

Minutes
Michigan Mission Center Organizing Conference
October 16, 2010

The Conference met on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at the Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw, Michigan. There were 392 members registered. The Conference opened with the singing of "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing." Evangelist Darwin Wismer offered the opening prayer.

Apostle Stassi Cramm explained that the special conference was called for the purpose of organizing the Michigan Mission Center. She introduced Jack Tigner, Conference Manager, Pat Sibbald, Conference Secretary, John Wight, Parliamentarian, Wilma & Richard Osborn, Head Ushers, and Dave LaBrecque, Teller. She called Prophet-President Steve Veazey to the podium for greetings and comments to the Conference.

Apostle Stassi Cramm returned to the chair and called on Cheryl Seifert for a report of the Credentials Committee. The question was put to the Conference on the adoption of the report of Credentials Committee. The vote was taken and the report was adopted.

The Chair called on John Wight to present the proposed Standing Rules for the Conference. John Wight read the Standing Rules with two corrections. Following discussion, the question was before the assembly. Shall the Standing Rules as amended be adopted. The vote was taken and the Standing Rules were passed by required 2/3 vote.

The Chair appointed Dianna Vanderkarr, Jim Danielson, and Barb Villeneuve to serve as members of the Minutes Review Committee.

Apostle Stassi Cramm officially brought the Conference to order at 10:30 a.m. for the sustaining of Officers.

Mission Center Officers from Northern Michigan Mission Center, Heart of Michigan Mission Center, Blue Water Mission Center, and Southern Great Lakes International Mission Center were recognized for their service.

The Chair shared biographical information on Debora Crowley and Gregg McDonald. The chair commented that she had invited people to provide comments about the appointments of Debora Crowley as President of the Michigan Mission Center, and Gregg McDonald as Michigan Mission Center Financial Officer, and the feedback was very supportive of both.

The Chair read a letter from David D. Schaal, First Presidency, appointing Debora Crowley as President of the Michigan Mission Center. Sherry McGregor, Ann Arbor, moved the question. The motion was seconded. The Chair asked if there were any comments. Following discussion, the vote was taken and the appointment was sustained.

The Chair read a letter from David D. Schaal, First Presidency, appointing Gregg McDonald as Mission Center Financial Officer. Margaret Swartzendruber, Center Road, moved the question. The motion was seconded. The Chair asked if there were any comments. Following discussion, the vote was taken and the appointment was sustained.

The Chair called for a motion to sustain the Mission Center Staff as a whole.

World Church Field Specialists:

Disciple Formation Specialist
Mission/Campus Ministry

Bobbie Ann Robinson
Diane McNeil

Young Adult Minister
Church Planter--Detroit Hope

Andrew Robinson
Jacob Blakesley

Mission Center Field Assistants:

MCFO Assistant
MCFO Assistant
MCFO Assistant/Oblation
MC/CSG/Campgrounds
MC Support/Oblation/CSG

Dena DeVormer
Cathy Hopkins
Ron Kuenzli
Jack Tigner
Dianna Vanderkarr

Other:

MC Recorder
Youth Ministry Formation Specialist
High Priest/Evangelist Coordinator

Esther Volz
Brenda Villeneuve
Carol Walden

Diane Bates, Sault St. Marie, Ontario, moved the sustainment of the Mission Center Staff. Motion was seconded. Vote taken. Motion sustained.

At this time there was a pause in the business session for the setting apart of Michigan Mission Center President and Financial Officer. Following the singing of "A Charge to Keep I have" President Debora Crowley was set apart by President Steve Veazey and Apostle Stassi Cramm. Gregg McDonald was set apart as Financial Officer by Apostle Stassi Cramm and President Steve Veazey.

Apostle Stassi Cramm declared the Michigan Mission Center to be formally organized and relinquished the chair to Mission Center President Debora Crowley.

Mission Center President Debora Crowley called for a motion to sustain the appointments of Eleanor West and Bobbie Ann Robinson as counselors to the Mission Center President. The motion was made by Hank Bates, Sault St. Marie, Ontario. Seconded. Vote taken. Motion passed.

