



Western Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

"Joyfully called as servants to accompany congregations and leaders in God's mission: Praying. Encouraging. Serving. Equipping. Stewarding." Eph 4:11-13

Synod Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:30 AM

Synod Mission Center (Synod Office), Storm Lake, IA

Members present in person: Barbara Brennan, Brian Campbell (Vice President), Tracy Gayer, Pr Brian Jack, Michael Jacobson (Treasurer), Maja Knutson, Pr Barbara Kopperud, Pr Jim Mossman, Pr Del Olivier, Karen Post (Secretary), Bishop Rodger Prois, Bruce Radtke, Kaylynn Ridgley (see **SC17.03.6**), Julie Sievers, John Smith, Sandy Smith, Pr Erma Wolf

Members absent with notice: Antoine Cummins, Susan Juilfs

Members absent without notice:

Mission Team present in person: Lynn Egesdal, Pr Lorna Halaas, Cindy Wells, Pr Jeff Unga

Guests present: Dave Bohnet (Lutheran Men in Mission)

Votes were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

The meeting was called to order by Brian Campbell at 9:30 AM.

Members introduced themselves.

SC17.03.1 *ADOPT the agenda.*

Motion made and seconded by: Julie Sievers, Michael Jacobson; PASSED

Opening devotions were given by Jim Mossman.

SC17.03.2 *APPROVE the December 17, 2016 Synod Council minutes with the following change:*

- 1) Old business: the cell phone reimbursement was referred to Executive Committee rather than to Synod Council.

Motion made and seconded by: Del Olivier, John Smith; PASSED

Correspondence: (none)

Treasurer Michael Jacobson reported on the auditor's report for fiscal 2016, noting a clean audit with only one small adjustment.

Michael presented the 2016 treasurer's report, noting:

*Mission Support income was \$848,963 was (up \$34,000 from prior year); Mission Support passed on to Churchwide was \$288,761.84 or 34.0% (up from \$253,397 or 31% from 2015), but was lower than the 2016 revised budget of \$830,000 and \$310,000 at 37.3%.

*Cash balance is down slightly from 2015; have paid on the note.

SC17.03.3 *RECEIVE the treasurer's report.*

Motion made and seconded by: Del Olivier, Julie Sievers; PASSED

Vice President's Report - Brian Campbell

- Work on Resolution 4 has taken longer than anticipated; is still underway. Pr Jeff Ungs reported on findings of recent work and recommendations; the recommendation was that pastors will be asked to provide congregational leadership information to the synod office. This will be reported to the 2017 Synod Assembly.
 - Noted that the phone meeting (December) wasn't optimal; will consider moving meeting dates earlier in the quarter which may enable alternate snow dates.
-

2017 Assembly Report update

Future assemblies:

- June 9-11, 2017 (Reformation) – “We are Lutheran: Opening Doors” – Sioux City Convention Center.
- 2018: the date and location still undetermined - “We are Church for the sake of the world”
- 2019 – Bishop Election – Sioux City Convention Center.

Bishop and Brian Campbell to craft language to hold synod assemblies on a biannual assembly. A separate resolution may suggest Sioux City as a permanent location.

SC17.03.4 *Approved Pr Jeff Ungs to find seven qualified persons (Constitution S7.40.02) to serve on the Election and Credentials Committee.*

Motion made and seconded by: Del Olivier, Julie Sievers; PASSED

Bishop's Report - Bishop Prois presented his report highlighting “Called Forward Together in Christ” (ELCA Strategic Directions 2025).

Staff reports were received from Pr Lorna Halaas, Pr Jeff Unga, Lynn Egesdal, Cindy Wells.

SC17.03.5 *Approve the appointment of the Mutual Ministry Committee.*

Motion made and seconded by: John Smith, Brian Jack; PASSED

Open Synod Council seats:

- * At Large Person of Color or Language (until 2019) – Edna Karisa (pending; will be on the ballot for 2017 Synod Assembly)
- * At Large Youth (until 2018) Kaylynn Ridgely.

SC17.03.6 *Approve the appointment of Kaylynn Ridgely to Synod Council (At large-youth).* Motion made and seconded by: Bruce Radtke, Julie Sievers; PASSED

SC17.03.7 *Approve the location of the 2018 Synod Assembly to be in Sioux City.*

Motion made and seconded by Bishop Prois, Jim Mossman; PASSED

SC17.03.8 *Approve the Revised 2017 Budget.*

Motion made and seconded by: Del Olivier, Julie Sievers; PASSED

SC17.03.9 *Amend the agenda.*

Motion made and seconded by: Jim Mossman, John Smith; PASSED

Agenda addition: appoint Pr John Wolf as the Winds of Hope conference dean.

The following En Bloc items were presented for approval:

Approve On Leave From Call:

- Rev Renae Techlenberg
- Rev. Matthew Manz

Synod Synod letter of call:

- Rev Ron Yarnell – UMC
- Rev Norm Bauer – First Lutheran, Algona
- Rev. Elton Jorde – St Peter, Pocahontas

Conference dean: Pr. John Wolf – Winds of Hope

SC17.03.10 *APPROVE the En Bloc items.*

Motion made and seconded by: Julie Sievers, Michael Jacobson; PASSED

The next meeting will be July 7-8, 2017. Brian Jack will offer devotions.

Thanks were given to the outgoing synod council members: Barbara Brennan, Brian Campbell, Tracy Gayer, Pr Del Olivier, John Smith.

Noted that the expense vouchers were available.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Schedule of council, board and network/committee meetings:

Jun 9-11, 2017	(Fri-Sun)	Synod Assembly in Sioux City
Jul 7-8, 2017	Fri evening-Sat PM	Synod Council meeting
Sep 23, 2017		Synod Council meeting
Dec 9, 2017		Synod Council meeting
Mar 17, 2018 (tentative)		Synod Council meeting

Attachment: Synod Council listing of Committees/Networks/Other

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Post
Western Iowa Synod Secretary

Committees/Networks/Other

as of Jun 2016

Executive Committee (4 + 4)	Bp Rodger Prois	Constitution
	VP Brian Campbell	Constitution
	Treas Jay Denne/M Jacobson	Constitution
	Sec Karen Post	Constitution
	Pr Del Olivier	Elected-Synod Council
	Pr Erma Wolf	Elected-Synod Council
	Tracy Gayer	Elected-Synod Council
	Julie Sievers	Elected-Synod Council

Committees	Primary interest
ABC (2)	Del Olivier
	Erma Wolf
Finance	
Communication (Bishop to appoint)	Erma Wolf
	John Smith
Leadership	Susan Juilfs
Mutual Ministry (Bishop to appoint)	Julie Sievers

Network Liaisons	Primary interest
Global Mission/Hunger	Tracy Gayer
Church of the Damascus Road Re-entry	
Companion Synod	Barb Kopperud
Disability	
LYO	
Faith Formation	
Disaster Response	Michael Jacobson
Mission Support (w/cong.)	Sandy Smith Barb Brennan
New & Renewing Congregations	Jim Mossman
Prayer	John Smith
Spirituality	Susan Juilfs
Worship	Del Olivier Maja Knutson
Domestic Hunger	Barb Brennan

Volunteers to help on:	Primary interest
Conference structure	Erma Wolf
Nomination structure	Julie Sievers Karen Post