

**Southern Ohio Synod – ELCA
Synod Council Meeting
Southern Ohio Synod Office
300 South Second Street
Columbus, OH 43215
March 9, 2013**

Call to Order: Mrs. Barbara Klatt, Vice President of Council, called the Synod Council meeting to order at 9:35 AM

Opening Prayer: Offered by Pr. Mark Wildermuth.

Devotions: Mrs. Barbara Klatt read Luke 10:1-12 based upon *Dwelling in the Word*. Members then paired up to discuss what they heard, and the results were then shared with the whole group.

Review and Approval of Minutes of 01/12/2013 Meeting:

The Minutes of the 01/12/2013 Meeting were reviewed and approved.

VOTED:
SC.13.03.1 To approve the minutes of the January 12, 2013 meeting.
(Knilians/Wildermuth) APPROVED.

Review and Approval of Agenda of 03/09/2013 Meeting:

1. The 2014 Fiscal Proposal is to be discussed today but is not being offered for approval.
2. The 2012 Year End Fiscal Report is being offered for approval today but subject to audit.

VOTED:
SC.13.03.2 To approve the 03/09/13 agenda as amended. (Swank/Vosskuehler)
APPROVED AS AMENDED.

Roll Call: Members present: Pr. Lisa Arrington, Dr. Tom Bowman, Ms. Susan Clem, Mr. David Drumm, Mr. Richard Freudenberger, Pr. Brian George, Pr. Diana Gugel, Mr. Roy E. Hart, Ms. Sue Hillger, Bishop Callon W. Holloway, Jr., Mr. Brandon Huston, Pr. Dona Johnson, Ms. Edna Kettler, Mrs. Barbara Klatt, Mr. Mike Knilians, Pr. Robert Miller, Ms. Kathryn Schnierle, Ms. Carol Swank, Mr. Charles Vosskuehler, and Pr. Mark Wildermuth

Members excused: Pr. Jonathan Bull, Mr. Thomas S. Counts, Ms. Marjorie Ellis, Mr. Mike Johnsen, Mr. David M. Keck, and Ms. Desiree Tryloff

Members absent: Mr. Malachai Herget, and Ms. Erin Taylor

Staff present: Pr. Suzanne Darcy Dillahun, Pr. Jeff Wick, and Pr. Ed Williams

Staff excused: None

Staff absent: None

Reports of the Officers and Executive Committee:

Vice President: 1. Mrs. Barbara Klatt welcomed Bishop Holloway upon his return from his sabbatical leave. She also thanked and praised Pr. Suzanne Darcy Dillahun for stepping into the role of Acting Bishop during Bishop Holloway's leave.

2. The ELCA Social Statement on The Body of Christ and Mental Illness is now available for public consumption. The Synod newsletter containing information on the Statement is also available. A Mental Illness presentation will be provided as a part of the 4G project.

3. The Synod staff is busy preparing for the tier two meetings of the God Sightings program. Members of the Synod Council are encouraged to attend. The God Sightings Program takes the concept of stewardship beyond just dollars. It included the concept that everyone is "the synod", not just the Synod office and staff. Participants are urged to take part in the conversations occurring at the events, and then the participants are expected to take the conversations back to each of the Synod's congregations.

4. Mrs. Klatt shared with the Synod Council that of 61 synods of the ELCA, 29 synods reported an increase mission support for 2012 and 32 synods reported a decrease in mission support for 2012. Mission support by synods ranged from 39% to 52% for the same period of time.

Secretary: 1. No report

Treasurer: 1. For the month of January, 2013, the Synod received \$281,000 in mission support. For the year ending January, 2013, the Synod received \$1.686 million allowing the Synod to share 40% with the ELCA and allowing the Synod to break even for the year.

2. Today we will begin discussion of 2014 Fiscal Proposal.

Bishop:

1. Bishop Holloway thanked those who sent him notes and cards welcoming him back from his sabbatical leave. He stated that those expressions of welcome were very meaningful to him. The Bishop expressed gratitude to his assistants, staff, officers, and to Pr. Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt for everyone's continuing support during his leave of absence.

2. The Bishop reported that he engaged in some light study and reading.

3. While on leave, Bishop Holloway attended the Conference of Bishops in Chicago, presided over a Faith Trek gathering, attended the annual Luncheon for Retired Pastors and Widows, and performed two funerals.

