

Committee No. 11
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Reference: President's Report RTTD, pp. 1-2
Report No. 1

We note with gratitude the success of the Jubilee offering and the VEBA holiday, but financial challenges remain. We appreciate the president's honest and straightforward encouragement to remain faithful to our Christ-centered mission.

Reference: WELS Support Committee RTTD, pg. 7
Report No. 2

We appreciate the work of the committee on behalf of our retired called workers and their survivors with special financial needs.

Reference: Conference of Presidents: Congregational and District Ministry RTTD, pp. 3-6
Report No. 3

We note with thanks to God that all but two world missionaries and four faculty members who were displaced by synod budget cuts have received and accepted calls to other fields of service. In addition, most of 2009's unassigned seminary and MLC graduates had found positions by the end of March. Despite this, even fewer graduates went unassigned this past May than a year ago. Again, thanks to God!

We thank the six called workers, still displaced, for their faithful service and pray that God will be with them and their families and that he will enable them to return to full-time ministry in keeping with his grace and wisdom.

Reference: Communication Services RTTD, pp. 11-13
Report No. 4

Communication Services has refined the most popular feature of the WELS web site – "Questions and Answers." No longer do they publicly post every question that is submitted. Instead they are posting only those questions with a wide appeal.

Reference: Financial Services RTTD, pp. 60-61
Report No. 5

Financial Services has had its budget reduced by 26%, and at the same time, has assumed responsibility for facility operation and management. In light of the reduction, the area is focusing on maintaining day-to-day operations such as accounts payable, payroll, and gift processing. Although the area budget has been severely reduced, efficiency and effectiveness gains continue to be realized.

Reference: WELS Church Extension Fund RTTD, pp. 95-96
Report No. 6

WELS Church Extension Fund, Inc. now offers individuals the opportunity to invest in retirement/IRA certificates. For more information on the Church Extension Fund, contact them toll-free at 1-866-511-7793; cef@wels.net or visit www.welscef.org.

Reference: Ministry of Christian Giving RTTD pp. 10-11
Report No. 7

Ministry of Christian Giving has had its budget cut by 34 %. They have reduced their counseling staff from 17 full-time equivalents (FTE) before fiscal year 2008-09 to 11.8 FTE through fiscal year 2009-10.

Reference: Synodical Council RTTD, pg. 31
Report No. 8

The Synodical Council is responsible for overseeing the implementation of convention decisions and resolutions. It is responsible for monitoring, evaluating, and overseeing all programs of ministry carried out by the synod. They also have oversight of various subsidiary organizations of the synod.

Reference: Long Range Comprehensive Planning RTTD, pp. 31-32
Report No. 9

At its meeting in November 2009 the Synodical Council began the task of developing a long-range comprehensive ministry plan for the synod. The plan includes a listing of perceived strengths (10 listed in the RTTD, p. 31) and areas needing attention (11 listed in the RTTD, pp. 31-32) within WELS. The long-range plan under development will offer a broad outline of our goals for 2017 and will guide all areas of ministry in their work.

Reference: Human Resources Oversight Committee RTTD, pg. 32
Report No. 11

The Human Resources Oversight Committee provides valuable guidance to the Synodical Council in financial matters. The appointed laymen began work in 2009. Its task is to address both immediate and long-term issues in the area of human resource policies, procedures, and staffing.

Reference: International Security RTTD, pg. 32
Report No. 12

World mission locations are becoming more dangerous. The Synodical Council has asked the Board for World Missions to take the lead in developing policies covering security and insurance issues and to submit a report with policy recommendations to the Synodical Council.

Reference: Policies Adopted RTTD, pg. 32
Report No. 13

The Synodical Council adopted the following policies: a corporate credit card policy, a uniform endowment spending policy, and a conflict of interest policy. The Synodical Council is currently working on a policy on the use of special funds.

Reference: Designated Giving RTTD, pg. 32
Report No. 14

The Synodical Council reports that designated giving is still possible and has certain benefits. Gifts specifically designated will be placed directly into these special funds for which they were intended. When such gifts are received, that area of ministry will not see its budgetary support from the synod automatically reduced. Rather, it will incorporate those funds into its planning and budgeting.

Reference: Appreciation for faithful service RTTD, pg. 33
Report No. 15

The Synodical Council is thankful for the service of Mr. Robert Timmerman, who left the Synodical Council in November, 2009, and the service of Mr. G Harvey Dunn and Mr. Rodger Anderson, who reach the end of their current terms in June, 2010.

Reference: Committee on Relief RTTD, pp. 57-58
Report No. 16

The Committee on Relief has provided \$369,000 for support of displaced WELS workers and disaster victims through March, 2010. This includes \$100,000 in response to the disasters in Chile & Haiti. We encourage all members to continue their generous support of these relief efforts to all in need.

