

I N D E X
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES
THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD
THE LUTHERAN CENTER NEW ORLEANS, LA SEPTEMBER 14, 2007

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**MINUTES
of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2007

2240 LAKESHORE DRIVE, NEW ORLEANS, LA

PRESENT: Pastors Davis, Doroh, Ertl, Nelson, Richter, Schultz and Weier
Miss McCreery, Mr. Craig, Mr. Peterson

EXCUSED: Rev. Schmieding, Mr. Casamento, Dr. Kaul, Teacher Pegues

EXECUTIVE STAFF: Rev. Gary Faith, Mr. Gene Menzel, Mr. Jack Kellison

GUESTS: Rev. Stefan Wismar, Interim Director of LMTI; Mr. Don Hennings,
Chairman of the Stewardship Committee; Rev. David Buss and other members of
Recovery Assistance, Inc. (RAI)

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was held at The Lutheran Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, on September 14, 2007. The Rev. Kurtis Schultz, President of the Southern District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, called the Board meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Rev. Tracy Nelson, a new member of the Board, was introduced.

Mr. Charles Craig led the opening devotion with the singing of *Today, Your Mercy Calls Us* followed by Psalm 119. Reflections were given on John 4:7-13 under the theme: Seven Steps Down. Prayers followed. The devotion ended with the singing of *My Hope Is Build On Nothing Less*.

1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY

PL-04-07/BD-07-31

WHEREAS, The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Kuehnert, Jr. elected to the position of Area I (Circuits 1,2,3) Clergy Representative on the Board of Directors at the 2006 Southern District Convention entered the Church Triumphant on May 14th, and

WHEREAS, Article IV D 3. of the Southern District Bylaws reads, "Vacancies in other elective, appointive offices, boards, commission or committees, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, shall be filled by nomination of the President and confirmation by the Board of Directors; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT Rev. Tracy T. Nelson complete the term of The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Kuehnert, Jr., as Area I (Circuits 1,2,3) Clergy Representative on the Board of Directors.

ADOPTED

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

BD-07-32

RESOLVED, THAT the Agenda of the meeting of the Board of Directors be approved.

ADOPTED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

BD-07-33

RESOLVED, THAT the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 11, 2007 and the telephone conference meeting of the Board of Directors held on July 26, 2007 be approved with the deletion of topics covered in Executive Session.

ADOPTED

The Board then met as AD HOC Committees until lunch.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Rev. Gary Faith, Executive Assistant for Parish Ministries, reported for the Mission Committee, which was held on August 27, 2007. The Personnel Committee met with the Mission Committee to discuss deployed staff. The following grants were given: \$5,000 for a Campus Ministry Summit in the Southern District; \$5,000 for a Daughter Church Planting Workshop proposed for January 25-26, 2008 in the Southern District. Trinity – Baton Rouge, LA, has received a grant, which is the second part of its \$5,000 grant for its Hispanic ministry. Holy Spirit – Attala, AL, was granted \$2,500 for a summer youth camp. A \$5,000 grant was issued to Zion – New Orleans, LA, to begin a student ministry at Tulane University. The second disbursement of \$1,925 was issued to Faith – Mobile, AL, to complete their 2007 summer enrichment program.

4. GOSPEL OUTREACH AGREEMENT

MC-07-01/BD-07-34

RESOLVED, THAT the Gospel Outreach Agreement between the Open Arms Institute, LCMS World Mission, Southern District LCMS, and the Lutheran Church Extension Fund be approved.

ADOPTED

Note: The Agreement is attached to the original copy of the Minutes.

5. ENDOWMENT APPLICATION

MC-07-02/BD-07-35

RESOLVED, THAT the Mission Committee request \$90,000 from the Southern District Endowment Fund for the launching of a *second launching large congregation* be approved.

