



Kansas District Board of Directors

May 8, 2026

President: Rev. Justin Panzer
Vice-Presidents: Rev. Alan Stahlecker, First Vice-President, Region 2
Rev. Michael Schotte, Second Vice-President, Region 3
Rev. Andrew Wehling, Third Vice-President, Region 1
Rev. Philip Hoppe, Fourth Vice-President, Region 4
Secretary: Rev. Joshua Woelmer
Treasurer: Mr. Brad Brunkow
Circuit Visitor Chair: Rev. Andy Keltner
Commissioned Ministers: Mr. Christopher Dehning
Mrs. Rachel Goodpasture
Deac. Bethany Stoever
Laity: Mr. Scott Bokelman
Hon. David Bruns
Mr. Curt Engelbrecht
Mr. Marvin Schulteis
Dr. Bruce Schultz
Mrs. Kara Titus
Mr. Mark Wolters
Lead Staff: Rev. Daniel Grams, Executive Assistant to the President for
Congregational and School Services
Mr. Jeff Maltz, LCEF Vice-President
Ms. Jackie Schaefer, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Heather Williams, Business Manager

Excused: none

Hon. Dave Bruns called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Rev. Andrew Wehling led our devotions, based upon 1 Corinthians 15. Our lives are full of remembering. We are reminded of events, to-do items, and much more. We need reminding because we forget. That was certainly the case with the church of Corinth. They had forgotten about the life of faith and the promise of the resurrection. We too need constant reminding of the gospel. Ever Easter we hear the message of Christ's Resurrection and its meaning for our lives—and we need this regular reminder because we are forgetful people. Furthermore, it is from faith and the new baptismal life that connects us to Christ's resurrection that we receive the ability to live our Christian lives in love for our neighbor.

The minutes for the previous regular Board meeting were approved as sent.

Several items were proposed for inclusion on the consent Agenda:

Resolution 26B-01-01 Acknowledgement of Quarterly Gifts

Resolved, that the Kansas District Board of Directors acknowledge the gifts received from January 16, 2026 to April 15, 2026 with the designation as follows:

Undesignated/Unrestricted	\$831.79
KansaSEED Deaf Ministry	\$250.00
LERT/Disaster	\$550.00
Ash Wednesday	\$510.00
Spring Hill Church Plant	\$2,900.00
Education Loan Repayment	\$15.00
Scholarship	\$15.00
Kansas Missions	\$150.00
West Africa	\$100.00
Total	\$5,321.79

Resolution 26B-06-01 – Christ, Wathena

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the Christ, Wathena Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 26B-06-02 – Christ, Overland Park

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the Christ, Overland Park Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 26B-06-03 – Trinity, Girard

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the Trinity, Girard Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 26B-06-04 – St. John’s, Lincolnvill

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the St. John’s, Lincolnvill Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 26B-06-05 – Redeemer, Lake Wabaunsee

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the Redeemer, Lake Wabaunsee Constitution and Bylaws.

Resolution 26B-06-06 – Designation of the October 2026 Pastors Conference Offering

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District Board of Directors approve the designation of the October 2026 Pastors Conference offering “to support church planting, church revitalization, and campus ministry in the LCMS Kansas District.”

Action: Consent agenda adopted

Staff and Board Reports

Rev. Justin Panzer, President, presented his report. He reported on Call Day that happened at both our seminaries; the Kansas District will receive three seminary candidates, two deaconesses, and two vicars. Across the Synod, though, there were 78 out of 157 congregations who did not

receive a candidate. The *Set Apart to Serve* initiative has begun to bear fruit; the Concordia System universities have seen increased attendance and interest in church work programs. He reported on calls throughout the District—both those congregations who have received pastors and the congregations that are still calling.

Pres. Panzer updated the Board on what is coming up with the Synod Convention. Several of our Board members have been placed on floor committees, which will meet later this month.

Mr. Curt Engelbrecht, chair of the Board of Caring Ministry, presented the report from their meeting. Mary Hume, Parish Nurse, was invited to give an overview of her recent trip to Ethiopia. It involved assisting parish nurses there who work in hospital and prison settings. They had the opportunity to provide medical care in addition to spiritual care. He spoke to the request from LERT to purchase a Bobcat. The board discussed pursuing a district-level adoption facilitation network. This would not be an adoption *agency* but would connect birth mothers and adoptive families within the Lutheran church and serve under the existing private adoption legal framework.

Rev. Dan Grams reported on the revitalization and church planting efforts that are underway across the District, especially in Spring Hill. Hillside Community Lutheran voted to close and sell their property to the District; that sale process is almost concluded. There have been 10–25 people who have attended the 3:00 Bible studies that occur on Sunday afternoons. The training process has started with Rev. Cundiff at the LCMS. He highlighted the work at Immanuel Hispanic to encourage Pastor Daniel Jordan Martinez in his part-time work there. He is being mentored by Rev. Jim Bender, and the goal is to get Pastor Martinez to full-time pastoral ministry. He encourages congregations to do SEO work through Rev. Chris Jackson. The presentations of the Campus Ministries at the LWML Convention were very warmly received; the ladies appreciated seeing the fruit of their mites bear fruit in the ongoing support of faith at universities across the state.

Mr. Marvin Schulteis (co-chair) gave the report for the Board of Missions. He highlighted the grant to the Family Discipleship Facilitator Training put on by Concordia Center for the Family, to assist those from Kansas who wish to attend on June 1–3 or June 15–19.

Rev. Dan Grams gave us good news regarding the work of the legislature to allow for NLSA to be recognized by the State of Kansas; we have a path forward for our schools to receive NLSA accreditation and be recognized by the State rather than get accredited by the State directly as one school district. Furthermore, the state SGO funding has continued and been expanded this year; we anticipate the federal tax credit being opened in 2027. The 2025–26 Impact has meant that 63 scholarships have been awarded, nine schools participating, and \$100,000 in scholarships.

