

**THE FIFTY-EIGHTH CONVENTION**

**ENGLISH DISTRICT**

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**



*Living Our Baptized Life in Christ*

**CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS**

June 26-28, 2025  
Concordia University  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

The logo for the 58th Regular Convention of the English District Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod was designed by Linda Linthicum.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Officers, Staff, Boards and Committees .....                             | 1  |
| English District Congregations .....                                     | 4  |
| Registered Delegates and Representatives .....                           | 6  |
| Convention Committees .....  | 12 |
| Convention Schedule .....  | 13 |
| Convention Minutes .....   | 15 |
| Slate of Nominees/Election Results .....                                 | 42 |
| Standing Rules .....   | 46 |
| Newly Elected/Appointed (Officers, Staff, Boards and<br>Committees)..... | 48 |
| English District Bylaws.....   | 51 |
| Convention Resolutions .....   | 63 |
| Jubilarians .....  | 89 |
| Entered Eternal Glory .....  | 91 |

## OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

2022-2025

English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                             |                                |                               |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Rev. Todd Arnold        | DCE Rod Lane                   | Mrs. Sally Naglich            |
| Mr. Chris Cassel            | The Rev. Justin Laughridge     | The Rev. Robert Rogers        |
| Ms. Carol George            | Mr. Terry Leu                  | Mr. Jim Thielen (Canada Corp) |
| Mr. Thomas Habitz           | The Rev. Zachary Marklevitz    | Mr. Keith Vieregge            |
| Mr. Tom Honebrink           | The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus        | Mrs. Kristin Wellik           |
| The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky | The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | The Rev. Luke Zimmerman       |

### OFFICERS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus                            | 33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030    |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Robert A. Rogers         | 300 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181-2614 |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Morehouse | 15855 N Twin Lakes Drive, Tucson, AZ 85739-8895  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Zachary W. Marklevitz    | 150 50th Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49548-5636       |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky       | 25 Scenic Road, Springfield, PA 19064-1951       |
| <b>SECRETARY:</b> The Rev. Luke T. Zimmerman                            | 208 Woods Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2634    |
| <b>TREASURER:</b> 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. 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. David Walsh                  | Milwaukee #17: The Rev. Frederic Reaman       |
| Pittsburgh #6: The Rev. Justin Schmidt            | St. Louis #18: The Rev. Jonathan Gruen        |
| Canada-East #7: The Rev. Gerald Luck              | 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      | Texas/Nevada #21: The Rev. Stanley Lacey      |
| Cleveland-West #10: The Rev. Robert Weldon Sr.    | San Diego #22: The Rev. James Huenink         |
| Detroit-South #11: The Rev. Bradford Scott        | Los Angeles #23: The Rev. Titus Utecht        |
| Detroit-North #12: The Rev. Timothy Holzerland    | 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        | Treasurer / Executive Assistant to the President - Business & Finance        |
| Mr. Ronald Grimm          | LCMS Foundation Planned Giving Counselor                                     |
| Mr. John Hoover           | LCEF Vice President  |
| Mrs. Kathryn Stanis       | Administrative Assistant to the Bishop / President                           |
| Mrs. Peggy Oke            | Administrative Assistant – Business & Finance                                |
| Ms. Natalya Hrecznyj      | Accounting Assistant   |
| Mrs. Linda Linthicum      | 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. 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. Jeffrey Miskus |
| 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. Matthias Benfey, The Rev. Scott Benjamin, The Rev. Jacob Deal, The Rev. Marc DiConti, The Rev. Dr. David Dressel\*, The Rev. Curtis Dwyer, The Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt, The Rev. Justin Laughridge, Mrs. Augusta Mennell, The Rev. Christopher Nuttelman, The Rev. James Robinson, The Rev. Bradley Scott, The Rev. M. Todd Zill

### **CONSTITUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP #**

The Rev. Peter Bauernfeind, The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. Luke Zimmerman\*

### **DISTRICT ARCHIVIST**

The Rev. Dr. David Stechholz

### **EVANGELISM TEAM**

The Rev. J. Derek Mathers, The Rev. Brian Pratt\*

### **LIFELINE**

Dr. Roni Grad\*, The Rev. Daniel Greg, The Rev. Douglas Hoag, Mr. Glenn Kahle, Mr. Dave Lambert, Deaconess Jennifer Miller, The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein

### **MINISTERIAL HEALTH**

The Rev. Brian Crane, The Rev. Paul Habersstock, Deac. Barbara Hemme, The Rev. Timothy Holzerland\*, Ms. Marianne Jackson, The Rev. Dr. Christian Just, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers\*, The Rev. Greg Michel, Ms. Susan Neff, The Rev. Justin Schmidt, The Rev. Steven Sutterer

### **MISSION ACTION TEAM**

Mr. Ian Farquharson, Ms. Linda Gilbertson, The Rev. Justin Laughridge\*, The Rev. Gerald Luck, Mr. Gordon Marquette, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers, The Rev. Fred Reaman, The Rev. Titus Utecht

### **RECONCILERS #**

Mr. Richard Crain, The Rev. Philip Gai, Mr. Charles Porter, The Rev. David Young

### **STEWARDSHIP**

The Rev. Michael Scheer\*

### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Ryan Beffrey\*, The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein

\*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. Benjamin Ball  
6969 W Frontage Rd., Worden, IL 62097  
Third Vice President: The Rev. Dr. Scott Murray  
5800 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77057  
Fourth Vice President: The Rev. Nabil Nour  
46448 263rd St, Hartford, SD, 57033  
Fifth Vice President: The Rev. Christopher Esget  
1801 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Sixth Vice President: The Rev. Dr. John Wohlrabe, Jr.  
3832 S. Lake Dr., Saint Francis, WI 53235  
Secretary: The Rev. Dr. John Sias  
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122  
Chief Administrative Officer: Mr. Felix Loc  
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Nathan Haak  
Chief Mission Officer: The Rev. Kevin Robson

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Officers:* Mr. Christian Preus, Chairman; Mr. Andrew Grams, Vice-Chairman; The Rev. John Sias, Secretary

*Ordained Members:* The Rev. Roger Gallup, The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, The Rev. Josemon Hoem, The Rev. John Sias

*Commissioned Member:* Dr. Jan Lohmeyer

*Lay Members:* Mr. Andrew Grams, Mr. Larry Harrington, Mr. Leo MacKay Jr., Mr. Christian Preus, Mr. Rick Stathakis, Mr. K. Allan Voss, Dr. Jesse Yow

*Non-Voting Members:* The Rev. Peter Lange

*Advisory:* Mr. Nathan Haak, Mr. Felix Loc, Rev. Kevin Robson

*Legal Counsel:* UB Greensfelder LLP

## ENGLISH DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS AND MINISTRIES by Regions and Circuits

### **EASTERN REGION**

#### **New York Circuit #1**

Ewing, NJ: Bethany - Served by Alexander  
Flushing, NY: Immanuel - Lee  
Palisades Park, NJ: Grace - Bauernfeind  
Palisades Park, NJ: Cho Won - Rey  
Pennsauken, NJ: Martin Luther Chapel - Gray  
Princeton, NJ: Messiah (CM) - Erhardt  
Scarsdale, NY: Trinity - **Stephens**  
St. Albans, NY: Redeemer - Hicks  
Valley Stream, NY: Our Saviour - Thiagarajan

#### **Philadelphia Circuit #2**

Alexandria, VA: Immanuel - Esget / Hoham / Spittel  
Blue Bell, PA: Gloria Dei - Young  
Chincoteague, VA: St. Luke's (S) - Served by Spittel  
Lititz, PA: Mt. Calvary - **Seifferlein**  
Mechanicsburg, PA: Calvary - Zimmerman  
Philadelphia, PA: Logos (S) - Kieselowsky  
Philadelphia, PA: Rehoboth Afaan Oromo - Vacant  
Springfield, PA: St. John's - Kieselowsky  
Warminster, PA: Grace - Young

***\*NOTE: Circuits 1,2, & 5 comprise 1 electoral circuit***

#### **Florida Circuit #3**

Inverness, FL: Tree of Life - **Linthicum**  
Naples, FL: Faith - Treglown / Hildebrandt / Duncan  
Ocala, FL: Trinity - Howe  
Palm Coast, FL: Shep/Coast - Michel  
St. John's, FL: Celebration - Vacant

#### **Georgia Circuit #4**

Alpharetta, GA: Christ/Shepherd - Elseroad / **Sterling**  
Atlanta, GA: Ascension - Miller

***\*NOTE: Circuits 3, 4 & 6 comprise 1 electoral circuit***

#### **Buffalo Circuit #5**

Albion, PA: Holy Trinity - Taylor  
Amherst, NY: Calvary - Served by K. Schmidt  
Erie, PA: Trinity - T. Schmidt  
Kenmore, NY: Pilgrim - **Walsh**  
North Tonawanda, NY: Redeemer - Served by M. Dobler\*  
Syracuse, NY: Hope - Vacant

#### **Pittsburgh Circuit #6**

Bridgeport, WV: St. John's - Harrison  
Hazelwood, PA: Holy Cross (S) - Served by Janssen  
McMurray, PA: Peace - **J. Schmidt**  
Oakmont, PA: Redeemer - Koontz  
Pittsburgh, PA: First Trinity (CM) - Andrae / Janssen  
Slippery Rock, PA: All Saints (CM) - Served by J. Deal\*

### **LAKE ERIE REGION**

#### **Canada East Circuit #7**

Aurora, ON: Christ - Served by Park  
Fullarton, ON: **Luck**  
Golden Lake, ON: St. John's (Germanicus) - Douglas  
Mississauga, ON: St. Mark - Gai / Benfey / Mathers  
North York, ON: St. Luke - Laughridge / Park / Lutz / Tillinger  
Pembroke, ON: St. John's - Alles  
Scarborough, ON: St. Matthew - Pillay

### **LAKE ERIE REGION-cont.**

#### **Canada West Circuit #8**

Chatham, ON: Our Saviour - Served by P. Pollex\*  
Kingsville, ON: First - Vacant  
Kitchener, ON: Hope - Vacant  
Mitchell, ON: Grace - Andersen  
Sarnia, ON: Redeemer - LaMay  
Windsor, ON: Gethsemane - Simon  
Windsor, ON: Peace - **Leistico**

***\*NOTE: Circuits 7 & 8 comprise 1 electoral circuit***

#### **Cleveland Circuit #9**

Akron, OH: Concordia - Served by J. Voelker\*  
Cleveland, OH: Holy Cross -  
Cleveland, OH: Iglesia Cristiana Hispana (HC) - Vacant  
Elyria, OH: Grace - **Weldon** / Mertz  
Fairlawn, OH: Fairlawn - Gau  
Medina, OH: Prince/Peace - Vacant  
North Olmsted, OH: Ascension - Ulm  
North Royalton, OH: Our Savior - McCall  
Oberlin, OH: Grace (CM) - Served by Weldon  
Streetsboro, OH: St. Thomas - Martzowka

#### **Detroit-South Circuit #10**

Allen Park, MI: Angelica - Vacant  
Allen Park, MI: Christ Our Redeemer - Holls  
Detroit, MI: Zion - Braden  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI: Christ the King - Spangler  
Plymouth, MI: Risen Christ - Kaufmann  
Sylvania, OH: King of Glory - Schmidlin  
Toledo, OH: Good Shepherd - **Scott**

#### **Detroit-North Circuit #11**

Beverly Hills, MI: Ascension/Christ - Loree Jr.  
Redford, MI: Grace - Halboth  
Saint Clair Shores, MI: Redeemer - Vacant  
Saint Clair Shores, MI: St. Paul's - Cornwell  
Sandusky, MI: Holy Redeemer - Served by M. Allen\*  
Shelby Township, MI: Epic - Hile  
West Bloomfield, MI: Shepherd King - **Holzerland**  
West Branch, MI: New Beginnings - Jansen

***\*NOTE: Circuits 10 & 11 comprise 1 electoral circuit***

#### **Western Michigan Circuit #12**

Bellaire, MI: Hope - W. Seaver  
Dorr, MI: Epiphany - Beffrey  
East Lansing, MI: Martin Luther Chapel (CM) - Dwyer / Robinson  
Grand Rapids, MI: Hope - Nuttelman  
Hartland, MI: Our Savior - Thoma / Hardy / Scheer  
Howell, MI: Immanuel - Forss  
Lakeview, MI: Holy Trinity - **Sabol**  
Marshall, MI: Agnus Dei - Burfeind  
West Olive, MI: Christ - Served by Nuttelman  
Wyoming, MI: Grace - Marklevitz

#### **Indiana Circuit #13**

Fort Wayne, IN: Bethany - Trouten  
Fort Wayne, IN: Redeemer - Petersen / **Barnett**  
Fort Wayne, IN: Jacob's Well - Adams  
Fremont, IN: Peace - Teeple / Rudolph  
Hudson, IN: Prince/Peace - Pratt  
LaPorte, IN: Trinity - Served by R. Ungrodt\*  
Zionsville, IN: Advent - Mackay / Schultz

***\*NOTE: Circuits 12 & 13 comprise 1 electoral circuit***

## **MIDWEST REGION**

### **Chicago-South Circuit #14**

Berwyn, IL: Concordia - Kolupa  
Chicago, IL: Chatham Fields - Kinslow  
Chicago, IL: Ephphatha - Marsh  
Chicago, IL: Faith - Vacant  
Chicago, IL: St. John/Divine - Vacant  
Elmhurst, IL: Messiah - Maxon  
Markham, IL: Markham - Schneekloth  
New Lenox, IL: Trinity - Hoag

### **Chicago-North Circuit #15**

Arlington Heights, IL: Faith - Vacant  
Chicago, IL: Bethany - Served by S. Baldauf\*  
Chicago, IL: Bethesda - Bacon / Katari / Bingue  
Chicago, IL: Christ English - Wright  
Chicago, IL: Grace English - Served by F. Gomez\*  
Elk Grove Village, IL: Holy Spirit - Vacant  
Elmhurst, IL: Redeemer - Oliphant  
Villa Park, IL: Trinity - Rogers

**\*NOTE: Circuits 14 & 15 comprise 1 electoral circuit**

### **Milwaukee Circuit #16**

Forest Lake, MN: Messiah - Musolf  
Hales Corners, WI: Hales Corners - Jameson / Liefer / Wood / Hickey / Kogutkiewicz  
Hastings, MN: Hope - Boudreau  
Janesville, WI: St. Mark - Vacant  
Lake Mills, WI: Christ - Dukovan  
Menomonee Falls, WI: Prince/Peace - Engler  
New Berlin, WI: Peace - Kruse  
Sheboygan, WI: St. Mark - Werner  
Watertown, WI: Faith - Hoeppner  
West Allis, WI: Greenfield Park - Reaman

### **St. Louis Circuit #17**

Hannibal, MO: St. John's - Carlson  
Lee's Summit, MO: Beautiful Savior - Gruen / Burmeister  
Lincoln, NE: Redeemer - Bobby  
St. Louis, MO: Chapel/Cross - Laesch Jr. / Glenn  
Vine Grove, KY: Grace - Lackey

## **WESTERN REGION**

### **Texas Circuit #18**

Magnolia, TX: St. Thomas - Lacey  
Paris, TX: St. Paul - Byrd

**\*NOTE: Circuits 17 & 18 comprise 1 electoral circuit**

\*Indicates a pastor rostered in another district

## **WESTERN REGION-cont.**

### **Arizona-North Circuit #19**

Gold Canyon, AZ: Shepherd of the Canyon - Wood  
Mesa, AZ: Eternal Life - Crane / Doughty III  
Mesquite, NV: Prince of Peace - Bruggeman  
Overgaard, AZ: Faith - Schmeltz  
Parker, AZ: Messiah - Served by R. Donahue\*  
Payson, AZ: Shepherd/Pines - Vacant  
Phoenix, AZ: Family/Christ (CM) - Gerlach  
Pinetop, AZ: Shepherd/Mountains - Mathews

### **Arizona-South Circuit #20**

Cortaro, AZ: Messiah - Esala  
Green Valley, AZ: Risen Savior - Arnold / N. Wirtz  
Rio Rico, AZ: Christus Rex - Served by R. Stuenkel  
Sahuarita, AZ: Crosspoint - Hong  
Tucson, AZ: Ascension - Braun / St. John / Martin  
Tucson, AZ: Catalina - Morehouse / von Hindenburg  
Tucson, AZ: Faith (CM) - Served by N. Wirtz  
Tucson, AZ: Holy Trinity - Vacant  
Tucson, AZ: Mt. Olive - I. Wirtz

**\*NOTE: Circuits 19 & 20 comprise 1 electoral circuit**

### **San Diego Circuit #21**

Borrego Springs, CA: Borrego - Matthews  
El Cajon, CA: First - Huenink  
La Mesa, CA: St. Luke's - Menacher

### **Los Angeles Circuit #22**

Long Beach, CA: St. Paul's - Pierson  
Los Angeles, CA: Highland Park - Vacant  
Mission Hills, CA: Chapel/Cross - Naumann / De La Rosa  
Orange, CA: Immanuel - Ring  
Palm Desert, CA: Peace - Bowes  
Sherman Oaks, CA: Sherman Oaks - Utecht

### **Northwest Circuit #23**

Danville, CA: Messiah - Belter  
Ferndale, CA: St. Mark's - Bramwell  
Fremont, CA: Hope - Hulett  
Hayden, ID (CM): Blessed Sacrament - Williams / DiConti  
Moses Lake, WA: Apostolic - Vacant  
San Francisco, CA: New Life - Fox  
San Francisco, CA: West Portal - Binz / Swenson

**\*NOTE: Circuits 21, 22, & 23 comprise 1 electoral circuit**

Campus Ministries (CM)  
Human Care Ministries (HC)  
Mission Starts (MS)  
Satellite (S)  
Circuit Visitor



## 2025 CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATES

|   | <u>PASTOR</u>         | <u>LAYPERSON</u>             |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><u>Circuit #1 - New York</u></b>     |                       |                              |
| Ewing, NJ                               | Bethany               |                              |
| Flushing, NY                            | Immanuel              |                              |
| Palisades Park, NJ                      | Grace                 |                              |
| Palisades Park, NJ                      | New Jersey Chowon     |                              |
| Pennsauken, NJ                          | Martin Luther Chapel  | Jane Duffy                   |
| Princeton, NJ                           | Messiah               | Herb Gishlick                |
| Saint Albans, NY                        | Redeemer              |                              |
| Scarsdale, NY                           | Trinity               | Sandra Coffey                |
| Valley Stream, NY                       | Our Saviour           |                              |
| <b><u>Circuit #2 - Philadelphia</u></b> |                       |                              |
| Alexandria, VA                          | Immanuel              | Rev. Christopher Esget       |
| Blue Bell, PA                           | Gloria Dei            | Andrew Scheck                |
| Lititz, PA                              | Mount Calvary         | Rev. Christopher Seifferlein |
| Mechanicsburg, PA                       | Calvary               | Rev. Luke Zimmerman          |
| Philadelphia, PA                        | Rehoboth Afaan        | Gabriel Edwards              |
| Springfield, PA                         | Saint John            | Karen Appel                  |
| Warminster, PA                          | Grace                 | Rev. Robert Kieselowsky      |
|   |                       | David Carlson                |
| <b><u>Circuit #3 - Florida</u></b>      |                       |                              |
| Inverness, FL                           | Tree of Life          | Rev. Eric Linthicum          |
| Naples, FL                              | Faith                 | Rev. Owen Duncan             |
| Ocala, FL                               | Trinity               | Rev. Danlias Howe            |
| Palm Coast, FL                          | Shepherd of the Coast | Rev. Gregory Michel          |
| Saint John's, FL                        | Celebration           | Cathleen Howe                |
|   |                       | Marsha Asbury                |
| <b><u>Circuit #4 - Georgia</u></b>      |                       |                              |
| Alpharetta, GA                          | Christ the Shepherd   |                              |
| Atlanta, GA                             | Ascension             | Rev. David Miller            |
|   |                       | Will Davis                   |
| <b><u>Circuit #5 - Buffalo</u></b>      |                       |                              |
| Albion, PA                              | Holy Trinity          | Rev. Michael Taylor          |
| Amherst, NY                             | Calvary               |                              |
| Erie, PA                                | Trinity               | Rev. Travis Schmidt          |
| Kenmore, NY                             | Pilgrim               | Rev. David Walsh             |
| North Tonawanda, NY                     | Redeemer              | David Lindenmuth             |
| Syracuse, NY                            | Hope Community        | Carol George                 |
|   |                       | Ed Walsh                     |
| <b><u>Circuit #6 - Pittsburgh</u></b>   |                       |                              |
| Bridgeport, WV                          | Saint John's          | Rev. Christopher Harrison    |
| McMurray, PA                            | Peace                 | Rev. Justin Schmidt          |
| Oakmont, PA                             | Redeemer              | Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz         |
| Pittsburgh, PA                          | First Trinity         | Rev. Benjamin Janssen        |
| Slippery Rock, PA                       | All Saints            | Joseph Solberg               |
|   |                       | Thomas Schell                |
|   |                       | Connor Hagey                 |
|   |                       | Brandon Price                |
|   |                       | Peter Rigney                 |

