

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
 Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Contents

OVERVIEW 2

SYNOD COUNCIL 2

 Meetings..... 2

 Membership – May 2017 2

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2

 Meetings..... 2

 Membership – May 2017 3

COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES 3

 Membership..... 3

 Reports..... 3

FINANCE..... 3

GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATIONS 4

RECOGNITION AND RECEPTION OF CONGREGATIONS 4

SYNOD ASSEMBLY – RECOMMENDATIONS..... 5

 Recommendation of Governance Changes 5

 Approval of Synod Assembly Deadlines 5

 Approval of Synod Assembly Participation 5

 Recommendation of Synod Assembly Rules for Elections and Procedures 5

 Recommendation of Synod Assembly Agenda..... 5

 Use of Synod Assembly Offerings 6

 Recommendation of Proposed 2018-2019 Budget 6

 Presentation of Resolutions 6

SYNOD ASSEMBLY – RESOLUTION FOLLOW-UP 6

INITIATIVES 7

 Events..... 7

 Federated Congregation..... 8

 Mt. Meru Coffee Project..... 8

 Urban Internship 9

PERSONNEL 9

 Approval of Synod Calls 9

 Approval of On Leave from Call Status 10

 Approval of Study Leave 11

 Approval of Retired Status 11

 Approval of Appointments and Nominations 11

 Housing Allowances 12

 Compensation Guidelines & Actions 12

ADMINISTRATIVE 13

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA

Report of the Synod Council for 2017

OVERVIEW

This report summarizes actions taken by the Synod Council and the Executive Committee of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America since the Synod Assembly held from June 2nd through 4th, 2016. Copies of the complete minutes of both the Synod Council and Executive Committee are available from the synod secretary (brockmeier.gms@gmail.com) or the synod office (mary.romskog@gmselca.org), with summaries of Synod Council meetings available on the synod's website at <http://milwaukee-synod.org/who-we-are/synod-council-2/>.

Actions referred to in this report are preceded by two letters (SC for Synod Council) and sets of two-digit numbers separated by decimal points. The first two numbers identify the year and the next two numbers identify the month of the meeting in which the action was taken, while the final numbers identify the order of the action at that particular meeting. For example, SC16.09.15. refers to the fifteenth action taken by the Synod Council at its meeting in September 2016. Actions that are purely administrative in nature (e.g. approval of minutes) are not included in this report.

SYNOD COUNCIL

Meetings

The Synod Council met nine times since the 2016 Synod Assembly; with regular meetings on July 21, 2016, September 15, 2016, November 17, 2016, January 19, 2017, March 16, 2017 and May 18, 2017; and electronic meetings on June, 22-25, 2016, July 7, 2016 and February 18-21, 2017. Regular meetings are either hosted by the home congregations of Council members or held at the synod office.

Membership – May 2017

Name	Cluster/Position	Term Ends 8/31
Ms. Sue Schmidt-Decker	Kenosha/West Racine	2017
Vacant	Lake Country	2019
Vacant	Milwaukee 1	2017
The Rev. Lisa Bates-Froiland	Milwaukee 2	2017
Ms. Claire Zautke	Milwaukee 3	2019
The Rev. Bill Knapp	Milwaukee 4	2019
Mr. Tom Gauthier	Northern Lakeshore	2017
The Rev. David Schoob	Northwest	2017
Ms. Lynn Hooper	Racine	2017
The Rev. Angela Khabeb	Waukesha	2019
The Rev. Lindsay Jordan	At Large	2019
Mr. Jerry Key	At Large	6/2017
Ms. Amber Davis	At Large	2019
Mr. Scott Manske	Vice President	2017 (1)
Mr. Matthew Brockmeier	Secretary	2019 (2)
Mr. Lee Johnston	Treasurer	2017 (2)
The Rev. Paul Erickson	Bishop	2022 (1)
Ms. Sarah Muller	Youth Representative	2017
Mr. Jonathan Barker	Young Adult Rep.	2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meetings

The Executive Committee met six times since the 2016 Synod Assembly; in teleconference meetings on July 14, 2016, September 8, 2016, November 10, 2016, January 12, 2017, March 9,

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA

Report of the Synod Council for 2017

2017 and May 11, 2017. Minutes of Executive Committee meetings were presented to the next regular meeting of the Synod Council.

