



# Today's Business

## Issue 4 – Part A

Tuesday, July 17  
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Morning Session

- 7:55 Call to Gather – Music
- 8:00 Devotion – Dr. Sam Nafzger  
Theme: The Gospel in a Nutshell
- 8:20 Greetings LWML  
Mrs. Jan Wendorf
- 8:25 Theology and Church Relations (#3)
- 9:55 Bible Study 3 – Dr. Dean Nadasdy  
Focus: One Message: Christ – A Message of Truth to a Post-Modern World
- 10:30 Planning and Administration (#7)
- 11:50 Seminary and University Education (#5)
- 12:30 Recess

Afternoon Session

- 1:55 Call to Gather – Music
- 2:00 Devotion – Dr. Kurt Krueger  
Theme: Delivering the Message of Christ to a Post-Modern World
- 2:20 Minutes
- 2:30 Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#9)  
(Big Balloting for Boards and Commissions, Board of Regents, Entities)
- 3:00 LCMS in Mission Presentation
- 3:10 Program and Finance (#4)
- 4:10 Synod Structure and Governance (#8)
- 5:10 District & Congregational Services (#2)
- 6:00 Closing Prayer
- 6:05 Recess

Evening Session

- 7:25 Call to Gather – Music
- 7:30 District and Congregational Services (#2)
- 8:00 Synod Structure and Governance (#8)
- 9:00 Recess

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## Daily Prayer

### TUESDAY

“To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust....Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.” (Psalm 25:1,5a, ESV)

Lord Jesus Christ, you alone are the truth that sets us free. Sanctify us in the truth, the truth of the Word, that our post-modern world may see Jesus in us and come to believe the One Message of Christ. May this Synod truly become a church united, evidencing our love for you and for our brothers and sisters within our Synod and throughout the body of Christ and then beyond to those who literally are dying to know Jesus. May we truly “lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, ‘til all the world adore his sacred name.”

Our desire, O Lord, in this convention this day, in what we do and say, and how we conduct ourselves, is to bring you the glory and honor due unto your name. In the sacred name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Hymn: “Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide” (LSB 585)



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us  
2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear  
4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,  
Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure  
of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.  
till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.  
Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride  
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside  
Or with some man-made thoughts or things  
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;  
Preserve our faith our whole life through—  
Your Word alone our heart’s defense,  
The Church’s glorious confidence.

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## ***Bible Study 3***

**Study Theme: ONE Message—Christ!: A Message of Unity to a Sectarian Culture**

**Leader: Dr. Dean Nadasdy, Third Vice President**

Dr. Dean Nadasdy serves as Third Vice President of the Synod and senior pastor at Woodbury Lutheran Church in Woodbury, Minnesota. Before coming to Woodbury, Dean served churches in Eugene, OR (1973-1981), and Edina, MN (1981-1997). He was 1st Vice President of the Minnesota South District of the LCMS for six years (1991-1997). From 1997 to 2000, he served as Associate Professor of Practical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, where he held the Gregg H. Benidt Memorial Chair in Homiletics and Literature. He has also taught as a guest lecturer at seminaries in Latvia and Hungary. He received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI, in 1993. In 1996, Concordia University, Seward, NE, awarded him its Doctor of Letters degree. He has served on the LCMS Board of Communication Services and has written extensively in the areas of child, youth and adult curriculum. He is the author of four LifeLight adult Bible studies and writes worship and preaching resources for pastors. Dean is married to Susan and they are blessed with three children and one grandchild.

### **Outline**

**Scripture Focus: Acts 17:16-34**

#### **I. Truth Today**

- A. Truth today is often self-defined, diluted, and threatened by idolatry.
- B. In literature and film, we see recurring struggles with what is true and what is real.
- C. Paul at Athens exemplifies an uncompromising passion to present the truth of the Scriptures and the truth of Jesus Christ, using the language and imagery of the culture.

#### **II. Notes On The Text**

#### **III. Truths in the Text**

- A. Sometimes Christians stand “alone.”
- B. Cultural icons wait to be broken open and filled with Gospel meaning,
- C. God moves among the nations in His love for humankind.
- D. The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ remains an absolute truth in our witness.