## 2025 CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATES

|  |                     | <u>PASTOR</u>          | <u>LAYPERSON</u>  |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b><u>Circuit #7 - Canada East</u></b>     |                     |                        |                   |
| Aurora, ON                                 | Christ              |                        | Bob Ernst         |
| Golden Lake, ON                            | Saint John's        |                        |                   |
| Mississauga, ON                            | Saint Mark          | Rev. Philip Gai        | Doug Woods        |
| Pembroke, ON                               | Saint John's        | Rev. Stephen Alles     | Mary Ann Alles    |
| Toronto, ON                                | Saint Luke          | Rev. Justin Laughridge | Ian Farquharson   |
| Toronto, ON                                | Saint Matthew       | Rev. Dereck Pillay     |                   |
| <b><u>Circuit #8 - Canada West</u></b>     |                     |                        |                   |
| Chatham, ON                                | Our Saviour's       |                        |                   |
| Kingsville, ON                             | First               |                        |                   |
| Kitchener, ON                              | Hope                |                        | Glenn Kahle       |
| Mitchell, ON                               | Grace               | Rev. Gerald Andersen   |                   |
| Sarnia, ON                                 | Redeemer            | Rev. Colton LaMay      | Tom Jackson       |
| Windsor, ON                                | Gethsemane          |                        |                   |
| Windsor, ON                                | Peace               | Rev. James Leistico    |                   |
| <b><u>Circuit #9 - Cleveland-Akron</u></b> |                     |                        |                   |
| Akron, OH                                  | Concordia           |                        | Mark Thomas       |
| Fairlawn, OH                               | Fairlawn            |                        |                   |
| North Royalton, OH                         | Our Savior          | Rev. Jonathan McCall   | Charles Parnell   |
| Streetsboro, OH                            | Saint Thomas        | Rev. Blake Martzowka   | Rory Wolff        |
| <b><u>Circuit #10 - Cleveland-West</u></b> |                     |                        |                   |
| Cleveland, OH                              | Holy Cross          |                        |                   |
| Cleveland, OH                              | Iglesia             |                        |                   |
| Elyria, OH                                 | Grace               | Rev. Robert Weldon Sr. | David Darmstadt   |
| Medina, OH                                 | Prince of Peace     | Rev. Jim Bretthauer    | Terry Leu         |
| North Olmsted, OH                          | Ascension           | Rev. Joshua Ulm        | Mark English      |
| Oberlin, OH                                | Grace               |                        |                   |
| <b><u>Circuit #11 - Detroit-South</u></b>  |                     |                        |                   |
| Allen Park, MI                             | Angelica            |                        | Ed Stephens       |
| Allen Park, MI                             | Christ Our Redeemer | Rev. Joel Holls        | Vincent Tobias    |
| Detroit, MI                                | Zion                | Rev. Mark Braden       | Thomas Habitz Jr. |
| Grosse Pointe Woods, MI                    | Christ the King     | Rev. Solomon Spangler  | Edward Fleck      |
| Plymouth, MI                               | Risen Christ        |                        |                   |
| Sylvania, OH                               | King of Glory       |                        |                   |
| Toledo, OH                                 | Good Shepherd       | Rev. Bradford Scott    | LeAnne Scott      |

## 2025 CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATES

|  |                       | <u>PASTOR</u>              | <u>LAYPERSON</u>       |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b><u>Circuit #12 - Detroit-North</u></b>    |                       |                            |                        |
| Beverly Hills, MI                            | Ascension of Christ   | Rev. Larry Loree Jr.       | David Lambert          |
| Redford, MI                                  | Grace                 | Rev. Timothy Halboth       | Michael Spear          |
| Saint Clair Shores, MI                       | Redeemer              |                            |                        |
| Saint Clair Shores, MI                       | Saint Paul's          | Rev. Simeon Cornwell       |                        |
| Sandusky, MI                                 | Holy Redeemer         |                            |                        |
| Shelby Township, MI                          | Epic                  | Rev. John Hile             |                        |
| West Bloomfield, MI                          | Shepherd King         | Rev. Timothy Holzerland    | Anthony Pauza          |
| West Branch, MI                              | New Beginnings        | Rev. Daniel Jansen         | Larry Watson           |
| <b><u>Circuit #13 - Western Michigan</u></b> |                       |                            |                        |
| Bellaire, MI                                 | Hope                  | Rev. Wade Seaver           | Mark Harris            |
| Dorr, MI                                     | Epiphany              | Rev. Ryan Beffrey          | Ashley Beffrey         |
| East Lansing, MI                             | Martin Luther Chapel  | Rev. Curt Dwyer            | Susan Beyerlein        |
| Grand Rapids, MI                             | Hope                  | Rev. Christopher Nuttelman | Andrew Silagi          |
| Hartland, MI                                 | Our Savior            | Rev. Dr. Christopher Thoma | Charles Cole           |
| Howell, MI                                   | Immanuel              | Rev. Eric Forss            | Neal Forss             |
| Lakeview, MI                                 | Holy Trinity          | Rev. Alexander Sabol       |                        |
| Marshall, MI                                 | Agnus Dei             | Rev. Peter Burfeind        | Aidan Quick            |
| West Olive, MI                               | Christ                |                            | Andrew Cureton         |
| Wyoming, MI                                  | Grace                 | Rev. Zachary Marklevitz    | Jeffrey DeYoung        |
| <b><u>Circuit #14 - Indiana</u></b>          |                       |                            |                        |
| Fort Wayne, IN                               | Bethany               | Rev. Chad Trouten          | Ethan Richards         |
| Fort Wayne, IN                               | Redeemer              | Rev. Dr. David Petersen    | Jonathan Busarow       |
| Fort Wayne, IN                               | Jacob's Well          | Rev. David Adams           |                        |
| Fremont, IN                                  | Peace                 | Rev. Jared Rudolph         |                        |
| Hudson, IN                                   | Prince of Peace       |                            |                        |
| La Porte, IN                                 | Trinity               |                            |                        |
| Zionsville, IN                               | Advent                | Rev. Aaron Schultz         | Mark Werling           |
| <b><u>Circuit #15 - Chicago-North</u></b>    |                       |                            |                        |
| Arlington Heights, IL                        | Faith                 |                            | John Coates            |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Bethany               |                            |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Bethesda              | Rev. Dr. Paul Bacon        | Roop Charles           |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Christ English        |                            |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Grace English         |                            |                        |
| Elk Grove Village, IL                        | Holy Spirit           | Rev. Daniel Greg           | Scott Fredrick         |
| Elmhurst, IL                                 | Redeemer              | Rev. Anthony Oliphant      | Daniel Anderson        |
| Villa Park, IL                               | Trinity               | Rev. Robert Rogers         | Bert Dale              |
| <b><u>Circuit #16 - Chicago-South</u></b>    |                       |                            |                        |
| Berwyn, IL                                   | Concordia             |                            |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Chatham Fields        |                            |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Ephphatha             | Rev. Prentice Marsh        |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Faith                 |                            |                        |
| Chicago, IL                                  | Saint John the Divine |                            |                        |
| Elmhurst, IL                                 | Messiah               |                            |                        |
| Markham, IL                                  | Markham               |                            | Bernardine Postlewaite |
| New Lenox, IL                                | Trinity               | Rev. Douglas Hoag          | Timothy King           |

## 2025 CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATES

|   |                           | <u>PASTOR</u>              | <u>LAYPERSON</u>     |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>Circuit #17 - Milwaukee</u></b>     |                           |                            |                      |
| Forest Lake, MN                           | Messiah                   | Rev. Gregory Musolf        |                      |
| Hales Corners, WI                         | Hales Corners             | Rev. Todd Liefer           |                      |
| Hastings, MN                              | Hope                      |                            |                      |
| Janesville, WI                            | Saint Mark                |                            |                      |
| Lake Mills, WI                            | Christ                    |                            |                      |
| Menomonee Falls, WI                       | Prince of Peace           | Rev. Thomas Engler         | Phil Hagedorn        |
| New Berlin, WI                            | Peace                     | Rev. Scott Kruse           | Carol Fontanez       |
| Sheboygan, WI                             | Saint Mark                | Rev. Tyler Werner          | Jeff Leffin          |
| Watertown, WI                             | Faith                     | Rev. Seth Hoepfner         |                      |
| West Allis, WI                            | Greenfield Park           | Rev. Fred Reaman           | Chuck Porter         |
| <b><u>Circuit #18 - Saint Louis</u></b>   |                           |                            |                      |
| Hannibal, MO                              | Saint John's              |                            |                      |
| Lee's Summit, MO                          | Beautiful Savior          | Rev. Devin Burmeister      | Chris Troester       |
| Lincoln, NE                               | Redeemer                  |                            | Derek Johnson        |
| Saint Louis, MO                           | Chapel of the Cross       |                            | David Stahlhut       |
| Vine Grove, KY                            | Grace                     | Rev. Jonathan Lackey       | Regis (Terry) O'Neil |
| <b><u>Circuit #19 - Arizona-North</u></b> |                           |                            |                      |
| Gold Canyon, AZ                           | Shepherd of the Canyon    | Rev. Dr. Mark Wood         | Mary Ellen Wood      |
| Mesa, AZ                                  | Eternal Life              | Rev. Brian Crane           | Andrew Grant         |
| Overgaard, AZ                             | Faith                     | Rev. Rodney Schmeltz       | Brian Parker         |
| Parker, AZ                                | Messiah                   |                            |                      |
| Payson, AZ                                | Shepherd of the Pines     |                            | Nancy Cox            |
| Phoenix, AZ                               | Family of Christ          | Rev. Fred Gerlach          | Benjamin Wirtz       |
| Pinetop, AZ                               | Shepherd of the Mountains | Rev. Michael Mathews       |                      |
| <b><u>Circuit #20 - Arizona-South</u></b> |                           |                            |                      |
| Green Valley, AZ                          | Risen Savior              | Rev. Todd Arnold           | Dennis Betz          |
| Rio Rico, AZ                              | Christus Rex              |                            |                      |
| Sahuarita, AZ                             | Crosspoint                | Rev. Jason Hong            | Keith Christiansen   |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Ascension                 |                            | Andy Wellik          |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Catalina                  | Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | Tom Honebrink        |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Faith                     |                            | Judy Hughes          |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Holy Trinity              |                            |                      |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Messiah                   |                            |                      |
| Tucson, AZ                                | Mount Olive               | Rev. Isaac Wirtz           | Jonathan Wiens       |
| <b><u>Circuit #21 - Nevada/Utah</u></b>   |                           |                            |                      |
| Magnolia, TX                              | Saint Thomas              | Rev. Stanley Lacey         | Glen Piper           |
| Mesquite, NV                              | Prince of Peace           | Rev. Robert Bruggeman      | Colin Metzger        |
| Paris, TX                                 | Saint Paul                | Rev. Toby Byrd             | Jonathan Fitzgerald  |

## 2025 CONVENTION VOTING DELEGATES

|   |                     | <u>PASTOR</u>          | <u>LAYPERSON</u> |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>Circuit #22 - San Diego</u></b>     |                     |                        |                  |
| Borrego Springs, CA                       | Borrego             |                        |                  |
| El Cajon, CA                              | First               | Rev. James Huenink     | Kathleen Vaughn  |
| La Mesa, CA                               | Saint Luke's        | Rev. Dr. Mark Menacher |                  |
| <b><u>Circuit #23 - Los Angeles</u></b>   |                     |                        |                  |
| Long Beach, CA                            | Saint Paul's        |                        |                  |
| Los Angeles, CA                           | Highland Park       |                        |                  |
| Mission Hills, CA                         | Chapel of the Cross | Rev. Manuel De La Rosa | Sara De La Rosa  |
| Orange, CA                                | Immanuel            |                        |                  |
| Palm Desert, CA                           | Peace               | Rev. James Bowes       | Lauren Bowes     |
| Sherman Oaks, CA                          | Sherman Oaks        | Rev. Titus Utecht      | Laura Warshawsky |
| <b><u>Circuit #24 - San Francisco</u></b> |                     |                        |                  |
| Danville, CA                              | Messiah             | Rev. Kevin Belter      | Joseph Pleinis   |
| Ferndale, CA                              | Saint Mark          |                        |                  |
| Fremont, CA                               | Hope                |                        |                  |
| Hayden, ID                                | Blessed Sacrament   | Rev. Marc DiConti      | Wade Arndt       |
| Moses Lake, WA                            | Apostolic           |                        |                  |
| San Francisco, CA                         | New Life            | Rev. Charles Fox       | Ed Yee           |
| San Francisco, CA                         | West Portal         | Rev. Curtis Binz       |                  |

## **ADVISORY DELEGATES**

### **ADVISORY ORDAINED**

Rev. Matthias Benfey, Mississauga, ON  
Rev. Steven Duescher, Parker, CO  
Rev. Gerald Luck, Mississauga, ON  
Rev. Allen Lunneberg, Waterford, MI  
Rev. Marcus MacKay, Zionsville, IN  
Rev. Jung Hun Park, Toronto, ON  
Rev. Steven Resner, Mesa, AZ  
Rev. Dr. David Stechholz, Livonia, MI  
Rev. Dr. John Stieve, Sahuarita, AZ  
Rev. Robert Tauscher, New Franklin, OH

### **ADVISORY COMMISSIONED**

Isabel Brosch, Lee's Summit, MO  
Monica Heissenbuettel, Hartland, MI  
Vicki Helmling, Oak Park, IL  
Barbara Hemme, Lockport, IL  
Rod Lane, Lincoln, NE  
Emily Leising, Medina, OH  
Keith Vieregge, Hartland, MI

### **ENGLISH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Christopher Cassel, Lincoln, NE  
James Thielen, Orchard Park, NY  
Kristin Wellik, Tucson, AZ

### **ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVES**

Rev. Dr. Thomas Egger, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall, Chicago, IL  
Rev. Peter Lange, St. Louis, MO  
Rev. Dr. Gerald Paul, Cayman Islands

### **YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES**

Isabella Bowes, Peace, Palm Desert, CA  
Denise DeDonatis, Christ the King, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI  
Harria Dweh, Hope Community, Syracuse, NY  
Gerogena Elliot, Hope Community, Syracuse, NY  
Simon Ficken, Eternal Life, Mesa, AZ  
Andrew Koch, Mt. Olive, Tucson, AZ  
Faith Washington, Hope Community, Syracuse, NY  
Rebecca Wharton, First, El Cajon, CA

# CONVENTION COMMITTEES

## 58<sup>th</sup> CONVENTION

### ENGLISH DISTRICT of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

#### June 26-28, 2025

|  |  |                                   |                                    |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Committee on Nominations</u></b> ..... |  |                                   | 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. Dr. David Petersen                          |                                   | DCE Rodrick Lane                   |
| Western Region                               | The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse                       | Ms. Karina Lindsey-von Hindenburg |                                    |
|  | The Rev. Luke Zimmerman, District Secretary, Advisor |                                   |                                    |

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Floor Committees:

|                            |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| <b><u>Committee #1</u></b> | <b><u>Church and Theology</u></b> .....          | The Rev. Mark Braden with<br>Committee members of the Detroit North & South Circuits 11 & 12<br>The Rev. Zachary Marklevitz, Vice President, Advisor |
| <b><u>Committee #2</u></b> | <b><u>Missions and Evangelization</u></b> .....  | The Rev. Benjamin Janssen with<br>Committee members of the Pittsburgh Circuit 6<br>The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, Vice President, Advisor              |
| <b><u>Committee #3</u></b> | <b><u>Administration and Structure</u></b> ..... | The Rev. Stanley Lacey with<br>Committee members of the Arizona South Circuit 20<br>The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse, Vice President, Advisor          |
| <b><u>Committee #4</u></b> | <b><u>Congregational Services</u></b> .....      | The Rev. Anthony Oliphant with<br>Committee members of the Chicago North & South Circuits 15 & 16<br>The Rev. Robert Rogers, Vice President, Advisor |
| <b><u>Committee #5</u></b> | <b><u>Elections</u></b> .....                    | The Rev. Robert Tauscher with<br>The Rev. Jonathan McCall, Vice Chair and The Rev. Alexander Sabol<br>The Rev. Luke Zimmerman, Advisor               |

**Convention Chaplains**.....The Rev. Marc DiConti and The Rev. Jonathan Lackey

**Parliamentarian**..... The Rev. Dr. John Stieve

**Worship Committee**.....The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, Chair and  
The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein, Vice Chair

**District Convention Essayist**.....The Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall

**Convention Homilists**.....The Rev. Christopher Esget and The Rev. Robert Rogers

**Youth Delegate Coordinators**..... Rod Lane and DCE Emily Leising

# ENGLISH DISTRICT LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

58<sup>th</sup> Convention

June 26-28, 2025

Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI

**June 11, 2025** – Virtual - **Open Hearings** of Convention Floor Committees (start at 7 pm Eastern Time – 1/2 hour each Committee) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84953308816>

**June 12, 2025** – Virtual -**New Delegate Orientation** – 7 pm Eastern Time <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85754230108>

## ***Thursday, June 26, 2025***

|                    |  |                            |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 8:00 am – 9:00 am  | Breakfast  | Cafeteria/Student Union    |
| 8:00 am – 11:00 am | Vendor/Exhibitor/Ministry Tent setup   | Ministry Tent/West Campus  |
| 11:00 am           | Registration opens   | Gymnasium                  |
| 11:30 am – 1:00 pm | Lunch  | Ministry Tent              |
| 11:00 am – 6:00 pm | Ministry Tent Open   | West Campus Parking        |
| 1:30 pm            | <b>Divine Worship Service</b><br>Preacher: Rev. Christopher Esget, LCMS 5th Vice President<br>Convention Group Photo   | Chapel of the Holy Trinity |
| 3:00 pm            | Break (snacks and beverages courtesy of LCEF)  | Ministry Tent              |
| 3:30 pm            | <b>Opening of the 58th Convention of the LCMS English District</b><br>Welcome and Opening comments and Report – Bishop/President Rev. Jeffrey Miskus<br>Introductions and Standing Rules<br>Announcements/Electronic Voting procedures<br>Election – Bishop/President<br>Greetings<br>Board of Directors Report – Terry Leu, Chair<br>Election and Ranking – Vice Presidents<br>Nominations from the Floor for other elections | Gymnasium                  |
| 5:00 pm            | Dinner   | Cafeteria/Student Union    |
| 6:30 pm            | Reconvene<br>Greetings<br>Ministerial Health Commission – Rev. Timothy Holzerland<br>Essayist – Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall, Associate VP for Church Relations and Mission, CU Chicago<br>Elections – Secretary & Board of Directors<br>Recognition of new congregations and schools<br>Recognition of Jubilarians<br>Recess for the evening   | Gymnasium                  |



## ***Friday, June 27, 2025***

|                   |  |                         |
|-------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 6:45 am – 8:00 am | Breakfast  | Cafeteria/Student Union |
| 9:00 am – 6:00 pm | Ministry Tent Open   | West Campus Parking     |
| 8:00 am           | Devotions – Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse, West Region Vice President<br>Treasurer’s Report – Sally Naglich<br>Campus Ministry Report – Rev. Curt Dwyer<br>Greetings – Rev. Dr Thomas Egger – Concordia Seminary St Louis, President<br>Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Report – Rev. Peter Lange, LCMS First Vice President | Gymnasium               |
| 9:45 am           | Break (snacks and beverages courtesy of LCEF)  | Ministry Tent           |
| 10:15 am          | Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Report continued  | Gymnasium               |
| 10:35 am          | Essayist – Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall<br>Floor Committees<br>Elections – Synod Committee on Nominations<br>Concordia Plans – James Sanft, President & CEO<br>Greetings – Rev. Dr. David Stechholz, Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy   |                         |
| 12:00 pm          | Lunch  | Ministry Tent           |
| 1:30 pm           | Devotions – Rev. Zachary Marklevitz, Lake Erie Region Vice President<br>Floor Committees<br>Roger D. Pittelko Award Presentation<br>Staff Reports – Albert Amling, Rev. Derek Mathers  | Gymnasium               |
| 2:40 pm           | Essayist – Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall   |                         |
| 3:25 pm           | Break (snacks and beverages courtesy of LCEF)  | Ministry Tent           |
| 3:55 pm           | Mission Action Team – Rev. Justin Laughridge<br>Elections – Circuit Visitors, Comm. on Nominations, and Endowment Fund Board of Managers<br>Greetings<br>LCMS Foundation – Ron Grimm<br>Floor Committees   | Gymnasium               |
| 6:00 pm           | Dinner   | Cafeteria/Student Union |
|                   | Evening session as needed  | Gymnasium               |

## ***Saturday, June 28, 2025***

|                   |   |                            |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 6:45 am – 8:00 am | Breakfast   | Cafeteria/Student Union    |
| 8:00 am           | Devotions – Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, East Region Vice President   | Gymnasium                  |
| 8:25 am           | President Address/Convention Business<br>Lifeline Report<br>Endowment Fund Report<br>Floor Committees<br>LCEF – Rev. Bart Day, CEO; John Hoover, English District LCEF Vice President<br>Unfinished Business<br>Adjourn to Chapel<br><b>Convention Memorial Closing Divine Service</b><br>Installation of Officers<br>Preacher: Rev. Robert Rogers, Midwest Region Vice President | Chapel of the Holy Trinity |
| 11:45 am          | Bus departs for Airport   | Campus Main Entrance       |

## **The 58<sup>th</sup> Convention of the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod June 26–28, 2025**

The English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod met in convention June 26–28, 2025, at the Ann Arbor, MI campus of Concordia University Wisconsin Ann Arbor. The Convention Theme was “Living Our Baptized Life in Christ” drawn from Galatians 2:20.