Membership – May 2017

Name	Cluster/Position
Rev. Lindsay Jordan	At Large
Rev. Angela Khabeb	Waukesha
Ms. Sue Schmidt-Decker	Kenosha/West Racine
Mr. Scott Manske	Vice President
Mr. Matthew Brockmeier	Secretary
Mr. Lee Johnston	Treasurer
The Rev. Paul Erickson	Bishop

The Executive Committee includes the synod's officers (bishop, vice president, secretary and treasurer) and three other members of the Synod Council elected annually by the Council. The election of those three members took place at the Council's first regular meeting of its new year.

Council Action

SC 16.09.15. Election to Executive Committee

The Synod Council voted to elect Ms. Sue Schmidt-Decker, Rev. Angela Khabeb and Rev. Lindsay Jordan as non-officer members of the synod executive committee for terms through August 2017.

COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Membership

The leaders of the Synod Council's committees and task forces are listed on the synod's website at <http://milwaukee-synod.org/who-we-are/committees/>.

Reports

The Council received regular reports from staff program directors and from affiliated organizations and committees, as well as detailed reports from Bishop Jeff Barrow and Bishop Paul Erickson.

Staff reports normally include those from the Director of Evangelical Mission, the Director of Discipleship, the Director of Rostered Leadership and the Director of Cross+Generational Ministry.

Other reports are typically made by Outreach for Hope, Reconciling in Christ, the Women of the ELCA, the Anti-Racism Team and Lutheran Campus Ministry.

FINANCE

Treasurer's Reports were reviewed by the Council at all regular Council meetings.

Council Action

SC 17.03.14. Approval of Budget Modification

The Council voted to approve a reduction in Congregational Contributions/Support from \$2,050,000 to \$2,000,000 in the budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2018.

Council Action

SC 17.03.15. Approval of Allocation of Funds

The Council voted to approve the use of unrestricted reserve funds to cover the \$9,699.89 deficit for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2017.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Council Action

SC 17.03.16. Amendment to Budget Draft

The Council voted to add an income line item for \$10,000.00 for funding of DEM expenses to the draft budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019.

GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATIONS

Council Action

SC 16.07.16. Approval of Grant Submission

The Council voted to approve submission of a grant request to the Siebert Lutheran Foundation for \$10,000.00, with \$5,000.00 requested for the 500th Anniversary Tree Project, and \$5,000.00 requested for 500th Anniversary events.

Council Action

SC 16.09.11. Approval of Grant Submission

The Council voted to approve submission of a grant request to the Siebert Lutheran Foundation for \$55,000.00.

Council Action

SC 17.05.17. Approval of Grant Submission

The Council voted to approve submission of a grant request by Lutheran Campus Ministry to the Siebert Foundation for funds totaling \$21,500, including \$7,200 in Peer Ministry Stipends for Marquette University, \$9,800 in Peer Ministry Stipends for UWM, \$3,200 in support of the Fall Training event, and \$1,300 in support of the Winter Retreat.

RECOGNITION AND RECEPTION OF CONGREGATIONS

Council Action

SC 17.05.13. Recognition and Reception of Congregation

The Council voted to recognize and receive Journey in Faith Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin. as a congregation of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of January 24, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.05.14. Recognition and Reception of Congregation

The Council voted to recognize and receive Unity Lutheran Church, Brookfield, Wisconsin. as a congregation of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of January 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.05.15. Recognition and Reception of Congregation

The Council voted to recognize and receive Living Faith Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin. as a congregation of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of February 14, 2016.

Council Action

SC 17.05.16. Recognition and Reception of Congregation

The Council voted to recognize and receive United Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin. as a congregation of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as of June 4, 2017.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY – RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation of Governance Changes

Council Action

SC 16.09.13. Motion to Table

The Council voted to table consideration of updates to the synod constitution until November 2016.

Council Action

SC 16.11.10. Recommendation of Amendments to the Synod Constitution

The Council voted to recommend that the 2017 Synod Assembly approve non-required amendments to the Constitution of the Greater Milwaukee Synod as presented, including details agreed during this meeting.

Approval of Synod Assembly Deadlines

Council Action

SC 17.01.12. Approval of Deadlines for Memorials and Resolutions

The Council voted to approve deadlines for memorials and resolutions to be considered by the 2017 Synod Assembly of Friday, March 31, 2017 for congregations, committees or clusters and Thursday, May 20, 2017 for the Synod Council.

