

Special Council Meeting June 1, 2023

Minutes Approved

20 June 2023

Marlene Kiser

Meeting started at: 6:11pm

Welcome to Special Council Meeting: Chet Madison

Opening Prayer: Bishop Claire Burkat

Present: Chet Madison; Peggy Moser; Kirsten Ireton (Zoom); Marlene Kiser; Cathy Davis; Laura Tice; Clarence Korhonen; Faith Thomas; Punky Dias; Paul Maki; Shirley Prouty; Linda Duffek; and Carole Vance.

Absent: Punky Dias

Guests: Interim Bishop Claire Burkat, Synod VP Simon Wong & Pastor Carl Hoppman

Round Robin: All council members present introduced themselves to Bishop Burkat & Synod VP Simon Wong.

Guests Introductions made:

Interim Bishop Claire Burkat – Bishop came out of retirement to assist the Sierra Pacific Synod with the departure of previous Sierra Pacific Bishop and to help with rebuilding trust with all 9 Conferences that compose the Sierra Pacific Synod. Part of the rebuilding of the Sierra Pacific Synod involved making sure that all procedures the synod have are up to date or if procedure are missing that they are created.

Synod VP Simon Wong – Mr. Wong is working along side Interim Bishop Burkat to bring confidence, trust, and structure back in the Sierra Pacific Synod.

New Synod Procedure:

Policy 23-001 Policy Procedure for the Sierra Pacific Synod of the ELCA for Discipline of a Rostered Minister when a Complaint is Reported, Adopted by the Synod Council April 15, 2023 (SC23.04.54).

- Handout of new procedure provided to all Council Members present.

To comply with this new procedure for the synod the following special council meeting was called for St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California:

- Complaint was disclosed about Pastor Brian Hiortdahl and read by Bishop at the Special Council Meeting called for June 1st, 2023.
- Bishop asked for any questions or comments from the council members present after the complaint was read.
- Informational Congregational Meeting announced for June 8th, 2023 (Thursday) to disclose finding and resolution of reported complaint to congregation.

Discussion of outstanding benefits addressed for Pastor Brian Hiortdahl:

Motion to proceed with payment of 18 days' vacation and June HAS(Health Savings Account) payment for Pastor Brian Hiortdahl was made by Paul Maki and 2nd by Peggy Moser. Motion approved unanimously by those present.

Pastoral coverage for St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California:

Interim Bishop Claire Burkay has recommended to Synod that Pastor Carl Hoppman be the visiting pastor starting July 1st until a new pastor can be "Called to St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California".

Closing Prayer: Interim Bishop Claire Burkat

Meeting closed: 7:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Kiser
Council Secretary
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