

**NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS  
February 3, 2026**

**MINUTES**

**In Attendance**

Mr. Craig Timm, Chairman  
Rev. Donald Engebretson, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Rev. Preston Paul, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
Rev. Ryan Fehrmann, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP  
Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt, Secretary  
Mr. Dwayne Maroszek, Treasurer  
Mrs. Marie Fenske

Mr. Bryon Graff  
Mrs. Pauline Jerabek  
Mr. David McFarland  
Mr. David Mellem  
Dr. Jeffrey Nielsen  
Rev. Richard Owen  
Mr. William Zick

**District Staff**

Mr. Bill Jordan  
Mrs. Lori Kavajecz  
Mr. DJ Schult  
Rev. Tim Shoup, President

The meeting was held at Peace Campus Center in Stevens Point. Chairman Timm called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Opening Devotion** –Rev. Timothy Shoup shared the Opening Devotion.

**Adoption of Agenda**

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. **APPROVED**

**Approval of Consent Voting Agenda**

Approval of November 4, 2025, Minutes. A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the Consent Voting Agenda as presented. **APPROVED**

**Board Training**

Rev. Andy Weden provided an overview of his ministry at Peace Campus Center. Some of the highlights were:

- Students have opportunity for two off-site mission trips a year.
- Student Retreat at Camp Luther
- Several service opportunities
- Fellowship opportunities – something every week to gather as a community.
- 2 Worship services – Wednesday and Sunday
- Tuesday night Bible study
- Summer a time for property improvements; Rev. Weden manages.
- Polito's Pizza Party first week of classes
- Pumpkin Fest
- Peace Christmas Open House – over 140 in attendance in 2025.

Members had a chance to take a walking tour with Rev. Weden to see all the center has to offer to the students.

### **Mission Mini Grants**

Rev. Ryan Fehrmann stated that there were 34 applicants in 2025 with \$41,800 given out in grants; 29 received funding. DJ Schult is working on a request to publish a list of projects that have been done in the past through these grant monies. Rev. Fehrmann and Marie Fenske have agreed to continue to serve alongside Dr. Nielsen on this task force in 2026.

### **State of the District**

President Shoup's detailed report was distributed. He also shared the following highlights:

- Pastoral visits have been going well. Pastors seem to appreciate the one-on-one time.
- Lay Leader Training was well received with 60 attendees.
- District Interviews—able to participate in four interviews with EIIT, SMP and M.Div. applicants. It is wonderful to listen to these men and hear their stories on how the Lord is calling them to serve.
- Team Ministry Workshop was held at St. Mark's with 75 in attendance. Guest presenter was Rev. Dr. Todd Biermann, Executive Director from Concordia Center for the Family.

President Shoup asked the Board to think about the requirement for him to provide a state of the district report annually and what they would want that to look like.

### **Ministry Team Updates**

President Shoup shared that a kickoff meeting for all teams was held on December 15, 2025; all teams were represented except for Revitalization. Individual teams were given a strategic planning tool to produce goals for the next 90 days, within 2026, and 3 years. All teams came back together and shared their goals. The Missions Team wished to send out a survey to find out what congregations in our district are doing. DJ Schult created and sent the survey—we are awaiting results.

### **Preliminary Operating Statements for NWD and Camp Luther - December 2025**

Mr. Maroszek provided the Board with an overview of the preliminary operating results for year-end and offered an opportunity for questions.

### **Preliminary Consolidated P & L – December 2025**

Mr. Maroszek shared the preliminary consolidated reports for year-end and provided an opportunity for questions.

Mr. Maroszek shared with the Board that the on-line audit is scheduled for March 9-11, 2026,

### **Board Designated Funds**

President Shoup shared that we had an overage of \$120,000 for 2025. He proposed that these monies be designated in the following three areas:

- \$40,000 – Synod
- \$40,000 – Missions (North Wisconsin District)
- \$40,000 – Camp Luther

Board members were invited to discuss. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed board designation of funds as presented. **APPROVED**

### **Camp Luther**

### District Representative Report

Dr. Nielsen was not available to provide his report in person but did provide a written report that was shared with the Board.

### Jackie Remodel Proposal

Chairman Timm stated that in December via email vote, this Board approved the demolition of the Jackie cabin. The original plan was just for a remodel but as they looked further into it several unsatisfactory construction issues were discovered. Trigger asked Chairman Timm to share the following information on the status of this project to date:

- All permits are in place
- Ground thaw has been in place since last week for foundation/dirt work prep
- Monolithic slab being poured February 4, 2026
- Anticipated total investment \$150,000 (Likely lower as certain items are hoped to be donated.)
- Financial Plan – we will be asking supporters to come alongside this project to help cover the unplanned expense of the rebuild.

