

NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT LCMS
Board of Directors Meeting
February 28, 2017
Minutes

NWD Board Members Attending

Mr. Craig Timm, Chairman
Rev. Dr. Timothy Roser, 1st P
Rev. William Plautz, 2nd VP
Rev. Timothy Shoup, 3rd VP
Rev. Dan Thews, Secretary
Mr. Paul Duerst
Mrs. Susan Longmire
Rev. Dwayne Lueck, President
Mr. Bruce Plautz
Mrs. Karol Selle
Mr. David Selmeyer

North Wisconsin District Staff Present

Mr. Dennis Johnson
Mr. DJ Schult

NWD Board Unable to Attend

Mr. Dave Ackerman, Treasurer
Mr. Richard Bartanen
Mr. Stephen Fisher
Rev. Aaron Gehrke

Recording Secretary

Mrs. Lori Kavajecz

Opening Devotion – Rev. William Plautz provided the Opening Devotion on 2 Corinthians, 8.

Adoption of Agenda

A **motion** was made, seconded and approved to adopt the agenda as presented. **APPROVED.**

Consent Voting Agenda

- ❖ Approval of November 10, 2016 Minutes
- ❖ NWD Unaudited December 2016 Financials & Consolidated P & L
- ❖ Section 3 – Board & Executive Relationship Policies Review
- ❖ Rewrite of 3.5.2.6 – Board Policy Manual

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the above Consent Voting Agenda as presented. **APPROVED.**

Camp Luther

Mr. Selmeyer referred the Board to Attachment E and shared a few highlights from the report.

Rev. Roser stated that as the Committee continues to review the Management Agreement, it would be good for the Board to make a decision now on the dollar amount for District support.

After discussion, a **motion** was made and seconded to approve to include, in the newly revised Management Agreement for 2018, a District contribution of \$100,000 annually over the next 5 years in support of the ministry of Camp Luther. **APPROVED.**

Unaudited December 2016 Financials

The financials were presented and discussed. A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the unaudited December 2016 financials as presented. **APPROVED.**

Constitution & Bylaws

Secretary Thews presented the following Constitution & Bylaw changes for ratification:

St. Paul – Manawa
Luther Memorial – River Falls
First Lutheran – Rice Lake
Bethlehem Lutheran – Nekoosa
Trinity (on Stewart) – Wausau

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the above Constitution & Bylaw changes as presented. **APPROVED.**

District Pastors' Wives Retreat

A question was asked concerning whether the North Wisconsin District Pastors' Wives Retreat is sponsored by the District and if the District has any oversight over this event. President Lueck shared that this is not a District-sponsored event and that this group has their own Federal ID number and checking account.

To clarify that this is not a "District" sponsored event, it was suggested that a clause be placed on all communication for this event stating *"This is not a North Wisconsin District sponsored event."* to avoid any confusion and to ensure that interested attendees contact the proper individuals in charge of this group.

Spring Pastors' Conference

Per a discussion held at the November 10, 2016 Board of Directors meeting concerning the belief that the Pastors' Conference was a "District" event, the below motion was approved.

*A **motion** was made and seconded stating that beginning in 2017, revenues from the Fall and Spring Pastors' Conferences will come to the District and all expenses will be paid from this account. Existing balances in the pastors' checking account will be transferred to this designated District account.*

After further research, it was discovered that the Pastors' Conference also has their own Federal ID number and checking account from which they do business.

A **motion** was made and seconded to rescind the above-stated motion from the November 10, 2016 meeting. **APPROVED.**

Standing Committee Updates

Administrative Services Committee

Rev. William Plautz shared that there is no new business to report.

Audit & Investment Management Committee

Mr. Bruce Plautz shared that the accounts are moving in the right direction. Show an \$85,000 increase in one year and were able to provide scholarships in the amount of \$67,400. He believes we are headed in a positive direction; things are growing.

Governance Committee

Rev. Roser shared that although the Board spent much time discussing and reviewing the new outcomes, they were never approved.

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the Outcomes as shown in the Strategic Plan that was last Revised/Board Reviewed November 2016. **APPROVED.**

Stewardship Committee

Mr. Johnson shared that he and Revs. Shoup & Error are getting closer to being able to share something on the District website that will be useful to congregations. Stay tuned.

District Designated Funds

After a discussion on where to designate \$115,000 of District designated funds, a **motion** was made and seconded to approve the below designations.

- ❖ \$50,000 – Camp Luther - FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT Campaign
- ❖ \$10,000 – Peru
- ❖ \$5,000 – SLED
- ❖ \$30,000 – Colloquy
- ❖ \$20,000 – Building

Compensation Guidelines Discussion

Rev. Plautz led the group in a discussion on the history of the compensation guidelines and asked for thoughts on changes that would help to improve them. Below are a few suggestions:

- ❖ Add something to the Worksheet for Retirement Savings Plan
- ❖ Add these guidelines as a topic for future Leadership Meetings to share how they work and the importance

Reformation Plan Update

Rev. Roser shared that they are waiting for Synod to post their Reformation plans on the website; supposed to be out in March. Once they have, they will share.