4. The Bishop also reported that Portico is in the process of deep change. He hoped to be able to share an update on Portico with the Synod Council but cannot because of the continuing process of change. No new action has been taken on LIFT.

Report of the Auxiliaries – Written

Women of the ELCA - Scioto Spring Gathering to be 04/21/13
Lutheran Men in Mission

**VOTED:
SC.13.03.3**

**To approve the Reports of the Officers and of the Auxiliaries.
(Wildermuth/Clem) APPROVED.**

**EN BLOC
VOTED:
SC.13.03.4**

**To Approve the En Bloc Recommendations.
(Wildermuth/George) APPROVED.**

Committee on Congregations and Assemblies-REPORT

SYNODFEST 2013

A SynodFest 2013 report was presented by Pr. Ed Williams. Three of our companion synods, Brazil, Tanzania, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, Russia, will be represented at SynodFest 2013. Germany, our fourth companion synod, has yet to commit to SynodFest 2013, and its

representation is still in conversation and consideration. Registration material not yet available but will be soon.

INFORMATION

God Sightings in the New Reality Tier 2 Gatherings

Pr. Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt reported on the Tier One God Sightings events. Notes gathered at the meetings were compiled into a third revision consisting of 40 pages of information. 97% of the comments received were positive. Representation between lay/clergy participants was nearly even. Tier Two meetings have already begun and will focus on relationship building, service, responsibility, and faith formation. Four additional questions will be presented which are designed to seek additional comments.

INFORMATION

Committee on Ministers, Education and Personnel-REPORT

Professional Leaders Roster - Voted En bloc

Request on Leave from Call

Pr. Jeffrey Wise

RECOMMENDATION: To approve on "Leave from Call" status for Pr. Jeffrey Wise

Retired Status

Pr. Steven Gellatly (retroactive 9-01-12)

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the retirement of Pastor Steven Gellatly

Committee on Mission, Planning and Legal Matters-REPORT

Trinity Lutheran Church, Dayton

RECOMMENDATION: Grant permission to sell property

4G Networking

Pr. Dona Johnson reported that 4G Networking is a synod-wide ministry focusing on steward ship as a year-round expression of faith and way of life which will provide on-going education and dialogue among rostered leaders, lay leaders and seminary students. The team is presently working

on two workshops to be presented at Trinity Seminary in April and August of 2013. The workshops are designed as a kickoff for 2-3 year initiative for stewardship and relationship-building. Mark Powell will be a guest presenter.

INFORMATION

Committee on Communication, Administration and Support-REPORT

2014 Fiscal Proposal

Expenses are set at the 2012 actual figures for the moment with an increase in mission support to 40%.

INFORMATION

2013 Expenditure Authorization

Adopted in January, Synod Council adopted an expenditure authorization for mission support to the ELCA at a level of 36%; however, this still leaves the synod with a \$36,000 deficit.

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the 2013 Expenditure Authorization

2012 Year End Fiscal Report

The Synod received \$281,000 in mission support for the month of January, 2013, and \$1.686 million for the year. The office operation line item showed a credit of \$53,000 for the year due to the resolution of the real estate tax dispute with Franklin County Auditor which produced a refund. Therefore, the Synod ended the year in black subject, however, to audit which should be completed mid April, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the 2012 Year End Fiscal Report subject to audit.

Recess for lunch at 11:35 AM

Reconvene at 12:00 Noon

VOTED:

SC.13.03.5

**To enter into Executive Session. (Schnierle /Wildermuth)
APPROVED.**

VOTED:

SC.13.03.6

**To move out of Executive Session and to return to Regular
Session. (Miller/George) APPROVED.**

**VOTED:
SC.13.03.7**

With gratitude for his 17 years of dedicated and faithful service to his Lord, his Church, and his Synod, the Southern Ohio Synod Council receives with regret Callon W. Holloway's notification of his intent to retire as Bishop of the SOS effective August 31, 2013. (Schnierle/George) APPROVED.

**VOTED:
SC.13.03.8**

To affirm that the Executive Committee of the Synod Council shall act as the election process team to prepare for the 2013 Synod Assembly election for the office of Bishop. (Miller/Schnierle) AFFIRMED.

New Business: None

Pr. Dona Johnson offered a closing prayer.

The meeting was then adjourned at 1:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy E. Hart
Synod Council Secretary