

TEXAS-LOUISIANA GULF COAST SYNOD
Synod Council Meeting
April 8-9, 2005
Holy Comforter Lutheran Church, Kingwood, Texas

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS:

SC05.04.01 to adopt the agenda for this meeting. **Motion:** *Moehring*; **second:** *Groenke*
ADOPTED

SC05.04.02 to adopt the Minutes of the January 14-15, 2005 Synod Council meeting; the results of the E meetings of February 18 and 25, 2005; and the report of the Executive Committee meeting of March 17, 2005. **Motion:** *Groenke*; **second:** *Moehring*
ADOPTED

SC05.04.03 to receive the Treasurer's Report of the unaudited 2004 Fiscal Year and of the first two months of Fiscal Year 2005. **Motion:** *Moehring*; **second:** *Eckermann*
ADOPTED

SC05.04.04 to recommend the proposed 2006 Synod Budget for the Synod Assembly action during the June 2-4, 2005 meeting. (This budget is still a work in progress.)

Motion: *Groenke*; **second:** *Moehring* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.05 to place *Pr. Espiridion "Pit" Elizondo* on disability status in the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *McCary* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.06 to extend a Non-Stipendiary Call to *Pr. Blair Lundborg* to serve as a "specialist in stewardship and dealing with reception of bequests in congregations" for the Texas-Louisiana Synod and the wider church as may be appropriate. **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *Groenke* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.07 to extend a Letter of Call to *Pr. John Hunsicker* to serve as Director of Development for the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *Lewis* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.08 to extend the Letter of Call to *Pr. Erbey Gonzales* for another one year Term Call beginning April 16, 2005, to serve as Interim Pastor at Ascension Lutheran Chapel, a Synodically Authorized Worshiping Community in Tomball, Texas. **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *Strehlow* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.09 to extend a Letter of Call to *Pr. George Bement* to serve as Chaplain at InterCare Psychiatric Hospital. **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *Strehlow* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.10 to add the following sentence to the Policy for Displays at the annual Synod Assembly: "Upon recommendation of the Assembly Planning Committee Synod Council permission is required for the sale of any products at a display at the Synod Assembly."

Motion: *Akerman*; **second:** *Groenke* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.11 to amend Article 2 (2.02) of the Bylaws of Texas Lutheran University, a nonprofit corporation, which currently reads "at least sixty-six and 2/3rds (662/3%) of the Regents shall be members of Lutheran congregations" to read "a majority of the Board of Regents shall be Lutheran." (This was approved by the Board of Regents of TLU on October 9, 2004, and by the Corporation Board of January 29, 2005. The three Texas-Louisiana Synods must ratify such actions.) **Motion:** *Bishop Blom*; **second:** *Strehlow*
ADOPTED

SC05.04.12 to have the 2007 Synod Assembly in the Houston area and the 2008 Synod Assembly in New Orleans, **Motion:** *Groenke*; **second:** *Strehlow* **ADOPTED**

SC05.04.13 to amend Article 2.13.5 of the Council Self Governance by changing the sentence “The Council agenda shall consist of the following sections...” to “The Council agenda **may** consist of **some or all of** the following sections...” and by removing the words Friday Evening and Saturday from the section. **Motion:** *McCary*; second: *Groenke* ADOPTED

SC05.04.14 to approve Section 3 of the Policy Based Governance with modifications resulting from the Synod Council review. **Motion:** *McCary*; second: *Groenke* ADOPTED

SC05.04.15 to approve Section 4 of the Policy Based Governance with modifications resulting from the Synod Council review. **Motion:** *Eckermann*; second: *Moehring* ADOPTED

REVIEW OF OTHER ITEMS

COUNCIL EDUCATION: *Pr. Rob Moore*, Assistant to the Bishop, shared information of how he will serve as the Mission Director for the TLGC Synod and continue his many responsibilities as Bishop’s assistant.

Susan Giesecke and Pr. Herb Palmer shared information of Global Missions, Companion Synods, and the Safe House Projects being undertaken especially in Peru Central African Republic Two resolutions already endorsed by the Synod Council will be presented through the Reference and Counsel Committee for Synod Assembly action.

Pr. Barb Bartling of the host Holy Comforter Lutheran Church shared about the congregation and its ministry.

FAITH EXPLORATION: *Bishop Blom* shared Unit One of the new Augsburg Fortress Bible Study “No Experience Necessary” written by *Pr. Kelly Fryer*. Each members of the Synod Assembly will receive a copy that will be utilized during this year’s Assembly.

TASK FORCES:

David Hollrah and Pr. Akerman are to discuss the matter of handling On-line meetings and voting. Report to June Synod Council meeting.

P. K. McCary and Pr. Groenke are to investigate a process for the “listening” and “reporting” requirements in Section 1.5 of the Policy Based Governance document. Report to June Synod Council meeting.

The Executive Committee is establishing a job description for a Task Force to be named at the June Synod Council meeting. This Task Force will deal with a candidacy discernment process for the election of the Synod Bishop at the 2007 Synod Assembly. **Synod Council member input should be forwarded to Vice President, Bill Krejci, by May 10.**

REPORTS RECEIVED: (written) (copies available through the Synod Office)
Synod Assembly Report drafts from Assistants to the Bishop, *Peggy Contos and Pr. Rob Moore*.

Mission Director, *Pr. Jose L. Garcia, Jr.*
Pr. Kathy Haueisen, Executive Director of The Melancton Institute
Preliminary Report of the Nominating Committee, *Pr. Harvey Bongers*, Chair
The Bishop's Report that included the report of the Management Team activities.

ATTENDANCE: *Akerman, Blom, Eckermann, Groenke, Krejci, Lewis, McCary, Moehring, Strehlow*

ABSENT: *Herrmann and Hollrah (excused)*

GUESTS: *Nancy Froelich*, Director Finance; *Susan Giesecke* and *Pr. Herb Palmer*; *Pr. Barb Bartling*; *Pr. Rob Moore*; *Joyce Weidner*

Respectfully submitted,

Pr. H. Eldon Akerman,
Secretary

Planning Dates

May 18, 2005	Executive Comm.	10-noon	Synod Office
June 2, 2005	Synod Council	10-noon	Marriott, The Woodlands
June 2-4, 2005	Synod Assembly		Marriott, The Woodlands
September 16-17, 2005	Synod Council	7-9; 8:30-3:00	St. Martin's, Sugar Land
January 20-21, 2006	Synod Council	7-9; 8:30-3:00	Chinese Lutheran, Alief