



Southeastern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Southeastern Minnesota Synod Council Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2025

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod Council met on July 15, 2025, via Zoom.

Members present: Rev. Jessica Bakken Busch, Rev. Shawn Brooks, Rev. Anna Ferro, David Holger, Matthew Huggenvik, Rev. Cheryl Indehar, Rev. Sam Mailleue, Sam Pollack, Ed Taylor, Dr. Joyce Thompson, Treasurer Tammy Dahlvang, Secretary Rev. Josh Enderson, Vice President Lisa Dierks, and Bishop Regina Hassanally.

Absent: Barbara Lake, Bradley Leathers, Jennifer Levison, and Roy Srp.

WELCOME

- Vice President Lisa Dierks welcomed council members and began with introductions.

CALL TO ORDER & OVERVIEW OF AGENDA

- Vice President Dierks called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.
- She then presented the agenda.
- Treasurer Tammy Dahlvang motioned to approve the agenda.

SC25.07.31 Motion to approve the agenda.
Motion approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Rev. Sam Mailleue motioned to move into executive session.

SC25.07.33 Motion to move into executive session.
Motion approved.

- At 7:14pm the council moved into executive session to discuss changes to the roster. The following action items were taken during this session:

SYNOD ADMINISTRATION FOR ST. MICHAEL'S, WALTHAM, MN

- A letter was received from St. Michael's, Waltham, requesting that the synod council approve Synod Administration for them, and that the synod council update C10.04 in their constitution by removing their quorum, which is currently set at 21. They also request that they synod council appoint their council members and included this list of names in the letter.
- Bishop Regina Hassanally motioned to put St. Michael's, Waltham under synod administration.

ES(SC25.07.34) Motion to put St. Michael's, Waltham under synod administration.
Motion approved.

- Treasurer Tammy Dahlvang motioned to amend C10.04 of St. Michael's, Waltham's Constitution, setting the meeting quorum at 20% of voting members present.

ES(SC25.07.35) Motion to amend C10.04 of St. Michael's, Waltham's, Constitution, setting the meeting quorum at 20% of voting members present.
Motion approved.

- Sam Pollack motioned to not take action on appointing St. Michael's council members, but to send this action back to the congregation.

ES(SC25.07.36) Motion to not take action on appointing St. Michael's council members, but to send this action back to the congregation.

Motion approved.

- Matt Huggenvik motioned to release St. Michael's, Waltham from synod administration and direct the bishop to communicate the decisions made to their leadership.

ES(SC25.07.37) Motion to release St. Michael's, Waltham from synod administration and direct the bishop to communicate the decisions made to their leadership.

Motion approved.

ROSTER CHANGES

- Call to Interim Ministry Through Synod Council (Needs Approval)
 - Rev. Lisa Meshke, Southwestern Minnesota Synod to Bridge Pastor at First English, Faribault. Effective: 06/16/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
 - Rev. Peter Coen-Tuff, Eastern North Dakota Synod to Interim Pastor at Dennison & Vang, Dennison. Effective: 07/08/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
 - Rev. Jolene Knudson-Hanse, On Leave from Call to Bridge Pastor at Little Cedar & Marshall, Adams. Effective: 07/15/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
- Bishop Regina Hassanally motioned to appoint Rev. Lisa Meshke to Bridge Pastor at First English, Faribault; Rev. Peter Coen-Tuff to Interim Pastor at Dennison & Vang, Dennison; and Rev. Jolene Knudson-Hanse to Bridge Pastor at Little Cedar & Marshall, Adams.

ES(SC25.07.38) Motion to appoint Rev. Lisa Meshke to Bridge Pastor at First English, Faribault; Rev. Peter Coen-Tuff to Interim Pastor at Dennison & Vang, Dennison; and Rev. Jolene Knudson-Hanse to Bridge Pastor at Little Cedar & Marshall, Adams.

Motion approved.

- Retirement Status (Needs Approval)
 - Rev. Marie Anderson. Effective: 07/01/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
 - Rev. Dean Lundgren. Effective: 07/01/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
 - Rev. Steven Berkland. Effective: 09/01/2025. Approved at synod council meeting 07/15/2025.
- Bishop Regina Hassanally motioned to approve Retirement Status for Rev. Marie Anderson, Rev. Dean Lundgren, and Rev. Steven Berkland.

ES(SC25.07.39) Motion to approve Retirement Status for Rev. Marie Anderson, Rev. Dean Lundgren, and Rev. Steven Berkland.

Motion approved.

- Treasurer Tammy Dahlvang motioned to adjourn from executive session.

ES(SC25.07.40) Motion to adjourn from executive session.

Motion approved.

- The council left executive session at 7:40 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from the April 26, 2025 Synod Council Meeting and the May 30-31, 2025 SEMN Synod Assembly were presented for approval.
- Dr. Joyce Thompson motioned to approve the April 26, 2025 Synod Council meeting and the May 30-31, 2025 SEMN Synod Assembly minutes.

SC25.07.41 Motion to approve the April 26, 2025 Synod Council meeting and the May 30-31, 2025 SEMN Synod Assembly minutes.

Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

- Vice President Dierks declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

The next meeting of the Synod Council is to be determined.

Submitted,
Rev. Josh Enderson
Synod Council Secretary

APPROVED 09/13/2025 JE