

TLGC Synod Council Meeting February 8, 2008

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS:

The Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod met at ZION Lutheran Church, Galveston, Texas, on Saturday February 8, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by our Vice-President Erika Soechting Canham. Bishop Rinehart had the opening Devotion.

SC.02.08.01: a motion was made concerning housing allowances for Bishop Rinehart and for Rev. Don Carlson. Motion was rescinded and reconsidered later in the meeting.

SC.02.08.02: Bishop Rinehart recommended that a call be extended to Tom Minor from the Synod to serve as Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator for the Gulf Coast Hospice of Houston. Synod Council approved.

SC.02.08.03: Bishop Rinehart recommended that Rev. David K. Stouter receive a call from the Synod as chaplain to MD Anderson Hospital. Synod Council approved.

SC.02.08.04: Bishop Rinehart recommended that a call be extended to Rev. Don Carlson as the Director of Call Process for the Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. Synod Council approved.

SC.08.02.05: Arwin Strehlow moved that the portion of the Bishops Salary to be designated for housing allowance be \$25,000 for the year 2008, and that the portion of salary designed for housing allowance for Rev. Don Carlson be \$24,000 for the year 2008. Sue Moehring seconded. Motion carried.

SC.08.02.06: Bishop Rinehart recommended that Rev. Mary Lewis served another three-year term on the LSTC board of directors. Synod Council approved.

SC.08.02.07-08-09: Bishop Rinehart recommended that the Houston Tamil Church, the Houston Oromo Church and the Church of the Living God be approved as Synodically Authorized Worshipping Communities. Synod Council approved.

SC.08.02.10: The following appointments were made:

1. Art Preisinger – Investigation
2. Art Preisinger – Habitat
3. Margie Taylor – Hunger
4. Pat Keen – African American Strategy
5. Walt Ehrhardt – Disaster Preparedness
6. Kurt G – Compensation Guidelines
7. Arwin, Reyna, Fred de Oliveira – Budget Planning
8. Eric Klimpel, Nominating Committee from the Northern Sector
9. Nathan Hoffmann, Nominating Committee from Louisiana
10. Janie Marin, Nominating Committee from Brenham

SC.08.02.11: Kurt reported that the compensation task force for Pastor's and Church Workers, will not be ready to make a presentation at the 2008 Synod Assembly. TF feels that an outside consulting firm should be involved. [The Synod would retain consultants for compensation planning. The Bishops office would retain and pay for the consultants.]

SC.08.02.11: Bishop Rinehart asked for 'an expression of interest' on the subject of frequency of Synod Council Mtgs. We have quarterly meetings now. Is there interest in doing six (6) one day meetings during the year? There was positive interest in the six meetings by a majority of the Synod Council.

SC.08.02.12: ***[Please note that my notes were not clear on the following item. I could not remember nor decipher my notes as whether or not we made a motion.]*** We discussed the future approaches to the governance of our Synod. It was discussed having a Task Force approach other synods as to how they operated. It was felt that we could not adequately accomplish this by our next Synod Assembly and that we should pursue this with the idea that we have something to present to the 2009 Synod Assembly.

SC.08.02.13: LSSS Disaster Relief Report – [SEE REPORT given to us at our 08.02 meeting by LSSS.]

SC.08.02.14: Motion was made that we form a task force to look into the suitability of forming a 501c3 for disaster relief, or if it could be incorporated into an existing 501c3. David Hollrah seconded. Motion Carried.

SC.08.02.15: Rev. Robin McCullough-Bade moved that an ELCA summit be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, during or near the week of August 29th. The purpose of the summit to include the entire ELCA as an expression of support to our

fellow Lutherans who suffered the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
Sue Moehring seconded.
Motion carried.

SC.08.02.16: Bishop Rinehart moved that we permit Joyful Life Lutheran Church of the Woodlands a one Sunday appeal and encourage the congregations of our Synod to receive an offering for them. David Tart seconded. Motion carried.

SC.08.02..16: Synod Elections were discussed. Possible names for the position of the Secretary of the Synod were: Pastor David Roschke, Pastor Kathy Haueisen, and Pastor Tom Glasoe. No names were submitted for Treasurer.

SC.08.02.17: A review of the Bishop's salary was discussed.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Rev. Gerald G. Westerbuhr, Acting Secretary