Reference: Publication Coordinating Commission RTTD, pp. 58-59
Report No. 17

The Publication Coordinating Commission produced the 'Road to Emmaus' video and 'Positively Lutheran,' a short presentation of Lutheran teachings. The 'Road to Emmaus' video was a culmination of an effort that began in October 2004. During February/March of 2010 more than 84,000 copies were distributed for Easter outreach. No new projects are planned due to a lack of funds.

Reference: WELS Benefit Plans RTTD pg. 101
Report No. 18

Health care reforms, the Patient Protection Act and the Affordable Health Care Act will have significant implications for the employers and employees covered by these plans. The Benefit Plans Office is working

with consultants and legal advisors to understand the bills and their implications for VEBA members and sponsoring organizations.

Resolution No. 1

Reference: RTTD, pp. 8-10
Subject: Commission on Inter-Church Relations

WHEREAS 1) MLC is hosting the triennial meeting of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference on June 4-6, 2011; and

WHEREAS 2) this meeting involves 50-75 leaders from sister church bodies around the world; and

WHEREAS 3) this is the first time MLC has hosted this meeting; and

WHEREAS 4) this meeting presents an unprecedented opportunity to the members of the Minnesota District for interaction with and encouragement from these leaders; therefore, be it

Resolved, a) that we encourage the CELC to share publicity about this event through our district website and other appropriate means; and be it further

Resolved, b) that MLC also publicize this event through its publications and other appropriate means; and be it finally

Resolved, c) that we encourage the CELC to include in the event agenda opportunities for visitors to observe the meeting and interact with leaders as appropriate.

Resolution No. 2

Reference: RTTD, pp. 3-6
Subject: Parish Assistance

WHEREAS numerous congregations were greatly blessed by help from Parish Assistance over these past many years; therefore be it

Resolved, a) that we encourage the Conference of Presidents to work with haste to fill the void left by the phase out of Parish Assistance; and be it finally

Resolved, b) that this structure be developed and reported to the 2011 Synod Convention.

Resolution No. 3

Reference: RTTD, pp. 3-6
Subject: Continuing Education for Called Workers

WHEREAS the Conference of Presidents, in response to last year's synod convention resolution, is working to develop and implement continuing education programs for our called workers; therefore be it

- Resolved,** a) that our called workers be encouraged to embrace this opportunity for growth; and be it finally
- Resolved,** b) that synod and congregations be supportive and provide incentives for these called worker studies.

Resolution No. 4

Reference: RTTD, pp. 36-55
Subject: Finance and Budget

- WHEREAS 1) the committee noted the difference in the structural composition of the synod budget including the operating fund, special funds, and the synod's schools (p. 36), and
- WHEREAS 2) the committee also noted the creation of the new Financial Stabilization Fund, established in FY 09-10. The purpose of the Financial Stabilization Fund is to hold funds from all non-Congregational Mission Offering sources until the year after receipt (p. 47), and
- WHEREAS 3) detailed information on the FY 08-09 budget can be found on pp. 44-45 of the RTTD, and
- WHEREAS 4) personal and institutional gifts to the Financial Stabilization Fund have decreased and thus produce a smaller resource to draw from when attempting to support the Synod Operating Budget. The Financial Stabilization Fund is projected to have a balance of \$5,735,000 at the end of FY 2010-11, which will be used for funding for the 2011-12 budget. This represents a decrease of \$3,250,000 from the amount the Financial Stabilization Fund will provide for funding in 2010-11 (p. 49), and
- WHEREAS 5) Congregational Missions Offerings for 2009-10 are projected to be about \$300,000 less than the budget. Using the 2010 subscriptions and holding them at that level for 2011, the CMO projection for next year is about \$650,000 less than the budget (p. 48); and
- WHEREAS 6) the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation reported that the grant is to be reduced by about 65% in 2010 and that there was little hope of a rebound in the near term. This reduction comes on top of the 25 percent reduction which was deferred until 2011 due to implementation of the Financial Stabilization Fund (p. 48), and
- WHEREAS 7) ultimately, the full effect of the decrease will be realized in the next biennium when additional ministry reductions of \$3 million or more are a real possibility unless support from CMO and other sources increases (p. 44), and
- WHEREAS 8) a CMO increase of 5% annually is the amount needed to maintain ministries going forward (p. 44); therefore, be it
- Resolved,** a) that we encourage a CMO increase of at least 5% annually; and be it finally
- Resolved,** b) that we encourage every congregation to participate in the CMO program.

Mr. Jack Meyer, Chairman
Rev. John Meyer, Secretary

PASTORS:

John Baumann
David Boettcher
Richard Durow
Matthew Grunewald
Curtis Holub
Peter Leyrer
Thomas Nass
Thomas Smith
James Witt

TEACHERS:

William Pekarul
Aaron Schleusener
Jeffery Wiechman

LAY DELEGATES:

Curtis Miller
Gary Sackett
Fred Henke
Claus Sieh
Arden Busack
Patrick Dillon
Troy Benson
Wally Wichmann
Scott Kennedy