



Today's Business

Issue 3

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Monday, July 22

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Morning Session

- 8:00 Morning Prayer
- 8:20 Greetings—Concordia Publishing House,
Dr. Bruce Kintz
- 8:30 Witness (#1)
- 9:15 Special Presentation—Honoring of Missionaries
- 9:25 Witness (#1)
- 10:00 Convention Essay—*Baptized for Witness*
- 10:40 Theology and Church Relations (#4)
- 11:25 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
- 12:00 Recess

Afternoon Session

- 1:30 Midday Prayer
- 1:50 Minutes
- 2:00 Greetings—Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Kay
Kreklau
- 2:10 Registration, Credentials and Elections (#8)
- 2:40 Special Presentation—Military Chaplain,
Rev. Mark Schreiber
- 2:50 Committee for Convention Nominations (#9)
- 3:30 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
- 4:30 Theology and Church Relations (#4)
- 5:35 Omnibus Resolution B
- 5:45 Responsive Prayer I
- 6:00 Recess
- 6:00 Load buses for Concordia Seminary Event—
A Taste of Life Together



65th Regular Convention

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Saint Louis, MO - July 20-25, 2013

Pages 303 – 346, Monday 7/22
Pages 183 – 302, Sunday 7/21
Pages 1 – 182, First Issue

Convention Schedule

adopted July 21, 2013

The 65th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod July 20–25, 2013 • America’s Center Convention Complex • St. Louis, Missouri

Floor committee meetings will be held July 19–20. The schedule is considered tentative as Bylaw 3.1.9(i)(2) states that the President “shall, at the first session and during the course of succeeding sessions of the convention, announce the order of business for the day and following days.”

Friday—July 19, 2013

1:30–9:00 Floor Committees—closed meetings

Saturday—July 20, 2013

8:30–noon Floor Committees 1–7 open hearings

10:00–3:00 Exhibits open

12:00 Lunch on your own

1:00 Floor Committees 1–7 closed meetings, if necessary

1:30–3:00 All Delegate and Representative Orientation (*Ferrara Theatre, Level 1, America’s Center*)

5:30 Delegate Dinner (*America’s Center Ballroom, Level 2*)

7:00 Pre-service music

7:30 Opening Divine Service with Holy Communion (*Halls 1 and 2, America’s Center*)

Sunday—July 21, 2013

8:00 Matins—Rev. Timothy Schar

8:45 Preparation for Opening Business Session

8:55 Convention Opening and Presentation of Gavel

9:00 Electronic Voting System

9:20 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8)

9:25 Standing Rules

9:40 Convention Schedule

9:50 President’s Report (Part 3)

10:20 Welcome and Greetings from Local Representatives

10:25 Welcome and Greetings from Southern Illinois District

10:30 Convention Essay—*Baptized for This Moment*—Rev. William Cwirla

11:15 Life Together (#3)

12:00 Recess

1:30 Midday Prayer—Rev. Dr. Leo Sanchez

1:50 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8) (*Announce Presidential election result*)

1:55 Response from newly elected President

2:00 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8) (*Voting delegate registration report*)

2:05 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for First Vice-President

2:20 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for Great Lakes Regional Vice-President

2:35 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for Great Plains Regional Vice-President

2:50 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for West-Southwest Regional Vice-President

3:05 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for East-Southeast Regional Vice-President

3:20 Presentation of Slate and Balloting for Central Regional Vice-President

3:35 Ballot to determine ranking of Vice-Presidents

3:50 Greetings—Thrivent, Dr. Brad Hewitt

3:55 Committee for Convention Nominations (*Nominations for Secretary*)

4:10 Omnibus Resolution A

4:20 Seminary and University Education (#5)

5:05 Administration and Finance (#6)

5:30 Evening Prayer

6:00 Recess

8:00 LCEF Ice Cream Social (*Renaissance Hotel*)

Exhibits Open 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Hall 3)

Monday—July 22, 2013

8:00 Morning Prayer—Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo

8:20 Greetings—Concordia Publishing House, Dr. Bruce Kintz

8:30 Witness (#1)

9:15 Special Presentation—Honoring of Missionaries

9:25 Witness (#1)

10:00 Convention Essay—*Baptized for Witness*—Rev. Amos Bolay

10:40 Theology and Church Relations (#4)

11:25 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)

12:00 Recess

1:30 Midday Prayer—Rev. Gregory Seltz

1:50 Minutes

2:00 Greetings—Lutheran Women’s Missionary League, Kay Kreklau

2:10 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8) (*Balloting for Secretary of the Synod and Regional Synod Board of Directors*)

2:40 Special Presentation—Military Chaplains,

2:50 Rev. Mark Schreiber
Committee for Convention Nominations
(*Nominations for Synod Board of Directors, other Boards, CTCR, Board of Regents, and Entities*)
3:30 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
4:30 Theology and Church Relations (#4)
5:35 Omnibus Resolution B
5:45 Responsive Prayer 1
6:00 Recess
6:00 Load buses for Concordia Seminary
Event—*A Taste of Life Together*

Exhibits Open 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Hall 3)

Tuesday—July 23, 2013

8:00 Morning Prayer—Rev. Bernie Seter
8:20 Special Recognition—Newly elected and outgoing Praesidium
8:25 Mercy (#2)
9:20 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
10:00 Convention Essay—*Baptized for Mercy*—Rev. Ted Krey
10:40 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
11:20 Mercy (#2)
12:00 Recess
1:30 Midday Prayer—Rev. Alexey Streltsov
1:50 Minutes
2:00 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8)
(*Balloting for Synod Board of Directors, other Boards, CTCR, Board of Regents, Entities*)
3:00 Special Recognition—Former officers of Synod and special church body guests in attendance
3:10 Omnibus Resolution C
3:20 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8)
(*Balloting for Synod Board of Directors, other Boards, CTCR, Board of Regents, Entities*)
3:50 Special Recognition—Newly elected and outgoing Synod Board of Directors
3:55 Seminary and University Education (#5)
4:50 Administration and Finance (#6)

5:40 Service of Baptismal Remembrance and Litany of the Resurrection
6:00 Recess
7:15 Baseball: Cardinals vs. Phillies
(*Individuals purchase tickets online*)
7:30 Alumni Receptions

Exhibits Open 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Hall 3)

Wednesday—July 24, 2013

8:00 Matins—Rev. Dr. James Baneck
8:20 Life Together (#3)
9:05 Greetings—Lutheran Hour Ministries, Bruce Wurdeman
9:15 Special Recognition—LCMS Presidents Emeriti
9:20 Life Together (#3)
10:00 Convention Essay—*Baptized for Life Together*—Rev. Dr. Steve Mueller
10:40 Witness (#1)
11:25 Seminary and University Education (#5)
12:00 Recess
1:30 Commemoration of the Faithful Departed—Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan
1:55 Minutes
2:05 Seminary and University Education (#5)
3:00 Life Together (#3)
3:45 Seminary and University Education (#5)
4:35 Theology and Church Relations (#4)
5:45 Responsive Prayer 1
6:00 Recess
8:00 President-Elect's Reception
(*America's Center Ballroom, Level 2*)

Thursday—July 25, 2013

8:00 Matins—Rev. Dr. Charles Gieschen
8:20 Administration and Finance (#6)
9:10 Theology and Church Relations (#4)
9:55 Administration and Finance (#6)
10:35 Structure and Ecclesiastical Matters (#7)
11:20 Unfinished Business
11:40 Minutes
11:50 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#8)
12:00 Itinerarium
12:15 Adjournment

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Daily Worship

Essay—Baptized for Witness

Essayist: **Bishop Amos Bolay**



The Rev. Amos Bolay is president and bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia (ELCL). He serves as the chief ecclesiastical leader, representative and spokesperson for the ELCL both at home and abroad.

He represents LCMS service organizations in Liberia—the Children’s Christian Concern Society, Orphan Grain Train and LCMS Disaster Response to Liberia—and is a board member of Lutheran Hour Ministries in Liberia. Prior to becoming a pastor, Bolay served as instructor of the Ministry of Youths and Sports of Liberia, County Commissioner of the Boy Scouts of Liberia and County Coordinator of the Liberian National Red Cross Society.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Bible and Theology from Liberia Assemblies of God Bible College and a Master of Arts in Systematic Theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. Bolay is presently pursuing a doctorate of ministry in pastoral leadership.

He and his wife, Rose, have been blessed with four children—Ndende, Rebecca, Jallah and Lucia—and four grandchildren.

Morning Worship

Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonnen Mendedo



The Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonnen Mendedo became the seventh president of Concordia College, Selma, Ala., on Jan. 1, 2010. He previously served as the pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Mobile, Ala., and as an adjunct professor of Philosophy at the University of South Alabama and Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala.

Dr. Mendedo has served in the church as an evangelist, youth leader, church elder, Bible School teacher, project director, curriculum advisor for the theological centers in Ethiopia and school administrator of the Theological Training Center of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus-Central Ethiopia Synod (EECMY) in Addis Ababa. He also served as coordinator of the

Mobile Bible Schools of the Mekane Yesus Church. Through his leadership, several churches have been established and confessional books such as Church and Ministry (C.F.W. Walther), Law and Gospel (C.F.W. Walther) and This is My Body (Hermann Sasse) have been translated into Ethiopian vernacular languages.

Dr. Mendedo is a member of the Southern District Mission Committee, a board member of African Radio Ministry (ARM), president of the Master Builder Center and coordinator of the Lutheran translation works in Ethiopia. He has academic memberships in American Missiology Society, Evangelical Missionological Society, Lutheran Society of Missiology and other Academic Societies in the United States.

Dr. Mendedo has a diploma of Theology. He earned his B.A. degree in counseling and a Masters degree in Systematic Theology. He earned a Ph.D. in Missiology from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

He is a native of the Arssi region in Ethiopia and is married to Aberash Aklilu. They have three children: Hawii, Yeabsira and Amen.

Afternoon Worship

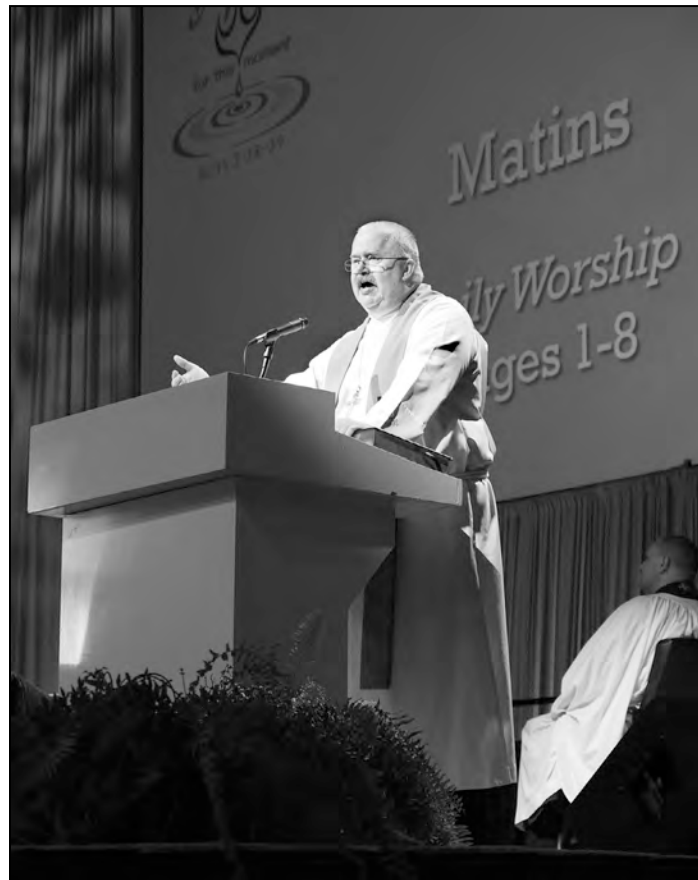
The Rev. Gregory P. Seltz



The Rev. Gregory P. Seltz is speaker of **The Lutheran Hour**® radio program, a position he has held since February 2011. He serves as the featured speaker on Lutheran Hour Ministries' flagship Christian outreach radio program, which airs on more than 1,350 stations across North America as well as on the American Forces Network. He also serves as the organization's spiritual leader, evangelist and ministry emissary with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC).

