

**Resolution 1 – Amend “Maintain and Operate Three Campgrounds” Resolution to
Also Sell Sanford Campground**

Submitted by the Hastings Congregation

Whereas, The Michigan USA Mission Center is keenly aware of the ministry of Jesus Christ and the dedicated stewardship of so many disciples that has occurred and is occurring at each one of the Michigan USA Mission Center Campgrounds;

Whereas, The Michigan USA Mission Center is also keenly aware of the need for all disciples to be wise stewards as we move into the future;

Whereas, At the November 2014 Mission Center Conference, the conference delegates supported a non-binding recommendation to sell all but one campground, that being the Woodlands;

Whereas, For a variety of reasons, the April 2015 Mission Center conference was not presented with a resolution that honored above referenced recommendation;

Whereas, One rational for moving to one campground was the continued decline in usage;

Whereas, Camping numbers, especially youth camps, continue to decline;

Whereas, The April 2015 conference voted to sell the Woodlands, thereby making it unavailable to serve as the single campground in the Michigan USA Mission Center; and

Whereas, Without the availability of the Woodlands, it is expedient to operate and maintain two campgrounds; therefore, be it

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).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The resolution “Maintain and Operate Three Campgrounds” was originally adopted at the Spring Conference on April 11, 2015 and amended at the Fall Conference on November 7, 2015. The text of the resolution as amended and currently in force is printed on the following page.

**Background Information – Resolution Previously Adopted as Amended
“Maintain and Operate Three Campgrounds”**

Whereas, The Michigan Campground Team (MCT) is keenly aware of the ministry of Jesus Christ and the dedicated stewardship of so many disciples that has occurred and is occurring at each one of the Michigan Mission Center Campgrounds; and,

Whereas, It is also becoming apparent that camping ministry in the Community of Christ and in other denominations is changing and it has become increasingly difficult to properly maintain these campgrounds; and,

Whereas, Upon prayerful and discerning deliberation in meetings over the past two (2) years and upon evaluation of surveys of the membership, reports from the consulting firm SmithGroupJJR, a market analysis from Real Estate Professional Services, Mission Center Conference dialogs, letters, emails, and testimonies; and

Whereas, The Community of Christ Use of New Proceeds Policy states “when a mission center disposes of a capital asset, the mission center officers, in consultation with the Apostle and mission center council, will submit to a mission center conference a resolution for the use of the net proceeds;” therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Michigan USA/Canada Mission center operate and maintain three campgrounds, Blue Water, Park of the Pines, and Sanford, and sell two campgrounds, Manitou, and The Woodlands;

Resolved, That the events/activities/gatherings that have occurred in the past be allowed to continue and encouraged to continue in the same and/or similar fashion at The Woodlands as they have in the past until the said campground actually undergoes a transfer of ownership/title;

Resolved, That the Mission Center President and/or Mission Center Financial Officer consult with the appropriate legal advisors and if needed include a clause in the purchase agreement or listing of the properties that will allow events/activities/gatherings to occur and communicate to potential buyers that the Michigan USA/Canada Mission Center and its congregations’ members will use the said campgrounds until two weeks before a closing/transfer of title date is set by both the seller and buyer of said campgrounds;

Resolved, That the financial accounts and/or the methods used to pay for the events/activities/gatherings that are held by the Mission Center Financial Officer or held by campground financial officers continue to be open and functional until the actual transfer of ownership/title occurs;

Resolved, That the board that managed the facilities of the campgrounds known as The Woodlands continue to exist and function and conduct business as described by Mission Center Campground Operating Policy until and including the day of transfer of ownership/title to a buyer of said properties;

Resolved, That communication be provided through quarterly updates to the Michigan USA/Canada Mission Center congregations regarding progress towards selling campground properties;

Resolved, That the mission center officers appoint a committee(s) with members from the mission center to handle aspects of the sale and future planning, with oversight exercised by the appropriate mission center and world church officers; and be it further

Resolved, That the net proceeds from the sale of campgrounds shall be utilized for pursuing mission through the development of campground properties and mission center camping and gathering activities, and net proceeds will initially be held in a Michigan Mission Center affiliate investment pool account(s) until mission center officers, with input from the above referenced committee(s), are able to consult with the Apostle and mission center council to propose a resolution for the use of funds for mission center conference approval in accordance with the Use of Net Proceeds Policy.

Resolution 2 – Recommendations for Youth Camp Scheduling and Planning

Submitted by the West Branch Congregation

Whereas, The purpose of offering youth camps are to provide quality camping experiences for youth, which includes the opportunity for building relationship with other youth;

Whereas, There is a certain “critical mass” in regards to the number of campers necessary to provide the best camp activities and experiences for building relationships;

Whereas, The overall number of campers attending Jr. High and Sr. High camps in Michigan have been dwindling below the optimum necessary to provide the type of experience that might promote growth of the camps;

Whereas, The difficulty for finding highly qualified and necessary staffing for all youth camps has been voiced frequently by Mission Center leadership and camp directors;

Whereas, There have been numerous Sr. High youth voicing the desire to have a single Sr. High camp for all of the Michigan Mission Center youth; and

Whereas, The cost of camp has been voiced as a factor contributing to the decline in camp attendance; therefore, be it

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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Community of Christ policy indicates that “responsibility for programs occurring at campgrounds (reunions, camps, etc.) rests with the officers of mission centers sponsoring those programs.” [Church Administrator’s Handbook 2005 Edition, p. 50] Consequently the resolution as written would be ruled out of order because it conflicts with church policy.

Upon moving this resolution, the MCP Team will permit the resolution to be modified to add “That it be recommended to the mission center officers” at the beginning of each of the resolved paragraphs so that the resolution may be considered by the conference.

Resolution 3 – Change Regular Conferences to Non-Delegate Conferences

Submitted by the Eastside Congregation

Whereas, It is a goal of the Michigan Mission Center to encourage all members to attend conferences and the current format for the Fall Conference is a delegate conference, which limits the number of people able to attend; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Michigan Mission Center regular conferences be open to all members and not a delegate conference and that delegate conferences be reserved for special conferences called by World Church and/or Mission Center Leadership.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The resolution as currently written would be ruled out of order because it is in conflict with a motion previously adopted and still in force [RONR (11th ed.), p.111, ll. 23-26]. In order for this question to come before the conference the MCP Team will allow, upon moving this resolution, that it be modified as follows:

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:

Background Information – Resolution Previously Adopted as Amended “Delegate and Ex-Officio Representation at Mission Center Conferences”

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 Officer 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 pastor (or designee) from each congregation shall be entitled to voice and vote.
- e.) One financial officer (or designee) from each congregation 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 fraction thereof based on World Church membership records as of December 31 of the year preceding the year in which the conference is held.

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.

Resolution 4 – Location and Date of Mission Center Conferences

Submitted by the Eastside Congregation

Whereas, The regular conferences provide opportunity for fellowship and worship with members from all areas of the Mission Center and more time for these opportunities is desired by many; therefore, be it

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.