#### **IV. Discussion Questions**

1. Where in our culture do you see self-focused, do-it-yourself truth at work?
2. When have you found yourself standing “alone” for the truths of your faith?
3. Where do you see opportunities for the church to “break open” cultural icons?
4. What keeps the LCMS from being a more visible player in our culture’s debate of ideas and truths?
5. What aspect of Paul’s witness in Athens is most significant for our church today?

## Morning Devotion

### Devotion Leaders: Reverend Dr. Sam H. Nafzger

Dr. Sam Nafzger has served as Executive Director of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations since 1975. He is a graduate of Concordia Junior College in Austin, Texas, and Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Indiana, earning a B.A. degree in 1961. Following graduation from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 1965 with a Master of Divinity degree, he studied at Rupprecht/Karl Universität in Heidelberg, Germany, on a DAAD scholarship. Following ordination in 1967, he served as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Canyon, Texas, and Christ Lutheran Church in Tulia, Texas. From 1970-73 Pastor Nafzger was engaged in graduate study in systematic theology at Harvard University, where he earned the Doctor of Theology degree. In 2004 Concordia University in Saint Paul, Minnesota awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. He has served as the Executive Secretary of the International Lutheran Council for the past fourteen years. He is a frequent essayist at pastors' conferences and a contributor to various publications, including co-editor of *Studies in Lutheran Hermeneutics* in 1979 by Fortress Press, and author of "An Introduction to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod." He and his wife, Janis, have four children, six grandchildren, and celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 2 of this year,

#### Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

C **The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

C **I cry out in distress, and He hears my voice.**

*Psalms 145:1, 8, 21*

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

#### Sit

**Reading:** John 3:16–18

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "The Gospel in a Nutshell"

Dr. Samuel Nafzger

**Hymn:** "Beautiful Savior" (*LSB* 537)

Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee,  
Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,  
Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine,

Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine

*Stand*

**Prayer**

P Almighty and gracious God, You want all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Magnify the power of the Gospel in the hearts of Your faithful people that Your Church may spread the good news of salvation. Protect, encourage, and bless all who proclaim the saving cross that Christ, being lifted up, may draw all people to Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C **Amen.**

## *Afternoon Devotion*

**Devotion Leader: Dr. Kurt Krueger**

Dr. Kurt Krueger serves as the Executive Director of the Board for University Education of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and is the President of the Concordia University System. Prior to his election to his present position in 2005, Kurt was a Professor of English and Provost at Concordia University Irvine. He has also served on the faculty at Concordia University Wisconsin and at Lutheran High School in Portland, Oregon. A graduate of Valparaiso University, Kurt earned an M.A. in English from Marquette University and a Ph.D. in American Literature from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has authored several articles on the life and work of Ernest Hemingway, has written about servant leadership for Concordia Publishing House, and speaks frequently about the characteristics of Christian colleges and universities and the value of Lutheran higher education. Kurt and his wife, Val, have two children.

*Stand*

L In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea;

C **hear me and answer me.**

L Evening, morning, and noon

C **I cry out in distress, and He hears my voice.**

L Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you;

C **He will never let the righteous fall.**

*Psalm 55:1–2a, 17, 22 NIV*

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

**Reading:** Acts 17:10–12

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** “Delivering the Message of Christ to a Post-Modern World”

Dr. Kurt Krueger

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Stand

Hymn: "How Shall They Hear, Who Have Not Heard" (LSB 831)

1 "How shall they hear," who have not heard  
2 "To all the world," to ev - 'ry place,  
3 "Whom shall I send?" Who hears the call,  
4 "Lord, here am I." Your fire im - part

News of a Lord who loved and came;  
Neigh - bors and friends and far - off lands,  
Con - stant in prayer, through toil and pain,  
To this poor cold self - cen - tered soul;

Nor known His rec - on - cil - ing word,  
Preach the good news of sav - ing grace;  
Tell - ing of One who died for all,  
Touch but my lips, my hands, my heart,

Nor learned to trust a Sav - ior's name?  
Go while the great com - mis - sion stands.  
To bring a lost world home a - gain?  
And make a world for Christ my goal.

