

LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors

First Quarter Meeting Minutes 4 February 2022

Messiah Lutheran Church, Mandan, ND

Present at the meeting were Rev. Arie Bertsch, district president; Rev. Steve Schulz, first vice-president; Rev. Kirk Peters, second vice-president; Rev. Daniel Voth, secretary; Mrs. Kay Kreklau, treasurer; Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek; Mr. Tom Langer; Mrs. Tana McKenna; Mr. Scott Pfennig; Mr. Eric Poppinga; Mr. Marty Visto; Rev. Lester Wolfgram; and Mrs. Tami Ulland, Business Manager.

Also in attendance was Mr. Ted Kober, President of Ambassadors of Reconciliation, and Rev. Thomas Marcis, Jr, outgoing chair of the board.

1.0 Life Together

Outgoing Chairman Marcis called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. CST.

President Bertsch opened with Morning Daily Prayer, the hymn “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (LSB 803); Scripture readings from Saint Luke 6:17-26 and 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; and the encouragement that as Christ has been raised in the body, so shall we to live with Him forever.

No items were added to the agenda.

The outgoing chair explained the consent agenda, the use of Dropbox, how the meetings were conducted according to the agenda, and encouraged all members to review Fiduciary Responsibilities PDF in the Dropbox folder “01 Board Documents.”

2.0 Board Action Items

2.1 Consent Agenda

Outgoing Chairman Marcis called the board’s attention to the proposed consent agenda in order to expedite addressing some of the regular business of a board meeting. Opportunity was provided for board members to request the removal of specific items from the consent agenda to be discussed during the meeting. It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the consent agenda which included the following items:

2.1.1 Minutes from October 29, 2021, December 6, 2021

2.1.2 Message in the Pew

2.1.3 2022 – 2025 Tentative Meeting Schedule

- Planning Council, TBA, Minot, May 19, 2022 2:30 p.m. - May 20, 2022 2:00 p.m.
- TBA, Minot May 20, 2022 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- TBA, Bismarck/Mandan, August 19, 2022 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Beautiful Savior, Fargo, October 28, 2022 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Planning Council, TBA, Bismarck/Mandan, February 2, 2023 2:30 p.m. - February 3, 2022 2:00 p.m.
- TBA, Bismarck/Mandan, February 3, 2023 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Beautiful Savior, Fargo, April 14, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- TBA, Minot, August 25, 2023 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Beautiful Savior, Fargo, October 27, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

- Planning Council, Beautiful Savior, Fargo, February 1, 2024 2:30 p.m. - February 2, 2024 2:00 p.m.
- Beautiful Savior, Fargo, February 2, 2024 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Messiah, Mandan, April 12, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Beautiful Savior, Fargo, August 23, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- TBA, Minot, October 25, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- District Convention, Minot, January 19-22, 2025

2.2 Items for Board Approval

2.2.2 Election of Board Officers

Outgoing chair called for nominations for the new chair of the board. Rev. Steve Schulz and Rev. Lester Wolfgram were nominated. Result of the ballot was Rev. Schulz (8), Rev. Wolfgram (3). Rev. Steve Schulz elected chair of the 2022-2025 LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors.

Outgoing chair called for nominations for the new vice-chair of the board. Mr. Thomas Langer and Rev. Lester Wolfgram were nominated. Results of the ballot was Mr. Langer (7), Rev. Wolfgram (5). Mr. Thomas Langer elected as vice-chair chair of the 2022-2025 LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors.

2.2.3 Appointment of Board Committees

Chairman Schulz asked for volunteers to sit on the Financial Review Standing Committee of the Board (Board Policy 2.9) to serve with Treasurer Kreklau, chair of the committee, and the business manager, who serves as an advisor to the committee. Mr. Thomas Langer and Mr. Marty Visto were appointed to the committee.

Chairman Schulz asked for volunteer to sit on the Governance Standing Committee of the Board (Board Policy 2.10). Secretary Voth was appointed as chair of this committee. Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek and Mr. Eric Poppinga were appointed to the committee.

3.0 Board Education

3.1 Review Board Policy Manual and Bylaws

Mr. Kober lead the board in a review of Governance in LCMS Districts (Dropbox>2021 Meeting Documents>August 2021 Meeting>Governance in LCMS Districts). The updated bylaws for the LCMS North Dakota District assign oversight of ecclesiastical and spiritual areas to the district president while the board of directors oversees financial and legal areas. Board oversight is carried out through limitation policies set on the business manager, who conducts the day to day operations via his/her staff. The board Policy Manual was also discussed.

2.0 Board Action Items

According to bylaw 2.7.1.3 the elected board of directors may appoint up to three voting lay members to obtain additional skill sets.

Motion: To appoint Mr. Jason Paradis to the LCMS North Dakota District Board of Directors.

Motion seconded and adopted.

Chairman Schulz encouraged the board members to consider other names to appoint to the board and the skill set said individual(s) would bring to the board for consideration at the next board meeting.

2.2.4 Zion, Claire City request for release from the ND District

Zion Lutheran Church, Claire City, SD has requested transfer from the LCMS North Dakota District to the LCMS Minnesota North District as it is a dual parish with a congregation in that district.

Motion: To transfer Zion Lutheran Church, Claire City, SD from the LCMS North Dakota District to the LCMS Minnesota North District as requested.

