SYNOPSIS OF LLC BOARD MEETING
October 27, 2018
Laestadian Lutheran Church Office-Loretto, MN

The following is a synopsis of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Laestadian Lutheran Church (LLC) held on October 27, 2018, at the Laestadian Lutheran Church Office in Loretto, MN. Attending the October meeting were 14 directors. Jim Jurmu was in Ecuador. Others in attendance included: Eric Jurmu, Executive Director; Jon Bloomquist, Mission Work Director; Adrian Pirness, Christian Education Director; Matthew Keranen, Publications Director; Elizabeth Juntunen, Recording Secretary/Finance Manager; Jouko Haapsaari, LLC Shared Pastor and Translator; Eero Nuolioja, Finnish Guest Minister; Harri Vahajylkka (via iMeet), LLC Shared Pastor; Retired LLC Board Member, Don Lahti.

Following is a summary of meeting items:

Opening: The meeting opened with a prayer and devotion by John Stewart, speaking from Romans 10:10-17.

Welcome and Overview: Jim Frantti welcomed all to the meeting and extended a special welcome to visiting SRK minister Eero Nuolioja. We have been thankful for the unity of spirit with our sister organizations.

Greetings/General Spiritual Items:
Eero Nuolioja relayed greetings from the SRK Board and staff, Opisto boards, and also from the LLC congregations he served on his month-long mission trip. He expressed thankfulness for the unity of faith and commented that they believe the same in Finland as we do here. Eero also noted the many work forms in Finland in support of youth and homes and families.
The Board heard reports about matters discussed in Southern Minnesota that continue to effect throughout Zion. There remains concern that a different voice and teaching is causing the unrest. The Board discussion around these matters was united in understanding, and the unity of the Holy Spirit was felt among all who were present at the meeting. The work moves forward with prayerful hearts that God will clarify questions and concerns in His time and that God will grant guidance in these and all matters.
The LLC Ministers and Wives Camp at PSC also discussed current matters in addition to the life and calling of ministers and wives; free and open discussions prevailed. LLC Bible camp at HLC also focused around timely matters.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the July 5 and 7, 2018, LLC Board meetings in Snohomish, Washington, were approved.

Financial Report:
Elizabeth Juntunen gave the 3rd quarter financial report. Total checking and savings are at $454,100 which includes $136,000 held for designated purposes. The loans for Kamp Kipa, Stony Lake, and Silver Springs Land are $1,023,500. Total income is $1,683,700 and expenses are $1,861,000. Dues are down from last year but came in stronger in October. We expect to have a break-even budget at year-end.

Communications Items: Eric Jurmu gave an update to the Board on several items

1. The 2019 LLC Summer Services will be hosted by the Rockford Laestadian Lutheran Church on LLC property at Silver Springs. The dates are July 4-7, 2019, and the motto for the services is, *It is I; be not afraid* (John 6:20). Andrew Skoog is the planning chairman for 2019 Summer Services.
2. Jurmu noted a few schedule changes for 2019 Summer Services. Due to the additional work setting up the site, services will begin Thursday afternoon and end later on Sunday afternoon. A group Sunday school was added as well as scheduled times for congregational singing.
3. The 2019 LLC Phoenix Winter Services will be held February 21-24. The motto for the services is, *Fight the good fight of faith* (1 Timothy 6:12).
4. Future Summer Services sites have been approved by the LLC Board and are as follows:

2019 Summer Services, Midwestern (Rockford)	July 4-7
2020 Summer Services, Eastern (Ishpeming)	July 2-5
2021 Summer Services, Midwestern (No MN)	July 1-4
2022 Summer Services, Western (Longview)	July 1-4
2023 Summer Services, Midwestern (Monticello)	June 30 – July 3
2024 Summer Services, Midwestern (Sask)	July 4-7

   That Board approved a request by the Laestadian Lutheran Church of Elk River to host Summer services at the next available turn in the Midwestern Area.
5. Jurmu gave an office update. Love and unity of spirit prevail among the staff. This is very comforting.
   The Silver Springs Management Committee (SSMC) is working to prepare the site for 2019 Summer Services. A local construction company has donated hours of labor and equipment in leveling areas for service tents and building roads. Some seeding has been done; the rest will be done early in the spring. Needs at the Silver Springs property beyond 2019 Summer Services are unknown at this time.
   Matt Keranen has settled in as LLC Publications Director. Jessica Nikula is now serving as LLC Coordinator. Maria Fredrickson and Brita Fredrickson are sharing the Admin Assistant duties as part-time employees. In addition to normal office duties, Maria is working to maintain the LLC archives, and Brita is working with Publications.
   Construction of the two bunkhouses and sauna building at SLC are in the finishing phases. The construction of the pavilion is planned for the spring of 2019. The project remains within budget.

Prairie Shores Camp (PSC) has served the believers well. Some tweaks with the facilities will take place after the camp season. The camp remains under the direction of the congregations in Western Canada and Williston ND.

A draft agenda is in place for the May 2-5, 2019 meetings between SRK-LLC-SFC in Sweden. The SRK is making additional plans for meetings and services in Finland following the meetings in Sweden.

Committee Reports: The Board heard reports from the following Board Committees.

Personnel/Facilities Committee: The Board approved the 2019 Wage-Benefit package and hiring full kitchen staff for Hasscib Lake Camp during July and August 2019. Personnel changes will happen prior to the 2019 camp season. JoAnn Vonada retires as the SLC Kitchen Manager and Dave Vonada as SLC caretaker. Bernice Riutta retires as HLC Kitchen Manager. Camp Boards and the LLC Facility and Personnel Committees are facilitating communication about these openings and hiring of replacements.

Finance Committee: The Board approved the amended 2018 budget and 2018 auditor, Sarah Muhonen.

Christian Education: There were 17 applications for 14 scholarships to attend Opisto in 2020. All the students have been contacted, and we are waiting for them to indicate if they accept the scholarship. A survey on Bible Class activity was sent to congregations requesting input on how the Christian Education department can offer support. A video update focusing on the camp enrollment system and enrollment information for the 2019 camp season is being finalized and will be sent to congregations. Plans are being made to send a teacher from the LLC to serve at a confirmation camp in Finland in 2019.

Mission Work Committee: The Kessibo (Togo) facility is now in the final phase of completion. The ELLT (Togo) is tentatively planning to hold dedication services in connection with the January mission trip. The national board and congregations are committed to establishing a legally registered organization in Ecuador. The Board approved the 2020 Finland-Sweden Trip Minister Proposal.

Pastoral Committee: The annual ministers teleconference will be held on Thursday, November 1. The Pastoral Committee continues to oversee a column in the VZ entitled *Doctrine and Life*. The Board approved the topic, *If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.* (1 John 1:7) as topic for 2019 LLC Phoenix Winter Services congregational discussion.

Publications Committee: The Board approved continued development of social media presence, and implementation of an LLC Social Media strategy. The Board also approved continued development of podcast planning and strategy. A Publications Workshop will be held in the Spring of 2019 for congregation publication coordinators, committee members, and LLC publications staff.

New Business: The Board dealt with the following new business items.

1. The Board approved the 2019 LLC Operating Plan and Budget as proposed to the 2018 LLC Annual Meeting.