Before joining Lutheran Hour Ministries, Seltz has previously served as the director of the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center as well as professor of Theology at Concordia University in Irvine, Calif.; executive director of Life's Journey Ministries, an urban, not-for-profit evangelism ministry in Manhattan, New York; founding pastor of the first new Lutheran mission start in New York City in more than 40 years (Church For All Nations—LCMS); and pastor of congregations in Dallas and Tampa.

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LCMS Southern Illinois District President Timothy Scharr, left, preaches during the morning service on Sunday, July 21, 2013.

Sermon for the Opening Service
of the 65th Regular Convention of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

President Matthew C. Harrison

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all whom are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself” (Acts 2:37–41).

Baptism is the very Gospel itself in action, and we are baptized for witness. We are baptized for mercy. We are baptized for life together in this church. We are baptized for this moment.

But we—frankly, not unlike Peter’s first-century hearers—have a problem. Luther complained about those in his day who denied the power of Baptism, saying, “They regard Baptism as common water, no better than a cow or dog’s bath.” In fact, when they look at Baptism, they are “like a cow staring at a new barn door.”

And us? We might even be worse! We know and believe that Baptism “is not just plain water.” We know that “it works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil.” We know all that and think nothing of it. How do I know you think nothing of it?

Now, let me warn you. I’m not going to preach *about* the Law. I’m not going to describe the Law and how it should make you feel. I’m not going to talk about some people in general somewhere who aren’t following the Law. I’m not going to dole out the Law in some innocuous dosage to irritate you so you can be even smugger about your own holiness and look down your nose at that guy next to you. I’m preaching to *you*.

Repent! The path back to Baptism is through repentance. Peter preached in the very last verse just before our text: “Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified” (Acts 2:36). And make no mistake: Those first-century Jews crucified Christ in your name . . . in your stead!

When you fail to speak Christ and His forgiveness to others as you go about your daily vocation, is it not as though Christ were dead? Faith cometh by hearing! You cry, “I tell you, I don’t know the man!”

When you chew up pastor after pastor or wring the life out of a Director of Christian Education and spit her out because you won’t spring a few bucks to keep her on, you cry out, “Give us Barabbas!” I’m convinced if some of our congregations had Jesus as pastor, they’d be pushing the voters to dump him and call Barabbas.

When you pastors can find any excuse not to be visiting your people and hitting the pavement in your community, being Jesus there who “came to seek and save the lost,” you render Jesus dead to that community. You cry out, “Crucify Him!”

When your church is embroiled in controversy and inside you cry, “Crucify them!” you cry, “Crucify Him!”

When your hearts are filled with lust instead of an unquenchable thirst for God’s Word, you cry, “Crucify Him!”

When you slander your neighbor, you cry, “Crucify Him!”

When you are discontent, unhappy with your lot in life, unhappy with your call, impatient with your congregation, even lording it over them, you cry, “Give us Barabbas!”

And if you are sitting there thinking, “Man, I’m glad he’s taking it to my pastor!” then you are twice as damned under the Law. And when—after the last voter’s meeting—like Judas you were hiding in the corner, talking about how to crucify your pastor, you cried out, “Crucify Him! Let His blood be on our hands!”

“Don’t waste time denying your sins,” Luther says. “You crucified Him.” “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins” (Acts 2:38). “Wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death?” (Rom. 7:24). “For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me” (Ps. 51:3).

“Repent and be baptized” (Acts 2:38). “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!” (Ps. 51:2). “Truly, truly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). My friends, Jesus Christ died for sinners. “In Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself” (2 Cor. 5:19). As much as it pains me to say this, if you are not a sinner, if you do not recognize yourself in the scorching mirror of the Law, if you are not a real, hard-boiled sinner like the rest of us, then you must leave. Jesus is not for you. You see, Jesus Himself said, “I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance” (Luke 5:32).

Baptized sinners: That’s what you are. O boy, have I got great news for you! Luther said—about Jesus’ own Baptism—that here “Christ sticks Himself into the water,” and when we go into the water in Baptism, we pull Him out with us. Ha!

Just think about what Christ sticks into the water.

“It is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness” (Matt. 3:15), Jesus told John.

“Born of a woman, born under the law” (Gal. 4:4), He “who knew no sin” (2 Cor. 5:21) sticks His perfect obedience to the Law in the water.

When Jesus is baptized, Mark’s Gospel says, “Heaven was torn open” (Mark 1:10). So says Luther, “In baptism heaven is nothing but doors and windows.” Open heaven into the water!

In Jesus’ Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends as dove. The Holy Spirit goes into the water.

In Jesus’ Baptism, the voice of God from heaven says, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased!” (Mark 1:11). It goes into the water.

Paul says, “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death” (Rom. 6:4), so Christ’s passion, the death sentence, the ridicule, the standing before Pilate, the beatings, the whippings, the bloody crown of thorns, the King of the Jews, the nails, the “Father, forgive them, for they know now what they do” (Luke 23:34), the “Today you will be with me in Paradise” (Luke 23:43), the “It is finished” (Luke 19:30), the last breath: All of it into the water.

And Paul goes on. There’s more—much, much more! “For if we have been united with him in a death like his—in *the water*— we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his—in *the water*. We know that our old self was crucified with him—in *the water*— in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin—in *the water*. For one who has died has been set free from sin—in *the water*. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him—in *the water*. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus—in *the water*” (Rom. 6:5–14).

Paul goes on in Titus 3:4–5: “But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit—in *the water*—whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior—in *the water*—so that being justified by His grace—in *the water*—we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” In the water (Titus 3:4–7)!

Peter says, “Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you—in *the water*—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience—[Baptism is the appeal. It’s the good conscience!]*—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*” (1 Peter 3:21).

Christ has stuck all this into the water, and because you've been stuck into the water, it's all yours now.

Finally, let's go about our business as the baptized. It doesn't mean we will agree on every strategy or resolution. We won't. It doesn't mean we won't have personality clashes struggles with sin among us. We will. But it does mean this: Paul says, "We were buried therefore with him (συνετάφημεν) by baptism into death" (Rom. 6:4). Together. We're in the water together, sink or swim.

And Peter goes on to preach, "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself" (Acts 2:39).

You're all wet! You're baptized for this moment. Now, let's get about the business of getting the world wet. It's all in the water!

In the Name of Jesus . . . in the water. Amen.



LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison describes the historic gavel before using it to open the 65th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod on Sunday, July 21. The intricately carved gavel bears the likenesses of Martin Luther and C.F.W. Walther, the Synod's first president, and has been used at every Synod convention since 1911

President's Report Part 3

“Baptized for This Moment!”

Dear Delegates,

Take heart! You are baptized! And you are baptized for this moment!

A short time ago, I took into my hand the historic gavel, which has been used to open and close LCMS conventions for over a century. It's been wielded in every fallible hand from Pfotenhauer to Harrison, and will continue to be wielded at every convention after the hand of this sinner is long gone, dead and buried. It was commissioned and carved in 1911 in Germany for the 100th anniversary of Dr. C. F. W. Walther's birth. Its wood came from the original Concordia Seminary log cabin, which the Saxon immigrants built in Perry County in 1839, 100 miles south of here, 175 years ago this coming year.

Like most triennia in the history of our Synod, the one capped by 1911 faced real challenges. All the first generation leaders were gone. The triennium started with \$942.46 in the bank and ended with a debt of \$28,562.99. How gladly I would take the latter number today! First Vice-President Pfotenhauer was the first ever to lay hands on this gavel that year, though it should have been Francis Pieper. But Dr. Pieper—a name that every pastor here knows from his doctrinal theology textbook—had been serving as President of *both* the Synod and of Concordia Seminary, and it was just too much. This great, second-generation leader and student of Dr. Walther had suffered a breakdown. And yes, the President of the Synod missed the convention that year! It would take the next year and a half for him to recover. And so, the Synod—having begun with just a dozen congregations and now 880,000 strong—moved forward with a new president, President Pfotenhauer.

On the horizon were challenges aplenty. A world war with Germany soon turned ugly at home, where anti-German sentiment was poured out on the people and churches of the Synod. Soon after came the Great Depression. Then another world war. Then the post-war theological challenges, with which we still struggle today. Throughout it all, this gavel opened and closed convention after convention, some of them very controversial.

Should this gavel have any meaning for us today? Isn't it just a piece Perry County oak—a quaint nostalgic relic of our Germanic past, now long gone? Not quite. Why are these two faces on the gavel, Luther and Walther?

You see there is an extraordinary truth found in God's Word. In the Psalms, and many other places in the Bible, the fathers (and also the mothers, too) are remembered. “I am so troubled that I cannot speak” the psalmist declares in Psalm 77:4. But then he goes on to find comfort: “‘Has the Lord's steadfast love forever ceased? Are His promises at an end for all time? Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His compassion?’ Then I said, ‘I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High. *I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes I will remember Your wonders of old*’” (Psalm 77:8–11).

Mary sang the same song, announcing the coming Savior! “He has helped His servant Israel, *in remembrance of His mercy*, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to His offspring forever” (Luke 1:54–55). God spoke the promise of a Savior to Abraham and the fathers. He remembered His promises and brought them to be in the birth of the Savior.

We are told in the Book of Hebrews: “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, *and imitate their faith*. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings. For it is good for the heart to be strengthened by *grace* . . .” (Heb. 13:7–9a).

These “remember” verses are no navel-gazing, no gavel-gazing, do-nothing, nostalgic, retro-retreat to recover what was, or regret the impossibility of its retrieval. If you are under the impression that there was a golden age in the church—without struggle and controversy, anguish and politics, without fallible leaders who suffer weakness and breakdown—then you know nothing of the history of the Missouri Synod, the Lutheran Church, the Reformation, the church prior to the Reformation, or the New Testament for that matter! There ain't no goin' back! There ain't no

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golden age to go back to!

So Mary sang, in effect: “The Lord promised a Savior, and here and now He is! Here and *now*!” The Psalmist wept in anxiety on his bed and needed the strength to carry on in the morning. He needed help *now*! For *tomorrow*! To carry on, to move forward, He remembered the Lord’s promises, and that the *Lord* kept and keeps His promises! The writer to the Hebrews says, “Remember your leaders” (look back!); and “imitate their faith” (look forward!).

And so we have two faces on our gavel—Luther and Walther. Hermann Sasse, who prayed daily for the Missouri Synod, said that “It is always a sign of a deep spiritual sickness when a church forgets its fathers” (*Lonely Way*, vol. 2, page 223). In the broad sense here, we include *all* our mothers and fathers in the faith—our parents, our grandparents, those who have gone before us into heaven, the founders of the Synod, the church, the saints of the Scriptures, Moses, David, the apostles and more. In forgetting these, the church forgets the merciful goodness and deeds of God in caring for his saints. But in the narrower sense in which Luther and Walther are “fathers of the church,” when such leaders are forgotten, it is a sign of sickness because what comes with it is often a lack of Scriptural fidelity, a lack of clarity on the Gospel and all its teachings, and *especially a lack of the father’s zeal to proclaim and share the message of salvation in Christ alone*. Walther said the church is the mission society par excellence! Every Christian is a missionary, wherever God has placed him or her! Luther said time and again that every Christian is to speak the Gospel and bears the keys to forgive!

On our gavel is therefore also carved Romans 3:28: “For we hold that one is justified by faith, apart from the works of the law.” Fallible as he was, Luther pointed the church back to this fundamental truth of Holy Scripture. It was this fact of the free forgiveness of Christ, by faith alone that as he said, “moved all of my theological thoughts day and night.” It was this fact of salvation by grace alone that gave Luther, who was himself a weak and often sickly man, the strength to stand in the face of the world, the devil and the flesh. It was this Gospel that enlivened his very being when he stood before the Emperor and confessed, “Here I stand! I cannot, I will not recant. God help me. Amen.” And the Gospel flew forth—midst trials aplenty, to be sure—but the Gospel flew forth!

Sasse also noted that every great era of advancement in the history of the church begins with the cry, “Back! Back to the Scriptures!” In the Lutheran Church, every great era of mission and growth has begun with the cry, “Back to Luther!” The prophets in the Old Testament cried, “Remember the covenant and the testimony!” “Back to the Word of God!” John the Baptizer came crying out, “Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand! Hear what the Scriptures say! ‘A voice crying in the wilderness! Prepare the way of the Lord!’” Jesus came preaching! “Repent! For the kingdom of God is at hand!” He stood up in Nazareth and read Isaiah, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor” (Luke 4:18ff.). Luther came preaching! “Back to the Scriptures! Back to the Gospel of grace alone!”

