

**Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League Board of Governors Meeting  
August 11, 2018  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina, Kansas**

Tim Voelker, LLL Kansas District president, called the meeting to order.

John Johnson, representative for Region 2 on the LLL Kansas Board of Governors, opened the meeting with a review of resources that are available at the Lutheran Hour Ministries web sites, at the YouTube and Vimeo web sites.

Following the John Johnson's presentation, the 12 persons who attended the meeting introduced themselves.

President Tim Voelker presented the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting of April 4, 2018. After the minutes were reviewed, Carroll Hackbart made motion to accept the minutes. John Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.

Carroll Hackbart, LLL Kansas District treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. Carol Hackbart reported that that unused portion of the distribution from the Maike bequest investment account with the LCMS Foundation was contributed to the given to the LCMS Kansas District for the purpose of making grants to pastors to reduce their student loan debt. Mr. Hackbart presented a summary of the income and expenditures that had been made during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which ended on May 31, 2018. Mr. Hackbart's report showed a total income of \$12,263.37, which included \$1,916.64 from the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Carroll Hackbart's report showed expenditures of \$8,479.52, yielding a beginning bank account balance of \$3,782.85 at the end of the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Carroll Hackbart presented the proposed budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. This budget contained line items and amounts on which the participants of the Board of Governors meetings of January 31 and April 4, 2018 had agreed. In summary, the proposed budget estimated \$10,000 in income and \$8,250 in expenditures.

Carroll Hackbart reported that total contributions of \$38,246.77 were received for the 2017-2018 LLL Kansas District Project. Carroll Hackbart reported that \$2,600 of the grants-in-aid, which had been made during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, had been returned because these grants were not used by the students who received them. Consequently, the total receipts for the 2017-2018 LLL Kansas District Project were \$40,846.77. Carroll Hackbart happily reported that the fundraising goal of \$40,000 had been slightly exceeded and that the amount in excess of \$40,000 had been allocated to grants-in-aid for the 2018-2019 school year in accordance with resolution that had been approved at the 78<sup>th</sup> LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention on November 4, 2017.

Arlen Schultz moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ron Bott seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Tim Voelker asked the meeting attendees for proposals for the fund raising goal for the 2018-2019 LLL Kansas District Project and for proposals regarding the distribution of the funds that will be raised. Fred Gruhn, president of LLL Kansas Zone 3 suggested that the goal be raised to \$42,000. After discussion, John Johnson moved that the total fundraising goal for the 2018-2019 LLL Kansas District Project be \$42,000. John Johnson moved that the funds raised be expended as summarized below.

Financial aid for Kansas District students attending an LCMS synodical school or seminary in preparation for full-time church work.....	\$31,500
Recognition Dinner for fourth year students at Concordia Seminary.....	\$1,000
Overseas Bible Correspondence Courses and Argentina Ministry.....	\$8,000

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State Fair Worship Service and State Fair Booth.....\$1,000  
Tournament of Roses Parade Lutheran Hour Float.....\$500

Arlen Schultz, vice president of the LLL Kansas District, seconded this motion. The motion was passed.

A report was given regarding the 2018 LWML Kansas District Convention, which occurred from Friday, April 22, through Sunday, April 24, 2018, at the Atrium Hotel and Convention Center in Hutchinson, Kansas. Mark Westerman, representative for Region 5 on the LLL Kansas Board of Governors, commented on his attendance at the convention and his staffing of the LLL/LHM booth during the convention. Mark Westerman said that he was pleased by the positive activity and enthusiasm that he observed at the LWML convention. Tim Voelker reported that he made a five-minute presentation to the convention. Tim Voelker remarked that he was gladdened by the many packets of cards that were given to persons who stopped at the LLL/LHM table display.

Keith Jopp, representative for Region 2 on the LLL Kansas Board of Governors, asked how he could obtain a current listing of the congregational ambassadors in the Region 2. The following suggestions were provided by attendees of the meeting.

- Information about the volunteer position of congregational ambassador can be found at the link labeled “AMBASSADOR OPPORTUNITIES” on the “ABOUT” page of the LHM web site (<https://www.lhm.org/about/>).
- Region representatives should contact Polly Gregali, LHM Ministry Resource Manager, to request this information. Polly Gregali’s email address is [polly.gregali@lhm.org](mailto:polly.gregali@lhm.org); her telephone number is 314-317-4164.
- The annual convention manual contains the names of the ambassadors for each zone and some of the contact information for the ambassadors.

