

**The Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
Minutes of the Synod Council Meeting
November 8, 2014**

Present: John Turnquist, Paul Monroe, Evan Moilan, Bishop Mike Rinehart, Eileen Doll, Dylan Murphy, Peter Warmenan, Lura Groen, Sue Beall, Robert Rivera, Diane Campbell, David Hollrah

Guests: Assistants to the Bishop Blair Lundborg, Peggy Hahn and Pedro Suarez

The Synod Council met at St. James Lutheran Church, Houston, TX.

Council was welcomed and greeted by Pr. Arthur Murphy and Aura Suarez (wife of Pedro, see above).

Opening devotion was led by Pr. Lura Groen.

The meeting was called to order by VP Evan Moilan at 10:00am.

Minutes of the previous meeting were enthusiastically and unanimously approved. (Council members observed privately that the minutes were very cogently and precisely presented.)

Council received the Treasurer's report, presented by Paul Monroe.

The Bishop presented his report, which included a substantial and thorough review of the recent conference of bishops of the ELCA. The Council discussed ELCA and Synod funding models.

Council received the report of Pedro Suarez, Director of Evangelical Mission. New starts and redevelopment efforts are going well, although not as good as hoped.

Council members who had made Congregational Council visits reported on their visits. Largely positive.

Received the report of Pr. Lundborg, Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership. Pr. Doug Guthier was approved for retired status.

Received the report of LEAD director Peggy Hahn. LEAD is now writing a book for leaders and to help bring the LEAD name before a wider audience.

Discussed terms for present Council members and nominations for members at next Synod Assembly. A list of nominees was presented by the Nominating Committee. Bill Mintz to be asked to serve on Nominating Committee.

MSC that Synod establish an ELCA Pooled Fund Account and that the signatories be Paul Monroe, Mike Rinehart and Blair Lundborg.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30.