In the midst of widespread apostasy from the Word of God, from the Gospel, from the Lutheran Confessions, God raised up another fallible human being—in many respects physically and emotionally very weak. And yet, C. F. W. Walther’s message 175 years ago was “Repent! Back to the Scriptures! Back to the teaching of grace and free eternal life for the sake of Jesus! Back to Luther! Back to the Church’s confession!”

We may joke about old Walther. We may chuckle about his looks. Some may criticize his method of doing theology. But note this: What Walther and the founders of the Missouri Synod were able to do 175 years ago, which led to the founding of this church body, is a remarkable accomplishment by the grace of God. We live today from the blessings that God granted to our fathers in the faith. This church confesses that “there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts. 4:12). “The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe” (Rom. 1:16). For all our weaknesses, this church confesses to this very day that the Bible is the very Word of God, inspired and inerrant. This church confesses the full authority of Luther’s Catechism and the whole *Book of Concord*, the heart and soul of which is the Gospel. The *Book of Concord* has this one purpose: certainty of divine favor in Jesus Christ for troubled souls.

Like the hammer blow of this gavel, the past is abruptly behind us. We will never see it again. It’s gone. But the echo of the blow goes forward and out into this hall. And all the past comes to a head in this moment—to teach us, to console us, to motivate us! The echoes of the past reverberate right into our present, and so into our future!

Listen to the blessings of the past echoing to this very moment:

1. We have the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No doubt. Done deal. It is finished! “The blood of Jesus Christ . . . cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).
2. We have the sacred Scriptures. They bear witness to all the great salvific deeds of God Himself! No doubt what is or where is God’s Word.
3. We have the Gospel in preaching, in Baptism, in the Sacrament.
4. We are blessed by the catechism and all its teaching expanded in the confessions.
5. We have a clear confession of faith and polity that has stood the test in our Synod constitution.
6. We have fantastic seminaries in good shape and friends all over the world seeking our partnership.
7. We have thousands of faithful pastors.
8. We have thousands more faithful teachers and church-workers!
9. We have a University System to die for, with 30,000 students!
10. We have the worldwide outreach ministries of the LWML and LHM!
11. We have LCMS international mission, with work in some 85 countries!
12. We have 35 districts, all at work where they are, striving to share the Gospel!
13. We have partners all over the world, and the number grows monthly!
14. We have 2,200 early childhood centers, grade schools and high schools.
15. We have a hundred mission organizations, 130 mercy organizations.
16. We have disaster work in the name of Christ that just won’t stop!
17. We are blessed by the LCMS Foundation, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, Concordia Plans, and Concordia Publishing House.
18. We are blessed by nearly 6,200 congregations on the front lines of mission.
19. We and we are blessed by some 1568 delegates.

And it’s all gift. *ALL GRACE*. “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God. Consider the outcome [and what an outcome!] of their way of life, and imitate their faith” (Heb. 13:7). “I will remember the deeds of the Lord” (Psalm 77:11). “What do you have that you did not receive?” we say with St. Paul (1 Cor. 4:7).

But as we all know, we face severe challenges as a church:

- One in three people under thirty in this country are religiously un-affiliated. And I am shocked by how many of these I meet who tell me, “I used to be LCMS.”
- We are deeply affected by the decline in the birth rate, and the decline of marriage as an institution.
- The culture is on the attack.
- Thus far our best efforts at mission have not been able to stem the slow, forty-year decline.
- *And* if I were to talk to each one of you, with a little time you’d tell me, and I’d tell you, about our challenges in the ministry, our personal struggles, our weaknesses. Our need for prayer and strength.

Today I say to you: Take heart! You are like the paralytic who was let down through the roof by his friends. Jesus says to you: “Take heart! Your sins are forgiven!” (Luke 5:20). “But so that you might know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins, I say to you, here today, rise! Take up your mat and go!” (Luke 5:24). Take heart! You are baptized!

Today I say to you: Take heart! What Jesus told his apostles applies directly to you—*today*, this moment: “I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Buried with Christ by baptism into His death (Rom. 6:4), Jesus has overcome the world in you! Take heart! You are baptized!

Today I say to you: You are like blind Bartimaeus sitting by the road. “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” . . . “Jesus, Son of David! This congregation is driving me mad! Jesus, Son of David, I’m tired, I’m depressed, I’m paralyzed! I’m working myself to death. I’m not seein’ the fruit. Lord, have mercy!” “And they called the blind man, saying to him, ‘Take heart. Get up; He is calling you.’ . . . Jesus asked him ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Rabbi! I want to see!’” (Mark 10:46–49). Take heart! The Lord delights in reducing us to nothing! And then when we are nothing, He calls! Take heart! You have a vocation in your baptism!

Today I say to you, take heart! Jesus has placed this good ship Missouri out on the high seas. The stakes are high. The waves are higher! The culture is wretched; the hatred of the world is palpable. But the Lord doesn’t want us safely secluded away from the world in a tranquil haven. He wants us out among sinners, just like us, who need

Him. Facing these challenges is enough to make us lose our courage and our confidence in God's Word. Take heart! Jesus wants us out in the waves, out in the storm—out *in* the world, but not *of* the world (cf. John 17:11, 16). And He is here *with us* in that storm! “For they all saw Him and were terrified. But immediately He spoke to them and said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid” (Mark 6:50). Take heart! You are baptized! That tiny bit of water will stand down all the oceans of tribulation on earth!

Today I say to you, take heart! Perhaps you've come to this convention with apprehension, concern, anger, sinful thoughts, all mixed with faith and the best intentions! On a humorous note, and for those particularly worried about the coming week, I quote for you the words of St. Paul in the Book of Acts, “I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship” (Acts 27:22). God help us! “Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!” (Psalm 27:14).

My dear friends in Christ. This truly is a remarkable moment for us. I believe that as America goes the way of Europe, the church will actually be attacked more violently on this continent because we do not have the tradition of state churches. I also believe that as we “obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29), and as our constitutional guarantees of the “free exercise” of religion face constant infringement and infraction, the Lord will work good among us, perhaps even bringing the greater unity among us that has often eluded us. Luther says in the Large Catechism that “spiritual fathers” are entitled to honor, but seldom receive it. “For the world's way of honoring them is to harry them out of the country and grudge them as much as a piece of bread. In short, as St. Paul says, they must be ‘the refuse of the world, and every man's footrag’ (LC I 160). So it has always been. So it will be. An American Catholic bishop, Cardinal George, got it right, I think, when he said: “I expect to die in bed, my successor will die in prison and his successor will die a martyr in the public square. His successor will pick up the shards of a ruined society . . . as the church has done so often in human history.” Take heart! The Lord promised it would be so in the end times!

The Lord humbles those whom he would elevate. And even as we are being humbled and sifted and driven to repentance, the Lord is putting before us a moment like no other in our lifetimes. In fact, we are witnessing a tectonic shift in world Lutheranism. Lutheran Churches in Africa—such as the Ethiopian Mekane Yesus with 6.2 million members, the Malagasy Lutheran Church with over 4 million, and increasingly the Tanzanian Lutherans and many others—they are coming to us not asking for money. They want our teaching, our biblical and Lutheran fidelity, which has become so eroded in the European and American Lutheran world because of historical criticism and its effects. And in this moment of vast migration of peoples, we need our African Lutheran brothers and sisters more than they need us. They are frankly much better at mission than we are. And thousands upon thousands of their church members and their countryman have emigrated to America and to other places in the world. And they need Christ and the Lutheran Church.

The mission of the church is now more than ever trans-local. It is “glocal,” if you will. The world and its people are migrating like nothing seen since the great migrations of peoples into the Roman Empire during the third and fourth centuries. While they are distinct, we cannot completely separate out mission to Spanish speaking peoples in this country, and mission to their countries of origin. The same goes for Africa. The Gospel follows family and tribal and ethnic lines, wherever they may lead around the world.

My friends, I am deeply honored to serve you. I have been humbled over the past three years in many ways. I remain a poor, miserable, fallible sinner, trusting in the sole merit of my Savior. Luther said about Baptism that God is found under the cover of weak external things. In Baptism, said Luther, we die with Christ, but the dying of our sinful flesh continues until we depart this life. Said Luther, “The journey begins in Baptism. And as long as there is faith, man continues on this course until he completes it through death” (AE 24:42; cf. Trigg, *Baptism in the Theology of Martin Luther*, 29ff.). “Baptism is death; they are interchangeable terms in Scripture” (AE 2:143) But because I have died with Him, I also live with Him. And so do you!

Luther said that if given the choice of receiving direct revelations from God versus learning to treasure more highly and understand all the blessings of Baptism, he'd gladly choose the latter. It has been my deep prayer for you that our time together will help us grow in our baptisms—that we will grab hold of Baptism, the very Gospel of Christ poured out on us, and that this Baptism will drive us. For we are baptized for witness. We are baptized for mercy. We are baptized for a life together. And we are baptized for this moment.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Resolutions & Committee Reports

2013 Proposed Resolution Actions

		FLOOR COMMITTEE						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RESOLUTION NUMBER	01			A/Adopted (1)		A/Adopted		
	02			A/Pending		A/Adopted (2)		
	03			A/Pending			Adopted (2)	
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ACTION KEY

Declined: Declined in (session #)

Pending: Pending before assembly

Adopted (#): Approved as printed (session #)

Adopted AM (#): Adopted as amended (session #)

(A,B,C.../): Revised version adopted

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This table is provided for your convenience.
The table will be updated daily with action taken

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1. WITNESS

To Highlight and Strengthen the Global Seminary Initiative

RESOLUTION 1-01A

President's Report, Part 2 (TB, pp. 17–18)

The Lord has blessed The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) with gifts of faithful, biblical theological education found in two strong seminaries and many fine theologians who are capable of training pastors and other church workers. For this reason, partner churches and other Lutheran churches around the world, are seeking the assistance of the LCMS in training their church workers.

As one example, in early 2013, after the 6.1 million member Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) broke altar and pulpit fellowship with the Church of Sweden and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, representatives from the EECMY requested the LCMS to provide leadership in the area of theological education to its central seminary and five regional seminaries as it seeks to train and ordain 10,000 pastors over the next decade.

As a mission priority, the LCMS has historically established and supported seminaries in response to the opportunities the Lord has presented. Noteworthy are the seminaries in India, Brazil, and Nigeria.

WHEREAS, The LCMS has a global reputation for theological education based on the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God and on the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of God's Word. In recent years, dedication to true doctrine and biblical Christianity has weakened in many places, but growing churches around the globe are seeking this identity; and

WHEREAS, There are now over 40 Lutheran seminaries and Bible institutes globally that are looking to the LCMS for leadership precisely because of the Synod's dedication to God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS has partner churches worldwide who recognize that one of its best qualities is its theological education; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS is well-positioned to assist these partner churches by providing teaching; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that the LCMS act boldly by doing everything it can to identify and secure resources and teachers to spread God's Word and teach the Lutheran Confessions among all who thirst for truth; and

WHEREAS, Even as the founders of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (C.F.W. Walther, Friedrich Wyneken) dared enough to create a seminary before there was even a synod, so also the LCMS today is energized and prepared to invest venture capital to support and enhance theological education in its partner churches; therefore be it

Resolved, That the LCMS, in response to the plea of bishops, seminary presidents, faculties, pastors, and in consultation with the International Lutheran Council (1) send qualified instructors to teach at and support their seminaries and (2) make it possible for the next generation of teachers and church leaders to study at our two seminaries in Fort Wayne and St. Louis; and be it further

Resolved, That the LCMS, in convention, recognize that the Global Seminary Initiative agrees with the Synod's mission priority of strengthening confessional Lutheranism by providing confessional Lutheran theological education around the world.