The Chair called for a motion to sustain the appointments of the Mission Center Council:

Sarah Allen
Betty Beauchamp
Rachel Blakesley
Wendy Brooks
Hap Frizzell
Murphy Mathews
Tanya Moore
Noelle Morlock
Mary Peterson
Patti Piper
Robert Smith
Jim Sweet
Roger Wiltse
Jessica Montague

Troy Oaks
Bay City
Detroit Hope
Onaway
Union Avenue
Capital Area Center
Highland Park
Mt. Pleasant
Allegan
Wadhams Grove
Riverview
Marion
Gladwin
Eastside

The motion was made by Richard Shotwell, Northview. Seconded. Vote taken. Motion passed. The Chair introduced the members of the Mission Center Council.

The Chair asked for a motion to sustain the Congregational Support Group Leaders:

Group #1

Gary Villeneuve
Matt Kinsinger
Eleanor West

Group #8

Dick Shotwell
Bobbi Mier

Group #2

Dennis Ormsbee
Roger Elkins
Jean Sweet

Group #9

Keith Chappelow
Murphy Mathews

Group #3

Richard Hamilton
Bob Sheppard

Group #10

Dianna Vanderkarr
Dean Robinson

Group #4

Ted Griggs
Jack Tigner

Group #11

Dave & Mary Peterson
Dave Wiley

Group #5

Gil Burgeson
Rodney Colmus

Group #12

Bill Curtis
Duane Salswedel

Group #6

Berniece Abbe
Carol Campbell

Group #13

Ed Clapham
Robert Smith

Group #7

Janet Herbert
Gary Piper

The motion was made by Earl Watt, Rose Lake. Seconded. Vote taken. Motion passed.

The Chair called attention to Resolution "A" which was printed in the Conference Bulletin. The Chair read Resolution A.

DELEGATE AND EX OFFICIO REPRESENTATION AT MISSION CENTER

Whereas, the Michigan Mission Center will hold conferences at least annually, and

Whereas, it is desirable to have fair and equitable representation from throughout the Mission Center and its leadership; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the voting body of Michigan Mission Center Conferences shall be as follows:

- Ex officio --
- a.) The Mission Center President and two of his/her counselors, the Mission Center Financial Office and two of his/her counselors and the conference secretary shall be entitled to voice and vote and shall not be eligible to serve as delegates from any congregation.
 - b.) Michigan Mission Center Volunteer Field Specialists shall be entitled to voice and vote.
 - c.) Full time World Church ministers assigned to Michigan Mission Center shall be entitled to voice and vote.

d.) One congregational pastor (or designee) shall be entitled to voice and vote.

e.) One congregational financial officer (or designee) shall be entitled to voice and vote.

Delegates - Each congregation shall be allowed to elect one delegate at large.

Additionally, each congregation shall be allowed to elect one delegate for every 50 members (or portion thereof) based on World Church membership records as of December 31 of the year preceding the year in which the conference is held.

RESOLVED, that each congregation shall report the name(s) of its ex officio and elected delegates to the Mission Center Office not later than four weeks prior to the opening day of the conference utilizing forms and procedures to be provided by the Mission Center.

Gary Villeneuve, Alpena, moved Resolution A. Seconded.

Kelly Christian, Eastside offered a substitute motion.

Substitute motion for A

Whereas, the Community of Christ has a long tradition of and practice towards a theocratic democracy guided by the Holy Spirit and the common consent process in a deliberative assembly which strives to allow all members to express their individual opinions in coming to a conclusion and vote, and

Whereas, the Community of Christ has dealt with issues that bring out strong emotions from it's members in the past and will handle potentially divisive issues in the future with love and compassion and a goal to respect a members right to address a conference/business meeting, and

Whereas, the business of the Michigan Mission Center is to decide on issues of importance to the Saints in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Ontario, such as, budgets, methods of evangelism, and missionary, stewardship of resources managed by the Mission Center buildings and property and not on matters that would affect other Community of Christ jurisdictions, and

