

**CALIFORNIA-NEVADA-HAWAII DISTRICT  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**-PROCEEDINGS-**  
March 14, 2009

AT: CNH District Ministry Center  
2772 Constitution Drive, Suite A  
Livermore, California 94551-7566

- 1. CALL TO ORDER-** Board of Director's Chairman: The Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt noted that in reviewing the Agenda that we could drop the line "Update on Ministry Center Sale" as it has been sold, and that District Convention items would appear under the President's Report. He also stated he thought the Agenda was "light." (In hindsight, it was a long, productive meeting!)
- 2. OPENING DEVOTIONS-** Commissioned Minister Director Cynthia Rothas led a devotion based on Psalm 43, relating from a sense of rejection by Israel to its true hope in God. Special "bullet" prayers were added by members of the Board.

- 3. BOARD ROLL CALL**    √ = present  
   \* = voting member

**District Officers**

- √ President - The Rev. Dr. Robert Newton
- √ First Vice-President - The Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt \*
- √ Secretary - The Rev. Mark Haas
- √ Treasurer - Mr. Art Kroeger

**Regional Vice-Presidents**

- √ The Rev. Mike Lange (Southern Region)\*
- √ The Rev. Paul Hoffmann (Pacific Region)\*
- √ The Rev. James Beyer (Northern Region)\*

**Regional Directors**

- √ Mrs. Kathie Lindquist (Southern Region)\*
- √ Mr. Tom Hurley (Pacific Region)\*
- √ Mr. Jack Adolphson (Northern Region)\*

**Commissioned Minister Director**

- √ Mrs. Cynthia Rothas, Teacher\*

**Staff**

- √ Mr. John Whaley, Mission Counselor
- Rev. Ted Hartman, Mission Counselor
- Mr. Joel Koerschen, Director of Educational Services
- Mr. Brian Hyde, Wills and Estate Planning

**Committee Chairpersons**

- Evangelism - Vacant
- Human Care Ministries – Rev. Phil Zabell

Ministerial Health Committee -	Rev. Harold Draeger
Parochial Schools -	Mr. Larry Tietmeyer
Stewardship -	Rev. Thomas Norris
Student Aid & Recruitment -	Rev. Robert Weller
Parish Education –	Vacant
Youth -	Jennifer de la Motte
Constitutional Matters -	Rev. David Poganski

#### **CEF Board of Directors Chairperson**

Rev. Robert Fickenscher

**GUESTS:** Rev. Norm Milz from Circuit 10 (Sierra Nevada), and Rev. Bruce Betker from Circuit 11 (Hawaii)

#### **4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

By consensus, the Agenda, as presented by the Chairman, was accepted.

#### **MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

#### **5. Ministerial Training Fund (Releasing Funds) – Newton**

A meeting was held with Floyd Oatman, representing the Ministerial Training Fund. The Auditors for the District have expressed concern about a CNH asset not having direct Board control, though distribution has “in-house” accounting. Several understandings were reached. The Fund does manage and invest its resources with Board approval. The District will cut the checks to the Fund’s recipients. Essentially there will be a refocus on the original charter for the Fund. Accrued interest will be distributed annually. The District Scholarship Committee will determine the recipients and amounts.

After some discussion, the Board referenced its resolution of March 15, 2008: “It was moved and seconded to direct President Newton to take the necessary steps to remove the CNH District’s non-profit number from the accounts of the Ministerial Training Fund. The motion carried.”

It was moved and seconded to reconsider the Board’s resolution on March 15, 2008. The motion carried.

After additional discussion, the Board resolution of March 15, 2008 was moved, seconded, and defeated. (The effect of this decision means the President will not take steps to remove the non-profit number from the Ministerial Training Fund.)

#### **6. Ethiopian Outreach: Reimbursement by the Pastoral Leadership Institute-Whaley**

As a status update, John Whaley noted that the process was on-going. Dereje Fantaye is receiving severance pay through March 31, 2009. PLI International is at 80% of the reimbursement dollars and others are being sought for a full reimbursement. (Cf. December 13, 2008 Minutes.)

## **7. Selection of External Auditors for 2009-Kroeger**

The Audit conducted for 2008 has been completed “without comments.” Denise Lo was very pleased with the outcome.

It was moved and seconded to engage the LCMS Auditors for the 2009 audit. The motion carried.

## **8. CEF search for new President-Zelt**

A job description has been developed and an evaluation tool put in place for interviewing. Nine applications were received. Five applicants will be interviewed within the next month. The final candidate will be chosen by the time of the District Convention.

## **9. CEF Report-Whaley**

“Preservation Investment” during economic downturns is “key” due to the national economic crisis. CEF investor monies are safe with little or no loss. The CEF Annual conference was held March 6-8, 2009. Ted and Adrienne Iverson are working “hands-on” with several loans that are in crisis.

