

Annual Meeting of the Lutheran Men in Mission
June 18, 2022 – 10:00 a.m. Central daylight time
Virtual telecast via Zoom – National Audience

Board present: Hal Derrick, President; John Sundquist, Executive Director; Lon Buss, Vice President;
Jeff Kuchenbecker, Treasurer; Jim Schieble, Secretary; Rich White
Directors present: Dave Newman, Networking and Communication; Jason Adams, Emerging Ministries
Liaisons present: Bishop Erik Gronberg (Conference of Bishops)
Staff present: Kyle Peterson, Kevin Burke, Mason Cook
Absent: Lynette Todd WELCA, Discipleship Director (vacant)

Meeting Minutes

Hal - welcome

Opening prayer – Jim

Holy Trinity, perfect unity in diversity, we consecrate and give our total selves - our bodies, our minds, our spirits and our hearts – to your call on our lives as we reach out to the men you send to us. We claim our place as kingdom men and your adopted sons today in this cyber-gathering and trust in your promise to be with us as we fight for the hearts of men through this ministry. In your dear name, Jesus, we pray, AMEN

Opening remarks and meeting logistics - Hal

President's Report- 2022 Annual Meeting of Lutheran Men in Mission

Welcome to each of you and thank you for joining us for the 2022 Lutheran Men in Mission Annual Meeting. I would like to open the meeting by asking Bishop Erik Gronberg from the North Texas/Northern Louisiana Synod to open our meeting with prayer. Thank you, Bishop Erik, we hold this Annual Meeting in a virtual environment in June of each year to inform you of our ministries, our financial condition, to hear directly from each of our directors and staff and, finally, to conduct any official business of LMM. This year, our qualified voting delegates will hold an election for the positions of Vice President and Treasurer.

LMM enjoyed a productive year in 2021 and our outlook for 2022 is bold and outreaching. Coming out of the 2+ year COVID pandemic, we were finally able to meet in person. It was a true blessing that we met as a full board in person in May. We look forward to meeting in person with all of our brothers in Christ (especially since we've only seen you via Zoom during this period) at our National Bold Gathering on October 7-9 at Carol Joy Holling Conference Center in Ashland, Nebraska. You'll hear a lot more about the National Bold Gathering later during this meeting. During the time since our last Annual Meeting, we've expanded our online presence and activities to include more and diverse men from across the country as evidenced through all of our virtual meetings, book studies, Bible studies and Bold Gatherings.

My primary focus as your President since our last Annual Meeting has been spent in organizing and leading our development efforts through the Fund Development Team. Both our Executive Director, John Sundquist, and I meet bi-weekly with our Focus Group consultant, Chad Borgestad and we had a presentation at our May board meeting from another Focus group consultant Ted Rodgers. Our 2022 Annual Fund campaign booklet – Reach Beyond has been developed and used to hold direct contacts with LMM major donors across the entire US. Including the pledged support for our leadership and staff, we have raised over 50% of our 2022 goal of \$250,000.

John and I hold weekly zoom meetings to cover all aspects of our ministry and these productive meetings will continue for my tenure as your president. I strongly believe our new strategic plan and work being completed through the action teams on each objective will strengthen our ministry and allow us to grow.

Our Project Twelve website editor, Mason Cook, was with us for the May board meeting. The growth and new initiatives in this ministry are exciting and you will learn how this ministry is having an impact nationwide. You'll hear a lot more about this ministry from our Emerging Ministries Director Jason Adams later on during this meeting.

The LMM Ambassador program is also making great progress under the leadership of Director Dave Newman. Dave will share the details on how our networking and communications efforts are growing. We have all seen the impact and information shared through our Ambassador-Grams. This program has led our efforts to connect more men in their local areas with LMM.

Your Executive Committee meets monthly and all business and operational areas of LMM are fully covered by the committee. Each of our Board Members and staff will give you a report on their specific areas of responsibility, our Treasurer will present the financial condition report and the approved budget for the current fiscal year and finally, as I noted earlier, we will hold an election for Vice President and Treasurer as part of the official business of LMM.

