

The Fifty-Seventh Convention
English District
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

June 20-22, 2022
Concordia University
Ann Arbor, Michigan

The logo for the 57th Regular Convention of the English District Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod was designed by Rebecca Kaiser.

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ENGLISH DISTRICT
of
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030
Phone: (248)476-0039; FAX: (248)476-0188
www.englishdistrict.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Rev. Todd Arnold	The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy	Mrs. Sally Naglich
Mr. Chris Cassel	Mrs. Shirley Holle	The Rev. Robert Rogers
Mrs. Jane Duffy	DCE Rod Lane	Mr. Jim Thielen (Canada Corp)
The Rev. Ben Eder	Mr. Terry Leu	Mr. Keith Vieregge
The Rev. Thomas Engler	The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	Mrs. Kristin Wellik
Ms. Carol George	The Rev. Dr. R. Wayne Morton	The Rev. Luke Zimmerman

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: The Rev. Dr. Jamison J. Hardy	33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus	130 Mineola Road East, Mississauga, ON L5G 2E5
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Ben C. Eder	44 Chapel Road, Kenmore, NY 14217-2060
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Robert A. Rogers	300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181-2614
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Todd W. Arnold	555 S La Canada Drive, Green Valley, AZ 85614-2538
SECRETARY: The Rev. Luke Zimmerman	208 Woods Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2634
TREASURER: Mrs. Sally L. Naglich, CPA	33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030

CIRCUIT VISITORS

New York #1: The Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt	Western Michigan #13: The Rev. Peter Burfeind
Philadelphia #2: The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	Indiana #14: The Rev. Chad Trouten
Florida #3: The Rev. William Douthwaite III	Chicago-North #15: The Rev. Anthony Oliphant
Georgia #4: The Rev. David Miller	Chicago-South #16: The Rev. Douglas Hoag
Buffalo #5: The Rev. Dwayne Hendricks	Milwaukee #17: The Rev. Frederic Reaman
Pittsburgh #6: The Rev. Brian Westgate	St. Louis #18: The Rev. Theodore Laesch, Jr.
Canada-East #7: The Rev. Dr. Terry Hursh	Arizona-North #19: The Rev. Steven Resner
Canada-West #8: The Rev. James Leistico	Arizona-South #20: The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse
Cleveland-Akron #9: The Rev. Jonathan McCall	Nevada/Utah #21:
Cleveland-West #10: The Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer	San Diego #22: The Rev. Steven Duescher
Detroit-South #11: The Rev. Bradford Scott	Los Angeles #23: The Rev. Robert Dargatz
Detroit-North #12: The Rev. Daniel Grams	San Francisco #24: The Rev. Curtis Binz

DISTRICT STAFF

The Rev. J. Derek Mathers	Assistant to the President / Executive Assistant to the President - Missions
Mr. Albert Amling	Executive Assistant to the President - School Ministry
Mrs. Sally Naglich, CPA	Treasurer / Executive Assistant to the President - Business & Finance
The Rev. Daniel Lepley	LCEF Vice President
Mr. Ronald Grimm	Planned Giving Counselor
Mrs. Kathryn Stanis	Administrative Assistant to the Bishop/President
Mrs. Peggy Oke	Administrative Assistant – Business & Finance
Ms. Natalya Hrecznyj	Accounting Assistant
Mrs. Jill McGarr	Communications Coordinator

ELECTED COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

<u>REGION</u>	<u>PASTORS</u>	<u>LAYPERSONS</u>
Eastern	The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	Mr. Connor Hagey
Lake Erie	The Rev. Mark Braden	Mr. Terry Leu
Midwest	The Rev. Gregory Michel	DCE Rodrick Lane
Western	The Rev. Victor De La Rosa	Ms. Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg

ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD OF MANAGERS

Eastern Region	Mr. Michael Coffey
Lake Erie Region	The Rev. Raymond Kirk
Midwest Region	Mr. Rex Toepke
Western Region	The Rev. Fred Gerlach
Canada Corporation	Mr. Jim Thielen
English District President	The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy
English District Treasurer	Mrs. Sally Naglich
Board of Directors Representative	Mr. Terry Leu
Advisory	Mr. Thomas Schlitt

APPOINTMENTS/APPOINTED COMMITTEES

CAMPUS MINISTRY TASK FORCE

The Rev. Eric Andrae, The Rev. Dr. David Dressel*, The Rev. Curtis Dwyer, The Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt, The Rev. J. Wayne Kerr, Mrs. Augusta Mennell, The Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer, The Rev. James Robinson, The Rev. Travis Schmidt, The Rev. Bradley Scott, The Rev. Bradley Urlaub, The Rev. Marcus Zill

CONSTITUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP

The Rev. Peter Bauernfeind, The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. Daniel Grams*

DISTRICT ARCHIVIST

The Rev. Dr. David Stechholz

EVANGELIZATION TEAM

The Rev. J. Derek Mathers, The Rev. Frederic Reaman*, The Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, The Rev. Daniel Warner, The Rev. Mark Wood

LIFELINE

Dr. Roni Grad*

MINISTERIAL HEALTH

The Rev. Timothy Holzerland*, Ms. Marianne Jackson, The Rev. Dr. Christian Just, Ms. Marlene Lindberg, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers*, Ms. Sue Neff, Rev. Justin Schmidt, The Rev. Steven Sutterer

MISSIONS COUNCIL

The Rev. Dr. Roger Ellis, The Rev. Thomas Engler, The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, The Rev. Justin Laughridge*, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers

RECONCILERS

Mr. Richard Crain, The Rev. Ben Eder, Mr. Charles Porter, The Rev. C. J. Wright

STEWARDSHIP

The Rev. Michael Scheer*

WORSHIP

The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. David Rutter, The Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel*, The Rev. Brian Westgate

*Chair/Co-Chair

Requires Board ratification

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

OFFICERS

President: The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122
First Vice President: The Rev. Peter Lange
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122
Second Vice President: The Rev. Dr. John Wohlrabe, Jr.
3832 S. Lake Dr., Saint Francis, WI 53235
Third Vice President: The Rev. Dr. Scott Murray
5800 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77057
Fourth Vice President: The Rev. Nabil Nour
516 E 58th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Fifth Vice President: The Rev. Christopher Esget
1801 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301
Sixth Vice President: The Rev. Benjamin Ball
6969 W Frontage Rd., Worden, IL 62097
Secretary: The Rev. John Sias
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122
Chief Administrative Officer: Mr. Frank Simek
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Nathan Haak
Chief Mission Officer: The Rev. Kevin Robson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers: The Rev. Dr. Michael Kumm, Chairman; Mr. Ed Everts, Vice-Chairman; The Rev. John Sias, Secretary

Ordained Members: The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, The Rev. Josemon Hoem, The Rev. Dr. Michael Kumm, The Rev. John Sias

Commissioned Member: Dr. Jan Lohmeyer

Lay Members: Mr. Ed Everts, Mr. Keith Frndak, Mr. Andrew Grams, Mr. Larry Harrington, Mr. Christian Preus, Dr. Jesse Yow

Non-Voting Members: The Rev. Peter Lange

Advisory: Mr. Frank Simek, Rev. Kevin Robson

Legal Counsel: Thompson Coburn LLP

2022 CONVENTION DELEGATES

		<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>LAYPERSON</u>
<u>Circuit #1 - New York</u>			
Ewing, NJ	Bethany	Rev. Dr. Elwood Mather	Bradley Bastedo
Flushing, NY	Immanuel		
Palisades Park, NJ	Grace		
Palisades Park, NJ	New Jersey Chowon	Rev. Phillip Sang Rey	
Pennsauken, NJ	Martin Luther Chapel		
Princeton, NJ	Messiah	Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt	Herbert Gishlick
Scarsdale, NY	Trinity	Rev. Gordon Naumann	Kenneth Connelly
St Albans, NY	Redeemer		
Valley Stream, NY	Our Saviour		
<u>Circuit #2 - Philadelphia</u>			
Alexandria, VA	Immanuel	Rev. Noah Rogness	Josef Hageman
Blue Bell, PA	Gloria Dei		
Chesapeake, VA	Faith		James Dobberteen
Lititz, PA	Mount Calvary	Rev. Christopher Seifferlein	Steve Kurtz
Mechanicsburg, PA	Calvary	Rev. Luke Zimmerman	James Blockus
Philadelphia, PA	Rehoboth Afaan		
Springfield, PA	Saint John	Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	John Zampino
Warminster, PA	Grace		
<u>Circuit #3 - Florida</u>			
Inverness, FL	Tree of Life		Ron Hansen
Naples, FL	Faith		
Ocala, FL	Trinity		
Palm Coast, FL	Shepherd of the Coast	Rev. William Douthwaite	Marsha Asbury
Saint John's, FL	Celebration	Rev. Steve De Santo	William Gilzinger
<u>Circuit #4 - Georgia</u>			
Alpharetta, GA	Christ the Shepherd	Rev. Aaron Sterling	Gary Church
Atlanta, GA	Ascension	Rev. David Miller	Grayson Beckman
<u>Circuit #5 - Buffalo</u>			
Albion, PA	Holy Trinity	Rev. Michael Taylor	David Lindenmuth
Amherst, NY	Calvary		
Buffalo, NY	Nazareth	Rev. Dwayne Hendricks	
Erie, PA	Trinity	Rev. Travis Schmidt	Carol George
Kenmore, NY	Pilgrim	Rev. Ben Eder	Ruth Whitmer
North Tonawanda, NY	Redeemer		
Syracuse, NY	Hope Community		
<u>Circuit #6 - Pittsburgh</u>			
Clarksburg, WV	Saint John's	Rev. Stanley Lacey	Ray Higginbotham
McMurray, PA	Peace	Rev. Justin Schmidt	Rick Crain
Oakmont, PA	Redeemer	Rev. Brian Westgate	Connor Hagey
Pittsburgh, PA	First Trinity	Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel	Brandon Price
Slippery Rock, PA	All Saints		Peter Rigney

2022 CONVENTION DELEGATES

	<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>LAYPERSON</u>
<u>Circuit #7 - Canada East</u>		
Aurora, ON	Christ	Bob Ernst
Golden Lake, ON	Saint John's	
Mississauga, ON	Saint Mark	Ken Freeman
Pembroke, ON	Saint John's	Paul Douglas
Toronto, ON	Saint Luke	Ian Farquharson
Toronto, ON	Saint Matthew	Geta Demisse
<u>Circuit #8 - Canada West</u>		
Chatham, ON	Our Saviour's	
Kitchener, ON	Hope	
Mitchell, ON	Grace	Rev. Gerald Luck
Sarnia, ON	Redeemer	Ruth Luck
Windsor, ON	Gethsemane	
Windsor, ON	Peace	Rev. James Leistico
<u>Circuit #9 - Cleveland-Akron</u>		
Akron, OH	Concordia	Mark Thomas
Akron, OH	Good Shepherd	
Fairlawn, OH	Fairlawn	
Fairlawn, OH	Grace	
North Royalton, OH	Our Savior	Rev. Jonathan McCall
Streetsboro, OH	Saint Thomas	Rev. Dr. Christian Just
<u>Circuit #10 - Cleveland-West</u>		
Cleveland, OH	Holy Cross	Rev. Michael Sheer
Cleveland, OH	Iglesia	Dan Kenney
Elyria, OH	Grace	Rev. Robert Weldon, Sr.
Medina, OH	Prince of Peace	Rev. Daniel Haberkost
North Olmsted, OH	Ascension	Rev. Joshua Ulm
Oberlin, OH	Grace	Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer
<u>Circuit #11 - Detroit-South</u>		
Allen Park, MI	Angelica	Rev. Jonathan Sachs
Allen Park, MI	Christ Our Redeemer	Edward Stephens
Detroit, MI	Zion	Rev. Mark Braden
Grosse Pte Woods, MI	Christ the King	Rev. Randy Boelter
Plymouth, MI	Risen Christ	
Sylvania, OH	King of Glory	Rev. Paul Schmidlin
Toledo, OH	Good Shepherd	Rev. Bradford Scott
		Matthew Davenport

2022 CONVENTION DELEGATES

		<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>LAYPERSON</u>
<u>Circuit #12 - Detroit-North</u>			
Beverly Hills, MI	Ascension of Christ	Rev. Daniel Grams	David Lambert
Redford, MI	Grace	Rev. Timothy Halboth	Ralph Trendle
Saint Clair Shores, MI	Redeemer	Rev. Todd Seaver	Donald McCullen
Saint Clair Shores, MI	Saint Paul's	Rev. David Rutter	
Sandusky, MI	Holy Redeemer		
Shelby Township, MI	Epic	Rev. John Hile	David Boer
West Bloomfield, MI	Shepherd King	Rev. Timothy Holzerland	
West Branch, MI	New Beginnings	Rev. Daniel Jansen	Rick Hegenauer
<u>Circuit #13 - Western Michigan</u>			
Bellaire, MI	Hope	Rev. Wade Seaver	Andrew Fleet
Dorr, MI	Epiphany	Rev. Ryan Beffrey	Ashley Beffrey
East Lansing, MI	Martin Luther Chapel	Rev. James Robonson	Richard Bearup
Grand Rapids, MI	Hope	Rev. Christopher Nuttelman	Jay Harnish
Hartland, MI	Our Savior	Rev. Christopher Thoma	Scott Morris
Howell, MI	Immanuel	Rev. Eric Forss	Dukane Carlos
Lakeview, MI	Holy Trinity	Rev. Alexander Sabol	
Marshall, MI	Agnus Dei	Rev. Peter Burfeind	Aidan Quick
Wyoming, MI	Grace	Rev. Zachary Marklevitz	Jeff De Young
<u>Circuit #14 - Indiana</u>			
Fort Wayne, IN	Bethany	Rev. Chad Trouten	Dain Christensen
Fort Wayne, IN	Redeemer	Rev. Dr. David Petersen	Colin Casey
Fort Wayne, IN	Jacob's Well		
Fremont, IN	Peace	Rev. Jeffrey Teeple	Michael Carr
Hudson, IN	Prince of Peace	Rev. Brian Pratt	
La Porte, IN	Trinity		
Zionsville, IN	Advent	Rev. Marcus Mackay	Monte Weimer
<u>Circuit #15 - Chicago-North</u>			
Arlington Heights, IL	Faith		
Chicago, IL	Bethany		
Chicago, IL	Bethesda	Rev. Dr. Paul Bacon	Roop Charles
Chicago, IL	Christ English	Rev. C. J. Wright	
Chicago, IL	Grace English		
Elk Grove Village, IL	Holy Spirit	Rev. Daniel Greg	Jerry Jacobson
Elmhurst, IL	Redeemer	Rev. Anthony Oliphant	Francine Holmes
Villa Park, IL	Trinity	Rev. Robert Rogers	Scott Golz
<u>Circuit #16 - Chicago-South</u>			
Berwyn, IL	Concordia		
Chicago, IL	Chatham Fields		
Chicago, IL	Ephphatha		
Chicago, IL	Faith		
Chicago, IL	New Hope		
Chicago, IL	Saint John the Divine		
Elmhurst, IL	Messiah		
Markham, IL	Markham		
New Lenox, IL	Trinity	Rev. Douglas Hoag	Timothy King

2022 CONVENTION DELEGATES

		<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>LAYPERSON</u>
<u>Circuit #17 - Milwaukee</u>			
Forest Lake, MN	Messiah	Rev. Gregory Musolf	
Hales Corners, WI	Hales Corners	Rev. Keith Speaks	Tim Dittloff
Hastings, MN	Hope	Rev. Kenneth Boudreau	Christopher Nelson
Janesville, WI	Saint Mark	Rev. Brad Urlaub	Andrew Speth
Lake Mills, WI	Christ		
Menomonee Falls, WI	Prince of Peace	Rev. Thomas Engler	Norm Schwantes
New Berlin, WI	Peace	Rev. Gregory Michel	Susan Slotke
Racine, WI	Living Hope		
Sheboygan, WI	Saint Mark		
Watertown, WI	Faith	Rev. Seth Hoepfner	
West Allis, WI	Greenfield Park		Charles Porter
<u>Circuit #18 - Saint Louis</u>			
Hannibal, MO	Saint John's		
Lee's Summit, MO	Beautiful Savior	Rev. Jonathan Gruen	Christopher Troester
Lincoln, NE	Redeemer	Rev. Joel Dietrich	Doug Garrison
O'Fallon, MO	Peace		
St Louis, MO	Chapel of the Cross		David Stahlhut
Vine Grove, KY	Grace	Rev. Ryan Schneider	Regis (Terry) O'Neil
<u>Circuit #19 - Arizona-North</u>			
Mesa, AZ	Eternal Life		
Overgaard, AZ	Faith		
Parker, AZ	Messiah		
Payson, AZ	Shepherd of the Pines		
Phoenix, AZ	Family of Christ	Rev. Fred Gerlach	
Pinetop, AZ	Shepherd of the Mountains	Rev. Daniel Warner	John Bremer
<u>Circuit #20 - Arizona-South</u>			
Benson, AZ	Peace in the Valley	Rev. Ron York	
Cortaro, AZ	Messiah		
Green Valley, AZ	Risen Savior	Rev. Todd Arnold	Richard Loesch
Rio Rico, AZ	Christus Rex		
Sahuarita, AZ	Crosspoint		Keith Christiansen
Tucson, AZ	Ascension		Andy Wellik
Tucson, AZ	Catalina	Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse	Shirley Holle
Tucson, AZ	Faith	Rev. Marcus Zill	Judy Hughes
Tucson, AZ	Holy Trinity		
Tucson, AZ	Mount Olive		Jonathan Wiens
<u>Circuit #21 - Nevada/Utah</u>			
Mesquite, NV	Prince of Peace	Rev. Robert Bruggeman	Colin Metzger
Saint George, UT	Our Savior's	Rev. Arthur Drehman	

2022 CONVENTION DELEGATES

		<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>LAYPERSON</u>
<u>Circuit #22 - San Diego</u>			
Borrego Springs, CA	Borrego		
El Cajon, CA	First	Rev. James Huenink	
La Mesa, CA	St. Luke's		
San Diego, CA	Living Water	Rev. Steven Duescher	
<u>Circuit #23 - Los Angeles</u>			
Long Beach, CA	Saint Paul's		
Los Angeles, CA	Highland Park		
Mission Hills, CA	Chapel of the Cross	Rev. Manuel De La Rosa	Josue De La Rosa
Orange, CA	Immanuel	Rev. Robert Dargatz	Lawrence Washburn
Palm Desert, CA	Peace	Rev. Steve Okpiz	Dawn Okpiz
San Dimas, CA	Trinity		
Sherman Oaks, CA	Sherman Oaks	Rev. Titus Utecht	David Seaver
<u>Circuit #24 - San Francisco</u>			
Danville, CA	Messiah	Rev. Peter Ledic	Joel Ross
Fremont, CA	Hope		
Hayden, ID	Blessed Sacrament	Rev. Marcus Williams	Nathaniel MacPherson
Moses Lake, WA	Apostolic	Rev. Winston Grieser	
San Francisco, CA	New Life		
San Francisco, CA	West Portal		Richard Bass

ADVISORY DELEGATES

Advisory Ordained

Rev. Kevin Belter, Danville, CA
Rev. Devin Burmeister, Lee's Summit, MO
Rev. Curt Dwyer, East Lansing, MI
Rev. Dr. Roger Ellis, Sarnia, ON
Rev. Christopher Esget, Alexandria, VA
Rev. Philip Gai, Mississauga, ON
Rev. Dr. Terry Hursh, Mississauga, ON
Rev. Michael Johnson, Arlington Heights, IL
Rev. Raymond Kirk, Waterloo, ON
Rev. Justin Laughridge, Toronto, ON
Rev. Eric Linthicum, Inverness, FL
Rev. Larry Loree, Jr., Beverly Hills, MI
Rev. Allen Lunneberg, Waterford, MI
Rev. R. Wayne Morton, Shipshewana, IN
Rev. Dr. Edward Naumann, Oakmont, PA
Rev. Dr. Jonathan Nauman, Oakmont, PA
Rev. Mark Renner, Janesville, WI
Rev. Steven Resner, Mesa, AZ
Rev. George Schaetzle, Sheboygan, WI
Rev. Dr. David Stechholz, Livonia, MI
Rev. Dr. John Stieve, Green Valley, AZ
Rev. Robert Tauscher, New Franklin, OH
Rev. Dr. Dusan Tillinger, Kingsville, ON
Rev. Guy Vogel, Janesville, WI

Advisory Commissioned

Vicki Helmling, Oak Park, IL
Rod Lane, Lincoln, NE
Cheryl Naumann, Oakmont, PA
Janet Stechholz, Livonia, MI
Emily Woock, Elmhurst, IL

English District Board of Directors

Kristin Wellik, Tucson, AZ
James Thielen, Orchard Park, NY

ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. William Cario, Mequon, WI
Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, St. Louis, MO
Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer, St. Louis, MO

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

Corbyn Cook - Western Michigan Circuit #13
Robbie Crain - Pittsburgh Circuit #6
Kyle Dombrowski - Cleveland-West Circuit #10
Nyalieb Philip Gai - Canada-East Circuit #7
Chuddier Gattour - Canada-East Circuit #7
Nathaniel Hardy - Western Michigan Circuit #13
Jacob Kimble - Chicago-North Circuit #15
Mayongo Kolubah - New York/New Jersey Circuit #1
Emma Leistico - Canada-West Circuit #8
Jonathan Leistico - Canada-West Circuit #8
Syd Lloyd - Cleveland-West Circuit #10
Noah MacPherson - San Francisco Circuit #24
Carter Pichler - Milwaukee Circuit #17
Jackie Wuol-Kouth - Canada-East Circuit #7
Nyathiel Wuol-Kouth - Canada-East Circuit #7

57th CONVENTION of the ENGLISH DISTRICT of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

APPOINTMENTS

<u>Committee on Nominations</u>	The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, Chair	
	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Congregational Layperson</u>
Eastern Region	The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	Mr. Connor Hagey
Lake Erie Region	The Rev. Mark Braden	Mr. Terry Leu
Midwest Region	The Rev. Gregory Michel	DCE Rodrick Lane
Western Region	The Rev. Victor De La Rosa	Ms. Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg
	The Rev. Luke Zimmerman, District Secretary, Advisor	
 Floor Committees:		
Committee #1 Church and Theology	The Rev. Mark Braden with Committee members of the Detroit-South Circuit #11 The Rev. Ben Eder, Vice President, Advisor	
Committee #2 Missions and Evangelization	The Rev. Fred Reaman with Committee members of the Milwaukee Circuit #17 The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, Vice President, Advisor	
Committee #3 Administration and Structure	The Rev. Brian Westgate with Committee members of the Pittsburgh Circuit #6 The Rev. Robert Rogers, Vice President, Advisor	
Committee #4 Congregational Services	The Rev. Douglas Hoag with Committee members of the Chicago North & South Circuits 15 & 16 The Rev. Todd Arnold, Vice President, Advisor	
Committee #5 Elections	The Rev. Robert Tauscher with The Rev. Joshua Ulm, Vice Chair, Carol George, Ron Hansen, The Rev. Justin Park, and The Rev. Alex Sabol The Rev. Luke Zimmerman & The Rev. Peter Bauernfeind, Advisors	
 Convention Chaplains	 The Rev. Jeffrey Teeple	
Parliamentarian	The Rev. Dr. John Stieve	
Worship Committee	The Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel, Chair with The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. David Rutter, and The Rev. Brian Westgate	
District Convention Essayist	The Rev. Keith Speaks	
Convention Homilist	The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison & The Rev. R. Wayne Morton	
Youth Delegate Coordinators	DCE Rod Lane & Seminarian Jacob Garrison	

ENGLISH DISTRICT LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

57th Convention

June 20-22, 2022

Concordia University Ann Arbor, MI

Saturday, June 4, 2022 - Zoom - Open Hearings of Convention Floor Committees (All Eastern Times)

12:00 pm Committee 2, Missions/Evangelization

12:45 pm Committee 4, Congregational Services

1:30 pm Committee 1, Church & Theology

2:15 pm Committee 3, Administration and Structure

Monday, June 20, 2022

9:00 am	Registration	Nest/Student Union
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Directory photos (rostered workers only)	Student Union
11:00 am	Delegate Orientation	Gym
11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Meet the candidates	Ministry Tent
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall/Student Union
11:00 am - 6:00 pm	Ministry Tent Open	West Campus Parking
1:30 pm	Divine Worship Service	Chapel of Holy Trinity
3:00 pm	Group Picture	Central Campus
	Break	Ministry Tent
3:30 pm	Opening of the 57 th Convention of the English District LCMS	Gymnasium
	Convention Business/Reports	
	Committees #5, #6 Nominations/Elections Bishop/Pres and VPs	
5:00 pm	Dinner (LE & W Regions to Café - E & MW Regions to ministry tent)	Cafeteria/Ministry Tent
6:45 pm	Evening Session – Convention Business	Gymnasium
	Speaker – Rev. Keith Speaks	
	Committees #5, #6 Nominations/Elections Secretary and Board of Directors	
	LCMS Synod Report	
8:45 pm	Evening recess – Snack	

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

6:45 - 8:00 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall/Student Union
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Ministry Tent Open	West Campus Parking
8:00 am	Devotions	Gymnasium
8:15 am	Convention Business	
	Committee #3 Administration and Bylaws/Policy Review	
10:00 am	Break	Ministry Tent
10:30 am	Convention Business	
	Speaker – Lieutenant General William Boykin	
	Recognitions	
12:00 pm	Lunch (E & MW Regions to Café - LE & W Regions to ministry tent)	Dining Hall/Ministry Tent
1:30 pm	Convention Business	
	Financial Report	
	Committee #1 Church & Theology	
3:15 pm	Break	Ministry Tent
3:45 pm	Convention Business	
	Speaker – Jim Sanft	
	Committees #5, #6 Nominations/Elections Nominations Comm/Endowment Board	
4:30 pm	Circuit Caucuses/Canada Corp elections	Various classrooms
6:00 pm	Dinner (LE & MW Regions to Café - E & W Regions to ministry tent)	Dining Hall/Ministry Tent
7:30 pm	Evening Session – Convention Business	Gymnasium
	Recognition	
	Committee #2 Missions/Evang, Committee #4 Congregational Services	
8:45 pm	Evening Recess – Snack	

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

6:45 - 8:00 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall/Student Union
8:00 am	Devotions	Chapel of Holy Trinity
8:05 am	Convention Business	
	Speaker – Jack Phillips, Masterpiece Cakeshop	
10:30 am	Convention Memorial Closing Divine Service with Installation of Officers	
11:30 am	Bus departs for Airport	Campus Dorm Parking Lots

Soli Deo Gloria

**The 57th Convention of the English District
of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
June 20-22, 2022**

MINUTES

Deferred by one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod met in convention June 20-22, 2022, at the Ann Arbor, MI campus of Concordia University. The Convention Theme was “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind” drawn from our Lord Jesus’ teaching recorded in Luke 10:27.