Prior to the convention, floor committees utilized teleconferencing technology to hold open hearings. These took place on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. Orientation for new delegates was also conducted via teleconference on Thursday, June 12, 2025.

### **OPENING DIVINE SERVICE – THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025**

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 Epiphany Lutheran Church – Dorr, 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. Christopher Esget, Eastern/Southeastern Regional Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, served as preacher; Rev. Ryan Beffrey, served as celebrant. Other liturgical leaders included District President Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, Rev. Jonathan McCall, and Rev. Christopher Seifferlein. Mr. Gabriel Edwards from Mount Calvary – Lititz, PA supplied musical leadership. The offering collected at the service was designated to benefit the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission.

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

### **FIRST SESSION – THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 26, 2026**

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

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

President Miskus also introduced two pastors of the District who would serve as chaplains for the Convention: Rev. Mark DiConti and Rev. Jonathan Lackey. He informed delegates and guests that a small prayer chapel was located within the gymnasium building and that chaplains would be available to receive prayer requests and hear confessions from delegates.

At 3:35 PM, President Miskus introduced the Convention Agenda and the Proposed Standing Rules for the Convention. Secretary Zimmerman was asked to highlight several of the proposed standing rules for the delegates. President Miskus presented the standing rules for adoption: ***“To adopt the standing rules as proposed.”*** Motion carried.

Following the adoption of the standing rules, President Miskus presented the agenda for adoption: ***“To adopt the agenda as presented.”*** Motion carried.

At 3:40 PM, President Miskus offered his report to the convention. He thanked the District for the opportunity to serve as District President following the resignation of Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy in June 2024. He highlighted the activities that he had conducted during his time as District President:

- Visiting District congregations and mission starts.
- Praying for the District’s congregations and church workers.
- Holding online meetings with nearly every active pastor within the District.
- Attending meetings of the LCMS Council of Presidents and the District Board of Directors.
- Conferring with Vice-Presidents and Circuit Visitors.
- Visting the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission.

He also spoke about the five major roles of the District to serve its congregations and church workers:

- Connecting the congregation to synod and other congregations.
- Providing ecclesiastical authority to pastors and congregations.
- Providing support to congregations in missions and church planting.
- Providing support to congregations in education and schools.
- Providing support for congregations in terms of funding.

His report ended with a series of statements of gratitude to individuals who were of great help to him when taking up the role of District President.

At 4:00 PM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the first credentials report of the convention. The credentials report at the opening of the convention on June 26, 2025, was as follows:

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Voting Delegates – Ordained:     | 90         |
| Voting Delegates – Lay:          | 86         |
| <b>Total Voting Delegates:</b>   | <b>176</b> |
| <i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i> | <i>20</i>  |
| Youth Representatives:           | 8          |
| Board Members:                   | 5          |
| District Staff:                  | 5          |
| Guests/Presenters:               | 34         |
| <b>Total in Attendance:</b>      | <b>248</b> |

The credentials report was accepted without objection.

At 4:05 PM, President Miskus invited 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Robert Rogers to assume the Chair.

Vice-President Rogers summoned the Elections Committee to the dais to conduct the election of District President. 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, including practice ballots. Secretary Zimmerman outlined the processes by which nominations for both District President and District Vice-Presidents took place prior to the Convention. Following that presentation, Rev. Mark DiConti, Convention Chaplain, offered prayers for delegates who were about to participate in elections during the first business day of the Convention.

Vice-President Rogers directed Rev. Robert Tauscher, Chairman of the Elections Committee, to conduct the election of the District President. Following this, Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for District President:

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus  
Rev. Dr. David Petersen

The ballot for District President was conducted and the results posted:

|                            |            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Jeffrey Miskus</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>(61.63 %)</b> |
| Rev. Dr. David Petersen    | 66         | (38.37 %)        |

Rev. Jeffrey Miskus was elected to a first term as District President. He was invited to address the delegates following his election. He thanked the delegates for placing their trust in him and placing him into office.

At 4:25 PM, President Miskus reassumed the Chair.

President Miskus invited Rev. David Davis, LCMS Michigan District President, to offer greetings to the Convention. He shared the text of a resolution adopted by the recent Michigan District Convention that commended the work of the English District and its partnership with the District and its congregations.

President Miskus called on Mr. Terry Leu, Chairman of the District Board of Directors, to present his report. Chairman Leu highlighted the changes that the Board of Directors experienced during the past triennium. Major developments during the past triennium involving actions by the District Board of Directors included the transfer of ownership of the Canada Corporation to Lutheran Church Extension Fund and receiving new congregations in Texas. The Board also acted as the custodian of properties and funds transferred to the District by closing congregations; some of the monies received have been used to fund new missions and congregational efforts, support church worker student scholarships, provide financial gifts to the Synod, and increase investments in the Endowment Fund.

At 4:35 PM, President Miskus summoned the Elections Committee to return to the dais to conduct the election and ranking of District Vice-Presidents. Rev. Tauscher announced to the delegates that two of the District's regions had only one candidate accept nomination for election: Eastern District – Rev. Robert Kieselowsky; Midwestern Region – Rev. Anthony Oliphant. Rev. Tauscher asked that the Secretary cast one vote for each of these candidates, electing them to office.

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky was elected to a first term as Eastern Region Vice-President.

Rev. Anthony Oliphant was elected to a first term as Midwestern Region Vice-President.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Lake Erie Region Vice-President:

Rev. James Leistico  
Rev. Zachary Marklevitz

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

|                                |            |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Rev. James Leistico            | 47         | (31.76 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Zachary Marklevitz</b> | <b>101</b> | <b>(68.24 %)</b> |

Rev. Zachary Marklevitz was elected to a first term as Lake Erie Region Vice-President.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for Western Region Vice-President:

Rev. Kevin Belter  
Rev. James Huenink  
Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse  
Rev. Steven Resner

The first ballot for Western Region Vice-President was conducted and the results posted:

|                                   |           |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Kevin Belter                 | 21        | (13.13 %)        |
| Rev. James Huenink                | 28        | (17.5 %)         |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>(60.63 %)</b> |
| Rev. Steven Resner                | 14        | (8.75 %)         |

Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse was elected to a second term as Western Region Vice-President.

At 4:40 PM, the convention proceeded to rank the newly-elected Vice-Presidents. Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of elected Vice-Presidents 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. Robert Kieselowsky    | 52 | (31.14 %) |
| Rev. Zachary Marklevitz    | 29 | (17.37 %) |
| Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | 67 | (40.12 %) |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant      | 19 | (11.38 %) |

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

|                            |    |           |
|----------------------------|----|-----------|
| Rev. Robert Kieselowsky    | 65 | (38.46 %) |
| Rev. Zachary Marklevitz    | 27 | (15.98 %) |
| Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | 77 | (45.56 %) |

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

|                                   |           |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Robert Kieselowsky           | 81        | (47.65 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse</b> | <b>89</b> | <b>(52.35 %)</b> |

Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse 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:

|                                |            |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Robert Kieselowsky</b> | <b>117</b> | <b>(70.06 %)</b> |
| Rev. Zachary Marklevitz        | 31         | (18.56 %)        |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant          | 19         | (11.38 %)        |

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky 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:

|                                |            |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Zachary Marklevitz</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>(64.24 %)</b> |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant          | 59         | (35.76 %)        |

Rev. Zachary Marklevitz was ranked as Third Vice-President of the English District. Rev. Anthony Oliphant was ranked as Fourth Vice-President of the English District.

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

At 4:47 PM, President Miskus recognized the congregations and educational institutions that were added to the District during the past triennium.

At 4:49 PM, President Miskus opened the floor to nominations for District Secretary and District Board of Directors. No floor nominations were offered. After this, the slate of candidates for District Secretary and District Board of Directors was declared closed.

At 4:52 PM, President Miskus invited Rev. Lackey to give thanks for the first session of the convention and to conduct the blessing for the meal. President Miskus declared the Convention to be in recess until 6:30 PM. Delegates were dismissed for dinner.

## **SECOND SESSION – THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 26, 2025**

At 6:30 PM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Miskus brought the Convention to order.

After the convention was brought to order, President Miskus called on the English District Ministerial Health Commission to present about its work among the rostered workers of the District and their families. Rev. Tim Holzerland, co-chair of the Ministerial Health Commission, introduced the commission's work of following the direction of 1 John 3:18 to show love in deed and truth for District church workers and their families. Members of the commission spoke about the services offered by the commission, when the services should be requested, and how those services can be accessed. Following the presentation, President Miskus thanked the Ministerial Health Commission members for their work.

### ***Convention Essayist, Part 1 Summary***

At 6:50 PM, President Miskus introduced Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall, Associate Vice President for Church Relations and Mission and Associate Professor of Theology at Concordia University Chicago, as the essayist for the Convention. Dr. Kendall presented the first part of his Convention Essay about the Early Church's use of protreptics as a form of defending and presenting the faith: "Ancient Apologetics: Talking to People Who Think Differently Than We Do."

The area of protreptics being used as a form of Christian apologetics discourse of *logos* (Word), *pathos* (Passion), and *ethos* (Moral Conduct) can be traced to the work of Clement of Alexandria (c. 150–c. 215). Early ancient Christian apologists that utilized protreptics were doing so as religious minorities in their culture and day.

Clement's work in Alexandria placed him within a marketplace of ideas. A wide variety of different philosophies and religions were present in Alexandria. Teachers had their own schools of thought, where they would gather students to follow their own teachings. The skill of each teacher would largely determine how many students they would gather. Clement had to be quite familiar with different schools of thought which were direct competitors to his presentation of the Christian truth.

The nature of protreptics involves an open-ending inquiry that involves deep listening and questioning. The teacher walks alongside the student, working to reorient the student into the truth. Clement's writing *Protrepticus pros Hellenas* (*Exhortation to the Greeks*) demonstrates a knowledge of many other philosophical schools of thought; his protreptic work attempted to show that the "truth" found in other philosophies or beliefs actually has God as its true source.

From Clement's autobiographical statements, it appears that his religious background involved a move from pagan beliefs to participation in mystery religions to other Greek philosophies to Judaism to Christianity. Clement's personal involvement and knowledge of these different schools of thought became a useful tool in his protreptic work among people coming from different groups in Alexandria.

Clement's understanding of himself and his role was that Jesus is the only true teacher (*didaskalos*), while he was simply a guide (*pedagogue*). His role was to lead people to the altar where they could encounter Jesus and His saving truth.

Clement conceived of the *paideia* (instruction) of the Logos as a complex system of training that leads people to *therapeia* (healing). The healing (salvation, care, benevolent activity, public worship, and teaching) brought to individuals comes from Jesus and the sacramental life of the church. This healing involves the "slowness of God" as He works in individuals' lives and through history.

Clement identifies characteristics in the pedagogy of Jesus:

- Adapts teachings to different types of students.
- Is organized in an orderly way to aid upward progress of students.
- Sees pedagogy as care of souls, both intellect and the whole person.
- Uses concealment (parables or secret things) as a method of teaching.

At 7:35 PM, Secretary Zimmerman provided the credentials report as of 6:30 PM on June 26, 2025, as follows:

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Voting Delegates – Ordained:     | 89         |
| Voting Delegates – Lay:          | 86         |
| <b>Total Voting Delegates:</b>   | <b>175</b> |
| <i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i> | <i>21</i>  |
| Youth Representatives:           | 8          |
| Board Members:                   | 5          |
| District Staff:                  | 6          |
| Guests/Presenters:               | 34         |
| <b>Total in Attendance:</b>      | <b>249</b> |

The credentials report was accepted without objection.

At 7:36 PM, President Miskus summoned the Elections Committee to conduct the election of District Secretary and the Board of Directors.

Rev. McCall from the Elections Committee presented the slate of candidates for District Secretary:

Rev. Justin Laughridge  
Rev. Justin Schmidt  
Rev. Chad Trouten

The first ballot for District Secretary was conducted and the results posted:

|                        |    |           |
|------------------------|----|-----------|
| Rev. Justin Laughridge | 57 | (37.25 %) |
| Rev. Justin Schmidt    | 46 | (30.07 %) |
| Rev. Chad Trouten      | 50 | (32.68 %) |

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

|                               |           |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Justin Laughridge</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>(54.49 %)</b> |
| Rev. Chad Trouten             | 71        | (45.51 %)        |

Rev. Justin Laughridge was elected to a first term as District Secretary.

Rev. McCall presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors, Ordained Minister—Eastern/Lake Erie Regions position:

Rev. Larry Loree  
Rev. Justin Schmidt  
Rev. Luke Zimmerman

The first ballot for the Board of Directors, Ordained Minister—Eastern/Lake Erie Regions position was conducted and the results posted:

|                            |            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Rev. Larry Loree           | 15         | (9.55 %)         |
| Rev. Justin Schmidt        | 18         | (11.46 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Luke Zimmerman</b> | <b>124</b> | <b>(78.98 %)</b> |

Rev. Luke Zimmerman was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. McCall presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors, Ordained Minister—Midwestern/Western Regions position:

Rev. Todd Arnold  
Rev. James Huenink  
Rev. Dr. Mark Wood

The first ballot for the Board of Directors, Ordained Minister—Midwestern/Western Regions position was conducted and the results posted:

|                    |    |           |
|--------------------|----|-----------|
| Rev. Todd Arnold   | 38 | (26.21 %) |
| Rev. James Huenink | 38 | (26.21 %) |
| Rev. Dr. Mark Wood | 69 | (47.59 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast and a tie for last place, no names were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                           |           |                  |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Todd Arnold          | 37        | (24.18 %)        |
| Rev. James Huenink        | 33        | (21.57 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Mark Wood</b> | <b>83</b> | <b>(54.25 %)</b> |



Rev. Dr. Mark Wood was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

Rev. McCall presented the slate of candidates for the two Board of Directors, Commissioned Minister positions:

Vicki Helmling  
Barbara Hemme  
Dwayne Jobst  
Rod Lane  
Jennifer Miller

The first ballot for the first Board of Directors, Commissioned Minister position was conducted and the results posted:

|                 |    |           |
|-----------------|----|-----------|
| Vicki Helmling  | 15 | (10.34 %) |
| Barbara Hemme   | 22 | (15.17 %) |
| Dwayne Jobst    | 27 | (18.62 %) |
| Rod Lane        | 53 | (36.55 %) |
| Jennifer Miller | 28 | (19.31 %) |

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

|                 |           |                  |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Barbara Hemme   | 15        | (9.93 %)         |
| Dwayne Jobst    | 22        | (14.57 %)        |
| <b>Rod Lane</b> | <b>85</b> | <b>(56.29 %)</b> |
| Jennifer Miller | 29        | (19.21 %)        |

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

The first ballot for the second Board of Directors, Commissioned Minister position was conducted and the results posted:

|                 |    |           |
|-----------------|----|-----------|
| Vicki Helmling  | 9  | (6.08 %)  |
| Barbara Hemme   | 28 | (18.92 %) |
| Dwayne Jobst    | 53 | (35.81 %) |
| Jennifer Miller | 58 | (39.19 %) |

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

|                 |    |           |
|-----------------|----|-----------|
| Barbara Hemme   | 22 | (14.57 %) |
| Dwayne Jobst    | 61 | (40.40 %) |
| Jennifer Miller | 68 | (45.03 %) |

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

|                        |           |                  |
|------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Dwayne Jobst           | 65        | (42.48 %)        |
| <b>Jennifer Miller</b> | <b>88</b> | <b>(57.52 %)</b> |

Jennifer Miller was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

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

Carol George  
Stephen Kurtz  
Mark Pfundstein

The first ballot for the Board of Directors, Lay (Eastern Region) position was conducted and the results posted:

|                 |    |           |
|-----------------|----|-----------|
| Carol George    | 47 | (33.10 %) |
| Stephen Kurtz   | 45 | (31.69 %) |
| Mark Pfundstein | 50 | (35.21 %) |

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

|                        |           |                  |
|------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Carol George           | 55        | (35.95 %)        |
| <b>Mark Pfundstein</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>(64.05 %)</b> |

Mark Pfundstein was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

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

Jonathan Busarow  
Thomas Habitz  
Mark Harris

The first ballot for the Board of Directors, Lay (Lake Erie Region) position was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Jonathan Busarow | 45 | (31.47 %) |
| Thomas Habitz    | 53 | (37.06 %) |
| Mark Harris      | 45 | (31.47 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast and a tie for last place, no name was removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Jonathan Busarow | 43 | (28.86 %) |
| Thomas Habitz    | 74 | (49.66 %) |
| Mark Harris      | 32 | (21.48 %) |

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

|                      |           |                  |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Jonathan Busarow     | 56        | (36.13 %)        |
| <b>Thomas Habitz</b> | <b>99</b> | <b>(63.87 %)</b> |

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

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

Christopher Cassel

With only one candidate standing, President Miskus asked that the Secretary cast one vote for this candidate, electing him to office.

Christopher Cassel was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

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

Thomas Honebrink

Glen Piper

Kristin Wellik

The first ballot for the Board of Directors, Lay (Western Region) position was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Thomas Honebrink | 52 | (35.37 %) |
| Glen Piper       | 47 | (31.97 %) |
| Kristin Wellik   | 48 | (32.65 %) |

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

|                         |           |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Thomas Honebrink</b> | <b>86</b> | <b>(56.21 %)</b> |
| Kristin Wellik          | 67        | (43.79 %)        |

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

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the two Board of Directors, Lay (At-Large) positions:

Jonathan Busarow

Carol George

Mark Harris

Stephen Kurtz

Glen Piper

Kristin Wellik

The first ballot for the first Board of Directors, Lay (At-Large) position was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Jonathan Busarow | 40 | (26.32 %) |
| Carol George     | 20 | (13.16 %) |
| Mark Harris      | 18 | (11.84 %) |
| Stephen Kurtz    | 12 | (7.89 %)  |
| Glen Piper       | 15 | (9.87 %)  |
| Kristin Wellik   | 47 | (30.92 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of Carol George, Mark Harris, Stephen Kurtz, and Glen Piper were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                       |           |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Jonathan Busarow      | 72        | (46.15 %)        |
| <b>Kristin Wellik</b> | <b>84</b> | <b>(53.84 %)</b> |

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

The first ballot for the second Board of Directors, Lay (At-Large) position was conducted and the results posted:

|                         |           |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Jonathan Busarow</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>(52.94 %)</b> |
| Carol George            | 28        | (18.30 %)        |
| Mark Harris             | 18        | (11.76 %)        |
| Stephen Kurtz           | 10        | (6.54%)          |
| Glen Piper              | 16        | (10.46 %)        |

Jonathan Busarow was elected to a first term on the Board of Directors.

President Miskus thanked the Elections Committee for conducting the elections of the District Secretary and Board of Directors. He also thanked all candidates who stood for election. The elected Board of Directors members and Vice-Presidents were photographed.

At 8:03 PM, President Miskus summoned Floor Committee 2 (Mission & Evangelism), chaired by Rev. Ben Janssen, to the dais.

Floor Committee 2 moved Resolution 2–01 “To Affirm and Retain the Seven Mission Priorities of the LCMS” (*Convention Workbook*, p. 4-31) for adoption. During debate, a delegate pointed out that the wording in Line 18 be rendered as “... Offices ~~Boards~~ of National Mission and International Mission....” This was received by Floor Committee as a necessary correction. With no other discussion, the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Committee 2 moved Resolution 2–02 “To Encourage Outreach and Ministry on College and University Campuses” (*Convention Workbook*, pp. 4-32 & 4-33) for adoption. After only one delegate desired to speak who gave a favorable statement on the resolution, the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Committee 2 moved Resolution 2–03 “To Memorialize the Synod to Encourage Congregations in the LCMS to Include in Their Annual Mission Budgets Support for a Regional University of the Synod’s Concordia University System” (*Convention Workbook*, p. 4-34) for adoption. After only one delegate desired to speak who gave a favorable statement on the resolution, the motion carried by voice vote.

President Miskus thanked Floor Committee 2 for its work.

At 8:15 PM, President Miskus conducted the Recognition of Jubilarians (*cf. Convention Workbook*, pp. 2-11 & 2–12). Those present were invited to the front of the convention hall to receive a certificate and to pose for group pictures.

Following the Recognition of Jubilarians, President Miskus called on Rev. DiConti to provide a closing prayer for the day.

At 8:38 PM, President Miskus declared the convention to be in recess for the evening. Business sessions would begin at 8:00 AM on Friday, June 27, 2025.

