

GREATER MILWAUKEE SYNOD, ELCA
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD COUNCIL MEETING
May 12, 2011, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Palmyra, Wisconsin
Ignited by God's love
Burning for Justice
We embrace the world

Attendance

Name	Cluster/Position	Term Ends 8/31	Present	Absent	Unexcused
Mr. Gus Barnes	Milwaukee 1	2013	X		
Vacant	Milwaukee 2	2013			
The Rev. Eric Silberschmidt	Kenosha/W Racine Cluster	2013	X		
Ms. Beth Dorsey	Northwest	2013	X		
Ms. Esther Rusch	Northern Lakeshore	2013	X		
The Rev. Tracy Polzin	Racine	2013		X	
Mr. Donald Hintze	Milwaukee 3	2011	X		
Ms. Sally Newman	Milwaukee 4	2011	X		
Mr. Kenneth Bischmann, AIM	Waukesha	2011	X		
Ms. Janey Reed	Lake Country	2011	X		
The Rev. Mark Jaramillo	At Large	2011		X	
The Rev. Kathy Boadwine	At Large	2011	X		
The Rev. Gary Grindeland	At Large	2011	X		
Ms. Susan Cyr	Vice President	2013(2)	X		
The Rev. Karl Nelson	Secretary	2011(1)	X		
Mr. Lee Johnston	Treasurer	2013(1)	X		
The Rev. Jeff Barrow	Bishop	2016(1)		X	
Vacant	Youth Representative	2013			

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Ms. Susan Cyr called the Synod Council meeting to order at 6:15 P.M., Thursday, May 12, 2011, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Palmyra, WI. A quorum was declared. Opening devotions were given by Mr. Donald Hintze. Devotions at the next synod council meeting will be given by Mr. Gus Barnes. Mr. Jerry Key was a guest.

Council Action

SC 11.05.01. Granting of Voice

It was voted to give Ms. Elizabeth Himmelman of the National Youth Gathering voice at this meeting.

Ms. Himmelman, representing the upcoming National Youth Gathering from our synod was invited to speak. She reported on the scope and importance of this gathering for the youth of our synod. The group has a goal of 300 youth attending from our synod.

I. Bishop's Report

The bishop, the Rev. Jeff Barrow, provided a written report on the issues that are pertinent to the ministry of the Synod. He is recovering from recent hip surgery. There will be some research undertaken on the issue of vouchers for schools as suggested in the bishop's written report.

II. Executive Committee

Council Action

SC 11.05.06. Call to Special Service: The Rev. Heather Bumstead

The Synod council voted a call to Special Service to the Rev. Heather Bumstead as a chaplain at Froedtert Hospital, Milwaukee, WI.

Council Action

SC 11.05.07. Call to Special Service: The Rev. Charles Brummond

The Synod Council voted to extend the call to special Service for the The Rev. Charles Brummond for one year as Director of Rostered Leadership

III. Treasurer's Report

Synod Treasurer, Mr. Lee Johnston, reported that Synod congregation giving compared to expenses shows an \$80,000 shortfall at this time. However, at the end of our fiscal year there could be a \$200,000 shortfall unless significant budget revisions are implemented or congregation giving increases significantly. The Synod reserve fund of \$209,000 remains on target and has not been utilized to date.

Council Action

SC 11.05.08. Adoption of the Revised Synod Budget for 2011-2012

It was voted to adopt the proposed revised Synod budget for 2011-2012 to better meet the projected income expectations for this term. The revised budgeted amounts are \$2,250,000 in income, and \$2,311,150 in expenses with 55% designated to the ELCA churchwide. The ELCA mission support percentage is to be established in consultation with the ELCA churchwide staff.

Council Action

SC 11.05.09. Recommendation to 2011 Synod Assembly of the Revised Synod Budget for 2012-2013

It was voted to recommend to the 2011 Synod Assembly that they adopt the proposed revised Synod budget for 2012-2013 to better meet the projected income expectations for this term. The revised budgeted amounts are \$2,250,000 in income, and \$2,319,640 in expenses with 55% designated to the ELCA churchwide. The ELCA mission support percentage is to be established in consultation with the ELCA churchwide staff.

It was consensus to refer to the finance committee the issue of establishing a policy concerning the accounting of funds that may come to the synod from the sale of church property which comes to the synod by the dissolution of a congregation or other means, a recommendation is requested from the finance committee on how to account for it in our financial reporting.

V. Old Business

A.2011 Synod Assembly (June 24-26)

Council Action

SC 11.05.10. Amendment to Assembly Rules concerning motions to change Synod Budget Amounts on the assembly floor

It was voted to amend the Assembly Rules as follows: All motions will be ruled “out of order” that seek to amend the Synod Budget by increasing the amount or percentage of any budget item or program in a Synod Council recommended Synod Budget, which is to be considered on the floor of the assembly, without also proposing a dollar for dollar matching decrease in another budget item or program. For an amendment to the Synod budget to be considered by the assembly, the amendment to the Synod Budget must result in the total final income and expense amounts being exactly the same as proposed by the Synod Council for adoption by the assembly.

2. Budget Workshop – Will take place during the second set of workshops on Friday afternoon.

3. Synod Offering Designation

Council Action

SC 11.05.13. Synod Offering designated for ELCA Disaster Relief

It was voted that the 2011 Synod Offering be designated for ELCA Disaster Relief

4. Constitutional Changes

Proposed changes to the Synod Constitution and bylaws were presented for information. Action on these changes from the Model Constitution for Synods 2009 will be taken at the 2011 Synod Assembly.

5. Nominations for Synod Secretary

Council Action

SC 11.05.14. Nominations for Synod Secretary (four year term)

It was voted to nominate to the Synod Assembly, Mr. Matthew Brockmeier, Random Lake, for Synod Secretary for a four year term.

B. Congregations taking action to leave the ELCA

1. Calvary, Brookfield (second vote 5/15)

2. Shepherd of the Hills (Hubertus)

C. Churchwide Assembly 2011, August 14-20

Voting Member Orientation Meetings: June 15, July 12 and August 4 all at Adoration, Milwaukee.

Announcements

Future Meeting dates:

July 14, 2011, Synod Council meeting, Place to be determined

September 22, 2011, Synod Council meeting, ELCA Headquarters (all day)

Signed,

Karl J. Nelson, Pastor

Synod Secretary