

**FINAL MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 31, 2017**

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**PRESENT: Ordained:** Brase,\* Hoft, Knox,\* Mons,\* Rothchild, Rueger\* and Saunders\*  
**Lay:** Brendes, Doellinger, Eastburn,\* Nuehring,\* Swales,\* Venteicher\* and White  
(\*voting members)

**1. Call to Order:** Chairman Rueger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Rev. Saunders led the board in the praying of Matins including Hymn 664. For the study he presented talking points concerning end of life issues related to his visits with Iowa legislators concerning life legislation.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** The board made the following additions to the agenda: Financial Analysis from David Eastburn, Vacancy of lay member on BOD. Moved and seconded to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes:** Moved and seconded to approve the October 25, 2016 Board Meeting minutes as published. Minutes were approved.

**4. Correspondence:** The board received the following correspondence: David Knuth accepted appointment as District Reconciler and Notifications of LCEF & Concordia Plans Services board nominations.

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Nuehring presented the Treasurer's report. The report included IDE 5-Year Comparison Receipts, IDE 2016/2017 Budget Spreadsheet, IDE Income & Expense Detail, IDE Statement of Financial Position, IDE Death Benefit Review for Annuities, IDE Loans Payable, IDE 2016 Congregational Remittances and IDE 2016 Workshops, all updated for the quarter ending December 31, 2016.

The Treasurer reported: a. District support from Congregations ended the year just slightly under budget at \$1,173,611. 2016 contributions rec'd after our cut-off would have nearly met our budget of \$1,200,000. b. Actual expenses were lower than budget for 2016 by \$41,381. Gifts for New Mission Starts totaled \$87,310 during 2016. A finalized 2016 summary budget is enclosed reflecting changes made at the October 2016 BOD meeting. c. The 2016 audit preparation has started and auditors will be on site in mid-February 2017. d. The Investment Committee met on January 19, 2017. Our investments averaged a 6.24% return during 2016. e. I recommend the Board designate the excess LCMS Synodical Convention assessments totaling \$41,928.05 to offset the costs/assessments for the 2019 LCMS Synodical Convention.

Moved and seconded to designate excess synodical convention assessment of \$41,928.05 towards the 2019 synod convention. Motion carried.

2016 Audit Reports should be ready for the next BOD meeting. Moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Report approved. (The Treasurer's Report, Exhibit A, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

**6. President Saunders' Report:** The President reviewed his report. The Vacancy Update included New Hope, Charles City, Chris Gorshe, vacancy pastor; Trinity, Davenport, Senior Pastor; Calvary, Deep River, Stuart Rethwisch, vacancy pastor; Immanuel, Grinnell, Fred Berry, vacancy pastor; St. John/Good Shepherd, Homestead/Wellman, Dean Rothchild, vacancy pastor; Messiah, Mason City, Clarke Frederick, vacancy pastor; St. Matthews, Sherrill, Kris Kincaid, vacancy pastor; St. John, Waverly, Keith Brustuen, vacancy pastor.

Accepted calls were David Menet, Holy Trinity, Walnut, Illinois to Faith, Waterloo and Daniel Ognoskie, Southern Illinois District to Zion, Wilton. Declined calls were Philip Bloch, Immanuel, Seymour, Indiana to Trinity, Davenport and John Preus, Trinity, Clinton to Zion, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

The school vacancy of St Paul, Latimer for a principal/teacher combination has a call pending to Dan Schield, Wausau, Wisconsin. President Saunders reviewed some of the options (dual relationship, worker priest or calling a candidate) for several vacancies. (President Saunders' Report, Exhibit B, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

**7. ATTP Doellinger's Report:** ATTP Doellinger reviewed her report. She had attended or was planning on attending the following meetings: Iowa Alliance for Choice Education (December 13), IDE/IDW Teachers' Conference meeting (November 4 and January 20), LCMS Early Childhood Consultants Conference (February 21-22) and the LEA National Administrators Conference (February 22-23). The IDE Early Childhood Conference will be March 25 at Zion, Hiawatha. She is also working on School Choice legislative efforts and seminars. National Lutheran Schools Week was January 22-28, during which she sent accompanying devotions to the board members. (ATTP Doellinger's Report, Exhibit E is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

**8. ATTP Rev. Dr. Rothchild's Report:** ATTP Rothchild reviewed his report. Rev. Warner, missionary to Spain, will be fundraising in the United States during March and April, and is available for congregational visits and presentations.