- 5 Spirit of love, within us move:  
Spirit of truth, in pow'r come down!  
So shall they hear and find and prove  
Christ is their life, their joy, their crown.

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### Prayer

L Let us pray.  
Hear our prayers for those outside the Church. Take away their iniquity, and turn them from their false gods to You, the living and true God. Gather them into Your holy Church to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us bless the Lord.

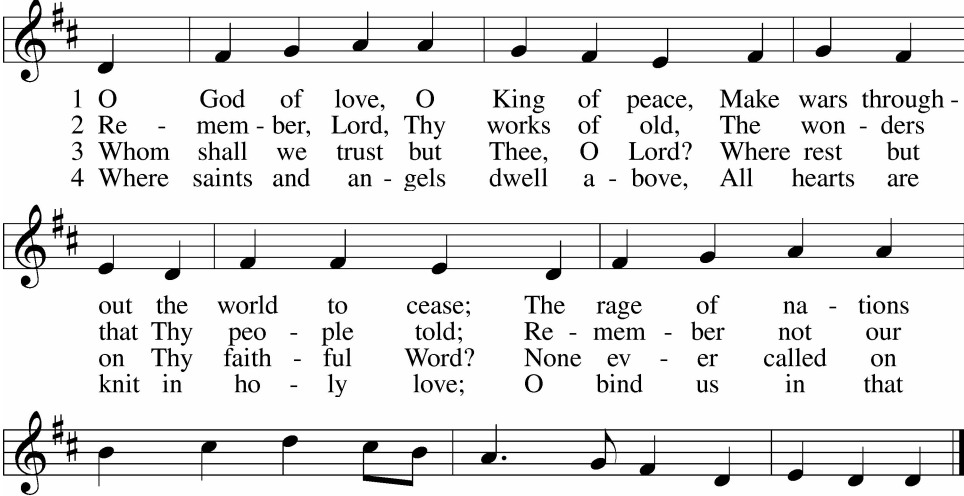
C **Thanks be to God.**

## Evening Prayer

*Stand*

*Petitions of intercession and thanksgiving are offered.*

**Hymn:** "O God of Love, O King of Peace" (LSB 751)



1 O God of love, O King of peace, Make wars through -  
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, Thy works of old, The won - ders  
3 Whom shall we trust but Thee, O Lord? Where rest but  
4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove, All hearts are  
out the world to cease; The rage of na - tions  
that Thy peo - ple told; Re - mem - ber not our  
on Thy faith - ful Word? None ev - er called on  
knit in ho - ly love; O bind us in that  
now re - strain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!  
sins' dark stain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!  
Thee in vain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!  
heav'n - ly chain: Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!

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### **Blessing**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love and God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **Amen.**

## Closing Prayer

*Stand*

**P** We praise and thank You, O God, for You are without beginning and without end. Through Christ You are the creator and preserver of the whole world; but above all, You are His God and Father, the giver of the Spirit, and the ruler of all that is, seen and unseen. You made the day for the works of light and the night for the refreshment of our weakness. O loving Lord and source of all that is good, mercifully accept our evening sacrifice of praise. As You have conducted us through the day and brought us to the night's beginning, keep us now in Christ; grant us a peaceful evening and a night free from sin; and at the end bring us to everlasting life through Christ, our Lord. Through Him we offer glory, honor, and worship to You in the Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever.

**C** **Amen.**

Hymn: "The Day Thou Gavest" (LSB 886)

1 The day Thou gavest, Lord, is end - ed,  
 2 We thank Thee that Thy Church, un - sleep - ing  
 3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land  
 4 The sun, that bids us rest, is wak - ing

The dark - ness falls at Thy be - hest;  
 While earth rolls on - ward in - to light,  
 The dawn leads on an - oth - er day,  
 Thy saints be - neath the west - ern skies,

To Thee our morn - ing hymns as - cend - ed,  
 Through all the world her watch is keep - ing,  
 The voice of prayer is nev - er si - lent,  
 And hour by hour, as day is break - ing,

Thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.  
 And nev - er rests by day or night.  
 Nor dies the strain of praise a - way.  
 Fresh hymns of thank - ful praise a - rise.

