



# Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

## Official Minutes of Business Meeting Tuesday, June 7, 2016

### Call to Order

The 2016 World Conference convened in its fourth legislative meeting at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 7, 2016, in the Conference Chamber of the Auditorium, Independence, Missouri. President Stephen M. Veazey was in the chair.

### Opening Hymn and Prayer

The assembly sang the opening hymn, “O Senhor é a minha força (In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful),” led by Dr. Jan K. Kraybill at the organ. Evgeniya A. Lyakhova from Russia in the Eurasia Mission Centre offered the invocation.

### Announcements

World Conference Director Susan K. Naylor was recognized to make several announcements and to conduct polling on a demographic question. The results:

Language	Percent	Count
Nederlands (Dutch)	1.52%	27
English	75.21%	1,338
Français (French)	11.97%	213
Deutsche (German)	0.34%	6
한국어 (Korean)	0.39%	7
ଓଡ଼ିଆ (Oriya)	0.51%	9
Português (Portuguese)	2.42%	43
Русский (Russian)	0.62%	11
Español (Spanish)	3.2%	57
Reo Tahiti (Tahitian)	3.82%	68
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,779</b>

### Welcoming New Church Leaders to the Rostrum

President Veazey welcomed the following newly ordained leaders to their places on the rostrum: Apostles Janné C. Grover, Robin K. Linkhart, and Lachlan E. Mackay, and David N. Anderson, president of the Quorum of High Priests.

### Announcement: Submitting Amendments

The chair made the following announcement about submitting amendments:

Those delegates who wish to move an amendment to any of the items of business to come before the Conference are advised to submit these in writing to the World Church secretary, Susan Sloan, as soon as possible. Having these submitted electronically would be most helpful. In this way, the translators can prepare the necessary PowerPoint slides and can be prepared when you move your amendment. The early submission of proposed amendments does not guarantee the amendment will be considered. Those

who wish to move an amendment still must seek the floor at the appropriate time and be recognized to speak to and move the amendment. If you need assistance in drafting your amendment, you may visit with one of the Conference parliamentarians.

### **Officers of the Council of Twelve (F-1)**

President Veazey relinquished the chair to President K. Scott Murphy who read the following announcement concerning officers of the Council of Twelve of Apostles:

*To the World Conference:*

On June 7, 2016, the Council of Twelve unanimously sustained Apostle Linda L. Booth as president of the Council of Twelve and Apostle Barbara L. Carter as secretary of the Council of Twelve.

*The First Presidency*

The assembly offered its thanks to Apostles Booth and Carter with applause.

### **Council of Twelve Assignments**

President Murphy read the following Council of Twelve assignments:

#### **Mareva M. Arnaud Tchong**

Pacific and East Asia Mission Field  
 Australia Mission Centre  
 French Polynesia Mission Centre  
 Pacific Island Mission Centre  
 East Asia Mission Centre  
 East Asia Mission Centre president

#### **Linda L. Booth**

South Central USA Mission Field  
 Ark-La-Tex USA Mission Center  
 Coastal Bend USA Mission Center  
 Heart of Texas USA Mission Center  
 Mid-South USA Mission Center  
 Oklahoma USA Mission Center  
 Rio Grande USA Mission Center  
 Council of Twelve Apostles president  
 Communications director

#### **Barbara L. Carter**

Southeast USA Mission Field  
 Alabama-Northwest Florida USA Mission Center  
 Bountiful USA Mission Center  
 Brush Creek USA Mission Center  
 Florida USA Mission Center  
 Gulf USA Mission Center  
 Kentucky-Indiana USA Mission Center  
 South Central States USA Mission Center

Southeast USA Mission Center  
Western Ohio USA Mission Center  
Council of Twelve Apostles secretary  
Ecumenical and interfaith officer  
Open Table  
Spectacular and International Youth Forum

**Bunda C. Chibwe**

Africa Mission Field

Congo Katanga Mission Center  
Ivory Coast and Togo Mission Centre  
Kenya Mission Centre  
Liberia and Sierra Leone Mission Centre  
Malawi Mission Centre  
Nigeria Mission Centre  
South Central Africa Mission Centre  
West Congo Kinshasa Mission Center

