Synod Council Meeting -- via WebEx

September 14, 2016

Present: VP Bohling, Bishop Gonia, Jody Brammer-Hoelter, Jerry Ethridge, Rev. Janice Kibler, Todd Herreid, Dennis Reynolds, Rev. Larry Davis, Deb Elstad, Diana Biggs, Hendrik Samosir, Jay Voth, Betty Pepin, Rev. Larry Davis, Susan Mitchell, Terry Cole

Absent: Rev. Dana Peterson, Maggie Nieberger, Joan Jacobson, Julie Brooks

Guest: Rev. Judith van Osdol

The meeting opened with prayer at 6:06.

Motion made and seconded to approve minutes of Council meeting held 8/22/16

Synod Council Calls

**SC 2016.9.1** **Motion was made and seconded to approve On Leave from Call Status for the following clergy, *en bloc*. Motion passed.**

Cynthia Josephson

Emily Ewing

Mary Black

**SC 2016.9.2** **Motion was made and seconded to approve On Leave from Call Status for Tina Yankee. Motion passed.**

**SC 2016.9.3** **Motion was made and seconded to approve an interim call to Trinity, Hobbs, NM for Doug Mathison.** The call began 9/6/16. **Motion passed.**

Litany of Welcome Request

Bishop Jim asks for a Council member to be present at Bethel, CO on Sunday. If it is 9/18, Todd will go. If it is 9/25, Jody will go.

Please let Janice know if you are available to worship with any of the churches on the list.

Sale of the Cristo Rey, Denver parsonage Pr. Judith

Synodical Administration team asks for approval of the sale of the parsonage. Synod Council has previously voted to closed this congregation. The parsonage is not near the church properties. The current comps are in the high $200k to $300k range. The SA team recommends that the proceeds be used for synodical mission at the Synod’s discretion.

Cristo Rey has not been paying a pastor, and is hoping to call a mission developer. At this time, they are contributing some of the unused money to the Synod, but ask that if it turns out they need the money for repairs to the church building, Synod would consider assisting them.

Dennis notes that Synod has given a great deal of assistance to this congregation in the past, and perhaps having some of the proceeds returned to Synod’s general fund. Pr. Judith says the term “mission” is very broad.

The building is currently unoccupied. There are some plumbing repairs that will be needed. There is $10,000 in an account to cover this cost, and to help share costs of repairs to the church building with the HeadStart folks.

**SC2016.9.4 Motion was made and seconded to sell the parsonage, and determine the use of the funds later. The motion passed on a roll-call vote.**

Closure of the SAWC – Iglesia Luterana Jesus de Nazaret, Aurora, CO Pr. Judith

Bishop Jim explained the history of Jesus de Nazaret. Pr. Deb Cote worked through the summer of 2015 to the present to keep that ministry viable, but it is the consensus to close this ministry. Attendance is typically 1-3 families. St. Stephen’s Episcopal now is seeking a Priest in Charge, who is bilingual, and Jesus de Nazaret may merge with that congregation.

**SC2016.9.5 Motion was made and seconded to close the SAWC Iglesia Luterana Jesus de Nazaret no later than December 31, 2016.**

There are no assets to be disposed of. Executive Committee will address the status of the staff upon closing. Jerry asked who will accompany the families through this closure. Pr. Deb has asked to remain with the community for 3 months to complete this process with the families. Pr. Judith believes the process can be completed by the end of December 2016.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote.**

Next Council meeting

Earline reminded the Council that our next meeting is in-person at The Lutheran Center on October 14 from 9 -5, with dinner to follow; and on Sat. Oct. 15 from 9 – noon. New Council members are asked to meet with the Executive Committee from 3 – 6 p.m. on 10/13, with dinner to follow.

Strategic Plan Update Bishop Gonia

The team met today, and will present a form of the plan at Theological Conference next week, and ask for feedback. The team expects to get a proposal to the Council prior to the October meeting, and asks that we read it carefully prior to that meeting.

Earline asked that we pay particular attention to the funding needs that will arise in connection with the goals.

Bishop Jim met Adriana Benevidez, who is on the board of Four Winds, and felt that was a reminder for us to look at our engagement with them.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Brammer-Hoelter