1 **To Complete and Engage in a Synodwide Study of the**
2 **“Theological Statement of Mission for the 21st Century”**

3
4 **RESOLUTION 1-03A**

5
6 Overtures 1-01, 1-05 (CW, pp. 135–136)
7

8 WHEREAS, Numerous resolutions dealing with the church’s mission have been adopted by the LCMS in
9 convention (1979 Res. 1-21; 1989 Res. 1-01; 1989 Res. 3-01; 1992 Res. 1-01; 2004 Res. 1-01A; 2010 Res. 1-02); and
10

11 WHEREAS, It is our Lord’s desire to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10), and the Lord is not willing for
12 any to perish but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9); and
13

14 WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations in 1991 completed an assignment given
15 by the 1986 LCMS convention to “initiate, facilitate, and develop a theological Statement of Mission” to “reflect the
16 urgency, vitality, and joy of our historic confession of Christ’s forgiveness by grace alone as taught in Scripture
17 alone” (Res. 3-02); and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Board for National and International Mission have already begun to develop the
20 “Theological Statement of Mission for the 21st Century”; and
21

22 WHEREAS, It is the Lord’s intention to use His Church to reach every nation through Word and
23 Sacrament; and
24

25 WHEREAS, The church is born, nourished, and preserved only through the means of grace, the Gospel and
26 the Sacraments; therefore be it
27

28 *Resolved*, That the Offices of National and International Mission, together with their respective boards,
29 develop a “Theological Statement of Mission for the 21st Century” to be completed by the end of 2014; and be it
30 further
31

32 *Resolved*, That the 1991 CTCR document “A Theological Statement of Mission” be used as a resource in
33 the development of this study; and be it further
34

35 *Resolved*, That during the three years following the publication of this document, “A Theological Statement
36 of Mission for the 21st Century” that every district use this document for an in-depth study of the mission of Christ’s
37 church through its convocations, conferences, and/or conventions, and that every circuit convocation and forum,
38 every congregation, and every school of the Synod be encouraged to study, discuss, and use the materials developed
39 by the Synod campaign; and be it finally
40

41 *Resolved*, That all members of the Synod be encouraged to develop a clearer understanding of their
42 involvement in God’s mission and be moved to participate in it with greater joy and fervor.
43
44
45

46 **To Encourage Church Multiplication as Means of Making New Disciples**

47
48 **RESOLUTION 1-04A**

49
50 Overture 1-03 (CW, p. 135)
51

52 WHEREAS, Church planting or church multiplication is part of God’s strategy to make disciples (Matt.
53 28:18–20; Acts 1:8); and
54

55 WHEREAS, Jesus Himself, as Lord of the Church, has promised to build His Church (Matt. 16:18); and
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1 WHEREAS, The local church is God's mission agency in its local context; and

2
3 WHEREAS, The Lord Jesus directs His church to pray for workers in the harvest (Matt. 9:37-38) who
4 preach God's Word and administer His sacraments, leading to church multiplication; and

5
6 WHEREAS, New churches re-energize and refocus existing congregations on the mission of God; and

7
8 WHEREAS, The LCMS at its 2004 convention determined to start 2,000 new churches in North America
9 by 2017; therefore be it

10
11 *Resolved*, That congregations and their leaders continually ask the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers
12 into His harvest fields, especially asking that the Lord open their eyes to see the plentiful harvest fields around them;
13 and be it further

14
15 *Resolved*, That congregations and their leaders be encouraged to work in cooperation with other
16 congregations and their circuits to determine the opportunity to multiply churches locally; and be it further

17
18 *Resolved*, That congregations be encouraged to support church multiplication efforts in their districts with
19 their prayers, offerings, and other support for new church starts in the districts; and be it finally

20
21 *Resolved*, That congregations explore and utilize the resources available from the LCMS Board for
22 National Mission in these multiplication efforts.

23
24
25
26 **To Encourage the Congregations and People of the LCMS for the Joy of Evangelization and the**
27 **Making New Disciples**

28
29 **RESOLUTION 1-05A**

30
31 Overture 1-02 (CW, p. 135)

32
33 WHEREAS, Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has given to His Church the Great Commission and
34 actively calls His followers to "[g]o therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the
35 Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I
36 am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:19-20); and

37
38 WHEREAS, Jesus, as Lord of the Church, has promised to build His Church (Matt. 16:18), which promise
39 He fulfills through the evangelical activities of Baptism, teaching, and confession of the Gospel that occurs at the
40 local level within the life and ministry of each congregation and by persons in their Christian vocation within the
41 body of Christ and in the world; and

42
43 WHEREAS, The Pew Research Forum on Religion and Public Life reports that "The number of Americans
44 who do not identify with any religion [and therefore do not confess Jesus Christ as Lord] continues to grow at a
45 rapid pace..."; and

46
47 WHEREAS, God's Spirit opens our eyes to look at the fields ripe for harvest (John 4:35); and

48
49 WHEREAS, The Church's proper response to the need for the sharing of the Gospel of Christ for the
50 salvation of souls is founded on the pure teachings of Holy Scripture and the leading in faith by the Holy Spirit; and

51
52 WHEREAS, The resources and assistance for mission initiatives, church multiplication, and outreach are
53 available from various reliable sources for congregations, districts, and other agencies; therefore be it

54
55 *Resolved*, That congregations be led in earnest prayer to ask the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers
56 into His harvest fields (Luke 10:2); and be it further

1
2 *Resolved*, That all LCMS districts, circuits, congregations, and their baptized members be encouraged to
3 work collaboratively at every level; to sponsor any of the following: a missionary, a church plant, a specialized
4 ministry, or a mission; and to give due time and support to their chosen initiative(s); and be it further
5

6 *Resolved*, That this convention direct the Office of National Mission to work aggressively to increase
7 awareness of its services and resources for the Synod's congregations, institutions, schools, and professional church
8 workers for training and equipping all God's people, members, and families for joyful evangelization, sharing with
9 confidence and courage their hope in Christ—namely the forgiveness of sins and eternal life in His name; and be it
10 further
11

12 *Resolved*, That congregations and their pastors, circuits, and other ministries be encouraged to seek
13 opportunities for joint ventures to carry out the initiative(s) they choose; and be it finally
14

15 *Resolved*, That these joint ministry ventures be recognized, publicized, and joyfully celebrated with the
16 blessing and prayers of all God's people in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
17
18
19

20 **To Amend Bylaw 6.1.3 (h) 6.2.1 (d) Auxiliaries and Recognized Service Organizations to Respect**
21 **Church Relations Protocol Documents**
22

23 **RESOLUTION 1-06A**
24

25 Overture 1-11 (CW, p. 138); President's Report, Part 2 (TB, p. 17)
26

27 WHEREAS, The Apostle Paul urges the Corinthians to do all things decently and in order (1 Cor. 14:40). It
28 is important that the church, the body of Christ, in carrying out the mission the Lord has given her to proclaim His
29 precious Gospel of forgiveness and life, work decently and in order; and
30

31 WHEREAS, Agreement on the mission together with uniform practice will provide a context in which the
32 church can be a good steward of the gifts God has given; and
33

34 WHEREAS, "An auxiliary exists as an arm of the Synod and has as its primary function aiding the Synod,
35 specifically in programs that extend the ministry and mission of the Synod" (Bylaw 6.1.1) and "It honors and
36 upholds the doctrine and practice of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod" (Bylaw 6.1.3(g)); and
37

38 WHEREAS, To be recognized as an auxiliary, it is required to "Coordinate plans and programs with those
39 of the Synod through regular sharing and contact with representatives of those boards to which the Synod has
40 assigned specific responsibilities (boards of the Synod will share with the auxiliaries in a similar manner)" (Bylaw
41 6.1.2.1(d)); and
42

43 WHEREAS, "An auxiliary assumes the following among its responsibilities: (a) It reports annually to the
44 President of Synod, (b) It provides the Synod with an annual program report, and (c) It keeps the Synod advised of
45 any new program under consideration" (Bylaw 6.1.3); and
46

47 WHEREAS, A Recognized Service Organization (RSO), "while independent of the Synod, fosters the
48 mission and ministry of the church, engages in program activity that is in harmony with the programs of the boards
49 of the Synod and respects and does not act contrary to the doctrine and practice of Synod" (Bylaw 6.2.1); and
50

51 WHEREAS, The President of the Synod "shall be the chief ecumenical officer of the Synod" (Bylaw
52 3.3.1.1.2) and is responsible for official contacts with other church bodies, including the development of protocol
53 documents between the LCMS and other church bodies; and
54

55 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has established protocol documents (agreements
56 according to which we will work together) with our partner churches in foreign mission fields; and

1
2 WHEREAS, These protocol documents establish the relationships between the LCMS and partner
3 churches; and
4

5 WHEREAS, The agencies, auxiliaries, and recognized service organizations benefit from the agreements
6 between the LCMS and her partner churches; therefore be it
7

8 *Resolved*, That for the sake of good order and unified practice, the Bylaws of the LCMS be amended by
9 adding the following paragraph (h) to Bylaw 6.1.3 and the following paragraph (d) to Bylaw 6.2.1:
10

11 **PROPOSED WORDING**
12

13 6.1.3 (h) It operates with freedom and self-determination in its mission independent of control by the
14 Synod in its organization and administration, while at the same time it respects protocol documents that may exist
15 between The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and her partner churches that have been made available to the
16 auxiliary.

17 6.2.1 (d) Operating with freedom and self-determination in its mission independent of control by the
18 Synod, a recognized service organization also respects protocol documents that may exist between The Lutheran
19 Church—Missouri Synod and her partner churches that have been made available to the recognized service
20 organization.
21

22 *Resolved*, That any additional bylaw changes required by these changes be addressed by the Commission
23 on Handbook (COH) in consultation with the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM), and be it,
24

25 *Resolved*, That the President of the Synod establish regular dialog, at least biannually, between
26 representatives of the Office of International Mission, the Office of Church Relations and the auxiliaries of the
27 Synod.
28
29
30

31 **To Support the Wittenberg Project for the Quincentennial Celebration of the Lutheran**
32 **Reformation**
33

34 **RESOLUTION 1-07A**
35

36 Overture L1-19, (TB, p. 31); Report 1-7 (CW, p. 18)
37

38 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, walking alongside its German partner church, the
39 Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church (SELK), and the International Lutheran Society of Wittenberg (ILSW),
40 envisions a modern, renovated facility serving as an historic center for confessing Lutherans worldwide; and
41

42 WHEREAS, The time for Lutheran teaching is now for visitors, scholars, and students—to journey to
43 Wittenberg to learn the history, culture, and the effect of the Reformation; and
44

45 WHEREAS, Wittenberg welcomes the heirs of Luther's legacy by welcoming home those who claim
46 Wittenberg and its famed friar as the cradle of the great Reformation legacy; and
47

48 WHEREAS, In 2006, the Synod's Central Illinois District helped to purchase a historic structure in
49 Wittenberg's village center, the Old Latin School (1565), making possible a new era of Lutheran scholarship,
50 outreach, witness, service, and education; and
51

52 WHEREAS, The ILSW, under the name "The Wittenberg Project" plans to renovate the Old Latin School
53 and provide a comfortable, welcoming space designed for educational and cultural programs; for short-term guest
54 housing for visitors, scholars, teachers, students, LCMS universities and seminaries; and for research, theological
55 writing, and historical exhibits; and

WHEREAS, The Wittenberg Project can serve as a welcome center, establishing a clear and compelling Lutheran presence, and opening doors to further witness and mercy work in the community; and

WHEREAS, As the quincennial anniversary of the posting of the Ninety-Five Theses in 2017 will refocus the world's attention on Luther and Wittenberg, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the International Lutheran Society of Wittenberg will have a rare and timely opportunity to welcome confessional Lutherans and visitors from around the world; and

WHEREAS, The Wittenberg Project will provide exposure to the legacy of Luther and the unique witness of Scripture and Lutheran Confessions (that we are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone); therefore be it

Resolved, That the LCMS in convention encourage all congregations and individuals within the Synod to support The Wittenberg Project prayerfully and financially; and be it further

Resolved, That all glory be given to God for the life, ministry, and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther.

To Prepare LCMS Congregations and Pastors for Defense of Our Christian faith

RESOLUTION 1-09A

Overture 1-08 (CW, p. 137)

WHEREAS, Christ foretold that Christians throughout the world will suffer persecutions for Christ's name (John 16:33); and

WHEREAS, The preaching of Christ crucified and risen continues to be a stumbling block to secular society (1 Cor. 1:23) and the Christian Church in general, and the LCMS in particular will continue to experience increasing resistance to the Gospel and persecution on a broad scale (John 15:20); and

WHEREAS, Cultural shifts in secular society's attitude toward Christianity show increased opposition to the clear proclamation of the Gospel and confession of our Lutheran doctrine and teachings; and

WHEREAS, Civic events and governance within a secular world will affect ministry, as Satan uses these to increase tension within our Lutheran community while we strive to be faithful to God's Word and to love and serve our neighbors in need; and

WHEREAS, Purposeful, effective, and continuous catechesis on the Confessions of the Lutheran Church will lead to a more keen understanding of Lutheran apologetics, which enables a bold and faithful witness for the hope Lutheran Christians have in Christ (1 Peter 3:15); therefore be it

Resolved, That every pastor and congregation be encouraged to participate in the study of God's Word and of the Lutheran Confessions and Lutheran Apologetics in defense of their Christian faith; and be it further

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House be requested to publish materials to train congregational members and professional church workers on how to respond to persecution in our society and establish clear confessional proclamation of the Gospel; and be it finally

Resolved, That members of the Synod deal with one another in charity and grace as they seek to be faithful in their personal and public confession of our faith, life, and ministry.

