

# Synod Council Minutes

## January 26, 2019

**Present:** Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, Melissa Peper Firestone, Phil Koenig, Becky Seibert, Deb Noll, Tom Ritter, Mark Wentz, Brent Gardner, Peter Bowmer, Sue Lawrence, Casey Cox, Steve Edmiston, Ann Marshall, Jacob Nekoranec, Christina Wheeler, Jacob Henry, Jennifer Pruefer

**Excused:** Cindy Milbry, Diane Ninke, Julie Parsell, James Schwabero, Cassie Yeager

1. **Opening Devotions and Eucharist** – Led by Bishop Daniel
  
2. **Business Meeting Call to Order** –(8:30) Led by Vice-President Melissa Peper Firestone –Roll Call read
  - a. **Approval of December 1, 2018 Minutes**  
Found on pages 5-9. Motion to approve made by Mark Wentz, 2<sup>nd</sup>, by Christina Wheeler – Motion approved
  - b. **Review of Executive Committee decisions**  
Available at the meeting-presented for review by Melissa

3. **Bishop's Report and Teaching Time** – Led by Bishop Daniel  
Written report and learnings can be found on pages 10-11.

Bishop Daniel reviewed his report with Council and spoke of highlights during this time. Review of 3-fold focus Bible Reading Bible Reflection, Bible Study. Many resources are available on the Synod website and the Bible Project website. The Sermon on the Mount study is available from the Synod website. Review of Bishops past present and upcoming schedules.

The funeral for Pastor Tamera Wood was held at St. Paul Defiance.

Deacon Blaire Smith took new call to Marysville SOS (chaplaincy). Motion introduced by Bishop Daniel to grant OLFC request:

**Action SC19.05** On Leave From Call Request  
"Synod Council grants on leave from call status to Deacon Blaire Smith."

**2<sup>nd</sup> by Brent**  
**Motion passed**

**4. Vice President's Report** – Led by Melissa Peper Firestone

**a. Action SC1.9.01 2020 Synod Assembly Dates**

"Synod Council has set June 12-13 2020 as the dates for the 2020 Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly. The location will be determined by the administrative staff of this synod and announced no later than December of 2019."

**Motion to approve made by Melissa, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Casey Cox,  
Motion passed**

Exploring possibility of Offering Synod event at the Bay and different events during this coming year

**b. Action SC19.02 Synod Council Appointment**

"Synod Council has appointed Pastor Mindy Elliot of St Peter Ridgeville Corners to complete the vacant Maumee Valley Conference Clergy term." Melissa expressed appreciation for Pastor Julie's service on Synod Council.

**Motion to approve made by Melissa. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Edmiston.  
Motion passed.**

**5. Secretary's Report** – Led by Becky Seibert

Read note of thank you from Pastor Lori and the People of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Toledo. For support received.

**6. Treasurer's Report** – Led by Phil Koenig

Financial Summary and related reports can be found on pages 21-29.

Phil reviewed current financials noting Mission Support is down at this time however being the first of the year this is normal. Decline in the stock market reflects in the interest received. We are below budget at this point in the year. This report does not reflect January reports. Researching ways to decrease operational expenses. Expenditures are normal and within limits.

Review of 2019/2020 proposed Budget. Jacob reviewed changes and adjustments. Open/ongoing conversation concerning Health benefits costs and solutions.

**7. Administrative Matters** – Led by Synod Administrator Jacob Henry

**a. Action SC 19.03** LMM Accounting Proposal

“Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, Synod Council approves the Purchase of Service proposal of accounting services from Lutheran Ministries of Mercy at an annual cost of \$34,000 and instructs the administrative staff of this synod to negotiate the details of the agreement to be approved by the Bishop.”

The proposal from LMM can be found on pages 15-17.

Jacob reviewed Accounting Proposal and offered explanation of transition period to begin during 2019.

**Executive Cte makes Motion to approve LMM Accounting Proposal,  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Casey Cox  
Motion approved**

**b. Action SC 18.33** Approval of Revised 2019/20 Budget

“Synod Council has approved the revised 2019/20 budget.”

The Revised 2019/20 Budget and explanation can be found on pages 18-20. This is the second reading of the budget.

**Motion to approve Revised 2019/20 Budget made by Executive Cte.  
2<sup>nd</sup> made by Deb Noll  
Motion approved**

**c. Action SC19.04** Congregation Constitution Updates

“In accordance with bylaw 9.53.03 of the ELCA Constitution, the constitution of Trinity Convoy have been reviewed and approved.”

**Motion to approve made by: Janine Foster, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jarod Schaaf,  
Motion approved**

**8. For the good of the order** – Led by Vice-President Melissa Peper Firestone

- Bishop Daniel reviewed Synod long range planning and opportunities for Equipping leaders for Ministry. Theological Training and Lay Education Good conversation followed exploring those opportunities.
- Prayers for travel to our homes
- Deb Noll shared March 30 Creative Prayer Retreat at Emanuel
- March 10 “Faith & Art” Event at Zoar Lutheran Perrysburg- Presented by 2019 Theologian in Residence-Kate Philabaum.

**9. Sending Blessing and Prayer**

Sending prayer given by Melissa

