

IOWA DISTRICT EAST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

PRESENT: Ordained: Mark Brase*, Daird Korth, Daniel Krueger*, Joshua Reimche, Dean Rothchild, Matthew Rueger*, Brian Saunders*

Lay: Dennis Duwe*, Carl Egger*, Andrea Hussong*, Corey Nuehring*, Lowell Schroeder, Lois Warnsholz, Carole White, Paul Zoske* (*voting members)

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Egger called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m.
- 2. Devotion:** Rev. Brase led the Board in Morning Prayer, Hymn 842, and a Bible Study on Mark 1:21-28.
- 3. Approval of Agenda:** The Agenda was approved with the following additions and/or changes: New Business added – New Hope Lutheran Church, Charles City Constitution approval; Unfinished Business added – Policy Manual review and Staffing Review Committee; Unfinished Business removed - IDE ad hoc Financial Review Committee update.
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** The Secretary noted wording corrections in section 10, 12 B, 12 C and 17 E. Moved and seconded to approve the November 29, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes as corrected. Minutes approved.
- 5. Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.
- 6. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer presented his report which included IDE 5-Year Comparison Receipts, IDE 2012 Budget Spreadsheet, IDE Income and Expense Detail, IDE Statement of Financial Position, IDE Death Benefit Review for Annuities, IDE Loans Payable and IDE 2011 Congregational Remittances.

Financial statements are unaudited as of 12/31/2011. We do not anticipate any material adjustments, however, there may be some report reclassifications and/or consolidation entries. Actual District support from Congregations exceeded budget by \$41,096. This was the best year for receipts since 2007. Actual expenses were lower than budget by \$51,542. Non-cash items, specifically income from investments, were unfavorable by \$108,717. This can be seen on the 2012 Budget Spreadsheet. The Annuity Loan and District Operations Loan were paid off on 11/29/11 as directed by the Board of Directors during the November 2011 meeting. LCMS auditors are planning to start the audit as of February 27, 2012.

The Treasurer noted the cash budget excess of \$51,541.79 and answered questions concerning expenses, annuities and loans. (The Treasurer's Report, Exhibit A, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

7. President Saunders' Report: The President reviewed the Vacancy Update: Bethany, Cedar Rapids, Randy Nord, vacancy pastor, not calling yet; Concordia, Cedar Rapids, Dr. Rothchild vacancy pastor, call pending to Rev. Jason Shaw, Faith, Springfield, Missouri; Trinity, Cedar Rapids, David Miller, Assistant, not yet calling; St. John, Keystone, Richard Osslund, vacancy pastor, not yet calling; Immanuel, Charlotte, Rev. Steve Anderson, vacancy pastor, reviewing the possibility of calling a candidate.

Rev. Tim Jones has accepted a call to Trinity, Jefferson, Iowa which leaves St. Paul, Bennett/St. Paul, Stanwood vacant soon. Rev. David Rempfer, Grace, Blairstown has a call pending to St. Paul, Ute, Iowa. Rev. Brad Brown, Grace, DeWitt has declined a call to Zion, Ogden, Iowa. President Saunders pointed out that all non-calling vacancies are resolved. The vacancy pastors serving the last three (St. John, Osage; Peace, Shell Rock; Good Shepherd, West Union) will soon be called and installed.

The situation of the Divine call at St. Paul Chapel is being addressed under the following points: 1. to be consistent in IDE's Campus Ministries; 2. so that St. Paul can serve as the mother church to the North Liberty mission start; 3. the congregation will have a clergy vote at District convention; 4. for the proper application of the Doctrine of Church and Ministry.

Dubuque Lutheran School, Dubuque, Readlyn Community Lutheran School, Readlyn and Valley Lutheran School, Cedar Falls all have Principal vacancies after Nathan Richter from Valley accepted a call to Lutheran High School, Decatur, Illinois. Deaconess Carol Goldfish,

Trinity, Cedar Rapids was called to glory December 28, 2011. President Saunders also commented on the Specific Ministry Program route to ordination. (President Saunders' Report, Exhibit B, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

8. ATTP Korth's Report: ATTP Korth began his report with an update of his progress after breaking his hip in December. The IDE Early Childhood Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 17. Becky McKinney and Central Lutheran School, Newhall will serve as host. Annette Oliver, Assistant Professor of Education and Director of the Early Childhood Program at Concordia University, Seward will be the speaker. ATTP Korth also consulted with a preschool and mentioned the upcoming Early Childhood Conference at Concordia, Seward. (ATTP Korth's Report, Exhibit E is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

9. ATTP Warnsholz's Report: ATTP Warnsholz reviewed her report. NLSA accreditation and state visits are underway at three schools. The smaller schools with limited funds are struggling to meet their administration needs with LCMS trained and state certified principals. Some are exploring the possibility of sharing a principal. Valley Lutheran School is recruiting students for the addition of Kindergarten through fifth grade. Lutheran schools face challenges in meeting state curriculum requirements in regard to funding or if they are not in line with LCMS doctrine. ATTP Warnsholz commented on the Hosanna, Tabor court case and the full funding of the Student Tuition Organization funding for Lutheran schools. (ATTP Warnsholz's Report, Exhibit D is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

10. ATTP Rev. Dr. Rothchild's Report: ATTP Rothchild reported on two upcoming events in IDE. Rev. Bart Day, Executive Director of the LCMS Office of National Mission will meet and dialogue with District committees in March. The meeting is to explore how the Office of National Mission can help and support the District. The Engaging Rural Ministries Event will be held Saturday, February 25th at St. John Lutheran Church, Waverly. The event's purpose is to assist rural and small town congregations in reaching rural America for Christ. Speakers include Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Rev. Saunders and Rev. Dr. Rothchild.

