UPSTATE NEW YORK SYNOD COUNCIL MEETING  
November 3, 2018  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fayetteville, NY

ATTENDANCE:  
Officers: Bishop John Macholz; Vice-President Mr. Thomas Madden; Treasurer Mr. Fred Risser

Conference Representatives:  
CC    Ms. Ann Maher  
GFL   Rev. Aileen Robbins  
ST    Rev. Ernie Varga  
SW    Ms. Sharon Hamilton

Young Adult Mr. Ian Macdonald

Dean Representative Rev. Gail Wolling

Synod Staff Ms. Michelle Josephson  
Rev. Mary Johnson

Excused:  
Secretary Rev. Deborah Turley  
Synod Staff Rev. Norma Malfatti  
Synod Staff Rev. Lori Kochanski  
Youth Mr. Ben Wendel  
HM Vicar Samantha Rossi

Absent:  
FH    Rev. Sara Litzner  
NF    Rev. Jeremiah Smith

Person of color or primary language other than English:    Rev. Pamela Hoh  
Person of color or primary language other than English:    Mr. Chris George

Call to Order & Welcome..............................................................Thomas Madden, Vice-President  
Introduction of guests  
Mr. Gregory May, Synod Finance Committee Chair  
Bishop John Roth-Central Southern Illinois Synod
Consent Agenda

Actions

- Adoption of Agenda: The chair reserving privilege to make adjustments.
- Approval of Minutes: September 15, 2018 Synod Council Meeting
- Exhibit Q1 – LCLC Board of Directors
  - Approve election of Kyle Sorenson to a three-year term.
- Exhibit Q1(a) – LCLC Board of Directors
  - Approve election of Holly Freed to a three-year term.
- Exhibit Q1(b) – LCLC Board of Directors
  - Approve election of Pam Perdue to a three-year term.
  - Approve election of Rev. Gail Swanson to a three-year term.

Acknowledge Receipt of Reports & Reference Materials

- Exhibit A2 – Transitions
- Special Call Roster 11-03-18
- Exhibit P2 – Lutheran-October 2018
- Exhibit U Lutheran Summer Gathering at Silver Bay 2018 annual report to synods

Moved; To adopt the Consent Agenda
Seconded;
Approved;

SC18.11.01 To adopt the Consent Agenda

Report of the Treasurer.................................................................Mr. Fred Risser
  - Exhibit D Treasurer’s Report SC November 2018

Report of the Finance Committee..............................................Mr. Greg May, Chair
  - Exhibit F – Exhibit F November 2018 Finance resolution for SC-2019 Staff
  - Exhibit F3 Sept. Profit & Loss for SC
  - Exhibit F4 Sept Balance Sheet for SC

Moved; to adopt the Finance Committee Housing Resolution
No second required
Approved;

SC18.11.02 To approve Finance Committee Housing Resolution

- Bishop John S. Macholz - $35,000 (currently $35,000)
- Rev. Mary Johnson - $16,000 (currently $16,000)
- Rev. Lori Kochanski - $21,600 (currently $21,600)

Report of the Investment Committee.................................Mr. Greg May
  - Exhibit F1 November 2018 Investment Resolution for SC – Gugino appointment

Moved; to appoint Anthony Gugino as a member of the Investment Committee for a three year term effective 12/1/18
No second required
Approved;

**SC18.11.03 To approve the appointment of Anthony Gugino as a member of the Investment Committee for a three year term effective 12/1/18**

Mission Support Working Group: Update……………………………………………………………………………Mr. Greg May
- Exhibit F5 September 2018 Remittance Report

Candidacy Report………………………………………………………………………………….Rev. Mary Johnson
- Exhibit A(d) Candidacy November 2018

Moved; to approve appointments for Candidacy
Seconded;
Approved

**SC18.11.04 To approve appointments as follows:**

- Peter Koehneke to the Western New York Area Interview Team (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)
- Julie Grindle to the Candidacy Committee (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)
- Steven Harris to the Candidacy Committee (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)
- Ann Maher to the Candidacy Committee (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)
- Rev. John Scarafia to the Candidacy Committee (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)*
- Rev. Pamela Hoh to the Candidacy Committee (5 year term to expire 12/31/2023)*

*Current member, appointed for a second term.