I am truly humbled to be part of our shared ministry that has the vision that all men can become bold, daring followers of our Lord, Jesus Christ. With God's help we can be that leading ministry for men that focuses on discipleship for men, their families, their congregations and their communities throughout the entire US.

Executive Director remarks - John

The past two and a half years since we last gathered together in person have been challenging for all of us; for families, for congregations, for communities, and for our country. The pandemic has changed the playing field in many ways and yet through it all God has continued to remain faithful. He has inspired us to move beyond old ways of thinking and to into a world which we never could have imagined.

For LMM it's meant that we have gone online and virtual in ways we could have never imagined. It has also given us an opportunity to get back to writing and producing new resources, such as the Lifelines series that are available through projecttwelve.net. Anyone who has loved the studies in the Master Builders Bibles will love these new studies and we will have more coming later this year as we release Part 2 of that series. Our One Year to Live retreats have continued and they've gone to new places and settings and we're now looking forward to a fall full of retreats. Speaking of fall October 7th, 8th, and 9th we are going to be gathering with men across the country for an in person Bold Gathering at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland, Nebraska. The board will gather ahead of this event for our fall meeting and I know you will all stay and join us as we look at the theme of Rough, Rugged, and Bold. We will spend time in fellowship, service, and worship together.

Our goal has never changed; we remain committed to intentionally disciplining men to become bold, daring followers of Jesus Christ and in doing so their lives are transformed by Christ; as are their families, churches, and communities. They literally become the hands and feet of Christ to all who cross their paths; and in doing so they are often the only experience with Christ some people ever have.

Through it all we have remained faithful and as we look to the future Lutheran Man in Mission is committed to reaching beyond: We will reach boldly; capitalizing our unique and distinctive mission. We will reach more; as we seek to increase participation in our experiences and the use of our resources from men like yourselves. We will reach wide; intentionally reaching and discipling younger more diverse and unreached men all the name of Jesus Christ. And reaching generously; we will seek to achieve true financial stability not only for today but for tomorrow as we continue to disciple men to make them into the creation that God desires for all of us. I thank God for each of you on the board. You make this journey a blessing each and every day.

Events, NFG and FDT - Lon - VP remarks and technology advancements

2021-2022 Lutheran Men in Mission Technology Advancements

Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) uses Network for Good (NFG) web-based software for multiple

purposes. It started as a Donation Management tool. It is now also being used for event registrations. We started using it for Bold Gatherings. In 2021 we began partnering with One Year to Live Retreat Teams to use it for Online Registration and Credit Card payments. I want to thank the teams for transitioning to this process, and Jeff Kuchenbecker, our Treasurer, for helping manage payments from the NFG system to the Retreat Teams.

We are also using NFG in the Reach Beyond 2022 Annual Fund Campaign process. Donors are able to enter their 2022 Intents to Give on a simple online form. They are also giving the option to have a Fund Development Team (FDT) Member enter their information. In either case, they receive email confirmation with their Intent to Give (ITG) information.

Speaking of the Reach Beyond Campaign, as part of our partnership with The FOCUS Group, LMM is using the Windshield 2020 web-based software. It is used to manage the efforts of the Fund Development team. This includes identifying prospects, tracking communications with prospect/donors. It also tracks campaign progress based on the received Intents to Give (ITG's). I want to thank Russ McKittrick for assisting with the Windshield data administration and reporting .

LMM also continues to use the VANCO system on the LMM Website to accept donations. I am thankful to Jeff Kuchenbecker for his partnership to develop a hybrid solution for the upcoming National Bold Gathering. We are using NFG for attendee information and VANCO for accepting the credit card payments.

I want to thank Kyle Pederson and Kevin Burke for their technical assistance with producing the virtual Bold Gatherings and keeping www.boldgathering.com updated. We are excited to continue to archive Bold Gathering video presentations and Small Group Discussion Questions for use by men and congregations.

I am intentionally not reporting on Project Twelve technology. I am sure Pr. Jason Adams will cover that in his Emerging Ministries report.