ADOPTED

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Don Hennings, Chairman of the Stewardship Committee, reported for the Stewardship Committee, which held its meeting at Camp Restore on August 3rd. The Committee hopes to get more people involved in stewardship in congregations.

RECOVERY ASSISTANCE, INC. (RAI)

The Rev. David M. Buss, Director of Recovery Assistance, Inc., distributed a printed report and offered his comments on recovery. The program is expanding and will take over the Camp Biloxi hospitality site. Each member of the RAI staff present gave a short presentation on their work.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Jack Kellison, Executive Assistant for Finance, reported for the Committee.

6. ACCEPT AUDIT REPORT

FI-07-01/BD-07-36

WHEREAS, the Southern District has received the audited financial statement from Pepperman, Emboulas, Todaro & Schwarz, and

WHEREAS, the audited statement includes an unqualified opinion that the financial position is fairly presented; therefore, be it

RESOVLED, THAT the audited statement for the fiscal period ending January 15, 2007 be accepted by the Board of Directors.

ADOPTED

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Gene Menzel, Executive Assistant for Parish Services, reported on behalf of the Youth Committee. Two camps for Jr. High Youth are planned. Fifty Southern District congregations participated in the National Youth Gathering. A Southern District event was held for the first time. Synod's Youth ministry staff met in New Orleans to determine if the 2010 National Youth Gathering should be held in New Orleans. A District wide Senior Youth Gathering will be held in June of 2008. A Youth Leadership Training Event is planned for 2009.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Miss Kay McCreery, chair of the Personnel Committee, reported for the Committee. A plan is in place to rewrite Rev. Gary Faith's job description as deployed staff. A fluid understanding is needed for deployed staff. The December meeting will have second position as deployed staff.

PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Gene Menzel, Executive Assistant for Parish Services, reported on behalf of the Parish Education Committee. Rev. Kelly Bedard resigned his position as chair on the Committee; current committee member, Rev. Steve Linck, became the chairman. The Committee is transitioning from SEE (Strengthening, Energizing, Empowering) Seminars to Revitalization Focused Seminars. A network of persons throughout the Southern District is being established to work with the Parish Education Committee.

CONSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Constitutions Committee offered a printed report.

7. ACCEPT THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS ST. PAUL – MONTGOMERY, AL CO-07-03/BD-07-37

WHEREAS, the Constitutions Committee has reviewed the revised Constitution and Bylaws of St. Paul - Montgomery, AL, and found them to be in agreement with Scripture and Synodical requirements; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT the revised Constitution and Bylaws of St. Paul – Montgomery, AL, be accepted.

ADOPTED

RECRUITMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Gene Menzel, Executive Assistant for Parish Services, reported for the Committee. A printed financial report on scholarships was presented. DELTO students will continue to be supported. There is an appeal for more students to enter church work. The Committee wants to raise more funds for scholarships. Students must take 15 hours per semester to continue receiving scholarship funds.

8. ACCEPT MINUTES AND REPORTS BD-07-38

RESOLVED, THAT the report of the Recovery Assistance Incorporated (RAI); the minutes of the August 27, 2007 meeting of the Mission Committee; the minutes of the August 3, 2007 meeting of the Stewardship Committee; the minutes of the March 26, 2007 telephone conference of the Youth Committee; the minutes of the August 24, 2007 meeting of the Parish Education Committee; the report of the Constitutions Committee; and the minutes of the May 11, 2007 meeting of the Personnel Committee be accepted.

ADOPTED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered into executive session.

PLENARY

9. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

PL-05-07/BD-07-39

RESOLVED, THAT the following committee appointments made by the President and Executive Assistants be ratified:

Youth Committee – Mr. Steve Durheim, DCE (Bethany – Slidell, LA)

Mr. Marty Miller, Director – Camp Dixie (St. Mark's – Elberta, AL)

Note: Committee Member Rev. Steve Linck (Grace – Pensacola, FL) has been appointed as Chair of the Parish Education Committee, replacing Rev. Kelly Bedard who has resigned from the committee.