## **POLICY REVIEW/GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

### **10. Review of Section 1-Outcome Policies-Zelt**

Due to the closeness of the District Convention and elections, there will be no scheduling of a Board retreat setting to review/revise the Outcome Policies. A brief review was conducted during the Board meeting and no changes were made.

## **MONITORING**

### **11. Report on Outcome Policies (See Administration Report)-Newton**

Of the eight Outcomes, the President made specific verbal references to Outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 6. He spoke of the present reality, strategies utilized the last six years, and potential strategies for the next three years. Comments included: (1) There is an under-training of laity and pastors in “mission-mindedness.” To assume faithfulness in a new context will require prior continuing education for all. (2) Laity sees needs faster than pastors. (3) Since “walking together” is profound, we need to re-evaluate independent training of laity and pastors against training together! (4) Such training of pastor and people needs to be simultaneous and accountable. (5) MACs are a good idea; however, they stalled when dollars fell off and budgeting became limited. Local circuit ownership is important as outreach drives mission rather better than older District/Synod models which both seem so far off.

Stated goal: \$1 Million of budget to mission starts, new starts and re-starts, the later being mission-minded pastors and churches with a revitalization emphasis. The President is encouraged that the Board has affirmed the revitalization process as a high value target. It needs additional supports to keep it going. There are lots of tools. Organization is coming. The

President's strategy for the next three years will focus on continuing education for laity and pastors, revitalization, and missions, specifically mission dollar allocation.

## **12. Discussion Items and Possible Convention Issues-Zelt**

At the conclusion of the President's review and discussion with the Board regarding Outcome Policies, a series of five Resolutions were developed for submittal to the appropriate Floor Committees of the District Convention. Each Resolution was moved, seconded and carried!

### **1-REVITALIZATION-CONTINUING EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Revitalization process within the California-Nevada District has shown to be very helpful to the ministry of the congregations that have participated; AND

WHEREAS, the Revitalization program is a long-term process in refocusing and retooling congregations, leaders, and pastors for missions; AND

WHEREAS, continuing education is necessary to provide tools to facilitate the ministry that flows from the Revitalization effort; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the California-Nevada-Hawaii District in convention encourage the District President to organize staff and allocate the funding necessary for a strong, programmatic support of continuing education for laity and pastors as a necessary component of Revitalization to effectively communicate the Gospel to an increasingly post-church culture.

### **2-REVITALIZATION-SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPATION**

WHEREAS, the California-Nevada-Hawaii District's mission is to challenge and assist congregations in their proclamation of the Gospel and ministry to all people; AND

WHEREAS, the initiation of the Revitalization program appears to be an effective tool for the District to accomplish its mission as it promotes a partnership of laity and pastoral leadership; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the California-Nevada-Hawaii District in convention encourage congregations to seriously consider participation in the Revitalization process; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that both lay and pastoral leaders in our congregations place a high value in serving in leadership roles within this effort; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that we thankfully and strongly support the work of Revitalization within our District.

### **3-PARTNERSHIP IN FUNDING MISSION EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, as a District we place the highest value on Christ's mission of reaching the lost; AND

WHEREAS, the mission of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District is to challenge and assist congregations in their proclamation of the Gospel and their ministry to all people; AND

WHEREAS, our congregations regularly share funds in part to support each other in mission efforts; AND

WHEREAS, funds designated for mission projects have accrued through the sale of church properties; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that we thank God for the many congregations who regularly give to support mission and ministry within the CNH District; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that we thank God for the congregations that have been led to support specific mission efforts directly; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that we encourage congregations and circuits to initiate mission efforts based on sound missiological principles; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that we encourage the congregations and circuits to provide funding for the mission efforts they are led to pursue; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that we encourage partnership with each other as a District in regular giving and in the use of special mission funds in these mission efforts.

#### **4-FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP IN DIFFICULT TIMES**

WHEREAS, since there is a need for increased understanding of sound Biblical mission and stewardship principles; AND

WHEREAS, in these present difficult economic times churches are struggling to support their mission and ministry; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the President of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District, TLCMS, take steps to help our congregations and members learn and apply faithful Biblical stewardship.

