

Michigan USA Mission Center

Fall Business Conference – A Future of Hope

November 5, 2016

The Fall Conference of the Michigan USA Mission Center met in Saginaw, Michigan at Saginaw Valley State University's Curtiss Hall, 7400 Bay Road, University Center, on November 5, 2016. The Conference was called to order by Mission Center President Team Member Dan Nowiski at 10:10 a.m.

Introductions of conference officials were made: Conference Managers, Ellie Heacock and Joel Sentz; Conference Secretary, Joey Kernstock; Parliamentarian, John Wight; Head Deacon, Carl Nichols; and Guest Ministers, Apostle Lachlan Mackay and Senior President of Seventy John Wight. Apostle Lachlan Mackay was recognized and brought greetings from the World Church.

Carol Husted (Mt. Pleasant Congregation) was recognized to provide the credentials committee report. As of 9:30 a.m. 345 delegates were properly registered to conduct conference business and there were 16 guests present. Carol moved that the roll of delegates submitted be the official roll of the voting members of the conference. The credentials committee report was adopted entitling 345 delegates to vote on all matters before the conference.

Parliamentarian John Wight read the proposed standing rules and moved the adoption of the standing rules of the conference as read. Without objection Rule 3 was amended by replacing "his" for "her." The rules were adopted as amended. The chair declared the 2016 Michigan USA Mission Center Conference officially organized for conducting business.

The chair made comments on procedure to be followed for the conference. The chair indicated that the minutes from the fall 2015 mission center conference have been approved by the review committee. Delegates were asked to submit corrections to the secretary.

Without objection, the chair appointed Terry Brown, Dena DeVormer, and Sandi Ecker to serve on a minutes review committee to review and approve the minutes of this conference.

The chair indicated that written reports of officers, boards, teams, and committees could be found in the printed materials. The chair asked delegates to take time to read the reports submitted in the printed materials and share the information with their congregations.

The MCP Team of Adam Bouverette, Dan Nowiski, and Dianna Vanderkarr shared highlights of their report.

Jack Tigner, MCFO, shared highlights of his report. Jack recommended the adoption of the 2015 auditor's report. The chair referred the conference to the printed 2015 auditor's report. A second was received to adopt the 2015 auditor's report for the Michigan Mission Center. The 2015 auditor's report for the Michigan Mission center was adopted.

Rick Herr, Board President, shared highlights of the Blue Water Campground Board report. Roger Elkins, Board President, shared highlights of the Park of the Pines Board report. Kevin Anderson shared a report of the Park of the Pines Endowment Fund Board. Ken Dudley, Board President, shared highlights of the Sanford Campground Board report. Deloris White, Board President shared highlights of the Woodlands Board report. Carole Dudley, Board President, and Nicole Keverne, Resident Manager, shared highlights of the Journey House Campus Ministries Center Board report. Tammera Bollman, Board President, shared highlights of the Community Outreach Services Corporation Board report.

Tim Ross shared information about the Youth Ministries Team report. Winnie Johnston gave a Youth Camps report. Ellie Heacock shared information about the Disciple Development Fund Committee. The chair requested that those interested in serving on the Earth Stewardship Team contact Dan Nowiski. Gary Gordier shared highlights of the Campground Sales Team report. Jack Tigner shared highlights of the Finance Committee report.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Jack Tigner moved adoption of the proposed 2017 Mission Center Operation Budget. The budget was adopted.

A moment of blessing was provided by Evangelist Dean Robinson.

Dan Nowiski relinquished the chair to Lachlan Mackay, Apostle for the Northeast USA Mission Field including the Michigan Mission Center, for the sustaining of mission center officers.

The First Presidency recommended that the conference sustain the appointment of Dan Nowiski as Mission Center President and Dan Nowiski, Adam Bouverette, and Dianna Vanderkarr as the Mission Center President's Team. The appointment of Dan Nowiski, Adam Bouverette, and Dianna Vanderkarr to serve as the Mission Center President Team was sustained.

