

**Minutes**  
**Board for National Mission (BNM)**  
**International Center, Kirkwood, Missouri, June 3, 2016**  
**Hilton Hotel, St. Louis, MO, June 4, 2016**

Members Present: Rev. Steven Briel, Chairman; Ms. Carla Claussen; Rev. Samuel Cosby, Vice Chairman; Rev. Timothy Droegemueller; Mr. Ernest Garbe; Teacher Martha Milas; Deaconess Shaina Mitchell; Mrs. Linda Stoterau, Secretary.

Members Excused: Rev. Al Espinosa; Mrs. Julia Habrecht; Dr. Gary Quick

Staff: Rev. J. Bart Day, Executive Director; Rev. Herb Mueller, LCMS First Vice-President; Rev. Kevin Robson, Chief Mission Officer (CMO)

**Friday, June 3, 2016, 8:00 a.m.**

Rev. Cosby led devotions.

**Minutes**

Motion: Made by Mrs. Claussen and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 2016 meeting.  
Motion carried.

**Chief Mission Officer Report – Rev. Kevin Robson**

- May 18 observed one year as CMO
- Adopted balanced budget of approximately \$95 million; ONM increased by about 7% to \$10 million, decreasing spending from unrestricted funds
- Floor committee meetings produced a fine set of resolutions for the July Synod Convention
- Communications continues to work with Mission Advancement
  - Budget allows \$1 million to seek funding for mercy ministries
  - *Lutherans Engage ...* will add mobile platforms in the next year

**Synod President Report – President Matthew Harrison**

- Reviewed the Matt Becker case
  - Floor committee proposing the return of an appeal process to the Praesidium of Synod by the accuser
- Floor committees meeting was “fantastic”; multiple committees spread the work around
- Floor committee members selected from those with the highest rankings provided by District Presidents
- In discussion with the Malagasy Lutheran Church of Madagascar
- Question: are there any discussions with other synods? Response: no discussion with the ELCA; we are talking with Rome, starting with the Sacrifice of the Mass; talks with WELS, ELS, NALC
- First Amendment rights being challenged in the military chaplaincy
- Question: Is there any discussion regarding allowing the Cup to be used in prison ministry? Response by Rev. Mueller: Federal system allows the Cup; state systems vary

**Executive Director’s Report – Rev. Bart Day**

- Shared video prepared for the Synod Convention
- Highlights of ONM
  - Worker Wellness working group examining data from past decade to determine best practices and/or gaps

- Pornography Summit unleashing the Barna Study prepared over the past few years; John Kleinig contracted to write a theology of the human body; working with Doxology and Grace Place to pilot therapy
- Connecting with LCEF, LCMS Foundation, CPS to highlight resources available to workers
  - LCEF and LCMS Foundation will provide funds to ONM for domestic grants
- Ongoing opportunities to interact with the ELCA via LIRS and LSA
  - Sponsorship of refugee families by congregations
- Scouting
  - Overtures to convention were placed in the omnibus resolution and assigned to the BNM/ONM
  - Various Christian organizations for both boys and girls need to be addressed by the task force
- 2016-2017 Budget
  - Of the \$10 million, \$4 million is related to salaries and benefits, of which \$0.5 million is for contracted work; \$3 million for grants and partnerships; only \$0.5 million from unrestricted funds; requested full time worker in church planting that was not fulfilled
- Witness Coordination
  - Four of the six directors in witness work are deployed staff; need for intentional internal coordination with additional time in the building
- Youth Ministry
  - Strategic planning for the coming 3-10 years prior to any staffing additions/changes
- ONM as a department
  - Staff meeting/retreating in August
    - Convention resolutions
    - Reporting mechanisms
    - Ambassadors of Reconciliation training for conflict situations in which they find themselves
- Respite retreat with Grace Place for employees of ONM/OIM
- District connections
  - Original pilot with eight districts
  - New district presidents have provided additional opportunities
    - Kansas, English, Missouri
- Life and Health Ministry
  - Stephanie Neugebauer will be leaving due to husband accepting call to Northern Illinois
  - There is Discussion/Evaluation regarding separating Life Ministry and Health Ministry among OIM/ONM/CMO prior to any staffing
- Schools
  - Discussion with Alliance Defending Freedom regarding litigation pertaining to schools and the federal government
  - *Protecting Your Ministry* document to be provided to all congregations and schools
- Seminary Connections
  - EEIT
  - Draft of a Memorandum to create a Rural and Small Town Ministry Institute at CTSFW
- Youth Gathering
  - 1600+ congregations, about 200 more than previous
  - Roughly same number of participants

## Ministry Presentation—Church Planting – Rev. Steve Schave

### Mission Field: USA

- ONM investing in working with districts to assist in their church planting efforts
  - Mother congregations
  - Sponsoring circuits
  - Planting networks
- Flexible framework for technical support, training, and equipping
- What's been done?
  - Roundtable
  - Center for US Missions support
  - Seminary Mission Formation
  - Vicarages/Internships
  - National missionaries—recruit/assess/orient/train/fund—often in challenging areas
    - New church planters manual
    - Grants (seed money)/Funding (LCEF \$2 million for revolving loans)
    - Conferences
  - Survey in coordination with US Center for Missions to identify generic patterns
  - Use Luther's seven marks of the church
    - Witness
    - Baptism
    - Holy Communion
    - Office of the Keys
    - Consecration/Calling Ministers
    - Prayer, Public Praise, and Thanksgiving
    - Possession of the Sacred Cross
  - Outward Sign—Christian life of Loving our Neighbor