#### **5-IN RECOGNITION AND GRATITUDE FOR THE WORK OF THE MACs (MISSION ACTION COUNCILS)**

WHEREAS, regional Mission Action Councils (MAC's) were formed approximately 4 and a half years ago to bring Mission decisions from a centralized decision making body to five regionally based entities which were to evaluate and submit mission projects for funding; AND

WHEREAS, the Mission Action Councils have been a vehicle to encourage partnership from many new voices around our District for the purpose of building awareness of the Mission of Christ among us; AND

WHEREAS, significant effort, energy, and resources of individuals have been invested into this broad-based mission effort; THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this assembly in convention praise God for the efforts, energy, and activity of both volunteers and mission workers who have given their effort ; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that we utilize those things learned from the formation of the MAC's, specifically

- of heightened awareness of “the lost” who live directly among us and to pursue plans to creatively reach them for Christ,
- that the work and plans for reaching the lost can be well accomplished by those living closely with them,
- responsibility for mission planning that is given directly to local church leaders results in broad-based ownership of the mission of Christ, and
- growth in local sacrificial gifts of time, abilities and resources will be necessary to foster further growth in local mission work; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that we continue to challenge one another to consider greater local and congregational ownership of the mission to those who are lost for lack of a relationship with their Savior Jesus Christ.

### 13. Financial Statements–(Policy 3.5.2.3)-Kroeger

(See attached “Financial Statements for the Month Ended December 31, 2008” prepared and submitted by Denise C. Lo, February 25, 2009; and, “Financial Statements for the Month Ended February 28, 2009” prepared and submitted by Denise C. Lo, March 6, 2009.)

#### CNH DISTRICT OPERATING REPORT (For Twelve Months ending December 31, 2008)

	<u>MTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 325,373	\$2,295,615	\$2,269,200
Expenses	\$ 256,864	\$2,289,363	\$2,264,200
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ 68,509	\$ 6,252	\$ 5,000

Notes: “Board of Directors Mission Fund” after all withdrawals were taken from the investment account in 2009 has a balance of \$1,951,135.00. Net Assets of \$1,022,230 vs. a typical \$250K loss reflects the sale of half the Ministry Center; a car purchased in March 2008 was anticipated in the budget; and the 2008 budget was balanced by taking funds from the Board designated account.

#### CNH DISTRICT OPERATING REPORT (For Two Months ending February 28, 2009)

	<u>MTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>YTD</u> <u>Actual</u>
Income	\$ 168,343	\$ 273,587	\$ 366,985
Expenses	\$ 193,571	\$ 370,544	\$ 361,818
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (25,228)	\$ (96,957)	\$ 5,167

Note: YTD congregation remittance is 76% of budget and it decreases 8% in comparison with 2008 YTD congregation remittance. A low January offering vs. a higher February offering was due to the extended December 2008 deadline of mid-January 2009.

#### **14. Job Descriptions-Zelt**

President Newton provided copies of Job Descriptions for the offices of: District President; Executive Director; Revitalization/Mission Counselor; and Executive Director, Education (See all attached). The formats were standardized as best as possible. Each Job Description was discussed with the personnel and President involved. President Newton noted that in his Job Description, Part V. Position Responsibilities, his preferred role of “Missional Leadership” follows Chief Executive Officer, Synodical Representative, and Ecclesiastical Support and Supervision. Much to his dismay and passion, he has little or no time for his preferred role.

In addition to his Job Description: Executive Director, Education, Joel Koerschen attached a March 2009 Report to the Board to monitor his recent activities.

### **Business**

#### **15. Exceptions for Circuits 11 and 13 for the LCMS National Convention**

It was moved and seconded to request from LCMS President Gerald Kieschnick an exception for Circuit 11 (Hawaii) to “stand alone” as an “Electoral Circuit” for the July 2010 LCMS Convention. The motion carried.

After review of a letter from Circuit 13 Counselor, Rev. James Kabel, it was moved and seconded to request from LCMS President Gerald Kieschnick an exception for Circuit 13 (North Coast) to either “stand alone” as an “Electoral Circuit” or join a non-contiguous circuit to form a joint “Electoral Circuit.” The motion carried.

#### **16. Minutes of Teleconference and Email Balloting (January 30-February 4, 2009)**

**Topic: Equity share for John Whaley**  
**1171 Innsbruck Street**  
**Livermore, CA 94550**

Two equity share proposals had been distributed for comment and revision. The attached agreement (See Attached) was determined to be the document that was to be used, with the exception that a percentage of the equity should be no more than 10% of the mean value of a single resident home for Alameda county based on MLS sales for the last six months or 20% of the actual purchase price. The motion to approve the equity share as per the agreement was MSA.

Subsequent to the teleconference meeting, it was discovered that the dollar amount that the cap allowed would fall about \$1500 short of the needed funds to facilitate the move. In a subsequent email ballot, the proposal was amended to the attached contract allowing for up to 13% of the mean value of a single resident home for Alameda County based on the MLS sales for the previous six months or 20% of the actual purchase price. The amendment was approved unanimously.

**17. Minutes of Email Balloting For The Sale Of Vallejo Property  
February 24, 2009  
Topic: Sale of Property in Vallejo**

Via email, John Whaley presented the proposed sale contract of the property of Trinity Lutheran Church in Vallejo, CA (See Attached). In email balloting, there was unanimous approval.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded to accept and approve the Consent Agenda consisting of (1) The Minutes of the December 13, 2008 CNH Board meeting, (2) Changes Within the District, (3) Minutes of Teleconference and Email Ballots (See Numbers 16 and 17 above) and (4) Future meeting dates. The motion carried.