The First Presidency recommended that the conference sustain the appointment of Jack Tigner as Mission Center Financial Officer. The appointment of Jack Tigner as Mission Center Financial Officer was sustained.

The chair provided information about a new Invitation Support Minister position being recommended for implementation in all USA mission centers. The Field Apostle and President of Seventy recommended that the conference sustain the appointment of Nanette Anderson as Mission Center Invitation Support Minister. The appointment of Nanette Anderson as Mission Center Invitation Support Minister was approved. Nanette will be set apart in this role at the Saturday evening worship.

Lachlan Mackay returned the chair to Dan Nowiski.

The chair indicated that Community of Christ bylaws call for "each mission center to establish a mission center council, a standing body whose primary purpose is to advise mission center officers and staff on matters affecting the core functions of the mission center." The chair indicated that a list of persons who have agreed to serve on the Mission Center Council for 2017 could be found on page 37 of the printed material. The Mission Center President Team recommended sustaining the individuals listed to serve on the mission center council for 2017. Those persons listed as Mission Center Council Members for 2017 were sustained as follows – Wendy Brooks, Ruth Eaton, Gary Villeneuve, Roger Elkins, Sue Leyder, Dick Shotwell, Mary Jane Miller, Gary Gordier, Terry Brown, Linda Stanbridge, Carl Nichols, Ellie Heacock, John Jones, and Bud Teal.

The chair referred the conference to the list of nominees for the Journey House Campus Ministry Center Board of Directors. The chair informed the conference that there were three positions open for election to three year terms on the board. Carole Dudley and Richard Hawks had expressed desire to be nominated. Tim Ross was also nominated. Carole Dudley, Richard Hawks, and Tim Ross were elected to three year terms on the Journey House Board.

The chair referred the conference to the list of nominees for the Blue Water Campground Board of Directors. The chair informed the conference that there were five positions open for election to three year terms on the board. Tom Banks, Kelly Christian, Richard Herr and Russell Knight had expressed desire to be nominated. Rich Allen and Troy Piper were also nominated. Rich Allen, Tom Banks, Richard Herr, Russell Knight and Troy Piper were elected to three year terms on the Blue Water Campground Board.

The chair referred the conference to the list of nominees for the Park of the Pines Board of Directors. The chair informed the conference that there were five

positions open for election to three year terms on the board. Darrin Carter, Megan Hacker, Carol Harrison, James Sweet, and Nadine Volz had expressed desire to be nominated. No others were nominated, therefore, Darrin Carter, Megan Hacker, Carol Harrison, James Sweet, and Nadine Volz were elected to three year terms on the Park of the Pines Board.

The chair informed the conference that there was one position open for election to a three year term on the Park of the Pines Endowment Fund Board of Directors. Carla Parkes was nominated and elected to a three year term on the Park of the Pines Endowment Fund Board.

The chair informed the conference that there were five positions open for election to three year terms on the Sanford Campground Board of Directors. Ben Crowley, Joey Kernstock, Rick Ludy, David McDonald, and Joel Sentz were nominated and elected.

The chair referred the conference to the list of nominees for the Woodlands Board of Directors and explained that elections for this board were not held at the 2015 conference. The chair informed the conference that there were five positions open for election to two year terms on the board and five positions open for election to three year terms on the board. James Barr, Sam Bellinger, Dale Volz, and Lori White had expressed desire to be nominated for partial two year terms. No others were nominated. James Barr, Sam Bellinger, Dale Volz, and Lori White were elected. Tom Banks, Ervin Haley, Ronald Rouse, and Deloris White had expressed desire to be nominated for three year terms. Kathy Erwin was also nominated. Tom Banks, Kathy Erwin, Ervin Haley, Ronald Rouse and Deloris White were elected.

Ellie Heacock shared announcements with the conference.

The conference recessed at 12:05 p.m. and a moment of blessing was offered by Evangelist Mark Dalton.