Whereas, the issues that are foreseen to come before a Mission Center Conference that might warrant a delegate conference is the assets that result from the sale of property, church buildings or campgrounds, and

Whereas, it has been the practice that when a group such as a congregation sells property that those members that have been directly involved with the day to day stewardship of the property submit a plan for the use of the assets to the Presiding Bishopric for approval such as the recent sale of the Westwood congregation and the potential sale of the Woodlands in 2004, and

Whereas, during the formation of the Mission Centers in 2004/2005 it was the policy of the Community of Christ that the campground association with the campground board would develop a plan for the use of assets that result from the sale of campground property, and

Whereas, the plan for the assets from the Woodlands Campground has been approved by the Michigan Region Conference October, 2004 and the other campgrounds in the Michigan Mission Center have active boards to develop a plan for the assets from the future sale of a campground; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the voting body of the Michigan Mission Center Conferences/Business Meetings that are called, special or regular, will not be delegate but open to all members of the Michigan Mission Center.

Several people spoke for and against the substitute motion. Mindy Jeffries, West Branch called the question on all matters before the house. The assembly indicated it was ready to vote. The vote was taken on the substitute motion and it lost.

The Chair reread the original resolution. The vote was taken and Resolution A passed.

The Chair adjourned the Conference for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

The Conference resumed at 1:45 p.m. with Bobbie Ann Robinson offering a prayer for peace. She led the conference in prayers for people - the people prayed in silence.

President Debora Crowley returned to the chair and called on Dave and Mary Peterson for special recognition of service by Barb and Ted Griggs. They were presented with roses and a plaque following the reading of a letter of gratitude.

President Debora Crowley then called on the tellers to pass out the ballots for the election of the Boards of Directors for the five campgrounds. Gregg McDonald explained how the process would be completed. The ballots had five slates of officers of people who would be willing to serve on each Board. More ballots needed to be printed so the President turned to Resolution B.

President Debora Crowley read Resolution B:

INITIATION AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

Whereas, the Michigan Mission Center includes 94 congregations throughout the state of Michigan, Indiana, and the province of Ontario, and

Whereas, it is essential to the principle of common consent that all delegates to the Michigan Mission Center Conference have sufficient time to consider legislation that is to be considered at Mission Center conferences, and

Whereas, adequate time is provided for the preparation and communication of proposed legislation to all congregations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That proposed legislation *from the membership* shall come before the Mission Center Conference only upon the approval of a congregation business meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That in order for legislation to come before the Mission Center conference, such legislation must be submitted to the Mission Center Presidency no later than sixty (60) days prior to the opening of each Mission Center Conference; and be it further

RESOLVED, That with the approval of the Mission Center Presidency, legislation may be submitted during the Mission Center Conference if such legislation is of an urgent nature or is required because of actions taken during the current Mission Center Conference.

Carole Dudley, Capital Area Congregation moved Resolution B. It was seconded, and Carole Dudley spoke to the Resolution.

Kelly Christian, Eastside, offered a substitute motion. The substitute motion was seconded.

Substitute Motion for B

Whereas, the Michigan Mission Center includes 94 congregations throughout the state of Michigan, Indiana, and the province of Ontario, and

Whereas, it is essential to the principle of common consent that all members of the Michigan Mission Center and Conference attendees have sufficient time to consider legislation that is or will be presented at Mission Center Conference; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the deadline for submission of proposed legislation by a delegate for a regular Mission Center Conference be 24 hours prior to the posted start of the business session; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that, if the proposed legislation has the written support (indicated on the legislation by signatures and congregation membership) of 5 delegates from different congregations that are all in attendance at the conference, then the legislation may be submitted at any time; and be it further,

Resolved, that proposed legislation will be submitted to the Conference Secretary and the Mission Center President or his/her designee; and be it further,

Resolved, that the Mission Center President or his/her designee will announce to the conference as soon as possible that new legislation to the conference has been submitted and will be responsible for the new legislation to be published to the conference in either print form or electronic form, so long as all in attendance have access to the proposed legislation; and be it further,

Resolved, that the conference secretary will state to the conference the names and congregational membership of those providing written support for the proposed new legislation.