Approval of Synod Assembly Participation

Council Action

SC 17.03.19. Approval of Voice and Vote

The Council voted to approve granting of voice and vote at the 2017 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly to Rev. Paula Harris under provision S7.27. of the Greater Milwaukee Synod's constitution.

Council Action

SC 17.05.06. Approval of Voice

The Council voted to approve granting voice but not vote at the 2017 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly to Rev. Jay Thorson, serving under contract at Capitol Drive Lutheran Church, Milwaukee.

Council Action

SC 17.05.07. Approval of Voice and Vote

The Council voted to approve granting of voice and vote at the 2017 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly to Rev. Ron Ballew under provision S7.27. of the Greater Milwaukee Synod's constitution.

Recommendation of Synod Assembly Rules for Elections and Procedures

Council Action

SC 17.03.21. Recommendation of Synod Assembly Rules and Procedures

The Council voted to recommend the 2017 Synod Assembly Rules and Procedures as presented for approval by the 2017 Synod Assembly.

Recommendation of Synod Assembly Agenda

Council Action

SC 17.03.22. Amendment to Synod Assembly Agenda

The Council voted to amend the recommended 2017 Synod Assembly Agenda to include final action on the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019 during Plenary Session 3.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Council Action

SC 17.03.23. Recommendation of Synod Assembly Agenda

The Council voted to recommend the 2017 Synod Assembly Agenda as modified for approval by the 2017 Synod Assembly.

Use of Synod Assembly Offerings

Council Action

SC 17.03.24. Approval of Use of Offering

The Council voted to allocate the offering from the worship service at the 2017 Synod Assembly to Refugee Resettlement-Milwaukee, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.

Recommendation of Proposed 2018-2019 Budget

Council Action

SC 17.03.17. Recommendation of Budget

The Council voted to recommend approval of the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019 to the 2017 Synod Assembly.

Presentation of Resolutions

The Synod Council acted to present one resolution to the 2017 Synod Assembly, as shown below. Another three resolutions were presented by other authorized entities.

Council Action

SC 17.03.26. Submission of Resolution to Synod Assembly

The Council voted to submit a Resolution in Recognition of Rev. David Larson's Service to Lutheran Social Services to the 2017 Synod Assembly, as follows:

Resolution in Recognition of Rev. David Larson's Service to Lutheran Social Services

Whereas, Rev. David N. Larson has provided distinguished leadership as President and Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan since July 2002, and prior to that served as Vice President of Resource Development; and

Whereas, Rev. Larson served as a synod representative to the LSS Board of Directors for six years; and

Whereas, Rev. Larson has tirelessly encouraged a strong commitment to the social ministry of the church, reminding us that "When people are at their worst, we need to be at our best"; and

Whereas, Rev. Larson has been a leading voice of inspiration and challenge to fulfill the mission of LSS, "Motivated by the compassion of Christ, we help people improve the quality of their lives"; and

Whereas, Rev. Larson will retire in 2018 from a career of dedicated service as a Lutheran pastor and social services leader; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Greater Milwaukee Synod recognize, affirm and celebrate Rev. David N. Larson for his service to the church and the thousands of lives that have been changed because of his passionate and committed leadership.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY – RESOLUTION FOLLOW-UP

Council Action

SC 16.06.02. Referral of Resolution to ELCA

The Council voted to refer 2016 Synod Assembly Resolution 4, on Justice for the Holy Land through Responsible Investment, as approved by the Synod Assembly, to the Domestic Mission Unit of the ELCA.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Council Action

SC 16.11.12. Approval of Investment Exploration Team

The Council voted to approve the creation of a team, formed by Vice President Manske and Treasurer Johnston, to examine options for investments to meet the requirements of 2016 Synod Assembly Resolution 4.

Council Action

SC 17.05.09. Submission of Report

The Council voted to forward the “Report on Resolution 2 of 2014 Synod Assembly” to the 2017 Synod Assembly, and to include in documents provided electronically but not in print for Voting Members of the Assembly.

Council Action

SC 17.05.10. Adoption of Policies, Procedures and Recommendations

The Council voted to adopt the Policy on the Use of Funds from the Sale of Greater Milwaukee Synod Church Properties, the Procedure for the Distribution of Grants from the Sale of Greater Milwaukee Synod Church Properties, and Options for Missional Closing and Disbursement of Assets as presented, as called for in 2013 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly Resolution 2.