### **THIRD SESSION – FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 27, 2025**

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

Matins were led by Rev. Jonathan McCall. Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, preached a devotional homily based on Matthew 5:17–19.

At 8:30 AM, President Miskus called on Mrs. Sally Naglich, District Treasurer, to present her report. During her report, Treasurer Naglich highlighted several items for delegates:

- With the Canada Corporation being transferred to Lutheran Extension Fund, Canadian funds are being reported in different ways than in previous triennia when the Canada Corporation was a subagency of the District.
- The financial statements for the fiscal years during this triennium were audited by LCMS Internal Audit Department and found to be conducted according to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- \$2.1 million were placed in the Endowment Fund over the past triennium.
- Total liabilities of the District have declined over the past triennium.
- Net assets of the District have increased over the past triennium.
- Nearly 50% of total unrestricted revenue over the past triennium came from dissolved congregations.
- Congregational support of the District has trended downward, yet currently makes up 49% of budgeted revenue.
- About 42% of total expenses during the triennium consisted of subsidies and grants to congregations and other entities.
- The largest budgeted expenses are salary/benefits and subsidies.

At 8:45 AM, President Miskus called on Rev. Curt Dwyer, pastor of Martin Luther Chapel – East Lansing, MI, to speak about the work of the District Campus Ministry Task Force. He was joined by other church workers involved with campus ministries across the District. Rev. Dwyer presented about the role of the task force to support and collaborate with congregations and church workers working within communities with college students: some are full-time campus ministries, while others have this work as an aspect of the congregation's life. He noted that students who participate within LCMS campus ministries develop into active parishioners in LCMS congregations; some become church workers. He encouraged congregations to seek out resources provided by LCMSU.

At 8:55 AM, President Miskus invited Rev. Dr. Thomas Egger, President of Concordia Seminary – St. Louis, to bring greetings from the Synod's two seminaries in St. Louis, MO and Fort Wayne, IN. A video about the work of the Synod's seminaries to prepare church workers for the Synod was presented to the delegates. He thanked the congregations for their continued financial and spiritual support and for the church workers for their continued service to Christ in their places of ministry. He noted that the seminaries are beginning to emphasize how students can be trained for conducting evangelism and outreach in the current religious environment.

#### ***Report of the Synod Summary***

At 9:04 AM, President Miskus introduced Rev. Peter Lange, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who was attending the Convention to present the Report of the Synod.

Vice-President Lange brought greetings on behalf of Synod President Harrison. A video from Synod President Harrison about “Book of Concord Lutherans” was presented to the delegates, which highlighted various emphases in the Book of Concord:

- the certainty of Christ’s saving work for people
- the lacking of nothing necessary for the Church
- the unity of essential matters among congregations
- the tie of the Lutheran Church to the Church through the ages
- the role of vocations and good works in the lives of all Christians
- the centrality of delivering Christ’s gifts through preaching and the Sacraments
- the timeless nature of the Christian confession of faith to be given before Christ at the end

Vice-President Lange provided an approximate statistical description of the Synod’s membership:

- 5800 congregations
- 1.675 million baptized members
- 550,000 weekly attendance
- 5,500 active pastors
- 3,500 emeriti pastors
- 1,776 schools (early childhood, elementary, and high schools), of which 674 are K–8.
- 21,500 teachers, of which 53% are rostered church workers

Vice-President Lange shared the Synod President’s analysis that the Synod’s financial position is in one of its best historical conditions. This is due to conservative budgeting and good investing of gifts offered to the Synod. However, direct giving to the Synod has been static in recent years.

Vice-President Lange spoke about the work of the Office of National Mission. This work is conducted in collaboration with the Synod’s districts in 18 different areas, including school ministries, disaster relief, church planting, ethnic ministry within different communities of the United States, family ministry, and discipleship.

Vice-President Lange commented about the work of the Office of International Mission. There are currently 92 missionaries in 32 different countries. Of the 92 missionaries in the field, approximately half are ordained ministers, one-fourth are commissioned ministers, and one-fourth are laity. The three emphases of international missions are: (1) spread the gospel, (2) plant Lutheran congregations, (3) show mercy. Within the Latin America/Caribbean Region, missionaries and their partners are gathered into regional *Foros* to meet with the Office of International Mission and discuss the strategies and logistics of mission work; this framework is being expanded into other Mission Regions. Short-term mission trips by congregations and individuals can also be supported and guided by the Office of International Mission.

Vice-President Lange briefly discussed the work of the five Synod colleges: Concordia University Irvine, Concordia University St. Paul, Concordia University Nebraska, Concordia University Chicago, and Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor. He stated that 802 church worker students were recently enrolled at the Synod’s colleges; 383 of those were teacher education students.

Vice-President Lange spoke about the number of calling congregations and the challenge of providing pastors to congregations. At the April 2025 LCMS Council of Presidents meeting, 470 congregations were reported as calling a sole pastor/senior pastor. Challenges of financial support and housing face congregations calling pastors; geographic location is also a different challenge, which can be multifaceted.

Vice-President Lange commented about the work of the Synod’s seminaries and pastoral formation. Enrollment in all pastoral formation tracks (Master of Divinity, Residential Alternate Route, Specific

Ministry Pastor, General Pastor Certificate, Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology, Center for Hispanic Studies, and Cross-Cultural Ministry Center programs) numbered 566 in 2024. In 2025, 112 candidates were placed from the seminaries; 170 congregations had requested candidate placement. The Synod Pastoral Formation Committee is carrying out its four-part assignment concerning the Specific Ministry Pastor program; its report should be published in the First Quarter of 2026.

Following the Report of the Synod, delegates were able to ask questions of Synod Vice-President Lange. Only one topic of question was offered by the delegates:

- ***Can an update be provided about the lawsuits involving the Synod concerning the colleges in Portland, OR and Austin, TX?***

Vice-President Lange gave a succinct summary of the status of both incidents, while noting that both matters are ongoing and remain to be fully adjudicated.

A video concerning the upcoming 2026 Synod Convention was presented to the delegates. The convention theme is “Christ Is Risen Indeed!” It will be held in Phoenix, AZ.

### ***Keynote Speaker, Part 2 Summary***

At 10:45 AM, President Miskus invited the essayist to present the second part of his essay. Rev. Dr. Kendall continued by speaking about the nature of protreptics within Christian teaching.

Protreptics involves a narrative structure that includes extradiegetic discourse and intradiegetic discourse. This is not unique to its Christian use. Greek philosophers such as Aristotle used this approach. Extradiegetic discourse uses narrative that includes the speaker, where the speaker shares his thoughts or actions to convince or persuade the person being told the narrative. Intradiegetic discourse uses narrative, where the thoughts or actions of the characters in the narrative attempt to convince or persuade the person being told the narrative.

Examples of extradiegetic and intradiegetic discourse in the New Testament can be seen:

#### ***Extradiegetic discourse:***

- The Synoptic Gospels’ reporting of Jesus’ baptism.
- Account of Jesus’ instruction of the Church’s mission in Acts 1.
- The narrative of Paul’s conversion in Acts 9.

#### ***Intradiegetic discourse:***

- John the Baptist’s reporting of Jesus’ baptism in John’s Gospel.
- Paul’s statement about his carrying out the Church’s mission in Acts 26.
- Paul’s speaking about his conversion in Acts 22 & Acts 26.

Protreptics can frame the dialogue that Christians have with inquirers to the faith, so that these interactions reflect the slowness of God. New rhythms of listening to bring hope are necessary. These dialogues can come from a position of weakness on the part of the Christian instead of a position of strength. Even in this inquiry stage, the Christian is bringing the inquirer into the start of spiritual care, preparing the inquirer for catechesis.

President Miskus announced that the offerings collected for the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission at the Opening Service was \$2,140.

President Miskus instructed individuals about the necessity to register for transport to the airport, if necessary.

At 11:23 AM, Secretary Zimmerman provided a credentials report as of 10:45 AM on June 27, 2025, as follows:

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Voting Delegates – Ordained:     | 88         |
| Voting Delegates – Lay:          | 84         |
| <b>Total Voting Delegates:</b>   | <b>172</b> |
| <i>Total Advisory Delegates:</i> | <i>21</i>  |
| Youth Representatives:           | 8          |
| Board Members:                   | 5          |
| District Staff:                  | 6          |
| Guests/Presenters:               | 36         |
| <b>Total in Attendance:</b>      | <b>248</b> |

The credentials report was accepted without objection.

At 11:27 AM, President Miskus opened the floor to nominations for the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers. No floor nominations were offered. After this, the slate of candidates for District Endowment Fund Board of Managers was declared closed.

At 11:27 AM, President Miskus opened the floor to nominations for the District Committee on Nominations. No floor nominations were offered. After this, the slate of candidates for District Committee on Nominations was declared closed.

At 11:28 AM, President Miskus opened the floor to nominations for the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations. No floor nominations were offered. After this, the slate of candidates for 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations was declared closed.

At 11:28 AM, President Miskus recognized Rev. Todd Arnold to offer a special resolution “To Thank and Recognize Mrs. Peggy Oke”:

WHEREAS, Mrs. Peggy Oke has rendered joyful personal and professional work for the English District; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Peggy Oke is completing thirty-eight years of faithful District employment;

Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District in Convention glorify God and honor Mrs. Peggy Oke for her years of dedicated service; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we thank Mrs. Peggy Oke and pray the Lord’s continued blessings on her and her family.

Motion carried by voice vote.

At 11:30 AM, President Miskus summoned Floor Committee 3 (Structure & Administration) to the dais. Prior to resolutions being offered for adoption, President Miskus asked Secretary Zimmerman to address the delegates concerning proposed actions. Secretary Zimmerman noted that both alignment of Visitation Circuits and amending of District Bylaws require District Convention actions. Additionally, the amending of District Bylaws also involves approval by the Synod Commission on Constitutional Matters before becoming effective; resolutions doing so have either been pre-cleared by that entity or will receive approval in the months following the Convention.



Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–01B “To Realign and Rename Visitation Circuits” (*June 27, 2025 Addendum, pp. 6–40 through 6–42*) for adoption. During discussion, a question was raised whether any effect would be concerning electoral circuit formation; that is a matter for the Board of Directors to address. Another member noted that a congregation listed in the resolution is closed; it was noted that the congregation still exists on the roster at this date, but the closure will become finalized. Following debate, the motion carried [Y-153; N-7].

Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–02 “To Amend District Bylaw 9.1.2” (*Convention Workbook, p. 4–36*) for adoption. After no delegate desired to speak to the question, the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–03 “To Amend District Bylaw 5.1” (*Convention Workbook, p. 4–37*) for adoption. After no delegate desired to speak to the question, the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–04 “To Amend District Bylaw 6.2.5” (*Convention Workbook, p. 4–38*) for adoption. During discussion, a delegate inquired whether the English District Endowment Fund Governing Document could be provided to delegates for review prior to considering the resolution. The Floor Committee agreed to delay action on the proposal until that could be done.

Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–05A “To Amend District Bylaws 5.4 and 9.1.1” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, pp. 6–13 through 6–14*) while incorporating a proposed amendment (*June 27, 2025 Addendum, p. 6–39*) for adoption. After no delegate desired to speak to the question, the motion carried by voice vote.

Floor Committee 3 moved Resolution 3–06 “To Declare the Reverend Dr. Jamison Hardy ‘Bishop Emeritus’” (*Convention Workbook, p. 4–41*) for adoption. After no delegate desired to speak to the question, the motion carried by voice vote.

President Miskus thanked Floor Committee 3 for its work and indicated that it would be recalled later.

At 11:55 AM, President Miskus summoned the Elections Committee to the dais to conduct the election for the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations:

Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy  
Rev. Larry Loree

The ballot for the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations was conducted and the results posted:

|                               |           |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>(63.23 %)</b> |
| Rev. Larry Loree              | 57        | (36.77 %)        |

Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy was elected to serve on the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations.

With no other candidates on the slate, Rev. Larry Loree was declared elected as alternate for the 2026 Synod Committee on Convention Nominations.

At 11:58 AM, President Miskus invited Mr. Jim Sanft from Concordia Plans Services to speak to the delegates about the work of this Synod-wide Trust Entity. Mr. Sanft spoke about the current coverages that Concordia Plans Services provides to individual church workers. He highlighted the recent development of Concordia Plans Services to create a captive entity that could provide property insurance coverage to congregations and ministries. Concordia Plans Services exists as a way for the Synod to fulfill the objective listed in Article III.10 of the Synod's Constitution: *"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."*

At 12:07 PM, President Miskus called Rev. Lackey to offer a meal blessing. President Miskus then declared the convention to be in recess for lunch, with business sessions to resume at 1:30 pm.

## **FOURTH SESSION – FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 27, 2025**

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

Midday Prayers were conducted by Rev. Ryan Beffrey. Rev. Zachary Marklevitz, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President, preached a devotional homily based on Colossians 3:5–11.

At 1:46 PM, President Miskus invited the former Bishops of the English District present to address the delegates. He first read a written salutation from Bishop Emeritus David Ritt. Bishop Emeritus David Stechholz spoke statements of blessing based on Jude 2 to the delegates. He also congratulated President Miskus on his election. He exhorted the District to become even more multi-ethnic in its current setting. Bishop Emeritus Jamison Hardy spoke about leaving the role as Bishop to become President of the Concordia University System (CUS). He thanked Mrs. Kathy Stanis for her work as administrative assistant. He also thanked his wife and children for being with him both during his time as Bishop and now at CUS. He closed by giving thanks for the honor that the District had given to him.

Following the greetings, President Miskus invited Bishop Emeritus Hardy to speak about the work of the Concordia University System and for delegates to offer any questions they might have. Delegates asked several questions:

- ***What is to happen with the Ann Arbor campus of Concordia University Wisconsin Ann Arbor?***  
Operations are moving to the north campus. The south campus will go unused for the 2025–2026 academic year. No agreements have been made to actively market the south campus for sale. CUS does not want church work training to be ended at Ann Arbor.
- ***What is the nature of the Hot Chalk lawsuit in Portland?***  
CUS has been removed as a party from the lawsuit. Concordia University Saint Paul has settled its role in the lawsuit. LCMS and LCEF are still parties in the lawsuit.
- ***What is the status of the Concordia University Texas lawsuit?***  
The matter is in litigation over the matter of venue of what court should adjudicate the case: whether it should be a United States District court case or a Texas state court case.
- ***Has the Synod Board of Directors considered acquiring the Ann Arbor south campus property?***  
That idea could be submitted to the Synod for consideration. However, it is beyond the role of CUS to address.

▪ ***What does the future look like for the higher education system institutions of the Synod?***

Ideas include:

- Beginning to subsidize church work students through donations that CUS has received; assets from the CUS endowment fund can be reallocated to accomplish this goal.
- Establishing regional campuses, junior colleges, or technical education institutions.
- Enrollment is currently increasing despite current demographics.

▪ ***What relationship will CUS have with Luther Classical College?***

Luther Classical College is taking steps that could lead to membership in CUS, though application for such membership has not been determined.

At 2:15 PM, President Miskus summoned Floor Committee 1 (Theology & Church Relations) to the dais.

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1–01A “To Encourage the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to Affirm Unequivocally the Practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation as a God-pleasing Practice so as to Encourage Member Congregations and Pastors of the English District to Recognize the Validity of the Aforementioned Practice and, On That Basis, Commune Visiting Children Who, Though Not Yet Confirmed, Are Nevertheless Communicant Members in Good Standing and Who, Therefore, Should Not Be Denied the Lord’s Body and Blood Because They Have Not Yet Been Confirmed.” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, pp. 6–3 & 6–4*) for adoption. During discussion, several delegates both spoke for and against the resolution. A delegate proposed a multifaceted amendment of the resolution. After the amendment was proposed, the motion to table was offered. Motion carried.

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1–02A “To State Religious Objecton to Government Interference of Parents’ Duty” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, pp. 6–5 & 6–6*) for adoption. During discussion, delegates spoke both for and against the resolution. A delegate proposed a series of amendments. Upon presentation of those amendments, the Floor Committee requested to be dismissed to consider the proposal.

***Keynote Speaker, Part 3 Summary***

At 2:40 PM, President Miskus invited Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall to present the third part of his essay.

Dr. Kendall spoke about how he would use the narrative in Luke 8 of Jairus and the Woman with a Hemorrhage to open dialogue with inquirers. He pointed to the aspects of protreptics that can be identified in this narrative.

Dr. Kendall described how he would move inquirers into understanding how they would be like Jairus and the Woman with a Hemorrhage in Luke 8 and what those figures would experience. The experiences that the inquirers thought would be faced by those figures could be tied by the inquirers to their experiences that need healing or redress by Christ. His discussion demonstrated how various aspects of the protreptic approach in such a way would present Christ’s Gospel throughout the ongoing dialogue, even before becoming formal catechesis. The inquirer is being prepared for that formal catechesis in this earlier phase. They become ready for fully knowing the Christ who is saving and healing them.

Dr. Kendall pointed to the example of Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts 8 as an example of how the Scriptures themselves present the protreptic method of reading the Scriptures. This is a form of spiritual care that Philip brings to the Ethiopian as he ties himself to that inquirer. Philip is now alongside that Ethiopian as he guides the man into the truth that the Scriptures present about Christ.

Dr. Kendall further commented on how Acts 13 can be seen as a Scriptural incident of protreptic conflict, where divine truth is seen in some place but is brought back to the source where it belongs.

The figure of Sergius Paulus is pulled between the claims of the false prophet Simon Bar-Jesus and those of Barnabas and Paul. This figure is what the inquirer will be tied to when the narrative of this is presented to them. As Sergius Paulus is led to belief in what Barnabas and Paul present, he is led upwardly to the truth.

At 3:27 PM, President Miskus presented the minutes of the June 26, 2025 convention sessions for approval by the delegates (*June 27, 2025 addendum, pp. 6–28 through 6–38*). The minutes were approved as presented.

At 3:29 PM, the convention entered a recess with business to resume at 3:50 PM.

At 3:50 PM, President Miskus recalled Floor Committee 3 to present again Resolution 3–04. The Floor Committee informed the delegates that the document referred to in the resolution was printed in the Convention Workbook. Floor Committee 3 moved adoption of Resolution 3–04. With no delegates desiring to speak to the question, the motion carried by voice vote.

At 3:53 PM, President Miskus summoned the Election Committee to conduct the elections of the Circuit Visitors, the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers, and the District Nominating Committee. He also called on Rev. Lackey to offer prayer for the delegates who were to elect these office holders.

Rev. Tauscher presented the slate of candidates for the four at-large District Endowment Fund Board of Managers positions:

Michael Coffey  
Rev. Fred Gerlach  
Mark Harris  
Terry Leu  
Rev. Larry Loree  
Matthew Thompson  
Ann Marie Weselan

The first ballot for the first position on the District Endowment Fund Board of managers was conducted and the results posted:

|                   |    |           |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Michael Coffey    | 10 | (6.67 %)  |
| Rev. Fred Gerlach | 32 | (21.33 %) |
| Mark Harris       | 21 | (14.00 %) |
| Terry Leu         | 45 | (30.00 %) |
| Rev. Larry Loree  | 21 | (14.00 %) |
| Matthew Thompson  | 6  | (4.00 %)  |
| Ann Marie Weselan | 15 | (10.00 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of Michael Coffey, Mark Harris, Rev. Larry Loree, Matthew Thompson, and Ann Marie Weselan were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                   |           |                  |
|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Fred Gerlach | 54        | (36.49 %)        |
| <b>Terry Leu</b>  | <b>94</b> | <b>(63.51 %)</b> |

Terry Leu was elected to a first term on the Endowment Fund Board of Managers.

The first ballot for the second position on the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers was conducted and the results posted:

|                   |    |           |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Michael Coffey    | 8  | (5.37 %)  |
| Rev. Fred Gerlach | 71 | (47.65 %) |
| Mark Harris       | 17 | (11.41 %) |
| Rev. Larry Loree  | 27 | (18.12 %) |
| Matthew Thompson  | 8  | (5.37 %)  |
| Ann Marie Weselan | 18 | (12.08 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of Michael Coffey, Mark Harris, Matthew Thompson, and Ann Marie Weselan were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                          |            |                  |
|--------------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Fred Gerlach</b> | <b>103</b> | <b>(68.67 %)</b> |
| Rev. Larry Loree         | 47         | (31.33 %)        |

Rev. Fred Gerlach was elected to a third term on the Endowment Fund Board of Managers.

The first ballot for the third position on the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers was conducted and the results posted:

|                   |    |           |
|-------------------|----|-----------|
| Michael Coffey    | 10 | (6.90 %)  |
| Mark Harris       | 23 | (15.86 %) |
| Rev. Larry Loree  | 68 | (46.90 %) |
| Matthew Thompson  | 13 | (8.97 %)  |
| Ann Marie Weselan | 31 | (21.38 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes cast, the names of Michael Coffey, Mark Harris, and Matthew Thompson were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                         |            |                  |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Rev. Larry Loree</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>(65.79 %)</b> |
| Ann Marie Weselan       | 52         | (34.21 %)        |

Rev. Larry Loree was elected to a first term on the Endowment Fund Board of Managers.

