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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://milwaukeesynod.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

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

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

**Membership – May 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Cluster/Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Lindsay Jordan</td>
<td>At Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Angela Khabeb</td>
<td>Waukesha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Sue Schmidt-Decker</td>
<td>Kenosha/West Racine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Lee Johnston</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rev. Paul Erickson</td>
<td>Bishop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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://milwaukeesynod.org/who-we-are/committees/](http://milwaukeesynod.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.
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.
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.
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.
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
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.
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

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.
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

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

Council Action
SC 17.05.03. Approval of On Leave from Call Status
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
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
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**

**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