Lastly, I want to thank Ben Vaughn our LMM webmaster for helping with changes to our primary www.lutheranmeninmission.org website, as well as ongoing updates, including Ambassador-Grams and One Year to Live retreats.

As LMM moves forward with our 3 Year Strategic Plan, we have a need for more volunteers with skills and abilities to help serve on our ministry teams. Therefore, if you, or someone you know who could serve in the areas I have discussed, or any areas shared by other of the ministry teams, please contact John Sundquist or the Ministry Team Director responsible for that area. Contact information is on www.Lutheranmeninmission.org.

Development and fundraising report; the 2021 LMM Annual Report - Rich

My name is Rich White, and I live in South Riding VA which is about 30 miles due west of Washington DC. I am the Director of Development which means that I oversee the fundraising efforts for LMM. Donations from individuals, churches, and Synods provide the majority of funding for LMM and I give a huge Thank You to all donors for their on-going support! Without them, LMM would not exist. I am happy to report that 2021 saw a significant improvement over 2020 from a LMM fundraising perspective. Gifts from individuals/churches/Synods were up almost 50% over 2020, and LMM also received two significant bequests from individuals or their heirs. Please refer to the 2021 Annual Report for more information. As Hal indicated in his President's report, during 2021 the Board developed a strategic plan and have outlined it in our 2022 Annual Campaign booklet. We assembled a Fund Development Team to reach out to LMM's major donors, sharing the booklet with them, and asking them to consider a pledge to support LMM in 2022. Our goal for this year is \$250,000 and so far we have raised over 50% of that goal. Also, I think it is worthy to note that everyone in LMM Leadership has made a pledge! Their pledges are almost 25% of the Annual goal demonstrating real commitment from the leadership team. During last year's Annual Meeting I shared that our Feasibility Study showed that we were not good at reaching out to our supporters so we have taken several steps to improve this. We prepared the 2021 Annual Report which we have distributed both electronically and by mail. Our weekly

Constant Contact emails are sent out to almost 5000 people to provide information on what is happening in the LMM universe and to encourage men to participate in the various activities such as Bible study, book study and Bold Gatherings. And at our in person Board Meeting in May we wrote over 100 personal notes to donors to thank them for their on-going support.

Let me close with two additional good news items. First we now have 35 individuals who are members of the Bedrock Society which consists of those donors who automatically give a minimum of \$20/month (or \$60/Quarter) to LMM using a credit card or direct bank withdrawal. Please seriously consider becoming a member – you can easily enroll at the LMM website. Second, we have started to revitalize the Heritage Society for those who have made a legacy gift to LMM. Be on the lookout for more information and how you can participate. This wonderful and necessary ministry would not exist without your on-going support for which we are ever thankful.

Jim –

- Presentation of 2021 Annual Meeting minutes – posted on LMM/About/Business Documents website - **Motion to accept published minutes by Dave Newman/Jason Adams carried.**
- Determination of a quorum of 178 eligible (need 35 total, 12 board plus 24 regular delegates) **Motion to proceed with available 33 members by Lon Buss/Paul Beckman, carried.**
- Voting for election of VP and Treasurer – Jeff Kuchenbecker was elected to a second three-year as Treasurer and Vic Williams was elected to first three-year term as Vice President. There were no other candidates. Both were elected unanimously by electronic ballot.

Networking and communications report; LMM Ambassadors - Dave

LMM's Networking and Communications efforts over the past year continued to center around the quarterly Ambassador-Grams. We estimate that over 1900 men received Ambassador-Grams from their Ambassadors last year. In addition, we are in contact with an increasing number of ELCA synod offices who are willing to publish our Ambassador-Gram information and add links from their webpage to our LMM webpage.

In that vein, we are encouraging Ambassadors to attend their synod assemblies this spring with LMM display tables. Whether the assemblies are in-person or virtual, Executive Director John Sundquist has prepared an introductory video which is available on the front page of our website: lutheranmeninmission.org.

