

## **AFLC COMMITTEE #1 – ADMINISTRATION**

*(Chair - Mrs. Amy Dalager, Argyle, MN; Secretary - Rev. Jim Johnson, Fergus Falls, MN; Mr. Timothy Erhardt, Lake Stevens, WA; Rev. Stephen Mundfrom, Valley City, ND; Mr. Vic Wiczorek, Mount Vernon, SD)*

1. **WHEREAS**, the AFLC has a great heritage of commitment to and dependence upon the truth of the inspired and inerrant Word of God, which is the only reliable revelation of Jesus Christ, “the Way, the Truth, and the Life” (John 14:6),  
**AND WHEREAS**, many individuals and churches have failed to accept the Word of God as truth,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that the AFLC continue to affirm its stand on the complete reliability of the written Word of God and encourage each local congregation to do the same, fulfilling our responsibility as watchmen.
  
2. **WHEREAS** God has blessed the AFLC with countless pastors who have been faithful watchmen, and has recently supplied ten graduates from our seminary in answer to prayer,  
**AND WHEREAS** there are many congregations without a regular full-time pastor,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God that He cares about this need,  
**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we urgently beseech the Lord of the harvest to supply pastors for our congregations.
  
3. **WHEREAS** our Fundamental Principles grew from Georg Sverdrup’s dream of what the Spirit of God could do in the local congregation,  
**AND WHEREAS** a new study on the Biblical foundation for the Fundamental Principles of the AFLC is being prepared,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray that a qualified editor will become available so that this material can be used by all our congregations,  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we urge board meetings in local congregations to take one Fundamental Principle each month of the year and discuss its application for today.
  
4. **WHEREAS** we have seen past growth in the number of member congregations and a recent plateau in that growth,  
**AND WHEREAS** we believe we are dependent on the Holy Spirit to work through the Word of God to bring spiritual life to individuals,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we humble ourselves before Almighty God, that He may show us from His Word whether we are to blame for any plateau, so that we may experience His mercy in Christ,  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we remain faithful to God’s Word and pray that God would help us plant seeds in our local communities and pray that God will bring forth an increase.
  
5. **WHEREAS** 2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to prepare for this observance, in order to draw attention to what God did in the church and the culture through Martin Luther, a man moved by God’s Word and His Spirit.
  
6. **WHEREAS** current Corporation By-Laws conflict with our Rules for Work regarding term limits for corporation and board members,  
**AND WHEREAS** the Rules for Work #10 currently states:  
The annual conference shall nominate members for the following boards and corporations of the AFLC: Coordinating Committee, Board of Trustees and Corporation of the Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, Board and Corporation of Missions, Board of Publications Parish Education, Youth Board, Stewardship Board and Benefits Board. The editor of the church organ shall be nominated by the Annual Conference.
  - a. No member can serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Rules for Work #10a be amended to: No *board* member can serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

7. **BE IT RESOLVED** that we welcome the new congregations that have been accepted into the AFLC Trinity Lutheran, Dixon, CA; Our Saviour's Lutheran, Patterson, CA and Maranatha Lutheran, Ulen, MN.

8. **WHEREAS** Pastors - John Wesley Johanson (7/15/2014), Samuel Flores (9/3/14), Harlan Johnson (1/11/2015), Karnig Kazanjian (3/21/2015), and Ron Gallerson (3/25/15), have passed on to the Church Triumphant since last year's conference,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for their years of faithful service.

9. **BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks to God for the years of service of Pastor Dick Gunderson as Assistant to the President and Mr. Cory Buck as Director of Business Management, and that we thank Andy Anderson and Mark Lindgren for their help while the new Business Manager was being secured; and for God's supply of Pastor Terry Olson as the new Assistant to the President, Emily Goff as the new Director of Business Management, and Ben Olson as the new IT Manager.

10. **WHEREAS** the Coordinating Committee has requested a conference subsidy of \$440,804 for 2016, **BE IT RESOLVED** that this request be approved.