St. Paul Chapel underwent a fire inspection. Most violations have been corrected. However, the main double doors require breaker bars. Options are being explored.

Word of God Lutheran Church and the IDE Deaf Ministry sent a letter to the Mission Committee and the BOD (Exhibit D is attached to the protocol copy of these minutes). Rev. Tim Eckert will be attending the meeting.

The Proclaiming Christ Jesus! Campaign stands at a total of \$697,096 received and pledged. (ATTP Rothchild's Report, Exhibit C is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.) Moved and seconded to approve the reports of the President and his assistants. Reports approved.

## **9. Unfinished Business:**

**A. Approval of Congregation's Constitution and/or Bylaws:** Secretary Brase presented reports from the IDE Constitution Review Committee concerning the constitutions and/or bylaws for St. John, Melcher-Dallas, Zion, Shellsburg and Prince of Peace, Coralville. Moved and seconded to approve the revised constitutions and/or bylaws of John, Melcher-Dallas; Zion, Shellsburg and Prince of Peace, Coralville. Constitutions and/or bylaws were approved.

## **10. New Business:**

**A. LCEF District Relations and Support (DRS) Funding:** LCEF Vice-president Carole White reported that the LCEF is moving into three regions instead of four. The Midwest Region will include more districts. This consolidation results in a reallocation of LCEF District Relations and Support funds. IDE's portion of these funds for 2017 is \$11,694. Carole recommended setting aside \$3,548 for the current promotion assistant. LCEF desires the remainder of the funds to be used for district work. She offered the LCEF Church Improvement Program as a possibility.

Moved and seconded to set aside \$3,548 from the reallocated LCEF District Relations and Support funds for IDE's portion of the IDE/IDW promotion assistant. Motion carried. By consensus, the board will give further thought to designating the remaining funds at future meetings.

Moved and seconded to approve an LCEF loan to Our Savior, Bettendorf for \$4.5 million per board policy. Loan approved. (LCEF VP White's Report, Exhibit F, is attached to the protocol copy of these Minutes.)

**B. Nominations for Appointments to Concordia Plans Services:** After reviewing the nomination requirements, board members may submit candidates to the secretary.

**C. Nominations for Appointments to LCEF Members at Large positions:** After reviewing the nomination requirements, board members may submit candidates to the secretary.

#### **11. Unfinished Business (cont.):**

**B. School Committee Appointment:** Pastor Mons, Schools Committee liaison, recommended Rev. Jesse Cearlock, Our Redeemer, Dubuque for appointment to the Schools Committee. Moved and seconded to appoint Jesse Cearlock. Appointment approved.

#### **12. New Business (cont.):**

**D. Financial Analysis:** David Eastburn explained his financial assessment of IDE sent in a prior email. The assessment considered a variety of solvency and other ratios of the district's assets and expenses to undertake its mission. Discussion followed.

**E. Lay position on BOD:** Board chairman Rueger reminded the board that lay member Paul Zoske is relocating out of the district and that the board would need to appoint a person to fill the remainder of his term. Board members should forward names of possible candidates with pertinent information to the chairman for consideration at the next meeting.

**13. Rev. Tim Eckert, IDE Deaf Ministry Visit:** Rev. Tim Eckert, pastor of Word of God, Cedar Rapids and Davenport and IDE Deaf Missionary, reported that IDE has had deaf mission 47+ years. He has served 17 years, three years as only deaf minister. He reviewed the Deaf Missions work, locations and congregations ministerial work standing on the truth of the God's Word. Deaf pastors face similar challenges of faith and culture as hearing pastors. Efforts continue to reach out to deaf families.

Pat Monroe has worked in Nebraska and Iowa West with deaf mission. She graduated from the Deaf Institute of Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 2010, and is eligible to be certified and consecrated as a deaconess. Word of God is planning to call her as a deaconess. Her primary tasks will be visitation (with assistance from local pastors), evangelism and youth work. Word of God requested assistance with mileage reimbursement for her work

Moved and seconded to support deaf ministry deaconess Pat Monroe by providing \$4,600 for mileage reimbursement. Motion carried.

**14. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 9:00 a.m. at the district office. Rev. Brase will lead devotions.

**15. Adjournment:** Moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

**16. Closing Devotions:** Rev. Saunders closed with prayer.

**17. Lunch Break:** The board adjourned for a dine-in lunch.