To Develop Spanish and Multi-Lingual Capabilities in the Synod

RESOLUTION 1-10A

Overture 1-10 (CW, p. 138)

WHEREAS, Christ has given His mandate to make disciples of “all nations” by baptizing and teaching (Matt. 28:19); and

WHEREAS, Scripture tells us that gathered before the throne of God and before the Lamb is an uncountable multitude “from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages” (Rev. 7:9); and

WHEREAS, Loving our neighbors as ourselves may include knowing their language and customs; and

WHEREAS, Tens of millions of our neighbors do not know English as their first language; and

WHEREAS, “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17); and

WHEREAS, Other Christian denominations in the United States have raised their expectations of their pastors and church workers to include proficiency in a second language; and

WHEREAS, The Synod’s International Center is moving toward communication in multiple languages; and

WHEREAS, The LCMS is historically an immigrant church, with worship services and Bible teaching often conducted in the mother tongue many decades after our forefathers came to this country; therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod strongly urge that our Lutheran preschools and elementary schools introduce children to other languages and cultures; and be it further

Resolved, That Synod strongly urge that our Lutheran elementary and high schools promote the study of a second language; and be it further

Resolved, That the Concordia University System and our two seminaries be encouraged to include in the curriculum for those preparing for church work a requirement for the study of Spanish or another modern language spoken by an immigrant population in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That any plans for continuing education among ordained and commissioned workers be encouraged to include the study of a second modern language (such as Spanish, Mandarin, etc.) as a part of the curriculum; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod recommend that congregations where appropriate offer ESL (English as Second Language) classes and other appropriate multilingual ministries for their community and classes in Spanish or other modern languages appropriate to their community in order to develop relationships with immigrant people; and be it finally

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House provide distinctively Lutheran resources which teach Spanish and English as second languages.

To Designate District Coordinators for Prison and Jail Ministry

RESOLUTION 1-13A

Overtures 1-06-07 (CW, p. 137)

WHEREAS, In Matthew 25:36 our Lord Jesus stressed the importance of ministering to those who are in prison by saying, “I was in prison and you came to Me”; and

WHEREAS, The early church’s commitment to prison ministry is reflected in the words of Hebrews 10:34, “For you had compassion on those in prison”; and

WHEREAS, In recent years the LCMS has intentionally sponsored conferences and training sessions in prison and jail ministry; and

WHEREAS, Crime has touched virtually every congregation of the Synod by way of membership, relatives, or friends experiencing the crisis of imprisonment; and

WHEREAS, Each district of the Synod has within its region some large prison institutions and many jail settings; and

WHEREAS, Prison and jail ministry addresses God’s Word not only to prisoners but also to ex-prisoners, their families, prison staff, and victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, Prison and jail ministry also offers many opportunities to share the Gospel with persons who do not yet know Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Gaining access to correctional facilities in order to provide pastoral care can be a daunting task, especially to pastors without experience in such work; and

WHEREAS, A designated coordinator for prison ministry in each district will raise the profile of prison and jail ministry and coordinate and connect prison ministry efforts; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention give thanks to God for the increased efforts of the Synod, its districts, and its congregations to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with prisoners, ex-offenders, families of prisoners, prison and jail staff, and victims of crime; and be it further

Resolved, That the LCMS gathered in convention agree together to have a prison and jail ministry coordinator in each of our 35 districts, either volunteer or compensated, for the purpose of researching opportunities, training, providing guidelines, equipping congregations, and networking for prison and jail ministry; and be it finally

Resolved, That prison and jail ministry efforts throughout the LCMS include helping pastors and congregations become more sensitive to the needs of victims of crime and their families, especially needs for healing and reconciliation.

To Encourage Further Support for Campus Ministry

RESOLUTION 1-15A

Overture 1-14 (CW, p.139)

WHEREAS, All university students are faced with unique challenges to their faith by the dominant secular, anti-Christian culture so prevalent on our nation’s public university campuses; and

1 WHEREAS, Those challenges also present countless opportunities for the Church both to confess the faith
2 and to care for those who are unbelievers, including hundreds of thousands of international students and their
3 families; and
4

5 WHEREAS, Derek Melleby, Director of College Transition Initiative, stated, “Scholars and researchers tell
6 us that the years between 18 to 25 are considered critical years. Decisions are made during this time that are
7 formative for the rest of life;” and
8

9 WHEREAS, Handing over the faith to those that follow is the task of every generation; and
10

11 WHEREAS, Campus ministries continue to be a source of church workers and lay leaders; and
12

13 WHEREAS, The Synod closed its campus ministry office in 2002, leaving many in campus ministry to
14 continue this task without direct support from the Synod; and
15

16 WHEREAS, Many organizations have supported campus ministry in the Synod during this time, including
17 Lutheran Student Fellowship (established in response to 1986 Res. 1-09); and
18

19 WHEREAS, The Office of National Mission has sought to restore campus ministry directly within the
20 Synod’s structure through its support of the UNWRAPPED National LCMS Campus Ministry Conference held at
21 Saint Louis University in 2013 and by its launching of the Synod’s bold and comprehensive new initiative for
22 campus ministry, LCMSU; therefore be it
23

24 *Resolved*, That the Synod commend all those engaged in campus ministry throughout the church and
25 continue to encourage them in their ongoing mission and ministry efforts on our nation’s campuses; and be it further
26

27 *Resolved*, That the Synod and Districts encourage congregations and circuits to continue to care for their
28 own college students and seek new opportunities to develop campus outreach at nearby colleges, universities, and
29 vocational schools; and be it further
30

31 *Resolved*, That the Synod thank those organizations that have faithfully supported campus ministry over the
32 last decade, including Higher Things (Christ on Campus), International Student Ministry, and the Lutheran Campus
33 Mission Association; and be it further
34

35 *Resolved*, That the Synod express appreciation to those who participated in Lutheran Student Fellowship as
36 a student leadership component, which is now being fully incorporated into LCMSU, and be it finally
37

38 *Resolved*, That the Synod recognize and give thanks to God for the efforts of the Office of National
39 Mission through LCMSU, and that it continue to support and encourage the further development of campus ministry
40 wherever possible for the sake of the Gospel and the young people of the Church.
41
42

5. SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

To Amend Bylaw 3.10.4.7.3 re Appointment of Seminary Faculty

RESOLUTION 5-11B

President's Report, Part 2 (TB, pp. 23–24)

WHEREAS, The Board for Pastoral Education was assigned the task of prior approval for seminary faculty prior to the 2010 LCMS convention; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Pastoral Education was eliminated in the restructuring that occurred during the 2010 LCMS convention; and

WHEREAS, Both of the Synod's seminaries are currently serving faithfully and with theological integrity, yet the Synod's history reminds of the importance of vigilance; and

WHEREAS, The restoration of a process for interviewing faculty by Synod officials with significant Synod-wide responsibility would be seen as beneficial to the well-being of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod Bylaws be amended as follows:

PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

Seminary Faculties

3.10.4.7.3 The board of regents on recommendation of the president of the seminary shall appoint all full-time members of the faculty.

(a) All initial appointments to seminary faculties shall require prior approval by a majority vote of the President of the Synod (or his designee), the chairman of the Council of Presidents (or his designee), and the chairman of the Synod Board of directors (or his designee), and shall include a thorough theological review. The three voters shall be ordained. The process shall be facilitated by the Executive Director of Pastoral Education.

(ab) The terms and conditions of every appointment shall be stated in writing and be in the possession of both the seminary and the prospective faculty member before the appointment is consummated. Limitations of academic freedom because of the religious and confessional nature and aims of the seminary shall be stated in writing at the time of the appointment and conveyed to the person being appointed.

(bc) Ordinarily, candidates for full-time teaching positions shall be rostered members of the Synod. When laypersons are employed in full-time teaching positions, they shall pledge to perform their duties in harmony with the Holy Scriptures as the inspired Word of God, the Lutheran Confessions, the Synod's doctrinal statements, and the policies of the Synod.

(ed) The board of regents may decline to renew an initial-level appointment of a faculty member at its discretion and without formal statement of cause. If reappointment to the teaching staff is not contemplated, the board of regents shall so notify the faculty member in writing through the president of the seminary at least six months prior to the expiration of the current appointment. Notice of non-reappointment shall be made at least six months before the expiration of an initial-level appointment of a faculty member.

(de) The board of regents shall maintain standards of good practice that provide uniform procedures for renewing faculty employment contracts.

(ef) Each seminary shall state policies regarding faculty appointments, employment contracts, contract renewal, and contract termination for all employees.

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Overture 6-19 (*CW*, pp. 240–241)

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services and the Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans consist of the same board members, 13 voting members (two parish pastors, one teacher, and ten laypersons) all appointed by the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and one nonvoting member (the Chief Financial Officer of the LCMS); and

WHEREAS, At present, Bylaw 3.7.1.3 provides that the voting members on the Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services/Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans shall include “Ten laypersons, at least four of whom shall be experienced in the design of employee benefit plans, at least four of whom shall be experienced in the management of benefit plan investments, and at least one of whom shall have significant financial/audit experience”; and

WHEREAS, Due to the strong need for specialized expertise in employee plan design and investment management, and the wide scope of benefit products and services offered by Concordia Plan Services, Concordia Plan Services and Concordia Plans would benefit from the service of two additional layperson board members experienced in the design of employee plans and in the management of plan investments; and

WHEREAS, Due to the complexity of employee benefits, especially those designed to meet the unique needs of the variety of workers served by Concordia Plan Services, it is beneficial for the members of the Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services/Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans to serve on those boards for lengthy periods so that the contributions of their knowledge can be maximized; and

WHEREAS, The Bylaws of the Synod limit the terms of office of members of all boards of the Synod to three successive three-year terms of office, unless otherwise provided in the Synod Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, The Bylaws of the Synod are otherwise silent as to terms of office of the members of the Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services/Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans; and

WHEREAS, Bylaw 3.6.4.3 provides: “All voting members of the board of directors of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri Synod shall serve a maximum of four three-year terms”; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation is seeking amendment of Bylaw 3.6.5.2.1 to add at the end thereof the following sentence: “The members of the Board of Trustees of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation appointed by the voting members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation shall serve a maximum of four successive three-year terms”; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Plan Services and Concordia Plans would similarly benefit from their voting board members being permitted to serve four successive three-year terms of office; and

WHEREAS, At its February 2013 meeting, a resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services/Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans to request the 2013 LCMS convention to amend Bylaw 3.7.1.3 to add two additional laypersons to the membership of the Board of Directors of Concordia Plan Services/Board of Trustees of Concordia Plans, with such laypersons to be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Synod (as are all other such board members), to increase the number of voting board members to 15, and to allow all of such voting board members to serve a maximum of four successive three-year terms; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in convention amend Bylaw 3.7.1.3 as *follows*:

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3.7.1.3 The ~~b~~Board of ~~t~~Trustees ~~directors of~~ Concordia Plans and the ~~b~~Board of ~~d~~Directors ~~Trustees of~~ Concordia Plan Services shall consist of ~~43~~15 voting members appointed by the Board of Directors of the Synod, ~~and the~~The Chief Financial Officer of the Synod ~~as a~~shall be a nonvoting member. Voting members shall be appointed to three-year terms, which shall not exceed four terms in a successive period. The ~~43~~15 voting members shall include:

1. Two ~~parish pastors~~ ministers of religion-ordained.
2. One ~~teacher who is a~~ minister of religion-commissioned
3. ~~Ten~~Twelve laypersons, at least ~~four~~five of whom shall be experienced in the design of employee benefit plans, at least ~~four~~five of whom shall be experienced in the management of benefit plan investments, and at least one of whom shall have significant financial/audit experience.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

