

THE LORD'S NEW CHURCH WHICH IS NOVA HIEROSOLYMA

Corporation Newsletter

January-February 2017

Executive Director's Message

New Website

We are very pleased to announce the launch of the newly-renovated website.

Please visit:

www.thelordsnewchurch.com

If you've visited in the past, you will see a dramatic difference.

We welcome your comments and feedback.



I would like to extend my great appreciation to Stephen Burleigh who has worked on the website for many years as a volunteer. The new website will be maintained by the Corporation Staff, through the Website Committee.

I would also like to thank the Website Committee, Rachel Longstaff and the many Church Members and Priests who reviewed the website before it went "live," in order to help us proofread the content.

FY 2018 Budget Planning

The planning process for entity budgets July 1, 2017 to June 30 2018 has begun. All first draft entity budgets are due to the ICP by March 1.

From there, the ICP will make a first review and then the Finance Committee will start its initial review in April.

Each year the budget planning process has improved and each entity has been submitting full and detailed plans. This is wonderful. It makes it easier for the Finance Committee to review and the Board is able to gain more excitement toward the good work of the Church.

~Angela Doto, Executive Director

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Committee Meeting Summaries

(All times are Eastern Standard Time Zone)

Personnel Committee

Last Meeting: February 15, 2017

Meeting Focus:

Further steps toward pension plan updates. Discussion regarding updated priest salaries.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 11:00 am

Finance Committee

Last Meeting: December 13, 2016

Meeting Focus:

Budget Adjustments needed for FY2016-17, content of monthly financial reporting to the Board, and review of financial statements.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 11:00

	Executive Committee
	PMC Board
	Board of Directors
	Personnel
	Finance
	Office Closed

March '17						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Publications Committee

Last Meeting: February 17, 2017

Meeting Report:

Serbia: *Heaven and Hell, and New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine* have been reprinted. Rev. Zikic's book, *Idolatry*, has been published.

Sweden: The Russian translation of *Essential Swedenborg* will be published under the name *Heavenly Secrets of Swedenborg*.

USA: Theodore Pitcairn's *Ten Commandments, The Seven Days of Creation* and six Doctrinal classes on Divine Providence are to be reprinted.

Pamphlets describing all Societies, worldwide have been completed.

The *Directory of the New Church Worldwide* has been updated and will be made available on thelordsnewchurch.com.

Other News: The Book *Twelve Qualities of a Spiritual Mind* by Dawn E. Potts and Harry W. Barnitz is now available for purchase on Amazon.com.

Next Meeting: To be determined

April '17						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Resolutions Approved by the Board of Directors in January

First Draft FY 2018 Budget Planning and Available Funds

In order to create a first draft FY 2017-2018 budget, a number of factors were considered, including:

- How to make Church Endowment funds last in perpetuity
- Program Reports from Priests
- Financial Resources Available

The Finance Committee will begin planning for FY 2018 by distributing plan and budget process documents, customized for each budget entity

Use of Contingency Funds for South Africa

Due to some recent activities in South Africa (RSA), a budget adjustment is needed.

RSA has not completed financial audits since FY 2011. The approved FY 2016-17 budget only included the completion of one audit year. The auditors hired to complete the audits to current are moving faster than anticipated, therefore an increase of R333,450 (\$22,531) is needed.

RSA held a local assembly in November. Funding was not planned, but the event was necessary to hold elections and update the RSA Constitution.

The Board of Directors approved that South Africa's budget can be adjusted to R7,331,218 (\$495,353) total for FY 2016-17. R333,450 (\$22,531) will be distributed from contingency funds. RSA is instructed to use R40,299 (\$4,112) from the RSA investment account to cover the cost of the local Assembly.

Resolution Approved by the Board of Directors in February

Organizational Handbook

The Board of Directors approved the policies and procedures Handbook that will serve as a guide for management of the Corporation.