- 5 So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,  
 Like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
 Thy kingdom stands and grows forever,  
 Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.





## 5. SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

### To Establish Specific Ministry Pastor Program

#### RESOLUTION 5-01B

Overtures 5-01–10 (*CW*, pp. 205–216)

#### Background

Amidst today's mission challenges, including the persistent need to provide pastoral ministry in ways that go beyond the current residential models, we will do well to engage the best collaborative thinking and creativity that we can muster to provide missional pastoral leadership driven by the depth of theological integrity that remains a hallmark of our church and its ministerium. The mission focus ignited by the *Ablaze!* movement has generated the need to identify laymen already in place in a local community to serve as church planters and missionaries. This work will certainly entail Word and Sacrament ministry. Historically, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its antecedents have attempted to meet such needs by preparing men as quickly as possible to be called and ordained in order to meet the urgent mission needs of the church. Such men were prepared to catechize, preach, and provide pastoral care. Within the LCMS, the need for such a track to ordination was initially embodied in the seminary begun by F. C. D. Wyneken and Wilhelm Löhe in Fort Wayne, Indiana. However, developments in ministerial formation since World War II have effectively eliminated this track altogether.

Ministers of religion—ordained will have two designations. “General ministry pastor” will serve as the designation for pastors graduated from a current approved theological education program (e.g., M.Div., Certificate, DELTO), and “specific ministry pastor” will be the designation for those educated for a specific ministry context through distance education. The Specific Ministry Pastor Program seeks to address the needs of the church by reinstating a multiple-track approach and by developing a program that combines a commitment to faithfulness to a Lutheran theological confession with a missionary perspective and that is tailored to the preparation of men for service in specific kinds of ministries.

Such an effort must attempt in some measure to uphold two significant considerations in the service of our Lord's mission and Great Commission. On the one hand, we are committed to upholding the Lutheran understanding of the pastor as theologian and insist on as much education as possible for the good of the church. On the other hand, emerging needs and economic pressures often make it impossible to call a pastor who has received a broad and thorough theological education to every congregation or mission station where, nevertheless, people need to hear the Gospel. This proposal is offered as a sincere and thoughtful attempt to address real-world needs with an urgency for bringing the Gospel to a dying world and to do so with theological integrity with respect to both the doctrine of the ministry and our commitment to high standards of pastoral education and formation.

#### Theological Foundations Guiding the Proposal

1. All those who regularly and publicly perform the functions of the Office of the Holy Ministry should do so as those called to and placed into that office. “It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments in the church without a regular call” (AC XIV). As it is true that means of grace, the Gospel and the sacraments, are the rightful possession of all believers in Christ as members of the priesthood of all believers, only the one Office of the Holy Ministry is entrusted with the public exercise of these means. As such, we affirm that only those who are rightly and publicly called and ordained should publicly exercise the functions which are entrusted to this ministry.
2. Lutherans affirm that there is only one Office of the Holy Ministry, established by God for the public conduct of the ministry of Word and Sacrament. However, the church may recognize certain distinctions within that one Office of the Holy Ministry and establish degrees of supervision without undermining the unity of the office.

- a. All those who serve Christ and the church in the Office of the Holy Ministry exercise *de iure divino* (by divine authority) the power to preach the Gospel, forgive sins, administer the Sacraments, and exercise church discipline. There is no distinction within the one office with respect to *this* power and authority.
  - b. Nevertheless, all ministers serve under supervision. In ancient times, the practice of making certain distinctions within the one Office of the Holy Ministry *de iure humano* (by human authority) was established so that those ministers with broader and deeper theological understanding should be able to provide doctrinal supervision for less experienced, or less well-prepared, ministers. These distinctions were made to ensure that the Gospel was rightly preached and taught, and to preserve the unity of the church.
  - c. By the time of the Reformation, the common way of talking about such distinctions within the Office of the Holy Ministry was to speak of the differentiation between the power (or authority) associated with the Office of the Holy Ministry and the jurisdiction (or scope of the administration) of the office.
3. The church may establish, by human authority, distinctions in jurisdiction and in categories of service of its pastors so long as these distinctions do not compromise the authority of the office, undermine the Gospel, or burden the consciences of Christians by confusing human regulations with divine commands.
  4. Ordination vows may be taken prior to the conclusion of a complete course of study provided that the ordained has received a preparation sufficient to preach and teach the Gospel rightly, administer the Sacraments correctly, and take his vows with integrity.
  5. The church should provide the opportunity for a pastor who has been certified and ordained to serve in a specific kind of ministry subsequently to be prepared to serve the church more broadly through a combination of further academic preparation, accumulated pastoral experience, and examination.