To Address Questions Re Service of Licensed Lay Deacons

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 4-06A

(TB, p. 249, Lines 9-13)

Proposed wording of this *Resolved* as follows:

Resolved, That the President of Synod establish a task force consisting of members from the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, the Council of Presidents, the Praesidium, and seminary faculties to develop a plan anchored in the Word in consultation with licensed lay deacons and those who supervise and are served by them to ensure that by a date certain all who are administering the Word and Sacraments of Christ in the congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be rightly called (prepared, examined, called, and ordained); and be it finally

Submitted by:
Rev. Jason M. Braaten
Pastoral Delegate, Central Illinois District

To Conduct a Study of the Alternate Routes to the Pastoral Ministry

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 5-14A

(TB, p. 273)

The first *Resolved* be amended as follows: in line 56, strike the words “the optimal number of such routes,”

Submitted by:
Rev. Curtis Garland
Pastoral Delegate, South Dakota District

To Commend Faithful Service and to Study Proper Roles of Men and Women in the Church

Overture 4-16, L4-75 (CW, pp. 169–170, *TB*, p. 36)

To Allow E-Meetings and E-Voting

SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION 7-05

Overtures 7-10, 7-13, 7-39–40 (CW, pp. 252, 253, 278)

WHEREAS, The Synod requires various meetings in compliance of its governance documents, and meetings for other purposes, including for voting; and

WHEREAS, There are instances where traveling to these meetings by participants can require extensive travel in order to attend; and

WHEREAS, We are called to be good stewards of our time and resources; and

WHEREAS, There are electronic means to ensure secure, private, and confidential meetings by teleconference or e-meetings that utilize the Internet and other technologies; and

WHEREAS, There is a place, time, and need for face-to-face meetings among us, but the currently understood requirement for all circuit forum meetings to be face-to-face imposes an unnecessary and burdensome requirement on our geographically large circuits and likely other entities as well; therefore be it

Resolved, That circuits, districts, the Synod, and Synod agencies be encouraged to consider e-meetings or e-voting technologies when their use may save substantial resources; and be it further

Resolved, That the Commission on Handbook be instructed to make the necessary bylaw changes to allow for these technologies to be used for implementation to hold meetings; and be it further

Resolved, That the Commission on Handbook be instructed to make the necessary bylaw changes to allow for these technologies to be used for the election of circuit counselors, election of convention delegates, and the elections for all Synod positions, including, but not limited to the President, Vice-Presidents, all boards and offices of the Synod and its agencies; and be it finally

Resolved, That for the sake of our life together as the Church, whenever and wherever feasible, these meetings be held face-to-face.

Submitted by:
Willard Ducharme
Lay Delegate, Michigan District

**M
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Slate of Nominees

2013 Synod Convention

Slates of Candidates for Elected Offices

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
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First Vice-President				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 1,030			
1. Fickenscher, Carl C. (IN)	8.5% (88)			
2. Mueller, Herbert C. (MO)	55.8% (575)			
3. Murray, Scott R. (TX)	11.4% (117)			
4. Preus, Daniel (MO)	11.8% (121)			
5. Wohlrabe, John C., Jr. (SW)	12.5% (129)			

Central Regional Vice-President				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 965			
1. Bueltmann, David J. (CI)	7.6% (73)			
2. Gard, Daniel L. (IN)	8.2% (79)			
3. Noland, Martin R. (IN)	6.8% (66)			
4. Preus, Daniel (MO)	50.3% (485)			
5. Wenthe, Dean O. (IN)	27.2% (262)			

East-Southeast Regional Vice-President				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 991	Total 926		
1. Buegler, David D. (OH)	8.9% (88)			
2. Diefenthaler, Jon T. (SE)	23.0% (228)	29.3% (271)		
3. Kuhn, Robert T. (FG)	42.8% (424)	50.9% (471)		
4. Michael, Gerhard C. (FG)	6.5% (64)			
5. Taylor, Dien A. (AT)	18.9% (187)	19.9% (184)		

Great Lakes Regional Vice-President				
Ministers of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 932			
1. Bender, Peter C. (SW)	9.4% (88)			
2. Davis, David A. (MI)	8.1% (75)			
3. Hoesman, C. William (MI)	16.4% (153)			
4. Weber, Paul A. (NW)	6.4% (60)			
5. Wohlrabe, Jr., John C. (SW)	59.7% (556)			

Great Plains Regional Vice-President				
Ministers of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 930	Total 912		
1. Bauman, Gene D. (SD)	10.9% (101)			
2. Buchhop, Mark J. (ND)	10.3% (96)			
3. Garwood, Ronald M. (WY)	14.1 (131)	15.0% (137)		

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
4. Nour, Nabil S. (SD)	45.5% (423)	60.2% (549)		
5. Turner, Steven D. (IW)	19.3% (179)	24.8% (226)		

West-Southwest Regional Vice-President				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 1,004	Total 1,014		
1. Cwirla, William M. (PSW)	18.6% (187)	19.2% (195)		
2. Murray, Scott R. (TX)	44.5% (447)	59.2% (600)		
3. Preece, Robert C. (TX)	9.7% (97)			
4. Schrank, Jeffery T. (EN)	17.5% (176)	21.6% (219)		
5. Woolsey, William R. (TX)	9.7% (97)			

Regional Vice-President Ranking				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)	Total 1,048			
2 nd VP Great Lakes Regional Vice-President; (Wohlrabe, Jr., John C.)	31.8% (333)			
3 rd VP Central Regional Vice-President (Preus, Daniel)	23.0% (241)			
4 th VP West-Southwest Regional Vice-President (Murray, Scott R.)	17.9% (188)			
5 th VP Great Plains Regional Vice-President (Nour, Nabil S.)	14.6% (153)			
6 th VP East-Southeast Regional Vice-President (Kuhn, Robert T.)	12.7% (133)			

Office of Secretary				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)				
1. Gehlbach, Daryl D. (MNS)				
2. Hartwig, Raymond L. (MO)				

LCMS Board of Directors (Regional)				
Central Region				
Layperson (elect 1)				
1. Boesdorfer, Monica (CI)				
2. Garbe, Ernest E. (CI)				
3. Guengerich, Frederick P. (MDS)				
4. Hindman, Travis L. (CI)				
5. Israel, Herbert W. (MO)				
6. Schulz, Kathy A. (EN)				
7. Schwarz, Jeff (SI)				
West-Southwest Region				
Layperson (elect 1)				
1. Broome, Carol Ann Hack (CNH)				
2. Edwards, Gloria S. (CNH)				
3. Hamann, Ernest (PSW)				
4. Karle, Fred G. (TX)				
5. Lorenz, Daniel C. (NOW)				
6. Moerbe, Ed H. (TX)				
7. Tobias, Damon J. (RM)				
8. Utberg, Douglas J. (NOW)				

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
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LCMS Board of Directors (At Large)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Naumann, Cheryl D. (EN)				
2. Senske, Kurt M. (TX)				
Layperson (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Brashear, Kermit (NEB)				
2. Edwards, Gloria S. (CNH)				
3. Grosse, Michael H. (RM)				
4. Moerbe, Ed (TX)				
5. Pohl, Curtis (MNS)				

Commission on Theology & Church Relations				
Minister of Religion—Ordained\ (parish pastor - <i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Boehme, Armand J. (MNS)				
2. Dargatz, Robert A. (PSW)				
3. Johnson, John F. (SE)				
Layperson (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Kilcrease, Jack D. III (MI)				
2. Moldenhauer, Raymond A. (MNN)				
3. Nispel, Mark (NEB)				
4. Pitkus, Andrea (NI)				

Concordia Historical Institute Board of Governors				
Ministers of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Baue, Frederic W. (EN)				
2. MacKenzie, Cameron A. (IN)				
3. Pautz, Jeffrey W. (IE)				
4. Stumpf, Eric C. (IN)				
Layperson (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Dissen, Walter (EN)				
2. Klinger, John (SI)				

Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors				
Laypersons (<i>elect 4</i>)				
1. Beumer, Robert E. (MO)				
2. Egger, Stephanie A. (IW)				
3. Hill, Angela (WY)				
4. Meyer, Eldon (TX)				
5. Olson, Joseph L. (SW)				
6. Raabe, Tom (MI)				
7. Rochester, Nikki P. (SE)				
8. Wolfmueller, Charles H. (NOW)				

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors				
Minister of Religion—Ordained or Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Bahn, David L. (TX)				
2. Carnicom, Ronald R. (MNN)				
3. Sedney, Blaise C. (SE)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Barnes, Linda K. (MDS)				
2. Elsholz, Susan J. (EN)				
3. Miller, Gregory J. (MO)				
4. Peltier, Richard T. (TX)				
5. Wuenscher, David E. (MO)				

LCMS Foundation Board of Trustees				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Drews, Richard T. (NI)				
2. Hursh, Terry N. (EN)				
Layperson (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Burgdorf, Barry D. (TX)				
2. Miller, Gregory J. (MO)				

Concordia University System Board of Directors				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Dissen, David V. (MO)				
2. Walz, Orville C. (NEB)				

Board of Regents —Concordia University Texas, Austin, Texas				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Dorn, Michael P. (TX)				
2. Taylor, Morris Alan (TX)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Bahr, Mark M. (TX)				
2. Eggold, Stephen F. (TX)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. DeYoung, Mark K. (TX)				
2. Linke, Noreen L. (TX)				
3. Matus, Kristi A. (NE)				
4. Stayton, Janis Boeker (TX)				

Board of Regents —Concordia College – New York, Bronxville, N.Y.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Belasic, David S. (EA)				
2. Diefenthaler, Jon T. (SE)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Hilgendorf, Mary E. (SW)				

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
2. Laabs, Jonathan C. (NI)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Bruening, Alice M. (SE)				
2. Fields, Heidi J. (FG)				
3. Jahnke, James T. (AT)				
4. Simon, Mary Manz (SE)				
Board of Regents—Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Arp, Wally M. (SELC)				
2. Bell, Dean M. (MNN)				
3. Cwirla, William M. (PSW)				
4. Harmelink, Daniel N. (PSW)				
5. Pragman, James H. (MNS)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Held, David P. (NEB)				
2. Terrell, Virginia I. (NI)				
Layperson (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Johnson, Janet M. (NI)				
2. Vang, Mani (MNS)				

Board of Regents—Concordia University, Irvine, Calif.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Meyer, Thomas F. (PSW)				
2. Morehouse, Michael A. (EN)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Mitchell, Shaina M. (IN)				
2. Wyneken- Manning, Heather H. (PSW)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Keithly, Cheryl (PSW)				
2. Lee, Peter K. S. (PSW)				
3. Ostapowich, Sandra (IN)				
4. Piper, Glen (IN)				

Board of Regents—Concordia University Wisconsin. Mequon, Wisc.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Braun, Wayne M. (TX)				
2. Preus, Klemet (MNS)				
3. Raasch, Randolph H. (SW)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Jobst, Dwayne D. (SW)				
2. Weismantel, Paul O. (MI)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Anderson, Frederick M. (SW)				
2. Bowman, Kenneth B. (EN)				
3. Feld, William (SW)				

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
4. Knox, Robert M. (NI)				
5. Wendorf, Janice M. (SW)				

Board of Regents—Concordia University, Portland, Ore.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)				
1. Scheer, Michael D. (EN)				
2. Thomas, Jonathan R. (PSW)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (elect 1)				
1. Berger, David O. (MO)				
2. Brosz, Keith E. (PSW)				
Layperson (elect 2)				
1. Broome, Carol Ann Hack (CNH)				
2. Diekmann, Scott L. (NOW)				
3. Schulz, Kathy A. (EN)				
4. White, Andrew T. (NOW)				

Board of Regents—Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Ill.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1)				
1. Gallup, Roger B. (NI)				
2. O'Donnell, Lance A. (SW)				
3. Rottmann, Erik J. (MO)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (elect 1)				
1. Denholm, George III (IN)				
2. Muehl, Mark P. (IN)				
Layperson (elect 2)				
1. Grime, Debra (IN)				
2. Putz, Tina Wilks (IN)				
3. Schulz, Harvard P. (SD)				
4. Stern, Mark O. (NI)				