## **AFLC COMMITTEE # 2 – Schools**

*(Rev. Ron Brubakken, Argyle, MN; Mr. John Keranen Menahga, MN;*

*Secretary - Rev. Adam Osier, Finleyville, PA; Chair - Mr. Scott, Ducote, Durant, OK; Mr. Harold Erickson, Wadena, MN)*

- 1. WHEREAS**, God has faithfully provided leadership for our schools throughout these recent years of transition through the Board of Trustees, and through interim and continuing service of Rev. Robert Lee, Rev. Joel Rolf and of Rev. Dr. Mark Olson;

**AND WHEREAS**, God has faithfully provided for our schools in the provision of a new President of the Schools and Dean of AFLTS, Rev. Wade Mobley;

**AND WHEREAS**, God continues to convey the teachings of his life-giving Word through the full-time, part-time and adjunct professors as well as through the staff of our schools;

**BE IT RESOLVED** we thank God for his faithful provision of leadership, and for the servants that God has equipped to fill these roles.

- 2. WHEREAS**, Rev. Robert Lee has requested from the Schools a new Letter of Call specifying him as part-time faculty;

**AND WHEREAS**, this and other circumstances have left the schools short one full-time professor in the area of Systematic Theology;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that we thank Rev. Robert Lee for his faithful full-time service to our Schools

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that congregations be in prayer that God would fill this position in a timely manner, and provide the finances necessary for such an acquisition.

- 3. WHEREAS**, much effort has been undertaken by the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff to achieve Candidate Status of accreditation for our schools through TRACS;

**AND WHEREAS**, more effort will be needed in pursuit of full accreditation in these coming years, including, but not limited to, the need for all current and new faculty at AFLTS to have a doctoral degree;

**AND WHEREAS** in order to financially accommodate this need the Board of Trustees has established the Dr. Monseth Fund for Faculty Development;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that congregations both make known the existence of the Dr. Monseth Fund for Faculty Development, and prayerfully consider financial support of this fund in the form of congregational giving.

- 4. WHEREAS** our Schools have, by God's grace, faithfully pursued the mission of establishing students in the eternal and inerrant Word of God for a life of faith in Jesus Christ and faithful service in His kingdom

**AND WHEREAS** the increasingly post-Christian direction of our society further impresses the need for our students to be grounded in such truth for the purpose of helping their congregations reach precious, eternal human souls for Jesus Christ;

**AND WHEREAS** the need for pastors within our AFLC Congregations is increasing at a rate faster than our seminary is able to supply new pastors;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for having faithfully provided our schools with a tremendous, eternal mission, as well as for providing our schools with the financial resources, faculty, staff and students needed for its continuation;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage our congregations to faithfully support AFLBS through an informed promotion of the school to their young men and women, encouragement of prayerful support through participation on the Intercessor Team, as well as through faithful financial support through scholarships for their own students, and also through other scholarship programs such as the S-400 Scholarship Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we also encourage our congregations to promote and encourage their alumni to participate in the Alumni Association's effort to supply scholarships for students;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to actively be in prayer for God's continued calling of men into the ministry, and to support those men sensing this call with the spiritual and material support needed for such a transition.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we pray for more students to enroll in the Bible School.*

5. **WHEREAS** the Board of Trustees request a budget subsidy of \$325,728 for the Seminary and \$551,580 for the Bible School for the 2016 calendar year;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this budget subsidy be accepted.

## AFLC COMMITTEE #3 – MISSIONS

(Chairman - Mr. Don Burmeister, Mount Vernon, SD; Secretary - Rev. Micah Hjermstad, Ishpeming, MI; Rev. David Tilney, Loxley, AL; Mr. Doug Hertlein, Carroll, OH; Mr. Ernest Kronquist, Arlington, WA)

