

March Texas District Board of Directors Meeting Recap

As the board members gathered for their meeting during Holy Week, Member David Baldner opened the meeting with a devotion and song. President Newman then set the tone by reminding everyone of the ultimate mission – God's mission – embodied in the sacrifice of His Son on the cross. It was this profound act of love that motivates their work to share the transformative power of the Gospel and bring light into a world overshadowed by sin, death, and despair.

With all members present, the president's report highlighted the ongoing commitment to ensuring alignment with Synod. Secretary Hesse's diligent review of the by-laws aimed to ensure that the organization remained responsive to any changes discussed at the last LCMS Synod Convention.

Of particular interest was the discussion surrounding the integration of background checks into the call process for congregations. While seminary students already underwent such checks, a proposal was made to extend this practice to all congregations, a decision that would require careful consideration and research into the practices of other districts.

Expressions of gratitude were extended to the Constitution Committee for their dedicated service and to the Vice Presidents for their efforts in realigning circuits to meet the minimum requirements of confirmed members.

Looking ahead, the board anticipates seminary placements, alternate route calls, and vicarage and deaconess assignments, recognizing the vital role these appointments play in sustaining and nurturing the district's future leadership.

Excitement filled the room as news of the approval for a new church start in Dallas was announced, reflecting the vibrant growth within the district. With 38 congregations on the path to being chartered, the board gave thanks for what is happening in Texas.

Treasurer Linda Hagge also addressed financial matters, grateful for the generosity of congregations, allowing the Texas District to contribute more to the Synod than previously anticipated. As final touches were being made to the new building projects, preparations were underway for the upcoming audit and treasurer workshop about insurance concerns.

Texas District CEF Executive Director Becca Jones provided an update, and the March 4 CEF board meetings were approved.

Amid the challenge of finding workers for the harvest, the overarching theme from the Texas District Mission Team remained one of steadfast dedication to catalyzing a mission movement. Six new churches have been planted in 2024 with a goal of 12.

As the board concluded their meeting, hearts and minds were uplifted in prayer for the continued guidance and blessings upon their collective efforts to serve the Kingdom of God.