

**LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD, ELCA
SYNOD COUNCIL**

**Minutes
June 5, 2016**

The Lower Susquehanna Synod Council met for its reorganizational meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2016, at 1:00 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.

The members introduced themselves to each other, giving their names and congregational membership and, if continuing members, their Synod Council committee membership and committee and conference liaison responsibilities.

ROLL CALL

Members present:	Bishop James S. Dunlop Thomas E. McKee	Lucinda L. Bringman Bruce E. Seagrist
	Eric N. Anderson Dana J. Blouch-Hanson Zoe L. Clark J. Richard Eckert Joyce E. Frigm Virgil L. Gibson Brenda D. Hartzell Jered L. Hock	Colleen M. Hoffman Christine C. Lowe Susan L. McDonald Jillian E. Riddle Beth A. Schlegel Stephanie M. Strauss Allen P. Stump M. Jane Wigand
Liaison present:	Stephen R. Herr	
Staff present:	Sharron R. Blezard Debbie M. Clark	Richard E. T. Jorgensen Jr. Marsha L. Roscoe
Members excused:	Joel S.B. Folkemer	
Liaisons excused:	Fred W. Bohls	
Staff excused:	Robert C. Blezard Linda L. Lubold	Charlie R. Roberts III

Vice President Bringman welcomed the newly-elected members, Pastor Eric N. Anderson and Allen P. Stump and returning members, Pastor Dana Blouch-Hanson, Brenda Hartzell, Colleen Hoffman, and Stephanie Strauss.

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 Marsha Roscoe and Debbie Clark as tellers.

There were 20 ballots cast. Needed for election were 11 votes. The results of the balloting were: Jered Hock, 16; Pastor Beth Schlegel, 12; Pastor Joel Folkemer, 10; Joyce Frigm, 5; Pastor Dana Blouch-Hanson, 5; Colleen Hoffman, 4; Pastor Eric Anderson, 1; Virgil Gibson, 1; Christine Lowe, 1; Pastor Jillian Riddle, 1; and Jane Wigand, 1. Vice President Bringman declared that Jered Hock and Pastor Beth Schlegel were elected as members of the Executive Committee. The next ballot contained the names of Pastor Joel Folkemer, Joyce Frigm, and Pastor Dana Blouch-Hanson. There were 20 ballots cast. Needed for election were 11 votes. The results of the balloting were: Pastor Joel Folkemer, 8; Joyce Frigm, 7; and Pastor Dana Blouch-Hanson, 5. The vice president announced that there was no election. The next ballot contained the names of Pastor Joel Folkemer and Joyce Frigm. There were 20 ballots cast. Needed for election were 11 votes. The results of the balloting were: Pastor Joel Folkemer, 11; and Joyce Frigm, 9. Vice President Bringman announced that Pastor Joel Folkemer 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: Jered Hock, Pastor Beth Schlegel, or Pastor Joel Folkemer.

Twenty ballots were cast. Needed for election were 11 votes. The results of the first ballot were Pastor Beth Schlegel, 8; Jered Hock, 8; and Pastor Joel Folkemer, 4. There was no election. The next ballot contained the names of Pastor Beth Schlegel and Jered Hock. There were 20 ballots cast. Needed for election were 11 votes. The results of the second ballot were Pastor Schlegel, 11; and Jered Hock, 9. Vice President Bringman declared Pastor Schlegel elected as vice chair of the Synod Council.

REVIEW OF THE ASSEMBLY

Members of the Synod Council made comments on the Synod Assembly. The Ministry Highlight videos were missed. Some felt it would be best to move the special event away from the assembly, others felt that the event would not have as much support if it were a stand-alone event. However, the general consensus is that whatever we do we do not want to try to overlap events again. Coming 45 minutes early for the Hunger J.A.M. event posed difficulty for some. If we have an event like a food-packing event that congregations are asked to support financially in 2018, it should be announced at the 2017 Synod Assembly. It may be best to have an assembly vote on such an event so that the voting members own the event. There should have been more pre-warning about how communion would be distributed. More information about intinction and common cup should be provided. People seemed to appreciate the Gospel Call to Actions; they seemed to like having these devotional/learning pieces placed together. There was a nice flow throughout the entire assembly. It would have been nice to use a local artist as the artist in residence.

ADJOURNMENT

The members of Synod Council prayed together the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Thomas E. McKee, synod secretary
6/8/16