

Proposed Amendments — LWML Oregon District Bylaws

If the proposed bylaws are adopted, the Structure Committee requests permission to re-number or re-letter sections to account for deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections.

Proposed Date of Approval June 2026

The following proposed bylaw amendments pertain to officers, personnel, and duties pertaining to the positions. They are meant to streamline some of the current positions that overlap with others and eliminate excess in regard to having too many positions and not enough volunteer resources. The proposed amendments hope to give better clarity and understanding as our district works together to *Serve the LORD with gladness!* (Psalm 100:2). They also better define what the duties are for the positions. The bottom line is that we want to pursue what works best for LWML Oregon District. We have an awesome pool of volunteer resources, and we hope to make better use of the “who” they are and the “what” they do.

Proposed changes are in **bold**.

Proposed Amendment #1

ARTICLE VI — OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS, Section 2: Overview

Rationale: To make sure all officers reside in the Oregon District while serving.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
a. The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the biennial convention to serve for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible for consecutive reelection to the same office. Newly elected officers shall assume their duties at the close of the convention at which they are elected.	a. The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the biennial convention to serve for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected and shall not be eligible for consecutive reelection to the same office. The elected officers must reside in the Oregon District. Newly elected officers shall assume their duties at the close of the convention at which they are elected.

Proposed Amendment #2

ARTICLE VI — OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS, Section 3: Vacancy Procedures

Rationale: To clarify how voting privileges may occur.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
a. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy. The election shall be by ballot vote.	a. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy. Voting shall be by ballot or electronic messaging.

Proposed Amendment #3

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Sections 2: President

Rationale: To use official language in regard to “bonding.”

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
The President shall: a. Be bonded at the expense of the District in an amount determined by the Executive Committee.	The President shall: a. be covered by the certificate of liability insurance, as provided by LWML.

Proposed Amendment #4

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 5: Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Rationale: To clarify a specific duty with a better word.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
The Vice President of Gospel Outreach shall: f. make an impartial presentation of the approved proposed mission grants to the convention.	The Vice President of Gospel Outreach shall: f. present an impartial presentation of the approved proposed mission grants to the convention.

Proposed Amendment #5

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 8: Recording Secretary.

Rationale: To make sure past District Presidents and individual members receive minutes of convention proceedings.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
The Recording Secretary shall: e. provide a copy of the Oregon District convention minutes to each member of the Board of Directors, to each delegate, to local groups having no representation, to the LWML President and the LWML Archivist-Historian, and to the Northwest District LCMS.	The Recording Secretary shall: e. provide a copy of the Oregon District convention minutes to the Board of Directors, delegates, Past District Presidents , local groups having no representation, individual members , the LWML President, the LWML Archivist-Historian, and the LCMS Northwest District.

Proposed Amendment #6

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 9: Financial Secretary

Rationale: Conforms to proposed amendment #3.

Proposed Amendment #7

ARTICLE VII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 10: Treasurer

Rationale: Conforms to proposed amendment #3.

Proposed Amendment #8

ARTICLE VIII — NOMINATIONS, Section 2: Duties

Rationale:

- To provide clear direction for the Nominating Committee in selecting candidates from members of a group and individual members.
- To clarify possible methods of voting, by allowing two modes for the committee to receive consents from nominees.
- To clarify a specific duty with a better choice of word and allow for multiple modes of delivery to distribute the slate of candidates to each group in the district.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
The Nominating Committee shall: b. select candidates who are members of a local group in the Oregon District or are individual members of the; c. obtain written consent of all nominees to serve if elected; e. mail the slate of candidates with résumés to each local group six (6) weeks prior to convention;	The Nominating Committee shall: b. select candidates who are members of a local group or are individual members in the Oregon District. c. obtain written consent by mail or electronic messaging of all nominees to serve if elected. e. distribute the slate of candidates with résumés to each local group six (6) weeks prior to convention.