Prior to the convention, floor committees utilized teleconferencing technology that had become familiar to delegates during the pandemic to hold open hearings. These took place on Saturday, June 4, 2022.

Delegate orientation was provided during the morning of Monday, June 20. An opportunity for delegates to meet candidates for various offices to be elected took place during the midday.

OPENING DIVINE SERVICE – MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022

At 1:30 PM, convention attendees and other guests gathered at the Chapel of the Holy Trinity for the opening Divine Service.

The Divine Service was sponsored by Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church – Hartland, MI. It was conducted according to the order of *Lutheran Service Book* Divine Service, Setting Three with the propers from the *Lutheran Service Book Lectionary* for the First Sunday after Trinity. Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, served as preacher; Rev. Christopher Thoma, pastor of Our Savior, served as celebrant. Other liturgical leaders included District President Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel, and the Vice-Presidents of the District. Rev. Brian Westgate and a choir from Our Savior supplied musical leadership. The offering collected at the service was designated to benefit our missionaries in Latin America and the Caribbean Region.

Following the Divine Service, a group picture of convention delegates and other attendees was taken.

FIRST SESSION – MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 20, 2022

Delegates and guests assembled in the gymnasium of Concordia University—Ann Arbor, Michigan. At 3:30 PM, Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, President of the English District, called the Convention to order. President Hardy conducted the Rite of Opening a Convention of a District.

Following the opening of convention, President Hardy introduced two individuals who would help conduct the convention: Rev. John Stieve, parliamentarian; Rev. Luke Zimmerman, Secretary of the English District.

At 3:35 PM, President Hardy presented the Convention Agenda and the Proposed Standing Rules for the Convention to be adopted by the delegates. Motion: ***“To adopt the standing rules.”*** Motion carried. Following the adoption of the standing rules, the agenda was presented for adoption. Motion: ***“To adopt the agenda as presented.”*** Motion carried.

Following adoption of the agenda and the standing rules, President Hardy made several announcements about an anonymous matching grant of \$25,000 given to the District. The same donor offered a grant for congregations to conduct truck stop ministry. He also informed the delegates about a partnership with the Synod Office of National Mission and the Northern Illinois District to restart St John the Divine – Chicago, IL. Another matching grant of \$10,000 has also been offered to the District; President Hardy invited delegates to match the grant before the convention ends.

President Hardy invited two guests to greet the convention attendees: Dr. William Cario, Interim President of Concordia University Wisconsin, Ann Arbor and Rev. Dr. David Maier, President of the Michigan District—LCMS.

At 4:05 PM, Rev. R. Wayne Morton, Chairman of the English District Board of Directors, offered the Board's Report for the 2018—2022 triennium extended. Prior to this report, Rev. Morton informed the delegates that the Board of Directors at its June 19, 2022 meeting designated \$500,000 for congregational restarts and mission plants. Rev. Morton's presentation highlighted some of the congregational visits made by the Board as they met during the past triennium. He also spoke of the activities carried out by the Board, as well as the End Statements established by the Board for the past triennium. Following Rev. Morton's report, a gift from the Board in recognition of his 13 years of service on the Board, including his two-triennium tenure as Chairman of the Board, was presented to him. President Hardy also commended several Board members for their time of service that was ending at the convention: Rev. Ben Eder – 10 years; Mrs. Jane Duffy – 10 years; Mr. Chris Cassel – 7 years; Rev. Thomas Engler – 4 years.

At 4:30 PM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the initial credentials report for the Convention. The credentials report at the opening of the convention at 3:30 PM on June 20, 2022, was as follows:

Voting Delegates – Ordained:	89
Voting Delegates – Lay:	85
Total Voting Delegates:	174
<i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i>	<i>29</i>
Youth Representatives:	15
Board Members:	2
District Staff:	7
Guests/Presenters:	30
Total in Attendance:	257

The credentials report was accepted.

At 4:32 PM, President Hardy summoned the Elections Committee to the dais to conduct the election of District President and District Vice-Presidents. Secretary Zimmerman outlined the processes by which nominations for District President and District Vice-Presidents took place prior to the Convention. Following that presentation, Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, Convention Chaplain, offered prayers for delegates who were about to elect the Praesidium of the District.

Rev. Robert Tauscher, Chairman of the Elections Committee, provided a brief tutorial to the delegates about the electronic voting devices that would be used for elections and other votes.

Following this, Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for District President:

Rev. Jamison Hardy

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy for District President. The result of the election was 1-0. Rev. Jamison Hardy was elected to a third term as District President. He invited his wife Wendy to the dais where photos of them were taken.

At 4:45 PM, the convention then moved to the election and ranking of District Vice-Presidents.

Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for District Vice-President (Eastern Region):

Rev. Martin Erhardt

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky

Rev. Douglas Spittel

The ballot for District Vice-President (Eastern Region) was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Martin Erhardt	31	(19.25 %)
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	47	(29.19 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	83	(51.55 %)

Rev. Douglas Spittel was elected to a first term as District Vice-President (Eastern Region).

Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for District Vice-President (Lake Erie Region):

Rev. Daniel Grams

Rev. Justin Laughridge

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus

The ballot for District Vice-President (Lake Erie Region) was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Daniel Grams	68	(40.72 %)
Rev. Justin Laughridge	18	(10.78 %)
Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	81	(48.50 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes, the name of Rev. Justin Laughridge was removed and a second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Daniel Grams	66	(39.76 %)
Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	100	(60.24 %)

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus was elected to a second term as District Vice-President (Lake Erie Region).

Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for District Vice-President (Midwestern Region):

Rev. Robert Rogers

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Rev. Robert Rogers for District Vice-President (Midwestern Region). The result of the election was 1-0. Rev. Robert Rogers was elected to a third term as District Vice-President (Midwestern Region).

Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for District Vice-President (Western Region):

Rev. Todd Arnold

Rev. Michael Morehouse

The ballot for District Vice-President (Western Region) was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Todd Arnold	82	(49.70 %)
Rev. Michael Morehouse	83	(50.30 %)

Rev. Michael Morehouse was elected to a first term as District Vice-President (Western Region).

At 4:55 PM, the convention proceeded to rank the newly-elected Vice-Presidents. Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of elected Vice-Presidents was presented and instructed delegates to vote for who should serve as First Vice-President of the English District. The results of the first ballot were posted:

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	65	(37.79 %)
Rev. Michael Morehouse	22	(12.79 %)
Rev. Robert Rogers	33	(19.19 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	52	(30.23 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Rev. Michael Morehouse's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	79	(45.66 %)
Rev. Robert Rogers	38	(21.97 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	56	(32.37 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Rev. Robert Rogers' name was removed. A third ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	97	(57.40 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	72	(42.60 %)

Rev. Miskus was ranked as First Vice-President of the English District.

The slate of candidates for Second-Vice President of the English District was presented. A first ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Michael Morehouse	39	(22.94 %)
Rev. Robert Rogers	47	(27.65 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	84	(49.41 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Rev. Morehouse's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Robert Rogers	59	(34.91 %)
Rev. Douglas Spittel	110	(65.09 %)

Rev. Spittel was ranked as Second Vice-President of the English District.

The slate of candidates for Third Vice-President of the English District was presented. The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Michael Morehouse	79	(46.47 %)
Rev. Robert Rogers	91	(53.53 %)

Rev. Rogers was ranked as Third Vice-President of the English District. Rev. Morehouse was ranked as Fourth Vice-President of the English District.

President Hardy thanked Rev. Tauscher and the Elections Committee for completing the election and ranking of the District Vice-Presidents.

At 5:00 PM, President Hardy declared the Convention to be in recess until 6:45 PM. Delegates were dismissed to the Ministry Tent, then to the cafeteria for dinner.

SECOND SESSION – MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 20, 2022

At 6:45 PM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Hardy brought the Convention to order.

After the convention was brought to order, the English District Ministerial Health Commission presented a video about its work among the rostered workers of the District and their families. After the video, President Hardy thanked the Ministerial Health Commission members.

Convention Essay Summary

President Hardy introduced Rev. Keith Speaks, pastor of Hales Corners Lutheran Church – Hales Corners, WI, as the Convention Essayist.

Rev. Speaks introduced his essay with three Scripture Readings alluding to unity and bonds among the LORD's people: Psalm 133 that praises the unity of the LORD's people; Jesus' High Priestly Prayer in John 17 that also speaks of unity of believers; Romans 14:19 that exhorts Christ's disciples to make effort that leads to peace and mutual edification.

Rev. Speaks then shifted attention to the calling of Christians described in Ephesians 4:1-6 and 1 Peter 3:8-9. His comments noted his own lack of meeting those divine standards established in the Scriptures, while suggesting that others could come to the same conclusion about themselves.

Rev. Speaks then posited that loving, trusting relationships are built on common ground, leading to the question: What do we have in common within the English District?

The essay continued with comments about the matter of churchmanship, speaking about what it is and the marks by which it is known. He suggested several marks that a ministry team within his congregation identified:

- § Abiding by the Golden Rule (*Mt 7:12*)
- § Having actions governed by the 8th Commandment
- § Being men and women of peace (*Mt 5:9*)
- § Trusting that brothers and sisters in the Church are faithful in their context
- § Humility
- § Investing in one another; collaborating instead of competing, recognizing same mission and ministry
- § Praying for fellow believers
- § Enacting Jesus' teaching about conflict among believers (*Mt 18:15-17*)

Rev. Speaks asked what might be accomplished if the Church and her members would be identified by those marks of churchmanship that stand in direct contrast to the character of the world that is hostile to the Christian faith. Perhaps that difference might draw others to inquire about such a life of discipleship.

At 7:30 PM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the second credentials report of the Convention. The credentials report at the opening of the convention at 6:45 PM on June 20, 2022, was as follows:

Voting Delegates – Ordained:	90
Voting Delegates – Lay:	86
Total Voting Delegates:	176
<i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i>	<i>31</i>
Youth Representatives:	15
Board Members:	2
District Staff:	7
Guests/Presenters:	33
Total in Attendance	264

The credentials report was accepted.

At 7:33 PM, President Hardy summoned Rev. Tauscher to the dais to conduct the elections for District Secretary and the other positions on the District Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for District Secretary:
Rev. Luke Zimmerman

President Hardy directed a delegate to cast one vote for District Secretary. The result of the election was 1-0. Rev. Luke Zimmerman was elected to a third term as District Secretary.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (Ordained – Eastern/Lake Erie Regions):

Rev. Peter Burfeind
Rev. Daniel Grams
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky

The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Peter Burfeind	22	(13.58 %)
Rev. Daniel Grams	68	(41.98 %)
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	72	(44.44 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Rev. Peter Burfeind's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rev. Daniel Grams	76	(46.34 %)
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	88	(53.66 %)

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (Ordained – Midwestern/Western Regions):

Rev. David Petersen

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Rev. David Petersen for the Board of Directors. The result of the election was 1-0. Rev. David Petersen was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher announced the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (Commissioned):

Lucas Fitzgerald
Rod Lane
Keith Vieregge

Rev. Tauscher reminded the delegates that two commissioned ministers are to be elected to serve on the Board of Directors. Balloting would be conducted until one individual would receive a majority of votes. After that was done, balloting would be conducted with the remaining names until one of those would receive a majority of votes.

The ballot for the first commissioned minister on the Board of Directors was conducted and the results posted:

Lucas Fitzgerald	41	(26.62 %)
Rod Lane	74	(48.05 %)
Keith Vieregge	39	(25.32 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Keith Vieregge's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Lucas Fitzgerald	50	(32.47 %)
Rod Lane	104	(67.53 %)

Mr. Rod Lane was elected to a second term on the Board of Directors.

The convention proceeded to conduct the ballot for the second commissioned minister on the Board of Directors and the results were posted:

Lucas Fitzgerald	94	(61.44 %)
Keith Vieregge	59	(38.56 %)

Mr. Lucas Fitzgerald was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Board of Directors (Lay – Eastern Region):

Rande Casaday
Carol George
Connor Hagey
Steve Kurtz
William Magill

The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Rande Casaday	21	(14.69 %)
Carol George	56	(39.16 %)
Connor Hagey	14	(9.79 %)
Steve Kurtz	34	(23.78 %)
William Magill	18	(12.59 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of Rande Casaday, Connor Hagey, and William Magill were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Carol George	91	(57.23 %)
Steve Kurtz	68	(42.77 %)

Ms. Carol George was elected to a third term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Board of Directors (Lay – Lake Erie Region):

Tom Habitz
Terry Leu

The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Tom Habitz	53	(33.97 %)
Terry Leu	103	(66.03 %)

Mr. Terry Leu was elected to a fourth term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Board of Directors (Lay – Midwestern Region):

William Bussing
Gail Grieser

The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

William Bussing	66	(43.14 %)
Gail Grieser	87	(56.86 %)

Ms. Gail Grieser was elected to first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (Lay – Western Region):

Shirley Holle
Thomas Honebrink
Kristin Wellik

The ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Shirley Holle	47	(30.72 %)
Thomas Honebrink	57	(37.25 %)
Kristin Wellik	49	(32.03 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Shirley Holle's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Thomas Honebrink	80	(51.61 %)
Kristin Wellik	75	(48.39 %)

Mr. Thomas Honebrink was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. Tauscher reminded delegates that all candidates for Board of Directors (Lay) who were not elected to regional seats would form the slate of candidates for the two Lay (At-Large) seats on the Board of Directors.

The convention proceeded with balloting for the first Board of Directors (Lay – At-Large) seat. The first ballot was held and the results were posted:

William Bussing	19	(11.66 %)
Rande Casaday	8	(4.91 %)
Thomas Habitz	25	(15.34 %)
Connor Hagey	12	(7.36 %)
Shirley Holle	29	(17.79 %)
Steve Kurtz	20	(12.27 %)
William Magill	5	(3.07 %)
Kristin Wellik	45	(27.61 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of William Bussing, Rande Casaday, Connor Hagey, Steve Kurtz, and William Magill were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Thomas Habitz	64	(40.00 %)
Shirley Holle	32	(20.00 %)
Kristin Wellik	64	(40.00 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Shirley Holle’s name was removed. A third ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Thomas Habitz	76	(45.78 %)
Kristin Wellik	90	(54.22 %)

Kristin Wellik was elected to a second term on the Board of Directors.

The convention continued with balloting for the second Board of Directors (Lay – At-Large) seat. The first ballot was held and the results were posted:

William Bussing	8	(4.82 %)
Rande Casaday	11	(6.63 %)
Thomas Habitz	78	(46.99 %)
Connor Hagey	4	(2.41 %)
Shirley Holle	40	(24.10 %)
Steve Kurtz	18	(10.84 %)
William Magill	7	(4.22 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of William Bussing, Rande Casaday, Connor Hagey, Steve Kurtz, and William Magill were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

Thomas Habitz	113	(68.48 %)
Shirley Holle	52	(31.52 %)

Mr. Thomas Habitz was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

President Hardy thanked Rev. Tauscher for conducting the election of District Secretary and Board of Directors. He also thanked all candidates who stood for election.

At 7:55 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 3 (Administration & Structure) to the dais. Floor Committee 3 moved adoption of Resolution 3-01: “To Reformat and Amend the Bylaws of the English

District" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-64 to 4-74*). The changes to the format and content of the District Bylaws were explained to the delegates. Following brief discussion, the motion carried [Y - 153; N - 9].

Floor Committee 3 then moved adoption of Resolution 3-05: "To Amend the Articles of Incorporation of the English District" (*June 20 Workbook Addendum, p. 6-24 to 6-26*). The rationale behind amending the Articles of Incorporation was provided to the delegates. Following discussion, the motion carried [Y - 157; N - 7].

At 8:00 PM, President Hardy invited Samuel Preus from Lutheran Classical College to present a video and speak about the development of a new Lutheran institution of higher education. Mr. Preus explained about the nature of this college as a distinctly Lutheran college and why it is being established, hoping to enroll its first students in Fall 2025.

To close the evening, President Hardy thanked the pastors and members of congregations for conducting their ministry during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those who continued to bring Christ's gifts to His disciples in many various ways.

At 8:25 PM, President Hardy declared the Convention to be in recess until 8:00 AM on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Delegates were provided strawberry shortcake and ice cream and then dismissed for the evening.

THIRD SESSION – TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 21, 2022

At 8:00 AM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Hardy brought the Convention to order.

Morning prayers were conducted by Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, First Vice-President of the English District, and Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel. Rev. Miskus provided a devotional homily based on Jude 17-25.

At 8:20 AM, President Hardy introduced a slide presentation of the congregations and school added to the District Roster during the 2018-2022 triennium extended:

- § Agnus Dei – Marshall, MI
- § Blessed Sacrament – Hayden, ID
- § Redeemer – St. Clair Shores, MI
- § Rehoboth Afaan Oromo – Philadelphia, PA
- § St. John's – Clarksburg, WV
- § St. Luke's – La Mesa, CA
- § Eternal Life – Mesa, AZ
- § Holy Trinity – Albion, PA
- § Hope – Bellaire, MI
- § Immanuel – Alexandria, VA
- § Immanuel – Orange, CA
- § Trinity – San Dimas, CA
- § Redeemer Classical School – Fort Wayne, IN

President Hardy invited representatives from the Synod's two seminaries to the dais to greet the delegates. A video about the seminaries was shown to the delegates. Delegates were informed about the

need for students to take up the vocations of church work. The seminary representatives asked pastors to involve their parishioners to develop future church work students.

Summary of Synod President's Report

At 8:25 AM, President Hardy invited Synod President Harrison to present his report of the Synod to the delegates. In his report, he highlighted the blessings that were found even during the challenges faced in COVID-19 pandemic; an unexpected blessing was that contributions to the Synod actually increased by \$1 million. He spoke about the 963 Soldiers of the Cross amplified grants that were distributed during the pandemic made possible by the generosity of Synod members. He mentioned the 30 post-COVID "Take Heart" Doxology retreats provided to church workers; more are being offered.

Synod President Harrison informed delegates about the 7-03 Task Force dealing with the Concordia University System concerning Lutheran identity and mission. The task force is looking at reforming the governance structure of the Synod universities. The proposal would divide the governance responsibilities of the universities, allowing more self-governance in the business aspects of the schools, while establishing more ecclesiastical oversight. He also spoke about the recent controversies at the universities, particularly one involving a professor at Concordia University Wisconsin speaking about the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) movement entering the school. He indicated that he is moving toward appointing a task force to address the matter of anti-racism.

Synod President Harrison informed delegates about church relations between the Synod and other Lutheran church bodies. One partner church highlighted was the Malagasy Lutheran Church. The Synod has over 40 official partner Lutheran church bodies around the world; including those, around 90 total church bodies are in dialogue with the Synod at various levels. He also commented about the religious freedom issues faced by members of the Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland, one of the most recent partner churches of the Synod. Developments with Lutherans in South Sudan may lead to a new partnership. He also reported that over \$3 million has been raised to support individuals affected by the war in Ukraine.

Synod President Harrison commented favorably about the continued work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to support activities in the Synod. He stated that the number of Synod missionaries is low due to COVID-19. Despite this, the average missionary is currently funded for one year out. Another international development is the Livonian Lutheran Project, a church planting project in Europe. The seminary in the Dominican Republic has graduated over 200 pastors and 160 deaconesses in the past decade; a new hymnal in Spanish has also been produced, which will also be made available in a mobile application. Developments in Lutheran church bodies in Taiwan and Japan have led to processes to disaffiliate with church bodies and seminaries in those locations. At the same time, the Synod is affiliated with 15 seminaries in Africa to train church workers. The seminary in India has been recently rebuilt after being destroyed by a typhoon.

Synod President Harrison noted new conferences in the *Making Disciples for Life* program are being held. Within the Synod, 20,000 individuals have been trained to serve in Lutheran Emergency Response Teams (LERT). This has helped to expand domestic disaster relief efforts. He discussed the 1 John 3 Million Dollar Life Match that is currently in place to help fund life ministry efforts taking place in congregations. The Synod Youth Gathering to be held in 2022 has 19,000 registrants. A new Child Protection Program is being developed for the Synod.

Synod President Harrison stated that the Synod is in its best financial shape ever. This is due both to increased giving to the Synod and implementation of budgetary constraints.

Synod President Harrison spoke about the matter of church planting. A review of church planting has been conducted by the Synod, leading to several conclusions being incorporated into a new church planting initiative. The Synod is implementing a \$2 million church planting grant to be distributed in matching grants to congregations involved in planting new churches.

A question-and-answer session followed President Harrison's report. Delegates asked about various topics:

- § What has resulted from the official visit to Concordia University Texas?
- § How to encourage individuals, particularly from immigrant families, to take up the vocation of church work.
- § If the Council of Presidents is addressing congregations trying to creating long-distance members via online worship services.
- § Would a Synod campus ministry position be reestablished if the Synod is reaching financial stability?
- § What standard is there for mentally disabled/low-functioning individuals to be communed?
- § What plans might be developed to reconnect individuals who have been baptized/confirmed, but now have disconnected from parish involvement?