The first ballot for the fourth position on the District Endowment Fund Board of Managers was conducted and the results posted:

|                          |           |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Michael Coffey           | 17        | (11.56 %)        |
| Mark Harris              | 33        | (22.49 %)        |
| Matthew Thompson         | 17        | (11.56 %)        |
| <b>Ann Marie Weselan</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>(54.42 %)</b> |

Ann Marie Weselan was elected to a first term on the Endowment Fund Board of Managers.

Rev. Alex Sabol presented the slate of candidates for the District Nominating Committee. He noted that the positions for Ordained Minister (Eastern Region), Ordained Minister (Western Region), Commissioned Minister/Lay (Eastern Region), and Commissioned Minister/Lay (Midwestern Region) each had only one candidate.

Rev. Sabol asked the Secretary to cast one vote for the following individuals, electing them to those positions:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Rev. Robert Kieselowsky    | Ordained Minister (Eastern Region)            |
| Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | Ordained Minister (Western Region)            |
| Connor Hagey               | Commissioned Minister/Lay (Eastern Region)    |
| Rod Lane                   | Commissioned Minister/Lay (Midwestern Region) |

Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse, Connor Hagey, and Rod Lane were elected to the District Nominating Committee.

Rev. Sabol presented the slate of candidates for District Nominating Committee, Ordained Minister (Lake Erie Region):

Rev. Mark Braden  
Rev. Larry Loree  
Rev. Dr. David Petersen

The first ballot for District Nominating Committee, Ordained Minister (Lake Erie Region) was conducted and the results posted:

|                                |           |                  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Mark Braden               | 34        | (22.82 %)        |
| Rev. Larry Loree               | 23        | (15.44 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Dr. David Petersen</b> | <b>92</b> | <b>(61.74 %)</b> |

Rev. Dr. David Petersen was elected to the District Nominating Committee.

Rev. Sabol presented the slate of candidates for District Nominating Committee, Commissioned Minister/Lay (Lake Erie Region):

Jonathan Busarow  
Mark Harris  
Terry Leu

The ballot for District Nominating Committee, Commissioned Minister/Lay (Lake Erie Region) was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Jonathan Busarow | 50 | (33.78 %) |
| Mark Harris      | 49 | (33.11 %) |
| Terry Leu        | 49 | (33.11 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes and a tie for last place, no names were removed. A second ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                  |    |           |
|------------------|----|-----------|
| Jonathan Busarow | 60 | (39.47 %) |
| Mark Harris      | 40 | (26.32 %) |
| Terry Leu        | 52 | (34.21 %) |

With no candidate receiving a majority of votes, the name of Mark Harris was removed. A third ballot was conducted and the results posted:

|                         |           |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Jonathan Busarow</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>(53.29 %)</b> |
| Terry Leu               | 71        | (46.71 %)        |

Jonathan Busarow was elected to the District Nominating Committee.

Rev. Sabol presented the slate of candidates for District Nominating Committee, Ordained Minister (Midwestern Region):

Rev. Daniel Greg  
Rev. Thomas Engler

The ballot for District Nominating Committee, Ordained Minister (Midwestern Region) was conducted and the results posted:

|                           |           |                  |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Rev. Daniel Greg          | 55        | (39.57 %)        |
| <b>Rev. Thomas Engler</b> | <b>84</b> | <b>(60.43 %)</b> |

Rev. Thomas Engler was elected to the District Nominating Committee.

Rev. Sabol presented the slate of candidates for District Nominating Committee, Commissioned Minister/Lay (Western Region):

Andrew Grant  
Thomas Honebrink

The ballot for District Nominating Committee, Commissioned Minister/Lay (Western Region) was conducted and the results posted:

|                         |           |                  |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Andrew Grant            | 40        | (29.20 %)        |
| <b>Thomas Honebrink</b> | <b>97</b> | <b>(70.80 %)</b> |

Thomas Honebrink was elected to the District Nominating Committee.

Following these elections, President Miskus thanked the Elections Committee for its work during the Convention. He also expressed thanks to all individuals who completed their terms of service to the District in various offices.

At 4:10 PM, President Miskus invited Rev. James Huenink and Rev. Dr. Mark Menacher to the dais to assist in the presentation of the Roger D. Pittelko Award to Rev. Steven J. Duescher. A brief summary of Rev. Duescher's work as a pastor, primarily in Southern California, was given. Following this, Rev. Duescher was presented the award. He was joined onstage by his wife, Connie. Rev. Duescher expressed his love for the English District and the service to Christ that he was privileged to conduct within the English District.

At 4:20 PM, President Miskus recalled Floor Committee 1.

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1-03A "To Reject Kinism" (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, pp. 6-7 & 6-8*) for adoption. During discussion, a delegate proposed a substitute motion: "To Request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) to Produce a New Document on Race."

WHEREAS, Holy Scripture declares that God created all humanity in His image (Genesis 1:27) and that all believers are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28), condemning all forms of racial hatred as sinful (James 2:9); and

WHEREAS, The 1994 CTCR document *Racism and the Church* was commended by the Synod (1995 Res. 2-05A), yet a minority opinion by Rev. Dr. James Voelz, Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie, Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb, and Rev. Dr. Norman Nagel raised concerns about the document's reliance on sociological frameworks not grounded in Lutheran theology; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, new racial ideologies (e.g., Kinism, critical race theory) and secular distortions (e.g., globalism, and the improper binding of consciences on matters such as immigration) have proliferated, leading to widespread confusion; and

WHEREAS, On matters such as immigration policy, Scripture does not bind the Christian conscience to a single political solution, and faithful Christians may, in good conscience, come to differing conclusions (Romans 14:1–4); and

WHEREAS, It is contrary to Christian liberty to bind consciences where God has not spoken; and

WHEREAS, Pastors urgently need theologically sound resources to:

- Proclaim Law and Gospel to those afflicted with the sin of racial hatred.
- Address concerns about cultural and societal distortions.
- Provide faithful care for those harmed by racism.

therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the LCMS in convention direct the CTCR to produce a new document on race, revisiting the 1994 *Racism and the Church*, to address:

1. The theological concerns raised in the 1994 minority opinion, ensuring that definitions and frameworks align with Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.
2. Modern racial ideologies (e.g., Kinism, critical race theory) and distortions (e.g., globalism, immigration-related conscience binding), evaluating them through a biblical lens while affirming Christian liberty in areas where Scripture is silent.
3. Pastoral strategies for:
  - Calling sinners to repentance with truth spoken in love (Ephesians 4:15).
  - Ministering to those harmed by racial hatred or confused by racial ideologies and contemporary issues related to race.

and be it further

*Resolved*, That this document provide exegetical analysis of key biblical texts (e.g., Acts 17; Revelation 7; Galatians 3), and clearly distinguish between God’s design for nations, man-made racial constructs, Law and Gospel, and the two kinds of righteousness; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the CTCR complete this document in time for the 2029 LCMS Convention and distribute it to all congregations; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That pastors and congregations make use of this resource to foster repentance, reconciliation, and Christ-centered unity, proclaiming that for those who belong to Christ by faith: “There is neither Jew nor Greek... for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28).

The assembly voted to consider the substitute motion [Y-119; N-36]. During discussion of the substitute motion, the motion to table was offered; the motion to table carried [Y-90; N-64].

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1–04A “To Encourage Unity among Our Churches” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum*, p. 6–9) for adoption. During discussion, delegates spoke both for and against the resolution. During discussion, a delegate offered an amendment: “~~To strike from Line 26–27: ‘to repent of any sinful or divisive behaviors, receive the forgiveness and comfort Christ alone can give’ and replace with: ‘to speak well of each other...’~~” The amendment was adopted [Y-131; N-20]. Following debate, the amended resolution was adopted [Y-98; N-52].

At 4:53 PM, President Miskus summoned Floor Committee 4 (Congregational Services) to the dais.

Floor Committee 4 moved Resolution 4–01A “To Request a Comprehensive Review of the Theological Concerns and Practical Procedures When a Call Is Terminated or Self-Terminated” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum*, p. 6–15) for adoption. With no delegate desiring to speak to the resolution, the motion carried [Y-133; N-17].



Floor Committee 4 moved Resolution 4-02A “To Direct the Office of National Mission to Perform a Systematic Review of All Registered Service Organizations (RSOs)” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, p. 6-16 & 6-17*) for adoption. During discussion, a delegate offered an amendment: “*To strike in Line 54 ‘those who abet lawbreakers’ and replace with ‘those who assist illegal activities but not to deny that we give comfort and help to lawbreakers...’*” The amendment was adopted. Following debate, the motion failed [Y-41; N-110].

Floor Committee 4 moved Resolution 4-03A “To Affirm the Board of Regents and Administration of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor in Their Efforts to Resolve Financial Deficits” (*June 26, 2025 Addendum, p. 6-18*) with a committee-initiated amendment in Lines 17-19 for adoption. During discussion, a delegate offered an amendment: “*To strike in Lines 27 & 28: ‘recognizing that as sinful, fallible mortals their communication efforts could have been handled better.’*” The motion to amend failed [Y-41; N-108]. Following debate, the motion carried [Y-125; N-28].

President Miskus thanked Floor Committee 4 for its work and dismissed the committee.

At 5:28 PM, President Miskus invited Rev. Dr. Gerald Paul to the dais to greet the delegates. Rev. Dr. Paul is an LCMS missionary in the Cayman Islands. He thanked the delegates for the generosity that has been shown to support the work at Safe Harbour Lutheran Church in Grand Cayman. The congregation conducts worship in English but is composed of individuals of multiple language groups.

At 5:40 PM, President Miskus called Rev. Lackey to the dais to offer the meal blessing. President Miskus declared the Convention in recess, with business sessions to resume at 7:00 PM.

## **FIFTH SESSION – FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 27, 2025**

At 7:00 PM, delegates and guests reconvened in the gymnasium. President Miskus brought the Convention to order.

President Miskus called Rev. DiConti to the dais to offer prayer at the beginning of the session.

At 7:02 PM, President Miskus recalled Floor Committee 1 to the dais.

Floor Committee 1 moved that Resolution 1-01B “To Encourage the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to Affirm Unequivocally the Practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation....” be taken from the table; motion carried. The committee moved Resolution 1-01B for adoption. The committee highlighted the edits that it had made to the resolution. With no delegate wishing to speak to the revised resolution, it carried [Y-106; N-28].

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1-02B “To State Religious Objection to Government Interference of Parents’ Duty” for adoption. The committee highlighted the edits that it had made to the resolution. During discussion, an amendment was proposed: “*To strike ‘heretical’ in Line 64 and replace it with ‘false.’*” The amendment was adopted [Y-104; N-29]. With no delegate wishing to speak further to the amended resolution, it carried [Y-125; N-13].

Floor Committee 1 moved Resolution 1–03A be taken from the table; motion carried. Debate resumed on the substitute motion. With no delegate wishing to speak to the substitute motion, Resolution 1-03S: “To Request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) to Produce a New Document on Race,” went before the assembly for adoption; motion carried [Y-67; N-63].

President Miskus thanked Floor Committee 1 for its work.

At 7:27 PM, President Miskus called on Rev. Justin Laughridge to speak about the work of the District Mission Action Team. Gordon Marquette spoke about the 1-1-1 Mission Funding Initiative and the level of participation by congregations in that initiative: only 6% of District congregations are currently actively participating. To help revive this initiative, he spoke about the Scriptural statements about God granting all good gifts, while establishing a goal for each congregation to have a member be an “owner” of the 1-1-1 Mission Funding Initiative in their congregation. The Mission Action Team also interacts with campus ministry, the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission, and church planting efforts within the District. Rev. Laughridge announced to the delegates that his time as co-chair of the Mission Action Team will conclude at the end of the triennium.

At 7:43 PM, President Miskus called on Mr. Albert Amling, District Education Executive, to address the Convention. There are currently 30 church work students receiving grants from the District to help subsidize their education. He challenged each pastor to recruit one church work student in the next triennium. He also reminded the delegates about the recipients of the Professional Educator of the Year for 2023, 2024, and 2025, respectively: Mrs. Bethany Dillon, Mrs. Sara Miller, and Mrs. Katie Brech. He also announced that Mrs. Janet Stechholz has been granted the Lifetime Ministry Service Award.

At 7:48 PM, President Miskus called on Rev. Derek Mathers, Assistant to the Bishop, to address the Convention. He highlighted the four areas of work that he conducts for the District: (a) advising the Bishop on ecclesiastical matters, (b) promoting worker wellness, (c) advancing the 1-1-1 Mission Funding Initiative, and (d) supporting mission efforts. During his presentation, he also spoke about the District’s identity being defined by mission rather than geography, legacy congregations that contribute significant gifts at their dissolution to continue mission work, congregational institutional vitality (human stewardship), and mission planting by local congregations or groups of congregations.

At 8:09 PM, President Miskus invited the members of the District Office Staff to the dais to formally introduce them to the Convention and to thank them for their dedicated service to the District. District Office Staff honored were: Sally Naglich – District Business Manager; Kathy Stanis – Administrative Assistant to the Bishop; Natalya Hrecznyj – Accounting Assistant; Linda Linthicum – Communications Coordinator; and Peggy Oke – Administrative Assistant to the Business Manager. He also thanked Tim Arnold who coordinated audio/visual presentations during the Convention and Kathy Arnold who was taking publicity photographs. He also thanked Frank Naglich and Paul Stanis for their hours of volunteer work for the Convention.

At 8:14 PM, President Miskus called Rev. DiConti to the dais to offer prayer for the conclusion of the day’s session. President Miskus declared the Convention in recess, with business sessions to resume on June 28, 2025 at 8:00 AM.

## **SIXTH SESSION – SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, 2025**

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

Matins were conducted by Rev. Christopher Seifferlein. Rev. Robert Kieselowsky, 4<sup>th</sup> Vice-President, preached a devotional homily based on Luke 16:14–17.

At 8:25 AM, President Miskus called Rev. Jonathan Lackey to the dais to offer prayers prior to the final elections of the Convention.

Rev. McCall presented the slate of candidates for Circuit Visitor (*June 28, 2025 addendum, p. 6–57*). President Miskus noted the change in the slate first presented in the Convention Workbook due to the realignment of Visitation Circuits enacted by Resolution 3–01B. Rev. McCall moved ratification of the slate of Circuit Visitors. Motion carried [Y-107; N-3].

At 8:31 AM, President Miskus presented the minutes of the June 27, 2025 convention sessions for approval by the delegates. The minutes were approved.

At 8:32 AM, President Miskus invited Mr. John Hoover, District Vice-President of Lutheran Extension Fund, to the dais to speak about the work of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). He shared the regrets from Rev. Bart Day, LCEF Chief Executive Officer, who was unable to travel to the Convention. He spoke about the main purposes of LCEF to support the congregations and church workers of the Synod, especially in the matters of loans.

At 8:41 AM, President Miskus called Mr. Ron Grimm, District Gift Planning Counselor, to the dais to speak about his work on behalf of the LCMS Foundation. He asked that delegates review the 2024 LCMS Foundation Ministry Report that is linked to his printed report (*2025 Convention Workbook, p. 3–21*). He also emphasized the Lifetime Plan for Giving program offered to members of District congregations to help develop ways that assets can be passed down to support future ministries.

At 8:53 AM, President Miskus invited Rev. Dr. Timothy Rossow from Luther Classical College to the dais to speak about the development of the school in Casper, WY. The emphasis of the college is to return to a pedagogy based on facts and reason. The curriculum is rooted in the same curriculum used in past generations. The first class of students is being enrolled in Fall 2025.

At 9:02 AM, President Miskus had a video presented from Dr. Roni Grad, Chairman of the District Lifeline Team, to inform delegates about the work of the District Lifeline Team. Members from the Lifeline Team were recognized. Rev. Seifferlein from the Lifeline Team spoke further about how District members can join the efforts of the group. President Miskus also noted that Lifeline resources are available to District members. Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt from the Lifeline Team also noted that this is the last year of the current matching grant from Synod for life ministry efforts.

At 9:07 AM, President Miskus called Rev. Fred Gerlach to the dais to report about the District Endowment Fund. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to create a lasting, ongoing source of funding to support activities done by the District and its member congregations in several areas: Human Care/Disaster Relief, New Missions, Scholarships, Church Worker Debt Reduction, Campus Ministry, Other Ministry.

At 9:10 AM, President Miskus announced that the business items of the agenda had been completed. He declared the business sessions of the 58<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the English District to be closed. President Miskus led the Convention in the Rite of Closing a Convention.

### **CONVENTION CLOSING SERVICE – SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, 2025**

Delegates were directed to the Chapel of the Holy Trinity for the Divine Service with Commemoration of the Departed, which began at 10:00 AM.

The Divine Service was sponsored by Epiphany Lutheran Church – Dorr, 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 All Saints Day. Rev. Robert Rogers, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, served as preacher; Rev. Ryan Beffrey, served as celebrant. Other liturgical leaders included District President Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, Rev. Jonathan McCall, and Rev. Christopher Seifferlein. Dr. John Boenberg from Concordia University Wisconsin Ann Arbor supplied musical leadership.

During the Divine Service, Rev. Peter Lange, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, installed Rev. Jeffrey Miskus as District President. President Miskus installed the District Vice-Presidents and other officers elected at the Convention.

Submitted,

Rev. Luke T. Zimmerman  
Secretary, LCMS English District

## SLATE OF NOMINEES & ELECTION RESULTS

| OFFICE/NOMINEE                                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Ballot | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ballot | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ballot |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>District President</b>                          |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Jeffrey Miskus</b>                         | <b>106 (61.63 %)</b>   |                        |                        |
| Rev. Dr. David Petersen                            | 66 (38.37 %)           |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>District Vice-President (Eastern Region)</b>    |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Robert Kieselowsky</b>                     | <b>1-0</b>             |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>District Vice-President (Lake Erie Region)</b>  |                        |                        |                        |
| Rev. James Leistico                                | 47 (31.76 %)           |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Zachary Marklevitz</b>                     | <b>101 (68.24 %)</b>   |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>District Vice-President (Midwestern Region)</b> |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Anthony Oliphant</b>                       | <b>1-0</b>             |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>District Vice-President (Western Region)</b>    |                        |                        |                        |
| Rev. Kevin Belter                                  | 21 (13.13 %)           |                        |                        |
| Rev. James Huenink                                 | 28 (17.5 %)            |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse</b>                  | <b>97 (60.63 %)</b>    |                        |                        |
| Rev. Steven Resner                                 | 14 (8.75 %)            |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Ranking</b>       |                        |                        |                        |
| Rev. Robert Kieselowsky                            | 52 (31.14 %)           | 65 (38.46 %)           | 81 (47.65 %)           |
| Rev. Zachary Marklevitz                            | 29 (17.37 %)           | 27 (15.98 %)           | ----                   |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse</b>                  | <b>67 (40.12 %)</b>    | <b>77 (45.56 %)</b>    | <b>89 (52.35 %)</b>    |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant                              | 19 (11.38 %)           | ----                   | ----                   |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Ranking</b>       |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Robert Kieselowsky</b>                     | <b>117 (70.06 %)</b>   |                        |                        |
| Rev. Zachary Marklevitz                            | 31 (18.56 %)           |                        |                        |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant                              | 19 (11.38 %)           |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President Ranking</b>       |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Zachary Marklevitz</b>                     | <b>106 (64.24 %)</b>   |                        |                        |
| Rev. Anthony Oliphant                              | 59 (35.76 %)           |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                   |                        |                        |                        |
| <b>Rev. Justin Laughridge</b>                      | 57 (37.25 %)           | <b>85 (54.49 %)</b>    |                        |
| Rev. Justin Schmidt                                | 46 (30.07 %)           | ----                   |                        |
| Rev. Chad Trouten                                  | 50 (32.68 %)           | 71 (45.51 %)           |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |
|  |                        |                        |                        |