The topic of whether the boundaries for the zones and regions in the LLL Kansas District should be adjusted was raised. After a short discussion, Arlen Schultz, vice president of the LLL Kansas District, volunteered to submit a proposal for revisions to the boundaries for the zones and regions to a future Board of Governors meeting.

Ron Bott, State Fair Worship Coordinator and Zone 7 Ambassador Coordinator, raised the question of how to motivate Lutheran men to prioritize participation in LLL groups, events, and governing structure.

- John Johnson suggested that LLL district and zone officers remind Lutherans laypersons that the Holy Spirit motivates them to participate in and contribute church-related activities.
- Tim Voelker suggested that spiritual projects be organized in which Lutherans can participate. He suggested that LLL volunteer continuously communicate opportunities for participation and about the value of the LLL/LHM projects, outreach programs and resources.

John Johnson, who has served as editor of the Kansas District LLL Reporter newsletter, reported that he had not received any news articles for the newsletter since April 2018. John Johnson requested that news items be sent to his email address [johnejohnson4779@gmail.com](mailto:johnejohnson4779@gmail.com).

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- Several persons noted that news items can be posted on the LLL Kansas District web site. In the past, some news items have been posted on the web site. The URL for the web site is <http://www.lhm-ks.org>.
- Tim Voelker proposed that a Facebook page be created that would serve to disseminate news about activities and groups in the LLL Kansas District and its zones. He noted that the LLL International headquarters has recommended that the districts create Facebook pages because these provide another effective media for outreach and communication.
- Joe Chretien, chairman of the 2018 LLL Kansas District Convention, expressed the opinion that the publication of the LLL Kansas District news in hardcopy as well as by means of the internet should be considered.
- Keith Jopp suggested that posters be printed and mailed to congregations for display in their churches. These posters would contain basic information about the LLL/LHM.
- The meeting participants did not decide upon particular plans for enhancing the dissemination of news regarding the LLL/LHM activities and initiatives in Kansas.

Tim Voelker opened a discussion about the 2018 LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention, which will be hosted in Region 4 (northwest Kansas) of the LLL Kansas District.

- The scheduled date of the convention is Saturday, November 3, 2018. Only one session is planned for the afternoon of Saturday, November 3. As in the past, a banquet will be held in the evening.
- The Noble Men of Messiah club will host the convention at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main Street, Hays, Kansas (Zip code 67601-2938).
- Ed Malusky, president of the Nobel Men of Messiah club, and Joe Chretien, ambassador for Messiah Lutheran Church, will lead the local coordination of the convention.
- Speakers will include the following representatives from the International LLL headquarters.
  - Polly Gregali, LHM Ministry Resource Manager
  - Bervin Mirtsching, LHM Ministry Advancement Officer
  - Jason Broge, Associate Director, US Ministries Design and Development (featured speaker)
- The registration fee is \$15 per person, and that the banquet fee is \$15 per person. The registration deadline for the banquet is October 13, 2018.

Joe Chretien, co-chairman of the convention provided the following information.

- David Kruse, ambassador at Trinity Lutheran Church, Colby, and Secretary/Treasurer of Zone 15, is serving as registration coordinator and treasurer for the convention.
- Tim Voelker announced that a graphics designer at the International LLL headquarters would create a PDF document that will contain information about the convention and a registration form. This color flyer can be posted on the LLL Kansas web site and church web sites or Facebook pages. This color flyer can also be printed and distributed at Lutheran churches throughout Kansas.
- Requests for display tables during the convention should be sent to Joe Chretien. No charge will be assessed to the persons and organizations who wish to use the display tables.

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- A block of 15 rooms were reserved at the Days Inn by Wyndham in Hays, Kansas.
  - The address of the Days Inn is 3205 Vine Street, which is a few blocks south of the exit 159 on Interstate highway 70. (Vine Street is also US highway 183.)
  - Reservations can be made by calling telephone number 785-628-8261 or by emailing [daysinnhays@gmail.com](mailto:daysinnhays@gmail.com).
  - The cost is \$87.99 per night for a room for two persons.
  - A hospitality room will be requested

Arlen Schultz, vice president of the LLL Kansas District, provided a delicious lunch to the persons that attended the meeting. The meeting attendees contributed amounts of their choice to compensate Arlen Schulz for the expense of the lunch. Excess contributions were forwarded to the LLL Kansas District Project.

