

ENGLISH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 19, 2024

Meeting Location:

Meeting was held via telecommunication originating from the District Office [33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336].

Attendance: Voting Members - Rev. Todd Arnold, Mr. Christopher Cassel, Mr. Thomas Habitz, Rev. Jamison Hardy (Pres.), Mr. Thomas Honebrink, Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, Mr. Rod Lane, Mr. Terry Leu, Mrs. Kristin Wellik, Rev. Luke Zimmerman. **Non-Voting Members** - Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, Rev. Michael Morehouse, Mrs. Sally Naglich, Rev. Robert Rogers, Rev. Douglas Spittel, Mr. Jim Thielen. **Staff** - Mr. Albert Amling, Mr. Ronald Grimm, Rev. Daniel Lepley, Rev. Derek Mathers. **Not Attending:** Ms. Carol George, Mr. Keith Vieregge.

Call to Order: Chairman Terry Leu called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

1. Opening Prayer

Rev. Robert Rogers led an opening prayer.

2. Determination of Quorum

Secretary Luke Zimmerman reported that a majority of voting members were participating in the teleconference, thereby constituting a quorum.

3. Consideration of Application for Membership: St. Thomas - Magnolia, TX

President Jamison Hardy presented the application of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church - Magnolia, TX to become a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

President Hardy informed the Board concerning the individuals constituting the congregation within Montgomery County, Texas. The members are currently receiving some pastoral services by Rev. Ian Pacey, a former English District pastor. The congregation is fully organized and ready to be received. Its application is in order, with the District Constitution Committee having determined that the congregation's constitution and bylaws meet the requirements set by Synod Bylaw 2.2.1, allowing the Board to take up the application as outlined in Synod Bylaw 2.3.1.

Motion: *"To approve the application of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church (UAC) - Magnolia, TX to be a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and to assign the congregation to Circuit 21 (Nevada/Utah) within the Western Region."* During further discussion, Board members were informed that the individuals forming this congregation desire to be members of The LCMS.

Some discussion by Board members about the location of the congregation centered on concerns about its proximity to extant LCMS congregations. It was explained that the congregation's current location is temporary. Its members have indicated the desire to establish a permanent location some distance away from existing LCMS congregations. Following this discussion, the motion carried.

4. Update on Legal Proceedings Concerning Arizona Campus Christian Center

President Hardy informed the Board that the judge in the legal proceedings has ruled in favor of the District's appeal regarding the method used to determine the value of the property. This means that the valued amount held by the District will be increased from the initial judgement, since it is now based on the current market value. This makes the District's position much stronger compared to the other litigant's position. The District currently holds a 42% ownership share of the center. With the appeal having been ruled on favorably for the District, other litigants may pursue settlement options with the District. There does remain a period for appeal of this current ruling by the other litigants. Should that occur, the Board will be informed.

5. Concordia University System Presidential Search

President Hardy informed the Board that he has interviewed for the position of President of the Concordia University System. A call will be extended to one of the identified candidates on April 18, 2024. Board members will be kept informed about this process and its involvement of President Hardy.

6. Constitution Committee Report

President Hardy submitted for consideration the District Constitution Committee's Report of March 14, 2024, which included its recommendation to approve the revisions made by Epiphany - Dorr, MI and Our Savior - Hartland, MI. Motion: *"To approve the revised governing documents from Epiphany - Dorr, MI and Our Savior - Hartland, MI."* Motion carried.

7. Next Board Meetings

Chairman Leu encouraged Board members to submit without delay their reservations for the April 29-30, 2024 meeting to be held in Zionsville, IN, if they had not yet done so.

Chairman Leu also reminded Board members that the August 9-11, 2024 meeting is scheduled to be held in Windsor, ON. Board members with United States citizenship will need valid passports to travel to this meeting in Canada.

8. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus gave a closing prayer. Chairman Leu adjourned the meeting at 4:35pm.

Submitted,

Rev. Luke Zimmerman
Secretary, English District-LCMS