SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Leonel E. Avila 2021  Ms. Regina Daniels
Mr. Adam A.D. Campbell (Youth) 2021  The Rev. Gladys Diaz
*Ms. Cynthia Corley 2021  Mr. Branden Dupee
*The Rev. Chryll Crews 2022  Ms. Karen Falco
S. Dcn. Steven Daniels 2022  S.Dcn. Donna-Mari Fieldsa
The Rev. George Dietrich 2021  Mr. Mark Goodwin
*Bishop Paul Egensteiner 2025  Ms. Kaitlin Kowalec
Mr. David Ehlers 2022  Mr. Roberto Lara
Ms. Hazel Goldstein 2022  Ms. Claire Mazza
The Rev. Marva Jenkins 2022  The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski
*Mr. John Litke, Treasurer 2022  Ms. Maria Rodas
Mr. Erich Markert 2021  S.Dcn. Gayle Ruege
Lily Sage Mathias 2021  The Rev. Kevin Vandiver
Isabel Mendoza-Garcia 2021
*The Rev. Jeanine Owens 2021
The Rev. David Parsons 2022
The Rev. Daniel Peter 2022
S. Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill 2021  Mr. Thomas Sargent 2021
*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect. 2022
Mr. Cecil (Chip) Spurlock-Shackelton 2022
*The Rev. Garry Squire 2021
The Rev. Brooke Swertfager 2021
Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum 2022
Ms. Emma Turner (Young Adult) 2021
*Ms. Renee Wicklund, VP 2022
S. Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams 2022

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

MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE

Opening Devotions:  Lily Sage Mathias
Observer:  Wendy Bean Tannenbaum
Call to Order:  Ms. Renée Wicklund at 5:10 pm.
1. **Adoption of the agenda**: adopted as presented

2. **Draft SC minutes 24 April 2021**: adopted as presented

3. **Report of the Bishop**
   
   **A. Calls**
   
   a. S.Dcn. Doreen Bietter / Cross of Christ, Babylon: *On Leave from Call status effective 27 Feb 2021*
   
   b. S.Dcn. William Bello / Emanuel, Pleasantville: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 Feb 2021*
   
   c. S.Dcn. Barbara Meberg / Emanuel, Pleasantville: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 Feb 2021*
   
   d. S.Dcn. Nancy Schoener / Emanuel, Pleasantville: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 Feb 2021*
   
   e. S.Dcn. Victoria Struss / Emanuel, Pleasantville: *On Leave from Call status effective 1 Feb 2021*
   
   f. S. Dcn. Luanna Schilling: *On Leave from Call extension through 1 Aug 2021*

   **ACTION SC21:05/01**


   **ADOPTED**

   **B. Appointments**

   a. **Consultation Committee / New Hope, Jamaica**
      
      + *The Rev. Chryll Crews*
      
      + *The Rev. Justin Lathrop*
      
      + *Mark Goodwin*
      
      + *Carol Trower*

   b. **Nominations & Elections Committee**
      
      + *The Rev. Kevin O’Hara, Chair*

   c. **Diaconate Council**
      
      + *The Rev. Rebecca Sheridan*

   **C. Pastoral Care / Visits / Ecumenical – Interfaith participation**

   a. **Pastoral calls / visits**
      
      + *Pastors (active, retired) / synod leaders*
Bishop reported on speaking with several pastors (including many retired) and leaders throughout the month. Deployed Assistants are also in regular contact with pastors and leaders in their assigned conferences.

**Congregation Councils**
Bishop met with several congregation councils including the councils of St. Andrew’s, West Hempstead and Ascension, Franklin Square following the recent shooting at the Stop & Shop Supermarket in West Hempstead.

**Diaper Ministry: Christ, Newburgh**
Bishop and Marianne volunteered at the Diaper Ministry on May 8.

**b. Candidacy / Candidates**

**Candidates approved for ordination / individual conversations**
Bishop had individual conversations with each of the candidates that are approaching completion of their candidacy process and who will be presented to the Candidacy Committee for final approval on May 22.