Ron Bott gave a report about the state fair worship service, which is scheduled for 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 9, at the Bretz and Young Injury Lawyers Arena on the Kansas State Fairgrounds.

- Rev. Peter Lange, president of the LCMS Kansas District, is the featured preacher.
- Tom Stanton, a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, Kansas, and the state fair worship service coordinator for 2019, will assist Rev. Lange.
- Barbara Guey, from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, Kansas, is the music director. A choir from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will sing at the service.
- Gary Neuschafer, Zone 12 secretary/treasurer, volunteered to assist with the service. Ron Bott thanked Gary Neuschafer, who was present at the meeting, for his help.
- A Thrivent Action Team grant was received to partially pay the cost of renting the arena. Consequently, the LLL Kansas District paid on \$950 to rent the arena.
- Rev. Peter Lange is to be paid a stipend of \$100.
- Rev. Peter Lange's overnight lodging at a nearby bed and breakfast inn is to be paid by an anonymous donor.
- The choir from Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will be paid \$100. A local Lutheran church will be reimbursed for the cost of printing the worship service bulletins.

Mike Tonn, chairman of the State Fair Booth committee, reported that the LLL/LHM booth will open at the Meadowlark Exhibit Hall from the beginning of the Kansas State Fair on Friday, September 7, through the end of the fair on Sunday, September 16, 2018. The following information about the fair booth was presented.

- For the first time, the International LLL headquarters provided special packets for distribution to persons who visited the booth. The International LLL headquarters also provided a sign, a fold-out display, and a table cloth for the booth. Mike Tonn expressed appreciation for these items, which improved the experience of the visitors to the booth.
- The booth is staffed by volunteers from Kansas churches in three-hour shifts: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
- 50 extra tickets were purchased for volunteers who staffed the booth.

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- Mike Tonn thanked Trinity Lutheran Church, Salina, Kansas for the distributable materials that it provided. Mike expressed appreciation to the several Kansas churches the donated printed materials for distribution to the fair attendees who visited the booth.
- Mike Tonn noted that hand-out materials were also gathered from the LWML Kansas District Convention, which occurred in Hutchinson, Kansas this year.
- It was reported that Ralph Unger, former president of the LLL Kansas District, from Oberlin, Kansas, organizes a pancake breakfast fundraising event each year to purchase Holy Bibles for distribution.

Tim Voelker reported that the 46<sup>th</sup> annual LLL Kansas District Golf Tournament occurred on Saturday, May 5, 2018, at the Village Greens Golf Course near Ozawkie, Kansas.

- President Voelker reported that 27 players participated in the tournament. He commented that no teams represented congregations in Topeka, Lawrence, or the Kansas City metropolitan area this year.
- \$624 was raised for the 2017-2018 Kansas District Project.
- The 47th annual LLL Kansas District Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2019, at the Village Greens Golf Course near Ozawkie, Kansas.

President Tim Voelker gave a brief report about information that he heard at the National Presidents Meeting and at the Sent Conference, which occurred from Friday, August 3, until Sunday, August 5, at the Phister Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

- The fundraising goal of the new "Sent" outreach campaign is \$242,000,000. As of the date of this meeting, approximately \$158,000,000 had been raised.
- The "Sent" campaign emphasizes outreach using social media. One of the focuses of this campaign is the THRED social media web site. The THRED outreach program utilizes social media to introduce the Gospel and Christian mores to the online community. The URL for the THRED home page is <https://thred.org/>.
- The THRED social media program has produced amazing results in reaching unchurched young people.
- The Barna Group has published their research in a monograph titled "Spiritual Conversations in a Digital Age".
- The Lutheran Hour has returned to Sirius XM radio. The Lutheran Hour is now available on IHeart Radio, Spotify, and Amazon.
- Rev. Dr. John A. Nunez, president of Concordia College, Bronx, New York, received the Walter A. Maier Award for Gospel Media.

The following topics were discussed during the "District Business" portion of the meeting.