### Overview of the “Specific Ministry Pastor” Program

The student will take a *core curriculum* so as to acquire a *foundational competency* in Lutheran theology for pastoral ministry. This foundational core will be both contextualized and specialized within and for a specific ministry. In addition to the original objective of the Distance Education Leading To Ordination (DELTO) Program to provide pastoral ministry where full-time ministry cannot be maintained, such specific ministries will include such categories as church planter, staff pastor, and others as needs arise.

The specific curriculum will be determined and developed by the seminary faculties, in collaboration with those from the field who represent the specific ministerial contexts at district and congregation levels. It will be based on the following principles:

1. Curricular goals based on outcome competencies appropriate to the stages of the program
2. The contextual nature of this educational model, which includes experiential learning within a mission context
3. The engagement of supervisors/mentors by the seminary in consultation with the district president as a critical element of the distance education model
4. A combination of distance education and residential components (likely through short-term seminars and the option to take courses within the residential curriculum)
5. The potential applicability of coursework for academic credit towards an M.Div.
6. A time frame for completion of approximately 4–5 years

The Specific Ministry Pastor Program will be divided into a pre-ordination curriculum and a post-ordination curriculum. The pre-ordination curriculum will equip the student in such a way that the church

has confidence that the student will preach the Gospel in its truth and purity and conduct his ministry in conformity with Lutheran doctrine and practice. In order to do this, the pre-ordination curriculum will address such basic competencies as *Catechism, interpretation of Scripture, God and Christ and the work of Christ, the Sacraments, introduction to the Book of Concord, the conduct of worship, and preaching.*

The post-ordination curriculum will address these topics in greater depth and detail and will include such topics as *OT content and theology, NT content and theology, gifts of Christ, body of Christ, Church history and the history of Lutheranism, Christian education, pastoral theology, and theology of missions.*

In addition, the student will participate in several residential and field seminars aimed at cultivating the requisite ministry skills for his specific ministry context (e.g., church planters, staff pastors, and evangelists).

- Possible residential seminars might include *pastoral formation, issues in pastoral ministry, team ministry, urban ministry, spiritual formation.*
- Possible field seminars might include *basic mission planter training, edge gathering, and advanced mission planter training.*

The Specific Ministry Pastor Program will utilize selected mentors in the preparation of a man for pastoral ministry with an emphasis on the area of spiritual formation.

### **Step 1: Preparation for and Admission to the Program**

The identification of an applicant will be carried out by the congregation and district through a comprehensive screening process.

For entry into the program, a student will need to show that he possesses the requisite social skills and passion for theology and mission, as well as demonstrating the specific skills and competence needed to be successful in a distance-education program.

For entry into the program, a student will need to pass the Entry Level Competency Exams (ELCEs) in the areas of OT, NT, and Catechism/Christian Doctrine. Preparation for the ELCEs may be accomplished by taking the corresponding district-level courses, Concordia University System or seminary-offered courses. In addition, other courses within a district's lay training program may be helpful, such as courses on evangelizing and catechizing. All students will need to demonstrate competency to engage the program in the English language and in public speaking.

Based upon completion of the above requirements and with recommendations from congregation and district, the student's application will be presented to the admissions committee of the seminary for action. As part of the application process, each student, sponsoring congregation, and district will sign a covenant of commitment to complete the entire specific ministry pastor curriculum, including all coursework and seminars following examination and ordination.