At 10:00 AM, President Hardy called on Rev. Dr. David Stechholz, President Emeritus of the English District, to offer greetings to the Convention.

Following this, President Hardy informed the delegates that there would be a break in convention business until 10:30 AM.

At 10:30 AM, President Hardy reconvened the meeting. He reminded delegates about the ongoing mission collection with its \$10,000 matching grant.

President Hardy then called for approval of the minutes of the June 20 sessions of the Convention. Secretary Zimmerman directed the delegates' attention to the copies of the minutes from the June 20 sessions of the Convention (*June 21 Workbook Addendum, pp. 6-27 to 6-37*). Motion: "**To approve the minutes as presented.**" Motion carried [Y - 95; N - 3].

At 10:33 AM, President Hardy had the District Evangelization Team present a video about their work within the District. The video focused on the individual members of the team and how the team functions, as well as the tools for evangelism that are available to District congregations.

Convention Speaker Summary

At 10:45 AM, President Hardy called Rev. Christopher Thoma to the dais to introduce the Convention Speaker, Lieutenant General (ret.) William Boykin. General Boykin now serves as Family Research Council's Executive Vice President.

General Boykin spoke to the delegates about showing the love of God in a hostile world. His presentation indicated that the persecution foretold by Jesus in Luke 21 is present among us, not just something yet to happen. He stated that the Church needs to be prepared to stand against this persecution and the evil that has been brought into the country. His presentation shared details of controversy brought about by his comments in a 2003 speech concerning his 1993 interaction with Osman Atto in Somalia. Through the

difficulties faced in this controversy, including investigation by the Department of Defense, he found his focus turned away from himself to ways he could demonstrate the Christian life. The controversy also showed how God was present with him and the support that can be given by fellow believers in the midst of persecution. He exhorted delegates to read the Holy Scriptures diligently, because that is the way that believers are prepared by God to stand firm within persecution and to bring support to their fellow believers.

Delegates had opportunity to offer questions of General Boykin, including about the challenges being faced by theologically conservative chaplains within the armed forces, the various threats that face the nation from outside and within, and the philosophy of the military.

At 11:45 AM, President Hardy had a video from the District Campus Ministry Task Force played. The video informed delegates about the college town congregations/campus ministries found within the District and a 2022 conference for campus ministries held by the District. Delegates were invited to consider contacting the task force for information about starting campus ministries at local colleges.

President Hardy then invited Jubilarians to be recognized for their years of service within the Synod. (*The listing of the Jubilarians can be found in the Convention Workbook, pp. 2-11 and 2-12.*) After recognition was offered, President Hardy declared the Convention in recess until 1:30 PM. Delegates were dismissed to the ministry tent and the cafeteria.

FOURTH SESSION – TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 21, 2022

At 1:30 PM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Hardy brought the Convention to order.

Afternoon prayer was led by Rev. David Rutter, presenting Nehemiah 1:4-11 to the delegates.

At 1:35 PM, President Hardy then introduced members of the District Staff to the delegates, thanking them for their service to the District and the District congregations. Staff recognized were Albert Amling, Ron Grimm, Natalya Hrecznyj, Rev. Daniel Lepley, Rev. J. Derek Mathers, Jill McGarr, Sally Naglich, Peggy Oke, and Kathy Stanis.

District Staff members offered reports on the work within the District that they help to oversee or coordinate.

Mr. Albert Amling, School Ministry Executive, spoke about how congregations can support school ministry, even if they do not have schools themselves. COVID-19 took a major toll on school ministries and the teachers conducting them. A great need exists for new school ministry workers, whether finding individuals to enroll in teacher education courses at Synod colleges or going through the colloquy program. Congregations may also contribute to District scholarships that are given, perhaps even providing matching grants.

Mr. Ron Grimm, LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor, spoke about the gift planning that he helps to coordinate with members of District congregations. This gift planning focuses on wills and endowment funding. The work of the LCMS Foundation allows LCMS ministries to have access to a sophisticated,

diversified investment model at a low cost. His work can assist congregations in creating ongoing sources of income.

Rev. Daniel Lepley, LCEF District Vice-President, spoke about the investment and loan opportunities that LCEF provides to District congregations and their members. He informed delegates that the Federal Reserve interest rates are not directly tied to the cost of funds for LCEF. He also mentioned the newly established saving accounts that were created for church workers on the LCMS roster.

Rev. Derek Mathers, Mission Executive and Assistant to the Bishop, spoke about the varied aspects of his work for the District. He mentioned some of the ongoing issues that some church workers are having with COVID-19; there is support for such individuals, including the Ministerial Health Commission. Another program under his oversight is Re:Vitality, a Synod initiative to strengthen and build up congregational ministries. He also discussed the work of the District Missions Council that focuses on ways to promote and connect new mission in the District; the District's 1-1-1 mission funding initiative is also under their auspices. Rev. Mathers encouraged congregations and circuits to become aware of the mission opportunities that are present in their settings; these missions would be outreach efforts to people outside the kingdom of God in their location. He also spoke of a new concept being developed of planting a new church that becomes a center in which church planting can be learned and further churches can be planted.

Mrs. Sally Naglich, District Treasurer and Business Manager, reported about the financial state of the District. She provided delegates with a Statement of Financial Position – Summary. Overall total assets have increased by \$1.9 million over the past four years from \$5.7 million to \$7. million; the increase in assets includes investment gains of the Endowment Fund and receiving properties from disbanding congregations. She stressed that the District's financial activities would not be possible without the ongoing support of the District by its congregations and their members. It would be greatly beneficial if all District congregations would support the District by direct contribution as they are able.

At 2:40 PM, President Hardy called upon Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, Convention Chaplain, to offer prayer for specific needs requested by delegates and for wisdom in voting decisions.

At 2:42 PM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the third credentials report of the Convention. The credentials report at the opening of the convention at 1:30 PM on June 21, 2022, was as follows:

Voting Delegates – Ordained:	87
Voting Delegates – Lay:	85
Total Voting Delegates:	172
<i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i>	<i>31</i>
Youth Representatives:	15
Board Members:	2
District Staff:	7
Guests/Presenters:	34
Total in Attendance	261

The credentials report was adopted.

Following the credentials report, President Hardy opened the floor for nominations for the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers and the Committee on Nominations. With no floor nominations offered, the slates of candidates were closed.

At 2:45 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 1 (Church & Theology) to the dais. Rev. Mark Braden, Committee Chairman, introduced members of the committee.

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-03A: "To Decline Overture 1-03" (*June 20 Addendum, p. 6-1*). Rev. Braden explained why the Floor Committee drafted a resolution to decline Overture 1-03, which had been submitted by the Detroit Circuits. The declination was due to actions taken by the 2019 Synod Convention. Without discussion, the motion carried [Y - 134; N - 13].

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-08: "To Encourage Our Seminaries to Increase Educational Training as Part of Pastoral Formation" (*June 20 Addendum, p. 6-4*). Delegates inquired how encouragement would take place, whether educational requirements are mandated prior to enrollment at seminary, and how educational classes could be conducted. After discussion, the motion carried [Y - 115; N - 40].

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-09: "To Prevent Harmful Philosophies, Ideologies and Contemporary Movements Contrary to the Christian Faith from Damaging Our Congregations, Schools, Colleges and Seminaries" (*June 20 Addendum, p. 6-5 to 6-6*). Motion to amend: "**To strike references to BLM from the Resolveds within the resolution.**" Discussion of the motion to amend ensued; following extensive discussion about the motion to amend, it failed [Y - 70; N - 90]. Discussion returned to the main motion. Delegates asked whether other entities should be listed; other delegates questioned whether any particular entity should be listed. Further comment about the merits of the resolution were offered. Seeing no further speakers, President Hardy put the question to the assembly; motion carried [Y - 117; N - 44].

At 3:25 PM, President Hardy informed the delegates that there would be a break in convention business until 3:50 PM.

At 3:50 PM, President Hardy invited Rev. Kevin Wilson, President of the Ohio District, to the dais. Ohio District President Wilson thanked the District for its cooperation with congregations in his district where help has been sought.

At 3:52 PM, President Hardy invited Mr. James Sanft of Concordia Plans to the dais. Mr. Sanft informed delegates about the role that Concordia Plans serves as a business entity within the Synod. The work of Concordia Plans is to carry out part of Objective 10 listed in Article III of the Synod Constitution. The entity manages the benefit plans of the Synod, as well as other ancillary programs. Concordia Plans offers multiple health and wellness programs to participants in order to improve overall health, instead of simply covering medical care and treatment. It also offers two different types of retirement plans for church workers. Retirement ready workers would participate in a combination of both retirement plans offered by Concordia Plans, as well as Social Security and individual saving/investments; this is part of the shared responsibility for retirement. Mr. Sanft stated that the retirement aspect of Concordia Plans is currently fully funded for its beneficiaries.

At 4:15 PM, President Hardy summoned Rev. Tauscher, Elections Committee Chairman, to the dais to conduct the elections for Circuit Visitors, Endowment Fund Board of Managers, and Committee on

Nominations. He also asked Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, Convention Chaplain, to offer prayers for specific requests and prior to voting.

Rev. Tauscher then explained how the Circuit Visitor nominations were conducted prior to the Convention. Changes to the initial slate (*Convention Workbook, pp. 5-15 and 5-16*) due to pastors having been elected to other District offices were identified.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of Circuit Visitors for ratification by the Convention:

Circuit 1 - New York/New Jersey	Rev. Gordon Naumann
Circuit 2 - Philadelphia	Rev. Christopher Seifferlein
Circuit 3 - Florida	Rev. William Douthwaite, III
Circuit 4 - Georgia	Rev. David Miller
Circuit 5 - Buffalo	Rev. Dwayne Hendricks
Circuit 6 - Pittsburgh	Rev. Brian Westgate
Circuit 7 - Canada-East	Rev. Dr. Terry Hursh
Circuit 8 - Canada-West	Rev. James Leistico
Circuit 9 - Cleveland-Akron	Rev. Jonathan McCall
Circuit 10 - Cleveland	Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer
Circuit 11 - Detroit-South	Rev. Bradford Scott
Circuit 12 - Detroit-North	Rev. Timothy Holzerland
Circuit 13 - Western Michigan	Rev. Peter Burfeind
Circuit 14 - Indiana	Rev. Chad Trouten
Circuit 15 - Chicago-North	Rev. Anthony Oliphant
Circuit 16 - Chicago-South	Rev. Doug Hoag
Circuit 17 - Milwaukee	Rev. Fred Reaman
Circuit 18 - St. Louis	Rev. Jonathan Gruen
Circuit 19 - Arizona-North	Rev. Steven Resner
Circuit 20 - Arizona-South	Rev. Dr. John Stieve
Circuit 21 - Nevada/Utah	Rev. Arthur Drehman
Circuit 22 - San Diego	Rev. James Huenink
Circuit 23 - Los Angeles	Rev. Robert Dargatz
Circuit 24 - San Francisco	Rev. Curtis Binz

The convention proceeded with the vote to ratify the election of Circuit Visitors and the results were posted:

Yes	159
No	3

The slate of Circuit Visitors was ratified as presented.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Endowment Fund Board of Managers (Eastern Region):

Michael Coffey

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Michael Coffey for the Endowment Fund Board of Managers (Eastern Region). The result of the election was 1-0. Michael Coffey was elected to a second term as District Endowment Fund Manager.

Rev. Tauscher reported that due to the result of prior elections at the Convention, no candidate would be presented for the Endowment Fund Board of Managers (Lake Erie Region). With no candidate presented, no ballot was conducted. The seat on the Endowment Fund Board of Managers will be filled by the process spelled out in District Bylaw 6.2.5(a).

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Endowment Fund Board of Managers (Midwestern Region):

Matthew Thompson
Rex Toepke

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Matthew Thompson	63	(49.61 %)
Rex Toepke	64	(50.39 %)

Mr. Rex Toepke was elected to a second term as District Endowment Fund Manager.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the Endowment Fund Board of Managers (Western Region):

Rev. Fred Gerlach
Paul Sticha

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Fred Gerlach	95	(65.07 %)
Paul Sticha	51	(34.93 %)

Rev. Fred Gerlach was elected to a second term as District Endowment Fund Manager.

Prior to electing the members of the Committee on Nominations, Secretary Zimmerman reminded the delegates that the limitation of holding one elected office did not apply to the Committee on Nominations, as it is regarded as an *ad hoc* Convention Committee, in line with Synod Bylaw 3.12.3.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Ordained – Eastern Region):

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky
Rev. Brian Westgate

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	74	(46.25 %)
Rev. Brian Westgate	86	(53.75 %)

Rev. Brian Westgate was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Eastern Region):

Connor Hagey

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Connor Hagey for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Eastern Region). The result of the election was 1-0. Connor Hagey was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Ordained – Lake Erie Region):

Rev. Mark Braden
Rev. Peter Burfeind

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Mark Braden	104	(67.97 %)
Rev. Peter Burfeind	49	(32.03 %)

Rev. Mark Braden was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Lake Erie Region):

Terry Leu

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Terry Leu for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Lake Erie Region). The result of the election was 1-0. Terry Leu was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Ordained – Midwestern Region):

Rev. Gregory Michel
Rev. David Petersen
Rev. C. J. Wright

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Gregory Michel	42	(27.10 %)
Rev. David Petersen	74	(47.74 %)
Rev. C. J. Wright	39	(25.16 %)

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, Rev. C.J. Wright's name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Gregory Michel	57	(37.01 %)
Rev. David Petersen	97	(62.99 %)

Rev. David Petersen was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Midwestern Region):

Rod Lane

With no other candidates standing for election, the Elections Committee instructed the Secretary to cast one vote for Rod Lane for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Midwestern Region). The result of the election was 1-0. Rod Lane was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Ordained – Western Region)

Rev. Fred Gerlach
Rev. Michael Morehouse

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Rev. Fred Gerlach	60	(38.22 %)
Rev. Michael Morehouse	97	(61.78 %)

Rev. Michael Morehouse was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Committee on Nominations (Commissioned/Lay – Western Region):

Roni Grad
Karina Lindsey von Hindenburg

The ballot was conducted and the results were posted:

Roni Grad	72	(49.32 %)
Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg	74	(50.68 %)

Ms. Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg was elected to the Committee on Nominations.

With all elections having been conducted, President Hardy thanked the Elections Committee for their work during the Convention.

At 4:30 PM, President Hardy invited Rev. Jonathan Naumann to the dais to speak briefly about his work in the Dominican Republic on behalf of the LCMS Board for International Missions. He invited delegates to converse with him during the rest of the Convention and to pray for the missionaries serving in the Latin America and Caribbean Region.

At 4:35 PM, President Hardy invited Rev. Jawed & Julie Dass to the dais to speak about their work within Pakistan. Rev. Dass announced that five Lutheran churches have been planted in Pakistan. He now oversees the Lutheran Confessional Church Pakistan as bishop. Julie Dass highlighted aspects of the mission that grew out of initial support from Faith – Naples, FL and has blossomed within Pakistan. Along with the English District, the Florida-Georgia District has also served as a partner with this mission. Seminarians have begun instruction that will lead to ordination.

At 4:45 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 1 to return to the dais.

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-04: "To Establish a National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program for LCMS Commissioned Ministers—Teachers" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-54 to 4-55*). No delegate desired to speak to the motion, leading directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 143; N - 11].

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-02: "To Establish a Specific Ministry Pastor Program Oversight Board and to Revise the Bylaws Governing the SMP Program" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-50 to 4-52*) with the removal of Lines 80-84 on p. 4-51. Rev. Braden explained that the proposal would affect Synod Bylaws. The Floor Committee was informed that the content of Lines 80-84 would conflict with

Synod Bylaws, necessitating removal of those lines from the proposed resolution. After brief discussion, the motion carried [Y - 133; N - 24].

Floor Committee 1 moved adoption of Resolution 1-05: "To Exhort All Parishes to Celebrate the Mass Every Sunday Even if Civil Government Interferes" (*Convention Workbook*, pp. 4-56 to 4-57). Rev. Braden noted that the authors of the resolution wanted delegates to note that the content of the resolution was not simply to address past incidents but also what may be faced in the future. After brief discussion, the motion carried [Y - 126; N - 34].

Floor Committee moved adoption of Resolution 1-06: "To Restore Both Biblical Languages to the Education of Future Pastors on All Pathways to the Office of the Holy Ministry" (*Convention Workbook*, pp. 4-58). Delegates inquired whether exceptions might be established, whether currently rostered ordained ministers could pass competency exams in the Biblical languages now, the maintenance of Biblical Hebrew competency in the field, and the example of Jesus' knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. After discussion, motion carried [Y - 121; N - 39].

At 5:20 PM, President Hardy declared the Convention in recess until 7:30 PM. Delegates were informed that dinner would be provided in the cafeteria at 6:00 PM. Members of the Canadian Circuits were instructed that they would assemble to hold their required session of the Canada Corporation elections.

FIFTH SESSION – TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 21, 2022

At 7:30 PM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Hardy brought the Convention to order.

President Hardy had a video summarizing the start of the mission congregation in Hayden, ID—Blessed Sacrament Lutheran Church—shown to the delegates. This video had previously been presented during the virtual gala held on June 12, 2022. President Hardy commented upon the work done by Rev. John Bombaro in organizing the congregation.

President Hardy had a video presentation about the English District Endowment Fund shown to the delegates. The video identified how gifts and earnings are added to the Endowment Fund, as well as the different uses of monies gained from the interest raised from the corpus of the fund. The video highlighted how the English District Endowment Fund has become another income source for the District to support missions, human care/outreach efforts, and campus ministries.

At 7:50 PM, President Hardy reported to the Convention that he was in Pittsburgh earlier in 2022 to present Rev. Hans O. Andrae with the Roger D. Pittelko *Ille Dilexit Ecclesiam* award. A summary of Rev. Andrae's biography was read for the delegates. President Hardy then invited Rev. Charles D. Lentner to the dais to present him the Roger D. Pittelko *Ille Dilexit Ecclesiam* award. A summary of Rev. Lentner's biography was read for the delegates. Rev. Lentner thanked the convention for the honor.

At 8:00 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 2 (Missions & Evangelization) to the dais. He also had Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, Convention Chaplain, to offer prayer for specific requests and for wisdom in voting.

Floor Committee 2 moved adoption of Resolution 2-02: "To Increase Continuing Education (CEU) Opportunities throughout Synod" (*Convention Workbook, p. 4-63*). With no delegate desiring to speak on the motion, the delegates moved directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 136; N - 9].

Floor Committee 2 moved adoption of Resolution 2-01: "To Affirm the Need for Open Churches During Times of Plague, Pestilence and Pandemic" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-61 to 4-62*). Delegates inquired how this resolution differed from Resolution 1-05; the committee noted that this resolution focused on congregational openings and functions beyond just the weekly Divine Service. Another delegate questioned the value of protective equipment mentioned in the resolution. Motion to amend: "**To strike the text of Lines 75 & 76 from the resolution.**" Discussion on the amendment ensued; following discussion, the motion to amend carried [Y - 123; N - 25]. Discussion then moved to the motion as amended. A second motion to amend: "**To replace the word 'opposes' in Line 71 with the word 'condemns.'**" The second motion to amend carried [Y - 127; N - 24]. The twice-amended resolution was put to the delegates for adoption; motion carried [Y - 137; N - 13].

Floor Committee 2 reported that their work had been completed. President Hardy dismissed Floor Committee 2 for the remainder of the Convention.

At 8:25 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 4 to the dais.

Floor Committee 4 moved adoption of Resolution 4-01A: "To Memorialize the LCMS to Have the Next Available Convention of Synod in Detroit, Michigan" (*June 20 Addendum, p. 6-10*). With no delegate desiring to speak on the motion, the delegates moved directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 115; N - 34].

Floor Committee 4 moved adoption of Resolution 4-02A: "To Recognize and Thank the LCMS for the Strengthened and Expanded 'Soldiers of the Cross' COVID-19 Response Initiative" (*June 20 Addendum, p. 6-11*). Rev. Derek Mathers, District Mission Executive, was invited to speak about his role in administering the District's part within this initiative. With no delegate desiring to speak on the motion, the delegates moved directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 147; N - 1].

Floor Committee 4 moved adoption of Resolution 4-03A: "To Direct LCMS Life Ministry to Support Congregations in Developing Mercy Ministries to Promote a Culture of Life." Rev. Derek Mathers, District Mission Executive, was invited to speak about sources of funding currently available to Synod congregations involved in local life ministries. With no delegate desiring to speak on the motion, the delegates moved directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 145; N - 3].

Floor Committee 4 reported that their work had been completed. President Hardy dismissed Floor Committee 4 for the remainder of the Convention.

At 8:40 PM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 3 to the dais.

Floor Committee 3 moved adoption of Resolution 3-04: "To Restrict Synod Conventions on Sundays" (*Convention Workbook, p. 4-78*). With no delegate desiring to speak on the motion, the delegates moved directly to a vote. Motion carried [Y - 126; N - 12].

Floor Committee moved adoption of Resolution 3-02: "To Amend English District Bylaw 5.1 to Remove Term Limits" (*Convention Workbook, p. 4-75*). Delegates discussed the merits of the resolution, several noting the potential stifling of leadership development and succession within the District, while others

spoke about keeping good leaders in place. After multiple speakers, a motion to close debate was held and carried [Y - 106; N - 47]. The Convention proceeded to a vote on adoption. Motion failed [Y - 42; N - 111].

At 8:58 PM, President Hardy declared the Convention to be in recess until 8:00 AM on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. He informed delegates that the Ohio District Convention was slated to begin later on Wednesday, necessitating the vacating of the gymnasium by 10:00 AM, so that it could be prepared for that District's use. Installation of District Officers would take place in the gymnasium. Delegates were dismissed for the evening.

SIXTH SESSION – WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 2022

At 8:00 AM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Hardy brought the Convention to order. He informed the delegates that business would conclude at 10:00 AM.

Morning prayers were conducted by Rev. Ryan Beffrey and the Youth Convention Representatives. Two youth representatives read devotions that they had written during their time at the Convention.

At 8:20 AM, President Hardy had a video about the District Missions Council presented for the delegates. The video explained the role that the council plays concerning missions being started and conducted within the District.

At 8:25 AM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the final credentials report of the Convention. The credentials report at the opening of the convention at 8:00 AM on June 22, 2022, was as follows:

Voting Delegates – Ordained:	70
Voting Delegates – Lay:	73
Total Voting Delegates:	143
<i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i>	<i>29</i>
Youth Representatives:	15
Board Members:	2
District Staff:	7
Guests/Presenters:	30
Total in Attendance	226

The credentials report was accepted.

President Hardy then called for approval of the minutes of the June 21 sessions of the Convention. Secretary Zimmerman directed the delegates' attention to the copies of the minutes from the June 21 sessions of the Convention (*June 22 Workbook Addendum, pp. 6-38 to 6-49*). Motion: ***"To approve the minutes as presented."*** Motion carried by voice vote.

At 8:30 AM, Synod President Matthew Harrison installed President Jamison Hardy into his third term as District President. President Hardy installed the newly elected Vice-Presidents.

District President's Address Summary

Following the installation of the District Praesidium, President Hardy addressed the Convention, first commenting about the challenges that the District had faced and met during the COVID-19 pandemic. He then spoke about the matter of engaging; his exhortation to the delegates is to engage the world according to the calling that they bear as Christians. President Hardy stated that pastors are not to run away from trouble, but toward it; bravery to do so comes because they are defending what God has entrusted to them, His people, His sheep. He echoed the message given earlier by General William Boykin, the Convention Speaker, that the fight is not coming, but is already here.