- President Tim Voelker requested suggestions for the use of the distribution that was received this year from the LCMS Foundation investment account that contains funds from the Maier bequest.
  - Fred Gruhn suggested that a portion of the distribution be used to grant funds to pre-school and MOPS programs at Kansas churches. Fred Gruhn said that these church programs have proved to be effective outreach tools at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Olathe, Kansas.

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- Joe Chretien reported that the Saturday morning Mothers of Pre-schoolers program has successfully brought young families to Messiah Lutheran Church, Hays, Kansas.
- John Johnson recommended that consideration be given to making grants available for pre-school programs, local Cancer Companions programs, and local Worship Anew ministries to shut-ins and nursing homes.
- Tim Voelker suggested that board members be prepared to discuss their proposals for the use of the distribution from the Maike bequest at the board of governors meeting in January 2019.
- Tim Voelker told the group that he had spoken to the 2018 LCMS Kansas District Convention, which occurred from Thursday, June 7, through Saturday, June 9, at the Capital City Plaza Hotel in Topeka. He reported that he also showed a video. Tim Voelker reported that Verne Brobst, ambassador at St. John Lutheran Church, Topeka, had set up the LLL/LHM booth for the convention.
- Tim Voelker informed the meeting attendees that he would be unable to staff an LLL/LHM booth at the LCMS Kansas District Pastors Conference from Tuesday, September 30, through Friday, October 2, 2018, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Salina, Kansas.
  - He asked that one of the meeting attendees volunteer to set up and staff this booth or that the meeting participants recruit one or more volunteers so set up and staff the booth.
  - The deadline for reserving a booth is September 14. The cost of the booth is \$35 per display table.
- Tim Voelker reported that he would be unable to staff an LLL/LHM booth at the LCMS Kansas District Educators Conference from Sunday, October 14, through Tuesday, October 16, 2018, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Salina, Kansas.
  - He asked that one of the meeting attendees volunteer to set up and staff this booth or that the meeting participants recruit one or more volunteers so set up and staff the booth.
  - The deadline for reserving a booth is September 14. The cost of the booth is \$35 per display table.
- Tim Voelker announced that the following LLL Kansas District officers will be elected at the 2018 LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention for a two-year term (i.e., November, 2018 – November, 2020):
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Executive board representative for Region 2 (southeast Kansas)
  - Executive board representative for Region 4 (northwest Kansas)
  - Arlen Schultz, vice president of the LLL Kansas District, agreed to stand as a candidate for the office of president.
  - Keith Jopp, the incumbent executive board representative for Region 2, agreed to stand for reelection to that office.
  - President Voelker said that he expected that John White, the incumbent executive board representative for Region 4, would agree to stand for reelection to that office.

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- Tim Voelker reminded the meeting participants that Rev. Scott Snow's term as pastoral advisor would also end at the at the LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention on November 3, 2018. He requested that that district and zone officers and congregational ambassadors send him nominations for the next pastoral advisor.
- President Voelker requested that zone officer and ambassador information be sent to him during the summer or well before the printing deadline for the 2018 LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention manual in order to assure that the manual contains correct information. He also requested that updates and corrections of personal contact information be sent during the summer or well before the printing deadline for the 2018 LLL/LHM Kansas District Convention manual.
- The following information about fall zone rallies was discussed with the meeting participants.
  - Zone 3 – (Date and location was not yet determined.)
    - Richard Schrum volunteered to present the LLL Kansas District report this rally.
  - Zone 7 – November 4, 3:00 PM, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clay Center, Kansas
    - John Johnson volunteered to present the LLL Kansas District report this rally.
  - Zone 12 – Immanuel Lutheran Church, Canton, Kansas
    - Mark Westerman volunteered to present the LLL Kansas District report this rally.
  - Zone 15 – October 13, 10:00 AM, Trinity Lutheran Church, Colby, Kansas
    - Joe Chretien volunteered to present the LLL Kansas District report this rally.
- Arlen Schultz reported that a Bible class after school from 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM on Wednesday had proved to be a successful means of educating children about Christianity and of involving young families in Holyrood, Kansas.

The next Board of Governors meeting is scheduled to occur at 10:30 AM on Saturday, November 3, 2018, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2000 Main Street, Hays, Kansas.

There being no more business, Tim Voelker declared the meeting adjourned. Tim Voelker then closed with prayer.

Secretary,  
Richard Schrum