

KANSAS DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD
Kansas District Office Building

Highlights of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod held in Topeka, Kansas on July 23, 2005.

Christ-care devotion opened the meeting with a brief devotion, reading and prayer.

Treasurer's Report

The financial summary for the quarter ended July 15, 2005 was reviewed.

Income-

Congregational Receipts collections are 47.3% of the budget projections. The fiscal year to date receipts are \$429 less than the previous year.

Congregational receipts have exceeded pledges by approximately 2.5% or \$20,084.

The remaining Income items are on track with budget at this time.

Expense-

The Synodical Pledge is 47.2% of budget projections. This pledge is 42% of congregational receipts.

The remaining expenses are slightly below year to date budget projections.

Board of Missions

Adopted a resolution supporting the concept of developing a new mission site in Douglas County.

Discussed Campus Missionary reports and activities.

Adopted a resolution for the distribution of Wabaunsee Mission Funds. The proceeds will be distributed evenly to:

- 1) Guinea Special Projects Fund
- 2) Russian Special Projects Fund
- 3) Inner City Mission Projects

Adopted a resolution establishing *Ablaze!* Goals for the Kansas District as follows:

- a) Critical Moments- 500,000
- b) New starts- 16, resulting in a net gain of 12 congregations in the Kansas District.

Mission Executive report:

A District wide *Ablaze!* Convocation is planned in October 2006 and will coincide with the Professional Workers Conference. Laity from each congregation will be included.

Board of Parish Education

Family Life Committee: The Academy is a "go" with 3 (possibly 4) churches: St. Peter/Humboldt, Trinity/Mission, St. John/Ellinwood.

Singles: Had a recent workshop to advance ministry with Singles in the Kansas District. The immediate needs are church publicity, pastoral advisor and guest facilitators for the retreats and workshop.

Youth Ministry: Upcoming leadership events—Teen Leadership Retreat and Youth Ministry Academy (2 separate training events at one location (August, Camp Tomah Shinga); District Youth Gathering (November, /Wichita)

Professional Workers Conference: Dr. Kenneth Haugk is keynote speaker; October 9-11 at Junction City Conference Center

Media Library: Primary purpose is to provide tangible and relevant educational opportunities for our member congregations. A committee was appointed to discuss a list of options.

District Child & Youth Protection Policy (on District sponsored youth events): A draft proposal is being developed for consideration. Part of the policy should also include an item on sexual misconduct.

Board of Administration

Adopted a resolution acknowledging the gifts received during the previous quarter. Designation of gifts were for Guinea Missions; Kansas District Missions; Scholarship Endowment.

Adopted a resolution establishing the congregational assessment for the 2006 District Convention at \$.91 per communicant member.

Adopted a resolution to change the manner in which fixed assets are capitalized.

Adopted a resolution authorizing signers on the Districts bank and investment accounts.

Adopted a resolution authorizing a letter of support for a line of credit in favor of the camp for a period not to exceed three years.

Adopted a resolution accepting a contract offer for the sale of the District property in Garden City that previously housed the La Santa Cruz mission.

District Retreat Center: A task force has been formed and had first meeting. Questionnaire is being drafted which will help provide direction for future meetings.

LCEF Board of Managers Report

Ratified loans that have been approved during the previous quarter to: Bethany, Overland Park; Christ, Augusta; Trinity, Leavenworth.

Other congregations presently working on loan inquiries and requests include the following: First, Philipsburg (sanctuary expansion and remodeling); Zion, Latimer (elevator); Immanuel, Norton (new site); Immanuel, Herington; Our Redeemer, Herington; Immanuel, Wichita; St. Paul, Haven; Immanuel, Lawrence.

Featured District: The Kansas District is the featured District this month (July) on the LCEF Website.

LCEF Interest Rates: Increased on the fixed and floating rate investments. Congregation endowments also increased. StewardAccount rate remained steady.

Cost of Funds: Remain steady at 3.8750%. This means that the borrowing rate for congregations on a monthly, quarterly or annual adjustable loan is 5.375%.

Direct Mail Follow Up: The Kansas District LCEF has been selected to test a loan follow up mailing campaign. Congregation members will receive four direct mail pieces creating awareness of LCEF investment opportunities.

The Kansas Lutheran Historical Society has been dissolved. The Wetzel Cabin now belongs to the Geary County Historical Society and has been moved to its new site. A dedication service is being considered in conjunction with the Professional Workers Conference in Junction City.

Board of Caring Ministry

Reviewed possible Convention Overtures to encourage Parish Nurses, congregational disaster plans, "Safe Congregations," Mission Vision, Use of Retreat / Cabin; Recognize Volunteer Chaplains.

Discussed priorities for the joint Mission – Caring Ministry Task Force. Among those identified were: Grants, volunteers, Faith Based Initiatives, Guinea, Future Lutheran social service agency, Hospital Visitors House.

Salary Review Committee

Salary Guidelines: Continuing a comprehensive review of the Kansas District Salary Guidelines. In a comparison with neighboring districts, Kansas is far below our neighbors in the early years, but becomes competitive beyond 10 years of service.

Adopted a resolution to establish the base rate for the Salary Guidelines for 2006 in the amount of \$24,669. An increase of 5.0%.

Worker Benefit Plans: Discussed upcoming changes of WBP including the name change to Concordia Plan Services.

Adopted a resolution to allow the employees of the Kansas District to participate in the Concordia Plan Services 403B plan.

Executive Council

Constitution Committee report: Adopted a resolution to approve the constitutions of Trinity, Garnett and St. Paul, Preston KS.

Reviewed the opinion received from the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) regarding the submission of a constitution for approval. Adopted a resolution to forward the opinion to the congregation in question.

Appointment to the Board of Directors filling the vacant position: Adopted a resolution to appoint Joyce Duitsman to fill the unexpired term of the Board of Directors of the Kansas District.

Board of Stewardship

DESIGNATED BEQUESTS: Adopted a resolution to distribute Undesignated Bequests and Gifts to the quasi-endowment for Educational Loan Repayment and Lay Leadership reserve funds.

"GIVE NOW" PLAN: Adopted a resolution of support for the participation in the LCMS online giving catalog.

President's Report

We have an interim Director (David Shrum) of the Lay Leadership Institute.

A committee reviewing the District's Handbook and Bylaws will begin meeting to prepare the revised Handbook for presentation to the 2006 District Convention.

The Retreat Cabin Task Force continues to work toward identifying needs and opportunities for a Retreat Center for Kansas Professional Workers.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer and blessing.