

Kansas LLL Board of Governors Meeting

August 29, 2026

Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene, Kansas

Vice President Ray Keller called the meeting to order. Present were Ray Keller, Pastor Gary Wolf, Tracy Brunner, Arlen Schultz, Jim Johnson, John Johnson, Mike Tonn, Pastor Nathan Harkins, C. J. Cross, Tom Stanton and Tim Voelker. Joining via Zoom were Fred Gruhn, Warren Briggeman, Richard Schrum, Seth Wagner and Joe Chretien.

Pastor Wolf had the opening devotion. He spoke about his trip to Montana where he saw many examples of God's fantastic creation and the many blessings God has given. He reminded us that we are sinners and saints. Sometimes we are not as thankful as we should be. We need to remember to return to Jesus and ask for forgiveness.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. The motion to approve the minutes was made by C. J. and seconded by Tracy. Motion carried.

C. J. gave us a report on the Lutheran Layman's League of Salina. Trinity and Christ the King are joining to form the LLL of Salina. Christ the King will host an Ice Cream Social and Trinity will host a Pancake Feed. C. J. also shared that they had written new By-Laws. He said they would like to have them approved by the Kansas LLL District. Tom moved to put this on the Convention Agenda and recommended its approval. Tracy seconded. After some discussion, Tom withdrew his motion and Tracy withdrew his second. Tom then moved that we approve the LLL Group of Salina and their By-laws and welcome them to the Kansas LLL District. Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Fred reported on a fund raiser that was held in cooperation with Chik-Fil-A. On July 16th, a portion of the price of the meals went to Kansas LLL for those that asked. \$363 was raised and with some cash donations the total was \$425. Fred started promoting the fund raiser four weeks in advance. He encouraged everyone to check with local restaurants and see if they do similar community projects.

Mike gave the State Fair Booth Report. He said this is the 40th year for our booth. We received a \$200 discount. We are listed as a Bronze Sponsor in the book. Mike will distribute tickets to booth workers. Workers come from five primary congregations. Our Redeemer-Hutchison, Trinity-Salina, St. Paul-Haven, Immanuel-Canton, St. Luke-Manhattan, and also Immanuel-Ellworth and Risen Savior-Wichita. Mike said he has received a large amount of materials that will be handed out.

Tom gave the State Fair Worship Service Report. The Worship Service will September 13th at 10:00. The Speaker will be Pastor Fenske from Holy Cross, Wichita. Tom shared that we have a new Kansas LLL District Flag. Tom said over the years it has been a problem getting a keyboard

for the Worship Service. Tom has purchased a keyboard for us to use each year. Mike added that the Kansas District-LCMS has been very supportive in their publications. Joe asked for someone to take pictures.

The Golf Tournament will be on Sunday, September 27th at Rolling Meadows near Milford, Kansas. There will be a Church Service at 10:30. Registration will be at 11:15. Tee Off is at 12:00. Seth asked if we could have a table at the Tournament.

Arlen mentioned the possibility of having a Bowling Tournament in Ellsworth.

Tom and C.J. then reported on the 2026 Kansas LLL Convention. It will be at Our Redeemer in Hutchison. On Friday, November 6th there will be a Reformation Service at 7:00. After the service, there will be a reception for Rev. Norvelli. On Saturday, November 7th, registration will begin at 8:30. The Board of Governors meeting will be at 9:00. The Convention will be from 10:00 to 4:00. You can register online. Tom encouraged everyone to register soon so he can get accurate count for lunch. The hotel will be the Hampton Inn. A block of rooms are reserved and the cost is \$99. Please mention that you are with the Kansas LLL group. The hotel phone number is 620 665-9800. October 14th is the deadline for room reservations. At the Convention there will be a Silent Auction. There will also be a box for donations to the Kansas LLL District Project. C. J. volunteered to make a box.

We paused for lunch that was prepared by Arlen.

Jim gave the Treasurer's Report. He handed out a packet with all the information. Rebates are up to date. His books have been audited. He has heard no more about the Hellman Estate. There will be a small carry over from last year's District Project to this year. Jim wants to stop being Treasurer at the end of next year. Tom moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. C. J. seconded. Motion carried. Fred encouraged everyone to think about people in their congregations who have the skills needed to be treasurer and see if they would be interested.

Joe gave the President's Report. He sent out the emails he has received. He informed us that the registration fee for the Convention will be \$35. He spoke briefly about all the work put into establishing the LLL of Salina and writing the By-laws. He said he is working on the Convention Booklets. He also asked for Resolutions for the Convention.

Joe also talked about the District Project Goal. Last year's goal was \$50,000. Fred thought we should increase the goal. Tom moved that we set this year's District Project Goal at \$55,000. Fred seconded. The motion passed. Jim moved to increase the Financial Aid by \$4000 and the State Fair Worship Service/State Fair Booth by \$1000. Tom seconded, Motion carried. The following is a breakdown of this year's District Project Goal:

\$43,500	Financial Aid
\$1000	Seminary Recognition Dinner
\$4000	Argentina Ministry
\$4000	Bible Correspondence Courses
\$500	Rose Bowl Parade Float
\$2000	State Fair Worship Service and Booth
\$55,000	Total

Fred suggested that we ask our congregations to budget money for the Kansas LLL District Project.

Ray mention we should ask for \$1 for each member of a congregation.

Tom suggested we get our event dates to Kansas LCMS so we don't schedule events on the same date.

We discussed that we should adjust our Financial Aid amounts because future Pastors get more financial aid than future teachers. Tim said he would talk to the committee. Joe suggested Tim and Pastor Harkins should talk to them.

\$40 from the lunch collection was given to the District Project.

We need to elect a President, Vice President, Region II and Region IV Board Members. Ray Keller will be the candidate for President, Fred Gruhn is prayerfully considering being the candidate for Vice President, C. J. Cross is the candidate for Region II and Joe is the candidate for Region IV. If Fred is a candidate for Vice-President we will need a Region I Board Member.

Other officers are Secretary – Tim Voelker, Treasurer – Jim Johnson and Warren Briggeman - Region 3.

Richard talked about the website. He said they did some transfer to Fred. Fred will work with Richard on future changes.

For the Region Reports Fred asked Joe about a Mens Retreat. Warren had no report. C.J. briefly mentioned the new LLL of Salina group. Ray said Bethlehem, Sylvan Grove and St. Paul, North Ellsworth have combined.

Tim shared information from the Ambassador Training he attended via Zoom. Information can be found at lhm.org/ambassador.

The next meeting is November 7th at the Convention.

Pastor Wolf led a closing prayer.

Tom moved to adjourn. Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Voelker, Secretary