Proposed bylaw amendment #9

ARTICLE IX — APPOINTED OFFICERS

Rationale: To give clarity and better understanding as to what positions are necessary for our district and to better define what the duties are for those positions. We do not need to “copy” LWML positions but need to better use our volunteer resources. To accomplish this, the proposal is to

- delete current ARTICLE IX — APPOINTED OFFICERS and create a new ARTICLE IX.
- new ARTICLE IX will be combined with ARTICLE X — SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL.
- the new ARTICLE will be renamed ARTICLE IX — APPOINTED PERSONNEL.
- the Meeting Manager and the Parliamentarian positions and duties are better defined and the Planner position is eliminated.
- the duties of the Planner will be covered in the Visioning Committee.
- when attending EC and BOD, the Appointed Personnel are advisory members.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
<p>ARTICLE IX — APPOINTED OFFICERS</p> <p>Section 1: Appointed Officers</p> <p>The appointed officers shall be the Meeting Manager and the Planner, appointed by the President, and approved by the Executive Committee, and shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. be members of the Oregon District; b. serve a term of two (2) years and be eligible for reappointment; c. attend all meetings of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and District conventions; d. be advisory members of the Executive Committee; e. be voting members of the Board of Directors; f. be responsible to the President; g. submit a report to be printed in the convention manual; h. perform other duties as set forth in the Standing Rules and the Procedures Manual. <p>Section 2: Meeting Manager</p> <p>The Meeting Manager shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. develop and administer meeting service support for all Executive Committee and Board of Directors’ meetings and the District conventions as directed by the District President; b. be responsible for crisis management at meetings and conventions. <p>Section 3: Planner</p> <p>The Planner shall:</p>	<p>ARTICLE IX — APPOINTED PERSONNEL</p> <p>Section 1: Overview</p> <p>The appointed personnel shall be the Archivist-Historian, Corresponding Secretary, Editor of the Oregon District publication, Meeting Manager, Parliamentarian, and Webmaster for the Oregon District Website, appointed by the President, and approved by the Executive Committee.</p> <p>The Appointed Personnel shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. be members of the Oregon District. b. serve a term of two (2) years or until her successor has been appointed, and be eligible for reappointment. c. be advisory members of the Board of Directors and as requested by the President, attend EC meetings as advisory members. The Parliamentarian and Meeting Manager shall attend both EC and BOD meetings in an advisory capacity. d. be responsible to the President. e. submit a report to be printed in the convention manual. f. perform other duties as set forth in the Standing Rules and Procedures Manual. <p>Section 2: Archivist-Historian</p> <p>The Archivist-Historian shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. gather and preserve records and other materials of historical significance. b. write a history of the activities of the Oregon District for the biennium. c. submit a copy of the history each biennium to the LWML Archivist-Historian. <p>Section 3: Corresponding Secretary</p>