### WORLD MISSIONS

1. **WHEREAS**, God has provided financially for every need of World Missions, including the day-to-day budget, personal missionary support and special projects,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks to God for his continued abundant provision;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we continue to encourage our congregations to give to World Missions and all its endeavors.
2. **WHEREAS**, Jesus says in Matthew 9:37, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few,”  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray that the Lord of the Harvest would continue to send out workers into the harvest field.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we thank God for His work through Sunday Schools and Bible Camps across the country, Ambassador Publications, Journey Missions, AFLBS, and AFLTS in the raising up and training of missionaries;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we thank Wanda Jacobson for her many years of faithful service to the World Missions office and for her willingness to take on the increased workload that comes with the ever-expanding work of World Missions;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage the World Missions Committee to seek additional administrative staff to meet current and future needs.
3. **WHEREAS**, the Holy Scriptures declare the need for preachers to bring the Good News of the Gospel to the ends of the earth,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for his work through the Ambassador Institute in Uganda, India and Ecuador in the training of pastors to reach the unreached;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** we pray that God would continue to raise up pastors and open doors to unreached people groups.
4. **WHEREAS**, the goal of World Missions is that all of our works remain united in the Spirit but lead to independent, self-sufficient, and evangelizing church bodies,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** we pray for the Spirit’s wisdom and guidance in this process, always with compassion for the temporal needs of the different cultures being ministered to.
5. **WHEREAS**, God has faithfully provided missionaries and those missionaries have served selflessly, even in the midst of trials and tribulations,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that in news of the death of Rev. Samuel Flores, we thank God for his life and ministry with the Central Mexican Lutheran Church;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we pray for Barb Schierkolk and her health issues;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we give thanks for the Wagner’s safe return to the United States, that God would grant them wisdom to know when to return, and that God would continue to heal the people of Sierra Leone and other African countries;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we thank God for Andy and Monica Coyle and their faithful years of service in the Ukraine, that we pray for the country of Ukraine and the unrest there, and that we pray for God’s blessings upon the Coyle’s in their new call to the Black Hills Gathering.
6. **WHEREAS**, God has called Matthew and Ednay Abel and Brent and Emily Raan to full-time mission work,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray that God would bless them and encourage them in their ministry in Brazil and India.
7. **WHEREAS**, Pastor Palmer has faithfully served as World Missions Director for 10 years, and;  
**WHEREAS**, The World Missions Committee had originally extended a 10-year call to him;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for Pastor Palmer’s service and for leading him to accept a call to remain as World Missions Director indefinitely.
8. **WHEREAS**, the World Missions budget request is for \$484,500.00 for Home/Field expense, and \$656,043.29 for personal support, totaling \$1,140,543.29.  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we approve these requests for the 2016 budget.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR HOME MISSIONS

- WHEREAS**, Pastor Dale Finstrom has served two full terms on the Home Missions Committee,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for Pastor Finstrom's years of faithful service, and that God would continue to strengthen and sustain him physically and spiritually.
- WHEREAS**, the Home Missions Department has served the AFLC so faithfully,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks for our Home Missions pastors and their wives and congregations;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we give thanks for our Home Missions Director, Pastor Paul Nash, the Home Missions Committee, and those who serve in the Home Missions office: Julia Prichard, Loren and Sharon Tungseth, Lavon and Fern Bohling, Christie Friestad, and Laurie Nash;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we give thanks for the Parish Builders and Barnabas teams serving our congregations across the country.
- WHEREAS**, there is a great need for more laborers to serve in our congregations, and;  
**WHEREAS**, those laborers often come from AFLBS and AFLTS;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray for more students to attend our schools and that many would follow the Lord's leading into ministry.
- WHEREAS**, the opportunity to share the Gospel in rural Alaska is so great,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks to God for providing this ministry with pastors, teachers, missionary pilots, mechanics, Vacation Bible School teams, radio station opportunities, and **fellowship** opportunities at the NET;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we pray for open doors to share the Gospel in Alaska, and for continued protection, health, and safety for all the pastors and staff.
- WHEREAS**, the need for the pure Word of God to be proclaimed across this country is great,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray that our individual congregations would continue to preach the uncompromising Word of God and that our Home Missions Department would make the most of each opportunity as the Spirit leads.
- WHEREAS**, the Home Missions Department has requested a subsidy amount of \$630,655 as part of a larger budget goal of \$770,155,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we approve these requests for the 2016 budget.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR FLAPS