**18. CHANGES WITHIN THE DISTRICT**

**CALLS & CONTRACTS ACCEPTED**

REV. ERIC BORCHERS, Trinity, Gardnerville N to Zion, San Francisco CA as pastor.  
REV. VERNON OESTMANN, Trinity, Mission KS to Bethany, Vacaville CA as pastor.  
REV. KOU SEYING, associate, Greenhaven, Sacramento CA to St. Paul, Merced CA as associate pastor.  
REV. RANDALL WEINKAUF, Christ, Hilo HI to Immanuel Lutheran Church and University Student Center, Lawrence KS as pastor.  
FRED BRAUER, Candidate from Minnesota South District  
MARSHALL KUNZ, emeritus to Minnesota South District  
KATHRYN MARKERT, Candidate to Our Redeemer, Honolulu HI as teacher.  
SINA WILLIAMS, St. Paul, Merced CA to St. Mark, Santa Rosa CA as DCE.

**CALLS & CONTRACTS EXTENDED**

REV. STEVE BARCKHOLTZ, St. Mark, Elko NV by Valley of Peace, Hailey ID as pastor.  
REV. MATTHEW HILPERT, St. John, Fallon NV by St. Mark, Kaneohe HI as pastor.

**CALLS & CONTRACTS DECLINED**

REV. RANDALL WEINKAUF, Christ, Hilo HI to Board for Mission Services for International Lutheran Church, Seoul Korea as pastor.

**PLACEMENTS**

NICHOLAS SHULTS, Concordia Portland to Faith, Fair Oaks CA as DCE.

**CHANGE IN STATUS**

REV. MICHAEL ABRAM, Non-candidate to Candidate status..  
REV. MICHAEL ABRAM, Candidate-CNH to Candidate-Pacific Southwest District.  
REV. DEREJE FANTAYE, CNH MAL to candidate status.  
REV. MILTON FRICKE, to pastor emeritus.

REV. ETHAN GEBAUER, Non-candidate to pastor emeritus.  
REV. JASON MORENO, Faith, Pleasant Hill CA (associate pastor) to Candidate status.  
REV. WILLIAM SCHREIBER, pastor emeritus to pastor emeritus Pacific Southwest District.  
REV. PHILIP SIEVERS, Candidate to pastor emeritus.  
REV. DOUGLAS WILLIAMS, Non-candidate to candidate status.

**DEATH:**

REV. CONRAD COYNER, pastor emeritus, Willits CA.

**CALLING CONGREGATIONS:**

Resurrection, BRENTWOOD CA (Associate pastor)  
Our Saviour's, CARUTHERS CA  
Our Saviour, DELANO CA  
St. Philip, DUBLIN CA  
St. Mark, KANEOHE HI  
St. Peter, LODI CA (specific ministry pastor)  
Holy Cross, LOS GATOS CA (Senior pastor)  
St. Paul, MOUNTAIN VIEW CA (Associate pastor)  
Faith, PLEASANT HILL CA  
Redeemer, REDWOOD CITY CA (Associate pastor)  
Peace, SACRAMENTO CA  
Canaan, SAN FRANCISCO CA  
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, SAN FRANCISCO CA (Associate pastor)  
Good Shepherd, TURLOCK CA (Associate pastor)  
Bethany, VACAVILLE CA  
Waikoloa, WAIKOLOA HI  
Trinity, WATSONVILLE CA  
Vineyard of Faith, WINDSOR CA

**DISBANDED CONGREGATION**

Concordia, VISALIA CA

**Future Meeting Dates**

June 13, 2009  
September 12, 2009  
December 12, 2009  
March 13, 2010  
June 12, 2010  
September 11, 2010  
December 11, 2010  
March 12, 2011  
June 11, 2011  
September 10, 2011  
December 10, 2011

**19. ADJOURNMENT- Board of Director's Chairman-Rev. Dr. Thomas Zelt**

**20. CLOSING DEVOTION**– The closing devotion was provided by District Secretary, Rev. Mark Haas, who utilized “Responsive Prayer 2” from LSB and provided a brief comment on John 11:17ff., relating it to the recent loss of his wife, Dee.

**(21. Addendum-Email Ballot-To Receive The Ethiopian Congregation of Berkeley, CA As A Member Congregation of the LCMS-Zelt)**

As a result of an email ballot, the following members of the CNH District Board of Directors voted “Yes”: Tom Hurley, Jim Beyer, Jack Adolphson, Mike Lange, Paul Hoffmann, and Kathie Lindquist. There were no noted “No” votes. The motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** June 13, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haas, Secretary