### **Step 2: Pre-Ordination Curriculum**

Upon entrance into the Specific Ministry Pastor Program, the student will be assigned as a vicar in a specific locality but normally will not be authorized to administer the Sacraments. He will preach sermons prepared in collaboration with and approved by his supervisor. At this point, he will participate in courses and seminars comparable to those offered to residential seminary students designed to prepare him in the following areas:

- *Catechism, hermeneutical principles, God and Christ, work of Christ, the Sacraments, Worship, the Book of Concord, and preaching*
- *Possible residential seminars: intro to pastoral formation; issues in pastoral ministry*
- *Possible field seminars: basic mission planter training, etc.*

### **Step 3: Certification/Call/Ordination**

After demonstrating competence in the pre-ordination areas, the student must apply for an examination hearing by the seminary in order to be certified for call and ordination. Each student will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The examination hearing shall include a review of the student's portfolio, vicarage reports, an interview by the faculty, and recommendations by the district president and circuit counselor.

After call and ordination according to the usual order, the student is placed on the pastoral roster of the Synod as a "specific ministry pastor." He now may preach and administer the Sacraments under supervision in a specific locality.

### **Step 4: Post-Call and Ordination Curriculum**

Upon call and ordination, the student shall complete the remainder of the Specific Ministry Pastor Program. The following areas are intended to continue development of the foundational competencies necessary for serving as a specific ministry pastor:

- *OT content and theology, NT content and theology, gifts of Christ, Body of Christ, Church history and the history of Lutheranism, Christian education, pastoral theology, and theology of missions*
- *Residential seminars, possibly including pastoral formation, issues in pastoral ministry, team ministry, urban ministry, and spiritual formation*
- *Field seminars, possibly including basic mission planter training, edge gathering, and advanced mission planter training*

Refusal to complete the Specific Ministry Pastor Program would result in the pastor's removal from the Synod roster, at which point he is not eligible for a call.

### **Step 5: Completion of the Specific Ministry Pastor Program**

Upon completion of the program, the candidate is examined by a committee of faculty, laity, and district representatives in order to be recognized as eligible for calls elsewhere within his rostered status. Apart from the usual need for continuing education, he is not required to take any further prescribed course of studies (but see below).

Specific ministry pastors are recognized as just that: pastors certified for calls into specific ministry contexts, who serve under the supervision not only of the district president but also of a designated general ministry pastor. As such, they are eligible for calls into a similar specific ministry context, where they continue under the supervision of a general ministry pastor.

Because their theological education is formed within the context of their specific ministry and does not represent the breadth and depth of theology and ecclesiology that forms a basis for pastoral oversight beyond the local level, they may not be placed into ecclesiastical roles of exercising pastoral oversight outside the location of their specific call (i.e., in the church-at-large), such as

- a. holding elected or appointed office at the district or Synod level that is assigned by the Bylaws to "a pastor" (though they will serve in all other capacities, especially representing the ministerial contexts in which they serve);
- b. serving as circuit counselors;
- c. serving as a voting delegate to a national Synod convention (but they may serve as an advisory delegate at national conventions and as a pastoral delegate at district conventions); and
- d. supervising vicars.

## **Step 6: Continued Service and Status**

Students who have completed the Specific Ministry Pastor Program may decide to remain in their rostered status as “specific ministry pastor” for the remainder of their ministry or they may choose to pursue a growth path that leads to a change in roster status to “general ministry pastor.” It is envisioned that most students will pursue the second path, either through an M.Div. route or nondegree certification. Thus, they have three options:

1. They may remain rostered as a specific ministry pastor.
2. They may enroll in an M.Div. program. It is anticipated that coursework done for the Specific Ministry Pastor Program may become applicable to an M.Div., determined by equivalencies.
3. They may continue their theological education and pastoral formation, reaching a level appropriate to general ministry pastor without a full M.Div. (cf. current “alternate route”) and then complete an interview with an examining board in order to have their rostered status changed to “general ministry pastor.”