President Hardy's address highlighted the mission activity taking place within the District at four congregations: Blessed Sacrament – Hayden, ID; Holy Cross – Hazelwood, PA; St. John's – Clarksburg, WV; St. John the Divine – Chicago, IL.

President Hardy thanked the Vice-Presidents and Circuit Visitors for their assistance during the past triennium and declared his expectation that the newly-elected Vice-Presidents and Circuit Visitors would offer the same in the new triennium.

Convention Speaker Summary

At 8:45 AM, President Hardy invited Rev. Christopher Thoma to introduce Convention Speakers, Mr. Jack Phillips and Mr. Jake Warner. Mr. Warner, senior counsel for the Alliance Defending Freedom's Appellate Team, spoke about the Alliance Defending Freedom's legal activity to defend the religious freedom held by individuals and organizations within the United States. One of the organization's clients is Mr. Jack Phillips.

Mr. Phillips spoke to the delegates about his case in Lakewood, CO that centered on the refusal to design a custom wedding cake for a gay couple based on his religious beliefs. That refusal brought a charge against Mr. Phillips by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, leading to damage to Mr. Phillips' business. The legal matter between Mr. Phillips and his business, Masterpiece Cakeshop, and the Colorado Civil Rights Commission led to a case heard by the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Phillips prevailed, as the United States Supreme Court ruled that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission did not employ religious neutrality. Despite this legal victory, Mr. Phillips continues to face further litigation due to other individuals making requests for cakes to be made to commemorate or celebrate events that fall outside Biblical definitions for humanity, sexuality, and marriage. The Alliance Defending Freedom maintains their legal defense of Mr. Phillips, as well as other business owners in creative services facing similar legal challenges.

Following the speakers' presentation, a question-and-answer session was offered for the delegates.

At 9:40 AM, a video presentation from Lifeline was presented to delegates. The video introduced the life ministry resources that Lifeline helps to provide for District congregations.

At 9:45 AM, President Hardy summoned Floor Committee 1 to the dais.

Floor Committee moved adoption of Resolution 1-07: "To Reconsider Allowing 'Brain Death' Criteria for Determination of Death at End of Life" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-59 to 4-60*). Rev. Braden informed delegates that the Floor Committee investigated claims made by the authors of the original overture (Overture 1-09) that led to this resolution; articles and citations from medical journals that reinforced

those claims were supplied to the Floor Committee. After brief discussion, the motion carried [Y - 126; N - 11].

Floor Committee moved declination of Resolution 1-01: "To Revise Paragraph 3a) of the Operating Agreement Between the Lutheran Church—Canada (LC-C) and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod" (*Convention Workbook, pp. 4-43 to 4-49*). Prior to introducing the resolution for declination, Rev. Braden indicated that the resolution is procedurally incorrect, as it directs the Synod President to take an action that is properly assigned to the Synod Board of Directors. He also noted that a nearly identical resolution was adopted and is being implemented. The motion was put to the delegates for a vote: "*To decline Resolution 1-01.*" Motion carried [Y – 98; N – 31].

With the hour appointed for closure having arrived, President Hardy declared the business sessions of the Convention to be closed at 10:00 AM.

CONVENTION CLOSING SERVICE – WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 2022

Delegates were directed to the Chapel of the Holy Trinity for Choral Matins with Commemoration of the Departed, which began at 10:30 AM. Rev. R. Wayne Morton preached; Rev. Douglas Spittel officiated; the Vice-Presidents of the District conducted the commemoration. During the service, President Hardy installed the newly-elected Circuit Visitors and members of the Board of Directors. At the end of the service, President Hardy conducted the Rite of Closing a Convention, bringing the 57th Regular Convention of the English District to its conclusion.

Submitted,

Rev. Luke T. Zimmerman
Secretary, English District – LCMS

SLATE OF NOMINEES & ELECTION RESULTS

OFFICE/NOMINEE	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot	
<i>District President</i>						
Rev. Jamison Hardy	1-0					
<i>Vice-President (Eastern)</i>						
Rev. Martin Erhardt	31	(19.25 %)				
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	47	(29.19 %)				
Rev. Douglas Spittel	83	(51.55 %)				
<i>Vice-President (Lake Erie)</i>						
Rev. Daniel Grams	68	(40.72 %)	66	(39.76 %)		
Rev. Justin Laughridge	18	(10.78 %)	---			
Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	81	(48.50 %)	100	(60.24 %)		
<i>Vice-President (Midwestern)</i>						
Rev. Robert Rogers	1-0					
<i>Vice-President (Western)</i>						
Rev. Todd Arnold	82	(49.70 %)				
Rev. Michael Morehouse	83	(50.30 %)				
<i>1st Vice-President Ranking</i>						
Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	65	(37.79 %)	79	(45.66 %)	97	(57.40 %)
Rev. Michael Morehouse	22	(12.79 %)	---		---	
Rev. Robert Rogers	33	(19.19 %)	38	(21.97 %)	---	
Rev. Douglas Spittel	52	(30.23 %)	56	(32.37 %)	72	(42.60 %)
<i>2nd Vice-President Ranking</i>						
Rev. Michael Morehouse	39	(22.94 %)	---			
Rev. Robert Rogers	47	(27.65 %)	59	(34.91 %)		
Rev. Douglas Spittel	84	(49.41 %)	110	(65.09 %)		
<i>3rd Vice-President Ranking</i>						
Rev. Michael Morehouse	79	(46.47 %)				
Rev. Robert Rogers	91	(53.53 %)				

OFFICE/NOMINEE	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot
<i>Secretary</i>					
Rev. Luke Zimmerman	1-0				
BOD Ordained (Eastern/Lake Erie)					
Rev. Peter Burfeind	22	(13.58 %)			
Rev. Daniel Grams	68	(41.98 %)	76	(46.34 %)	
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	72	(44.44 %)	88	(53.66 %)	
BOD Ordained (Midwestern/Western)					
Rev. David Petersen	1-0				
BOD Commissioned 1					
Lucas Fitzgerald	41	(26.62 %)	50	(32.47 %)	
Rod Lane	74	(48.05 %)	104	(67.53 %)	
Keith Vieregge	39	(25.32 %)	---		
BOD Commissioned 2					
Lucas Fitzgerald	94	(61.44 %)			
Keith Vieregge	59	(38.56 %)			
BOD Lay (Eastern)					
Rande Casaday	21	(14.69 %)	---		
Carol George	56	(39.16 %)	91	(57.23 %)	
Connor Hagey	14	(9.79 %)	---		
Steve Kurtz	34	(23.78 %)	68	(42.77 %)	
William Magill	18	(12.59 %)	---		
BOD Lay (Lake Erie)					
Terry Habitz	53	(33.97 %)			
Terry Leu	103	(66.03 %)			
BOD Lay (Midwestern)					
William Bussing	66	(43.14 %)			
Gail Grieser	87	(56.86 %)			
BOD Lay (Western)					
Shirley Holle	47	(30.72 %)			
Thomas Honebrink	57	(37.25 %)	80	(51.61 %)	
Kristin Wellik	49	(32.03 %)	75	(48.39 %)	

OFFICE/NOMINEE	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot	
<i>BOD Lay (At-Large 1)</i>						
William Bussing	19	(11.66 %)	---		---	
Rande Casaday	8	(4.91 %)	---		---	
Thomas Habitz	25	(15.34 %)	64	(40.00 %)	76 (45.78 %)	
Connor Hagey	12	(7.36 %)	---		---	
Shirley Holle	29	(17.79 %)	32	(20.00 %)	---	
Steve Kurtz	20	(12.27 %)	---		---	
William Magill	5	(3.07 %)	---		---	
Kristin Wellik	45	(27.61 %)	64	(40.00 %)	90 (54.22 %)	
<i>BOD Lay (At-Large 2)</i>						
William Bussing	8	(4.82 %)	---		---	
Rande Casaday	11	(6.63 %)	---		---	
Thomas Habitz	78	(46.99 %)	113	(68.48 %)	---	
Connor Hagey	4	(2.41 %)	---		---	
Shirley Holle	40	(24.10 %)	52	(31.52 %)	---	
Steve Kurtz	18	(10.84 %)	---		---	
William Magill	7	(4.22 %)	---		---	
<i>Endowment Fund Board (Eastern)</i>						
Michael Coffey	1-0		---		---	
<i>Endowment Fund Board (Lake Erie)</i>						
<i>No Candidate</i>	---		---		---	
<i>Endowment Fund Board (Midwestern)</i>						
Matthew Thompson	63	(49.61 %)	---		---	
Rex Toepke	64	(50.39 %)	---		---	
<i>Endowment Fund Board (Western)</i>						
Rev. Fred Gerlach	95	(65.07 %)	---		---	
Paul Sticha	51	(34.93 %)	---		---	

OFFICE/NOMINEE	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – E)</i>					
Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	74	(46.25 %)			
Rev. Brian Westgate	86	(53.75 %)			
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – E)</i>					
Connor Hagey	1-0				
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – LE)</i>					
Rev. Mark Braden	104	(67.97 %)			
Rev. Peter Burfeind	49	(32.03 %)			
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – LE)</i>					
Terry Leu	1-0				
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – MW)</i>					
Rev. Gregory Michel	42	(27.10 %)	57	(37.01 %)	
Rev. David Petersen	74	(47.74 %)	97	(62.99 %)	
Rev. C.J. Wright	39	(25.16 %)		---	
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – MW)</i>					
Rod Lane	1-0				
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – W)</i>					
Rev. Fred Gerlach	60	(38.22 %)			
Rev. Michael Morehouse	97	(61.78 %)			
<i>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – W)</i>					
Roni Grad	72	(49.32 %)			
Karina Lindsey von Hindenburg	74	(50.68 %)			

NOTE: Vote percentages are rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent. Due to rounding, total percentages for a particular ballot may not add up to 100%.

STANDING RULES

1. Delegates wishing to address the Convention, when recognized by the Chair, shall state their names and the names of their congregations or other entity of the district they represent.
2. The voting body is composed of the voting delegates, one pastoral and one lay delegate, from each congregation or parish of the District. Voting delegates are expected to attend all sessions of the Convention. They must wear their badges at all sessions and sit in the sections reserved for voting delegates.
3. An electronic response system shall ordinarily be used to register votes. When not in use for motions before the Convention, the Chair shall call for a voice vote and the raising of the right hand.
4. Questions of privilege shall ordinarily be addressed in writing to the Chair, or his appointee, instead of consuming Convention time.
5. Resolutions prepared by the floor committees which are not acted upon by the Convention before adjournment die. The subject matter may be **reintroduced at the next Convention** by means of an overture.
6. Unless covered by the Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the Bylaws of the English District, or the standing rules of the Convention, parliamentary procedure shall be governed by the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
7. When speaking to the question on the floor, a delegate shall attempt to speak directly for or against the question. No delegate may speak more than twice to each question unless consent has been given by two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates. When the Chair notes that there are many delegates waiting to speak to a given question, the Chair may, at his discretion, invoke a two-minute speaking rule. The Chair shall notify the assembly when this rule becomes effective.
8. Any unfinished item of business or program at a time set for recess in the Convention Agenda will be resumed at the following session or at a time designated by the Chair.
9. Announcements should be submitted to the Chair. At his discretion, announcements will be made from the podium; others will be posted on message boards or distributed to delegates in other forms.
10. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter shall be given two minutes to provide the rationale for offering it. The Convention shall then first decide by majority vote without debate whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and the substitute motion is subsequently adopted, the original motion fails; if the substitute motion does not receive favorable action, either to consider or to adopt, the original motion shall again be placed before the house for debate.
11. The use of electronic devices (e.g. tablets, cell phones, and laptops) shall be permitted in the delegate section of the Convention. These devices must have the sound on "mute" at all times and should only be used for Convention business, such as viewing the Convention Workbook online. Courtesy, discernment, and good churchmanship should be demonstrated at all times with the use of such devices and must not distract from each delegate's responsibilities.
12. The standing rules may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting body.

ENGLISH DISTRICT
of
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
Newly Elected/Appointed: 2022-2025 Triennium

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Lucas Fitzgerald	The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky	The Rev. Dr. David Petersen
Ms. Carol George	DCE Rodrick Lane	The Rev. Robert Rogers
Ms. Gail Grieser	Mr. Terry Leu	The Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel
Mr. Thomas Habitz	The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus	Mr. Jim Thielen (Canada Corp)
The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy	The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse	Mrs. Kristin Wellik
Mr. Thomas Honebrink	Mrs. Sally Naglich	The Rev. Luke Zimmerman

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: The Rev. Dr. Jamison J. Hardy	33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030
1st VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus	130 Mineola Road East, Mississauga, ON L5G 2E5
2nd VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel	531 N Neville Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2812
3rd VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Robert A. Rogers	300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181-2614
4th VICE PRESIDENT: The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Morehouse	15855 N Twin Lakes Drive, Tucson, AZ 85739-8895
SECRETARY: The Rev. Luke Zimmerman	208 Woods Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2634
TREASURER: Mrs. Sally L. Naglich, CPA	33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030

CIRCUIT VISITORS

New York #1: The Rev. Gordon Naumann	Western Michigan #13: The Rev. Peter Burfeind
Philadelphia #2: The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein	Indiana #14: The Rev. Chad Trouten
Florida #3: The Rev. William Douthwaite III	Chicago-North #15: The Rev. Anthony Oliphant
Georgia #4: The Rev. David Miller	Chicago-South #16: The Rev. Douglas Hoag
Buffalo #5: The Rev. Dwayne Hendricks	Milwaukee #17: The Rev. Frederic Reaman
Pittsburgh #6: The Rev. Brian Westgate	St. Louis #18: The Rev. Jonathan Gruen
Canada-East #7: The Rev. Dr. Terry Hursh	Arizona-North #19: The Rev. Steven Resner
Canada-West #8: The Rev. James Leistico	Arizona-South #20: The Rev. Dr. John Stieve
Cleveland-Akron #9: The Rev. Jonathan McCall	Nevada/Utah #21: The Rev. Arthur Drehman
Cleveland-West #10: The Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer	San Diego #22: The Rev. James Huenink
Detroit-South #11: The Rev. Bradford Scott	Los Angeles #23: The Rev. Robert Dargatz
Detroit-North #12: The Rev. Timothy Holzerland	San Francisco #24: The Rev. Curtis Binz

ELECTED COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

<u>REGION</u>	<u>ORDAINED</u>	<u>NON-ORDAINED</u>
Eastern	The Rev. Brian Westgate	Mr. Connor Hagey
Lake Erie	The Rev. Mark Braden	Mr. Terry Leu
Midwest	The Rev. Dr. David Petersen	DCE Rodrick Lane
Western	The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse	Ms. Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg

ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD OF MANAGERS

Eastern Region	Mr. Michael Coffey
Lake Erie Region	Mr. Jim Thielen
Midwest Region	Mr. Rex Toepke
Western Region	The Rev. Fred Gerlach
Canada Corporation	Ms. Ann Marie Weselan
English District President	The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy
English District Treasurer	Mrs. Sally Naglich
Board of Directors Representative	Mr. Terry Leu
Advisory	Mr. Thomas Schlitt

APPOINTMENTS/APPOINTED COMMITTEES

CAMPUS MINISTRY TASK FORCE

The Rev. Eric Andrae, The Rev. Dr. David Dressel*, The Rev. Curtis Dwyer, The Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt, The Rev. J. Wayne Kerr, Mrs. Augusta Mennell, The Rev. Joshua Moldenhauer, The Rev. James Robinson, The Rev. Travis Schmidt, The Rev. Bradley Scott, The Rev. Bradley Urlaub, The Rev. Marcus Zill

CONSTITUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP #

The Rev. Peter Bauernfeind, The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. Daniel Grams*

DISTRICT ARCHIVIST

The Rev. Dr. David Stechholz

EVANGELIZATION TEAM

The Rev. J. Derek Mathers, The Rev. Frederic Reaman*, The Rev. Jeffrey Teeple, The Rev. Mark Wood

LIFELINE

Dr. Roni Grad*, The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein

MINISTERIAL HEALTH

The Rev. Timothy Holzerland*, Ms. Marianne Jackson, The Rev. Dr. Christian Just, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers*, Ms. Sue Neff, Rev. Justin Schmidt, The Rev. Steven Sutterer

MISSIONS COUNCIL

The Rev. Dr. Roger Ellis, The Rev. Thomas Engler, The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, The Rev. Justin Laughridge*, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers

RECONCILERS #

Mr. Richard Crain, The Rev. Ben Eder, Mr. Charles Porter, The Rev. C. J. Wright

STEWARDSHIP

The Rev. Michael Scheer*

WORSHIP

The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. David Rutter, The Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel*, The Rev. Brian Westgate

*Chair/Co-Chair

Requires Board ratification

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD ENGLISH DISTRICT

BYLAWS

Adopted in Convention: June 15, 1997

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2009

Revised at request of Synod by Board of Directors: August 2011; May 2012

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 29, 2012

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2015

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 21, 2018

Revisions and Reformatting Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2022

PREAMBLE

In 1872 an initial conference of English-speaking Lutherans was held in Gravelton, Missouri. In 1888 the English Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri was organized and in 1911 was invited to join the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States as the English Mission District. An agreement dated May 15, 1911, in Saint Louis, Missouri (*Delegatensynod von Missouri, Ohio u.a. St.*, 1911, pp. 31-35) made the English District official. Because of this origin the English District is unique among the districts of the Synod (Denver Convention *Proceedings*, 1969, Resolution 5-15).

Since the English District is a district of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the Constitution of the Synod is also the Constitution of the District. Also, the Bylaws of the Synod are primarily the Bylaws of the District. The District's objectives are as stated in Article III of the Synod's Constitution:

The Synod, under Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, shall—

1. Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3–6; 1 Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defense against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;
2. Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world;
3. Recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth;
4. Provide opportunities through which its members may express their Christian concern, love, and compassion in meeting human needs;
5. Aid congregations to develop processes of thorough Christian education and nurture and to establish agencies of Christian education such as elementary and secondary schools and to support synodical colleges, universities, and seminaries;
6. Aid congregations by providing a variety of resources and opportunities for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith;
7. Encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith;
8. Provide evangelical supervision, counsel, and care for pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers of the Synod in the performance of their official duties;
9. Provide protection for congregations, pastors, teachers, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the maintenance of their rights;
10. Aid in providing for the welfare of pastors, teachers, and other church workers, and their families in the event of illness, disability, retirement, special need, or death.

Thus in the light of the Synod's objectives, the mission of the English District is to seize every opportunity to serve the Lord of the Church, Jesus Christ, the whole Church in the whole world, and the whole person in the whole society, and in fulfillment of this mission, it shall seek to utilize its unique character to:

1. Assist congregations of the District in their ministries to their own communities with their own characteristics and needs;
2. Serve as a progressive element in the church body, both in applying the Gospel to new and changing situations and in demonstrating concern about community problems and ecumenical opportunities;
3. Begin new churches and support new ministries with particular emphasis on openness to new challenges;
4. Assist in the revitalization of existing congregations and ministries;
5. Assist ministries in communities that are changing;
6. Focus on special, ethnic, urban and campus ministries;
7. Support mission initiatives of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod;
8. Support life-long educational ministries within the District; and
9. Provide opportunities and avenues for congregations and their members to live out their love for God through the Christian stewardship of their time, talents and treasures.

1.0 RELATIONSHIP TO THE SYNOD

- 1.1 The Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod establish and define the relationship of the District to the Synod.
- 1.2 All provisions of the District's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the Synod in convention.
- 1.3 In the event of dissolution of the District other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of the District, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, in the manner prescribed by the Bylaws of the Synod.

2.0 RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE DISTRICT

- 2.1 The congregations of the District shall exercise their authority through delegate convention which shall consist of all duly certified delegates from member congregations, as defined in Synod Bylaw Section 4.2ff.
- 2.2 The District shall exercise its authority in harmony with the goals and directives of the Synod and under the guidance of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.
- 2.3 The District shall delegate its authority as hereinafter prescribed. The exercise of such delegated authority shall always be subject to review by the District.

3.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 3.1 The District shall establish an organizational structure for the effective operation of its programs and conduct of its affairs which shall include the District Convention, the officers of the District, the Board of Directors, and such other staff and personnel as that Board may deem necessary and appropriate.
- 3.2 The administration of the affairs shall be conducted on three levels:
- (a) The District Convention, which shall consist of the District at large through its delegates in convention assembled, and shall be the governing body of the District subject to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of Synod, and to these Bylaws.
 - (b) The Officers of the District, who shall have primary responsibility for the implementation of decisions of the District Convention and the Board of Directors.
 - (c) The Board of Directors elected by the District Convention, which serves as the legal representative of the District and the custodian of all property of the District. Between conventions, the Board shall provide for implementation within the District of the decisions of the Synod and District conventions, establish and review policy, determine general priorities, approve program budgets, allocate necessary funds for the support of the Synod and District budgets, review program performance, make provisions for necessary staff, and review the performance of the District President in his non-ecclesiastical supervisory duties. It shall report its activities to the Convention.
- 3.3 For purposes of conferences and elections requiring regional representation, the District shall be divided into four regions: Eastern, Lake Erie, Midwestern, and Western:
- (a) The President and Vice-Presidents of the District and the Board of Directors acting jointly shall determine the membership of the four regions 24 months prior to Conventions of the District.
 - (b) For purposes of regional elections, individuals must meet the regional eligibility requirements outlined within Synod Bylaw Section 4.3.
- 3.4 Dispute Reconcilers shall be chosen in such manner and exercise such jurisdiction as provided by Synod Bylaw 1.10ff.
- 3.5 A Committee on Nominations shall be elected at each Convention to prepare the ballot for the next Convention. One minister of religion—ordained and one minister of religion—commissioned or layperson by name from each of the four regions of the District shall be elected. The Committee shall organize itself as outlined in the District's *Corporate Operations Manual*.
- 3.6 A Committee for Stewardship shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to comply with the stewardship programs and goals of the Synod, as required by Synod Bylaw 4.6.1.

4.0 OFFICERS & STAFF

- 4.1 The officers of the District are:
1. A President
 2. One Vice-President from each of the four regions of the District, in line of succession, as prescribed by these Bylaws
 3. A Secretary
 4. A Treasurer, a layperson appointed by the Board of Directors
 5. A Circuit Visitor for each Circuit established by the District
- 4.2 The duties of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Circuit Visitors are described in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and these Bylaws.
- 4.3 The Vice-Presidents shall advise the President, serve as his representatives, and assist him in bringing to the Board of Directors any needed recommendations.
- 4.4 All Executive Assistants and Staff shall be directly accountable to the President.

5.0 ELECTIONS

5.1 Terms of Office and Tenure

- 5.1.1 Officers, members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Circuit Visitors shall serve for a term of three years.
- 5.1.2 A person's tenure in the same office or function shall be limited to four (4) consecutive full three-year terms. These persons may be elected to their previous office or function after an interval of no less than three (3) years, or be appointed to fill an unexpired term after an interval of no less than two (2) years.

5.2 Nomination and Election of District President

- 5.2.1 Each member congregation of the District shall be entitled to nominate from the clergy roster of the Synod two (2) ordained ministers as candidates for District President:
- (a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter to the member congregations of the District requesting each congregation to submit nominations.
 - (b) Nominations for District President shall be accepted by the District Secretary up to four months prior to the opening date of the District Convention. He shall report in the *Convention Workbook* the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes.
 - (c) The names of the five (5) ordained ministers who receive the highest number of nominating votes and consent to serve shall form the slate of candidates. There shall be no opportunity provided for additional nominations.
 - (d) The District Secretary shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning his candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.
- 5.2.2 The District Convention shall elect the District President:
- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.