|  |                      |                     |                     |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>BOD – Ordained (Eastern/Lake Erie)</b>  |                      |                     |                     |
| Rev. Larry Loree                           | 15 (9.55 %)          |                     |                     |
| Rev. Justin Schmidt                        | 18 (11.46 %)         |                     |                     |
| <b>Rev. Luke Zimmerman</b>                 | <b>124 (78.98 %)</b> |                     |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Ordained (Midwestern/Western)</b> |                      |                     |                     |
| Rev. Todd Arnold                           | 38 (26.21 %)         | 37 (24.18 %)        |                     |
| Rev. James Huenink                         | 38 (26.21 %)         | 33 (21.57 %)        |                     |
| <b>Rev. Dr. Mark Wood</b>                  | <b>69 (47.59 %)</b>  | <b>83 (54.25 %)</b> |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Commissioned 1</b>                |                      |                     |                     |
| Vicki Helmling                             | 15 (10.34 %)         | ----                |                     |
| Barbara Hemme                              | 22 (15.17 %)         | 15 (9.93 %)         |                     |
| Dwayne Jobst                               | 27 (18.62 %)         | 22 (14.57 %)        |                     |
| <b>Rod Lane</b>                            | <b>53 (36.55 %)</b>  | <b>85 (56.29 %)</b> |                     |
| Jennifer Miller                            | 28 (19.31 %)         | 29 (19.21 %)        |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Commissioned 2</b>                |                      |                     |                     |
| Vicki Helmling                             | 9 (6.08 %)           | ----                | ----                |
| Barbara Hemme                              | 28 (18.92 %)         | 22 (14.57 %)        | ----                |
| Dwayne Jobst                               | 53 (35.81 %)         | 61 (40.40 %)        | 65 (42.48 %)        |
| <b>Jennifer Miller</b>                     | <b>58 (39.19 %)</b>  | <b>68 (45.03 %)</b> | <b>88 (57.52 %)</b> |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Lay (Eastern)</b>                 |                      |                     |                     |
| Carol George                               | 47 (33.10 %)         | 55 (35.95 %)        |                     |
| Stephen Kurtz                              | 45 (31.69 %)         | ----                |                     |
| <b>Mark Pfundstein</b>                     | <b>50 (35.21 %)</b>  | <b>98 (64.05 %)</b> |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Lay (Lake Erie)</b>               |                      |                     |                     |
| Jonathan Busarow                           | 45 (31.47 %)         | 43 (28.86 %)        | 56 (36.13 %)        |
| <b>Thomas Habitz</b>                       | <b>53 (37.06 %)</b>  | <b>74 (49.66 %)</b> | <b>99 (63.87 %)</b> |
| Mark Harris                                | 45 (31.47 %)         | 32 (21.48 %)        | ----                |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Lay (Midwestern)</b>              |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>Christopher Cassel</b>                  | <b>1-0</b>           |                     |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>BOD – Lay (Western)</b>                 |                      |                     |                     |
| <b>Thomas Honebrink</b>                    | <b>52 (35.37 %)</b>  | <b>86 (56.21 %)</b> |                     |
| Glen Piper                                 | 47 (31.97 %)         | ----                |                     |
| Kristin Wellik                             | 48 (32.65 %)         | 67 (43.79 %)        |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |
|  |                      |                     |                     |

|  |                     |                      |  |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>BOD – Lay (At-Large 1)</b>                    |                     |                      |  |
| Jonathan Busarow                                 | 40 (26.32 %)        | 72 (46.15 %)         |  |
| Carol George                                     | 20 (13.16 %)        | ----                 |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 18 (11.84 %)        | ----                 |  |
| Stephen Kurtz                                    | 12 (7.89 %)         | ----                 |  |
| Glen Piper                                       | 15 (9.87 %)         | ----                 |  |
| <b>Kristin Wellik</b>                            | 47 (30.92 %)        | <b>84 (53.84 %)</b>  |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
| <b>BOD – Lay (At-Large 2)</b>                    |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Jonathan Busarow</b>                          | <b>81 (52.94 %)</b> |                      |  |
| Carol George                                     | 28 (18.30 %)        |                      |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 18 (11.76 %)        |                      |  |
| Stephen Kurtz                                    | 10 (6.54%)          |                      |  |
| Glen Piper                                       | 16 (10.46 %)        |                      |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Endowment Fund Board of Managers – Seat 1</b> |                     |                      |  |
| Michael Coffey                                   | 10 (6.67 %)         | ----                 |  |
| Rev. Fred Gerlach                                | 32 (21.33 %)        | 54 (36.49 %)         |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 21 (14.00 %)        | ----                 |  |
| <b>Terry Leu</b>                                 | 45 (30.00 %)        | <b>94 (63.51 %)</b>  |  |
| Rev. Larry Loree                                 | 21 (14.00 %)        | ----                 |  |
| Matthew Thompson                                 | 6 (4.00 %)          | ----                 |  |
| Ann Marie Weselan                                | 15 (10.00 %)        | ----                 |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Endowment Fund Board of Managers – Seat 2</b> |                     |                      |  |
| Michael Coffey                                   | 8 (5.37 %)          | ----                 |  |
| <b>Rev. Fred Gerlach</b>                         | 71 (47.65 %)        | <b>103 (68.67 %)</b> |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 17 (11.41 %)        | ----                 |  |
| Rev. Larry Loree                                 | 27 (18.12 %)        | 47 (31.33 %)         |  |
| Matthew Thompson                                 | 8 (5.37 %)          | ----                 |  |
| Ann Marie Weselan                                | 18 (12.08 %)        | ----                 |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Endowment Fund Board of Managers – Seat 3</b> |                     |                      |  |
| Michael Coffey                                   | 10 (6.90 %)         | ----                 |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 23 (15.86 %)        | ----                 |  |
| <b>Rev. Larry Loree</b>                          | 68 (46.90 %)        | <b>100 (65.79 %)</b> |  |
| Matthew Thompson                                 | 13 (8.97 %)         | ----                 |  |
| Ann Marie Weselan                                | 31 (21.38 %)        | 52 (34.21 %)         |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Endowment Fund Board of Managers – Seat 4</b> |                     |                      |  |
| Michael Coffey                                   | 17 (11.56 %)        |                      |  |
| Mark Harris                                      | 33 (22.49 %)        |                      |  |
| Matthew Thompson                                 | 17 (11.56 %)        |                      |  |
| <b>Ann Marie Weselan</b>                         | <b>80 (54.42 %)</b> |                      |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |
|  |                     |                      |  |

|   |                     |              |                     |
|---|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – Eastern)</b>        |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rev. Robert Kieselowsky</i></b>             | <b>1-0</b>          |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – Lake Erie)</b>      |                     |              |                     |
| Rev. Mark Braden                                  | 34 (22.82 %)        |              |                     |
| Rev. Larry Loree                                  | 23 (15.44 %)        |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rev. Dr. David Petersen</i></b>             | <b>92 (61.74 %)</b> |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – Midwestern)</b>     |                     |              |                     |
| Rev. Daniel Greg                                  | 55 (39.57 %)        |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rev. Thomas Engler</i></b>                  | <b>84 (60.43 %)</b> |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Ordained – Western)</b>        |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse</i></b>          | <b>1-0</b>          |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – Eastern)</b>    |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Connor Hagey</i></b>                        | <b>1-0</b>          |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – Lake Erie)</b>  |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Jonathan Busarow</i></b>                    | 50 (33.78 %)        | 60 (39.47 %) | <b>81 (53.29 %)</b> |
| Mark Harris                                       | 49 (33.11 %)        | 40 (26.32 %) | ----                |
| Terry Leu   | 49 (33.11 %)        | 52 (34.21 %) | 71 (46.71 %)        |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – Midwestern)</b> |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rod Lane</i></b>                            | <b>1-0</b>          |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Comm. on Noms. (Non-Ordained – Western)</b>    |                     |              |                     |
| Andrew Grant                                      | 40 (29.20 %)        |              |                     |
| <b><i>Thomas Honebrink</i></b>                    | <b>97 (70.80 %)</b> |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |
| <b>2026 LCMS Comm. on Conv. Noms.</b>             |                     |              |                     |
| <b><i>Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy</i></b>              | <b>98 (63.23 %)</b> |              |                     |
| Rev. Larry Loree                                  | 57 (36.77 %)        |              |                     |
|   |                     |              |                     |



## PROPOSED 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 OR 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. There is a two-minute speaking rule. Speakers must address their remarks to the chair or through the chair.
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.

## **GENERAL RULES OF DEBATE**

1. A member who desires to speak in debate must obtain the floor by permission of the chair.
2. Each member has the right to speak twice on the same question on the same day but cannot make a second speech on the same question so long as any member who has not yet spoken on that question desires the floor.
3. No one can speak longer than permitted by the rules of the assembly.
4. Debate must be confined to the merits of the pending question.
5. Speakers must address their remarks to the chair or through the chair.
6. Speakers must maintain a courteous tone and avoid injecting personal notes or attacking another member's motives.
7. Speakers should refer to officers by title only.
8. Speakers should avoid the mention of other members' names as much as possible.
9. The presiding officer should not enter into discussion of the merits of pending question. If the chair feels compelled to do so, he/she must relinquish the chair to a different presiding officer before speaking to the question at hand.
10. The presiding officer cannot close debate so long as any member who has not exhausted his right to debate desires the floor, except by order of the assembly (calling the question to terminate debate), which requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

## OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

2025-2028

English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                             |                                |                           |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. Jonathan Busarow        | The Rev. Justin Laughridge     | The Rev. Anthony Oliphant |
| Mr. Chris Cassel            | The Rev. Zachary Marklevitz    | Mr. Mark Pfundstein       |
| Mr. Thomas Habitz           | Ms. Jennifer Miller            | Mrs. Kristin Wellik       |
| Mr. Tom Honebrink           | The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus        | The Rev. Dr. Mark Wood    |
| The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky | The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | The Rev. Luke Zimmerman   |
| DCE Rod Lane                | Mrs. Sally Naglich             |                           |

### OFFICERS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus                            | 33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030   |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Morehouse | 15855 N Twin Lakes Drive, Tucson, AZ 85739-8895 |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky       | 25 Scenic Road, Springfield, PA 19064-1951      |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Zachary W. Marklevitz    | 150 50th Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49548-5636      |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> VICE PRESIDENT:</b> The Rev. Anthony J. Oliphant      | 123 E St Charles Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126       |
| <b>SECRETARY:</b> The Rev. Justin D Laughridge                          | 3200 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON M2M 3R7        |
| <b>TREASURER:</b> Mrs. Sally L. Naglich, CPA                            | 33100 Freedom Road, Farmington, MI 48336-4030   |

### CIRCUIT VISITORS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| New York/New Jersey #1: The Rev. Curtis Stephens  | Indiana #13: The Rev. Shawn Barnett              |
| Philadelphia #2: The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein | Chicago-South #14: The Rev. Douglas Hoag         |
| Florida #3: The Rev. Eric Linthicum               | Chicago-North #15: The Rev. Daniel Greg          |
| Georgia #4: The Rev. Aaron Sterling               | Milwaukee #16: The Rev. Frederic Reaman          |
| Buffalo #5: The Rev. David Walsh                  | St. Louis #17: The Rev. Jonathan Gruen           |
| Pittsburgh #6: The Rev. Justin Schmidt            | Texas #18: The Rev. Stanley Lacey                |
| Canada-East #7: The Rev. Gerald Luck              | Arizona-North #19: The Rev. Brian Crane          |
| Canada-West #8: The Rev. James Leistico           | Arizona-South #20: The Rev. Bruce von Hindenburg |
| Cleveland #9: The Rev. Robert Weldon Sr.          | San Diego #21: The Rev. James Huenink            |
| Detroit-South #10: The Rev. Bradford Scott        | Los Angeles #22: The Rev. Titus Utecht           |
| Detroit-North #11: The Rev. Timothy Holzerland    | Northwest #23: The Rev. Kevin Belter             |
| Western Michigan #12: The Rev. Alexander Sabol    |  |

### 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        | Treasurer / Executive Assistant to the President - Business & Finance        |
| Mr. Ronald Grimm          | LCMS Foundation Planned Giving Counselor                                     |
| Mr. John Hoover           | LCEF Vice President  |
| Mrs. Kathryn Stanis       | Administrative Assistant to the Bishop / President                           |
| Mrs. Peggy Oke            | Administrative Assistant – Business & Finance                                |
| Ms. Natalya Hrecznyj      | Accounting Assistant   |
| Mrs. Linda Linthicum      | Communications Coordinator   |

## **ELECTED COMMITTEES**

### **COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

| <b><u>REGION</u></b> | <b><u>PASTORS</u></b>          | <b><u>LAYPERSONS</u></b> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Eastern              | The Rev. Robert Kieselowsky    | Mr. Connor Hagey         |
| Lake Erie            | The Rev. Dr. David Petersen    | Mr. Jonathan Busarow     |
| Midwest              | The Rev. Thomas Engler         | DCE Rodrick Lane         |
| Western              | The Rev. Dr. Michael Morehouse | Mr. Thomas Honebrink     |

### **ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD OF MANAGERS**

|                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| The Rev. Fred Gerlach | The Rev. Jeffrey Miskus      |
| Mr. Terry Leu         | Mrs. Sally Naglich           |
| The Rev. Larry Loree  | Mrs. Kristin Wellik          |
| Ms. Ann Marie Weselan | Mr. Thomas Schlitt, Advisory |

## **APPOINTMENTS/APPOINTED COMMITTEES**

### **CAMPUS MINISTRY TASK FORCE**

The Rev. Eric Andrae, The Rev. Dr. Matthias Benfey, The Rev. Jacob Deal, The Rev. Marc DiConti, The Rev. Dr. David Dressel\*, The Rev. Curtis Dwyer, The Rev. Dr. Martin Erhardt, Mrs. Augusta Mennell, The Rev. Christopher Nuttelman, The Rev. James Robinson, The Rev. Brad Scott, The Rev. M. Todd Zill

### **CONSTITUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP #**

The Rev. Peter Bauernfeind, The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, The Rev. John Kelling

### **DISTRICT ARCHIVIST**

The Rev. Dr. David Stechholz

### **EVANGELISM TEAM**

The Rev. J. Derek Mathers, The Rev. Brian Pratt\*

### **LIFELINE**

Dr. Roni Grad\*, The Rev. Douglas Hoag, Mr. Glenn Kahle, Mr. Dave Lambert, Deaconess Jennifer Miller, The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein

### **MINISTERIAL HEALTH**

The Rev. Brian Crane, The Rev. Paul Haberstock, Deac. Barbara Hemme, The Rev. Timothy Holzerland\*, Ms. Marianne Jackson, The Rev. Dr. Christian Just, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers\*, The Rev. Greg Michel, Ms. Susan Neff, The Rev. Justin Schmidt

### **MISSION ACTION TEAM**

Mr. Ian Farquharson, Ms. Linda Gilbertson, The Rev. Justin Laughridge, The Rev. Gerald Luck, Mr. Gordon Marquette, The Rev. J. Derek Mathers\*, The Rev. Fred Reaman, The Rev. Titus Utecht, The Rev. Dr. Mark Wood\*

### **RECONCILERS #**

Mr. Richard Crain, The Rev. Philip Gai, Mr. Charles Porter, The Rev. David Young

### **STEWARDSHIP**

The Rev. Michael Scheer\*

### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Ryan Beffrey\*, The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein

\*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. Benjamin Ball  
6969 W Frontage Rd., Worden, IL 62097  
Third Vice President: The Rev. Dr. Scott Murray  
5800 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX 77057  
Fourth Vice President: The Rev. Nabil Nour  
46448 263rd St, Hartford, SD, 57033  
Fifth Vice President: The Rev. Christopher Esget  
1801 Russell Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Sixth Vice President: The Rev. Dr. John Wohlrabe, Jr.  
3832 S. Lake Dr., Saint Francis, WI 53235  
Secretary: The Rev. Dr. John Sias  
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122  
Chief Administrative Officer: Mr. Felix Loc  
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Nathan Haak  
Chief Mission Officer: The Rev. Kevin Robson

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Officers:* Mr. Christian Preus, Chairman; Mr. Andrew Grams, Vice-Chairman; The Rev. John Sias, Secretary

*Ordained Members:* The Rev. Roger Gallup, The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, The Rev. Josemon Hoem, The Rev. John Sias

*Commissioned Member:* Dr. Jan Lohmeyer

*Lay Members:* Mr. Andrew Grams, Mr. Larry Harrington, Mr. Leo MacKay Jr., Mr. Christian Preus, Mr. Rick Stathakis, Mr. K. Allan Voss, Dr. Jesse Yow

*Non-Voting Members:* The Rev. Peter Lange

*Advisory:* Mr. Nathan Haak, Mr. Felix Loc, Rev. Kevin Robson

*Legal Counsel:* UB Greensfelder LLP

# 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*

*Revisions Adopted in Convention: June 27, 2025*

## 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, Circuit Visitors, and members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Endowment Fund Board of Managers shall serve for a term of three (3) years.
- 5.1.2 Officers, Circuit Visitors, and members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Endowment Fund Board of Managers shall be ineligible for re-election or reappointment after serving a total of four (4) successive terms.
- (a) Such persons may become eligible again for election or appointment to the same office or function after an interval of three (3) or more years.
  - (b) Such persons may be appointed to fill an unexpired term after an interval of two (2) or more years.
  - (c) More than one-half of a term shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules.
  - (d) Any person who is ineligible for re-election or reappointment may be elected or appointed to another position.

### **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 two (2) ordained ministers from the clergy roster of the District, two (2) commissioned ministers from the commissioned minister roster of the District, 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.
  - (c) No more than one ordained minister shall be elected from the same District Region.
  - (d) No more than one commissioned minister shall be elected from the same District Region.
  - (e) No more than one ordained minister or commissioned minister shall be elected from the same congregation.
- 5.4.5 The District Convention shall elect 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.
- 5.4.6 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 position, excluding any individual holding membership in the same congregation as an individual elected to a Lay Regional Board of Director position, 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 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, and the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 according to the process outlined in the English District Endowment Fund Governing Document

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
- (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 five (5) non-voting members:
- (a) The Vice-Presidents of the District
  - (b) The Treasurer of the District
- 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              |
|--------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 1-01B  | To Encourage the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to Affirm Unequivocally the Practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation....                               | Adopted<br><i>[Y-106; N-28]</i>                        | Fifth Session<br>Friday Evening    |
| 1-02B  | To State Religious Objection to Government Interference of Parents' Duty  | Adopted as Amended<br><i>[Y-125; N-13]</i>             | Fifth Session<br>Friday Evening    |
| 1-03S  | To Request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) to Produce a New Document on Race   | Adopted as Substitute Motion<br><i>[Y-67; N-63]</i>    | Fifth Session<br>Friday Evening    |
| 1-04A  | To Encourage Unity Among our Churches   | Adopted as Amended<br><i>[Y-98; N-52]</i>              | Fourth Session<br>Friday Afternoon |
|        |   |  |                                    |
| 2-01   | To Affirm and Retain the Seven Mission Priorities of the LCMS   | Adopted with Received Amendment<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i> | Second Session<br>Thursday Evening |
| 2-02   | To Encourage Outreach and Ministry on College and University Campuses   | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Second Session<br>Thursday Evening |
| 2-03   | To Memorialize the Synod to Encourage Congregations in the LCMS to Include in Their Annual Mission Budgets Support for a Regional University of the Synod's Concordia University System | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Second Session<br>Thursday Evening |
|        |   |  |                                    |
| 3-01B  | To Realign and Rename Visitation Circuits   | Adopted<br><i>[Y-153; N-7]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |
| 3-02   | To Amend English District Bylaw 9.1.2   | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |
| 3-03   | To Amend English District Bylaw 5.1   | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |
| 3-04   | To Amend District Bylaw 6.2.5   | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |
| 3-05A  | To Amend District Bylaws 5.4 and 9.1.1  | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |
| 3-06   | To Declare the Reverend Dr. Jamison Hardy "Bishop Emeritus"   | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                         | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |

|       |  |   |                                    |
|-------|--|---|------------------------------------|
|       |  |   |                                    |
| 4-01A | To Request a Comprehensive Review of the Theological Concerns and Practical Procedures When a Call Is Terminated or Self-Terminated              | Adopted<br><i>[Y-133; N-17]</i>                         | Fourth Session<br>Friday Afternoon |
| 4-02A | To Direct the Office of National Mission to Perform a Systematic Review of All Registered Service Organizations (RSOs)                           | Failed<br><i>[Y-41; N-110]</i>                          | Fourth Session<br>Friday Afternoon |
| 4-03A | To Affirm the Board of Regents and Administration of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor in Their Efforts to Resolve Financial Deficits | Adopted as amended by Committee<br><i>[Y-125; N-28]</i> | Fourth Session<br>Friday Afternoon |
|       |  |   |                                    |
| SR-01 | To Thank and Recognize Mrs. Peggy Oke  | Adopted<br><i>[Voice Vote]</i>                          | Third Session<br>Friday Morning    |

## Resolutions Adopted by 2025 District Convention

### Resolution 1-01B

**To Encourage the English District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to Affirm Unequivocally the Practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation as a Godpleasing Practice so as to Encourage Member Congregations and Pastors of the English District to Recognize the Validity of the Aforementioned Practice and, On That Basis, Commune Visiting Children Who, Though Not Yet Confirmed, Are Nevertheless Communicant Members in Good Standing and Who, Therefore, Should Not Be Denied the Lord's Body and Blood Because They Have Not Yet Been Confirmed.**

WHEREAS, Many member congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod receive children as communicants to the Lord's Supper through the Rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation (LSB: Agenda 25-27), and, therefore, have nonConfirmed, yet communicant children who regularly and faithfully commune at their home congregations; and

WHEREAS, The majority of our Member Congregations do not receive children as full communicant members until they have completed Confirmation and have gone through the Rite of Confirmation (LSB: Agenda, 28-31); and

WHEREAS, Both the Rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation as well as the Rite of Confirmation are countenanced and legitimated by Synod as evidenced by the presence of each rite in and use out of the *Lutheran Service Book: Agenda*; and

WHEREAS, Both rites exist, not by divine command, but as human ordinances and thus neither have the status of a Sacrament (Ap. XIII.6); and

WHEREAS, Neither rite confers the status of worthy communicant, which is determined, not by a human ordinance, “but that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: ‘Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,’” (SC VI; cf., 1Cor. 11:27-29); and

WHEREAS, Both rites fulfill the prescription of the Lutheran Confessions that “people are admitted only if they first had an opportunity to be examined and heard” (AC XXIV.6-7) and “the sacrament is made available to those who wish to partake of it, after they have been examined and absolved” (Ap XXIV.1); (see General Notes for both rites, p. 25 and 28 respectively); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Confessions do not require uniform rites, ordinances, and ceremonies for the sake of the unity of faith and the Church (AC VII.3; cf., Ap XV.18), thus allowing disparate rites to admit children to the Lord's Supper; and

WHEREAS, Refusal to Commune such visiting children who have been legitimately received to the Lord's Table through instruction, examination, and absolution, which precedes the Rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation, causes such little ones, whose angels always behold the face of their Father in heaven, to stumble through confusion and offense (Matt. 18:6; see Ap XV.49 regarding how “traditions are truly traps of consciences”); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention unequivocally affirm the practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation as a Godpleasing practice and a legitimate way to faithful reception of the Lord's Supper; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention encourage Member Congregations and Pastors of the English District to recognize the validity of the aforementioned practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation that they may commune visiting children who, though not yet confirmed, are nevertheless communicant members in good standing at their home congregations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention memorialize the Synod in its 2026 Convention to adopt the same position; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District survey her Member Congregations in order to determine the percentage of congregations making use of the rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation, and publish the results of said survey among our congregations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention memorialize the Synod in its 2026 Convention to survey all Member Congregations in order to determine the percentage of congregations making use of the rite of First Communion prior to confirmation, and publish the results of said survey among the congregations of Synod; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the English District prepare a tool kit for congregations and Pastors that both equips Pastors who desire to implement such a rite to teach about the practice of First Communion Prior to Confirmation and that, likewise, equips Pastors to instruct congregations who do not yet understand the Godpleasing nature of the rite of First Communion Prior to Confirmation so that such congregations who do not observe this practice gladly welcome and receive visiting communicant children who desire to receive the Lord's Supper, and that encourages all communicant members to announce for Communion when visiting congregations other than their own.

