

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD, ELCA
SYNOD COUNCIL
Minutes
June 1, 2018

The Lower Susquehanna Synod Council met for its reorganizational meeting on Friday, June 1, 2018, at 4:15 p.m. in the Instrumental Rehearsal Room of the Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts, Messiah College, Grantham, PA.

Vice President Lucinda L. Bringman called the meeting to order. Pastor Jennifer Hope-Tringali led the council in an opening prayer, which included intercessions for healing for Linda J. Long who was hospitalized.

The members introduced themselves to each other, giving their names and congregational membership. They also shared their favorite summertime activity.

ROLL CALL

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| Members present: | Bishop James S. Dunlop Thomas E. McKee | Lucinda L. Bringman Joseph M. Stepansky |
| | Eric N. Anderson Matthew B. Best Dana J. Blouch-Hanson Virgil L. Gibson Brenda D. Hartzell Kay A. Hinkle | Jennifer R. Lau Jillian E. Riddle Timothy J. Seitz-Brown Stephanie M. Strauss Carlotta "Chucki" Strevig Allen P. Stump |
| Staff present: | Sharron R. Blezard Robert C. Blezard | Debbie M. Clark Jennifer Hope-Tringali |
| Members excused: | Joel S.B. Folkemer Emma L. Johns | Linda J. Long Zachary J. Weiss |
| Staff excused: | Richard E. T. Jorgensen Jr Charlie R. Roberts III | Marsha L. Roscoe |

The vice president provided a brief orientation to the responsibilities of Synod Council members, explaining membership on Synod Council committees and liaison responsibilities to other committees and conferences. She distributed preference sheets and asked the members of Synod Council to write their contact information, including their cell phone numbers, and their preferences for Synod Council committees and liaison responsibilities.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lucinda L. Bringman, vice president, proposed a modified ecclesiastical ballot for the election of the three Synod Council members of the Executive Committee. All members of the Synod Council were instructed to vote for no more than three Synod Council members for nomination and election to Executive Committee. The vice president appointed Debbie Clark and Pastor Sharron Blezard as tellers.

There were 15 ballots cast. Needed for election were 8 votes. The results of the balloting were: Pastor Joel S.B. Folkemer, 11; Jennifer R. Lau, 8; Pastor Dana J. Blouch-Hanson, 6; Virgil L. Gibson, 6; Pastor Jillian E. Riddle, 5; Pastor Eric N. Anderson, 3; Allen P. Stump, 2; Pastor Matthew B. Best, 1; and Kay A. Hinkle, 1. Vice President Bringman declared that Pastor Joel S.B. Folkemer and Jennifer R. Lau were elected as members of the Executive Committee. The second ballot will contain the names of Pastor Dana J. Blouch-Hanson and Virgil L. Gibson.

There were 15 ballots cast during the second ballot for member of the Executive Committee. Needed for election were 8 votes. The results of the balloting were Virgil L. Gibson, 10, and Pastor Dana J. Blouch-Hanson, 5. Vice President Bringman declared that Virgil L. Gibson was elected as a member of the Executive Committee.

ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR OF SYNOD COUNCIL

Vice President Bringman instructed the members of the Synod Council to vote for one of the following for vice chair of the Synod Council: Pastor Joel S.B. Folkemer, Jennifer R. Lau, or Virgil L. Gibson.

Fifteen ballots were cast. Needed for election were 8 votes. The results of the first ballot were Pastor Joel S.B. Folkemer, 8; Jennifer R. Lau, 5; and Virgil L. Gibson, 2. Vice President Bringman declared Pastor Joel S. B. Folkemer was elected as vice chair of the Synod Council.

Vice President Bringman announced that since the Preliminary Process Leading to the Election for a Bishop was adopted by the 2018 Synod Assembly, the Synod Council will have much work to do before the September meeting. Synod Council members will be appointed to one of three committees: our mission, synodical profile, and bishop's profile. The vice president will choose one person to gather the committee for the first meeting. The committee will choose its own chair at the first meeting. The work of each committee must be completed by the September meeting of the Synod Council.

Pastor Robert Blezard thanked Vice President Bringman for all the extra work she took on during the time Bishop Dunlop served as acting president of the United Lutheran Seminary. The members of Synod Council expressed their appreciation with applause.

ADJOURNMENT

The members of Synod Council prayed together the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Thomas E. McKee
synod secretary
6/7/18