5.3 *Nomination and Election of District Vice-Presidents*

- 5.3.1 Each member congregation of a region of the District shall be entitled to nominate two (2) ordained ministers from the clergy roster of the District who hold membership in a District congregation within its region as candidates for Vice-President:
- (a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter to the member congregations of the District requesting each congregation to submit nominations.
 - (b) Nominations for Vice-President shall be accepted by the District Secretary up to four months prior to the opening date of the District Convention. He shall report in the *Convention Workbook* the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes.
 - (c) The names of the three (3) ordained ministers from each region who receive the most nominating votes and consent to serve shall form the slate of candidates. There shall be no opportunity provided for additional nominations.
 - (d) The District Secretary shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning his candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.
- 5.3.2 The District Convention shall elect one (1) Vice-President from each of the four regions of the District:
- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.
- 5.3.3 Upon the election of the Vice-Presidents, a final election will take place ranking the Vice-Presidents by separate ballots with a simple majority of voting delegates determining the first, second, third, and fourth Vice-Presidents in line of succession.

5.4 *Nomination and Election of Board of Directors*

- 5.4.1 Six months prior to the opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter soliciting names from the officers of the District and the congregational and individual members of the District, along with the laypersons of the congregations of the District:
- (a) All suggested names shall be submitted to the Committee on Nominations no later than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention.
 - (b) All nominees for a particular regional position shall be members of District congregations within the boundaries of the region for which they are nominated.
 - (c) All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees.
 - (d) The Committee on Nominations shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning the individual's candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.
- 5.4.2 The Committee on Nominations shall select at least two (2) candidates and at least one (1) alternate for each position.
- 5.4.3 The District Convention may amend the slate by nominations from the floor:
- (a) Nominations from the floor may be made by any delegate at the District Convention. The delegate making such nomination must present the District Secretary written consent of

the person whose name is being placed in nomination, in order to assure the convention that the nominee is able and willing to serve if elected.

(b) Floor nominations shall be brought individually before the District Convention for approval before being added to the ballot.

5.4.4 The District Convention shall elect one (1) ordained minister from the Eastern or Lake Erie Region, one (1) ordained minister from the Midwestern or Western Region, two (2) commissioned ministers, and one (1) layperson from each of the four regions of the District:

(a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.

(b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.

5.4.5 The District Convention shall elect two (2) laypersons as at-large members of the Board of Directors:

(a) All candidates not elected to a Lay Regional Board of Director positions shall form the ballot for the Lay At-Large Board of Directors positions.

(b) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.

(c) When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15 percent of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

5.5 *Nomination and Election of District Secretary, Committee on Nominations, Endowment Fund Managers, and Other Boards or Committees*

5.5.1 The Committee on Nominations shall select candidates for District Secretary, Committee on Nominations, Endowment Fund Managers, and other Boards or Committees. At least two (2) candidates and at least one (1) alternate shall be selected for each position:

(a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter soliciting names from the officers of the District and the congregational and individual members of the District, along with the laypersons of the congregations of the District.

(b) All suggested names shall be submitted to the Committee on Nominations no later than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention.

(c) All nominees for a particular regional position shall be members of District congregations within the boundaries of the region for which they are nominated.

(d) All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees.

(e) The Committee on Nominations shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning the individual's candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.

5.5.2 The District Convention may amend the slate by nominations from the floor:

(a) Nominations from the floor may be made by any delegate at the District Convention. The delegate making such nomination must present the District Secretary written consent of the person whose name is being placed in nomination, in order to assure the convention that the nominee is able and willing to serve if elected.

(b) Floor nominations shall be brought individually before the District Convention for approval before being added to the ballot.

- 5.5.3 Election of these offices shall take place at the District Convention:
- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (b) When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15 percent of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

6.0 VACANCIES

6.1 *Office of District President*

- 6.1.1 In the event that the Board of Directors determines that the President is unable to serve in that capacity because of prolonged illness or disability, the duties and responsibilities of the office of President shall be performed by the 1st Vice-President, and the 1st Vice-President shall remain as the Acting President until the Board determines such illness or disability has been removed, the President resigns or dies, or the Board determines that the illness or disability is permanent.
- 6.1.2 In the event that the office of President becomes vacant because of the resignation, death or permanent disability of the President, the 1st Vice-President shall succeed to the office of President and shall serve until the next Convention. The successor need not terminate his current position while completing the unexpired term.
- 6.1.3 Any Vice-President, who by the terms of this Article succeeds to the office of President, may decline such office, in which event:
- (a) The next ranking Vice-President shall become President of the District.
 - (b) All other Vice-Presidents shall move up one rank.
 - (c) The declining Vice-President shall fill the last ranking vacant Vice-Presidency.
- 6.1.4 In the event that all Vice-Presidents decline the office of President, the ranking of the Vice-Presidents shall remain unchanged, and the 1st Vice-President shall serve as Acting President until the next convention, when a President shall be elected. He need not leave his current position while serving as Acting President.

6.2 *Other Elected Positions*

- 6.2.1 A vacancy in the Vice-Presidents shall be filled by appointment by the District President, in consultation with the Circuit Visitors within that the region.
- 6.2.2 Vacancies that occur in the office of Circuit Visitor between conventions shall be filled by appointment by the District President.
- 6.2.3 A vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be filled by the voting members of the Board, in consultation with the Committee on Nominations.
- 6.2.4 A vacancy on the Committee on Nominations shall be filled by voting members of the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Committee on Nominations.
- 6.2.5 Vacancies that occur in the office of District Endowment Fund Manager shall be filled:
- (a) A vacancy in any regional manager position shall be filled by appointment by the District President, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
 - (b) A vacancy in the Canadian representative position shall be filled by appointment by the Canada Corporation.

- 6.2.6 Persons appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors or other elected or appointed positions shall serve until successors have been elected by the Convention or appointed under the terms of the bylaws.

7.0 DISTRICT CONFERENCES, CIRCUIT FORUMS, AND CIRCUIT CONVOCATIONS

- 7.1 The President shall confer with the Board of Directors to arrange for the official conferences of the ordained and commissioned ministers of the District:
- (a) There shall be a plenary conference held annually for all ordained and commissioned ministers. In years when District Conventions are held, the plenary conference may be postponed at the discretion of the President and the Board of Directors.
 - (b) There shall be a conference for ordained ministers held annually in each of the four regions of the District.
 - (c) There shall be at least one conference for commissioned ministers held during each triennium.
- 7.2 Circuit forums shall meet at the call of their Circuit Visitors to select their Circuit Visitors and conduct other business no later than the time established by the District. They shall follow the procedures stated in Synod Bylaws 5.2.2 and 5.3.
- 7.3 The Circuit Visitor and any other officers of the circuit shall have the primary responsibility of preparing the agenda for the Circuit Convocation, following the procedures stated in Synod Bylaw 5.4.

8.0 POWERS

- 8.1 The District shall have legal powers as follows:
- (a) To purchase, acquire, hold, administer, sell, transfer, mortgage and convey property of every description, both personal and real, in the interest of the District.
 - (b) To accept, hold, administer, sell, transfer and convey legacies, gifts, donations, commercial papers and legal documents of every description in the performance of its work.
 - (c) To delegate to the Board of Directors who shall exercise the aforementioned powers. No individual or officer of the District shall have the power to usurp this authority.
- 8.2 No action on the part of the members of the District shall be prerequisite to the borrowing of money or the execution of any mortgage upon personalty or realty.
- 8.3 There shall be no shares of stock issued in connection with the District.

9.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

9.1 *Membership and Composition*

- 9.1.1 The Board of Directors shall have no more than fifteen (15) voting members, as follows:
- (a) The President of the District
 - (b) The Secretary of the District
 - (c) Two (2) ministers of religion—ordained, one of whom shall be elected from either the Eastern Region or Lake Erie Region and one whom shall be elected from either the Midwestern Region or Western Region
 - (d) Two (2) ministers of religion—commissioned
 - (e) One (1) layperson elected from each of the four regions of the District.
 - (f) Two (2) laypersons elected from the District at large
 - (g) Up to three (3) at-large laypersons appointed by the elected voting members of the Board of Directors to obtain needed additional skill sets (legal, finance, investment, administration, etc.)
- 9.1.2 The Board of Directors shall have six (6) non-voting members:
- (a) The Vice-Presidents of the District
 - (b) The Treasurer of the District
 - (c) The Chairman of the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (Canada Corporation)
- 9.1.3 The Board shall elect its own chair and vice-chair from among the voting members of the Board after each convention. The President and Secretary shall be ineligible to be elected as chair or vice-chair.
- 9.1.4 Each Board member shall avoid conflicts of interest and shall disclose to the Board chair any potential conflicts of interest, as defined in Synod Bylaw 1.5.2.
- 9.1.5 Members of the Board of Directors may be removed for cause, as defined in Synod Bylaw 1.5.8.
- 9.1.6 No member of the Board of Directors shall receive remuneration (beyond allowable reimbursement) for service on the Board.

9.2 *Powers and Duties*

- 9.2.1 The Board of Directors shall have such powers and duties as are accorded to it by the Constitution, Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, resolutions, and policies of the Synod, as well as those of the District. Subject to such limitations, it shall operate within the applicable federal and state laws.
- 9.2.2 The Board's chief responsibility is developing and amending policy.
- 9.2.3 The Board shall be vested with the general management and supervision of the District's business and legal affairs and shall adopt policies and require procedures which assure that said management and supervision is affected.
- 9.2.4 In fulfilling its functions and in coordinating its work with the Synod, the Board shall be guided generally by the functions of the Board of Directors of the Synod as defined in Synod Bylaw 3.3.4ff as these apply to districts.
- 9.2.5 Between Conventions it shall provide for implementation within the District of the decisions of the Synod and District Conventions and allocate necessary funds for the support of the Synod and District budgets.

- 9.2.6 The Board of Directors shall report at each Convention.
- 9.2.7 The Board of Directors shall conduct, supervise, and manage all affairs of the District not otherwise assigned.

9.3 Meetings

- 9.3.1 Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four (4) times a year at such time and place as the Board shall determine.
- 9.3.2 Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or upon request of seven (7) board members at any time, by means of written or email notice, at least three (3) days in advance of the time, place and purpose thereof to each director.
- 9.3.3 Meetings of the Board of Directors may be conducted electronically, using audio, video, or internet-based conferencing technologies:
- (a) In such cases, the technology must allow for each Board member to fully participate (hear, speak, have or been given access to documents and other materials as appropriate), including the opportunity to vote.
 - (b) Board members must be given a reasonable opportunity to access the electronic meeting. If a Board member does not have access to the technology to be used, arrangements will be made for the member to participate in person by coming to the District Office or other mutually agreed upon location.
 - (c) Any Board member listening or watching shall acknowledge their presence to the meeting. These names along with the attending Board members shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 9.3.4 A majority of voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any properly called or scheduled meeting.
- 9.3.5 The Chair may authorize a Board member to participate in meetings of the Board by use of electronic technology described in Bylaw 9.3.3. Such participation by a Board member shall be considered as being present for the sake of establishing a quorum.
- 9.3.6 In situations where board members are not able to meet as described above, the Board of Directors may take action by use of electronic ballot (i.e., e-mail, internet-based voting, etc.), provided all voting members of the board cast a vote and the result of the voting is unanimous.
- 9.3.7 Minutes shall be kept of all meetings that record a summary of the major points of discussion and any action(s) taken.

9.4 Appointment of Officers and Agents

- 9.4.1 The Board of Directors shall have power to appoint such other officers and agents as the Board may deem necessary for the transaction of the business of the District.
- 9.4.2 The Board of Directors may require any officer or agent to file with the District a satisfactory fidelity bond.

9.5 Execution of Instruments

- 9.5.1 All checks, drafts, and orders for payment of money shall be signed in the name of the District and may be countersigned by such officers or agents as the Board of Directors designates for that purpose or by the Treasurer alone.
- 9.5.2 When the execution of any contract, conveyance or other instrument has been authorized without specification of the executing officers, the President and the Secretary may execute

the same in the name of and on behalf of the District and may affix the corporate seal thereto. The Board of Directors shall have power to designate the officers and agents who shall have authority to execute any instrument on behalf of the District.

9.6 Borrowing Authority

- 9.6.1 The Board of Directors shall act on behalf of the District to borrow money the Board deems necessary and appropriate:
- (a) In such case the Board may authorize the proper officers of the District to make, execute and deliver in the name of and on behalf of the District such notes, bonds and other evidence of indebtedness as the Board should deem proper.
 - (b) The Board shall have full power to mortgage the property of the District, or any part thereof, as security for such indebtedness, and no action on the part of the membership of the District shall be requisite to the validity of any such note, bond, evidence of indebtedness or mortgage.

9.7 Annual Budgetary Responsibilities

- 9.7.1 The Board of Directors shall establish the annual District budget.
- 9.7.2 The Board of Directors shall establish the salary of the District President on an annual basis.

9.8 District Corporate Operations Manual

- 9.8.1 The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain the District's *Corporate Operations Manual* and shall approve appropriate modifications.
- 9.8.2 Only the District in Convention shall have the power to amend the *Corporate Operations Manual* with respect to sections dealing with the election of officers and the Board.
- 9.8.3 Modifications to the *Corporate Operations Manual* approved by the Board to any other sections shall be reported at the next Convention.

10.0 ENGLISH DISTRICT ENDOWMENT FUND

- 10.1 The District shall establish and maintain an endowment fund, providing a stewardship opportunity for congregations and their members and a resource for the support of District and Synod ministries. (The structure and operation of the fund is described in the English District *Corporate Operations Manual*.)
- 10.2 The Board of Directors shall exercise oversight for the English District Endowment Fund (EDEF):
- (a) The Board shall ensure that the EDEF Board of Managers reports on its work at least annually to the Board.
 - (b) The Board shall elect one of its voting members to serve on the EDEF Board of Managers.

11.0 CONFLICTS

- 11.1 No article of the Bylaws of the District shall be valid which conflicts with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.
- 11.2 Any matter, rule or regulation not specifically herein contained in the Bylaws shall be governed by comparable provision in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.

12.0 AMENDMENTS

- 12.1 Changes, additions, and alterations to the Bylaws may be made by Conventions of the District:
- (a) They shall not conflict with the Constitution or Bylaws of the Synod.
 - (b) They shall be separately considered and acted upon by the Board of Directors.
 - (c) They shall be submitted to the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod for review and approval prior to consideration by a District convention.
 - (d) They shall be presented in writing to the District in convention.
 - (e) They shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.
- 12.2 When necessitated by amendments to the Synod Constitution or Bylaws or otherwise expressly directed by a resolution of the Synod in convention, amendments to the District Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds majority of the District Board of Directors. Such amendments shall be drafted by the District Secretary and shall be reviewed in advance by the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod.

TABLE OF RESOLUTIONS

Number	Title	Action	When Action Was Taken
1-01	To Revise Paragraph 3a) of the Operating Agreement Between the Lutheran Church-Canada (LC-C) and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	Declined <i>[Y - 98; N - 31]</i>	Sixth Session <i>(June 22 Morning)</i>
1-02	To Establish a Specific Ministry Pastor Program Oversight Board and to Revise the Bylaws Governing the SMP Program	Amended & Adopted <i>[Y - 133; N - 24]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-03A	To Decline Overture 1-03	Adopted <i>[Y - 134; N - 13]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-04	To Establish a National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program for LCMS Commissioned Minister - Teachers	Adopted <i>[Y - 143; N - 11]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-05	To Exhort All Parishes to Celebrate the Mass Every Sunday Even if Civil Government Interferes	Adopted <i>[Y - 126; N - 34]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-06	To Restore Both Biblical Languages to the Education of Future Pastors on All Pathways to the Office of the Holy Ministry	Adopted <i>[Y - 121; N - 39]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-07	To Reconsider Allowing “Brain Death” Criteria for Determination of Death at End of Life	Adopted <i>[Y - 126; N - 11]</i>	Sixth Session <i>(June 22 Morning)</i>
1-08	To Encourage our Seminaries to Increase Educational Training as Part of Pastoral Formation	Adopted <i>[Y - 115; N - 40]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
1-09	To Prevent Harmful Philosophies, Ideologies and Contemporary Movements Contrary to the Christian Faith from Damaging our Congregations, Schools, Colleges and Seminaries	Adopted <i>[Y - 117; N - 44]</i>	Fourth Session <i>(June 21 Afternoon)</i>
2-01	To Affirm the Need for Open Churches During Times of Plague, Pestilence and Pandemic	Amended & Adopted <i>[Y - 137; N - 13]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>
2-02	To Increase Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Opportunities Throughout Synod	Adopted <i>[Y - 136; N - 9]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>

Number	Title	Action	When Action Was Taken
3-01	To Reformat and Amend the Bylaws of the English District	Adopted <i>[Y - 153; N - 9]</i>	Second Session <i>(June 20 Evening)</i>
3-02	To Amend English District Bylaw 5.1 to Remove Term Limits	Defeated <i>[Y - 42; N - 111]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>
3-03A	To Amend District Bylaws 5.2 and 5.3	Not Presented	---
3-04	To Restrict Synod Conventions on Sundays	Adopted <i>[Y - 126; N - 12]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>
3-05	To Amend the Articles of Incorporation of the English District	Adopted <i>[Y - 157; N - 7]</i>	Second Session <i>(June 20 Evening)</i>
4-01A	To Memorialize the LCMS to Have the Next Available Convention of Synod in Detroit, Michigan	Adopted <i>[Y - 115; N - 34]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>
4-02A	To Recognize and Thank the LCMS for the Strengthened and Expanded "Soldiers of the Cross" COVID-19 Response Initiative	Adopted <i>[Y - 147; N - 1]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>
4-03A	To Direct LCMS Life Ministry to Support Congregations in Developing Mercy Ministries to Promote a Culture of Life	Adopted <i>[Y - 145; N - 3]</i>	Fifth Session <i>(June 21 Evening)</i>

2022 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1-02

(Overture 1-02)

To Establish a Specific Ministry Pastor Program Oversight Board and to Revise the Bylaws Governing the SMP Program

WHEREAS, The Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program was established by 2007 Resolution 5-01B; and

WHEREAS, Specific ministry pastors serve the Church under supervision because their theological education has been formed in part by and for a specific ministry context (Bylaw 2.13.1(b)); and

WHEREAS, This supervision is essential for the ministry as well as the confidence of those served and the Church at large that the ministry is conducted in a manner consistent with the Holy Scriptures and the pastor's unconditional subscription to the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, This supervision is not a perfunctory task, but one requiring close attention to the needs of the specific ministry and the conduct of that ministry; and

WHEREAS, Any change in ministry context is by its nature inconsistent with the purpose of the SMP Program and the contextual theological education of the specific ministry; and

WHEREAS, It is essential that a student beginning his theological education in a specific ministry context be known by the people he serves; and

WHEREAS, "Residential seminary education is the preferred option for the preparation of men for pastoral ministry" (2019 Resolution 6-02); and

WHEREAS, Confidence in the SMP Program will be increased by more clarity regarding the oversight and supervision of the program; therefore be it

Resolved, That an "SMP Program Oversight Board" be established; and be it further

Resolved, That Bylaw 3.10.8 be inserted as follows:

H. Specific Ministry Pastor Program Oversight Board

3.10.8 The Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program Oversight Board shall be responsible for ensuring that the specific ministry vicars and pastors are placed in ministry contexts which are consistent with the intentions of the program. Specifically, it shall ensure that any placement is not one which could expect to receive a candidate according to the process outlined in Bylaw 2.5.

3.10.8.1 The SMP Program Oversight Board shall consist of the First Vice-President of the Synod as chairman, the Secretary of the Synod, the Chief Mission Officer, a district president appointed by the Council of Presidents, and the Executive Director of Pastoral Education.

3.10.8.2 The SMP Program Oversight Board shall establish and monitor the standards under which a ministry and a man are suitable for a vicarage and placement in the SMP program after consultation with the President of the Synod and the faculties of the seminaries.

(a) In consultation with the President of the Synod, it shall develop all necessary policies to govern suitability of a ministry context for a specific ministry pastor and the suitability for a man entering the SMP program.

3.10.8.3 Prior to acceptance by the Seminaries into the SMP program and initial placement as SMP vicars, the SMP Program Oversight Board shall approve the placement of all vicars enrolling in the SMP program.

(a) In order to be accepted into the SMP program and placed as a vicar, the applicant must have fulfilled at least ten years of significant service in a congregation of the LCMS and have been a member at the congregation in whose ministry he will serve for at least three years.

(b) Subject to the conditions above, decisions to declare ministry contexts and applicants for the SMP program suitable are at the sole discretion of the board.

(c) Once a ministry and applicant are declared suitable for the program, the seminary admissions offices may enroll the student and the Council of Presidents may assign the vicarage.

(d) If the board determines that the ministry and/or the applicant are not suited to the purposes of the SMP program, the man shall be directed to apply to the seminaries for admission in residential educational programs.

3.10.8.4 Prior to placing a specific ministry pastor in his first call, the SMP Program Oversight Board shall review the suitability of the call according to the purposes of the program.

3.10.8.5 Prior to issuing a call to a specific ministry pastor who is an inactive member, the SMP Program Oversight Board shall review the suitability of such a call according to the purposes of the program and the specific contextual training received by the specific ministry pastor.

(a) The board may specify additional training needed as preparation to serve in a new context.

and be it further

Resolved, That Bylaw 3.3.2.2 be amended as follows:

~~PRESENT/PROPOSED~~ WORDING

3.3.2.2 The First Vice-President shall be a full-time executive and a nonvoting member of the Board of Directors...

(d) He shall serve as the chairman of the Specific Ministry Pastor Program Oversight Board.

and be it finally

Resolved, That Bylaw 2.13.1 be amended as follows:

~~PRESENT/PROPOSED~~ WORDING

Specific Ministry Pastor Status and Limitations

2.13.1 A “specific ministry pastor” is a minister of religion—ordained who has completed the requirements for service as a specific ministry pastor and has been examined by one of the Synod’s seminaries, has received a regular call, and has been placed by the Council of Presidents into a specific Word and Sacrament ministry context which has been approved by the SMP Program Oversight Board. He is eligible to serve only in that specific ministry context for which he has been trained and may not be offered or accept a call for ministry for which he has not been certified ~~as determined by his district president~~. He shall serve under the supervision of his district president and another pastor who is not a specific ministry pastor.

(a) Because he is under supervision of another pastor and because a specific ministry pastor’s theological education has been formed in part by and for a specific ministry

context, he may not be placed or called into ecclesiastical roles that exercise pastoral oversight outside the context of his call. An example of this is regular preaching or service in a parish to which he has not been called, including during a pastoral vacancy.

(b) A specific ministry pastor is not eligible to

(1) serve as a voting delegate to a national convention of the Synod—but may serve as an advisory delegate to national conventions and as a pastoral delegate to district conventions;

(2) hold any elected or appointed office on the district or national Synod level that is assigned by the Bylaws of the Synod to “a pastor” or “an ordained minister” (although specific ministry pastors may serve in all other capacities, especially representing the ministerial contexts in which they serve);

(3) supervise vicars; or

(4) serve as a circuit visitor.

(c) The ministers of religion—ordained records maintained by district presidents as well as the official membership roster of the Synod shall distinguish between specific ministry pastors and other pastors.

(d) The ministers of religion—ordained records maintained by district presidents as well as the official membership roster of the Synod shall include the ordained minister under whose supervision a specific ministry pastor serves.

(e) At any time a specific ministry pastor may continue his education through the seminaries. Upon completion of the requirements and certification by a seminary he shall be considered a minister of religion—ordained without the limitations above.

(1) His district president shall be responsible for informing the secretary of Synod of the change in roster status.

(2) His district president shall publish this change in status in an official periodical of the Synod.

(3) If the minister is currently an inactive member of the Synod, unless he has restricted or suspended status, he shall be eligible for placement through the Council of Presidents acting as the Board of Assignments or become a candidate.

(f) When a specific ministry pastor serves within a parish which is also served by an ordained minister who is not a specific ministry pastor, then that specific ministry pastor shall be supervised by a pastor of that parish.