**Janné C. Grover**

Central USA Mission Field

Central USA Mission Center  
Central USA Missouri Mission Center  
Far West USA Mission Center  
Gateway USA Mission Center  
Midlands USA Mission Center

Disciple and Priesthood Formation Team lead

**Ronald D. Harmon Jr.**

Western USA Mission Field

Arizona USA Mission Center  
Greater Pacific Northwest USA Mission Center  
Pacific Southwest International Mission Center  
Rocky Mountain USA Mission Center  
Sierra Pacific USA Mission Center

USA Apostle Team lead

Leading Congregations in Mission

Pacific Southwest International Mission Center president

**Richard C.N. James**

Eurasia Mission Field

British Isles Mission Centre  
Western Europe Mission Center  
Eurasia Mission Centre

Multi-nations Apostles Team lead

**Robin K. Linkhart**

North Central USA Mission Field

Cedar Valley-Nauvoo USA Mission Center  
Chicago USA Mission Center

Headwaters USA Mission Center  
Inland West USA Mission Center  
Lamoni Heartland USA Mission Center  
Prairie Bluffs USA Mission Center  
Restoration-heritage Seeker Ministry

**Rick W. Maupin**

South Central/Southeast Asia Mission Field  
Caribbean Mission Field  
Caribbean Mission Center  
Dominican Republic Mission Center  
Nepal Mission Center  
South Central Asia Mission Center  
Southeast Asia Mission Center  
Abolish Poverty, End Suffering initiatives  
Caribbean Mission Center president  
South Central Asia Mission Center president

**Lachlan E. Mackay**

North East USA Mission Field  
Chesapeake Bay USA Mission Center  
Eastern Great Lakes USA Mission Center  
Michigan USA Mission Center  
Mid-Atlantic USA Mission Center  
New England USA Mission Center  
Historic Sites director  
Church History and Sacred Story Ministries Team lead

**Carlos Enrique Mejia**

Central and South America Mission Field  
Central America Mission Center  
Brazil Mission Center  
Southern Cone of South America Mission Center  
Northwest South America Mission Center

**Arthur E. Smith**

Canada, Haiti, Mexico Mission Field  
Canada East Mission Centre  
Canada West Mission Centre  
Haiti Great North Mission Center  
Haiti Great South Mission Center  
Mexico-Texas Mexico/USA Mission Center  
Indigenous Peoples Ministry

The assembly offered its support with applause following the reading of the assignments.

President Murphy then relinquished the chair to President Veazey.

**Report of the Presiding Bishopric (D-1)**

The chair called attention to item D-1 Report of the Presiding Bishopric in the *Financials* booklet beginning in English, Spanish, and French on page 4.

Presiding Bishop Stassi D. Cramm and her counselors spoke to the report. During the report several individuals also provided further information as follows:

Bishop Kornelis (Kees) Compier provided a report specifically about how the church is gaining momentum with the call to Abolish Poverty, End Suffering. Dar M. Shepherdson, bishop of Canada, provided comments on the Canadian Endowment and ministries in Canada. Catherine C. Mambwe, bishop for Africa, and Mark A. Euritt, bishop of generosity for the Multi-nation Team, shared stories of generosity from their areas of ministry. David H.M. Nii, USA bishop, and Richard Betts, minister of generosity for the USA fields, shared about new opportunities to use technology in the USA fields.

**Recess**

The chair indicated that following the singing of the hymn, “Bwana Awabariki,” under the leadership of Apostle Janné C. Grover, the assembly would be in recess to reconvene at 2:00 that afternoon. The hymn was sung, and the assembly recessed at 12:04 p.m.

**Reconvene**

President Veazey called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The assembly sang the hymn, “From You I Receive,” led by Pamela K. Robison on the organ.

**Report of the Presiding Bishopric—Continued**

The assembly engaged in questions and answers with the Presiding Bishopric on the report provided during the morning.

**Afternoon Recess**

Without objection, the assembly stood in recess at 3:09 p.m.

**Reconvene**

President Veazey called the assembly back to order at 3:32 p.m. He indicated that, in evaluating the agenda for the remainder of the meeting, the time for questions on the Presiding Bishopric report had ended. He further said that if persons had additional questions, they should send them to the Presiding Bishopric. The Presiding Bishopric then would create another communication of frequently asked questions and answers.