ADOPTED

10. FAN INTO FLAME DISTRICT CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

PL-06-07/BD-07-40

RESOLVED, THAT Rev. Ted Richter (Trinity – Dothan, AL) be appointed as the Director for **FAN INTO FLAME** Southern District Campaign.

ADOPTED

FAN INTO FLAME is a campaign to gather financial support for the



movement.

11. 2009 DISTRICT CONVENTION

PL-07-07/BD-07-41

RESOLVED, THAT the dates of June 19-21, 2009 be confirmed as the dates for the 72nd Convention of the Southern District, LCMS; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, THAT the location of Holiday Inn Select – Baton Rouge, LA, be confirmed as the location for the 72nd Convention of the Southern District, LCMS

ADOPTED

SPECIAL CONVENTION UPDATE

President Kieschnick announced on September 9, 2007 that he will not call a Special Convention of the Synod for 2009. The Council of Presidents supported this decision.

12. CONCORDIA HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

PL-08-07-42

WHEREAS, the Concordia Historical Institute serves the entire Synod as their Department of Archives and History, and

WHEREAS, Synod's archives collection has exceeded the space at its current location, and is relocating to the International Center, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Governors of Concordia Historical Institute requests a donation of \$5,000 from each district to help cover the estimated \$2 million projected expense; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT the Southern District donate \$5,000 to Concordia Historical Institute.

TABLED UNTO THE DECEMBER MEETING

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LMTI

Rev. Warren Davis reported for the Committee. Rev. Stefan Wismar, Interim Director for District's Lay Ministry Training Institute, offered a written report. Since the Specific Ministry Pastor Program has been approved by the Synod, this changes the nature of the LMTI. Those in the program will complete LMTI; the seminaries will handle those interested in the full-time ministry. This committee recommends the program be called the Lay Leadership Training Institute.

13. ACCEPT REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON LMTI

BD-07-43

RESOLVED, THAT the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on LMTI be accepted.

ADOPTED

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RELOCATION OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE

Rev. James Ertl reported for the Ad Hoc Committee.

14. MOTION TO PURCHASE TEMPORARY OFFICE BUILDING

BD-07-44

WHEREAS, the Southern District congregations have received an offer by Rhodes Development LLC to purchase the property at 2240 Lakeshore Drive in New Orleans, LA, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has accepted the offer by Rhodes Development LLC, and

WHEREAS, the Southern District needs temporary space for relocation pending finding permanent space, and

WHEREAS, suitable temporary space has been located in Abita Springs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT President Schultz be authorized to sign the paperwork and documents for the purchase of temporary office and warehouse space in the Alamosa Business Park in Abita Springs, located on Hwy. 59 north of I -12, not to exceed \$400,000 and that this purchase be contingent upon the successful sale of The Lutheran Center.

ADOPTED

15. MOTION TO PURCHASE PERMANENT OFFICE SPACE

BD-07-45

WHEREAS, the Southern District is in need of a permanent location, and

WHEREAS, acreage is needed to accommodate permanent office space, and
WHEREAS, acreage is needed for a warehouse to store equipment and supplies for disaster recovery, and some of the existing disaster response funds would be available for building warehouse space, and

WHEREAS, 27.7 acres, of which 19 acres of useable space, has been located in Waldheim, Louisiana, Section 33 T5s, R12E in St. Tammany Parish, located on Hwy. 21; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT President Schultz be authorized to sign the paperwork and documents for the purchase of the land in Waldheim, Louisiana, for the permanent location of the Southern District Office not to exceed \$340,000; contingent upon the rezoning of the property.

ADOPTED

16. ADJOURNMENT

BD-07-46

RESOLVED, THAT the meeting be adjourned.

ADOPTED

Mr. Charles Craig led the closing devotion with the singing of *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*, followed by prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. James A. Ertl
Southern District Secretary