Report of Faith Formation………………………………………………………………………………………..Rev. Lori Kochanski
- Exhibit A(e)

- Exhibit I
- Exhibit I(a)
- Exhibit I(b)
- Exhibit I(c)
- Exhibit I(d)

Report of the Assistant to the Bishop for Operations…………………..Ms. Michelle Josephson
- Exhibit V1 SS. Resolution. Re. UNYS.2015 Employee Handbook
- Exhibit V2-Synod Employee Handbook
- Exhibit V3 Sexual Misconduct Policy-pulled from agenda for review
Moved; to approve year two of On Leave From Call Status for Rev. Pamela Hoh, 11/28/18 to 11/27/19
No second required
Approved;
**SC18.11.05 To approve year 2 of On Leave From Call Status for Rev. Pamela Hoh 11/28/18 to 11/27/19**

Moved; to approve year 2 of On Leave From Call Status for Rev. Lexa Liepe 11/18/18 to 11/17/19
No second required
Approved;
**SC18.11.06 To approve year 2 of On Leave From Call Status for Rev. Lexa Liepe 11/18/18 to 11/17/19**

New Business
Exhibit W
Resolution for the Care and Concern for our LGBTQIA+Siblings
- Resolution from Fall Conference Assembly by the Niagara Frontier Conference 10/4/18

Moved; to amend resolution from “at least four individuals” to “at least seven individuals”
Seconded;
Approved
**SC18.11.07 to amend Resolution for Care and Concern for Our LGBTQIA+Siblings to state “at least seven individuals”**

Moved; to amend resolution with last paragraph change “if they have not already are strongly urged to offer education around the issues. Community, are strongly urged to…”
Seconded
Approved
**SC18.11.08 to amend resolution (Exhibit W) with last paragraph change “if they have not already are strongly urged to offer education around the issues. Community, are strongly urged to…”**

Moved; to approve amended resolution (Exhibit W)
Seconded
Approved
**SC18.11.09 to approve amended resolution**
Resolution for the Care and Concern for our LGBTQIA+ Siblings.
Submitted by:
The Rev. Emily Ebert
The Rev. Brenda Maynor
The Rev. Jeremiah Smith

Whereas American culture is becoming increasingly aware of discrimination against the LGBTQIA+
community, and whereas;
there is a need to create awareness of appropriate language, needs, and concerns of the LGBTQIA+
community, and whereas;
we are all beloved children of God, called and sent to go make disciples and to bring healing and
wholeness to all of God's creation, and whereas;
our congregations are places of learning where we can ask questions and offer grace when our members
are unsure of how to approach or speak on a certain subject, and whereas;
In caring for our siblings in Christ who identify as members of the LGBTQIA+ community, one of the
first steps is simply to educate our congregations regarding heteronormativity, use of language, and
common misconceptions about what it means to identify as LGBTQIA+.

Be it resolved that....
The Synod Council of the Upstate New York Synod form a Task Force of at least seven individuals,
representative of the synod, for the purpose of developing an educational program for use in the
congregations of the Upstate NY Synod. This Task Force is not intended to recreate what already has
been made available but may utilize resources from ReconcilingWorks, Extraordinary Lutheran
Ministries, or other LGBTQIA+ affiliates for the purpose of educating congregations, and be it further
resolved;
That the 2019 Synod Assembly take twenty minutes in “committee of the whole” format to share in
conversation regarding how these concerns currently impact every congregation, and be it further
resolved;
That the LGBTQIA+ Task force be permitted space in the agenda of the 2020 Synod Assembly to report
progress on their work, and be it further resolved;
That all congregations of the Upstate New York Synod, if they have not already, are strongly urged to
offer education around the issues which concern the LGBTQIA+ community are strongly urged to
engage in some form of education opportunity for their staff and congregation members by Synod
Assembly 2021.
Seconded
Approved;
SC18.11.10 to approve the Bishop and Committee of Deans to appoint a committee of 7 regarding Resolution Exhibit W

Old Business

**Synod Council 2019 Meeting Schedule**

- January 12, 2019  
  Christ the King
- April 12-13, 2019  
  Christ the King
- May 30-June 1, 2019  
  Synod Assembly/Rochester
- June 13-15, 2019  
  Notre Dame
- September 7, 2019  
  Christ the King
- November 23, 2019  
  Christ the King