The conference reconvened at 2:00 p.m. with a Prayer for Peace and an offering for the Youth Camp Scholarship Fund.

The following superannuations were announced: Al Dieterman, High Priest, and Diane McNeil, Seventy. The chair thanked them for their many years of service and the conference gave them a standing ovation of appreciation. Recognition was given to SALT Graduates Harold Hough and Mary Jane Miller, Recognition was also given to first time conference attendees, and congregation anniversary celebrations of Crowell, Lake Orion, and Muskegon.

The conference was called to order at 2:25 p.m. by Dianna Vanderkarr, Mission Center President Team member. Dianna turned over the chair to Adam Bouverette, Mission Center President Team member.

The chair referred the conference to the printed statements of candidates being called to world church minister priesthood offices. The chair recognized Senior President of Seventy John Wight to speak to the call for Josephine Dalton to the office of seventy. Sarah Allen moved to approve the call of Josephine Dalton to the office of seventy. The chair recognized Josephine to speak to her call. The call of Josephine Dalton to the office of seventy was approved.

The chair recognized Apostle Lachlan Mackay to speak to the calls for Mindy Jeffries and Dan Nowiski to the office of high priest. Talitha Pennington moved to approve the call of Mindy Jeffries to the office of high priest. The chair recognized Mindy to speak to her call. The call of Mindy Jeffries to the office of high priest was approved. Talitha Pennington moved to approve the call of Dan Nowiski to the office of high priest. The chair recognized Dan to speak to his call. The call of Dan Nowiski to the office of high priest was approved.

The chair congratulated and thanked all who have accepted the calls of servanthood and informed the conference that ordinations would occur that evening during the 7:00 p.m. worship experience following the break for dinner.

A moment of blessing was provided by Evangelist Loretha Smith and Evangelist Ken Dudley.

The chair then brought the conference's attention to Resolution 1 titled "Amend 'Maintain and Operate Three Campgrounds' Resolution to Also Sell Sanford Campgrounds."

*Resolved*, That the resolution to operate and maintain three campgrounds previously adopted by the 2015 Spring Conference and amended by the 2015 Fall Conference be amended further by

- 1) Striking "Sanford" from the list of campgrounds to be operated and maintained and inserting "Sanford" after "Manitou" in the list of campgrounds to be sold
- 2) Inserting "Resolved, That Sanford Campground continue to operate during the 2017 camping season" after the first resolved paragraph.

*Editorial changes would also be made to the resolution text and title to change the number of campgrounds to be maintained and operated from three (3) to two (2) and the number of campgrounds to be sold from two (2) to three (3).*

Tim Ross, Hastings Congregation, moved to adopt resolution 1. The motion received a second and discussion followed. Carla Parkes moved the previous question on the matter and the conference agreed they were ready to take the vote. The vote was taken and the motion failed. (Yes 81; No 232)

The conference was then directed to Resolution 2 titled "Recommendations for Youth Camp Scheduling and Planning."

*Resolved*, That the Michigan Mission Center provide programming for only one (1) Jr. High and one (1) Sr. High camp for the 2017 summer camp season; and

*Resolved*, That the location and directors of such camps be determined by the Mission Center President team; and

*Resolved*, That the staff of such camps pay a reasonable portion of their food and grounds use fee, as determined by the Mission Center President team, in order to reduce the burden currently placed on the youth attending.

Kevin White, West Branch Congregation, moved to adopt resolution 2. The motion received a second and discussion followed.

Erin Cavanaugh, Otter Lake Congregation, moved to amend resolution 2 by adding a resolved paragraph as follows: *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Mission Center President that a method be determined to transport or assist in transportation for those youth in need. The motion received a second and discussion followed. Ben Crowley moved the previous question on the amendment only. The conference agreed that it was ready to vote. The amendment was voted on and failed.

