

**Sierra Pacific Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Synod Council Minutes
June 21-22, 2019
Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center
Citrus Heights, California**

Present: John Allured, Linda Babcock, Pastor Jason Bense, Sheela Boddu, Carl Brodt, Pastor Clark Brown, Pastor Paul Clark, Bishop Mark Holmerud, Vice President Gail Kiyomura, Treasurer Linda Lownes, Sue Michaelsen, Joseph Paxton, Secretary Jeff Pennington, Pastor Tuhina Rasche

Absent: Nicholas Hayes, Sophia Hofmann, Bill Turner

Staff: Pastor Katy Grindberg, Pastor Tita Valeriano, Diana Suruki

Guests: Pastor Donna Allen, New Revelation Community Church, Oakland, CA; Victoria Flood, Director for Mission Support in the churchwide expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Pastor Robert Swartz, Dean, Conference 1; Pastor Ned O'Donnell, Dean, Conference 2; Pastor Kirsten Moore, Dean, Conference 3; Pastor Sarah Johnson, Dean, Conference 4; Pastor Sara Pearson, Dean, Conference 6; Pastor Tyler Jensen, Dean, Conference 7; Pastor Nelson Rabell-Gonzalez, Dean, Conference 8

Friday, June 21, 2019:

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Gail Kiyomura at 2:51 PM.

Adoption of the Agenda

SC19.06.25 Agenda approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of Minutes

SC19.06.26 Minutes of May 10, 2019 Synod Council meeting approved by unanimous consent.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

SC19.06.27 Consent Agenda approved by unanimous consent.

- On Leave from Call status for Deacon Suzanne O'Dea, effective June 1, 2019
- Renewal of Call to Special Ministry (Intentional Interim Ministry) for Pastor Pamela Griffith Pond
- Moving The Rev. Dorothy Lindstrom to the Retired Roster, effective October 31, 2019
- Moving The Rev. Carol Been to the Retired Roster, effective July 1, 2019
- Renewal of non-stipendiary call of The Rev. Michael Meyer, St. John's Lutheran Church, Sacramento, "Healing Ministries"
- Approval of a Synod Council Call to Special Ministry for The Rev. Jared Oluoch as Mission Developer of Christ Multicultural Community Ministry of San Jose, California

- End the call of The Rev. Hans C. Hoch as Chaplain for On Lok Lifeways in San Francisco
- Approval of Special Synod Call to the Rev. Hans C. Hoch to serve as Chaplain of Covia serving San Francisco Towers, San Francisco, CA, effective August 5, 2019
- Appointment of The Rev. Ben Colahan, Sandra Vargas, and David Birdsall to the Witness Discipling Team

Property Report

Sanger: DEM Valeriano is still having conversations with various parties in the area about the possibility of using the property as a mission site.

Grace Lao: need to develop a lease contract with the community.

Hilmar: tenants have finally vacated, along with most of their property; Our Redeemer/Nuestro Redentor of Livingston, CA will oversee the clean-up of the property, and then property will be put on the market.

Discussion on request from Immanuel Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA

Bishop Mark introduced the background on the project being undertaken by Immanuel and the congregation's request of a \$50,000 bridge loan from the Synod.

Sue Michaelsen presented the two options for underwriting this support: 1) co-signing a loan with the Mission Investment Fund, or 2) directly holding the promissory note.

SC19.06.28 MSC (Holmerud/Bense) to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the funding or collateralization of a three-year loan of \$50,000 to Immanuel Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA, either through the Mission Investment Fund or directly through the Synod, whichever seems to be the most expedient way, at an interest rate between 4-5%.

Financial Reports

Discussion of historical trends graph of Mission Support from Congregations

Treasurer Linda Lownes presented an overview of the Synod finances up through the end of May.

SC19.06.29 MSC (Lownes/Bense) to authorize the Executive Committee to withdraw from the Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund up to \$75,000 on an as-needed basis during the period July through September in order to provide liquid funds to cover necessary Synodical expenses.

Election of Executive Committee

John Allured, Pastor Paul Clark, and Sue Michaelsen were elected to the Executive Committee.

SC19.06.30 MSC (Holmerud/Babcock) moved a new spending plan that is to fully fund ELCA Mission Support and Ministry Partners as per the approved FY2019-20 budget, beginning June 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Future council meetings:

- Saturday, September 21, 2019, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; one-day meeting, with Zoom virtual meeting (video) option; venue TBD
- Saturday, December 14, 2019, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; one-day meeting budget with Zoom virtual meeting (video) option; venue TBD

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey A Pennington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey A Pennington, Secretary
Synod Pacific Synod