

Synod Council Notes - September 2017

The Nebraska Synod Council took the following actions at its September 2017 meeting:

- Approved the appointment of Brian Lund to the Board of Directors of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- Approved the Rural Ministry Network as an official Ministry Network of the Synod.
- Approved waiving the application process for those continuing entities that had been Nebraska Synod Committees prior to the 2017 changes to the Synod Constitution that eliminated their status as Committees, and granting those entities Ministry Network status, specifically: Justice, Outreach, Stewardship, Global Missions, World Hunger.
- Approved transfer of some funds designated for All the Children of God to the general Mission Field Nebraska account.
- Approved RARE (Racism Awareness Reconciliation and Engagement) as a special synodical committee with Miriam Blair and Brad Johnson as co-chairs.
- Accepted Seim Johnson audit report of the 2016-17 fiscal year
- Set election process for at-large executive committee members for the upcoming year. Elected Sarah Ruch, Jan Peterson and Pat Gregory to one-year terms, commencing immediately.
- Extended a Synod Council call to the Reverend Kristen Van Stee to serve as Bishop's Associate for Mobility and Congregational and Rostered Minister Care. She will also serve at Our Savior, Wayne, under contract. She begins September 1, 2017.
- Appointed 2018 Synod Assembly Planning Team: Patrick Gregory, Rev. Marcia Dorn, Ramona Edwards, Rev. Miles Ruch, Sherrill Echternkamp, Lynn Echternkamp, Cheryl Gerdes, Rev. Steve Meysing, Staff Liaison
- Approved sabbatical leave request of Assistant to the Bishop Juliet Hampton for spring 2018.
- Approved release of council designated funds connected with programs and events no longer applicable to support operations of ministries included under Mission Field Nebraska.
- Approved designation of some undesignated gift funds to the Nebraska Synod Endowment Fund, where they will be managed for maximum return, while use remains under Council direction.
- Approved moving \$1,500 of Council Designated Funds to the Faith Formation Ministry Fund.
- Approved the Executive Committee to oversee the bishop nomination and election processes for the 2018 election, either directly or via appointment of a Bishop Election Committee or a combination thereof.
- Approval to make grants from the Nebraska Disaster Fund of up to \$20,000 to Lutheran Disaster Response of the Synods most significantly impacted by recent hurricanes.
- Elected new members of the Immanuel Vision Fund Review Committee: Rev. Steven Peeler and Cindy Settje to one-year terms (2012 class); Sarah Ruch to two-year term (2014 class); Francisco Salazar to one-year term (2014 class).

- Approved the constitutions for 10 congregations
- Approved appointments of Linda Montag and Rev. Paul Coen to the NeLCM Board of Directors
- Approved committee chairpersons: Pr. Bob Hayden-Budget & Finance; Pr. Ellen Stelzle-Candidacy; Pr. Sylvia Karlsson-Stewardship
- Viewed the first video in a series produced by the Strategic Vision Young Adult group. A user guide will be available to encourage congregations to engage in intergenerational conversations
- Approved increase in PMA Administrator's hours
- Approved increase in expenditure to raze LMM building