<p>a. be responsible for focusing the LWML vision, goals, and primary targets through the planning process;</p> <p>b. serve as planning liaison/networker with the Northwest District LCMS and other entities;</p> <p>c. if needed, appoint a Visioning Committee consisting of the Planner as chairman and three or more additional members with a Pastoral Counselor as advisor. The work of the Visioning Committee is to lay out major goals and programs of the District. The President, as an ex officio member, is to be invited to all Visioning Committee meetings.</p> <p>ARTICLE X – _SPECIAL APPOINTED PERSONNEL Section 1: Overview The special appointed personnel shall be the Archivist-Historian, Corresponding Secretary, Editor of the Oregon District publication, Parliamentarian, and Webmaster for the Oregon District Website, appointed by the President, and approved by the Executive Committee. The Special Appointed Personnel shall:</p> <p>a. be members of the Oregon District;</p> <p>b. serve a term of two (2) years or until her successor has been appointed, and be eligible for reappointment;</p> <p>c. be advisory members of the Board of Directors and attend meetings as advisory members at the request of the President;</p> <p>d. be responsible to the President;</p> <p>e. present a report to be printed in the convention manual;</p> <p>f. perform other duties as set forth in Standing Rules and Procedures Manual.</p> <p>Section 2: Archivist-Historian The Archivist-Historian shall:</p>	<p>The Corresponding Secretary shall:</p> <p>a. conduct the official correspondence of the Oregon District.</p> <p>b. keep an electronic record of names and addresses of committee members, zone officers, and the president or contact person from each local group.</p> <p>c. provide the Board of Directors with a current and complete mailing list and email list of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and committee members.</p> <p>d. send the change of name and address of the Oregon District President to the LWML office.</p> <p>Section 4: Editor The Editor of the Oregon District publication shall:</p> <p>a. be responsible for the Oregon District publication in consultation with the Vice President of Communication and Pastoral Counselors.</p> <p>b. be the chairman of the editorial staff as needed.</p> <p>c. be a member of the Communication Department.</p> <p>Section 5: Meeting Manager The Meeting Manager shall: a. develop and administer meeting service support for all Executive Committee and Board of Directors’ meetings and the district conventions as directed by the District President.</p> <p>b. be responsible for crisis management at meetings and conventions.</p> <p>Section 6: Parliamentarian The Parliamentarian shall:</p>
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<p>a. gather and preserve records and other materials of historical significance;</p> <p>b. write a history of the activities of the Oregon District for the biennium;</p> <p>c. submit a copy of the history each biennium to the LWML Archivist-Historian.</p> <p>Section 3: Corresponding Secretary The Corresponding Secretary shall:</p> <p>a. conduct the official correspondence of the Oregon District;</p> <p>b. keep an electronic record of names and addresses of committee members, zone officers, and the president or contact person from each local group;</p> <p>c. provide the Board of Directors with a current and complete mailing list and email list of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and committee members;</p> <p>d. send change of name and address of the Oregon District President to the LWML office.</p> <p>Section 4: Editor The Editor of the Oregon District publication shall:</p> <p>a. be responsible for the Oregon District publication in consultation with the Vice President Communication and Pastoral Counselors;</p> <p>b. be the chairman of the editorial staff as needed;</p> <p>c. be a member of the Communication Department.</p> <p>Section 5: Parliamentarian The Parliamentarian shall:</p>	<p>a. serve as an advisor on parliamentary procedure to the President, officers, and individual members upon request.</p> <p>b. attend EC and BOD meetings as an advisory member.</p> <p>c. serve as an ex-officio member of the Structure Committee.</p> <p>Section 7: Webmaster The Webmaster of the Oregon District website shall:</p> <p>a. update website in consultation with the Vice President of Communication and Pastoral Counselors.</p> <p>b. be a member of the Communication Department.</p>
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<p>a. serve as an advisor on parliamentary procedure to the President, officers, and individual members upon request;</p> <p>b. serve as an ex-officio member of the Structure Committee.</p> <p>Section 6: Webmaster The Webmaster of the Oregon District website shall:</p> <p>a. update website in consultation with the Vice President of Communication and Pastoral Counselors;</p> <p>b. be a member of the Communication Department.</p>	
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Proposed bylaw amendment #10

ARTICLE XI — EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 1: Overview

Rationale: To better clarify who is part of the Executive Committee.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
<p>Section 1: Overview The Executive Committee shall be the elected officers (See Article VI, Section 1). The Meeting Manager, the Planner, and the Pastoral Counselors shall be advisory members. The immediate past president shall serve in an advisory capacity for one (1) year.</p>	<p>Section 1: Overview The Executive Committee shall be the elected officers. Advisory members shall be the Pastoral Counselors, the Meeting Manager, and the Parliamentarian. The immediate past president shall serve in an advisory capacity for one (1) year.</p>

Proposed bylaw amendment #11

ARTICLE XII — BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 1: Membership

Rationale: To better clarify who is part of the Board of Directors.

- Appointed officers has been changed to appointed personnel.
- If someone holds more than one voting position, it is necessary to appoint a representative to vote in that second position. For example, a vice president also serves as a zone president. The vice president would appoint someone from her zone to vote as the zone president.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
<p>Section 1: Membership The Board of Directors shall be the elected officers, appointed officers, chairmen of</p>	<p>Section 1: Membership The Board of Directors shall be the elected officers, chairman of standing committees,</p>

<p>standing committees, and the president of each zone or her representative. No member shall hold more than one (1) voting position on the Board of Directors. The Pastoral Counselors and special appointed personnel shall be advisory members. The immediate past president shall serve in an advisory capacity for one (1) year.</p>	<p>and the president of each zone or her representative. No member shall hold more than one (1) voting position on the Board of Directors. If an elected district officer has more than one vote on the BOD, she may appoint a representative to vote in that second position. The representative shall have voice and vote. The Pastoral Counselors and appointed personnel shall be advisory members. The immediate past president shall serve in an advisory capacity for one (1) year.</p>
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Proposed bylaw amendment #12

ARTICLE XIV — DEPARTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES, Sections 1b, 3, 4, and 6

Rationale: To better define the district standing committees for understanding and clarity, specifically in the Gospel Outreach department.