## Resolution 1-02B

### To State Religious Objection to Government Interference of Parents' Duty

WHEREAS, The Small Catechism confesses that God has created and given to each person “my body”; and

WHEREAS, The body of the baptized is the temple of the Holy Spirit and belongs not to government or its institutions (such as schools: public or private), but to God (1 Corinthians 6:19); and

WHEREAS, The Fourth Commandment, as explained in the Large Catechism, places all authority over a child on the parents of that child, so that we confess, “All authority flows and is born from the authority of parents. Where a father is unable alone to educate his child, he uses a schoolmaster to teach the child. So all whom we call ‘masters’ are in the place of parents and must get their power and authority to govern from them” (para 141-142; emphasis added); and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures (and the Catechism) do not limit parental authority to a particular age, but state that God has given authority to parents over all children who live in their household; and

WHEREAS, the doctrine of the Two Kingdoms affirms prescriptively that while the government bears the sword for civil order (Romans 13:4), it allows the Kingdom of the Left no jurisdiction relative to the responsibilities God has given to parents in the spiritual and moral upbringing of their children; and

WHEREAS, Government in our society at federal, state, and local levels has attempted or may attempt to step between children and their parents (impeding the parents' duty to raise their children in the faith and life of the Christian confession) in various ways, including but not limited to:

- Laws that mandate vaccines for children even without parents' approval
- Laws that allow, recommend, or give children sex-change operations or medical procedures for “transitioning” minors without parents’ approval
- Laws that permit minors to get an abortion without parents’ approval
- Laws that label parents who refuse their minor children vaccines, sex-change operations and procedures, or abortions as engaging in child abuse
- Laws that remove children from the custody of parents who refuse their minor children vaccines, sex-change operations and procedures, or abortions
- School policies that teach children various anti-scriptural social agendas without parents’ approval
- School policies that mandate vaccines for children even without parents’ approval
- School policies that encourage children to “transition” or use gender-confusing language or introduce sexual or gender identities that do not conform with the child’s birth sex without parents’ approval

Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the English District boldly, unequivocally, and plainly state its objection on the grounds of religious belief and constitutionally protected religious liberty, to any federal, state, or local law or mandate or any school policy, that imposes the government’s will over the parents’ duty to raise their children or that aids the minor child’s will to be kept secret from the parents; and further be it

*Resolved*, That the English District state plainly its willingness and readiness to support, come to the aid of, and speak in defense of any parents within sister congregations of the English District who face such

interference whether by providing pastoral care, connecting them with legal or educational resources, or advocating publicly and lawfully on their behalf; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District urge The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention and each and every one of her districts to boldly, unequivocally, and plainly state their unconditional agreement with this religious objection to government interference in the Christian parent's duty to raise their children in the faith and life of the Christian confession; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District urge The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and each and every one of her districts to boldly, unequivocally, and plainly denounce any teachings of any church bodies which seek to advocate for or tolerate the government interfering with parents' duties in raising their children in the Christian faith and life. Such teachings are unbiblical, unchristian, false, opposed to God, and worthy of condemnation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District urge her congregations and all their families to benefit their children with the use of Lutheran schools or Lutheran homeschools/hybrid co-ops, or to become involved in their local public school government, that the parents may safeguard their God-given responsibility, and that the children may be protected from such government overreach and godless agendas and may be raised in the proper fear of the Lord; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the English District encourage its congregations and pastors to equip parents through ongoing catechesis and public teaching regarding their God-given vocation, their rights under the law, and the spiritual care of their households.

## Resolution 1–03S

### To Request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) to Produce a New Document on Race

WHEREAS, Holy Scripture declares that God created all humanity in His image (Genesis 1:27) and that all believers are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28), condemning all forms of racial hatred as sinful (James 2:9); and

WHEREAS, The 1994 CTCR document *Racism and the Church* was commended by the Synod (1995 Res. 2-05A), yet a minority opinion by Rev. Dr. James Voelz, Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie, Rev. Dr. Ken Schurb, and Rev. Dr. Norman Nagel raised concerns about the document's reliance on sociological frameworks not grounded in Lutheran theology; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, new racial ideologies (e.g., Kinism, critical race theory) and secular distortions (e.g., globalism, and the improper binding of consciences on matters such as immigration) have proliferated, leading to widespread confusion; and

WHEREAS, On matters such as immigration policy, Scripture does not bind the Christian conscience to a single political solution, and faithful Christians may, in good conscience, come to differing conclusions (Romans 14:1–4); and

WHEREAS, It is contrary to Christian liberty to bind consciences where God has not spoken; and

WHEREAS, Pastors urgently need theologically sound resources to:

- Proclaim Law and Gospel to those afflicted with the sin of racial hatred.
- Address concerns about cultural and societal distortions.
- Provide faithful care for those harmed by racism.

therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the LCMS in convention direct the CTCR to produce a new document on race, revisiting the 1994 *Racism and the Church*, to address:

1. The theological concerns raised in the 1994 minority opinion, ensuring that definitions and frameworks align with Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.
2. Modern racial ideologies (e.g., Kinism, critical race theory) and distortions (e.g., globalism, immigration-related conscience binding), evaluating them through a biblical lens while affirming Christian liberty in areas where Scripture is silent.
3. Pastoral strategies for:
  - Calling sinners to repentance with truth spoken in love (Ephesians 4:15).
  - Ministering to those harmed by racial hatred or confused by racial ideologies and contemporary issues related to race.

and be it further

*Resolved*, That this document provide exegetical analysis of key biblical texts (e.g., Acts 17; Revelation 7; Galatians 3), and clearly distinguish between God's design for nations, man-made racial constructs, Law and Gospel, and the two kinds of righteousness; and be it further



*Resolved*, That the CTCR complete this document in time for the 2029 LCMS Convention and distribute it to all congregations; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That pastors and congregations make use of this resource to foster repentance, reconciliation, and Christ-centered unity, proclaiming that for those who belong to Christ by faith: “There is neither Jew nor Greek... for you are all one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28).

## **Resolution 1–04A**

### **To Encourage Unity among Our Churches**

#### **Preamble**

With geopolitical and socio-economic strife is on the rise between Canada, the United States, and many other nations; and because these tensions are spilling into the hearts of the members of our congregations; and because the English District is part of God's holy Church and a “District without borders”, we respectfully ask that the District issue a public statement encouraging repentance, amity, unity and prayer among our congregations.

WHEREAS, Geopolitical tension and socio-economic strife is creating division and antagonism between peoples and nations; and

WHEREAS, This political tension is being felt by members of our English District congregations; and

WHEREAS, The Kingdom of God is not of this world (John 18:36), Christ is undivided (1 Corinthians 1:13), and so too His Body (Colossians 3:12-15); and

WHEREAS, Luther’s explanation of the eighth commandment in the Small Catechism states that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead, we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the kindest way; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the English District issue a public statement encouraging the Pastors and members of our congregations to speak well of each other, pursue peace and unity with one another across international borders, and pray for and bless one another, beseeching the Father, Son and Holy Spirit's power and presence as they pray.

## **Resolution 2–01**

### **To Affirm and Retain the Seven Mission Priorities of the LCMS**

WHEREAS, The Board of National Mission and the Board of International Mission reported to the 2025 LCMS District Conventions evaluating Synod's current Mission Priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Seven Mission Priorities of the LCMS continue to direct the Synod's mission and ministry; and

WHEREAS, both the Boards of National and International Mission LCMS found no objection to the current mission priorities; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention give thanks to God for the faithful work being carried out by the Office of National Mission and International Mission; and be it further

*Resolved*, That every congregation in the English District be encouraged to review and embrace the seven mission priorities of the LCMS; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention memorialize the Synod Convention in 2026 to retain and continue conducting herself in accord with the seven mission priorities.

## **Resolution 2–02**

### **To Encourage Outreach and Ministry on College and University Campuses**

WHEREAS, The English District is known for its support for and encouragement of ministry among college students, with more than 18 different campuses served by its congregations and by supporting 9 ministries with funding from the district in the past triennium; and

WHEREAS, There are 145 LCMS-U chapters, and 416 congregations across the LCMS engaged in some form of college student ministry; and

WHEREAS, 95% of LCMS congregations report being within a 45-minute drive of a college or university campus; and

WHEREAS, There is a recognized need to train leaders for the future of the church, both as lay leaders and professional church workers; and

WHEREAS, Baptized and confirmed members of LCMS congregations attending college or university at a distance from their home congregation need a place to receive word and sacrament ministry and to grow in faith and service; and

WHEREAS, Even though the colleges and universities within the Concordia University System are blessings to the church-at-large and to the students who attend them, many LCMS students choose to attend a public or private school outside of the Concordia University System to pursue their academic and professional goals; and

WHEREAS, According to a recent Barna survey, 52% of U.S. adults age 18-22 do not identify as Christian and/or do not know who Jesus is (<https://www.barna.com/research/teens-and-jesus/> accessed 2/18/2025); and

WHEREAS, College and university campuses are vast international mission fields, with over 1.1 million students from around the world attending during the 2023-24 academic year, many of whom come from nations where Christians are in the minority or outlawed entirely (U.S. Department of State and the Institute of International Education; <https://opendoorsdata.org>); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention give thanks to God for the faithful work being carried out by the campus ministries within the district; and be it further

*Resolved*, That every congregation in the English District be encouraged to connect their college-bound members with the appropriate LCMS campus ministry or local congregation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention commend the Office of Youth Ministry for their efforts to support the work of LCMS-U chapters and campus ministry workers; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention give thanks to God for the work of LCMS Registered Service Organizations (RSOs) supporting work on campuses, specifically the Lutheran Campus Mission Association (LCMA) and International Student Ministry, Inc (ISM, Inc.); and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention memorialize the Synod convention in 2026 to reinstate a full-time Director of Campus Ministry within the Office of National Mission to coordinate, support and encourage outreach and discipleship on college and university campuses.

## **Resolution 2–03**

### **To Memorialize the Synod to Encourage Congregations in the LCMS to Include in Their Annual Mission Budgets Support for a Regional University of the Synod's Concordia University System**

WHEREAS, congregations of our LCMS are “synod,” and together pray to the Lord for our Synod and support of our Synod nationally, regionally, and locally; and

WHEREAS, our Synod is blessed with the “jewels” of two fine seminaries and several regional universities; and,

WHEREAS, many congregations of our Synod give at least some financial support for our seminaries; and

WHEREAS, it is the concern of each congregation, pastor, professional church worker, and parochial school as to the well-being of our synodical schools of higher learning, particularly our regional Concordias of the Concordia University System (CUS); and,

WHEREAS, over a half century ago our national Synod recognized the need for synodical districts, regional Concordias, seminaries, and other entities of Synod to develop their own advancement departments for fund raising, and encouraged them to do so, even though this did not always translate into financial support for our Concordia colleges and universities in particular until long after some of them were in severe financial straits and could not rely solely on student tuition and large endowments for support; and,

WHEREAS, there is a necessity for our congregations in particular to consider giving faithful support to the Concordia schools in their region; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District memorialize the LCMS to encourage the congregations of Synod to give prayerful consideration and financial support to our various Concordia universities; and be it further

*Resolved*, That pastors in shepherding their congregations encourage the financial, prayer, and “presence support” for and to a CUS Concordia or Concordias of their choosing; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District memorialize the LCMS in Convention to direct the CUS Board of Directors to send an annual letter of encouragement to pastors and congregations to give financial support, as well as prayer support, and encouragement of youth to consider attending a Concordia, especially for professional church work, and be it finally

*Resolved*, That in particular each congregation in each synodical district be encouraged to put a CUS school into its annual budget and/or mission budget, marking it a blessing of God to render such support for the furtherance of Christ's Kingdom of Grace, His Church on earth.

## Resolution 3–01B

### To Realign and Rename Visitation Circuits

#### Preamble

Visitation Circuits are created by Districts and exist for the benefit of congregations and the rostered church workers of those congregations.

LCMS Bylaw 5.1.1 defines the purpose of Visitation Circuits:

5.1.1 A visitation circuit is a network of congregations that “walks together” for mutual care, support, advice, study, ecclesiastical encouragement, service, coordination, resources, and counsel—all for the sake of greater congregational participation in God’s mission.

LCMS Bylaw 5.1.2 governs how Visitation Circuits are established, which is understood to mean that the establishment of Visitation Circuits is done by action of the District Convention, unless District Bylaws provide for another process:

5.1.2 Districts shall establish visitation circuits according to geographical criteria.

#### Rationale

Visitation Circuit 9 (Cleveland–Akron) and Visitation Circuit 10 (Cleveland–West) have seen a decline in member congregations and communicant members. For many years, these two Visitation Circuits have met together and continue to meet as essentially one Circuit. For the past several triennia, these two Visitation Circuits have been joined to create one Electoral Circuit for the purpose of electing delegates to the Synod Convention. These two Visitation Circuits desire to be combined into one Visitation Circuit. The merger of Visitation Circuits 9 & 10 would eliminate a Visitation Circuit, requiring a renumbering of the Visitation Circuits of the District. The geographic location of several congregations would allow them to be better served by being moved to different Visitation Circuits. Additionally, several Visitation Circuits have begun to refer to themselves by new names to better reflect their member congregations.

Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Visitation Circuits of the English District be realigned and renamed as follows:

#### **Circuit 1 – New York**

Bethany – Ewing, NJ  
Grace – Palisades Park, NJ  
Korean Cho Wong – Palisades Park, NJ  
Martin Luther – Pennsauken, NJ  
Messiah – Princeton, NJ  
Immanuel Korean – Flushing, NY  
Redeemer – St. Albans, NY  
Trinity – Scarsdale, NY  
Our Saviour – Valley Stream, NY

#### **Circuit 2 – Philadelphia**

Gloria Dei – Blue Bell, PA  
Mount Calvary – Lititz, PA  
Calvary – Mechanicsburg, PA

Rehoboth Afaan Oromo – Ridley Park, PA  
St. John – Springfield, PA  
Grace – Warminster, PA  
Immanuel – Alexandria, VA

#### **Circuit 3 – Florida**

Tree of Life – Inverness, FL  
Faith – Naples, FL  
Trinity – Ocala, FL  
Shepherd of the Coast – Palm Coast, FL  
Celebration – Saint Johns, FL

#### **Circuit 4 – Georgia**

Christ the Shepherd – Alpharetta, GA  
Ascension – Atlanta, GA

**Circuit 5 – Buffalo**

Calvary – Amherst, NY  
Pilgrim – Kenmore, NY  
Redeemer – North Tonawanda, NY  
Hope Community – Syracuse, NY  
Holy Trinity – Albion, PA  
Trinity – Erie, PA

**Circuit 6 – Pittsburgh**

Peace – McMurray, PA  
Redeemer – Oakmont, PA  
First Trinity – Pittsburgh, PA  
All Saints – Slippery Rock, PA  
St. John's – Bridgeport, WV

**Circuit 7 – Canada-East**

Christ – Aurora, ON  
St. John – Golden Lake, ON  
St. Luke – North York, ON  
St. Mark – Mississauga, ON  
St. John's – Pembroke, ON  
St. Matthew – Scarborough, ON

**Circuit 8 – Canada-West**

Our Saviour – Chatham, ON  
First – Kingsville, ON  
Hope – Kitchener, ON  
Grace – Mitchell, ON  
Redeemer – Sarnia, ON  
Gethsemane – Windsor, ON  
Peace – Windsor, ON

**Circuit 9 – Cleveland**

Concordia – Akron, OH  
Cristiana Hispana – Cleveland, OH  
Holy Cross – Cleveland, OH  
Grace – Elyria, OH  
Fairlawn – Fairlawn, OH  
Prince of Peace – Medina Township, OH  
Ascension – North Olmsted, OH  
Our Savior – North Royalton, OH  
Grace – Oberlin, OH  
St. Thomas – Streetsboro, OH

**Circuit 10 – Detroit-South**

Angelica – Allen Park, MI  
Christ Our Redeemer – Allen Park, MI  
Zion – Detroit, MI

Christ the King – Grosse Pointe Woods, MI  
Risen Christ – Plymouth, MI  
King of Glory – Sylvania, OH  
Good Shepherd – Toledo, OH

**Circuit 11 – Detroit-North**

Ascension of Christ – Beverly Hills, MI  
Grace – Redford Township, MI  
Redeemer – St. Clair Shores, MI  
St. Paul – St. Clair Shores, MI  
Holy Redeemer – Sandusky, MI  
Epic – Shelby Township, MI  
Shepherd King – West Bloomfield, MI  
New Beginnings – West Branch, MI

**Circuit 12 – West Michigan**

Hope – Bellaire, MI  
Epiphany – Dorr, MI  
Martin Luther – East Lansing, MI  
Hope – Grand Rapids, MI  
Our Savior – Hartland, MI  
Immanuel – Howell, MI  
Holy Trinity – Lakeview, MI  
Agnus Dei – Marshall, MI  
Christ – West Olive, MI  
Grace – Wyoming, MI

**Circuit 13 – Indiana**

Bethany – Fort Wayne, IN  
Jacob's Well – Fort Wayne, IN  
Redeemer – Fort Wayne, IN  
Peace – Fremont, IN  
Prince of Peace – Hudson, IN  
Trinity – La Porte, IN  
Advent – Zionsville, IN

**Circuit 14 – Chicago-South**

Concordia – Berwyn, IL  
Chatham Fields – Chicago, IL  
Ephphatha Deaf – Chicago, IL  
Faith – Chicago, IL  
St. John the Divine – Chicago, IL  
Messiah – Elmhurst, IL  
Markham – Markham, IL  
Trinity – New Lenox, IL



**Circuit 15 – Chicago-North**

Faith – Arlington Heights, IL  
Bethany – Chicago, IL  
Bethesda – Chicago, IL  
Christ English – Chicago, IL  
Grace English – Chicago, IL  
Holy Spirit – Elk Grove Village, IL  
Redeemer – Elmhurst, IL  
Trinity – Villa Park, IL

**Circuit 16 – Milwaukee**

Messiah – Forest Lake, MN  
Hope – Hastings, MN  
Hales Corners – Hales Corners, WI  
St. Mark – Janesville, WI  
Christ – Lake Mills, WI  
Prince of Peace – Menomonee Falls, WI  
Peace – New Berlin, WI  
St. Mark – Sheboygan, WI  
Faith – Watertown, WI  
Greenfield Park – West Allis, WI

**Circuit 17 – St. Louis**

Grace – Vine Grove, KY  
St. Johns – Hannibal, MO  
Beautiful Savior – Lees Summit, MO  
Chapel of the Cross – St. Louis County, MO  
Redeemer – Lincoln, NE

**Circuit 18 – Texas**

St. Thomas – Magnolia, TX  
St. Paul – Paris, TX

**Circuit 19 – Arizona-North**

Shepherd of the Canyon – Gold Canyon, AZ  
Eternal Life – Mesa, AZ  
Faith – Overgaard, AZ  
Messiah – Parker, AZ

Shepherd of the Pines – Payson, AZ  
Family of Christ – Phoenix, AZ  
Shepherd of the Mountains – Pinetop, AZ  
Prince of Peace – Mesquite, NV

**Circuit 20 – Arizona-South**

Risen Savior – Green Valley, AZ  
Christus Rex – Rio Rico, AZ  
Crosspoint – Sahuarita, AZ  
Ascension – Tucson, AZ  
Catalina – Tucson, AZ  
Faith – Tucson, AZ  
Holy Trinity – Tucson, AZ  
Messiah – Tucson, AZ  
Mount Olive – Tucson, AZ

**Circuit 21 – San Diego**

Borrego – Borrego Springs, CA  
First – El Cajon, CA  
St. Luke – La Mesa, CA  
Living Water – San Diego, CA

**Circuit 22 – Los Angeles**

St. Paul – Long Beach, CA  
Highland Park – Los Angeles, CA  
Chapel of the Cross – Mission Hills, CA  
Immanuel – Orange, CA  
Peace in the Desert – Palm Desert, CA  
Sherman Oaks – Sherman Oaks, CA

**Circuit 23 – Northwest**

Messiah – Danville, CA  
St. Mark – Ferndale, CA  
Hope – Fremont, CA  
New Life Chinese – San Francisco, CA  
West Portal – San Francisco, CA  
Blessed Sacrament – Hayden, ID  
Apostolic – Moses Lake, WA

## Resolution 3–02

### To Amend English District Bylaw 9.1.2

#### Preamble

At its December 2-3, 2022 meeting, the English District Board of Directors enacted an agreement with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) that would transfer governance of the Canada Corporation from the English District to LCEF. LCEF would replace the Canadian congregations of the English District as the sole member of the Canada Corporation and that, as the sole member, it will have the power to elect that entity's Board of Directors.