CRORC Timeline Update February 2017

Note: The Corporation Role and Organization Review Committee (CRORC) developed a Timeline which outlined important Corporation work to be done over the course of several years. Priorities and workloads have shifted constantly. The date of completion for all tasks has been removed.

The entire CRORC Timeline included 41 tasks. To date, 26 tasks have been completed or have a scheduled completion date; 8 tasks are in process; 3 tasks have been delayed due to complex factors; 4 tasks have not yet been started or no feedback has been given.

Any tasks that have been fully completed will be reported for one month, and then removed from this list.

To make it easy to see what has been updated, all newly updated tasks are highlighted in Green.

Corporation to Initiate Work		
Administrative Support	Status	Notes
Form a committee to review and decide how to update and improve the International Church Website.	Complete	A new international website design was created. It is now live at www.thelordsnewchurch.com
Research, develop, & implement a retirement plan that is cost effective and available to all priests, Diocese & Society employees, and Corporation employees. (Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, BOD, & ED)	Estimated Implementation July 1, 2017	The Personnel and Finance Committees thoroughly compared and contrasted Pension plans (Defined Benefit), 403b (Defined Contribution) and other retirement ideas. It was ultimately determined that each country needed its own solution A new retirement fund policy is being drafted with implementation expected July 1, 2017.
Organization Structure	Status	Notes
Work with Legal Counsel to update By-Laws as changes are made to the Corporation structure, functions, or to clarify information. (Ex. Dir. and Exec. Cmte)	In Process.	A draft version has been created and reviewed by the Executive Director and Legal Counsel. Bylaws updates will be proposed at the 2017 Annual Corporation meeting.
Functional Relationship with Dioceses, Societies, Missions, etc.	Status	Notes
Identify ways to utilize the skills & knowledge of Corporation members. (ED, BOD, & Corporation members)	In Process	Efforts continue.
Develop a descriptive document that defines the Corporation's relationship with each Church Entity and share with Church Entity and Corporation members. (CRORC Committees, ED, & BOD)	In Process	A draft document has been created. This project is continued as time allows.

Corporation to Initiate Work		
Corporation Policies	Status	Notes
Take all Policy Resolutions passed by the BOD since 2003 and create a Policy Handbook by Category. (ED & EA))	In process	Complete—in review
Develop a Procedures Handbook that defines how the Policies passed by the BOD will be implemented. (ED & EA)	Complete	Approved at February 2017 Board of Directors Meeting
Place the Policy and Procedures Handbook on a shared network for all Societies & Dioceses to access; update and maintain on a monthly basis. (ED & EA)	Complete	The Corporation has done extensive research on different shared network options. Ultimately, this idea will not be implemented. No shared network product was found to be efficient, cost-effective or user-friendly enough to use for our organization. The Corporation has implemented a system of regularly emailing documents, and anyone can make a request for more information through email.
Personnel	Status	Notes
Research, develop, & implement an internship/ AmeriCorps program to assist in establishing order in Corporation materials, grant writing, and completing projects for the Corporation. (ED, Personnel & Finance Committees)	In Process	Job Description and Research is being completed as time allows.
Administrative Support	Status	Notes
Assist the Priests in developing an effective outreach program to spread the Word of the Lord by: Using the Social Media Network Using Publication Funds to translate & publish the Third Testament, etc. Assist each Church entity in developing an appropriate Outreach Plan for their Society or Diocese. (IIC, Publication Committee, ICP, COC, BOD, & ED)	In Process.	Efforts have been made on each of these tasks. Efforts will continue.