- Change Heart to Heart to Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations
- Change Gospel Outreach Committee to Grant Selection Committee
- Clearly define the members and advisors of the Grant Selection Committee
- To clarify a specific duty in the Communication department with a better choice of word.
- Section 4 Gospel Outreach, move items d. through g. to the Procedures Manual.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
<p>Section 1: Overview b. The standing committees shall be Christian Life, Communication, Gospel Outreach, Leader Development, Structure, Mission Servants, Membership, Young Women, Heart to Heart, and Special Ministries. The chairmen, except the chairman of the Gospel Outreach Committee, and the committee members shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. The chairmen shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Section 3: Communication a. disseminate news of the LWML and the Oregon District to make it known to the membership, the church at large, and the general public</p>	<p>Section 1: Overview b. The standing committees shall be Christian Life, Communication, Gospel Outreach, Leader Development, Structure, Membership, Young Women, Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations, and Special Ministries. The chairmen, except the chairman of the Gospel Outreach Committee, and the committee members shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. The chairmen shall be voting members of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Section 3: Communication a. disperse news of the LWML and the Oregon District to make it known to the membership, the church at large, and the general public.</p>

<p>Section 4: Gospel Outreach The Gospel Outreach Department shall include the Gospel Outreach and Mission Servants Committees. The Vice President of Gospel Outreach shall be coordinator of the department and shall be the chairman of the Gospel Outreach Committee and the Mission Grants Selection Meeting.</p> <p>d. provide each member local group with a copy of the mission grant proposals at least six (6) weeks prior to convention date;</p> <p>e. have its chairman submit a list of approved mission grants to the Editor of the Oregon District publication to be printed in the issue prior to the convention;</p> <p>f. make an impartial presentation of the mission grant proposals to the convention;</p> <p>g. prepare the mission grant ballot for the Oregon District convention;</p> <p>Section 6: Special Focus Ministries The Special Focus Ministries shall include Young Women’s Committee, Heart to Heart, and Special Ministries Committee.</p> <p>The Heart to Heart Chairman shall:</p>	<p>Section 4: Gospel Outreach The Gospel Outreach Department shall include the Grant Selection Committee. The Vice President of Gospel Outreach shall be coordinator of the department and shall be the chairman of the Grant Selection Committee.</p> <p>The Grant Selection Committee shall include the chairman, the LWML Oregon District President, and two (2) or more members. A Pastoral Counselor shall serve as advisor.</p> <p>The committee shall:</p> <p>a. receive and evaluate all mission grant proposals.</p> <p>b. submit a list of proposed mission grants for Executive Committee approval.</p> <p>c. submit grant status reports to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Section 6: Special Focus Ministries The Special Focus Ministries shall include young Women’s Committee, Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations, and Special Ministries Committee.</p> <p>The Heart to Heart — Sisters of All Nations Chairman shall:</p>
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Proposed bylaw amendment #13

ARTICLE XV — SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 2

Rationale: To make sure the District President is listed as part of the Finance Committee.

<p>Existing Bylaws read: Section 2: Finance Committee The Finance Committee, consisting of the Treasurer as chairman, the Financial Secretary, one (1) additional member, and one (1) Pastoral Counselor and the Oregon District President as advisors, shall:</p>	<p>If adopted, will read: Section 2: Finance Committee The Finance Committee, shall include the Treasurer as chairman, the Financial Secretary, the District President, and one (1) additional member. At least one (1) Pastoral Counselor shall serve as advisor. They shall:</p>
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Proposed bylaw amendment #14

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS, Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6

Rationale: To better define and clarify the steps to take in submitting grant proposals for understanding.

- Change the date for deadline of the Mission Grant Proposal applications.
- The name of the Gospel Outreach Committee is changed to the Grant Selection Committee.
- Section 6: Grant Procedures is moved to the Procedures Manual.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
<p>Section 1: Submission of grants a. Individual members, local groups, zones, and LCMS Offices may submit Oregon District mission grant proposals. b. The required number of copies of the proposal must be submitted to the Vice President of Gospel Outreach by September 30 in odd numbered years.</p> <p>Section 2: Evaluation of Grants The Gospel Outreach Committee Chairman shall: a. submit to the Northwest District LCMS President for evaluation and approval all proposed grants to be used within the Northwest District; b. submit to the LCMS Director of National Missions for evaluation and approval all proposed grants to be used outside the Northwest District to be used nationally; c. submit to the LCMS Director of International Missions for evaluation and approval of all proposed grants to be used internationally.</p> <p>Section 3: Funds Disbursement a. Funds voted for a mission grant must be disbursed or put into use within two (2) biennium, the biennium in which the grant was voted upon and the one following or be reallocated by the Board of Directors. b. In the event that changes in mission grant plans arise because of changing conditions,</p>	<p>Section 1: Submission of grants a. Individual members, local groups, zones, or LCMS Offices may submit Oregon District mission grant proposals. The Mission Grant Proposal applications must be postmarked by or submitted electronically by midnight by October 31 in odd numbered years.</p> <p>Section 2: Evaluation of Grants The Grant Selection Committee Chairman shall: a. submit to the Northwest District LCMS President for vetting of all applications for mission grants to be used within the Northwest District. b. submit to the LCMS Director of National Missions for vetting of all applications for mission grants to be used nationally, outside the Northwest District. c. submit to the LCMS Director of International Missions for vetting of all applications for mission grants to be used internationally. d. submit vetted grant proposals, selected by the Grant Selection Committee, to the District Executive Committee and Board of Directors for approval.</p> <p>Section 3: Grant Voting A plurality of votes by the voting body at the district convention shall determine the grants selected.</p>