Dr. Bruce Schultz (chair) gave the report of the Board of Education and Youth. The new schools that are starting up are encouraging. He gave an overview of the plan to fill the coordinator positions in New Business.

Mr. Jeff Maltz, LCEF Vice-President, presented his report. The LCEF Kansas District has 74 loans with a balance of almost \$23 million, and it has 3180 investors with just under \$63 million invested. There have been no loans approved or paid off in this quarter. He introduced Frank Kremer to the Board; he is the new Assistant Vice-President for his team. He announced that the LCEF Outreach Ministry Grant application opens in May–June.

Mrs. Heather Williams gave her report. Congregational giving is reported at 31% of the total annual budget, and expenses are reported at 26% of budget. Synod Convention assessments continue to come in; they are due June 30. She prepared for the two audit processes: the 2025 District Audit to the LCMS Internal Audit and the 2025 KLSSF with Adams Brown LLC. She completed a 2026 grant application to the Bolick Foundation, requesting \$75,000 to benefit campus ministry, Faith@Work, church planting and revitalization, and Hispanic ministry. The purchase of the Spring Hill church property is almost ready to close. The St. John Lutheran School will be moving out of the District Office on May 27 following the end of the school year, and she will be restoring the space back into conference use, along with some technology updates.

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.
The Board exited Executive Session.

Mr. Brad Brunkow presented the Treasurer’s Report. He presented the financial dashboard, the balance sheets, the statement of activities, and the budget-to-actual tables. Our financial standing looks good.

Dave Bruns, chair of the combined Boards of Administration and Stewardship, gave its report, noting that most of the information in it had already been mentioned by Heather and Brad.

Ms. Jackie Schaefer, Communications Specialist, presented her report. She has primarily been working on migrating Publisher files over to Canva or Adobe InDesign; over 655 were identified and reviewed. Many were past documents and converted to PDF format, while forty were converted into editable formats. She revised and sent out the 2026 Pentecost Offering materials. She summarized her regular work on the monthly District publications, social media, and email communications. She will be working on a communications resource for the Kansas District congregations and schools, and sending out a survey about the Workers Together newsletter.

Rev. Joshua Woelmer gave his report on the Congregational Constitutions & Bylaws Review Committee and the District Bylaws & Operations Manual Committee. He provided the upcoming procedures leading up to the Synod Convention, including the floor committee meetings and election for the Synod President. He will provide a report on the Synod Convention’s impact to the District and its circuits at the next BOD meeting. He answered questions on congregational constitutions and bylaws, especially regarding those that are not on file or who have lapsed or withdrawn from the amendment process.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Resolution 26B-02-01 – To Purchase a MT120 Bobcat and Trailer

Whereas, LCMS Kansas District LERT would greatly benefit from the purchase of a Bobcat to aid in disaster clean-up; and

Whereas, King of Kings, Gardner has offered to securely house the equipment for safe keeping and maintenance; and

Whereas, LCMS Disaster Response may provide a grant for up to 50 percent of the cost; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District expense up to \$35,000 from a contingency fund to purchase a MT120 Bobcat from Salina Bobcat and a trailer from KFour Sales; and be it finally

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District make a financial appeal to LCMS Kansas District congregations and members to help offset this cost for disaster purposes.

Action: Adopted

Resolution 26B-02-02 – To Provide a \$1500 Stipend to King of Kings, Gardner

Whereas, King of Kings, Gardner is the most active LERT chapter in the LCMS Kansas District; and

Whereas, King of Kings has agreed to securely house the equipment for safe keeping and maintenance; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the LCMS Kansas District provide King of Kings with an annual stipend of \$1500 to help offset the cost of the insurance (\$1000) and annual maintenance (\$500) with monies for this year taken out of the contingency fund and then budgeted for in future years.

Action: Adopted

Resolution 26B-03-01 – To extend a contract to fill the position of District School Ministry Coordinator for the 2026-2027 year

Resolved, the Kansas District Board of Directors issue a contract to Commissioned Teacher, Jane Limback, to serve as School Ministry Coordinator, pursuant to the position description in the District Operations Manual, at an annual amount of \$20,000, effective June 1, 2026.

Action: Adopted

Resolution 26B-03-02 – To extend a contract to fill the position of Youth Ministry Coordinator

Resolved, the Kansas District Board of Directors issue a contract to Commissioned DCE, Amanda Adams, to serve as Youth Ministry Coordinator, pursuant to the position description in the District Operations Manual, at an annual amount of \$8,000, effective June 1, 2026.

Action: Adopted

Pres. Panzer continued with the announcements.

Announcements

• Future BOD Meetings

- August 7, 2026 (*Zoom service boards; Friday in-person meeting dates*)
- November 6, 2026 (*Zoom service boards; Friday in-person meeting dates*)
- February 5, 2027 (*Zoom service boards; Zoom BOD*)

- May 7, 2027 (*Zoom service boards; Friday in-person meeting dates*)
- August 6, 2027 (*Zoom service boards; Friday in-person meeting dates*)
- November 5, 2027 (*Zoom service boards; Friday in-person meeting dates*)
- February 4, 2028 (*Zoom service boards; Zoom BOD*)
- May 5, 2028 – BOD in person, District Office, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, May 4, 2028 (BOD farewell dinner)
- 69th LCMS Convention @ Phoenix, AZ
 - Floor Committee Weekend – May 29 – June 1, 2026 @ St. Louis
 - Convention Dates – July 18–23, 2026

The board adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Closing prayer was led by Rev. Justin Panzer.

Respectfully,
Rev. Joshua J. Woelmer, Secretary

DRAFT