Murphy Matthews moved the previous question on Resolution 2. The conference agreed that it was ready to vote. Resolution 2 was voted on and failed. (Yes 58; No 245)

The conference was then directed to Resolution 3 titled "Change Regular Conferences to Non-Delegate Conferences."

*Resolved*, That the delegate policy previously adopted at the Fall 2010 organizing conference and amended at the 2012 Fall Conference be amended by striking "The voting body of Michigan Mission Center Conferences shall be as follows:" and inserting the following paragraph:

Michigan Mission Center regular conferences shall be open to all members. Delegate conferences shall be reserved for special conferences called by World

Church and/or Mission Center Leadership. For special delegate conferences the voting body shall be as follows:

Michael Brooks, Sixth Street Congregation, moved to adopt resolution 3. The motion received a second and discussion followed.

Eleanor West, Boyne City Congregation, made a motion to amend the resolution by substitution to change the phrase "elect one delegate for every 50 members" to "elect one delegate for every 25 members." A second was received and discussion followed. The amendment failed.

Bill Dodds, Marion Congregation, moved the previous question. The conference agreed that it was ready to take the vote. Resolution 3 was voted on and failed. (Yes 40; No 273)

The conference was then directed to Resolution 4 titled "Location and Date of Mission Center Conferences."

*Resolved*, That the regular conferences of the Michigan Mission Center be held at one of the campgrounds in the Michigan Mission Center (Blue Water, Park of the Pines, Sanford) on a three year rotation, starting with the 2017 Fall Conference, for example in 2017, the fall conference could be held at Blue Water, in 2018 at Park of the Pines, in 2019 at Sanford and so on; and

*Resolved*, That the fall and spring conference be held at a time of the year that would more likely allow for the use of a campground's RV facilities for lodging such as the third or fourth weekend of October for the fall conference instead of a November date; and

*Resolved*, That the Michigan Mission Center Leadership Team meet with the combined campground executive board to evaluate the facilities of each campground and the needs of conference and then determine which campground to hold the 2017 conferences and set the rotation schedule; and

*Resolved*, That one goal of using the Mission Center campgrounds to hold conferences be a fundraiser for the hosting campground and this fundraising be a collaboration between the Mission Center Leadership and the combined campground executive boards.

Erin Cavanaugh, Otter Lake Congregation, moved to adopt resolution 4. The motion received a second and discussion followed.

Marsha Binkley, Kalamazoo Congregation, moved to amend the resolution to strike resolved paragraphs 1, 3, and 4. A second was received. The amendment was discussed, voted on and failed.

Ruth Goldstrom, Ann Arbor Congregation, called the previous question on Resolution 4. The conference agreed that it was ready to take the vote. Resolution 4 was voted on and failed. (Yes 26; No 285)

The conference then considered Resolution 5 titled "Use of Contemporary Christian Ministries Congregation Net Proceeds."

*Resolved*, That a voluntary contribution equal to 10% of the net proceeds (\$3,964.58) be granted to Worldwide Mission Tithes to support the Abolish Poverty, End Suffering mission initiative;

*Resolved*, That an amount equal to 5% of the net proceeds (\$1,982.29) be allocated for the Michigan Mission Center Youth Camp Ministries Fund with input from youth camp directors for disbursement purposes; and

*Resolved*, That the remaining current and future proceeds received from the sale of the Contemporary Christian Ministries church facility, be distributed equally between the Mission Center Youth Ministries Fund and the Mission Center Youth Camp Scholarship Fund to support youth in the Michigan Mission Center.

This resolution from Mission Center Officers was moved, seconded, discussed, voted on and approved. (No vote count recorded on electronic devices.)

Announcements were made by Ellie Heacock. A presentation from Dena DeVormer regarding e-Tithing was presented.

The conference adjourned at 4:45 p.m. with a moment of blessing given by Evangelist Carol Walden.

Respectfully submitted,

Joey Kernstock, Conference Secretary

Minutes approved by the Minutes Review Committee consisting of Terry Brown, Dena DeVormer, and Sandi Ecker.