President's Report

President Lueck distributed his report to all attendees—see attached.

DJ Schult – Education/Communication

DJ shared the following highlights from his area:

- ❖ 2017 N/S State Youth Gathering will be held in November at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells.
- ❖ Mission Mini Grants will be offered again this year for outreach in amounts ranging from \$200-\$1500; based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications found on District website homepage.
- ❖ Concordia Summit will be held in August; location to be determined.
- ❖ Early Childhood Director meeting scheduled for the end of April. Two years ago we had 12 attendees, last year 20; hoping to have all centers represented in 2017. Attendance will determine location.

Dennis Johnson – LCEF/Stewardship

Dennis shared the following highlights from his area:

- ❖ North Wisconsin is a part of the Central Region and headquartered at Concordia in St. Paul, Minnesota and lead by Kurt Fuhr – Will be meeting with President Lueck this Thursday
- ❖ Will be making lots of church visits this year
- ❖ Building
 - Parking agreement with the VA
 - New Signs on building
 - Need for plumbing repairs/improvements in bathrooms
 - Parking lot – cracks sealed

Filled with the Spirit

Mr. Vought “Woody” provided the Board with an update on the last year at Camp, as well as an update on status of the Capital Campaign. He shared that they will be starting in two weeks to finish the lower level of the Retreat Center and work should be completed by May. We look forward to seeing the changes when we have our meeting at Camp in May. He also shared that more detailed drawings of the new dining hall are being prepared.

Ongoing Education & Training for Board

We were blessed to have Chaplain Wayne Schwanke join the group to share about his ministry at Veteran’s Home at King.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Dan Thews, District Secretary
Lori A. Kavajecz, Recording Secretary

President's Report to NWD-LCMS Board of Directors

February 28, 2017 – Wausau, WI

MISSION

OUR PURPOSE

Encourage, network and equip Lutheran congregations of the North Wisconsin

VISION

Success in Fulfilling Our Mission

Healthy workers serve in healthy congregations to fulfill God's Great Commission through "Witness, Mercy and Life Together"

Management report

- Parking agreement with the VA
- New signs on outside of building
- Paul Dean out for medical reasons for about 10 weeks. Now working part-time. Lori and Dave did great job filling the gap.
- New archivist – Pastor Ryan Fehrmann (Zion, Aniwa)

Financial information

- At the end of December, we had received a total of \$1,865,507 from NWD congregations, which was \$32,967 less than 2015.
- It appears that we came out in the black by close to \$120,000
- We have received \$27,000 in February designated for 2016.
- 31 congregations did not submit anything for District support.

Missions & Ministry

- Leadership meetings
- Mission mini-grants offered to District
- School visits continue by DJ
- Principals' meeting in Wausau with CUW in February
- Board governance transition meetings with some congregations
- Dennis visiting congregations in light of LCEF offer
- DCE gathering at Camp Luther this winter
- Joint NWD & SWD Circuit Visitor meeting in Stevens Point on Feb. 20-21/Dr. Saunders
- Early Childhood Directors Academy – April in Wausau
- Accreditation visiting teams by DJ in April
- April 21-27 – COP / Placement of pastoral candidates
- May 8-9 – Spring Pastors' Conference in Wausau
- January 7 at Good Shepherd, Appleton, 20 French Africans met for worship
- Hmong efforts in Wausau seem to be failing.
- St Louis Sem. President Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer will be NWD convention speaker

NWD Vacancies

- Right now there are 17 vacancies (2 declinations over the weekend). 8 of these positions are for an associate.
- Pastor Fenske will be installed this weekend at Trinity & Grace – Bear Creek
- There are 150 congregations asking for one of the 105 candidates this spring as of Feb 8
- It appears that we will have 4 congregations asking for a candidate. 3 of them wanting an associate.
- 6 pastors retiring before the end of July.

Report of DP activity

- Leadership meetings: Merrill, Tigerton, Cumberland, Wis. Rapids w/staff and one cancelled at Mountain
- Meeting with 3 circuits at WI Valley HS – Mosinee; Wis. Rapids Circuit in Jan.
- Council of Presidents: Nov and Feb
- LCMS Blue Ribbon Task Force on schools – Feb 16-17
- Great Lakes Regional Meeting Mar 8-10, 2017 – Harshaw, WI
- LCEF Conference in November
- CUW Board of Regents – Nov 3-5, 2016; Feb 3
- Install: Carlton Kangas/Fall Creek;
- Pre-call: Mellen; Mt Olive-Weston; Glidden
- Camp Christmas party in Three Lakes 12/1/16
- Peru: Foro in Lima – Dec 2-7, 2016
- Anniversary: Gillett/Christ - 125th
- Funeral: Wayne Schwanke's mother
- Wedding: Rev. & Mrs. Mark Schwalenberg/Athens
- November 14 – My mother – Viola Lueck – passed away.
- January 17-27 – Vacationed: Tour in Israel (Plan on leading a pastor tour at same time in 2018)

Staff Reports

- DJ Schult
- Dennis Johnson