

## Northwestern Ohio Synod Council Minutes

May 3, 2025, Hope, Bowling Green

**Synod Council Present:** Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, Nancy Yunkers, Michelle Schaffer, Shea McGrew, Jillian Russel, Cindy Harris, Beth Kieffer, Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt, Kelly Weber, Rev. Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri, Clark Price, Rev. Melanie Haack, Jerusha Walker, Wendy Bauer, Rev. Robin Owen, Kevin Swagler and Rev. Brenda Peconge

**Synod Council Absent:** Kathy Jurrus, Deacon Rodney West-Estell, Caitlin Brink, Rev. Steve Ramsey, Rev. Tanyce Addison

**Synod Staff Present:** Deacon Sherry Kreiger, Pastor Sarah Schaaf, Chris Fye via Zoom, Linda Henschen

**Guest:** Rev. Dr. Micheal Moynagh and Pastor Beth Ferne-Johnson, Conference of Deans Toledo

**1. Welcome and Devotions led by SAM Shea McGrew.** Shea gave us a brief history of Hope Lutheran Church. Devotion focus was on “Hope”, Where do you find your hope?

**2. Approval of Synod Council Minutes:** January 25, 2025

The motion to approve was made by Pastor Melanie Haack and second by Kevin Swagler. Motion was approved.

**3. Review of Executive Committee Decisions:** February 3, 2025

Motion to approve was made by Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt and second by Jerusha Walker. Motion was approved.

**4. Bishop Daniel Teaching Time and Update:** Focus word “NEW.” Bishop Daniel shared the video” Start Something New. Jesus movement-What does this mean?” Bishop Daniel shared what Romans had to say about New Communities. Books to look at ;*21<sup>st</sup> Century Church* and *Deep & Wild* by Micheal Beck.

Pastor Sarah shared Fresh expression experiences; personal and professional; Messy church, Church at play Dinner Church, Gather and Scatter.

**5. Pastor Sarah Schaaf Update:** Report as written.

**6. Deacon Sherry Krieger Update:** Report as written.

**7. Director For Generosity, Chris Fye Update:** Chris joined us via Zoom. Chirs shared his report. He talked about the Annual Funds of \$100,000.00 Goal, 7% has been raised. The Annual Fund Reply Sheets were handed out.

## **8. Synod Council Roster and Parish Actions**

### **Action SC 25.05 Approval of Retirement**

“At The recommendation of the Bishop, Synod Council approves the retirement status of Rev. Robin Owen (7/27/25), Rev. Tim Nilsen (8/1/25), and Rev. Janet Wittenmyer (8/1/25).”

Motion to approve was made by Beth Kieffer and second by Wendy Bauer. Motion was approved.

### **Action SC 25.6 Appointment of a Synod Authorized Minister (SAM)**

“At the recommendation of the Bishop and Synod Council approves the appointment of Michelle Detmer to serve as Synod Authorized Minister for the West Toledo Parish through December 31, 2026.”

The motion to approve was made by Kevin Swagler and second by Pastor Melanie Haack. Motion was approved.

### **Action SC 25.07 Appointment of Two Churchwide Assembly Voting Members**

“To appoint Synod Vice-President Nancy Yunkers and Pastor Beth Westphal to serve as Voting Members of the 2025 Churchwide Assembly.”

Motion to approve was made by Wendy Bauer and second by Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt. Motion was approved.

### **Action SC 25.08 Appointment of Constitution Review Team**

Motion to approve was made by Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri and second by Pastor Brenda Peconge. Motion carried.

## **9. Vice-President’s Report**

Nancy received acknowledgement for a group developing organization.

## **10. Financial Reports and Financial Review for Fiscal Year 2023-24**

Shea McGrew and Linda Henschen shared pages 15 and 16 of their report.

## **11. Administrative Updates**

Three recent deaths: Synod Authorized Minister Frank Raeske, Pastor Donald L. Wukotich and Rev. Paul F. Stengel.

Council Sharing: Faith-Grace-Faith Talk to take place June -September, skill building for \$500.00 fee.

## **12. Sending Blessing**

Bishop Daniel gave us a sending and meal blessing.

Motion to adjourn was made by Beth Kieffer and second by Kevin Swagler.

## **13. Rev. Dr. Micheal Moynagh and Lunch**

During our lunch we listened to Rev. Micheal. He is from Oxford, England and an ordained Reverend of the Church of England. Author of the book "Godsend."

Points of interest.

- Mix of new and old church, support of each other is important.
- Permission giving, new style of church.
- Soulspace; Listen, Love, Community, Share Jesus, Church, Repeat

## **14. Future Meetings**

**September 20,2025                      First Lutheran, Findlay**

**December 13, 2025                      St. John's, Findlay**