In response to LMM Strategic Goal #2: *Reach More*, our most recent initiative is the *NetCasting Team*, a group of Ambassadors working above and beyond their normal roles in searching for the contact men within congregational men's groups across the country.

If you are the contact guy for your church, or if you have questions about an assembly display table, please contact me. And please continue to keep LMM and our (your?) efforts in your prayers.

Emerging Ministries and Project 12 report - Jason

In the opening chapter of "The DiscipleMakers Handbook", the authors, Bobby Harrington and Josh Patrick share the story about Coca Cola in 1985 who was losing market share to Pepsi. Coke made a decision to follow polling data and release what is now known as "New Coke".... and the response of the public was terrible. They regrouped and went back to their original recipe, and released Coke Classic, and Pepsi has never come close to Coke's market share again.

Harrington and Patrick challenge their readers that Christians today, as well as churches and men's ministries should be cautious about re-inventing ourselves based on the trend of the moment, and building our lives on anything other than Jesus, who is the original recipe for this whole discipleship

thing. The rest of their book and model focus on the power of being disciples who make disciples... there is power in the simplicity of this intentional relationship focused approach.

I am grateful for LMM continuing to invest in emerging ministries, looking for what, where and how God is moving and wanting to meet Him there. As LMM strives to make bold, daring followers of Jesus Christ, our tools, models, events and resources continue to keep scripture front and center, as well as intentional and relational discipleship.

The part-time Emerging Ministry Consultant role has been established to accomplish several deliverables:

- Support events such as the Bold Gathering and other annual events as directed.
- Support the Project Twelve initiative and solicit ideas from emerging leaders
- Provide technology strategy and support
- Provide strategy conversations and support on the LMM Strategic plan.

Here is what has been accomplished since last report:

- Project Twelve
 - The PXII team continues to meet on Tuesdays at 11a for weekly planning.
 - Mason and that team can give a much more detailed report.
- Technology
 - Purchased www.MenInMission.com (and .net and .org) and www.OneYearToLive.org as part of our digital branding portfolio.
 - Bold Gathering website updated for Fall 2021, Spring 2022, and Fall 2022 events.
- Strategy Support
 - Discussion and ideation with Kevin and John.
 - Strategic Plan APM 1.x preparation
 - Ideation on how to best leverage the A-Team and key partners for emerging ministries.
 - Reviewed third-party resources (books, blogs, podcasts) to identify trends on what other men's organizations are successfully doing, and what gaps and needs exist.
- Event Support
 - Bold Gathering support for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 virtual events.
 - Remote Bold Gathering event support for pre-event, live, and post-event activities, which included an event post-mortem for process improvement, video editing and production on YouTube and the Bold Gathering site.
 - Fitness initiative evaluation and planning has been on hold due to pandemic.

Here are upcoming activities and needs per deliverable areas:

- Strategy Support
 - Facilitate APM 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 tactics and milestones.
 - Regular staff discussions on future programming opportunities.
 - Continue to review third-party resources (books, blogs, podcasts) to identify trends on what other men's organizations are successfully doing, and what gaps and needs exist.
 - Develop roadmap for health initiative, if determined to be viable this period.
- Event Support
 - Work with events and communication teams on the Omaha Bold Gathering events in fall 2022 and prep for 2023 locations for live events.
 - Help with Annual Meeting as needed.
- Project Twelve
 - Support Mason and the PXII core team as needed.
 - Evaluate benefits of additional social media platform, and staff/volunteer capacity.

- Technology
 - Facilitate APM 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 tactics and milestones as it comes to technology related KPIs.
 - Ideate with events team about event registration tools for centralized event registration. Need to consider payment solutions and how payment can be made to local coordinator in timely manner.
 - Identify digital impact metrics and begin to track these KPI.

The last two years of pandemic response have been extremely busy months in my healthcare role, so I look forward to routines returning to normal, allowing additional time to focus on the emerging ministry role.

WELCA report - Lynette's written report

To say the past two years were challenging is an understatement. The Women of the ELCA met these challenges through determination, faith and prayer. We supported and loved each other from a distance with digital events, meetings and especially with prayers.