A motion was made and seconded to approve moving forward with the Jackie cabin remodel as presented above.

**APPROVED**

### Management Agreement & Lease Agreement Annual Review

Chairman Timm, President Shoup, Bryon Graff, and DJ Schult from the District Board and Luke 'Trigger' Kunze, and Andrew Hulke from Camp Luther Board met via Zoom for the annual Management and Lease Agreement review.

The following amendments were proposed:

#### Management Agreement

A request to change the verbiage in Item #3 concerning the 'line of credit' from 'shall' to 'may' to read as follows: *The District **may** extend to the Camp a line of credit each fiscal year in the form of an interest-free loan of cash....*

A motion was made and seconded to approve the new verbiage as noted above.

**APPROVED**

Board members also discussed the need to revisit this paragraph prior to the 2027 renewal to state more clearly the purpose for the loan and more specifically detail the plan of how and when repayment of the loan is intended.

#### Lease

Item #4 Additions, Alterations, and Improvements

Given the market today, Camp Luther is asking that the requirement for District Board approval be changed from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the above increase.

**APPROVED**

To allow Camp Luther to better plan for the future, they are asking for clarification of annual support from the District. Item #4 currently states that the annual contribution will be \$80,000 in the final year of the agreement (2027). After Board discussion, it was determined that it is not the intention of the Board to decrease this amount at this time. Chairman Craig will share this information with Luke 'Trigger' Kunze.

## **Constitution & Bylaw Changes**

Secretary Kleinschmidt distributed his report with the following Constitution & Bylaws presented:

1. Faith – Marinette
2. Our Saviour – Green Bay
3. Faith – Green Bay
4. St Paul – Hamburg
5. Trinity - Merrill

Secretary Kleinschmidt requested approval of numbers 1,4 & 5 as presented and 2 & 3 with suggested contingencies. A motion was made and seconded for approval of the Constitution & Bylaws as presented by Secretary Kleinschmidt. **APPROVED**

## **Staff Reports**

### DJ Schult

Mr. Schult provided the following highlights from his respective areas:

- To date, we have had 31 teachers participate in the colloquy program since 2017; awarding over \$51,000 of assistance.
- Atlas Group Purchasing Agreement: curriculum mapping support after Curriculum Trak was purchased by Atlas, resulting in higher costs.
- Zooms: Pastors of Schools, Early Childhood Directors, and Business Managers & Treasurers.
- Events: Called Worker non-pastor (new this year—was well received by attendees), Ministry Plan teams, Confedex, Lay Leader Training, Team Ministry Workshop, and Principal Regional Meetings.
- Support for hiring/removing
- Follow up on items with our NWD attorney
- Email communications
- NWD Annual Report preparation
- SGOs and the OBBB

### Bill Jordan

Mr. Jordan shared the following highlights:

- 21 LOL applicants, \$50,000 awarded, an average gift of \$2,500.
- Investments – the NWD has a \$65 million lending portfolio.
- Real Estate Solutions – working on several remodels, new facilities, and a 10-year plan for future campus improvements.
- Ministry Solutions – working with several congregations.
- LCEF Insider – Years ago there were LCEF advocates in district congregations. These leaders assisted in distributing new information to their congregations. LCEF is revisiting designating LCEF advocates to do the same with communication being provided electronically/digitally on a monthly basis. If you are interested in getting on the mailing list, please talk to Bill or Google *LCEF Insider* to sign up.

## **Standing Committee Updates**

### **Governance Committee**

The Committee has reviewed Section II of the Board Policy Manual with minor edits not impacting content. The Committee will continue to review the manual.

### **Administrative Services Committee**

The Committee has reviewed tools from the Minnesota South and South Wisconsin Districts and like what they are doing. They are recommending that they start working on a tool that the North Wisconsin District can begin using in 2027. It was suggested that the CPS tool should remain an option for those who are satisfied with this tool. A motion was made and seconded to request the Committee begin the work to put together an additional compensation tool for our district.

**APPROVED**

### **Audit & Investment Management Committee**

Mr. Mellem stated that The Foundation investments we do not control were at 15.8% and the investments that we do control at 14.87%. Lutheran Legacy is up 20%. The funds in the conservative market are 3-4%. Given the returns for the end of 2025, we will continue to keep our funds where they are.

### **Stewardship Committee**

Pastor Owen shared that they will have representation at the 2026 Pastors' Conference with approximately 20 minutes of stage time to talk about stewardship.

President Shoup extended a thank you to Rev. Weden for his hospitality and inviting us to Peace Campus Center for our meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve that the North Wisconsin District Board hold their meeting at Peace Campus Center every other year.

**APPROVED**

Rev. Preston Paul closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt, District Secretary  
Lori Kavajecz, Recording Secretary