

Eastern District Board of Directors
May 3 & 4, 2013
Hope Lutheran Church, 1301 Vintage Lane, Rochester, NY 14626

Voting Directors Present: President Chris Wicher, Mark Lambrecht, Gordon Tresch, Jacqui Green, Michael Fenger, Rev. Karl Haeussler, Rev. David Bernard, Rev. Howard Alexander, Rev. Ron Bright, Rev. Peter Richert, Larry Thompson, Rev. Greg Tafel, Rev. Dan Strussenberg

Voting Directors Absent: Lyle Heggemeier, Irene McFadden

District Staff Present: Bob Foerster, Rick Porter

Opening Prayer: Based on Ephesians 2:1-10 and the hymns, *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* and *Amazing Grace* led by Howard Alexander.

Mark Lambrecht welcomed everyone to Hope

M/2 to accept the Agenda as presented, passed.

Member Sharing began with Howard and went around the room to everyone present.

Board Business

M/2 to accept the February 1, 2013 minutes as presented, passed.

President's Report

President Wicher summarized his written report, beginning with the first page and proceeding through the other pages, highlighting and explaining a number of positive things happening within the District during the last few months. He's excited about many things going on, including CLIMB and developments to reach out to the City of Buffalo. President Wicher also commented on upcoming events and developments, including the Small Church/Town event scheduled for September 28th and the Clyde property. Seminary and vicarage placements were reviewed. On a somber note, two congregations in our District have contacted President Wicher about possibly leaving our Synod. He has sent letters to these congregations asking to meet with them to discuss this.

Break

After the break, President Wicher continued his report, first commenting upon Barb Sigafos' financial report. Expenses are a bit higher because of the Synod Convention assessment, but all and all at this time of year, the District is in pretty good financial shape. He also spoke about some financial matters of a local pastor/congregation level.

M/2 to fund Pastor McCants' Concordia Plan Services benefits as existing for 2013, passed.

President Wicher gave everyone a document he prepared entitled *2013 Goals*. He talked the Board through it, highlighting and explaining a number of details.

Mark Lambrecht stated that the executive committee conducted an evaluation of President Wicher consistent with the Board of Directors policies last January.

District Staff Job Descriptions (ratification)

President Wicher reviewed and summarized the district staff description document which is attached to these minutes.

M/2 to ratify/accept the District Job Descriptions as presented by President Wicher and attached to these minutes, *passed*.

Lunch

LINC Rochester, Ministry Report [Gary Falleson, Executive Director]

The meeting continued with Gary Falleson. Gary explained a little bit of his background and his involvement with Climb for Christ. This led to a discussion of LINC, Rochester. LINC works to a great degree with urban refugees and immigrants from around the world, including the Nepali and Butanese communities. Pastor Tom Gundermann, a member of the LINC Board, also spoke briefly. The Goal is to build God's Kingdom in Christ.

Eastern District Statistics Conversation [Porter, Wicher]

Rick handed out three sets of documents with much statistical data. He used data from one of our congregations to explain the congregation specific report. He reviewed the Eastern District Congregation Statistical Trends power point document.

Policy Review and Revision [Porter, Heggemeier]

Rick gave everyone 4 handouts, some with multiple pages. He discussed the Carver Series books before reading and explaining a power point on Policy Governance in a Nutshell. After reviewing Rick's power point, the Board worked on policy revision.

M/2 to adjourn, *passed*.

Closing prayer Rev. Alexander led the Board in prayer.

Saturday Morning Rev. Breight led the morning devotion based on Matthew 9

BOD Bylaws & Regulations Committee Report

Mark indicated that he, Gordie, Rick and President Wicher have been working on the bylaws and regulations for about 2 years. The board received a handout of proposed bylaws with recommended changes. Gordie then led the discussion providing a big picture and historical introduction to the document. Gordie explained the reasons for the proposed changes. Certain points were questioned and discussed. The Regulations document (current/proposed/comments) was given to the board. The board reviewed and discussed the current regulations and proposed changes.

Board Self Evaluation

Mark led a discussion on the schedule and other details of our meeting. The general consensus was that our meeting was executed well. Configuring the tables and seating was discussed. On a humorous note, David, Karl, and Howard were encouraged to not sit in the middle of the room at the next meeting.

Other Business as necessary: President Wicher stated that convention options are under review, including the possibility of having it at Hope in 2015.

M/2 to adjourn, *passed*.

Closing Prayer Rev. Breight led the board in prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Peter A. Richert, Secretary
Eastern District, LCMS