- WHEREAS**, the Lord has blessed and provided for FLAPS in many ways,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks for that provision and encourage congregations to continue to support FLAPS prayerfully and financially.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR WMF

- WHEREAS**, the WMF has worked hard to provide helpful resources for the women's ministries in our congregations,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage all women of the AFLC to make use of the WMF's Bible Studies, Resource Manual, and website.
- WHEREAS**, the WMF faithfully supports so many ministries within the AFLC,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks for their spiritual and financial support of our local congregations and missionaries and all the departments and ministries of the AFLC.

## **AFLC COMMITTEE #4 – PUBLICATIONS –PARISH ED**

*(Debra Burmeister - Mt. Vernon, SD; Rev. Les Galland - Shakopee, MN; CHAIR - Rev. Jason Gudim - Golden Valley, MN;  
Betty Luebke - Parkston, SD; SEC - Carl Quern, - Oslo, MN)*

- 1. WHEREAS**, the AFLC Board of Publications and Parish Education, and Ambassador Publications, has been blessed with the hard work and service of many individuals;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for director Marian Christopherson, the members of the board, the staff of Ambassador Publications, and the many volunteers who contribute of their time, talents, and abilities.
- 2. WHEREAS**, opportunities always exceed the resources;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we pray for God to provide staff, volunteers and finances.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we pray for God to give wisdom to the board in making the best use of the available resources.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage the giving of additional funds that may be used to expand the staff.
- 3. WHEREAS**, Ambassador Publications provides a litany of quality, biblical, Lutheran materials for use in Sunday School, Bible study, and personal devotional times, and  
**WHEREAS**, there are a number of AFLC congregations who choose not to make use of these wonderful resources,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we strongly encourage AFLC congregations to utilize materials produced and approved by Ambassador Publications as often as possible.
- 4. WHEREAS** the Board of Publications and Parish Education has proposed a budget for 2016 of \$309,940 with a budget subsidy request of \$140,000,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we approve their budget and subsidy request.

## **AFLC COMMITTEE #4 – YOUTH**

*(Debra Burmeister - Mt. Vernon, SD; Rev. Les Galland - Shakopee, MN; CHAIR - Rev. Jason Gudim - Golden Valley, MN;  
Betty Luebke - Parkston, SD; SEC - Carl Quern, - Oslo, MN)*

- 1. WHEREAS**, many people assist the work of youth ministry;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank God for the Board Members, Staff and Volunteers who serve the youth of our AFLC;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we thank God for providing Daniel Keinanen as the FLY Convention Coordinator for 2015 and 2017;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we thank God for those who have organized and participated in student mission trips over the years.
- 2. WHEREAS**, there is only a brief window of opportunity to reach our youth;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage each congregation to promote events such as the FLY Convention, FLY Beyond, district Bible camps, winter retreats, etc., to the youth within their congregation and community;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to offer and provide financial support for youth to attend these events whenever possible;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to provide a time for youth who have attended these events to share their experiences with the congregation upon their return, that the whole congregation might be blessed.

3. **WHEREAS**, there is an ongoing need for qualified and equipped youth workers,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to make time and resources available to send their current youth workers to equipping events such as the Youth Workers Weekends;  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage congregations to prayerfully consider participating in the Youth Ministry Apprenticeship program to train and equip additional youth workers for ministry.
4. **WHEREAS** the Youth Board has requested a 2016 budget subsidy of \$129,600;  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we approve their budget subsidy request.