(g) When a specific ministry pastor serves in a parish which is not served by an ordained minister who is not a specific ministry pastor then the specific ministry pastor shall be supervised by an ordained minister who resides within the visitation circuit containing the parish or within similar physical proximity.

(h) Excepting the district president, no ordained minister may supervise more than one specific ministry pastor, unless it is required by Bylaw 2.13.1(f) above.

RESOLUTION 1-03A

(Overture 1-03)

To Decline Overture 1-03

WHEREAS, 2022 Overture 1-03 has been received by Floor Committee 1; and

WHEREAS, Overture 1-03 is a copy, verbatim, of the same resolution submitted to, and acted upon, by the 2018 English District in Convention; and

WHEREAS, 2022 Overture 1-03 was accepted as a resolution by the 2018 English District in Convention, and forwarded as an Overture to the 2019 LC-MS Synodical Convention; and

WHEREAS, At the 2019 Synodical Convention the Overture was combined by the Floor Committee on Pastoral Ministry and Seminaries (2019 Synod Res. 6-03A; text provided on following pages) with several other Overtures of the same topic, the SMP Program; and

WHEREAS, The Overture was significantly changed in the process, eliminating the requirement that SMP candidates complete all coursework before Ordination; and

WHEREAS, A motion from the floor was made to restore the eliminated language by amendment to the combined Resolution; and

WHEREAS, Said amendment was rejected by the Synod in Convention, and the Resolution was passed without it; and

WHEREAS, English District 2022 Convention Overture 1-02 proposes the establishment of an Oversight Board for the SMP Program, satisfying many of the “resolveds” in Overture 1-03; be it therefore

Resolved, That the English District 2022 Floor Committee 1 respectfully declines consideration of Overture 1-03.

RESOLUTION 1-04

(Overture 1-04)

To Establish a National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program for LCMS Commissioned Minister - Teachers

WHEREAS, Our Lutheran Schools struggle to find rostered teachers to serve in the classrooms of our High Schools, Elementary Schools, and Child Development Centers¹; and

WHEREAS, Research has shown that a primary reason for this is the lower salary offered for teachers within the Lutheran school systems^{2,3}; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Plans reported in 2021 that 27% of LCMS workers have student debt that averages \$46,000 per student; and

WHEREAS, The reality of Student Loan Debt is an important part of the decision to seek employment outside the Lutheran school; and

WHEREAS, It is a value that we fill our schools with rostered workers⁴; therefore be it

¹ 2019 Resolution 12–02A (p. 222 of 2019 LCMS *Convention Proceedings*):

WHEREAS, The number of new commissioned teachers has steadily declined since 2005 (Concordia University System [CUS] Board for University Education [BUE] statistics); and

WHEREAS, The fulfillment rate of requests for first-year Synod-trained candidates to LCMS calling entities has declined from 63 percent in 2010 to 30 percent in 2018 because of the lack of available Synod-trained candidates (CUS BUE statistics);

WHEREAS, The CUS only graduated 23 early childhood educators, 39 elementary educators, and 32 secondary educators in 2018 (CUS BUE statistics);

² Theme 8 of Office of National Mission’s “LCMS Church Worker Wellness Insights” presentation by Rev. Robert Zagore, Office of National Mission to Gospel 2019:

- ✓ Financial wellbeing is unique among worker needs in that the major problems are beyond the worker’s ability to change – most often the problem is that the workers are in a mathematically impossible situation
- ❖ Workers are under-paid for their skill level and workload
- ❖ Costs for health care are being pushed to the workers
- ❖ Young workers are burdened with significant student debt
- ✓ Many calling bodies are unable to pay their workers what is necessary
- ❖ “*The toughest work is being done in the places that can pay the least*” (i.e. dying congregations, inner-city churches, immigrant ministries, etc.)

³ 2019 R.63 - Final Report of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Lutheran Schools (p. 344-345 of 2019 LCMS *Convention Workbook*):

Lutheran education is a noble calling, yet it is facing significant challenges. Data support a real need for synodical entities to bring resolution to indebtedness for church workers. With the im-pending retirement of many teachers and administrators coupled with the diminishing numbers of Lutheran Teacher Diploma (LTD) candidates enrolling in the Concordia University System, there is an increased sense of urgency to recruit and retain qualified young people in the Lutheran teaching ministry. The desire to enter the vocation of education is lessening due to several factors including classroom management issues, public perception of the profession and state regulations. Additionally, many students are coming out of college with significant debt and are paid salaries below recommended levels. The trendline on debt and salary must change or the teacher shortage will likely continue. Teachers and administrators are in a great position to influence current and future students about the joys and rewards of church work and need to be intentional in their efforts to help recruit new students for the Concordia University System.

⁴ 2019 Resolution 12–02A (p. 221 of 2019 LCMS *Convention Proceedings*):

WHEREAS, the 2016 Synod Convention Res. 8-01A, “To Encourage and Strengthen the Lutheran Ethos of Our LCMS Early childhood Centers, Elementary Schools, and High Schools” specifically identified that a characteristic

Resolved, That the English District memorialize the Synod in Convention to develop a National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program that recognizes the service of Lutheran Teachers through Student Loan Debt Reduction; and be it further

Resolved, That all LCMS congregations be encouraged to contribute towards a special, designated offering to establish this program to be taken during the National Lutheran Schools Weeks of 2024, 2025, and 2026.

of a Lutheran school with a strong Lutheran ethos has “LCMS-trained Lutheran teachers...who know and are committed to the truths of the Scriptures as confessed in our Lutheran Confessions

RESOLUTION 1-05

(Overture 1-05)

To Exhort All Parishes to Celebrate the Mass Every Sunday Even if Civil Government Interferes

WHEREAS, The earliest disciples of our Lord weekly devoted themselves to the Apostolic teaching and to the “communion in the breaking of the bread” and to “the prayers” (*i.e.*, the Eucharistic Liturgy) every Sunday (see Acts 2:42, 46); and

WHEREAS, This is the expressed will of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior (Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22: 18-20; John 6:48-58; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26); and

WHEREAS, The Early Church celebrated the Mass every Sunday (Justin Martyr, First Apology 66); and

WHEREAS, Our Confessions explicitly proclaim that in our parishes, “we hold one communion every holy-day, and, if any desire the Sacrament, also on other days, when it is given to such as ask for it. And this custom is not new in the Church;” (AC Art. XXIV, 34-39); and

WHEREAS, Our Confessions clearly state that “the Mass is celebrated among us with greater devotion and earnestness than among [the Church of Rome]” and that “such worship pleases God, and such use of the Sacrament cultivated piety toward God” (AC XXIV.1; Latin Text, XXIV.8); and

WHEREAS, The Mass must be celebrated in person⁵; and

WHEREAS, It is therefore the responsibility of all parish pastors to offer the blessed Sacrament of the Altar every Sunday as the expressed will of our Lord, and any other day when a communicant might request it, as a means of God’s grace offered to his communicants; and

WHEREAS, The Apostles refused to obey purported prohibitions against celebrating the Mass, even in the face of persecution (Acts 5:29); and

WHEREAS, The Early Church refused to obey purported prohibitions against celebrating the Mass, even in the face of persecution or death (Conc. The Martyrdom of St. Ignatius); and

WHEREAS, The Lutherans in Magdeburg withstood a year-long siege of their city (1550-1551) rather than capitulate to the Augsburg Interim, the Emperor’s demand to abolish the Lutheran Mass in favor of the Roman Catholic Mass⁶; and

WHEREAS, The Magdeburg Confession of 1550 sets forth the Confessional Lutheran response to purported prohibitions against celebrating the Mass according to our Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, Contrary to the will of Christ and our Confessions, many of our parishes have abolished weekly celebration of the Mass by their own uncompelled choice; and

WHEREAS, Contrary to the will of Christ and our Confessions, many of our parishes recently yielded to demands of civil government effectively prohibiting the Mass; therefore be it

Resolved, That all parishes of the English District celebrate the Mass, otherwise known as the Divine Service of Holy Communion, every single Sunday, and other days as their communicants might desire the Mass; and be it further

⁵ See, *e.g.*, FC SD VII, 79-82; see also, *e.g.*, the March 20, 2020, opinion of the Committee on Theology and Church Relations “Communion and COVID-19,” which cites the February 18, 2006, CTCR “Opinion Concerning DVD Consecration,” which itself cites the CTCR’s 1983 report “Theology and Practice of the Lord’s Supper”

⁶ See, *e.g.*, *Gottesdienst* article “The Magdeburg Confession of 1550” by Rev. Larry Beane, 5 Oct. 2020

Resolved, That as a District we repent before the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for any willful neglect of this supreme gift of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation; and be it further

Resolved, That all pastors be extolled to uphold their vows of ordination wherein they have sworn to administer Christ in our Lord's self-giving through the Holy Gospel in the Word of the Gospel and in the Gospel of Holy Communion; and be it finally

Resolved, That all parishes stand with the Apostles, the Early Church, and the Lutherans of Magdeburg in refusing civil government demands that effectively prevent the Mass, and in doing so set the standard for faithfulness and obedience to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ for the good of God's people and the hope of the world.

RESOLUTION 1-06

(Overtures 1-06, 1-07, 1-08)

To Restore Both Biblical Languages to the Education of Future Pastors on All Pathways to the Office of the Holy Ministry

WHEREAS, One of the major qualifications for a man aspiring to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry is his ability to teach (1 Timothy 3:2); and

WHEREAS, “We believe, teach and confess that the only rule and norm according to which all teachings, together with <all> teachers, should be evaluated and judged (2 Timothy 3:15-17) are the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and New Testament alone (FC Ep Summary 1); and

WHEREAS, To teach, a man in the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry should be able to understand the Scripture as God breathed it out (2 Timothy 3:16); and

WHEREAS, The Old Testament was initially breathed out in Biblical Hebrew¹, and the New Testament in Koine Greek; and

WHEREAS, Much in the Scriptures that points to Christ and Him-Crucified is embedded in the nuances of both Biblical languages and can be lost in translation; and

WHEREAS, In AD 2018, the English District in Convention adopted Resolution 1-01, calling upon the LCMS to require instruction in both Biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek as prerequisites for admission to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry, that the English District encourage our seminaries, with synod funding, to include Biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek in the curricula for all of the pathways to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry, and that the English District urge our seminaries to develop continuing education opportunities for all Pastors to obtain and review such training; and

WHEREAS, In AD 2019, the LCMS in Convention adopted Resolution 6-02, “To Promote Residential Seminary Education as the Preferred Option for the Preparation of Men for Pastoral Ministry,” noting in the 4th “Whereas” that, “‘Handling the Word of Truth’ (2 Tim. 2:15) rightly requires diligent study of God’s Word and our Lutheran Confessions, with a foundational understanding of the original Biblical languages ...”, and Resolution 6-03, “To Enhance the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program,” including instruction in Biblical languages in the second, “Resolved,” yet the residential Alternate Route programs to General Pastor Roster status require the study of Greek only, and the Center for Hispanic Studies and the Ethnic Immigrant Institute for Theology, also routes to General Pastor Roster status, require no study of either Biblical language; therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District once again call on the LCMS to require instruction in both Biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek as prerequisites in all programs leading to admission to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to encourage our seminaries, with Synod funding, to include Biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek in the curricula of all of the routes to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry; and be it finally

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to encourage our seminaries, with Synod funding, to develop continuing education opportunities for all Pastors to obtain and review such training.

Note:

1. Small portions of the Old Testament are written in Aramaic.

RESOLUTION 1-07

(Overture 1-09)

To Reconsider Allowing “Brain Death” Criteria for Determination of Death at End of Life

WHEREAS, In 1981, the LCMS in convention adopted Resolution 8-05, encouraging organ donation at time of death as an act of Christian love, but without binding consciences on the issue; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches that the time of death occurs when a person stops breathing (Genesis 25:8, 35:29; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46 and others), meaning when the heart and lungs stop; and

WHEREAS, Scripture is clear that God is the One who determines time of death (Genesis 6:3; Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 3:2; James 4:13-15 and others) and that when it pleases Him to call one out of this vale of tears, even medical intervention will not prevent this (Matthew 6:27); and

WHEREAS, With the advent of organ transplantation in the 1960s, it became evident⁷ that vital organs removed while the heart is still beating performed better in transplant than did those removed after the heart had stopped, due to damage to the latter from lack of oxygen; and

WHEREAS, To avoid the charge of murder on the part of the transplant team, the concept of “brain death” was developed⁸, namely, individuals being in a coma without apparent central nervous system activity and deemed unlikely to survive, being considered dead, even with a still-beating heart; and

WHEREAS, The 1981 Uniform Declaration of Death Act, enacted in 39 American states and jurisdictions, includes “brain death” as a criterion for determination of death, and others rely on, “accepted medical standards,” which essentially do the same; furthermore, legislation in the Canadian province of Manitoba defines death according to “brain death” criteria and in the rest of Canada the determination is left to physicians who essentially do the same; and

WHEREAS, Individuals meeting the criteria for “brain death” often in fact do have residual brain function which is not measured by the criteria for “brain death,” and “brain dead” individuals often survive long after the determination has been made, even at times without mechanical support; and

WHEREAS, The function of other organs and tissues in the body is not dependent on the function of the brain, an example being wound healing, which continues even after the determination of “brain death”; furthermore, even babies in the womb at the time of determination of maternal “brain death” may be carried to term; and

WHEREAS, The guidance on determination of “brain death” is based on opinion and not evidence, and studies have shown that not all medical centers apply “brain death” criteria in a uniform manner; and

WHEREAS, Secular bioethicists are becoming increasingly critical of the concept of “brain death,” yet are merely calling for alternative ethical frameworks within which to remove vital organs from donors with still-beating hearts; and

WHEREAS, Techniques are emerging, which allow for the donation of vital organs following the stoppage of the heart, which optimize performance in the transplant recipient; and

⁷ David Rodríguez-Arias, “The Dead Donor Rule as Policy Indoctrination”, in *Hastings Center Report*, volume 48, issue 54, pages s40-s41. December 25, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hast.952>

⁸ *Ibid.*

WHEREAS, The concept of “brain death” as a sole determinant of death is non-Scriptural, and use of “brain death” as a criterion to remove vital organs amounts to *de-facto* euthanasia; therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District encourage members of her congregations, as they complete *Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care* paperwork, especially those who desire to donate organs, to consider specifying in writing that they wish their medical team to use the Scripture-based criterion of cardiopulmonary failure to determine that their earthly lives have ended; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to similarly encourage congregation members Synod-wide; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District and the LCMS encourage Pastors to review this issue with parishioners in the course of end of life planning discussions; and be it further

Resolved, That English District and LCMS Pastors remind those who regret having allowed loved ones to be declared dead solely on the basis of “brain death” criteria or having otherwise participated in the process (for example, health care workers) that there is forgiveness in Jesus’ blood shed at Calvary, and offer the opportunity for individual Confession and Absolution; and be it finally

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to establish a task force consisting of members of CTCR, Seminary professors, a District President, rostered Pastors of congregations, bioethicists, health care professionals and laity (with invitations to participate extended to a representative from Lutherans for Life, as well as the LCMS Life Ministry), to review the issue of determination of death at greater length, and report back to the 2026 Synodical Convention to include the addition of specific recommendations on this to the general encouragement in the 1981 Resolution 8-05 to consider organ donation at time of death.

RESOLUTION 1-08

(Overtures 1-06 and 1-07)

To Encourage our Seminaries to Increase Educational Training as Part of Pastoral Formation

WHEREAS, The Scriptures teach that a requirement of the Pastoral Office is to be “able to teach” (1 Tim 2:3; 2 Tim 2:2, 24); and

WHEREAS, It is expected of our Pastors to be the primary teachers of both the young and adult catechism classes, and of Bible classes, and much of the work of the Pastor is teaching; and

WHEREAS, While it is acknowledged that Pastors have sufficient knowledge to be qualified as teachers, they may lack the tools needed to be effective in their teaching and efficient in their preparation; and

WHEREAS, Pastoral candidates are not required to complete courses on the philosophies, techniques and practice of teaching that would provide them with tools to help them be more effective teachers; and

WHEREAS, The English District in Convention in 2015 passed Resolution 1-5, “To Require Educational Training as Part of Pastoral Formation”, and as a result letters were sent to both seminaries encouraging them to “offer at least two teacher training classes as required courses for graduation”; and

WHEREAS, No significant increase in teacher training has been implemented at our seminaries, be it therefore

Resolved, That the seminaries again be strongly encouraged require for graduation from any program leading to ordination at least two teacher training classes, which include skills in class management, tools for lesson preparation, and instruction in the philosophy of education as is appropriate in Lutheran Christian education.

RESOLUTION 1-09

To Prevent Harmful Philosophies, Ideologies and Contemporary Movements Contrary to the Christian Faith from Damaging Our Congregations, Schools, Colleges and Seminaries

WHEREAS, God created all people equal, but not interchangeable (Gen 1:26-27), and

WHEREAS, God created male and female, and no other gender (Gen 1:27), and

WHEREAS, The fall into sin ruined and perverted the creation (Gen 3:14-19), which was once very good (Gen 1:31), hence an order was instituted by God for the relationship between man and woman (Gen 3:16), and

WHEREAS, After the fall into sin, man and woman remained equal but not interchangeable (Gen 3:20), and

WHEREAS, All people are subject to the stain of original sin, but now also have been equally redeemed by the blood of Christ as the only way to be reconciled to God and to each other (Rom 3:23-26), and

WHEREAS, Because of sin, racism (the sinful notion that some races are inherently superior or inferior to others), misunderstanding, and strife are present in the world and experienced in our congregations and communities; and

WHEREAS, Christ teaches us to love all peoples and nations, and consequently The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) abhors racism, and in convention has passed resolutions repudiating all racism, (see 1992 Res. 3-03 and 2019 Res. 11-04A); and

WHEREAS, Contemporary ideologies and movements such as Black Lives Matter (BLM), “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion” (DEI), and “Critical Race Theory” (CRT) have become common, multifaceted, and controversial theories, based in non-Christian and anti-Christian tenets, which divide people based solely on the basis of “sexual orientation” or race; therefore be it

Resolved, That the LCMS reject any doctrine that teaches that one’s race, ancestry, or nationality are inherently superior to the race, ancestry, or nationality of another; or that any individual is inherently racist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously, based solely on his or her race, ancestry, or nationality; and be it further

Resolved, That the LCMS reject any doctrine that assumes or allows for any categories of gender other than those intrinsic to God’s created order, viz. “male and female” (Gen. 1:27); and be it further

Resolved, That the English District in convention reject BLM, DEI, CRT, and similar ideologies and world views, as they are contrary to Scripture and counterproductive to true racial conversation and reconciliation, for they pursue “equality of outcome” or “equity” between racial groups, which requires treating individuals unequally based on race; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District, together with all our congregations, schools, universities and seminaries, also reject all organizations, ideologies, philosophies, movements, petitions, and doctrines that present the BLM, DEI or CRT world views, or related anti-Scriptural world views or doctrines in a positive manner; and be it further

Resolved, That the congregations of the LCMS English District be encouraged to engage members of their communities in conversations that build unity among all men in light of the Saving Gospel of Jesus Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend those within the LCMS English District who, in the light of our Lord's charge known as the "Great Commission", intentionally proclaim and work to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus to all peoples regardless of race, gender, nationality or ethnicity with the goal of bringing them into the blessed unity we have in Christ our Head (Rom 12:5; 1 Cor 12:27; Eph 2:19-22, 4:25); and be it finally

Resolved, That the English District memorialize The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as it gathers at its 2023 Convention to do the same.

RESOLUTION 2-01

(Overture 2-01)

To Affirm the Need for Open Churches During Times of Plague, Pestilence and Pandemic

WHEREAS, God has commanded us to set aside a day to gather together to “hear and use [His] Word, and then to praise [Him], to sing and to pray” (Exodus 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 149:1; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 10:19-25; LC I Third Commandment 84); and

WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted His Supper for the forgiveness of sins, refreshment, comfort and strength (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:15-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; LC V 72); and

WHEREAS, The Divine Service (Mass) was retained at the time of the Reformation, for the purpose of hearing God’s Word, receiving the Lord’s Supper, and returning to Him our sacrifices of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving (Ap XXIV 1); and

WHEREAS, As our Lord was physically present with His disciples at His institution of His Supper and personally administered the elements to them, He calls His undershepherds, namely the men whom He has called to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry, to administer His supper in person to His people (John 20:22-23; AC V; AC VII 1; AC XXIV 30); and

WHEREAS, Jesus, through Whom all was created and being one with the Father (John 1:3, 10:30; Nicene Creed, 2nd Article), at the time He instituted His Supper, understood the complexities of microbiology and anticipated forthcoming plagues, yet did not call for the suspension of in-person gatherings around His Word and Sacraments during such times; and

WHEREAS, We must therefore, “never think of the Sacrament as something harmful from which we had better flee, but as a pure, wholesome, comforting remedy that grants salvation and comfort” (LC V 68); and

WHEREAS, The evil one, having been cast from heaven, is continually at war with God’s people, and in times of plague, uses fear to pull them apart from each other and from the receipt of His gifts (Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:10, 17; LC V 26); and

WHEREAS, When we gather together in person to receive God’s gifts, we are able to withstand the attacks of the evil one (Ephesians 6:10-18; LC V 80-82); and

WHEREAS, Historically the Church has thus recognized herself as essential during times of plague, notable examples including the 1527 plague at Wittenberg¹ and the 1597-98 plague at Unna²; and

WHEREAS, Historically, even in times of plague, pastors have brought Absolution, God’s Word and Sacrament to the sick and shut-ins when they were unable to be present at church and were near death³; and

WHEREAS, The current global outbreak of the highly contagious SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), with the attendant risks of morbidity and mortality, has generated tremendous fear, moving governments around the world to lockdowns and shuttering of nonessential businesses; and

WHEREAS, Many state governors and provincial premiers have declared the Church to be nonessential, shuttering congregations, even for outdoor gatherings, while declaring some businesses, such as abortion facilities and casinos, to be essential and keeping them open, is a violation of the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment (See SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES. Case No. 20A87 ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK v. ANDREW M. CUOMO, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK ON

APPLICATION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF [November 5, 2020]
(https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/20a87_4g15.pdf); and

WHEREAS, Due to concerns of disease spread and lack of personal protective equipment, pastors and churches have been threatened, fined, attacked and forbidden to visit those who are hospitalized and in long-term residential care facilities; and

WHEREAS, Where congregations have been allowed to remain open, pastors have tried to dictate practices regarding the administration of the Lord's Supper that are at variance with Christ's institution; and

WHEREAS, We are to be subject to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1), yet where the authorities contradict God's Word, we are to obey Him rather than men (Acts 5:29); therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that weekly in-person gathering is essential for the health and well-being of God's people; be more legally active in protecting churches and pastors; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that where a man ordained to the Office of the Holy/Public Ministry is present and available, congregations should continue the in-person administration of the Lord's Supper, even during times of plague; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that congregations, using God's gifts of science and reason, may take steps to lessen fear and risk, while not interfering with the administration of the Lord's Supper as He instituted it; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that the bringing of Absolution, Word and Sacrament to the sick and shut-in is essential to his/her well-being, and protective equipment should be available for the pastor as it is for the health care worker; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that in Christian freedom (Galatians 5:1) and based on local realities, some congregations may need to temporarily and briefly suspend public gatherings, but that the deliverance of Absolution, Word and Sacrament must continue; and be it finally

Resolved, That the English District call on the LCMS to affirm that, while respecting God's vocational calls to local political leaders and public health authorities, she strongly condemns the forced closings of congregations in times of plague, as well as the banning of contact with those hospitalized or in long-term care facilities, as a contradiction of His Word and thus outside the Divinely-ordained bounds of their offices in His Kingdom of the Left.