Board of Regents—Concordia Seminary, St. Louis				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 2)				
1. Davidson, John C. (OH)				
2. Grunst, Mark P. (MT)				
3. Kumm, Shawn L. (WY)				
4. Marshall, Ulmer (SO)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (elect 1)				
1. Bond, Gillian M. (CI)				
2. Wilke, LeRoy (MNS)				
Layperson (elect 1)				
1. Buck, Johnny Crow (MT)				
2. Dissen, Walter (EN)				
3. Israel, Herbert W. (MO)				
4. Weingarth, Glenn K. (PSW)				

Office/Nominee	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Board of Regents—Concordia University, St. Paul, Minn.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Preuss, David H. (MNS)				
2. Weber, Karl A. (MNN)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Hublick, Angela (EN)				
2. Landskroener, Joel P. (MNS)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Fehrmann, Carol M. (MNS)				
2. Hein, Gregg (MT)				
3. Resch, Barbara J. (IN)				
4. Schuldheisz, Mary H. (NOW)				

Board of Regents—Concordia College Alabama, Selma, Ala.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Peters, Curtis H. (IN)				
2. Shamburger, Douglas M. (PSW)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Robinson, David P. (MO)				
2. Sohn, Lawrence E. (SW)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Gorski, Dennis P. (NI)				
2. McDaniels, Janis G. (SE)				
3. Putz, Tina Wilks (IN)				
4. Ziehr-Lange, Ellen R. (PSW)				

Board of Regents—Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, Neb.				
Minister of Religion—Ordained (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Grimm, Keith H. (NEB)				
2. Phillips, Max A. (IW)				
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (<i>elect 1</i>)				
1. Cooksey, Robert L. (MO)				
2. Dolak, Allison K. (MO)				
Layperson (<i>elect 2</i>)				
1. Johnson, Jill (NEB)				
2. Moll, Timothy L. (NEB)				
3. Schroeder, Timothy A. (MDS)				
4. Wild, Jill (NEB)				

Minutes

Opening Worship Service Saturday, July 20, 2013

Saturday Opening Worship Service

The opening worship service of the 65th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod was held in the convention hall of the America's Center convention complex in downtown St. Louis, Missouri. Under the theme of "Baptized for This Moment," the service was hosted by Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Freeburg, Illinois, with Rev. Bruce Keseman presiding. The Council of Presidents of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, presidents and bishops of LCMS partner churches, and local pastors of the Synod's Southern Illinois and Missouri Districts participated in the service and distribution of the Sacrament.

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of the Synod, preaching on the convention theme and Acts 2:37–41, reminded the congregation that "those first-century Jews crucified Christ in your name, in your stead." He continued, "If you are not a hardboiled sinner just like the rest of us, then you might as well leave right now, because Jesus is not for you. Jesus Himself said, you see, 'I came not for the righteous who have no need to repent, but for sinners.' Baptized sinners, that's what you are."

"Let's go on about our business here baptized," he said to the delegates. "Together we're in the water, sink or swim. Now let's get about the business of getting the world wet. It's all in the water. We're baptized for this moment." (*The full text of the sermon will be printed in the 2013 Convention Proceedings.*)

Session 1 Sunday a.m. – July 21, 2013

Opening Worship

Rev. Timothy Scharr, President of the Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, provided the homily for the Order of Matins service that opened convention activities. He led the convention in marveling how the unique combination of events of Acts 16:25 – 34 were used by God for His purposes, reminding that we also are "baptized for this moment" in unique circumstances that God also has provided for His good purposes.

Convention Opening and Presentation of Gavel

President Matthew C. Harrison called the assembly to order and called on Mr. Larry Lumpe, Executive Director of Concordia Historical Institute, to present the historic gavel used by the chair to call the convention officially to order "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In presenting the gavel Mr. Lumpe spoke of the unique history of the gavel, on display at the Institute's Lutheran History Museum in the LCMS International Center.

Electronic Voting System

Registration, Credentials, and Elections Committee Chairman Daniel Gilbert, President of the Northern Illinois District, introduced his committee and explained its duties. He led the convention assembly in practice exercises to help the delegates and representatives become acquainted with the microphone queuing and voting devices.

Registration, Credentials, and Elections

Registration, Credentials, and Elections Committee Chairman Daniel Gilbert provided the initial report of convention registrations:

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Voting pastoral delegates	603
Voting lay delegates	<u>592</u>
Total voting delegates	1,195
Advisory delegates	154
Advisory representatives	<u>158</u>
Total advisory delegates	312
Special guests and others	<u>27</u>
Total registered	1,513

A motion was introduced to adopt the initial registration report. The motion carried (Y: 960; N: 9).

Proposed Special Standing Rules

Before calling attention to the proposed Special Standing Rules, the chair introduced the Council of Presidents, Board of Directors, Commission on Constitutional Matters and Commission on Handbook in their reserved seating area and also called attention to the special guests seating area. He then introduced Parliamentary Chris Dickey, Secretary Raymond Hartwig, Secretary's Assistant Marvin Temme, and staff members supporting the chairman in his conduct of the convention.

President Harrison called attention to the Standing Rules (*Today's Business [TB]*, pp. 218ff.) as proposed to the convention, highlighting several rules in particular. He called for and received a motion to adopt the Special Standing Rules as presented. During discussion, a motion was introduced to amend Rule 25 to read: "That the regional vice-presidents will be ranked by majority vote. Following the selection of the Second Vice-President, each succeeding vice-president (3 to 6) shall be ranked by majority vote." This motion was declared out of order. After further discussion, the Special Standing Rules were adopted as proposed [Yes: 881; No: 87].

Convention Schedule

The chair called attention to the newly distributed tentative schedule for the convention, calling attention to recent changes that necessitated the distribution of a new document. A motion introduced to adopt the convention schedule as newly proposed was adopted after brief discussion [Yes: 1010; No: 12]. The chair declared the convention to be "in order and ready to conduct business." The first of a series of videos produced by Lutheran schools in response to the theme of the convention was shown.

President's Report, Part 3

With convention gavel in hand, President Harrison spoke of the gavel's use by every convention of the Synod since it was carved in 1911 from wood from the Synod original log cabin seminary to mark the 100th anniversary of C.F.W. Walther's birth. He compared difficult conditions faced by the Synod then and now, noting that the gavel has witnessed difficult conventions and trying times, the faces carved into the gavel (Luther and Walther) reminding of the consolation and strength found in God's Word and its "remember" verses, ever important because the church has never had a "golden age" without struggles and hard times.

He noted that the gavel also has carved into its side the words of Romans 3:28, which the church since Luther has been pointed back to in order to stand like Luther in the face of opposition to the Gospel. President Harrison noted that every great era in the church has begun with cries of "Repent!" and "Back!" even as must be the case today with our Synod and its great blessings, which he enumerated and punctuated with blows by the gavel. There are also challenges facing our Synod in our time, and the Synod may "take heart" as in the case of the paralytic let down from the roof to receive Jesus' attention.

Today Jesus tells his disciples what he told his disciples in His day: "Be strong. Wait for the Lord." Our global partners will assist us and we will be strong together, baptized for this moment. (*The full text of Part 3 of the President's Report will be printed in the 2013 Convention Proceedings.*)

Special Welcomes and Greetings

President Harrison announced that the Mayor of St. Louis, Francis Slay, was planning to attend the convention and bring greetings from the city but was unable to attend. A special framed proclamation by the mayor naming April 20–25 “LCMS Week in the City of St. Louis” was read on his behalf.

Rev. Timothy Scharr, President of the Southern Illinois District, brought his district’s greetings as host district for the convention.

Convention Essay – Baptized for This Moment

Using the example of the baptism of a child, Essayist Rev. William Cwirla underscored that while the devil “always departs kicking and screaming,” all that has been placed into Baptism are also the blessings of baptism today. God’s love has its say, and in all baptized Christians the life of Christ lives, a new way of living as members of a priesthood offering lives of living sacrifice, their voices declaring the wonderful deeds of Him who called them out of darkness into the light of His grace. In this life, both Law and Gospel are important, since the baptized are both sinners and saints at the same time. Quoting Luther: “Christians are divided into two parts—an inner which is faith, and an outer which is the flesh.” Because the outer man is not actually dead yet, he must be drowned daily by instruction by the Law. Still, the baptismal moment embraces every moment of life, saving even now, affecting our lives and our life together as we stop to remember our baptisms.

Committee 3: Life Together

The chair introduced Minnesota North District President Donald Fondow for the presentation of his committee’s business. After introductory comments regarding life together made possible by Christ, he called on Rev. Timothy Yeadon, New England District President and member of Committee 3, who spoke of difficult times faced by his district recently and presented a gift to President Harrison as a token of his district’s appreciation and love.

Res. 3-01A (*TB*, p. 238) was introduced by the committee. A motion to insert the following resolve paragraphs was, after lengthy discussion, accepted by the committee as a friendly amendment: *Resolved*, That to lead by example and to demonstrate to the entire Synod that this project can bear fruitful results, the President of the Synod be directed to divide the elected presidents of each district and the vice-presidents of the Synod into three study groups who will, by random draw, study koinonia together, with progress of each study group reported on the newly developed Web site; and be it further *Resolved*, That circuit counselors be encouraged to use at least a portion of their monthly (*Winkel*) meetings to foster the kinds of theological discussions the Koinonia Project seeks to foster; and be it further.” After a motion to end debate was carried [Yes: 894; No: 55], the resolution was adopted [Yes: 869; No: 102].

Res. 3-02A (*TB*, pp. 238ff) was introduced by the committee. During discussion, an amendment was proposed to delete the second resolve. This was followed by a motion to send resolution back (refer) to committee for further modification. After a motion to end debate was carried (Yes: 862; No: 85), the convention voted to refer Res. 3-02A back to Committee 3 [Yes: 740; No: 241].

Res. 3-03A (*TB*, pp. 239ff.) was introduced by the committee. During discussion, an amendment was introduced: “*Resolved*, That this convention urge LCMS congregations who operate Christian day schools to make it a priority to staff their school by extending calls to teachers and commissioned workers rather than to contract teachers (whether or not these teachers are eligible to accept a call).” After debate on the motion to amend was ended [Yes: 911; No: 100] and the proposed amendment failed [Yes: 311; No: 696], the chair called for the Orders of the Day and the noon recess.

Session 2
Sunday p.m. – July 21, 2013

President Matthew C. Harrison called the afternoon session to order for Midday Prayer led by Convention Chaplain William Weedon. In his homily, Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez of Concordia Seminary St. Louis used the Hollywood question “Who Are You Wearing” to speak of what baptized Christians are wearing. We are clothed with Christ and should see each other as wearing this robe of Christ’s righteousness and standing on God’s holy ground of forgiveness. When we see each other in this manner, we know who we are before God and before one another, and we know how to relate to each other.

President Harrison called on Committee 8 Chairman Daniel Gilbert to continue his report to the convention. He provided a detailed description of the process used to elect the President of the Synod and reported the results of the election. President Harrison having received 66% of the votes cast, he was declared elected.

Response of the Newly Elected President

President Harrison called his family forward and expressed appreciation to his wife and sons for the support he receives from them as he carries out his duties. Mrs. Harrison was presented a bouquet of roses from Board of Directors Chairman Robert Kuhn to express the Synod’s appreciation for the important role she plays in her husband’s work.

Voting Delegate Registrations Report

Committee 8 Chairman Daniel Gilbert presented an updated voting delegate registrations report. Registered voting delegates now totaled 1,191. The report was declared accepted by the chair.

Presentation of Slate and Balloting for First Vice-President

Committee 8 Chairman Gilbert described the process for First Vice-President nominations leading to the determination of the ballot of five candidates by selection by the newly elected President. Attention was called to this slate and the convention prepared to vote. After the convention chaplain led the convention in prayer, the results of the first and only ballot were as follows:

Carl C. Fickenscher	88
Herbert C. Mueller, Jr.	575
Scott R. Murray	117
Daniel Preus	121
John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.	129

Herbert C. Mueller, Jr. was declared elected First Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Presentation of Slates and Election of Regional Vice-Presidents

Committee 8 Chairman Gilbert provided a description of the nominations and elections process for the five regional vice-president positions. The following were the results of the balloting, in some cases the names of the three candidates receiving the most votes on the first ballot retained for a second ballot:

Great Lakes Regional Vice-President

Peter C. Bender	88
David A. Davis	75
C. William Hoesman	153
Paul A. Weber	60
John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.	556

Great Plains Regional Vice-President

Gene D. Bauman	101	
Mark J. Buchhop	96	
Ronald M. Garwood	131	137
Nabil S. Nour	423	549
Steven D. Turner	179	226

West-Southwest Regional Vice-President

William M. Cwirla	187	195
Scott R. Murray	447	600
Robert C. Preece	97	
Jeffery T. Schrank	176	219
William R. Woolsey	97	

East-Southeast Regional Vice-President

David D. Buegler	88	
Jon T. Diefenthaler	228	271
Robert T. Kuhn	424	471
Gerhard C. Michael	64	
Dien A. Taylor	187	184

Central Regional Vice-President

David J. Bueltman	73	
Daniel L. Gard	79	
Martin R. Noland	66	
Daniel Preus	485	
Dean O. Wenthe	262	

In each case, the candidates receiving a majority of votes were declared elected.