Council Action

SC 17.05.11. Submission of Report

The Council voted to forward the “Response from the Synod on 2016 Resolution 4 on Investment in the Holy Land” to the 2017 Synod Assembly, and to include in documents provided electronically but not in print for Voting Members of the Assembly.

Council Action

SC 17.05.12. Submission of Report

The Council voted to forward the report on “2016 Resolution Action” to the 2017 Synod Assembly, and to include in documents provided electronically but not in print for Voting Members of the Assembly.

INITIATIVES

Council Action

SC 16.09.07. Acceptance of Stewardship Strategy

The Council voted to accept the “Greater Milwaukee Synod Mission Support and Stewardship Strategy.

Council Action

SC 17.01.10. Approval of Seasonal Memberships

The Council voted to approve the option for congregations to grant seasonal memberships consistent with constitutional provision *C8.02.e.

Council Action

SC 17.03.25. Approval of Committee

The Council voted to approve the establishment of a Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Committee, which has previously been known as the Refugee Resettlement Task Force.

Events

Council Action

SC 16.09.12. Approval of Campus Ministry Sunday

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA Report of the Synod Council for 2017

The Council voted to approve April 30, 2017 as Campus Ministry Sunday in the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

Council Action

SC 16.11.08. Endorsement of Cluster Assembly Event

The Council voted to endorse the concept of the Cluster Assembly event tentatively scheduled for February 25, 2017.

Federated Congregation

Council Action

SC 17.05.18. Deferral of Action on Property Sale

The Council voted to defer action to approve the possible sale of Good Shepherd Trinity Church's building at 3617 North 48th Street in Milwaukee pending the receipt of complete information required by the Presbytery of Milwaukee's "Policy to Buy, Sell, Encumber, or Lease Church Property", including information on the planned use of the sale proceeds (Provision 2) and all other information required in Provision 3 of the Policy.

Mt. Meru Coffee Project

Council Action

SC 16.07.11. Action to Table

The Council voted to table consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Mt. Meru Coffee Project, the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod for further consideration, with the Council to hold a special electronic meeting authorized by the bishop for final action.

Council Action

SC 16.07.12. Action to Table

The Council voted to table consideration of the Makumira Farm Economic Development Proposal and Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Commercial Rental Structures for further consideration, with the Council to hold a special electronic meeting authorized by the bishop for final action.

Council Action

SC 16.07.13. Approval of Bylaw Change – Mt. Meru Coffee Project

The Council voted to remove Article 5 Section 2 (c), regarding term limits, from the bylaws of the Mt. Meru Coffee Project, Inc.

Council Action

SC 16.07.10. Approval of Raffle Participation

The Council voted to approve a calendar raffle to be conducted by the Mt. Meru Coffee Project during 2017.

Council Action

SC 16.09.09. Motion to Reconsider

The Council voted to reconsider SC 16.07.10., Approval of Raffle Participation, which approved a calendar raffle to be conducted by the Mt. Meru Coffee Project during 2017.

Council Action

SC 16.09.10. Rejection of Raffle Participation

The Council voted to reject a calendar raffle requested by the Mt. Meru Coffee Project.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Urban Internship

Council Action

SC 17.01.20. Approval of Disbursement of Endowment Funds

The Council voted to approve a one-time disbursement of \$4,629.00 to All People's Lutheran Church in Milwaukee for internship support for the period through July 2017 from the Immanuel Lutheran Trust for Urban Internship, based on the recommendation of the Synod Endowment Committee.

PERSONNEL

The Synod Council regularly addressed personnel action, including synod calls, status changes for rostered leaders, other appointments, and review and action on personnel policies.

Approval of Synod Calls

Council Action

SC 16.07.08. Approval of Synod Calls

The Council voted to approve synod calls to Rev. Andrea Ng'weshemi to a teaching position at Carthage College, and to Rev. Maren M. Hooper for Interim Ministry at Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartford.

Council Action

SC 16.09.05. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Jane E. Fryda for Chaplaincy at Children's Hospital.

Council Action

SC 16.11.03. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Dean M. Natterstad for Interim Ministry at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, West Allis.

Council Action

SC 16.11.04. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Cynthia Aasen for Interim Ministry at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Kenosha.

Council Action

SC 16.11.05. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Karen A. Pahl for Interim Ministry at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kenosha, effective March 2, 2016.