The agreement with LCEF to assume governance of the Canada Corporation was done, so that LCEF could potentially provide loans to Lutheran congregations and church workers in Canada that held membership outside the English District. That included both SELC congregations and church workers, as well as congregations and church workers belonging to Lutheran Church—Canada.

Authorization for LCEF to provide loans to entities not belonging to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) required The LCMS to amend its bylaws. The LCMS Bylaws were amended at the 2023 Synod Convention [2023 Resolution 9-10A], allowing LCEF to lend to non-Synod entities with the approval of the LCEF's governing board and the approval of The LCMS Board of Directors.

LCEF's assumption of governance of the Canada Corporation received final approval by The LCMS Board of Directors when it met on November 22–23, 2024. On December 5, 2024, the Members and Board of Directors of English District Canada Corporation voted to amend the corporation's governing documents. These actions mean that the former subagency of the English District—the Canada Corporation—has now become an incorporated subagency of an agency of the Synod—LCEF.

#### Rationale

With the Canada Corporation having become an incorporated subagency of LCEF, it is no longer under English District governance. The English District Board of Directors no longer has fiduciary responsibilities concerning the Canada Corporation. This makes representation of the Canada Corporation to the English District Board of Directors no longer necessary. Additionally, the change in status of the Canada Corporation includes a Board of Directors with members who are not members of English District congregations. Such an entity should not be empowered to make appointments to English District boards or committees.

Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That English District Bylaw 9.1.2 be amended as follows:

#### PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

9.1.2 The Board of Directors shall have six (6) five (5) 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)~~

## Resolution 3–03

### To Amend English District Bylaw 5.1

#### Rationale

During the 2022–2025 triennium, a number of District officeholders resigned their offices and took up new roles, either within or outside of the District. This led to several individuals beginning their service during the triennium, while other individuals completed more than half a term prior to their resignation.

As the nominating process for the 2025 District Convention reached its conclusion, questions were asked concerning the application of District Bylaw 5.1 to individuals who had served multiple terms in office but had resigned during their current term. These questions focused on whether the limitation on tenure would reset for them, particularly since they had not completed a full term but had not been out of office for an interval of less than a year. Due to how District Bylaw 5.1 currently reads, different opinions concerning the application of the limitation of tenure were being offered, with none being definitive.

This situation can be addressed by adopting revised bylaw language that resembles that used in Synod Bylaw 3.2.4.2, which establishes limitation on tenure for members of Synod boards and commissions.

Therefore be it

Resolved, That District Bylaw 5.1 be amended as follows:

#### ~~PRESENT/PROPOSED~~ WORDING

##### **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.~~

5.1.1 Officers, Circuit Visitors, and members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Endowment Fund Board of Managers shall serve for a term of three (3) years.

5.1.2 Officers, Circuit Visitors, and members of the Board of Directors, Committee on Nominations, Committee for Stewardship, and Endowment Fund Board of Managers shall be ineligible for re-election or reappointment after serving a total of four (4) successive terms.

(a) Such persons may become eligible again for election or appointment to the same office or function after an interval of three (3) or more years.

(b) Such persons may be appointed to fill an unexpired term after an interval of two (2) or more years.

(c) More than one-half of a term shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules.

(d) Any person who is ineligible for re-election or reappointment may be elected or appointed to another position.

## Resolution 3–04

### To Amend District Bylaw 6.2.5

#### Rationale

English District Endowment Fund Governing Document Paragraph 5.6 outlines a vacancy appointment process to fill any manager seat. That vacancy appointment process can be amended by the District Board of Directors without action by the District Convention. However, if changes to that vacancy appointment process are made within a triennium, the District Bylaws as they currently read would need to be amended. Accomplishing that may not be possible to do for months, if not years, until the District Convention is seated. This situation can be avoided by having District Bylaw 6.2.5 refer to the Endowment Fund Governing Document.

Therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Bylaw 6.2.5 be amended as follows:

#### ~~PRESENT~~/PROPOSED WORDING

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.~~

Vacancies that occur in the office of District Endowment Fund Manager shall be filled according to the process outlined in the English District Endowment Fund Governing Document.

## Resolution 3–05A

### To Amend English District Bylaws 5.4 and 9.1.1

WHEREAS, The elected voting membership of the English District Board of Directors currently consists of six (6) ministers of religion [four (4) ordained ministers—President, Secretary, one (1) ordained minister from the Eastern or Lake Erie Region, and one (1) ordained minister from the Midwestern or Western Region—and two (2) commissioned ministers] and six (6) laypersons [one (1) from each District Region and two (2) from the District at-large] who are elected by the District Convention (EN Bylaws 5.2.2, 5.4.4, 5.4.5, 5.5.3, and 9.1.1); and

WHEREAS, Regional representation by ordained ministers to the District Board of Directors is currently provided by the four Regional Vice-Presidents, who “shall advise the President, serve as his representatives, and assist him in bringing to the Board of Directors any needed recommendations” (EN Bylaw 4.3) and also serve as non-voting members of the Board of Directors (EN Bylaw 9.1.2); and

WHEREAS, The English District may be better served by electing ordained ministers with various skill sets (legal, finance, investment, administration, etc.) to its Board of Directors without limitation by District Region; and

WHEREAS, The election of commissioned ministers as voting members of the Board of Directors is no longer limited by District Region (cf. 2018 Resolution 3-03A); and

WHEREAS, The proposed bylaw amendments would not change the existing practice of the District Convention electing six (6) ministers of religion and six (6) laypersons to serve as voting members of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, The nomination process for election of ordained ministers to the Board of Directors at the 2025 English District Convention has been conducted under the current limitation by District Region (EN Bylaw 5.4.1); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That English District Bylaw 5.4 be amended as follows:

#### ~~PRESENT~~/PROPOSED WORDING

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) ordained ministers from the clergy roster of the District and two (2) commissioned ministers from the commissioned minister roster of the District, 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.
- (c) No more than one ordained minister shall be elected from the same District Region.
- (d) No more than one commissioned minister shall be elected from the same District Region.
- (e) No more than one ordained minister or commissioned minister shall be elected from the same congregation.

5.4.5 The District Convention shall elect 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.

5.4.56 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. All candidates not elected to a Lay Regional Board of Director position, excluding any individual holding membership in the same congregation as an individual elected to a Lay Regional Board of Director position, 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.

and be it further

*Resolved*, That English District Bylaw 9.1.1 be amended as follows:

PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

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.)

and be it finally

*Resolved*, That these amendments to English District Bylaws 5.4 and 9.1.1 be enacted following the election of the Board of Directors at the 2025 English District Convention and become effective upon adoption.

### **Resolution 3–06**

#### **To Declare the Reverend Dr. Jamison Hardy “Bishop Emeritus”**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Jamison J. Hardy served the English District for nine years as our Bishop and District President with honor; and

WHEREAS, He has accepted a call to serve as the President of the Concordia University System of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod bestow the title of “Bishop Emeritus” upon the Reverend Dr. Jamison J. Hardy; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District give thanks to our Lord and to Dr. Hardy for his years of honorable service.

## **Resolution 4–01A**

### **To Request a Comprehensive Review of the Theological Concerns and Practical Procedures When a Call Is Terminated or Self-Terminated**

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has committed to caring for pastors and church workers in one of its seven mission priorities, to wit: “To promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers;” and

WHEREAS, There are a number of reasons a person might self-terminate a Divine Call, e.g. age of retirement, mental or physical health concerns or incapacitations, personal conviction, etc.; and

WHEREAS, There is biblical precedent for the non-death ending of a tenure of service, e.g. Numbers 8:23-26; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) discussed termination of Divine Call in its 2003 Report "Theology and Practice of 'The Divine Call'" only from the perspective of outside termination and not self-termination; and

WHEREAS, Care should be given to the worker and the people of God served by the worker throughout the length of a Divine Call, including if a Call is terminated or self-terminated; and

WHEREAS, There is a paucity of theological rationale and practical direction in the Synod for the many ways a Divine Call might be self-terminated before death; and

WHEREAS, There can be confusion in the Church over legitimate and illegitimate reasons for terminating or self-terminating a Divine Call which might result in anxiety over Candidate status; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That church workers and congregations be given clear teaching on the theological and practical procedures when a Divine Call is terminated or self-terminated; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District memorialize Synod to instruct the CTCR to offer clarity regarding theological and practical considerations for the ways a Divine Call might be legitimately or illegitimately terminated or self-terminated; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District in convention memorialize Synod that the COP is to establish support and training materials for church workers who self-terminate their Divine Call legitimately; and be it further

*Resolved*, That district presidents and circuit visitors work with the workers and congregations of their district to support their called church workers before, during, and after times of termination and self-termination; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the English District Convention send this resolution as an overture to the 2026 Synod Convention.



## **Resolution 4–03A**

### **To Affirm the Board of Regents and Administration of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor in Their Efforts to Resolve Financial Deficits**

WHEREAS, In February 2024 the Board of Regents of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor (CUWAA), President Erik Ankerberg, and the administration of both campuses were confronted with financial realities that included a growing financial deficit; and

WHEREAS, The Ann Arbor campus had been unable to generate auxiliary revenue sufficient to meet its needs leading to an annual average operational shortfall of \$4 million for the entire university; and

WHEREAS, We recognize that CUWAA is a Lutheran higher education community of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod serving a focused educational mission in the world accountable for responsible stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Christians may disagree over how to handle challenging situations which may be concerning and painful for many to hear, especially students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and other CUAA and CUW stakeholders and the Ann Arbor community; and

WHEREAS, Christians may disagree over how to handle challenging situations; and

WHEREAS, The changes at CUWAA have been concerning and painful for many to hear, especially students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and other CUAA and CUW stakeholders and the Ann Arbor community; and

WHEREAS, We are called to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15); and

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents, President Ankerberg, and the administration of CUWAA have demonstrated faithful Christian leadership in their service to the students, faculty, staff, and Synod in a fair, reasonable, and responsible manner recognizing that as sinful, fallible mortals their communication efforts could have been handled better; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board of Regents, President Ankerberg, and the administration of CUWAA be commended for making the necessary decisions to ensure that CUWAA is financially secure and sustainable for future generations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That by our prayers they would be encouraged in their responsibility to be “steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58 ESV); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District continue to pray in good faith for the ongoing efforts of the Board of Regents, President Ankerberg, and the administration of CUWAA; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the English District continue to pray for the students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and other stakeholders of Concordia Ann Arbor as these initiatives have and continue to have impact on the Ann Arbor campus; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That since CUWAA directly impacts our churches, schools, and ministries and in the spirit of fraternal support and encouragement; the English District receive a report at its next Convention regarding the outcomes, benefits, and the ongoing efforts of the Board of Regents, President Ankerberg, and the entire administration of CUWAA.

**Resolution SR-01**

**To Thank and Recognize Mrs. Peggy Oke**

WHEREAS, Mrs. Peggy Oke has rendered joyful personal and professional work for the English District; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Peggy Oke is completing thirty-nine years of faithful District employment; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the English District in Convention glorify God and honor Mrs. Peggy Oke for her years of dedicated service; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we thank Mrs. Peggy Oke and pray the Lord's continued blessings on her and her family.

## JUBILARIANS – ORDAINED

### Ordination Anniversary

#### **25 years (1998, 1999, 2000)**

The Rev. Eric R. Andrae  
The Rev. Curtis A. Binz  
The Rev. David M. Dukovan  
The Rev. Christopher S. Esget  
The Rev. Dr. Jamison J. Hardy  
The Rev. Michael A. Johnson, Sr.  
The Rev. Shadrach Katari  
The Rev. Scott D. Kruse  
The Rev. Theodore L. Laesch, Jr.  
The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Morehouse  
The Rev. Todd A. Seaver  
The Rev. Wade M. Seaver  
The Rev. Glenn D. Stresman  
The Rev. Dr. Dusan Tillinger  
The Rev. James E. Witt  
The Rev. Dr. Mark A. Wood

#### **30 years (1993, 1994, 1995)**

The Rev. Peter A. Bauernfeind  
The Rev. Larry E. Bell  
The Rev. Douglas E. Hoag  
The Rev. Dr. Terry N. Hursh  
The Rev. Dr. James W. Jasper  
The Rev. John T. Kelling  
The Rev. Michael W. Mathews  
The Rev. Jeffrey G. Miskus  
The Rev. Dr. R. Wayne Morton  
The Rev. Steven J. Okpiz  
The Rev. Raymond W. Scholle, Jr.  
The Rev. Edward J. Steeh  
The Rev. Charles E. Varsogea  
The Rev. Nicholas D. Wirtz

#### **35 years (1988, 1989, 1990)**

The Rev. Scott E. Benjamin  
The Rev. Thomas E. Engler  
The Rev. Eric C. Forss  
The Rev. James A. Gau  
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth  
The Rev. Dale W. Kaster  
The Rev. Robert A. Rogers  
The Rev. Travis J. Schmidt  
The Rev. Dr. David R. Schmitt  
The Rev. Dr. Douglas H. Spittel  
The Rev. Rodney E. Zwonitzer

#### **40 years (1983, 1984, 1985)**

The Rev. Paul W. E. Anderson  
The Rev. Randy S. Boelter  
The Rev. Marc G. DiConti  
The Rev. Steven J. Duescher  
The Rev. Mark H. Ebert  
The Rev. Ben C. Eder  
The Rev. Charles A. Fox  
The Rev. Patrick D. Henry  
The Rev. J. Derek Mathers  
The Rev. Bradford C. Maxon  
The Rev. Karl E. Schmidt  
The Rev. Bradford E. Scott  
The Rev. Dr. Jonathan E. Shaw  
The Rev. Steven E. Sutterer  
The Rev. Michael S. Taylor  
The Rev. Robert E. Voelker

#### **45 years (1978, 1979, 1980)**

The Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Acton  
The Rev. Dr. James L. Hoke, Jr.  
The Rev. Allen D. Lunneberg  
The Rev. Dr. Elwood E. Mather, III  
The Rev. Dr. David P. Stechholz  
The Rev. Robert W. Tauscher, Jr.

#### **50 years (1973, 1974, 1975)**

The Rev. Peter M. Berg  
The Rev. Dr. Michael S. Ernst  
The Rev. Luther P. Esala  
The Rev. Dr. Christian F. Just  
The Rev. David R. Liefeld  
The Rev. Dr. Gilbert C. Meilaender  
The Rev. Dr. Frank J. Pies, Jr.  
The Rev. Dr. Larry G. Schneckloth  
The Rev. Norman A. Timmermann

#### **55 years (1968, 1969, 1970)**

The Rev. Dr. David A. Dressel  
The Rev. Dr. Gilbert J. Duchow  
The Rev. Dr. John M. Goerss  
The Rev. Robert W. Maass  
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

#### **60 years (1963, 1964, 1965)**

The Rev. Norman A. Bumby  
The Rev. Robert F. Burke  
The Rev. Paul H. Dorr  
The Rev. Ronald H. Laue  
The Rev. Theodore G. Predoehl  
The Rev. Guy A. Vogel  
The Rev. Dr. David J. Zersen

#### **65 years (1958, 1959, 1960)**

The Rev. Dr. Simon S. C. Johann  
The Rev. William G. Naumann  
The Rev. Richard W. Patt  
The Rev. Dr. Daniel G. Reuning  
The Rev. Dr. Louis N. Scholl

## JUBILARIANS – COMMISSIONED

### Graduation Anniversary

#### **25 years (1998, 1999, 2000)**

Mrs. Kathryn E. Brech  
Mrs. Katie M. Dennert  
Mrs. Emily L. Helmreich  
Mrs. Elizabeth U. Radcliffe  
Deaconess Brenda M. Ryan

#### **30 years (1993, 1994, 1995)**

Mrs. Teresa L. Hansen  
Mrs. Susan J. Michel  
Ms. Elaine E. Mills  
Mr. Donald R. Rau

#### **35 years (1988, 1989, 1990)**

Deaconess Catherine A. Dillabough  
Mrs. Sherri L. Steigerwalt  
Ms. Laurie A. Horne

#### **40 years (1983, 1984, 1985)**

Mrs. Judith A. Behlke  
Mrs. Grace M. Gallmann  
Mr. Paul F. Gohde  
Mr. Daniel V. Holt  
Mrs. Karla K. Rendahl  
Mrs. Nadine L. Schilke  
Mrs. Patricia A. Zanta

#### **45 years (1978, 1979, 1980)**

Mr. Timothy S. Franz  
Mrs. Darla J. Gremel  
Mrs. Vicki J. Helmling  
Mr. Robert W. Kaun, Jr.  
Mr. Douglas S. Mertz  
Mrs. Susan E. Monfre  
Mr. George T. Moore  
Mr. Randy L. Potts  
Mrs. Mary Beth Terhaar

#### **50 years (1973, 1974, 1975)**

Mr. Carl E. Hoppe  
Mr. Dwayne D. Jobst  
Mrs. Andrea L. Johnson  
Mrs. Gloria M. Lawrence  
Mr. Eric M. Schultz  
Mrs. Judy K. Schultz  
Mrs. Janet L. Stechholz

#### **55 years (1968, 1969, 1970)**

Mrs. Lynn D. Buhrke  
Mr. Waldemar C. Heuer  
Mr. Albert L. Kahlfeldt  
Mrs. Linda L. Scheurman  
Mr. Gordon S. Stuckert

#### **60 years (1963, 1964, 1965)**

Mrs. Annette L. Bacon  
Mrs. Rozanne M. Heinzel  
Mr. Leslie R. W. Morris  
Mr. Kenneth J. Oerkfitz  
Mrs. Susan A. Stults  
Mr. Donald F. Wachholz

#### **65 years (1958, 1959, 1960)**

Mr. Robert J. Clegg  
Mr. Rex T. Kollmorgen  
Mrs. Sandra J. Kollmorgen  
Mr. John W. Speckhard  
Mr. Gerald J. Warmbier  
Mr. Hilbert W. Wiedenkiller

#### **70 years (1953, 1954, 1955)**

Mr. Carl G. Gruendler

## **CALLED TO GLORY**

### **ORDAINED**

**ANDRAE**, Rev. Hans O., 2-13-2023  
**BAHR**, Rev. Dr. Ferdinand O., 3-21-2024  
**BECKMANN Jr.**, Rev. William C., 1-14-2024  
**CLAYCOMBE Jr.**, Rev. Howard E., 9-23-2023  
**ELSNER**, Rev. James L., 1-11-2023  
**FITZPATRICK**, Rev. Dr. Robert L., 11-21-2024  
**INGMIRE**, Rev. Richard L., 11-5-2024

**MAYER**, Rev. Robert F., 9-13-2022  
**MEALWITZ**, Rev. Dr. Peter E., 11-13-2023  
**MORALES**, Rev. Christian G., 10-1-2023  
**POURCHOT**, Rev. Dr. Daniel M., 5-30-2023  
**REPP Jr.**, Rev. Arthur C., 3-27-2024  
**STEIN**, Rev. Dr. David T., 9-25-2023  
**STUCKMEYER**, Rev. C. David, 11-22-2023

### **COMMISSIONED**

**BRAUN**, Mr. Theodore T., 3-20-2022  
**BROCKHOFF**, Mrs. Marian F., 3-15-2024  
**DUCHOW**, Mr. Martin C., 11-30-2023  
**FINLEY**, Mrs. Margaret A., 11-26-2024  
**SEILER**, Mrs. Christine R., 7-12-2023