

Floor Committee #5 Report

Floor Committee #5 – Home/World/Joint Council

Reference: RTTD p. 67-71

Subject: Board for World Missions

We note with thankful hearts how God's Church continues to grow around the world, despite the BWM having less money to work with and having fewer expatriate missionaries to send to foreign lands. We also note the work which the Board for World Missions is doing to pursue alternate methods of reaching out to the lost around the world (e.g. multi-language publications, ESL classes, MP3 recorders in Nepal, etc.). We acknowledge the work of our seminary programs around the world. We share the same concern of the BWM as it watches over the welfare of our missionaries and as it faces fiscal challenges ahead which may necessitate the elimination of more positions.

Reference: RTTD p. 73-75

Subject: Board for Home Missions

We note the following:

- Home Missions in its various forms is associated financially and otherwise with approximately 90 congregations (5 in Canada, 2 in the Caribbean)
- A listing of the current ministries funded by the BHM can be found on *RTTD* pg. 74
- BHM has 4 (soon 3) mission counselors and 2 cross-cultural consultants
- Mission counselor Pastor Wayne Schulz is retiring on June 30
- The 2007 synod convention resolved to expand the mission counselor program
- The 2009 synod convention removed \$100,000 from the mission counselor program
- Requests for mission counselor assistance are increasing exponentially
- BHM has established an evaluation task force to evaluate all its functions and forms (Reference p. W-1 and 2)
- BHM acknowledges the help and support of the WELS Church Extension Fund, Kingdom Workers, and LWMS
- Though always mindful of and promoting CMO, the BHM also welcomes special gifts

Reference: RTTD p. 77-78

Subject: Joint Mission Council

We note the following from the Report of the Joint Mission Council:

Hmong and Lao Ministries in Thailand – The ethnic Thai and Hmong men who have been trained in Thailand are starting to take over some of the responsibilities of the ministries in Thailand and Laos. Currently, there are two expatriate missionaries, four national pastors, and eight men serving as evangelists. The Christian Church in Thailand has asked us to take over the ministry of six existing congregations, representing an additional seven hundred souls. Our current Hmong missions seek to be affiliated and in doctrinal unity with WELS.

Cristo Palabra de Vida – There is a total of four Pastoral Studies Institute graduates who are either currently serving or ready to serve. The Cristo Palabra de Vida National Council

sponsored a conference with twenty-seven pastors attending, representing eleven synodical districts. The Hispanic National Council has set a goal of twenty congregations beginning or expanding Hispanic outreach efforts each year.

Muslim Outreach – The requests for presentations on Islam by a Muslim background believer continue to grow. Besides the presentations, information for outreach to Muslims is available at www.truthinlovetomuslims.com. A DVD “Speaking the Truth in Love to Muslims,” has been developed and is available.

Sudanese Outreach – The Lord has opened an opportunity in Des Moines, Iowa, to reach Sudanese refugees with the gospel. Members and the pastor of this group were joined by a member of the Board for World Missions to travel to Africa to investigate mission opportunities in their homeland. Although opportunities exist in the Sudan, current security concerns and funding keep us from sending men into this area.

Reference: Pages W1&2

Resolution No. 1

Subject: Evaluation Task Force Report to the Districts

- WHEREAS 1) we, as a synod, are constantly trying to streamline the size of committees and keep costs down; and
- WHEREAS 2) the proposed structure might give the appearance of another level of administration; and
- WHEREAS 3) the Colorado and Nebraska District Mission Boards believe that the current structure is acceptable; and
- WHEREAS 4) our Mission Boards feel there is adequate representation with the current structure; and
- WHEREAS 5) our Mission Boards believe the current structure encourages more grass roots involvement; and
- WHEREAS 6) our Mission Boards feel the necessity of maintaining a regional connection with a Mission Counselor; therefore, be it
- Resolved, a) That we thank the members of the Task Force for their faithful efforts; and be it further
- Resolved, b) That we strongly encourage the BHM not to implement the changes recommended by the Task Force, with the exception that the BHM publish not only what, by God’s grace, *has been done* in home missions, but also what they, by God’s grace, would *like to do*; and be it finally
- Resolved, c) That we encourage better communication between the Executive Committee and the local mission boards.

FC05-3

Submitted by:

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