Council Action

SC 17.01.04. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Mark D. Thompson to Mission Development at Breaking the Chains, a Synodically Authorized Worshipping Community, effective February 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.01.05. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Timothy L. McIntosh to Chaplaincy at Badger Hospice, effective November 14, 2016.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Council Action

SC 17.01.06. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Rev. Michael J. Mueller to Ecumenical Ministry at the Racine Interfaith Coalition, effective February 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.03.09. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Interim Ministry for Rev. John A. Holm at St. Mary's, Kenosha, effective March 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.03.10. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Interim Ministry for Rev. Paul C. Ihlenfeld at St. Andrew, Sheboygan, effective February 6, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.03.11. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Interim Ministry for Rev. Steven D. Clingman at Journey in Faith, Racine, effective January 24, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.05.04. Approval of Synod Call

The Council voted to approve a synod call to Ecumenical Ministry for Brian Alberti at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach, Florida, effective May 15, 2017.

Approval of On Leave from Call Status

Council Action

SC 16.09.04. Approval of On Leave from Call Status

The Council voted to approve On Leave from Call Status for Rev. Arlen P. Solem effective August 12, 2016.

Council Action

SC 17.03.07. Approval of On Leave from Call Status

The Council voted to approve On Leave from Call status for Rev. Jacob L. Werkheiser, effective March 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.03.08. Approval of On Leave from Call Status

The Council voted to approve On Leave from Call status for Rev. Elizabeth E. Davis, effective February 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.03.13. Approval of On Leave from Call Roster

The Council voted to approve the continuation of On Leave from Call status for Rev. Carol R Baumgartner, Rev. Amy Becker Perez, Rev. Kerstin L Hedlund, Deacon Stephanie K. Luedtke, Rev. Linda C. Hanus, Rev. Phetsamone C. Vannavong, Rev. Clifford R. Hanus, Rev. Alexis A Twito, Rev. Jennifer Kuhnert, Rev. Arlen P. Solem, Rev. Elizabeth E. Davis, and Rev. Jacob L. Werkheiser.

Council Action

SC 17.05.03. Approval of On Leave from Call Status

The Council voted to approve On Leave from Call status for Rev. Wendy J. Wirth-Brock, effective April 1, 2017.

Approval of Study Leave

Council Action

SC 17.03.12. Approval of Study Leave

The Council voted to approve a change from On Leave from Call status to Study Leave for Rev. Kerstin L. Hedlund.

Approval of Retired Status

Council Action

SC 16.09.06. Approval of Retired Status

The Council voted to approve retired status for Rev. Jim Stein, effective November 1, 2016; Rev. Steven Anderson, effective November 1, 2016; Rev. Christian von Dehsen, effective September 1, 2016; and Rev. Jeff Barrow, effective September 1, 2016.

Council Action

SC 16.11.06. Approval of Retired Status

The Council voted to approve retired status for Rev. Helen A. Nickel, effective February 1, 2017; and Rev. Paul M. Overvold, effective December 1, 2016.

Council Action

SC 17.01.07. Approval of Retired Status

The Council voted to approve retired status for Rev. David P. Raben, effective February 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.05.05. Approval of Retired Status

The Council voted to approve retired status for Rev. William A. Mains, effective June 1, 2017; Deacon Debra K. Ganser, effective June 1, 2017; and Rev. Carol J. Hegland, effective June 1, 2017.

Approval of Appointments and Nominations

Council Action

SC 16.06.01. Appointment of Churchwide Assembly Voting Member

The Council voted to appoint Rev. Marcia Carrier to replace Rev. Ben Groth as the clergy Churchwide Assembly Voting Member from the Northwest Cluster.

Council Action

SC 16.07.01. Nomination for ELCA Church Council

The Council voted to nominate Ms. Brenda Skelton as a candidate for the ELCA Church Council, with this nomination to be forwarded to the ELCA for consideration by the 2016 Churchwide Assembly.