## **AFLC COMMITTEE #5 – EVANGELISM**

*(Chair - Mr. Richard Luebke, Parkston, SD; Secretary – Pastor David Johnson, Boyertown, PA;  
Mr. Edward VanScoten, Kalispell, MT; Pastor Matthew Ballmann, Sioux Falls, SD;  
Mr. Wayne Gerlach, Mitchell, SD)*

**1. WHEREAS**, it is God's desire that all gifts in the Body of Christ be encouraged and utilized for the Glory of God and the strengthening of His Body, the Church.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we give thanks to the members of the Benefits Board: Mr. David Bjornson, Mr. Phillip Peterson, Mr. Arlyn (Butch) Smith, Pastor Karl Anderson, Pastor Larry Haagenon, and advisor, Mr. Thomas Johnston; and to the Commission on Evangelism: Pastor Tim Johnson, Mr. Michael Lynnes, Mr. Eldon Hesterberg, Pastor Lee Hoops, and Mr. Kevin Hoops; along with our Director of Evangelism, Pastor James Rasmussen.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** that we give thanks for God's provision of Emily Goff as our new AFLC Director of Business Management.

**2. WHEREAS** we continually see a strong Biblical principle towards Mentoring and development,

**AND WHEREAS** numerous character examples exist in Scripture displaying this critical need: Moses and Joshua, Elijah and Elisha, Jesus and the disciples, Paul and Timothy.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage Pr. Rasmussen and the Commission on Evangelism to pursue and further develop the Round Table Ministry Retreat program for the encouragement and support of pastor's and their wives.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that our clergy couples pray about the opportunity to refresh their walk with Christ and hone their ministry effectiveness by participating in this new, exciting RTMR support program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that our AFLC congregations uphold this ministry in prayer, and consider how they may support this endeavor financially; while also encouraging their pastor to participate in this renewing retreat.

**3. WHEREAS** God has commanded His Body to be about the work of developing disciples (Matt.28:18-20),

**AND WHEREAS** the Commission on Evangelism has clarified that: Disciple making is not a part of evangelism but evangelism is a part of disciple making,

**AND WHEREAS** discipleship is more than developing friendships, it is the training and equipping of the follower of Jesus that they may also be disciple-makers (Eph:4:11-12) through the course of everyday life (Deut. 6:6-9),

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we affirm and encourage the Commission on Evangelism as they continue this focus on intentional Discipleship.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that each congregation prayerfully consider seeking the counsel of the Commission on Evangelism in the development of an intentional plan for disciple-making in their local ministry.

## **AFLC COMMITTEE #5 – BENEFITS**

**1. WHEREAS** the Help In Service (His) fund provides aid for pastors and their families in times of need and the 401K plan provides good opportunities to help pastors and AFLC employees gain a measure of financial peace and stability,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we encourage our members and congregations to take part in and support these works.

## **GENERAL RESOLUTION #3**

*(From appointed committee )*

WHEREAS we are seeing increased cultural acceptance and even promotion of homosexual behavior and homosexual “marriage;” and

WHEREAS we are seeing increased pressure and legal actions by governmental bodies at all levels - local, state and federal - against citizens, churches and other organizations who believe that homosexual behavior and “marriage” is antithetical to the Word of God; and

WHEREAS the United States Supreme Court is to decide whether homosexual “marriage” is a constitutional right;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we reaffirm the Marriage and Family Resolutions adopted at the 2000 Annual Conference and that it is the sincerely held belief of the AFLC that the Word of God makes clear that homosexual behavior is sinful and that marriage is only between one man and one woman; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage AFLC member congregations to consider taking official action to likewise confirm that it is their sincerely held belief that the Word of God makes clear that marriage is only between one man and one woman and that homosexual behavior is sinful.

## **Committee #1 General Resolution**

**WHEREAS** God our Heavenly Father has blessed us with a wonderful 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual conference at Warm Beach Conference Center, and has blessed our Association with another year of participation in the work of the Kingdom of God.

**AND WHEREAS** the West Coast District Churches and the Warm Beach Conference Center staff has graciously and superbly hosted our Conference

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we praise God for His provision, guidance, and blessings this week and that we thank our hosts for their hard work, faithful service and kind hospitality,

**AND FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that we commit ourselves from the heart to be faithful watchmen.