## Ministry Presentation—re:Vitality – Deaconess Maryann Hayter

- Revitalization Cycle—initiated by the congregation
  - Initiate
  - Access resources
  - Self-assessment
    - 360 survey
    - Lay Leaders' Questionnaire
    - Pastor's Questionnaire
    - Statistics and Metrics
  - Chart a Course
  - Workshop with leadership of the church
  - Develop action plan
  - Execute action plan
  - Evaluate action plan/results
- Action-Oriented Training
  - Ten modules
    - Connect to Disciple first module (14 congregations)
- Vocational Evangelism
  - Paired with LCMS Evangelism Program (*Every One His Witness*)
- Facilitators
  - Districts identify and recommend “trainers” who train the district facilitators
- Coaches
  - Currently negotiating contract for development of training materials

50-75 congregations currently in some stage of re:Vitality

SPM Call for Rev. Thomas Waynick – Rev. Joel Hempel

Motion: Made by Rev. Droegemueller and seconded to extend a Specialized Pastoral Ministry call to the Rev. Thomas Waynick as CEO/Executive Director at the Pastoral Institute, Columbus, Georgia.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Theological Presentation – Rev. Joel Lehenbauer, Executive Director, CTCR

*"Brosamen"* (Crumbs) from Philippians

- Christianity 101—What does it mean to be a Christian?
- Personal

Who am I?

- Servant
- Saint
- Sinner
- Creature

Who is God?

- Saint
- Servant
- Creature
- Sinner

Lutheran Hour Ministries – Rev. Jay DeBeir

The BNM received an update on Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Rev. Dr. Tony Cook will become Director of US Ministries on July 5, 2016.

Grace Place ONM Retreat

Discussion regarding a motion by the BNM to support participation in the respite retreat mentioned in Rev. Day's report. Rev. Droegemueller and Mrs. Claussen were tasked with preparing a motion.

Motion: Made by Mrs. Claussen and seconded, Because worker wellness is tantamount to the spiritual health of our life together in Christ, the Board for National Mission strongly supports and encourages the staff of the Office of National Mission to participate in a respite retreat provided by Grace Place Ministries.

Motion carried.

Policy Review—BNM Mercy Policies

Rev. Day reviewed the 15 policies related to mercy.

By common consent:

21.1. (a) Change "grantor" to "grantee"

The Board began reviewing the 30 Life Together policies, suggesting goals to go along with the policies.

By common consent:

Delay discussion regarding RSOs until more clarity provided via a possible RSO Task Force and the BOD.

Rev. Robson closed the day's session with Daily Prayer.

Saturday, June 4, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Cosby led Matins.

Ministry Presentation—Lutheran Young Adult Corps – Julianna Shults

The Board heard a report from Ms. Shults regarding the Lutheran Young Adult Corps

- Development began in 2012 at request of President Harrison
- Full-time – either 10 months or 10 weeks beginning June 2017
- Communities in need, particularly under-served urban
- Gap year – ages 18-26
- \$1000 to participate; refundable upon enrollment in CUS

- Up front funding from World Relief and Human Care donations for mercy work
- Required living together in community with training in Bible and Lutheran theology
- lcms.org\yacorps

#### Synod Convention BNM Related Issues

Rev. Day shared the various overtures in Today's Business coming before the Convention that are related to the Office of National Mission.

Two overtures include confusing language regarding the role of the BNM:

Motion: Made by Mr. Garbe and seconded to instruct the secretary to contact the respective floor committee chairmen with the concern regarding the duties given to the Board for National Mission in Bylaws 3.8.2 and 3.8.2.1 as a policy board and to amend the following overtures accordingly.

14-03 To Respond Compassionately to Challenges to Biblical View of Marriage and Human Sexuality

Final resolved: That the LCMS in convention direct the ~~Board for National Mission~~, Office of National Mission, Concordia Publishing House, ....

18-02 To Task the Board for National Mission to Assess Worker Wellness to Make Recommendations for Worker Care

Line 26: that the Board for National Mission ~~take up the responsibility for~~ prepare policies for the Office of National Mission to address

Motion carried.

#### Self-Governance Policy Review

By common consent

2.4.4.3.3.6 Should be "Record negative votes or abstentions, upon request of the members." (Combines 2.4.4.3.3.6 and 2.4.4.3.3.7)

2.4.4.3.3.7 Be cross-referenced to the Agenda (current 2.4.4.3.3.8)

2.4.4.3.3.8 Be transmitted to the ~~Concordia Historical Institute~~ Secretary of Synod along with all supporting documents through the Chief Mission Officer. (change in current 2.4.4.3.3.9)

2.6 Discussion regarding standing committees

Discussion regarding ministry area assignments to board members and what responsibilities that assignment requires. Table further discussion until September meeting or following.

Motion: Moved by Mrs. Stoterau and seconded to continue the ministry presentations as currently in practice in consultation with the Executive Director.

Motion carried.

#### Board Self-Review Survey

Rev. Robson guided the Board through the results of its annual self-appraisal.

#### Foundation Report – Ernie Garbe

Mr. Garbe provided the following information to the Board: the Foundation

- Now managing 180 estate plans for the St. Louis Seminary
- Will make presentations and exhibit at the Milwaukee Convention and NYG
- Examined a Mutual Fund offering and subsequently declined to do so

The Foundation works cooperatively with ONM in the area of grant distribution.

Net assets improved by \$215,000 during the quarter; net assets were down for the year by \$674,000 due to investment valuation.

Rev. Robson is now also a member of the LCMS Foundation Board.

#### Closing Devotion

Rev. Cosby led portions of Evening Prayer.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned.



Linda Stoterau, Secretary



Date of Approval

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 8-9, 2016 (Thursday-Friday Joint with BIM) [(7) Possible Orientation of new members]