## **Resolution**

WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee was formed by the 2001 convention and given the task “to revise DELTO”; and

WHEREAS, This oversight committee concluded that original assignment, and a revised DELTO Program was deployed by the two seminaries in the fall of 2004; and

WHEREAS, The original and ongoing intent of DELTO was to “provide ordained pastoral service to congregations that cannot support a full-time pastor, ordained pastoral service to contexts where English is not spoken, ordained missionary personnel where finances and/or conditions do not permit calling a full-time missionary” (BHE document, “What Is DELTO?” Sept. 2000); and

WHEREAS, The needs for providing pastoral ministry in specific and specialized situations where a traditionally prepared seminary candidate or pastor is not available continue to multiply; and

WHEREAS, Our Synod needs to find a way to provide for an increase in pastoral ministry to meet such needs of the church, especially in light of the mission challenges of today’s world; and

WHEREAS, Our Synod has resolved to plant 2,000 new congregations by 2017, for which a net gain of 2,000 pastors will be needed; and

WHEREAS, Any way of providing for pastoral ministry must be faithful to our Lutheran Confessions, faithful to our historic commitment to a well-educated and well-formed ministerium, faithful to our historic commitment to provide pastors in both academic and practical tracks, and faithful to our historic commitment to provide pastoral ministry and leadership at the cutting edges of the mission fields, wherever they might be; and

WHEREAS, All those who regularly and publicly perform the functions of the Office of the Holy Ministry should do so as those called to and placed into that office because “It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments in the church without a regular call” (AC XIV); and

WHEREAS, A variety of programs and routes leading to pastoral service have arisen at both district and seminary levels; and

WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee, after concluding its original assignment, was given the further assignment by the President of Synod to “study the various routes leading to ordination currently available, to study which routes leading to ordination would be most helpful to the Synod in

producing a sufficient number of able and effective pastors to provide leadership to Synod’s congregations in fulfilling the Great Commission”; and

WHEREAS, In carrying out this further task, it was apparent that

- a. the existing focus of DELTO, even as it was redesigned and redeployed, would not be sufficient to meet these needs;
- b. the Synod would benefit from a more coherent and comprehensive approach to pastoral preparation and certification for ministry in specialized and specific contexts;
- c. the past years have provided the church, in general, and the seminaries, in particular, with substantial experimentation and experience with distance-education models, including the evaluation of both the advantages and disadvantages; and
- d. the Synod is presented with an opportunity to build on such experience and to coordinate and consolidate programs and curriculum into a more cohesive and comprehensive curriculum design that engages the best practices of educational design and pedagogy, including much of the current course materials already proven and in use; and

WHEREAS, The process of conversation and collaboration over the past six years has brought together representatives of the needs of the field with the entities of the Synod to whom leadership for pastoral education and certification is entrusted, and in so doing provided a helpful model for continuing such collaborative work; and

WHEREAS, Both seminaries have provided leadership in this process and worked together on written documents affirming the need for a new category within the one office of the pastoral ministry and in affirming an educational process that will lead to certification and ordination for such pastoral ministry, utilizing both traditional residential components along with new distance education models; and

WHEREAS, The DELTO Oversight Committee in seeking to fulfill its further task has

- a. worked closely with both seminaries in honing a proposal for a category of specific ministry pastor, and an education and formation program that will lead to certification and ordination for such pastoral ministry; and has
- b. worked closely also with many other constituencies throughout the church in developing this proposal, including the Board for Pastoral Education, the Council of Presidents, district and Synod mission leaders, and pastors in the field;

and

WHEREAS, The great strengths of this proposal bring together several issues that have concerned our Synod for many years as it seeks to

- a. find a way to meet the existing and expanding needs for pastoral ministry, especially in the variety of contexts of mission and ministry in today’s church;
- b. respect our commitment to the doctrine of church and ministry, especially in light of AC XIV;
- c. honor our commitment to responsible theological education that provides the church with well-educated pastors, who as missional leaders are faithful to Lutheran theology and practice;
- d. retain our commitment to the importance, need, and great strengths of residential pastoral education at both the certificate and M.Div. level, along with a commitment to the continuing education of all clergy;
- e. restore our past creativity in recognizing the importance, need, and great strengths of alternative models of pastoral education leading to ordination, including a commitment to continuing education;
- f. utilize the advances in educational technology that allow for responsible pastoral education and formation through distance-education models; and
- g. develop a more coherent and comprehensive model for pastoral education by which various routes leading to certification, call, and ordination are coordinated and potentially interrelated,

so that, for example, a student in a nonresidential certificate route might be able to engage also in a residential degree program;

and

WHEREAS, The Specific Ministry Pastor Program has the support of the Board for Pastoral Education, the faculties of both seminaries, and the Council of Presidents; and

