child, Youth and Family Ministry report. **EXHIBIT F**

10. Announcements/Events

Ms. Christine Connell noted that LSS President's Dinner, honoring Robert Buescher, will be held Thursday, March 1.

11. Meeting Evaluation

Pr. Al Ahlstrom suggested we spend time in discussion of Barna's book, Revolution. Book discussion will be facilitated by Tom Massey and added to the agenda for the April 28 SC meeting.

12. Observer's Evaluation

Ms. Barbara Hansen evaluated our meeting.

- 13.** VP Del Toro thanked Ms. Hansen for her evaluation.
Ms. Barbara Johnson will be observer for March meeting.
Dcn. John Malone will give devotions at March meeting.

Ms. Christine Connell closed the meeting with prayer.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.