

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Daquan Baker (Youth) 2016
The Rev. William Baum 2016
The Rev. Rosalind Brathwaite 2016
***Ms. Maria del Toro, Vice President** 2018
The Rev. Khader El-Yateem 2016
***Ms. Hazel Goldstein** 2016
The Rev. Brenda Irving 2016
Ms. Barbara Johnson 2016
The Rev. Amy Kienzle 2018
Mr. John Litke 2018
Dr. Carlos Lopez 2018
Dcn. John Malone 2018
Ms. Karen Maulen 2018
The Rev. Craig Miller 2018
Mr. Walter Nash 2018
Dcn. Lulu Paolini 2018
The Rev. Daniel Peter 2018
Dcn. John Prosen 2016
Mr. Brian Reardon 2016
***The Rev. Robert A. Rimbo, Bishop** 2020
Ms. Terra Rowe 2016
**The Rev. Harry Schenkel* 2018
***The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.** 2018
***Mr. Frank Suttell, Treasurer** 2016
Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum 2018
Ms. Abby Triebel (Young Adult) 2016
***Mr. Christopher Vergara** 2016
**Ms. Karen Woolley* 2016

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

STAFF

The Rev. Percy Butiku
The Rev. Kathleen Koran
The Rev. Jonathan Linman
Dcn. Gayle Ruege
Ms. Kathleen Schmidt
Ms. Rebekah Thornhill
The Rev. Lamont Wells

GUESTS

The Rev. Edward Barnett, Conf. of Deans

Bold = present

Italics = excused absence

*Member of Executive Committee

Opening Prayer: by Bishop Rimbo

Observer: Pr. Brenda Irving

Call to Order: Ms. Maria del Toro at 5:13pm

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda:** adopted as presented.
- 2. Adoption of the Minutes:** 20 November 2015: adopted as presented.

- 3. Bishop's Report**
 - A. Appointments

- a. Claimed Strategy Committee (made by the Executive Committee)
 1. The Rev. Mark Erson - Chair
 2. The Rev. Joel Brandt
- b. Gathered Strategy Committee (made by the Executive Committee)
 1. Dcn. Carlos Lopez
 2. Dcn. John Prosen
- c. Anti-Racism Task Force (made by the Executive Committee)
 1. Dr. Joel Burmol
 2. The Rev. Marva Jenkins
 3. The Rev. Marcia Parkinson-Harrison

Appointments made by Bishop Rimbo:

- d. Worship Committee
 1. Dcn. Evelin P. Avila
 2. The Rev. Linda Bell
 3. Donald Mieneke
 - e. The Rev. Khader Khalilia: Interim Dean/Southwest Brooklyn Conference
 - f. The Rev. Dr. Katrina Foster: Interim Dean / Brooklyn Bridges Conference
 - g. The Rev. William Baum: Facilitator / Saint Peter's – Sion Covenant Commission
 - h. Ms. Carol Trower: Bishop's Representative on Saint Peter's (Manhattan) Trust Committee
 - i. Deacon Meg Fielding: Interim Chair / MNYS Diaconate Council
- B. Immanuel, Manhattan
VP Del Toro called the Council into executive session to discuss matters pertaining to this congregation.
- C. 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
Pr. Linman spoke about planning that is being done to mark the anniversary.
- D. Staff Housing Allowances **EXHIBIT A**

ACTION SC15:12/01

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the staff housing allowances as presented.

ADOPTED

4. Strategic Plan Implementation

- A. Joint Committee meeting Dec 5
 - Several new members were appointed to the strategy committees
 - Tom Massey facilitated an orientation for new members and refresher for returning members
 - Following the orientation the committees broke into separate groups to discuss goals and objectives for their specific committees for 2016

B. Anti-racism Initiative

Ms. Barbara Johnson and Pr. Perucy Butiku spoke about training program for anti-racism committee on January 9 and for synod council in February.

5. Treasurer's Report: presented by Mr. Frank Suttell

A. Mission Support

Mr. Suttell reported that for November we received \$105,038 versus a budgeted amount of \$102,805.

6. New Business

A. 2016 Synod Assembly Rate Schedule

- Rate schedule as determined by the Assembly Planning Committee and recommended by the Executive Committee were presented to the council

ACTION SC15:12/02

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the 2016 Synod Assembly rate schedule as presented.

ADOPTED

B. Parish Property Management

- **Parish Property Management, Inc. (PPM)** is a Facilities Management company that specializes in serving Religious Communities and the unique needs of their buildings.
- PPM will perform a complete facility audit and implement a maintenance schedule to ensure that critical tasks are executed timely;
- Currently, Ms. Kathy Schmidt is engaging consultants and local hires to maintain facilities.
- PPM provided a facility audit for Redeemer, Flushing and provided a full report
- PPM has come highly recommended to us and the EC recommends securing their services for management of our properties.

ACTION SC15:12/03

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod engage the services of Parish Property Management, Inc.

ADOPTED

7. Old Business

A. Congregations / properties under synod administration

- a. St. Philips, Brooklyn: approval of contract

ACTION SC15:12/04

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the contract for the sale of the property located at 85 Forbell Street, Brooklyn, New York, with Pentecostal Christian Church, John 3:16, for the sale price of \$1,850,000.

ADOPTED For: 20 Against: 0 Absentions: 0

b. Trinity, St. Albans:

Pr. Brenda Irving, Pr. Perucy Butiku and Dcn. John Malone served as Trustees of this congregation which has been under temporary synod administration. They presented their report to the council.

The recommendation of the Trustees is to remove Trinity from Temporary Synod Administration and authorize the congregation to pursue a legal merger with Prince of Peace, Cambria Heights.

ACTION SC15:12/05

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council remove Trinity, St. Albans from temporary synod administration, effective immediately.

ADOPTED

c. Bethany, Elmhurst

- Bishop Rimbo, Pr. Koran, Mr. Christopher Vergara and Dcn. Gayle Ruege met with the congregation leadership and Pr. Abraham Lu on November 9
- Congregation has formulated plans for merger with Grace Chinese, and has sent a letter to the council requesting removal from temporary synod administration.

ACTION SC15:12/06

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council remove Bethany, Elmhurst from synod administration, effective immediately.

ADOPTED

B. SA Actions (Pending)

a. SA2015:05.01 / Resolution on Ministerium

Committee of Bishop Rimbo, Pr. Linman and (4) Deans have determined that the ministerium will be held on April 21 at the Wartburg. Content for the day will be determined in upcoming meetings.

b. SA2015:05.08 / MNYS Disaster Response Task Force

C. Pending

- MNYS Committee structure
- Report Process for election of a Bishop

Pr. El-Yateem asked if synod council can address current issue of xenophobia in our country, particularly as it pertains to Muslims and immigrants from the Middle East. Bishop addressed this and spoke of announcements that ELCA has made on this issue.

It was also recommended that members visit www.elca.org/webcast to view Presiding Bishop Eaton's statements on this issue.

VP Del Toro determined that this issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Observer's Evaluation

Next Synod Council Meeting: January 19 (Meeting rooms C-D / First Floor)

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm by VP Del Toro.

Closing prayer was led by Bishop Rimbo.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Robert P. Schoepflin, Secretary