Council Action

SC 16.07.14. Approval of Directors – Mt. Meru Coffee Project

The Council voted to approve as Directors of the Mt. Meru Coffee Project for new or continuing terms: Mr. Ronald Bohrer, All Saints Lutheran Church, as a continuing director serving a fourth term ending in June 2017; Mr. Bruce Johnson, St. Matthews Lutheran Church as a continuing director serving a fourth term ending in June 2017; Mr. Andrew Petersen, St. John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield, as a continuing director for a term ending in June 2017; Mr. David Hammer, Ascension Lutheran Church as continuing director to serve a fifth term ending in June 2018; Ms. Sue Johnson, Vernon Lutheran Church, as a new director for a term ending June 2018; Mr. Jerry Schmidt, Trinity Lutheran Church as continuing director to serve a fifth term ending in June 2018; Mr. Walter Chossek, Kingo Lutheran Church to serve as continuing directors to serve a sixth term ending in June 2019; Mr. Fred Meyer, Martin Luther Lutheran Church, to serve as continuing

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA Report of the Synod Council for 2017

directors to serve a sixth term ending in June 2019; and Mr. Thomas Schaefer, Fox Point Evangelical Lutheran Church, as a continuing director for a term ending in June 2019.

Council Action

SC 17.01.03. Appointment to the Synod Council

The Council voted to appoint Mr. Jerry Key to the vacant lay male, person of color position on the Synod Council, for service until the 2017 Synod Assembly, when this position will be filled for the term ending August 31, 2019.

Council Action

SC 17.02.01. Appointment to Nominating Committee

The Council voted to appoint Rev. Fred Thomas-Breitfeld to the Greater Milwaukee Synod Nominating Committee as an at-large member, effective immediately, with a term through the end of the 2020 Synod Assembly.

Council Action

SC 17.03.06. Approval of Administrative Commission Members

The Council voted to approve Rev. Lisa Bates-Froiland, Rev. Carol Hegland, Mr. Matthew Brockmeier and Mr. Lee Johnston as members of the Administrative Commission for Good Shepherd Trinity, with Mr. Jerry Key as an alternate member entitled to voice, and with vote in the event of the absence of a member of the Commission.

Council Action

SC 17.03.18. Appointments to Nominating Committee

The Council voted to appoint Ms. Susan Daniels, as an at-large lay female member of the Nominating Committee, and Rev. Kristin Berglund, as a clergy member from the Northern Lakeshore Cluster, to the Nominating Committee, to serve through the end of the 2018 Synod Assembly.

Housing Allowances

Council Action

SC 16.11.11. Approval of Housing Allowances

The Council voted to approve synod clergy staff housing allowances for 2017 of \$30,000 for Bishop Paul Erickson, \$35,000 for Rev. Jim Bickel, \$16,644 for Rev. Mary Martha Kannass, and \$19,500 for Rev. Kristin L Nielsen.

Compensation Guidelines & Actions

Council Action

SC 16.07.15. Approval of Compensation for New Bishop

The Council voted to approve the compensation plan for Bishop-Elect Paul Erickson as presented, with total defined compensation of \$101,040.00, to begin September 1, 2016.

Council Action

SC 16.09.17. Approval of Recommended 2017 Pay Scale Adjustment

The Synod Council voted to approve a one percent (1%) increase in the basic pay scale for 2017.

Council Action

SC 16.09.18. Approval of Revised Compensation Guidelines for Ordained Clergy

The Synod Council voted to approve the Revised Compensation Guidelines for Ordained Clergy for 2017, subject to minor editing.

Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
Report of the Synod Council for 2017

Council Action

SC 16.09.19. Approval of Revised Compensation Guidelines for Lay Rostered Leaders

The Synod Council voted to approve the Revised Compensation Guidelines for Associates in Ministry, Deaconesses, Diaconal Ministers and Lay Professionals for 2017, subject to changes in references to Word and Service ministry and other minor editing.

Council Action

SC 16.09.20. Approval of Health Insurance Option for GMS Staff

The Synod Council voted to approve continuing Portico Gold+ health coverage for synod staff for 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.01.09. Approval of Cost of Living Increase

The Council voted to approve a cost of living increase of one percent for synod staff, with the exception of the bishop, effective February 1, 2017.

Council Action

SC 17.01.11. Approval of Compensation Guideline Modifications

The Council voted to approve modifications to the 2017 Compensation Guidelines to clarify vacation time for part-time pastors, deacons and lay professionals.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Council Action

SC 16.09.14. Approval of Synod Office Lease Extension

The Synod Council voted to approve an extension of the synod office lease through September 30, 2017, with a rent increase matching the rate of inflation through September 2016.

Submitted,

Mr. Matthew Brockmeier
Secretary, Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA
May 2017