Notes:

1. Martin Luther, *Whether One May Flee From A Deadly Plague*, at <https://blogs.lcms.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plague-blogLW.pdf> (accessed 5 October 2020)
2. Mark A. Preus, "Teach Us to Bear Your Blessed Cross: An Essay on Philipp Nicolai's Joy in the Face of Death," in Ross Edward Johnson and John T. Pless, eds. *The Mercy of God in the Cross of Christ: Essays on Mercy in honor of Glenn Merritt* (St. Louis: LCMS, 2016), pp. 299-307.
3. *Whether One May Flee From A Deadly Plague*. Martin Luther, *Luther's Works, Vol. 43: Devotional Writings II*, ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, vol. 43 (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1999), 119-38.

RESOLUTION 2-02

(Overtures 2-02 and 2-03)

To Increase Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Opportunities Throughout Synod

WHEREAS, The Synod in Convention in the year 2019, Resolution 6-04, encouraged the pastors of our Synod to attend continuing education courses every year; and

WHEREAS, Synod Bylaw 4.8.2d requires pastors to attend two District-sponsored conferences each year; and

WHEREAS, Historically many pastoral conferences, such as the Pittsburgh Pastoral Conference, were held throughout the Synod; and

WHEREAS, Many other conferences are held throughout the Synod each year; therefore be it

Resolved, That those pastors who attend both District Conferences in a calendar year receive 1 CEU; and be it further

Resolved, That pastoral conferences be restored where they no longer function and that those who attend all meetings of these conferences during the school year receive 1 CEU; and be it further

Resolved, That other conferences held throughout the Synod be allowed to apply to the proper authorities, be they Seminary or Synodical office, to be able to grant 1 CEU to those who attend them; and be it finally

Resolved, That Synod investigate other ways to incentivize continuing education among her pastors and be mindful of a recently adopted document entitled, *Board for National Mission Policies for the Office of National Mission Under the Seven Mission Priorities of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Adopted October 2020*.

RESOLUTION 3-01

(Overture 3-03)

To Reformat and Amend the Bylaws of the English District

Rationale

During the past two triennia, the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has suggested that districts of the Synod modernize the format of their bylaws, utilizing a numbering format similar to the Bylaws of the Synod (*e.g. 1.1.1.1 vs. I.A.1.a*). CCM also requests that the Bylaws state the Board of Directors only supervises the District President in his non-ecclesiastical supervisory duties (*cf. 3.2[c]*). CCM has also expressed confusion over the relation of 8.2 to 9.6.1(b); in response the District Secretary discovered that 8.2 had been incorrectly amended between 2009 and 2012. This proposal restores the Bylaw as it was before this amendment; it has the meaning that congregations and rostered church workers need not approve borrowing of money or execution of mortgages, which power is delegated to the Board of Directors in 9.6.1.

Additionally, the Synod Secretary has suggested that Districts of the Synod consider adding a provision to District Bylaws corresponding to LCMS Bylaw 7.1.2. This would deal with the specific circumstance when the Synod Convention modifies the Constitution or Bylaws of the Synod in such a way that District Bylaws must be adjusted, generally in an obvious way, into compliance (*cf. proposed Article 12.2*).

Further review of the Bylaws of the District by the Board of Directors has identified where the requirements for regional selections of district officers conflicts with the requirements outlined by Synod Bylaw Section 4.3. This necessitates amending the Bylaws of the District to reflect the requirements established by the Synod. (*cf. 3.3b, 5.3.1, 5.3.1.c, 5.4.1.b, and 5.5.1.c*.)

The Board of Directors also believes that language should be added to the Bylaws of the District that definitively states the District's relationship to the Synod as defined by the Synod Bylaws. This would be a new first article to be added to the Bylaws of the District (*cf. proposed Article 1.0*).

Proposed language that is completely new to the Bylaws will be presented in underlined font.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District meeting in convention adopt the following reformatted and amended bylaws:

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
ENGLISH DISTRICT**

BYLAWS

Adopted in Convention: June 15, 1997

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2009

Revised at request of Synod by Board of Directors: August 2011; May 2012

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 29, 2012

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2015

Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 21, 2018

Revisions and Reformatting Adopted in Convention: June 20, 2022

PREAMBLE

In 1872 an initial conference of English-speaking Lutherans was held in Gravelton, Missouri. In 1888 the English Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri was organized and in 1911 was invited to join the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States as the English Mission District. An agreement dated May 15, 1911, in Saint Louis, Missouri (*Delegatensynod von Missouri, Ohio u.a. St.*, 1911, pp. 31-35) made the English District official. Because of this origin the English District is unique among the districts of the Synod (Denver Convention *Proceedings*, 1969, Resolution 5-15).

Since the English District is a district of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the Constitution of the Synod is also the Constitution of the District. Also, the Bylaws of the Synod are primarily the Bylaws of the District. The District's objectives are as stated in Article III of the Synod's Constitution:

The Synod, under Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, shall—

1. Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3–6; 1 Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defense against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;
2. Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world;
3. Recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth;
4. Provide opportunities through which its members may express their Christian concern, love, and compassion in meeting human needs;
5. Aid congregations to develop processes of thorough Christian education and nurture and to establish agencies of Christian education such as elementary and secondary schools and to support synodical colleges, universities, and seminaries;
6. Aid congregations by providing a variety of resources and opportunities for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith;
7. Encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith;
8. Provide evangelical supervision, counsel, and care for pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers of the Synod in the performance of their official duties;
9. Provide protection for congregations, pastors, teachers, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the maintenance of their rights;
10. Aid in providing for the welfare of pastors, teachers, and other church workers, and their families in the event of illness, disability, retirement, special need, or death.

Thus in the light of the Synod's objectives, the mission of the English District is to seize every opportunity to serve the Lord of the Church, Jesus Christ, the whole Church in the whole world, and the whole person in the whole society, and in fulfillment of this mission, it shall seek to utilize its unique character to:

1. Assist congregations of the District in their ministries to their own communities with their own characteristics and needs;
2. Serve as a progressive element in the church body, both in applying the Gospel to new and changing situations and in demonstrating concern about community problems and ecumenical opportunities;
3. Begin new churches and support new ministries with particular emphasis on openness to new challenges;
4. Assist in the revitalization of existing congregations and ministries;
5. Assist ministries in communities that are changing;
6. Focus on special, ethnic, urban and campus ministries;
7. Support mission initiatives of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod;
8. Support life-long educational ministries within the District; and
9. Provide opportunities and avenues for congregations and their members to live out their love for God through the Christian stewardship of their time, talents and treasures.

1.0 RELATIONSHIP TO THE SYNOD

- 1.1 The Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod establish and define the relationship of the District to the Synod.
- 1.2 All provisions of the District’s Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the Synod in convention.
- 1.3 In the event of dissolution of the District other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of the District, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, in the manner prescribed by the Bylaws of the Synod.

2.0 RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE DISTRICT

- 2.1 The congregations of the District shall exercise their authority through delegate convention which shall consist of all duly certified delegates from member congregations, as defined in Synod Bylaw Section 4.2ff.
- 2.2 The District shall exercise its authority in harmony with the goals and directives of the Synod and under the guidance of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.
- 2.3 The District shall delegate its authority as hereinafter prescribed. The exercise of such delegated authority shall always be subject to review by the District.

3.0 ADMINISTRATION

- 3.1 The District shall establish an organizational structure for the effective operation of its programs and conduct of its affairs which shall include the District Convention, the officers of the District, the Board of Directors, and such other staff and personnel as that Board may deem necessary and appropriate.
- 3.2 The administration of the affairs shall be conducted on three levels:
- (a) The District Convention, which shall consist of the District at large through its delegates in convention assembled, and shall be the governing body of the District subject to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of Synod, and to these Bylaws.
 - (b) The Officers of the District, who shall have primary responsibility for the implementation of decisions of the District Convention and the Board of Directors.
 - (c) The Board of Directors elected by the District Convention, which serves as the legal representative of the District and the custodian of all property of the District. Between conventions, the Board shall provide for implementation within the District of the decisions of the Synod and District conventions, establish and review policy, determine general priorities, approve program budgets, allocate necessary funds for the support of the Synod and District budgets, review program performance, make provisions for necessary staff, and review the performance of the District President in his non-ecclesiastical supervisory duties. It shall report its activities to the Convention.
- 3.3 For purposes of conferences and elections requiring regional representation, the District shall be divided into four regions: Eastern, Lake Erie, Midwestern, and Western:
- (a) The President and Vice-Presidents of the District and the Board of Directors acting jointly shall determine the membership of the four regions 24 months prior to Conventions of the District.
 - (b) For purposes of regional elections, ~~individuals will be considered a part of the geographical region in which they reside.~~ individuals must meet the regional eligibility requirements outlined within Synod Bylaw Section 4.3.
- 3.4 Dispute Reconcilers shall be chosen in such manner and exercise such jurisdiction as provided by Synod Bylaw 1.10ff.
- 3.5 A Committee on Nominations shall be elected at each Convention to prepare the ballot for the next Convention. One minister of religion—ordained and one minister of religion—commissioned or layperson

by name from each of the four regions of the District shall be elected. The Committee shall organize itself as outlined in the District's *Corporate Operations Manual*.

- 3.6 A Committee for Stewardship shall be appointed by the Board of Directors to comply with the stewardship programs and goals of the Synod, as required by Synod Bylaw 4.6.1.

4.0 OFFICERS & STAFF

4.1 The officers of the District are:

1. A President
2. One Vice-President from each of the four regions of the District, in line of succession, as prescribed by these Bylaws.
3. A Secretary
4. A Treasurer, a layperson appointed by the Board of Directors
5. A Circuit Visitor for each Circuit established by the District

4.2 The duties of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Circuit Visitors are described in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod and these Bylaws.

4.3 The Vice-Presidents shall advise the President, serve as his representatives, and assist him in bringing to the Board of Directors any needed recommendations.

4.4 All Executive Assistants and Staff shall be directly accountable to the President.

5.0 ELECTIONS

5.1 Terms of Office and Tenure

5.1.1 Officers, members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Circuit Visitors shall serve for a term of three years.

5.1.2 A person's tenure in the same office or function shall be limited to four (4) consecutive full three-year terms. These persons may be elected to their previous office or function after an interval of no less than three (3) years, or be appointed to fill an unexpired term after an interval of no less than two (2) years.

5.2 Nomination and Election of District President

5.2.1 Each member congregation of the District shall be entitled to nominate from the clergy roster of the Synod two (2) ordained ministers as candidates for District President:

- (a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter to the member congregations of the District requesting each congregation to submit nominations.
- (b) Nominations for District President shall be accepted by the District Secretary up to four months prior to the opening date of the District Convention. He shall report in the *Convention Workbook* the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes.
- (c) The names of the five (5) ordained ministers who receive the highest number of nominating votes and consent to serve shall form the slate of candidates. There shall be no opportunity provided for additional nominations.
- (d) The District Secretary shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning his candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.

5.2.2 The District Convention shall elect the District President:

- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
- (b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.

5.3 Nomination and Election of District Vice-Presidents

5.3.1 Each member congregation of a region of the District shall be entitled to nominate two (2) ordained ministers from the clergy roster of the District ~~with residence in its designated region~~ who hold membership in a District congregation within its region as candidates for Vice-President:

- (a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter to the member congregations of the District requesting each congregation to submit nominations.
 - (b) Nominations for Vice-President shall be accepted by the District Secretary up to four months prior to the opening date of the District Convention. He shall report in the *Convention Workbook* the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes.
 - (c) The names of the three (3) ordained ministers ~~residing within the boundaries of~~ from each region who receive the most nominating votes and consent to serve shall form the slate of candidates. There shall be no opportunity provided for additional nominations.
 - (d) The District Secretary shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning his candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.
- 5.3.2 The District Convention shall elect one (1) Vice-President from each of the four regions of the District:
- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.
- 5.3.3 Upon the election of the Vice-Presidents, a final election will take place ranking the Vice-Presidents by separate ballots with a simple majority of voting delegates determining the first, second, third, and fourth Vice-Presidents in line of succession.
- 5.4 Nomination and Election of Board of Directors**
- 5.4.1 Six months prior to the opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter soliciting names from the officers of the District and the congregational and individual members of the District, along with the laypersons of the congregations of the District:
- (a) All suggested names shall be submitted to the Committee on Nominations no later than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention.
 - (b) All nominees for a particular regional position ~~must reside~~ shall be members of District congregations within the boundaries of the region for which they are nominated.
 - (c) All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees.
 - (d) The Committee on Nominations shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning the individual's candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.
- 5.4.2 The Committee on Nominations shall select at least two (2) candidates and at least one (1) alternate for each position.
- 5.4.3 The District Convention may amend the slate by nominations from the floor:
- (a) Nominations from the floor may be made by any delegate at the District Convention. The delegate making such nomination must present the District Secretary written consent of the person whose name is being placed in nomination, in order to assure the convention that the nominee is able and willing to serve if elected.
 - (b) Floor nominations shall be brought individually before the District Convention for approval before being added to the ballot.
- 5.4.4 The District Convention shall elect one (1) ordained minister from the Eastern or Lake Erie Region, one (1) ordained minister from the Midwestern or Western Region, two (2) commissioned ministers, and one (1) layperson from each of the four regions of the District:
- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (b) Balloting will proceed with the candidate receiving the least number of votes eliminated from consideration until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, who shall be declared elected.
- 5.4.5 The District Convention shall elect two (2) laypersons as at-large members of the Board of Directors:
- (a) All candidates not elected to a Lay Regional Board of Director positions shall form the ballot for the Lay At-Large Board of Directors positions.
 - (b) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
 - (c) When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15 percent of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot,

unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

5.5 *Nomination and Election of District Secretary, Committee on Nominations, Endowment Fund Managers, and Other Boards or Committees*

5.5.1 The Committee on Nominations shall select candidates for District Secretary, Committee on Nominations, Endowment Fund Managers, and other Boards or Committees. At least two (2) candidates and at least one (1) alternate shall be selected for each position:

- (a) Six months prior to opening date of the District Convention, the District Secretary shall send a letter soliciting names from the officers of the District and the congregational and individual members of the District, along with the laypersons of the congregations of the District.
- (b) All suggested names shall be submitted to the Committee on Nominations no later than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention.
- (c) All nominees for a particular regional position ~~must reside~~ shall be members of District congregations within the boundaries of the region for which they are nominated.
- (d) All incumbents eligible for reelection shall be considered to be nominees.
- (e) The Committee on Nominations shall request from each candidate a description of the candidate's experience and qualifications, as well as a statement concerning the individual's candidacy. These shall be published and distributed to all the convention delegates at least six weeks prior to the convention.

5.5.2 The District Convention may amend the slate by nominations from the floor:

- (a) Nominations from the floor may be made by any delegate at the District Convention. The delegate making such nomination must present the District Secretary written consent of the person whose name is being placed in nomination, in order to assure the convention that the nominee is able and willing to serve if elected.
- (b) Floor nominations shall be brought individually before the District Convention for approval before being added to the ballot.

5.5.3 Election of these offices shall take place at the District Convention:

- (a) A majority of votes cast shall be required for election.
- (b) When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15 percent of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot.

6.0 VACANCIES

6.1 *Office of District President*

6.1.1 In the event that the Board of Directors determines that the President is unable to serve in that capacity because of prolonged illness or disability, the duties and responsibilities of the office of President shall be performed by the 1st Vice-President, and the 1st Vice-President shall remain as the Acting President until the Board determines such illness or disability has been removed, the President resigns or dies, or the Board determines that the illness or disability is permanent.

6.1.2 In the event that the office of President becomes vacant because of the resignation, death or permanent disability of the President, the 1st Vice-President shall succeed to the office of President and shall serve until the next Convention. The successor need not terminate his current position while completing the unexpired term.

6.1.3 Any Vice-President, who by the terms of this Article succeeds to the office of President, may decline such office, in which event:

- (a) The next ranking Vice-President shall become President of the District.
- (b) All other Vice-Presidents shall move up one rank.
- (c) The declining Vice-President shall fill the last ranking vacant Vice-Presidency.

6.1.4 In the event that all Vice-Presidents decline the office of President, the ranking of the Vice-Presidents shall remain unchanged, and the 1st Vice-President shall serve as Acting President until the next convention, when a President shall be elected. He need not leave his current position while serving as Acting President.

6.2 Other Elected Positions

- 6.2.1 A vacancy in the Vice-Presidents shall be filled by appointment by the District President, in consultation with the Circuit Visitors within that the region.
- 6.2.2 Vacancies that occur in the office of Circuit Visitor between conventions shall be filled by appointment by the District President.
- 6.2.3 A vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be filled by the voting members of the Board, in consultation with the Committee on Nominations.
- 6.2.4 A vacancy on the Committee on Nominations shall be filled by voting members of the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Committee on Nominations.
- 6.2.5 Vacancies that occur in the office of District Endowment Fund Manager shall be filled:
 - (a) A vacancy in any regional manager position shall be filled by appointment by the District President, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
 - (b) A vacancy in the Canadian representative position shall be filled by appointment by the Canada Corporation.
- 6.2.6 Persons appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors or other elected or appointed positions shall serve until successors have been elected by the Convention or appointed under the terms of the bylaws.

7.0 DISTRICT CONFERENCES, CIRCUIT FORUMS, AND CIRCUIT CONVOCATIONS

- 7.1 The President shall confer with the Board of Directors to arrange for the official conferences of the ordained and commissioned ministers of the District:
 - (a) There shall be a plenary conference held annually for all ordained and commissioned ministers. In years when District Conventions are held, the plenary conference may be postponed at the discretion of the President and the Board of Directors.
 - (b) There shall be a conference for ordained ministers held annually in each of the four regions of the District.
 - (c) There shall be at least one conference for commissioned ministers held during each triennium.
- 7.2 Circuit forums shall meet at the call of their Circuit Visitors to select their Circuit Visitors and conduct other business no later than the time established by the District. They shall follow the procedures stated in Synod Bylaws 5.2.2 and 5.3.
- 7.3 The Circuit Visitor and any other officers of the circuit shall have the primary responsibility of preparing the agenda for the Circuit Convocation, following the procedures stated in Synod Bylaw 5.4.

8.0 POWERS

- 8.1 The District shall have legal powers as follows:
 - (a) To purchase, acquire, hold, administer, sell, transfer, mortgage and convey property of every description, both personal and real, in the interest of the District.
 - (b) To accept, hold, administer, sell, transfer and convey legacies, gifts, donations, commercial papers and legal documents of every description in the performance of its work.
 - (c) To delegate to the Board of Directors who shall exercise the aforementioned powers. No individual or officer of the District shall have the power to usurp this authority.
- 8.2 No action on the part of the members of the District Board of Directors shall be prerequisite to the borrowing of money or the execution of any mortgage upon personality ~~personality~~ or realty.
- 8.3 There shall be no shares of stock issued in connection with the District.

9.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

9.1 Membership and Composition

- 9.1.1 The Board of Directors shall have no more than fifteen (15) voting members, as follows:
 - (a) The President of the District

- (b) The Secretary of the District
 - (c) Two (2) ministers of religion—ordained, one of whom shall be elected from either the Eastern Region or Lake Erie Region and one whom shall be elected from either the Midwestern Region or Western Region
 - (d) Two (2) ministers of religion—commissioned
 - (e) One (1) layperson elected from each of the four regions of the District.
 - (f) Two (2) laypersons elected from the District at large
 - (g) Up to three (3) at-large laypersons appointed by the elected voting members of the Board of Directors to obtain needed additional skill sets (legal, finance, investment, administration, etc.)
- 9.1.2 The Board of Directors shall have six (6) non-voting members:
- (a) The Vice-Presidents of the District
 - (b) The Treasurer of the District
 - (c) The Chairman of the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (Canada Corporation)
- 9.1.3 The Board shall elect its own chair and vice-chair from among the voting members of the Board after each convention. The President and Secretary shall be ineligible to be elected as chair or vice-chair.
- 9.1.4 Each Board member shall avoid conflicts of interest and shall disclose to the Board chair any potential conflicts of interest, as defined in Synod Bylaw 1.5.2.
- 9.1.5 Members of the Board of Directors may be removed for cause, as defined in Synod Bylaw 1.5.8.
- 9.1.6 No member of the Board of Directors shall receive remuneration (beyond allowable reimbursement) for service on the Board.

9.2 Powers and Duties

- 9.2.1 The Board of Directors shall have such powers and duties as are accorded to it by the Constitution, Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, resolutions, and policies of the Synod, as well as those of the District. Subject to such limitations, it shall operate within the applicable federal and state laws.
- 9.2.2 The Board's chief responsibility is developing and amending policy.
- 9.2.3 The Board shall be vested with the general management and supervision of the District's business and legal affairs and shall adopt policies and require procedures which assure that said management and supervision is affected.
- 9.2.4 In fulfilling its functions and in coordinating its work with the Synod, the Board shall be guided generally by the functions of the Board of Directors of the Synod as defined in Synod Bylaw 3.3.4ff as these apply to districts.
- 9.2.5 Between Conventions it shall provide for implementation within the District of the decisions of the Synod and District Conventions and allocate necessary funds for the support of the Synod and District budgets.
- 9.2.6 The Board of Directors shall report at each Convention.
- 9.2.7 The Board of Directors shall conduct, supervise, and manage all affairs of the District not otherwise assigned.

9.3 Meetings

- 9.3.1 Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least four (4) times a year at such time and place as the Board shall determine.
- 9.3.2 Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or upon request of seven (7) board members at any time, by means of written or email notice, at least three (3) days in advance of the time, place and purpose thereof to each director.
- 9.3.3 Meetings of the Board of Directors may be conducted electronically, using audio, video, or internet-based conferencing technologies:
- (a) In such cases, the technology must allow for each Board member to fully participate (hear, speak, have or been given access to documents and other materials as appropriate), including the opportunity to vote.
 - (b) Board members must be given a reasonable opportunity to access the electronic meeting. If a Board member does not have access to the technology to be used, arrangements will be made for the member to participate in person by coming to the District Office or other mutually agreed upon location.

- (c) Any Board member listening or watching shall acknowledge their presence to the meeting. These names along with the attending Board members shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 9.3.4 A majority of voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any properly called or scheduled meeting.
- 9.3.5 The Chair may authorize a Board member to participate in meetings of the Board by use of electronic technology described in Bylaw 8.3.3. Such participation by a Board member shall be considered as being present for the sake of establishing a quorum.
- 9.3.6 In situations where board members are not able to meet as described above, the Board of Directors may take action by use of electronic ballot (i.e., e-mail, internet-based voting, etc.), provided all voting members of the board cast a vote and the result of the voting is unanimous.
- 9.3.7 Minutes shall be kept of all meetings that record a summary of the major points of discussion and any action(s) taken.

9.4 Appointment of Officers and Agents

- 9.4.1 The Board of Directors shall have power to appoint such other officers and agents as the Board may deem necessary for the transaction of the business of the District.
- 9.4.2 The Board of Directors may require any officer or agent to file with the District a satisfactory fidelity bond.

9.5 Execution of Instruments

- 9.5.1 All checks, drafts, and orders for payment of money shall be signed in the name of the District and may be countersigned by such officers or agents as the Board of Directors designates for that purpose or by the Treasurer alone.
- 9.5.2 When the execution of any contract, conveyance or other instrument has been authorized without specification of the executing officers, the President and the Secretary may execute the same in the name of and on behalf of the District and may affix the corporate seal thereto. The Board of Directors shall have power to designate the officers and agents who shall have authority to execute any instrument on behalf of the District.

9.6 Borrowing Authority

- 9.6.1 The Board of Directors shall act on behalf of the District to borrow money the Board deems necessary and appropriate:
 - (a) In such case the Board may authorize the proper officers of the District to make, execute and deliver in the name of and on behalf of the District such notes, bonds and other evidence of indebtedness as the Board should deem proper.
 - (b) The Board shall have full power to mortgage the property of the District, or any part thereof, as security for such indebtedness, and no action on the part of the membership of the District shall be requisite to the validity of any such note, bond, evidence of indebtedness or mortgage.