In 2021, we connected with our sisters through the following events:

- Pivot, Don't Panic
- Synodical Women's Organization Conventions
- Triennial Convention
- Blue Light Christmas Service

We began 2022 with a leadership event "For Such A time As This" which had over 200 participants. In recognition of Women's History Month in March a three-part series, "The Living History Of Faith-Filled Women" was held.

In June, we will celebrate two events: the 35th anniversary of our organization and the 25th anniversary of Katie's Fund. This fund was established to honor the legacy of Katharina von Bora Luther. Katie's Fund is an endowment that supports ministry in three areas: leadership development, global connections and living theology. To commemorate the fund's anniversary, Women of the ELCA is launching a major campaign to expand Katie's Fund.

We're looking forward to our 11th Triennial Convention and Gathering in Phoenix, AZ in September 2023. Moving forward, we will continue to ensure that our three anti-racism foci, justice, education and advocacy are implemented in a variety of ways as we live out our mission, "***Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ***".

Conference of Bishops report – John provided comments on Bishop Erik's advocacy for LMM at churchwide

Staff report - Kyle

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- Support the Project Twelve initiative and solicit ideas from emerging leaders
- Provide technology strategy and support
- Provide strategy conversations and support on the LMM Strategic plan.

Here is what has been accomplished since last report:

Project Twelve

- As noted by Jason Adams, Project XII continues to grow with new content such as Fathering in 15.

Technology

- Purchased www.MenInMission.com (and .net and .org) and www.OneYearToLive.org as part of our digital branding portfolio.
- Bold Gathering website updated for Fall 2021, Spring 2022, and Fall 2022 events.

Strategy Support

- Discussion and ideation with staff and board
- Work on the strategic Plan
- Reviewed third-party resources (books, blogs, podcasts) to identify trends on what other men's organizations are successfully doing, and what gaps and needs exist.

Event Support

- Bold Gathering support for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 virtual events.
- Remote Bold Gathering event support for pre-event, live, and post-event activities, which included an event post-mortem for process improvement, video editing and production on YouTube and the Bold Gathering site.
- Fitness initiative evaluation and planning has been on hold due to pandemic.

Here are upcoming activities and needs per deliverable areas:

Strategy Support

- Strategic Plan support
- Regular staff discussions on future programming opportunities.
- Continue to review third-party resources (books, blogs, podcasts) to identify trends on what other men's organizations are successfully doing, and what gaps and needs exist.

Event Support

- Work with events and communication teams on the Omaha Bold Gathering events in fall 2022 and prep for 2023 locations for live events.
- Project Twelve
- Support Mason and Jason Adams
- Evaluate benefits of additional social media platform, and staff/volunteer capacity.

Technology

- Support strategic plan activities
- Ideate opportunities that will pop up this year

Financial report and FY 2023 budget - Jeff

	Year Ended <u>1/31/2021</u>	Year Ended <u>1/31/2022</u>	Budget <u>1/31/2023</u>
Donations and Sales	100,776	204,054	264,000
Trust & Investment Income	67,957	71,161	66,100
National Gathering	-	-	7,000
Total Revenues	168,733	275,215	337,100
Expenses			
Personnel	234,472	236,515	245,000
Office	14,495	24,169	12,000
Financial Services	4,700	5,559	5,600
Board & Consultant	40,264	41,148	63,500
Development	7,099	7,289	14,500
Events	859	3,591	10,200
Leadership Development	12,500	16,333	16,000
Resources & materials	3,652	7,204	7,300
Communications	8,212	5,366	5,700
Total Expenses	326,253	347,174	379,800
	(157,520)	(71,959)	(42,700)
Increase in Investment Accounts	159,495	59,751	-
PPP Loan Forgiveness	34,707	-	-
Net Revenues and Expenses	36,682	(12,208)	(42,700)

Election results – Jim

- VP – Vic Williams, unanimously elected
- Treasurer – Jeff Kuchenbecker, unanimously elected

Open to all for comments and/or questions - Hal and John

Closing Prayer - Jason

Adjourned 11:20 a.m. Central