ATTP Rothchild reported the Lithuania project is at this point ahead of schedule. If the current progress continues, dedication may be in July. Furnishings for four of the sleeping rooms have been provided. Six rooms remain unsponsored. (ATTP Rothchild's Report, Exhibit C is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

11. Chairman's Minute: Chair Egger asked about the Travel Insurance provided by Concordia Plan Services. It is still in force and is monitored by business manager, Sherry Brendes. Financial concerns in regard to sustaining support for missions and finance controls for District, congregations and organizations were expressed.

President Saunders was asked to review his speaking schedule for this spring. He will be speaking at the ACLEC Conference on the Divine call and Closed Communion. He will be traveling to South Africa to speak at a Pastors' Conference on church structure connected to the Gospel, to teach at their seminary and as a member of a committee to help reconcile the white and black confessional Lutheran church bodies. In April and May he will be speaking at the Luther Lectures and Confessional Congress in Marcus IA.

Discussion followed on concerns about the practices of Concordia Seminary Chapel services.

12. LCEF Vice President Carole White's Report: VP White presented her report. She encouraged investing and commented on funds available for lending. (LCEF Vice President Carole White's Report, Exhibit F, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

13. Unfinished Business:

A. Prepare definite statement regarding North Liberty status, plans and calling procedure: The Board discussed the process of proceeding with the North Liberty mission start. The funds needed to sustain the mission for the long term, settling the calling situation with St. Paul Chapel and then calling a worker to start the mission were reviewed. The timeline is based on funding. The goal of three years of funding in hand to get started and whether the Board should wait until the District Convention to take action were discussed. By consensus, further discussion and action would be delayed until after lunch.

B. Other Mission Opportunities and Financials: The Diaconate Center in Cedar Rapids will eventually become an LCMS RSO. It provides food and clothing for the homeless and includes weekly catechesis. No District funding is anticipated in the future.

C. Convention Update: The Secretary presented the BOD report for the Convention Workbook. Board members should review and send suggestions to him.

D. Staffing Review Committee: By consensus of the Board the Chairman and President will appoint the Staffing Review Committee as approved at the November Board meeting.

14. New Business:

A. Lutheran Malaria Initiative "District Champion": Synod requests that IDE organize an effort with a "District Champion" to raise funds for the initiative. The Board discussed how to address the initiative. The information is available and paths exist for congregations or schools to support the initiative. The Board took no action.

B. Business wrap-up for current BOD: No new or additional business for current Board action was presented.

C. Request for LCMS Boards: Nominations are being solicited for a layperson on the LCEF Board of Directors. No nominations were made.

Nominations are being solicited for an ordained member of the Concordia University Systems Board of Directors. Moved and seconded to nominate Byron Northwick, Immanuel, St. Ansgar. Nomination approved.

D. New Hope Lutheran Church, Charles City Constitution Approval: Constitution Review Board approved the constitution. Approval of the constitution will make New Hope Lutheran Church, Charles City a member of the LCMS in Iowa East. Moved and seconded to accept constitution and bylaws of New Hope Lutheran Church in Charles City, Iowa. Motion carried.

15. Lunch Break: The Board recessed at 12:06 p.m. for a dine-in meal. Rev. Brase offered the meal prayer. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

16. Unfinished Business:

E. Prepare definite statement regarding North Liberty status, plans and calling procedure (cont.): Moved and seconded that as a Board we set aside the overage from 2011 to sustain the North Liberty mission and that the Mission Committee develop a detailed plan for supporting the mission to be presented at the District Convention. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that President Saunders with all due haste work with St. Paul Chapel and the Mission Committee to enable the calling of a spring candidate to work at the mission start in North Liberty. Motion carried.

F. Policy Review: The Secretary presented several sections of the Policy and Procedure Manual for consideration – Assistant to the President, District Director of Communications, Church Extension Fund Executive, Business Manager and District Archives and History (Exhibit H). Board members should communicate any suggestions to the Secretary to present a mark-up copy for approval.

Moved and seconded to amend District Archives and History policy in section V. B. to read "Collect and preserve the historical records of the District, particularly prior copies of official documents, such as articles of incorporation, constitutions, bylaws, convention proceedings, conference minutes and essays." Question called and passed. Motion Carried.

17. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:00 a.m. at the District Office.

Devotional leader: Rev. Michael Scudder

18. Adjournment: Moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was declared adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

19: Closing prayer was offered by Rev. Brase.