The chair then asked Presiding Bishop Stassi D. Cramm to respond to an earlier question regarding staff layoffs. Bishop Cramm clarified that regarding several positions downsized in September 2015, in some cases the mission center or local budgets assumed the financial responsibility to retain the positions. In addition, several people agreed to continue in their positions to help prepare and conduct World Conference.

**Worldwide Mission Budget Projections (D-3)**

The chair called attention to item D-3 Worldwide Mission Budget Projections in the *Financials* booklet beginning in English on page 26, and in Spanish and in French on page 27. The text of the resolution:

*To the World Conference:*

In harmony with WCR 1289, the World Church Finance Board has the responsibility to approve Worldwide Mission Budget projections for recommendation to the World Conference.

We are presenting for your consideration these recommended budget projections for approval by the 2016 World Conference. These projections cover the inter-Conference period from fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017—June 30, 2018) through fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020).

Worldwide Mission Budget Projections:

Fiscal Year 2018	\$17.97 million
Fiscal Year 2019	\$18.51 million
Fiscal Year 2020	\$19.07 million

*The First Presidency*

Kathleen E. Hnatyshyn moved approval of these budget projections. There was a second, after which Bishop Steven E. Graffeo shared information on the projections. There was no discussion. The vote was taken with the polling devices, and the result was 1,856 in favor and 164 opposed. The chair declared the motion approved.

#### **World Church Budgeting and Audit Process (D-4)**

The chair called the assembly's attention to item D-4 World Church Budgeting and Audit Process, submitted by the First Presidency and the Presiding Bishopric. The item was in the *Financials* booklet beginning in English, Spanish, and French on page 27. The chair summarized the primary changes proposed in the budget policy. The full resolution:

Whereas, WCR 1289 authorized the World Church Finance Board to approve the annual Worldwide Mission Budget; and

Whereas, An essential part of a responsible budget-approval process is for the body approving the budget also to have the authority to review and approve the report of the auditors for the account period immediately prior to the budget being considered; and

Whereas, The practice of the church since 1918 has been for the First Presidency to appoint an "auditor or auditors" (WCR 787) and for this audit to be presented to and approved by the World Conference; and

Whereas, The World Conference meets only once every three years, which means the annual report of the auditors cannot be approved in a timely manner to help in budget development and approval; and

Whereas, The World Conference of 1994 authorized the Presiding Bishopric to consolidate church funds in support of mission through creation of a Stewardship Foundation; and

Whereas, The Presiding Bishopric determined that income to the Worldwide Mission Budget generated by the Stewardship Foundation funds should be made available to the

budget as an annual allocation without the necessity of the Stewardship Foundation, oversight committees (Executive Committee and Mission Support Fund Committee), and related administrative processes; and

Whereas, In 2010, The Corporate Body of the Presidency, Presiding Bishopric, and president of the Council of Twelve Apostles in consultation with the World Church Finance Board dissolved the Stewardship Foundation in accordance with the Operating Guidelines of the Stewardship Foundation; and

Whereas, The electronic response system makes it difficult to elect persons to the World Church Finance Board in groups of 15; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That WCR 1289 be amended to read as follows:

### **World Church Audit and Budget Development Policy**

1. The World Conference shall establish a World Church Finance Board, which shall have responsibility for annually reviewing and approving the World Church audit, approving the annual Worldwide Mission Budgets, and making recommendations to the World Conference concerning special appropriations. The board shall present projections to each World Conference for annual budgets for the next inter-Conference period. These projections shall be based on the best estimates of potential church income and expenses, but they shall not bind the World Church Finance Board in developing and approving annual Worldwide Mission Budgets should circumstances change and income levels vary. The World Conference shall discuss these projections, and the input gained shall be considered by the World Church Finance Board in the formulation and final approval of these annual budgets.
2. The World Conference may establish parameters to be followed by the World Church Finance Board in developing and approving the annual Worldwide Mission Budgets.
3. The World Church Finance Board shall be presided over by the First Presidency and shall be composed of up to sixty (60) persons as follows:
  - First Presidency (3)
  - Council of Twelve (12)
  - Presiding Bishopric (3)
  - Bishops elected by the Order of Bishops (9)
  - President, High Priest Quorum (1)
  - Senior president of seventy (1)
  - Presiding evangelist (1)
  - Thirty (30) members elected by the World Conference to represent the church at-large, with each being elected for a six-year term with terms staggered so fifteen (15) are elected at each World Conference.
4. The First Presidency is authorized to appoint board members when vacancies occur between World Conferences.
5. Elected members of the World Church Finance Board shall be church members in good standing and may not serve more than twelve (12) years on the board.
6. Funds to cover the travel expenses of members of the World Church Finance Board shall be provided from the Worldwide Mission Budget.

