



Official Notice: LCMS Office of the Secretary

In a letter from December 7, 2020, under the provision of Article XI B 8 of the Synod Constitution, LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison submitted the following question to a vote of the Synod’s member congregations:

Shall the Synod add a year to the current 2019–2022 triennium, allowing districts to hold their conventions in either 2021 or 2022, and moving the upcoming national Synod convention from 2022 to 2023? [Thereafter, the triennium cycle will continue forward from 2023 in three-year increments, as before (i.e., with district conventions held in 2025, 2028, etc., and Synod conventions held in 2026, 2029, etc.).] **Vote: Yes or No.**

The Office of the Secretary, assisted by the LCMS Department of Rosters, Statistics and Research Services and the LCMS Technology Application Group, facilitated an electronic vote on this question, opening January 1, 2021, and closing at the end of the day on February 15 (11:59 p.m. Central Time).

More than the required one-fourth (63.32%) of the Synod’s member congregations registered a vote, and the majority (90.67%) of votes cast favored adoption. The stated extension of the 2019–2022 triennium by a year, allowing district conventions to take place in either 2021 or 2022 and deferring the national Synod convention from 2022 to 2023, is therefore adopted.

The President’s letter (www.lcms.org/delay-vote-letter) and FAQ (www.lcms.org/delay-vote-faqs) explain the consequences of this deferral. The national Synod office is working urgently to make arrangements for the next regular convention of the Synod to convene in the summer of 2023 and will keep the Synod apprised as plans are finalized.

Congregations are advised to watch closely for communications from their districts regarding their plans to meet, either in 2021 or 2022, and to pay attention to pre-convention schedules that may be in flux.

The member congregations of the Synod and all who facilitated their voting are to be thanked for their urgent and diligent attention to this question, on account of which it was able to be decided not only by a majority of the votes cast but by a majority of the member congregations. We pray that the additional year it allows will bear rich fruit in the churchly deliberative assemblies of the districts and the Synod.

John W. Sias
Secretary, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

lcms.org/convention

The following table shows the details of the vote.

District	Yes	No	% Voted / Mbr. Congs.
Atlantic	57 (96.61%)	2 (3.39%)	60.20% / 98
California/Nevada/Hawaii	101 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	55.80% / 181
Central Illinois	99 (93.40%)	7 (6.60%)	70.20% / 151
Eastern	61 (92.42%)	5 (7.58%)	53.23% / 124
English	86 (93.48%)	6 (6.52%)	56.79% / 162
Florida-Georgia	127 (96.21%)	5 (3.79%)	71.35% / 185
Indiana	137 (91.95%)	12 (8.05%)	65.64% / 227
Iowa East	78 (96.30%)	3 (3.70%)	69.23% / 117
Iowa West	103 (90.35%)	11 (9.65%)	68.26% / 167
Kansas	103 (96.26%)	4 (3.74%)	66.88% / 160
Michigan	260 (98.48%)	4 (1.52%)	74.58% / 354
Mid-South	56 (75.68%)	18 (24.32%)	60.66% / 122
Minnesota North	134 (97.81%)	3 (2.19%)	69.90% / 196
Minnesota South	133 (81.10%)	31 (18.90%)	68.33% / 240
Missouri	156 (91.76%)	14 (8.24%)	58.62% / 290
Montana	44 (97.78%)	1 (2.22%)	66.18% / 68
Nebraska	149 (93.71%)	10 (6.29%)	66.81% / 238
New England	42 (97.67%)	1 (2.33%)	63.24% / 68
New Jersey	22 (91.67%)	2 (8.33%)	47.06% / 51
North Dakota	52 (86.67%)	8 (13.33%)	74.07% / 81
North Wisconsin	110 (79.14%)	29 (20.86%)	64.35% / 216
Northern Illinois	127 (94.78%)	7 (5.22%)	63.21% / 212
Northwest	178 (96.22%)	7 (3.78%)	72.27% / 256
Ohio	97 (95.10%)	5 (4.90%)	63.75% / 160
Oklahoma	57 (93.44%)	4 (6.56%)	77.22% / 79
Pacific Southwest	131 (97.04%)	4 (2.96%)	50.19% / 269
Rocky Mountain	84 (88.42%)	11 (11.58%)	54.91% / 173
SELC	34 (91.89%)	3 (8.11%)	71.15% / 52
South Dakota	42 (67.74%)	20 (32.26%)	58.49% / 106
South Wisconsin	71 (55.91%)	56 (44.09%)	62.25% / 204
Southeastern	139 (95.86%)	6 (4.14%)	67.76% / 214
Southern	80 (97.56%)	2 (2.44%)	54.30% / 151
Southern Illinois	59 (93.65%)	4 (6.35%)	67.74% / 93
Texas	128 (77.11%)	38 (22.89%)	47.84% / 347
Wyoming	34 (89.47%)	4 (10.53%)	63.33% / 60
SYNOD TOTAL	3371 (90.67%)	347 (9.33%)	63.32% / 5872