

Florida-Bahamas Synod Council Highlights
February 16-17, 2024– Tampa
Rev Dr Kenneth Blyth – Secretary

Approved Consent Agenda

Minutes of:

Synod Council Exec. Committee, Nov 14, 2023

Synod Council Minutes, Nov. 17-18, 2023

Synod Council Dec 13, 2023

Synod Council Exec. Committee, Feb 8, 2024

Transition/Call Process Report

Report of the Bishop

Report from DEM Rev. Nicole Eastwood

Report from the Vice President

Report from Global Missions

Report of the Gun Violence Taskforce.

Received the Bishop's report, and his words of appreciation to Rev. Khader El-Yateem as Khader takes up his new call as Senior Executive Director of Service and Justice Home Area of ELCA. Pastor El-Yateem's call in the synod ends on March 17, 2024.

Received report on the awarding of four Lily Student Debt Grants within the synod, totaling \$26,435 for 2024, bringing the total amount awarded under this grant to \$54,435.

Received report of the establishment of a Disaster Chaplaincy, from funds received from LDR.

Received report that the synod will elect twelve voting members of the 2025 Churchwide Assembly, to be held July 28-August 2, 2025, in Phoenix, Arizona. Of these twelve, one will be the Bishop, and the other the Vice President. Elections for the 10 seats will take place at the 2024 Synod Assembly.

Received reports from the Global Mission Team and the V2A Grant Team Manager (Rev. Katie Carroll). V2A grants totaling \$600,000 are available in 2024, with grants in the \$5,000-\$25,000 range anticipated.

Rev. Khader El-Yateem led worship and gave a heart-felt farewell to the Synod Council.

Received a presentation from Rev. Lori Fuller of Palm Deaf Church.

Received the report of the Finance Committee, and the Planning and Review Committee.

Voted to place Messiah Lutheran Church, Panama City, under Synodical Administration, at their request. Authorized the sale of Messiah, Panama City property. Sales proceeds to support a new Lutheran presence and ministry/worship location in Panama City.

Approved partial funding for five seminary interns in congregations which would otherwise not be able to support an intern.

Received and voted on recommendations from Governance Team and Executive Committee on changes to the Synod Constitution.

Established that that the 2024 Synod Assembly will fill the following Synod Council positions:

Treasurer, 4-year term.

N Mission District, Clergy, 3-year term.

SE Mission District, Lay Male.

SW Mission District, Lay Female.

Youth, age 15-17, 1-year term.

Young Adult, age 18-30 - 1-year term.

Voted to establish a Young Adult Committee.

Authorized the replacement of vehicles for Bishop and his deployed staff.