7. Nominations for the members of the World Church Finance Board to be elected by the World Conference shall be made by the First Presidency in consultation with the Presiding Bishopric. These candidates shall be nominated in three groups of five positions. In addition to these nominees, each World Conference shall provide for other nominations to be made from the floor sufficiently in advance of the election to allow biographical sketches of the nominees made available to the World Conference prior to the election. Delegates offering a nomination from the floor shall indicate the group for which the candidate is being nominated. If more than 15 nominees are received from the floor the First Presidency is authorized to adjust this process to accommodate the nominations while still allowing the electronic response system to be used for the election process. In the nomination process, attention shall be given to balanced representation, including such factors as vocation, geographic residence, age, gender, church leadership experience, and church jurisdiction. The five nominees receiving the most votes in each of the three groups shall be declared elected.
8. A team will be appointed by the First Presidency and shall provide the necessary preliminary preparation of the budget. This committee will be composed of World Church personnel responsible for church programming, finance, and field ministries.
9. The annual audit and budget shall be made available on the church website. An annual report on the audit and budget shall be published in the *Herald*, and a summary report shall be made to each World Conference.

The chair recognized Bishop Michele K. McGrath, who provided a statement regarding the resolution and then moved approval of the motion. There was a second.

The chair offered the following ruling:

Whenever a resolution requires previous notice before it can be considered, and especially if that resolution modifies something adopted previously by the World Conference, there is a requirement of previous notice (*WCR 1290: All business must be submitted 120 days prior to the World Conference*).

When previous notice is required, the assembly is not permitted to offer amendments outside the scope of the notice. This means a delegate cannot offer an amendment that takes advantage of a slight proposed change to offer a much broader change.

The resolution now before the assembly seeks to change WCR 1289 by making four specific changes.

Therefore, amendments to the resolution before us that do not relate to these specific changes in WCR 1289 would be outside the scope of the previous notice and would not be in order.

Please keep this in mind if you are considering amendments to this resolution. The scope of notice is between what exists now and what is proposed if the resolution is adopted. Nothing broader than this is in order by way of amendment.

Thomas L. Webber, Greater Pacific Northwest USA Mission Center, was recognized for a question on the second column of page 27, indicating the resolution seems to speak of rescinding WCR 1289 in its



entirety and asking if this was amending or rescinding this resolution. The chair indicated that WCR 1289 was being amended.

William A. Baldwin, Midlands USA Mission Center, moved to amend item D-4 by striking out words in two locations. The chair ruled that such an amendment was not in order since our parliamentary authority, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, indicates that amendments must be to consecutive words and not in several separate locations.

After considerable further debate, Judith K. Pfohl, Cedar Valley-Nauvoo USA Mission Center, moved to close debate. There was a second. The vote was taken to close debate with the polling devices. The results were 1,612 in favor and 138 opposed. The chair declared the motion to close debate had passed by the required two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote.

The vote then was taken on Item D-4 with the results being 1,835 in favor and 250 opposed. The chair declared item D-4 as originally proposed was approved.

### **Worship Service Wednesday Morning**

The chair announced that the following morning after the meetings of the quorums, councils, orders, mass meetings, and caucuses there would be a worship service in the Conference Chamber beginning at 10:30. Everyone was instructed that for this worship delegate seating would be in place, and everyone should sit in their delegations with visitors not sitting in the delegate sections. It further was indicated the Presidency's intention was to move seamlessly from this worship experience into the morning business meeting.

### **Closing Hymn and Prayer**

The assembly closed for the day by singing the hymn, "O Lord, Hear My Prayer." Martha Johnson from Grand Cayman in the Caribbean Mission Center offered the closing prayer.

The assembly adjourned at 4:47 p.m. to meet again at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

Susan D. Sloan  
*World Church Secretary*