Kelly Christian, Eastside spoke to his motion. Discussion followed and several people spoke in favor and against the substitute motion.

The Chair called for the vote on the substitute motion. The vote was taken and the substitute motion failed.

More discussion followed on the original Resolution B.

Kelly Christian, Eastside moved to amend Resolution B by striking the first "Resolved." His motion was seconded.

Andy Robinson, Bristolwood, moved a substitute amendment to the amendment. Resolved, that proposed legislation from the membership shall come before the Mission Center Conference only after consideration at a congregation business meeting, and be it further. His substitute motion was seconded. Discussion followed.

Lowell Swartzendruber, Center Road called the question on both the amendment and the substitute amendment. The Conference was ready to vote. The vote was taken on the substitute amendment to the amendment. The substitute amendment failed. The vote was then taken on the amendment and it also failed.

Mindy Jeffries, West Branch, moved to amend the original Resolution B from "60" days to "30" days. Seconded. Discussion followed.

Lowell Swartzendruber, Center Road called the question on this amendment. The assembly indicated they were ready to vote. The vote was taken and the Chair could not

determine by looking and called for a counted vote. The tellers took the count and the amendment passed 162 to 160.

Lowell Swartzendruber, Center Road, then called the question on Resolution B as amended. The vote was taken and the Resolution passed.

The Chair then turned to the election of Campground Boards of Directors. The Chair asked for nominations from the floor.

The following names were added to the Blue Water slate: Patti Piper, Jim Danielson, Allen Palmer, and Jessica Montague.

There were no additional names added to the Camp Manitou ballot, and the slate was approved by vote.

There were no additional names added to the Park of the Pines ballot, and the slate was approved by vote.

The following names were added to the Sanford Campgrounds slate: Robin Wiltse and Gwen Commire.

The following names were added to the Woodlands slate: Eric Foster, Roger Wiltse, and Cindy Dewar.

The Conference was given time to vote and the ballots were collected for counting.

The Chair turned to Consideration of Priesthood calls:

Dick Pennington -- High Priest/Evangelist
 Rachel Blakesley -- High Priest
 Edwin Clapham -- High Priest
 Erica Blevins-Nye -- High Priest (not in attendance, in Europe)

Apostle Stassi Cramm made a statement on these calls and offered her full and complete support. President Deb Crowley asked for a motion to approve these calls. Bobbie Ann Robinson, Bristolwood made the motion. Motion was seconded. Each call was voted on and all were approved. Ordination to take place at the evening worship service.

The Chair called on Wendy Brooks, Onaway for a motion. Wendy Brooks moved that the Mission Center Budget for 2011 be approved as printed in the Conference Bulletin. Motion was seconded.

The Chair called on Gregg McDonald who spoke to the proposed budget and answered several questions from the floor.

President Deb Crowley returned to the chair. The Conference voted and the Mission Center 2011 Budget was approved.

The Chair called the attention of the Conference to the Campground Budgets which were also printed in the Conference Bulletin.

Rick Herr, Waterford, moved the Blue Water 2011 Operating Budget be approved as printed. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Dave Peterson, Allegan, moved the Camp Manitou 2011 Operating Budget be approved as printed. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Bill Dodds, Marion, moved the Park of the Pines 2011 Operating Budget be approved as printed. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Ken Dudley, Capital Area Congregation, moved the Sanford Campgrounds 2011 Operating Budget be approved as printed. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Tom Banks, Clio, moved the Woodlands 2011 Operating Budget be approved as printed. Vote taken. Motion passed.

The Chair recognized Gregg McDonald who spoke to the Community of Christ Michigan Campgrounds 2010 Youth Camps and Reunion/Family Camp Report.

President Debora Crowley returned to the chair and called attention to the 2010 Election of Community Outreach Services Corporation Board of Directors. The following persons were nominated by the Board of Directors nominating committee to serve as Board members representing the Michigan Mission Center for three year terms ending on December 31, 2013. The nominees were: Rogers Claussen, Andy Omans, and John Seifert. The vote was taken. Nominations approved.