<p>the Board of Directors shall be authorized to act, either in session, by mail, phone, or by electronic messaging.</p> <p>c. If the total Mission Grant Goal has been met for the current biennium, mite offerings will go towards the next biennium’s Mission Grant Goal.</p> <p>Section 4: Grant Communication An electronic list of the proposed mission grants with descriptions shall be sent to each Zone President six (6) weeks prior to the Oregon District convention. The Zone Presidents will disburse the proposed mission grant list to their respective local groups six (6) weeks prior to the Oregon District convention.</p> <p>Section 5: Grant Voting A plurality of votes by the District voting body at convention shall determine the grants selected.</p> <p>Section 6: Grant Procedures LWML Mission Grant Proposals shall:</p> <p>a. be submitted to the District by members, local groups, or zones in accordance with Article XVII of the LWML Bylaws. The requested number of copies for each proposal must be submitted to the Vice President of Gospel Outreach by the required date in the odd numbered years;</p> <p>b. be reviewed and evaluated by the Gospel Outreach Committee members, Pastoral Counselors and District President;</p> <p>c. be approved by the District Executive Committee and Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Section 4: Grant Communication An electronic list of the proposed mission grants with descriptions shall be sent to each Zone President six (6) weeks prior to the Oregon District convention. The Zone Presidents will disburse the proposed mission grant list to their respective local groups six (6) weeks prior to the Oregon District convention.</p> <p>Section 5: Funds Disbursement</p> <p>a. Funds voted for a mission grant must be disbursed or put into use within two (2) biennium, the biennium in which the grant was voted upon and the one following or be reallocated by the Board of Directors.</p> <p>b. If changes in a mission grant occur, the Board of Directors shall be authorized to act, either in session, by mail, phone, or by electronic messaging.</p> <p>c. If the total Mission Grant Goal has been met for the current biennium, mite offerings will go towards the next biennium’s Mission Grant Goal.</p>
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Proposed Amendment #15

ARTICLE XXI — RESIGNATIONS AND DISSOLUTIONS, Section 2: Oregon District
Dissolution

Rationale: To keep LWML property within the LWML.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
The Oregon District cannot be dissolved so long as five (5) local groups demand its continuance. In case of dissolution, all properties are to be kept in trust by the Northwest District LCMS Treasurer.	The Oregon District cannot be dissolved so long as five (5) local groups demand its continuance. In case of dissolution, all properties are to be kept in trust by LWML .

Proposed Amendment #16

ARTICLE XXIV — AMENDMENTS

Rationale: To clearly outline the steps for amending bylaws. For clarity, transparency, and protection when submitting amendments.

Existing Bylaws read:	If adopted, will read:
These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the convention. The proposed amendments shall have been approved by the LWML Structure Committee, presented for approval to the Oregon District Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and submitted to each local group six (6) weeks prior to convention. By unanimous vote, a proposed amendment may be presented to the convention without prior notice. A three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be required for adoption.	These LWML Oregon District bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting members at the Oregon District convention. The proposed amendments shall be presented for consideration to the LWML Oregon District Executive Committee and Board of Directors. After approval by the Board of Directors, the proposed amendments must be submitted to the LWML Structure Committee, as required by LWML Bylaws Article III, Section 3. After final approval, the proposed amendments shall be published in the LWML Oregon District news publication, and provided to the delegates six (6) weeks prior to convention by written or electronic means. No additional amendments may be presented from the floor at convention.