Church to Initiate Work		
Administrative Support	Status	Notes
Assist the Priests in developing a long range plan and vision for LNC. (ED, IIC, ICP, COC & Church members)	Not started.	
Assist the Priests in developing the standards for starting and supporting a Church Mission (start-up) for the church. (ICP, COC, ED, Finance & Personnel Committee)	Delayed	Preliminary research and discussions have occurred, but no significant progress
Personnel	Status	Notes
Consider developing a policy regarding who decides the job description, salary, evaluation, and supervision for the Diocesan & Society Administrators	Delayed	
Assist the Priests in developing Job Standards and Performance Accountability/Evaluation System and implement the system for all priests. (Personnel Committee, ICP & COC)	Delayed	So far, the priests have agreed to a Job Description, but have yet to approve a system of accountability/evaluation system.
Tasks Sent to IIC, ICP, & COC	Status	Notes
Develop clear definitions of the roles for the Priesthood in regards to the Ecclesiastical governance of the church. (ICP, Council of Clergy & IIC)	Not Started.	No feedback from ICP at this time.
Discuss the issue that church and corporation members do not view the priests as leaders in the church and how to change this perception. Present a written plan to the Corporation membership. (IIC, ICP, COC, & Church members)	Not Started.	ICP has discussed this, but no formal written plan has been submitted yet.
Identify training needs of the priests and submit a request to the Corporation to assist in identifying potential trainers, including Corporation members or employees. (ICP, COC, Personnel Com. BOM, BOT)	Complete	Priests have been regularly planning professional development each year.
Consider how and when it is critical to start a Church Mission (start-up) and create a policy and document with the support from the Corporation. (ICP, COC, IIC, & ED)	Not Started.	No feedback from ICP at this time.

Church to Initiate Work		
Tasks Sent to IIC, ICP, & COC	Status	Notes
<p>Develop a plan for the future of the church including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of priests to lead in the future Recruitment of priests to serve those areas with a need for additional priests Growth in the Church "In Growth" Develop plans to reach current members of church who are inactive or distant members How to spread the Word of the Lord Publications beyond translated books Outreach plans Look for ways to promote alternatives for financial self-sufficiency dependency on the Church Endowment (IIC, ICP, COC, BOD, BOM, BOT, Sweden Foundation, & Church Members) 	In Process	Some of these topics were discussed in April & May 2016, at special Board/ICP meetings. No official plans were made.
<p>Discuss whether it is time to have a Bishop again to help address the issue of leadership and accountability amongst the priests and present results of discussion at next Assembly. (IIC, ICP, COC, & Church Members.)</p>	Last discussed at 2015 Council of Clergy meetings	No feedback from ICP at this time.

Cash for Causes – Gift Cards

If you shop at Giant Food, Giant Gas or Martins, this is a great way to help raise funds for the Corporation.

Whether you live near or far, you can purchase a gift card from us, and you will **donate both to the Church and those in need at the same time!**



Simply purchase a Giant Gift Card. LNC will then use that gift card to purchase food for a local food bank. By doing this, Giant donates 5% of the gift card value back to the Church or Corporation. You

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Updates from the Property Management Corporation

The new storage shed arrived. We will begin moving items from the storage room to the shed. One half of the current storage room will become the accounting office.

Once the accounting office is complete, Rev. Tom Rose will move into the former Bride's Room and Leonard Rose will move back into the office next to the greenhouse.

~Leonard Rose, Estate Manager



Antiquities

1. The Smit painting "Rocks in Recloses" has been professionally restored by Steven Erisoty, conservator, and is hanging in the Chapel again. *(See photo next page)*
2. Materials Conservation presented us with a proposal for conservation work of furniture in the Pitcairn House. The Antiquities Committee is considering what pieces of furniture need immediate work.
3. The antique dining room table belonging to Bishop Odhner's family has been moved from the Creek Road house to the Pitcairn house. The Antiquities Committee has not yet found an appraiser so restoration is being held off.
4. Len and Jamie Rose took the large Philippe Smit painting "Old Man by River with Book by Swedenborg" to 409 Gallery in West Virginia. The Gallery is delighted to have it.
5. Materials Conservation intends to give us names of Antique Frame dealers who could recommend what we should do with the Monet frame that is in the attic.
6. Rev. Hugh Odhner found a silver plate of historical interest in a closet in the Chapel . We believe it was once used for Holy Supper. The Antiquities Committee will get an approximate value for insurances purposes. It has been photographed and added to the inventory. *(See photo next page)*

~Siri Hurst

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