The Chair advised that the nominating committee also placed the name of Jeff Stoker as a Community Representative board member for a three year term ending December 31, 2013. The Chair asked if there were nominations from the floor, and David McCray was nominated. The vote was taken and needed to be counted. David McCray was elected by a vote of 98 to 97. The Chair will recommend that Jeff Stoker also serve in an open position.

The Chair called upon Apostle Stassi Cramm for an explanation of the National Conference Advisory Team. The nominees to the USA National Conference Advisory Committee from the Michigan Mission Center are: Herb Smith, Kalamazoo and Rachel Blakesley, Detroit Hope. There were no other nominations. The vote was taken. Approved.

The Chair made several announcements while waiting for the tellers to finish counting the ballots for the election of Campground Boards of Directors.

Since the tellers were still counting the ballots, it was determined that the Conference would be in recess from 5:15 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. Gregg McDonald gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Debora Crowley. The Chair read the results of the election of the Campground Boards of Directors.

Blue Water Campgrounds

Tom Banks, Clio
Darryl Bechtel, Crosswell
Kelly Christian, Eastside
Richard Herr, Waterford
Janet Hoyt, Shabbona
Henry Knight, Troy Oaks
Ron Kuenzli, Caro
Claude McEldery, Richmond
Lewis Muir, Valley Center
Richard Parker, Lapeer
Autumn Sellers, Lake Orion
Kurtis Smith, Riverview
Dale Volz, Harbor Beach
Patti Piper,

Camp Manitou

Miki Armstrong, Galien
Tammi Binkley, Coldwater
Ashlynn Bonhomme, Kalamazoo
Julie Bonhomme, Kalamazoo
Robert Bonhomme, Kalamazoo
Amanda Callender (Willits) Alaska
Amanda Fentress, Coldwater
Sherry Jagger, Galien
David Peterson, Allegan
Dick Wiley, Allegan
Carol Walden, South Bend
Connie Sauer, South Bend

Park of the Pines

Darrin Carter, Cheboygan
Bill Dodds, Marion
Lee Ecker, Boyne City
Roger Elkins, Marion
Lynn Field, Alpena
Arden Johnson, Inland
Bill Johnson, Cheboygan
Mike Mead, Inland
Dennis Ormsbee, Grayling
Jim Sweet, Marion
Nadine Volz, Gulliver
Ruth White, Traverse City
Dennis Christopher, T.C.
Craig Bridson, Cadillac
Carol Harrison, Houghton
Lake

Sanford Campgrounds

Jim Baird, Center Road
Carl Leis, Mt. Pleasant
Lewis Mogg, Coleman
Ray Persall, Vestaburg
Dana Thering, Farwell
Betty Beauchamp, Bay City
Patti Leis, Mt. Pleasant
RuthAnn Nagle, Sanford
Julie Reinke, Harrison
Ray Valley, Rose Lake
Ken Dudley, Capital
Richard Hamilton, W. Branch
Kim Penix, Gladwin
Kim Spence, Sanford
Leon Wiltse, Mt. Pleasant

Woodlands

Ervin Haley, Bayport
Robert Ball, Houghton Lake
Joe Robbins, Crossroads
Deloris White, West Branch
Kevin White, West Branch
Henry Cohen, Owosso
Kathy Erwin, Clio
Dale Leyder, Greenville
Tom Banks, Clio
Robert Barr, Twining
Kent Kramer, Sault St. Marie
Dale Volz, Harbor Beach
Jean Sweet, Marion
Melinda Jeffries, West Branch
Allen Jeffries, West Branch

The Chair called on Bobbie Ann Robinson for several announcements. President Debora Crowley then returned to the chair to adjourn the Conference at 7:20 p.m.

The next Conference will be November 5-6, 2011.

Patricia Sibbald
Conference Secretary

Minutes approved by:

Dianna Vanderkarr Date

Jim Danielson Date

Barb Villeneuve Date