Motion seconded and passed. Secretary Voth will send required letter to the LCMS Minnesota North District.

2.2.5 Standing Committee on Constitutions and Bylaws

Secretary Voth reported the standing committee had reviewed the bylaw revisions for Immanuel Lutheran, Grand Forks. He had recused himself from the review as he serves said congregation. Remaining board members recommend adoption.

Motion: To accept the changes to the bylaws of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND as recommended by the standing committee.

Motion seconded and adopted.

2.1 Board Unfinished Business

2.2.1 Review of resolutions passed at convention for next triennium

In review of the resolutions adopted at the 59th Regular Convention of the LCMS North Dakota District, the following board and/or committees and/or task forces have been assigned to each resolution to see to its compliance by the district president:

Resolution 1-1 North Dakota District Convention Encouragement for Shepherd's Hill assigned to the business manager, standing committee on stewardship, and the board of directors. Financial support is included in the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Resolution 1-3 North Dakota District Convention Resolution Encouraging Continuation of Message in the Pew assigned to the business manager, district president, and board of directors.

Resolution 2-01 Christ Care of Children/Kenya assigned to the business manager, standing committee on stewardship, and board of directors. Financial support is included in the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Resolution 2-02 To Continue International Mission Opportunities in Santiago, Chile assigned to the business manager, standing committee on stewardship, and board of directors. Financial support is included in the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Resolution 2-03 To Explore an Ongoing Ministry Partnership Between the North Dakota District and Lutheran Family Service assigned to District Mercy Care Standing Committee.

Resolution 2-04 North Dakota District Support of Abortion Pill Reversal Advertising assigned to Life Coordinator Rev. Matthew Tooman, the circuit visitors, and district president.

Resolution 3-1 Constitution Bylaw Resolution assigned to Secretary Voth and completed.

Resolution 3-2 To Update the LCMS North Dakota District Bylaws assigned to Secretary Voth and completed.

Resolution 3-3 Support Historic Communion Practice of the Synod Affirmed assigned to the circuit visitors, district president, and vice president.

Resolution 3-4 To Adopt the LCMS North Dakota District Guidebook and Resources assigned to the circuit visitors.

In reviewing the omnibus resolution, the resolutions assigned to the board of directors for consideration have been assigned to the following board and/or committees and/or task forces:

Resolution 1-6 The Development of Short- and Long-Range District Planning to Meet the Current and Upcoming Challenges of the North Dakota District and ND Churches assigned to Planting and Revitalizing Congregations Standing Committee.

Resolution 2-06 LCMS North Dakota District Lutheran Youth Fellowship Stewardship of Resources assigned to Youth and Young Adults Standing Committee and the district president.

Resolution 3-8 Shared North Dakota District President Ministry assigned to the board of directors.

Motion: To appoint a task force to look at full versus part time district president in the LCMS North Dakota District and make a recommendation to the board of directors before the next convention.

Motion seconded and adopted.

Appointed to the task force are Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek, Mrs. Tana McKenna, Rev. Kirk Peters, and Mr. Eric Poppinga.

2.2.3 Action on the 2022-2023 Budget

The budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 has been updated from the resolutions passed at convention.

Motion: To strike “or neutral” from Board Policy Manual 4.5.2 and add “neutral or” before “positive” in 4.6.1.3 of same manual.

Motion seconded and adopted.

Motion: To accept the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 as presented.

Motion seconded and adopted.

2.2.8 Love Abounds Family Convocation

Rev. Wolfgram on behalf of the District Mercy Care Standing Committee reported on the work the committee has been doing to offer a family convocation in conjunction with the fall Middle School Youth Gathering. Convocation will be October 21-22, 2022 at Bethel Lutheran Church, Bismarck with the Rev. Dr. Mark Wood, LCMS Witness and Outreach Ministry will be the keynote speaker. A representative from Lutheran Family Services will also be present along with Comfort Dog Gideon. The event will include a Mercy Meal Packing event.

4.0 Board Monitoring Items

4.1.1 District President's Report

Nothing to report.

4.1.2 Business Manager Report

Nothing to add to report in Dropbox. She will need a letter saying that she is authorized by the board to act on our behalf to claim unclaimed property. She will draft a letter for Secretary Voth to complete and send.

4.1.3 Financial Reports

Due to limited time between end of the month and this meeting, reports have not been compiled. As soon as they are completed, they will be added to Dropbox for board review. The fiscal year 2021-2022 is finishing very strong.

New Business

Thank you was again extended to Rev. Thomas Marcis, Jr; Mr. John Riley; Mr. Leon Bladow; Mr. Paul Huber; and Mr. Kirk Rosin for their years of service to the LCMS North Dakota District.

Motion: To print a thank you in the Message in the Pew to Rev. Thomas Marcis, Jr; Mr. John Riley; Mr. Leon Bladow; Mr. Paul Huber; and Mr. Kirk Rosin for their years of service to the LCMS North Dakota District and for the business manager to present said individuals with a gift card to eat out in the amount of \$50.

Motion seconded and adopted.

6.0 Adjournment

Chairman Schulz adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m. CST.

President Bertsch closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Daniel C. Voth
Secretary
LCMS North Dakota District