Ballot to Determine Order of Succession of Regional Vice-Presidents

As the convention prepared to vote to determine the order of succession of the newly elected regional vice-presidents, a motion was introduced to change the Orders of the Day by postponing this decision to allow time for a bylaw change to determine the manner that this ranking is to be done. After brief discussion, a motion to end debate failed [Yes: 641; No: 322] and discussion continued. When a motion to end debate was again introduced and was carried [Yes: 1010; No: 53], the motion to amend the Orders of the Day was not carried [Yes: 187; No: 798].

The convention proceeded with a single ballot to determine the order of succession of regional vice-presidents 2 to 6. The results of the ballot were as follows:

Daniel Preus	241
Robert T. Kuhn	133
John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.	333
Nabil S. Nour	153
Scott R. Murray	188

Determined by the number of votes received, greatest to least, the results of the ballot were the following:

Second Vice-President	John C. Wohlrabe, Jr.
Third Vice-President	Daniel Preus
Fourth Vice-President	Scott R. Murray

Fifth Vice-President
Sixth Vice-President

Nabil S. Nour
Robert T. Kuhn

Greetings – Thrivent Financial For Lutherans

Dr. Brad Hewitt, President of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans brought greetings and well wishes from his organization, also providing explanation for Thrivent’s decision to expand access to its financial offerings to other Christians.

Committee 9 – Committee for Convention Nominations

The chair called on Committee for Convention Nominations Chairman Carl Egger for his committee’s report. After introducing the members of his committee present for the convention, he provided background regarding its work. He then declared open the opportunity for nominations from the floor for the position of Secretary of the Synod, noting the names already provided by his committee. When no nominations were offered from the floor, the chair declared nominations closed.

Committee Chairman Egger then reviewed the changes made by his committee to the printed report previously provided to the delegates with the *Convention Workbook*. He also stressed the importance for convention delegates to study the nominations report prior to the voting that will take place, as the report will not be read in its entirety when presented to the convention.

Omnibus Resolution A

The convention’s attention was called by the chair to Omnibus Res. A (*TB*, pp. 225ff.), requesting and receiving a motion and second to adopt it as printed. By common consent, the convention agreed to move Ov. 3-32 “To Revoke RSO Status of Transforming Churches Network” from this resolution to Omnibus Res. D. A motion was introduced to amend the Omnibus Res. A by removing Ov. 5-26 “To Change Specific Ministry Pastor Title,” which motion was defeated without discussion [Yes: 89; No: 906]. A motion to add Res. 2-12 to this Resolution A’s list was, after considerable discussion, ruled out of order. A motion to remove Ov. 4-15 “To Encourage Prompt CTCR Response to Study on Cremation” was, after discussion, not carried [Yes: 36; No: 987]. When discussion resumed, a motion to end debate carried [Yes: 920; No: 57], following which Omnibus Res. A was adopted as amended [Yes: 980; No: 33].

Committee 5 – Seminary and University Education

The chair called on Rev. Dale Sattgast, Chairman of Committee 5, to begin his committee’s report. He introduced and thanked his committee’s members for their dedication and their preparation of the resolutions to be addressed by the convention.

Res. 5-15 “To Celebrate 150th Anniversary of Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL” (*TB*, p. 274) was introduced by the committee and adopted without discussion [Yes: 866; No: 55]. The prayer mentioned in the final resolve paragraph was offered by the convention chaplain.

Res. 5-01A “To Encourage Continued Faithful Witness by the Concordia University System” (*TB*, pp. 252ff.) was introduced by the committee. After extensive discussion, a motion to end debate carried [Yes: 859; No: 120] and the resolution was adopted [Yes: 756; No: 250].

Res. 5-02A “To Support and Encourage Participation in Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support Initiative” (*TB*, pp. 253ff.) was introduced by the committee. After lengthy discussion, a motion to amend the resolution by omitting the words “communicating their involvement to be an expectation the district has of new pastors and wives in the district” in the third resolve paragraph was discussed until a motion was introduced and carried to end debate [Yes: 965; No: 23]. The motion to amend was defeated [Yes: 141; No: 852]. After further discussion of the resolution as presented, a motion to end debate was carried [Yes: 976; No: 26], after which Res. 5-02A was adopted [Yes: 994; No: 49].

Committee 6 – Administration and Finance

The chair called on President John Wille, chairman of Committee 6, for its report. He noted the composition of his committee and its general areas of responsibilities, explaining the importance of boundaries for baptized sinners as provided by the Synod's Constitution and Bylaws in order to carry out the objectives of the Synod as stated in Article III of the Constitution.

Res. 6-18 "To Amend Bylaw 3.12.2.3 Regarding the Election of Synod President" (*TB*, pp. 279f.) was introduced by the committee. After discussion, a motion to end debate carried [Yes: 840; No: 109] and the resolution was adopted as presented [Yes: 932; No: 40].

Res. 6-03 "To Address Board of Directors Budget and Management Responsibilities" (*TB*, p. 128) was introduced for discussion. A suggestion to strike the word "mission" from lines 32 and 34 in accord with the deletion in line 28 was initially received as a friendly amendment but subsequently withdrawn. With no further discussion, Res. 6-03 was adopted as presented [Yes: 960; No: 27].

Evening Prayer and Recess

The Orders of the Day calling for Evening Prayer and Recess, Chaplain William Weedon led the convention in Evening Prayer, following which the chair declared the convention in recess until morning.

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Notices

Floor Committee Notice

Floor Committee 5 has merged concerns of 5-10A into 5-01A and is removing 5-10A from consideration on the floor.

District Luncheons for Today (Monday):

Southeastern District
Nebraska District

America's Center Room 232
America's Center Room 231

District Breakfast Schedule for Tuesday:

6:30 a.m.-7:15 a.m. Michigan District Breakfast	America's Center Room 224/225
6:30 a.m.-7:45 a.m. Mid-South District Breakfast	Renaissance Grand
6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m. Minnesota South District Breakfast	Renaissance Grand

Stop by the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service booth between 1:00p and 2:00p today for a meet and greet with the Rev. Dr. Joel Lehenbauer, Executive Director of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) and the Rev. Dr. Leo Sanchez, author of the CTCR report, "Immigrants Among Us." Share how the study has been helpful to you, ask questions, and enter a special prize drawing only available during these times.

Lunch Schedule for Today (Monday):

12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Concordia Plan Services Lunch n' Learn – Session 1 - America's Center Room 240
12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Concordia Plan Services Lunch n' Learn – Session 2 - America's Center Room 241
12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Concordia University Nebraska Lunch – Kansas and South Dakota District Delegations – America's Center Room 123/124

Breakfast Schedule for Tuesday:

6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m. LCMS International Guests	America's Center Room 200
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Prayers for your petitions before the throne of grace: The following public prayers have been submitted for you to offer to our Father in heaven through our only mediator, Jesus Christ.

- For strength and support for spouses left behind at home to care for the children of those attending the convention.
- For Mindy who is delivering her child by c-section
- In thanksgiving for all those who work at the America's Center and local establishments as they serve us
- For our home congregations and those who served at pulpits and altars while pastors were serving here as delegates
- For the family of Dwayne Miile, father of delegate Timothy Miile, who was called to eternal rest.
- For Janie Solano who is fighting cancer
- For Allen Lee, father-in-law of delegate Rev. Charles Lehmann, diagnosed with ALS
- For Patty, who as in a car accident yesterday and is hospitalized
- For St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Detroit, MI, celebrating 125 years in 2015
- For New Life Lutheran Mission Church, Las Vegas, NV, as they seek to serve African immigrants and as they seek a suitable facility for such service
- For Betty Scheider, retired Lutheran School teacher, who is battling pancreatic cancer, and that the treatments she is receiving would be successful
- For Allen Axelson, who is suffering from bleeding due to an undiagnosed cause
- For Walther Marcus, member of St. John, Cleveland, OH, who was found unresponsive Sunday morning and was placed on a ventilator

- For the vacant parishes of our Synod, that the Lord of the harvest might send men to serve as pastors and preach the Word

Join the Penny War!

Stop by the LCMS booth in the Exhibit Hall to contribute to the “Penny War,” which benefits two wonderful funds: Soldiers of the Cross and Veterans of the Cross. All donations support our church workers in times of need. The Penny War is a friendly competition between laity and church workers. Join in and see which of these two groups gives the most!

Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee’s daily drawing announces their four winners. They are Abigail Liermann, Carolyn Wilms, Margaret Kasten, and Beverly Williams. You each win a sweatshirt. Please come to Booth #632 to pick-up your sweatshirt by 12:00 p.m. (noon) today.

Concordia Seminary announces there are still several 10-minute slots available for church musicians to play the organ in the chapel at Concordia Seminary during tonight’s event, “A Taste of Life Together.” Sign up at the Concordia Seminary booth by 3:00 p.m. today.

If you want to attend the picnic at Concordia Seminary tonight but did not get a wristband, you’re welcome to attend. Please stop by Registration and let them know by 12:00 p.m. (noon) today.

The Concordia Seminary community looks forward to welcoming you tonight to “A Taste of Life Together” on our campus from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. In addition to providing you with complimentary food and drink (brats, chicken, pork steak sandwiches, side dishes, and drinks) we hope to offer you a taste of our life together by showcasing our campus, our students, and our professors. Transportation to and from this event is provided via shuttle buses that will take you back to your hotel. If you intend to drive yourself, our address is 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, Missouri 63105.

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
65th Regular Convention
July 19 - July 25, 2013



**A Taste of Life Together
SHUTTLE SERVICE**

Monday, July 22:
A Taste of Life Together at Concordia Seminary
6:00 p.m. - First departure from America's Center
9:30 p.m. - Last departure from Concordia Seminary

All coaches depart from America's Center,
Washington Avenue Entrance.

Return service offered to:

Red Route/Route #1:	Blue Route/Route #2:
Hilton at the Ballpark	Drury Inn Convention Center
Drury Plaza Hotel	Embassy Suites Downtown
Hyatt Regency	Renaissance Grand

Transportation Management by:


314.220.2450
For questions during shuttle hours please give us a call.



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2013 District Delegation Photo Schedule

All photos of district delegations will be taken at the Convention Center in room 120. Please gather promptly in the room at the date and time listed below. You will see that, as a rule, two district delegations are scheduled during each 10-minute time slot. Photos will be made available electronically to the district headquarters. Headshots of district presidents will be taken at the same time. Please urge your delegates to be in the room at or before their scheduled time. Due to time constraints, we cannot do re-shoots if delegates are not present at the appointed time.

<i>District</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Number*</i>
Minnesota South	7:00 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	55 delegates
Missouri	7:00 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	74 delegates
Montana	7:10 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	14 delegates
Nebraska	7:10 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	51 delegates
New England	7:20 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	15 delegates
New Jersey	7:30 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	14 delegates
North Dakota	7:30 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	12 delegates
North Wisconsin	7:40 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	42 delegates
Michigan	7:40 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	96 delegates
Northern Illinois	7:40 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	65 delegates
Northwest	7:50 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	48 delegates
Ohio	7:50 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	35 delegates
Mid-South	7:50 a.m.	Tuesday, July 23	26 delegates
Oklahoma	6:15 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	20 delegates
Pacific Southwest	6:15 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	64 delegates
Rocky Mountain	6:25 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	39 delegates
SELC	6:25 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	8 delegates
South Dakota	6:35 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	20 delegates
South Wisconsin	6:35 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	67 delegates
Southeastern	6:45 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	48 delegates
Southern	6:45 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	28 delegates
Southern Illinois	6:55 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	27 delegates
Texas	6:55 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	89 delegates
Wyoming	7:05 p.m.	Wednesday, July 24	13 delegates

*Includes Advisory Delegates