9.7 Annual Budgetary Responsibilities

- 9.7.1 The Board of Directors shall establish the annual District budget.
- 9.7.2 The Board of Directors shall establish the salary of the District President on an annual basis.

9.8 District Corporate Operations Manual

- 9.8.1 The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain the District's *Corporate Operations Manual* and shall approve appropriate modifications.
- 9.8.2 Only the District in Convention shall have the power to amend the *Corporate Operations Manual* with respect to sections dealing with the election of officers and the Board.
- 9.8.3 Modifications to the *Corporate Operations Manual* approved by the Board to any other sections shall be reported at the next Convention.

10.0 ENGLISH DISTRICT ENDOWMENT FUND

- 10.1 The District shall establish and maintain an endowment fund, providing a stewardship opportunity for congregations and their members and a resource for the support of District and Synod ministries. (The structure and operation of the fund is described in the English District *Corporate Operations Manual*.)

- 10.2 The Board of Directors shall exercise oversight for the English District Endowment Fund (EDEF):
- (a) The Board shall ensure that the EDEF Board of Managers reports on its work at least annually to the Board.
 - (b) The Board shall elect one of its voting members to serve on the EDEF Board of Managers.

11.0 CONFLICTS

- 11.1 No article of the Bylaws of the District shall be valid which conflicts with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.
- 11.2 Any matter, rule or regulation not specifically herein contained in the Bylaws shall be governed by comparable provision in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.

12.0 AMENDMENTS

- 12.1 Changes, additions, and alterations to the Bylaws may be made by Conventions of the District:
- (a) They shall not conflict with the Constitution or Bylaws of the Synod.
 - (b) They shall be separately considered and acted upon by the Board of Directors.
 - (c) They shall be submitted to the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod for review and approval prior to consideration by a District convention.
 - (d) They shall be presented in writing to the District in convention.
 - (e) They shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.
- 12.2 When necessitated by amendments to the Synod Constitution or Bylaws or otherwise expressly directed by a resolution of the Synod in convention, amendments to the District Bylaws may be made by a two-thirds majority of the District Board of Directors. Such amendments shall be drafted by the District Secretary and shall be reviewed in advance by the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod.

RESOLUTION 3-04

(Overture 3-05 and 3-06)

To Restrict Synod Conventions on Sundays

WHEREAS, Our congregations hold services every Sunday morning, and

WHEREAS, God our Father encourages us to sanctify the holy day by hearing God's Word, and

WHEREAS, Synod Conventions are a wonderful time for delegates to learn about the congregations in the vicinity of the Convention and for area congregations to learn more about Synod and be supported by their fellow Missouri Synod Lutherans, therefore be it

Resolved, That Synod Conventions be not scheduled in session on Sundays before 2:00 p.m., and be it finally

Resolved, That Convention delegates be encouraged to visit the LCMS congregations in the region of the Convention.

RESOLUTION 3-05

To Amend the Articles of Incorporation of the English District

WHEREAS, The English District is incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in the State of Illinois; and
WHEREAS, Section 110.20 of the State of Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986 states how not-for-profit corporations can amend their articles of incorporation:

Sec. 110.20. Amendments by Directors and Members. Where a corporation has members entitled to vote on amendments, one or more amendments shall be adopted in the following manner:

(a) The board of directors shall adopt a resolution setting forth the proposed amendment and directing that it be submitted to a vote at a meeting of members entitled to vote on amendments which may be either an annual or a special meeting;

(b) Written or printed notice setting forth the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be effected thereby shall be given to each member entitled to vote on amendments at such meeting within the time and in the manner provided in this Act for the giving of notice of meetings of members. If such meeting be an annual meeting, the proposed amendment, or a summary as aforesaid, may be included in the notice of such annual meeting;

(c) At such meeting, at which there is a quorum of members, a vote of the members entitled to vote on the proposed amendment shall be taken. The proposed amendment shall be adopted by receiving the affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of the votes present and voted either in person or by proxy, unless any class of members is entitled to vote as a class in respect thereof, in which event the proposed amendment shall be adopted by receiving the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes of the class present and voted either in person or by proxy;

(d) The articles of incorporation or the bylaws of a corporation may supersede the two-thirds vote requirement of subsection (c) by specifying any smaller or larger vote requirement not less than a majority of the votes which members entitled to vote on such amendment shall vote, either in person or by proxy, at a meeting at which there is a quorum.

; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in its 2016 convention adopted Resolution 9-02A regarding the Articles of Incorporation of the Districts of the LCMS, and also amended the Synod's Bylaws, adding Bylaw 1.5.3.6:

Notwithstanding anything in the Bylaws to the contrary, the Articles of Incorporation or other governing documents of each agency shall provide:

(a) That all provisions of its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the Synod in convention; and

(b) That in the event of dissolution other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of such agency, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, as follows:

(1) In the case of a synodwide corporate entity, district, university, college, or seminary, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as may be more specifically described elsewhere in these Bylaws;

(2) In the case of a corporation formed by an agency (as defined in these Bylaws), to the agency that formed the dissolving corporation, or if such forming agency is not then in existence, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod itself.

An agency may submit any concerns related to the inclusion of subsections (a) or (b) in its governing documents to the Board of Directors of the Synod, and the Board of Directors may determine to permit the removal or modification of these provisions for an affected agency.

; and

WHEREAS, The Articles of Incorporation of the English District must comply with both the Bylaws of the Synod and the civil law of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the English District has adopted a resolution that sets forth proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation of the English District meet those requirements; therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District in Convention amend its Articles of Incorporation to read as follows:

Article 1 — Name

The name of this corporation shall be “The English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.”

Article 2 — Purposes

- a. This corporation shall be a religious not-for-profit corporation.
- b. The purposes of the corporation are:
 - 1. To unify in a corporate body the congregations, pastors, and commissioned ministers who are members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod rostered with the English District.
 - 2. To carry out with the resources of the English District the objectives of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws of said Synod.
- c. This corporation is not a condominium association under the Condominium Property Act, a Cooperative Housing Corporation as defined in Section 216 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or a Homeowner’s Association which administers a common-interest community as defined in subsection (c) of Section 9-102 of the code of Civil Procedure.

Article 3 — Membership and Directors

- a. The membership of this corporation is the congregations, and the ordained and commissioned ministers of religion of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod rostered with the English District. The power of this corporation shall be lodged with the accredited pastoral and lay delegates of those same congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod which are rostered with the English District.
- b. The Board of Directors of the corporation shall be comprised of the President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, and the Treasurer of this corporation, and such additional directors who shall be elected from time to time in accordance with the Bylaws of this corporation.

Article 4 — Meetings

This corporation shall have general meetings in the years prescribed by the HANDBOOK of Synod. Special meetings may be called in such manner as may be provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Article 5 — Officers

- a. The officers of this corporation shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents as specified by the bylaws of this corporation, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- b. The officers and members of the Board of Directors shall be elected at the general meetings of the corporation for such terms as shall be specified by the Bylaws of this corporation and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and have qualified.

Article 6 — Property

This corporation shall have power to acquire by gift, grants, demise, devise, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, property of every kind and description, real, personal, or mixed; to hold and use such property and deal with, or dispose of, any or all such property by sale, exchange, or gift, when necessary or expedient to carry out the objectives and purposes of the corporation; provided that all such property shall be acquired, dealt with, or disposed of in a manner not in conflict with the laws of the State of Illinois or the laws of any State in which said property is located.

Article 7 — Constitution and Bylaws

- a. The Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is also the Constitution of this corporation.
- b. The Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall primarily be the Bylaws of this corporation. This corporation may adopt additional bylaws that are not in conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod.
- c. All provisions of these Articles of Incorporation and associated Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention.

Article 8 — Dissolution

- a. In the event this corporation is dissolved or its existence otherwise terminates or is terminated, all of its assets, minus its liabilities, shall be transferred to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
- b. If, however, on the date of such proposed dissolution, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, is no longer in existence, the assets of the corporation may be distributed to any other Section 501(c)(3) organization as designated by the Board of Directors.

Article 9 — Amendments

Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be made at any time at a regularly called meeting of this corporation by a majority of the voting delegates present at such meeting, provided such amendments are not inconsistent with the Constitution or the laws of the United States or the State of Illinois or the Constitution or Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and with prior approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters of said Synod.

RESOLUTION 4-01A

To Memorialize the LCMS to Have the Next Available Convention of Synod in Detroit, Michigan

WHEREAS, Detroit, Michigan, has not hosted a Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod since 1965; and,

WHEREAS, Since the Pittsburgh Convention in 1992 Synod has deemed it wise to move the triennial Convention of Synod to various cities across the United States, assuming competitive rates for hotels, travel, and convention sites, and thus helping create a deeper appreciation for our Synod and her faithful, biblical, doctrinal stances, confession, and practices; and,

WHEREAS, The Detroit metropolitan area has an historically large LCMS population and has notable historic congregations, cemeteries, and history, as well as nearby Concordia University-Ann Arbor, and is a major international airport and a hub of Delta Air Lines; and,

WHEREAS, Bylaw 3.1.9(j) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod states that “A district may submit an invitation to host the convention. In such case, a host group shall determine the minimum requirements from the convention manager, agree to provide any needed local support, and submit a proposal to the Board of Directors of the Synod for evaluation and consideration;” and,

WHEREAS, The Michigan District and English District have headquarter buildings in the nearby area, and our partner synod, The Lutheran Church-Canada, has a concentration of congregations in Ontario and just across the Detroit River in Windsor and nearby counties; and,

WHEREAS, The Michigan and English Districts could team together in hosting the Convention; and,

WHEREAS, Significant Lutheran heritage and sight-seeing is available in relatively-close Frankenmuth, Michigan, as well as in Dearborn (Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village) and other cultural and sports amenities; and,

WHEREAS, The Detroit metro area is a huge mission field, a highly multi-ethnic milieu, and one of the largest Black concentrations in the nation at a time when it would be wise for the LCMS to show her support of the Black community, in particular; and,

WHEREAS, The Detroit metro area is also home to a huge mission field of Arabic and Islamic peoples who need to hear the Gospel of life and salvation in Jesus Christ; and,

WHEREAS, The Detroit area congregations, schools, pastors, and church workers have demonstrated a high level of confessional witness and missionary support (one of the OIM Regional Director families is from Windsor, ON, and a member of a Detroit congregation); therefore, be it

Resolved, That the English District, together with the Michigan District, determine to act as host by determining the minimum requirements from the convention manager, agreeing to provide any needed local support, and submitting a proposal to the Board of Directors of the Synod and be it further

Resolved, that upon consultation and approval from the Board of Directors of the Synod, the English District, together with the Michigan District, invite the next available Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to Detroit, Michigan after the 2023 Synod Convention.

RESOLUTION 4-02A

**To Recognize and Thank the LCMS for the Strengthened and Expanded
“Soldiers of the Cross” COVID-19 Response Initiative**

WHEREAS, The Pandemic of 2020 shuttered schools in the middle of the school year, furloughed workers and caused others to pivot towards a digital presence for which they were unprepared; and

WHEREAS, Many of our teachers and school workers were without the additional tuition or budget income needed to support the immediate response to the transition and additional regulations that were placed upon them through the Centers for Disease Control and the Executive orders of local, state, and national government; and

WHEREAS, The need for compassionate support and financial assistance was great; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) worked together to identify funds for immediate assistance for all who served in Lutheran ministries; and

WHEREAS, Many of our school and child development workers who were both rostered and lay benefited tremendously from this generous act of compassion; and

WHEREAS, As of August 2021 more than \$1,577,835 was awarded to 939 workers; and

WHEREAS, This support has been even further extended and is still ongoing; therefore be it

Resolved, That on behalf of the workers of our Lutheran churches, schools, and centers, the English District in Convention publicly thank God for the generosity of His people, the LCMS and the LCEF for supporting all who serve in our schools and child care centers.

RESOLUTION 4-03A

**To Direct LCMS Life Ministry to Support Congregations in Developing
Mercy Ministries to Promote a Culture of Life**

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has long supported the pro-life movement, both politically and culturally; and

WHEREAS, A one-million dollar grant has been established by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod available as matching funds for congregations to support local life issues; and

WHEREAS, There are many pro-life organizations whose primary purpose is to inform people on pro-life issues and engage them in the political process; and

WHEREAS, The duplication of these services wastes precious time and resources; and

WHEREAS, Establishing a culture of life begins in our churches and communities; therefore be it

Resolved, That the English District in convention memorialize Synod that the Life Ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod continue to support congregations in establishing new mercy ministries that support a culture of life; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District in convention memorialize Synod that the Life Ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod continue to establish support and training material for the aforementioned to write grants and support their efforts; and be it further

Resolved, That the English District in convention memorialize Synod to extend life ministries, support, and training materials, including but not limited to production of policy manuals, grant writing instruction, guidance to life ministry agencies, encouragement to access grants from allied institutions, and maintaining LifeLine as a resource for life and mercy ministries.

JUBILARIANS – ORDAINED

Ordination/Colloquy Anniversary

25 years (1994, 1995, 1996, 1997)

The Rev. Peter A. Bauernfeind
The Rev. John H. Diener
The Rev. John T. Kelling
The Rev. Eric R. Linthicum
The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus
The Rev. Dr. R. Wayne Morton
The Rev. Steven J. Okpiz
The Rev. Jonathan B. Sachs
The Rev. Raymond W. Scholle
The Rev. Robert J. Stevens
The Rev. Charles E. Varsogea
The Rev. Nicholas D. Wirtz

30 years (1989, 1990, 1991, 1992)

The Rev. David C. Adams
The Rev. Thomas E. Engler
The Rev. Eric C. Forss
The Rev. James A. Gau
The Rev. Henry V. Gerike
The Rev. Mel H. Graham
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth
The Rev. Timothy A. Holzerland
The Rev. Daniel L. Jansen
The Rev. Dale W. Kaster
The Rev. Wallace J. Kimari
The Rev. Gregory S. Musolf
The Rev. Steven J. H. Resner
The Rev. Robert A. Rogers
The Rev. Travis J. Schmidt
The Rev. Dr. David R. Schmitt
The Rev. Keith A. Speaks
The Rev. Dr. Douglas H. Spittel

35 years (1984, 1985, 1986, 1987)

The Rev. Stephen C. Alles
The Rev. Wayne C. Berkesch
The Rev. William Douthwaite, III
The Rev. Steven J. Duescher
The Rev. Ben C. Eder
The Rev. Daniel R. Haberkost
The Rev. Patrick D. Henry
The Rev. J. Derek Mathers
The Rev. Bradford C. Maxon
The Rev. Karl E. Schmidt
The Rev. Dr. Jonathan E. Shaw
The Rev. Steven E. Sutterer
The Rev. David S. Tannahill
The Rev. Michael S. Taylor
The Rev. Donald E. Treglown
The Rev. Robert E. Voelker
The Rev. Clarence J. Wright, Sr.

40 years (1979, 1980, 1981, 1982)

The Rev. Dr. Frederic W. Baue
The Rev. Thomas P. Braun
The Rev. Kevin P. Elseroad
The Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke
The Rev. Kenneth J. Kramer
The Rev. Peter Ledic
The Rev. Allen D. Lunneberg
The Rev. Prentice D. Marsh
The Rev. Dr. Elwood E. Mather, III
The Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Naumann
The Rev. Kevin K. Saylor
The Rev. George D. Schaetzle
The Rev. Robert W. Tauscher
The Rev. David L. Thiele
The Rev. Dr. Larry M. Vogel

45 years (1974, 1975, 1976, 1977)

The Rev. Robert A. Dargatz
The Rev. Luther P. Esala
The Rev. Joel M. Holls
The Rev. David R. Liefeld
The Rev. Paul R. Schmidlin
The Rev. Norman A. Timmermann

50 years (1969, 1970, 1971, 1972)

The Rev. Jeffrey O. Anderson
The Rev. Dr. David A. Dressel
The Rev. Dr. Roger C. Ellis
The Rev. Dr. Robert L. Fitzpatrick
The Rev. Dr. John M. Goerss
The Rev. Paul J. H. Haberstock
The Rev. Raymond V. Kirk
The Rev. Paul R. Koester
The Rev. Dr. Garry D. McClure
The Rev. Edward F. Radke
The Rev. Dr. David H. Ritt
The Rev. Dr. John W. Stieve
The Rev. John A. Strohschein
The Rev. Roger R. Stuenkel
The Rev. Dr. Dusan Toth
The Rev. Mark L. Viets

55 years (1964, 1965, 1966, 1967)

The Rev. Dr. Paul E. Bacon
The Rev. Norman A. Bumby
The Rev. Robert F. Burke
The Rev. Paul H. Dorr
The Rev. Michael P. Drews
The Rev. Richard L. Ingmire
The Rev. Dr. Keith L. Johnson
The Rev. Charles D. Lentner
The Rev. Larry L. Leuthaeuser
The Rev. Neville Mirtschin
The Rev. Theodore G. Predoehl
The Rev. Myron K. Prok
The Rev. Dr. Vernon L. Schindler
The Rev. Paul R. Sutterer
The Rev. Charles A. Weinrich
The Rev. Dr. David J. Zersen

60 years (1959, 1960, 1961, 1962)

The Rev. Hans O. Andrae
The Rev. Dr. Richard D. Drews
The Rev. Dr. Simon S. C. Johann
The Rev. Dr. Peter E. Mealwitz
The Rev. William E. Meier
The Rev. Joseph Molitoris
The Rev. William Naumann
The Rev. Richard W. Patt
The Rev. Arthur C. Repp, Jr.
The Rev. Dr. Daniel G. Reuning
The Rev. Dr. Louis N. Scholl
The Rev. Dr. David T. Stein
The Rev. Dr. Arthur R. Stennett
The Rev. C. David Stuckmeyer

65 years (1954, 1955, 1956, 1957)

The Rev. Howard E. Claycombe, Jr.
The Rev. Robert F. Mayer
The Rev. Raymond W. Wypich

70 years (1949, 1950, 1951, 1952)

The Rev. Dr. Daniel Pourchot

JUBILARIANS – COMMISSIONED

Graduation Anniversary

25 years (1994, 1995, 1996, 1997)

Mrs. Deborah L. Farrar
Mrs. Teresa L. Hansen
Ms. Elaine E. Mills
Mrs. Christina D. Peterson
Mrs. Cheryl L. Poppe
Ms. Susan M. Predoehl
Mr. Donald R. Rau
Ms. Tara L. Ruehs
Mr. Rolf M. Zersen

30 years (1989, 1990, 1991, 1992)

Mr. Larry J. Arnold
Mr. Thomas K. Guilford
Mr. Hugh H. McMartin
Ms. Kristine R. Rohm
Mrs. Sandra J. Wehmeier

35 years (1984, 1985, 1986, 1987)

Mrs. Judith A. Behlke
Mrs. Charlene E. Bruggemann-Wong
Mrs. Margaret A. Finley
Mrs. Grace M. Gallmann
Mr. Paul F. Gohde
Mr. Jonathan P. Hilmer
Mr. Daniel V. Holt
Mr. Frederick R. Jacob
Mrs. Karla K. Rendahl
Mrs. Carol E. Slettvedt
Ms. Marilyn L. Stroik
Mrs. Catherine A. Summerset
Mrs. Patricia A. Zanta

40 years (1979, 1980, 1981, 1982)

Mr. Albert J. Amling, III
Mrs. Phyllis J. Ellis
Mr. Timothy S. Franz
Mr. David M. Funke
Ms. Ann M. Greinke
Mrs. Darla J. Gremel
Mr. Robert W. Kaun, Jr.
Mr. Craig E. Mellendorf
Mr. Douglas S. Mertz
Mrs. Victoria L. Mertz
Mrs. Susan E. Monfre
Mr. Randy L. Potts
Mrs. Laurie J. Steinke
Mrs. Mary Beth Terhaar
Mr. Keith L. Vieregge

45 years (1974, 1975, 1976, 1977)

Mrs. Mary Ann Berkesch
Mrs. Ruth R. Hempel
Mr. Carl E. Hoppe
Mr. Dwayne D. Jobst
Mrs. Ann E. Jobst
Mrs. Stephanie R. Kelling
Ms. Diane L. Kosmala
Mrs. Gloria M. Lawrence
Mr. Douglas W. Markworth
Mrs. JoAn L. Markworth
Mrs. Paula K. Mueller
Mrs. Kathy E. Slupik
Mrs. Janet L. Stechholz
Ms. Nancy J. Tagge

50 years (1969, 1970, 1971, 1972)

Mrs. Michele A. Boyer
Mrs. Mary Jo Fischl
Mr. James M. Harbke
Mr. Albert L. Kahlfeldt
Mr. Randy B. Schallhorn
Mrs. Valjean A. Schallhorn
Mrs. Linda L. Scheurman
Mrs. Joan K. Schlehlein
Mr. Bruce L. Voeltz

55 years (1964, 1965, 1966, 1967)

Mr. Martin C. Duchow
Mr. Carl S. Eisman
Mrs. Rozanne M. Heinzel
Mrs. Marilyn R. McClure
Mr. Leslie R. W. Morris
Miss Sharon K. Nobis
Mr. Kenneth J. Oerkfitz
Mrs. Ruth A. Paschal
Mrs. Susan A. Stults
Mr. Donald F. Wachholz

60 years (1959, 1960, 1961, 1962)

Mrs. Marian F. Brockhoff
Mr. Robert J. Clegg
Mrs. Sandra J. Kollmorgen
Mr. Rex T. Kollmorgen
Mr. Milo D. Lombard
Mrs. Belva J. Schindler
Mr. John W. Speckhard
Ms. Ruth E. Stresow
Mr. Gerald J. Warmbier
Mr. Hilbert W. Wiedenkiller

65 years (1954, 1955, 1956, 1957)

Mr. Russell C. Krecklow

CALLED TO GLORY

ORDAINED

AUFDENKAMPE, Rev. Charles R., 12-18-2021
BEUTEL, Rev. David A., 4-5-2019
BRIGGS, Rev. Ronald J., 6-12-2019
BROCKHOFF, Rev. Robert A., 5-30-2019
BURCH, Rev. Don E., 3-16-2022
EGGOLD, Rev. Paul H., 9-28-2020
EVANSON, Rev. Dr. Charles J., 10-14-2018
FABRY, Rev. Dr. Joseph P., 3-28-2021
HAHN, Rev. Dr. Ernest N., 12-26-2021
HALBOTH, Rev. Dr. Victor F., 11-18-2018
JANSSEN, Rev. Arlo T., 5-3-2020
JURKOVIC, Rev. Daniel G., 10-30-2018

KAVASCH, Rev. Robert W., 11-18-2018
KNIPPEL, Rev. Dr. Charles T., 7-23-2018
KREUTZ, Rev. Eugene W., 8-6-2018
KRUECKEBERG, Rev. David E., 4-20-2020
LAPP, Rev. Orlen W., 4-15-2018
MADER, Rev. Myron G., 1-3-2021
PITTELKO, Rev. Dr. Roger D., 11-12-2020
SCHIEMANN, Rev. Arthur W., 10-22-2018
STEINKE, Rev. Mark A., 9-15-2021
STEVENS, Rev. David J., 10-11-2020
VAN DER BLOEMEN, Rev. Thomas G., 8-3-2020

COMMISSIONED

BAUER, Mr. Donald W., 3-17-2021
FIELDS, Mrs. Sandra C., 10-16-2020
FREDEL, Mr. John R., 8-14-2021
HAY, Mrs. Donna D., 3-3-2021

PITTELKO, Mrs. Beverly M., 11-30-2020
RAWLINGS, Mrs. Emily K., 5-12-2021
SCHULTZ, Mr. Dennis N., 7-8-2012
SODEMANN, Mrs. Betty J., 1-27-2019