**Endorsement panels**
Bishop participated in three Endorsement panels for candidates in the process.

**c. Conference of Deans (May 18)**
Bishop reported that the deans meet monthly with him and his staff.

**d. Update: Lutheran Services New York Alliance**
Bishop Egensteiner and Bishop Lecakes of the Atlantic District met with pastors serving as Chaplains and are now exploring possibilities on a path to transform / restructure LSNYA.

**e. Western Suffolk Diakonia class (May 6)**
Bishop visited and shared about visitation with the Western Suffolk Diakonia class.

**f. TEEM Pastors Pilot Program / M.Div.**
Bishop held a consultation with Pr. Ruben Duran (ELCA Churchwide), Pr. Javier Goitia (Director of Theological formation for seminaries and schools of the ELCA); Mo. Gladys Diaz, and Dr. Samuel Cruz (Union Seminary) regarding the development of a pilot program for Latinx TEEM pastors to earn their M.Div. through a Lutheran seminary.
g. Wagner College Board of Trustees
   Bishop attended or will attend the following events:
   • Academic and Student Affairs Committee (May 10)
   • Advancement Committee (May 12)
   • Wagner Fellows Gathering (May 12)
   • Board of Trustees meeting (May 14)
   • Wagner Chai Society Mitzvah Awards (May 19)
   • Wagner 2021 Commencement (May 27)

h. Conference of Bishops and Region 7 Bishops: weekly

i. Monthly Black Equity Table (Reparations discussion)

D. Communications / Events: R. Lara reported
   a. Monthly worship recordings / Office of the Bishop (through May)

   b. Public Relations Articles

   c. Ordinations and Setting Apart of Synodical Deacons: June 19 / St. Peter’s, Huntington Station
   There will be two services with the Rite of Setting Apart of Synodical Deacons and a service with the Rite of Ordination scheduled for June 19, 2021 at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Huntington Station. All three services will be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube and recorded. The schedule for the day is as follows:
   9:30 AM: Rite of Setting Apart of 2020 Synodical Deacons
   1:00 PM: Rite of Setting Apart of 2021 Synodical Deacons
   4:00 PM: Rite of Ordination

   d. 2021 Synod Assembly Updates
   R. Lara gave a link to register for Synod Assembly.

4. Report of the Vice President
   A. Visits: R. Wicklund reported on congregations she has visited.
   B. Other activities: She reported on several meetings with leaders and weekly meetings with Bishop.
   C. MNYS Roster Review: Ministers of Word and Sacrament (S-V): This will be done at June meeting.

5. Strategic Plan Report
   A. Vision 2025
Bishop held weekly meetings with Pr. William Baum and Renee Wicklund.

6. Treasurer’s Report  EXHIBIT A
   J. Litke reported that he is cautiously optimistic about support.

   A. FMC meets monthly

   B. Mission Support
   J. Litke reported that April 2021 Mission Support offerings totaled $62,995.36, YTD Mission Support actuals through April 30, 2021 are $220,469.70, which is 54,145.16 more than April 2020.

   1. Mission Support YTD Congregation Detail
   2. Mission Support Contributions April 2021
   3. Mission Support $0 Feb - Apr 2021

   C. Financials (April 2021)  EXHIBIT B

   E. Budgets update
   Budgets will be presented at the June SC meeting

7. Old Business

8. New Business
   A. Redeemer, Queens Village
   Pr. Vandiver gave an update.

9. Afterthoughts
   A. Devotions June: Cynthia Corley
   B. Observer June: Cecil (Chip) Spurlock-Shackleton

10. Observer’s Evaluation

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 with prayer by Bishop.

Executive Committee Meeting: June 15, 2021
Synod Council Meeting: June 26, 2021 @ 9:30 am  (Saturday)

*Proposed items for the Synod Council agenda should be submitted to Gayle Ruege (gruege@mnys.org) for consideration by the Executive Committee by: June 10, 2021*
Respectfully submitted,
Robert Schoepflin,
Secretary