WHEREAS, The Specific Ministry Pastor Program has been reviewed by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, and was found to be consistent with Scripture and the Confessions; and

WHEREAS, As the Commission on Constitutional Matters has issued opinions 07-2499 and 07-2500 that no changes to Synod's Constitution are required should this resolution be adopted; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Program be adopted in principle and the seminaries and others responsible for the program be authorized to implement it; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Bylaw sections 2.13 and 2.14 of the *Handbook* of the Synod be amended accordingly, as follows:

PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

**(A) Change the title of Bylaw section 2.13 to read as follows:**

**~~2.13 Restricting, Suspending, and Expelling  
Congregations or Individuals from Membership~~**

**Membership Status and Limitations**

**(B) Incorporate current Bylaws 2.13.1 and 2.13.2 into Bylaw 2.14.1 as follows:**

- Current Bylaw 2.13.1 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1
- Current Bylaw 2.13.2 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1 (a)
- Current Bylaw 2.14.1 becomes Bylaw 2.14.1 (b)

The early paragraphs of Bylaw section 2.14 therefore read as follows:

**2.14 Expulsion of Congregations or Individuals  
from Membership in the Synod**

***Preamble***

~~2.13.1~~

2.14.1 Termination of membership in the Synod is a serious matter involving both the doctrine and life of those to whom it has been granted. Such action should only be taken as a final step when it is clear that those who are being terminated after previous futile admonition have acted contrary to the confession laid down in Article II or the conditions of membership laid down in Article VI or have persisted in offensive conduct (Constitution, Art. XIII 1). For this reason the Synod establishes procedures for such action including the identification of those who are responsible for ecclesiastical supervision of its members. Such supervision includes not only suspension or termination of membership but also advice, counsel, encouragement, and, when necessary, admonition regarding teaching and/or practice. Furthermore, the procedures that may lead to termination of membership also provide for the protection of members by including provisions for challenging the decisions of ecclesiastical supervisors in



these matters as well as provisions for restoration of membership that has been suspended or terminated.

***General***

~~2.13.2~~ (a) Although the Constitution (see Art. VI 3 and Art. XII 7–8) deals with the “life” of ordained and commissioned ministers of the Synod and provides for dealing with “ungodly life” or ordained and commissioned ministers, this does not suggest that the Synod, including any district of the Synod, has the duty or even an opportunity to observe the activities in the life of an individual member of the Synod or has the means or authority to regulate, restrict, or control those activities. The only remedy available to the Synod in response to improper activities in the life of such a member of the Synod is, as is true with respect to violations of other conditions of membership or is otherwise appropriate under the Constitution or these Bylaws, and following the procedures set forth in these Bylaws, to take such action as may lead to termination of that membership and the attendant rights and privileges.

~~2.14.1~~ (b) The action to commence expulsion of a congregation or individual from membership in the Synod is the sole responsibility of the district president who has the responsibility for ecclesiastical supervision of such member. This Bylaw section 2.14, among others, provides the procedures to carry out Article XIII of the Constitution, “Expulsion from the Synod.” However, it does not provide the procedure for the expulsion of the district presidents and the officers of the Synod (Bylaw section 2.15), the President of the Synod (Bylaw section 2.16), or individual members in cases involving sexual misconduct or criminal behavior (Bylaw section 2.17).

**(C) Add a new section at the beginning of Bylaw section 2.13 to define a “specific ministry pastor” and the limitations on membership privileges and responsibilities that pertain, as follows:**

***Specific Ministry Pastor Status and Limitations***

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

(a) Because he is under supervision of another pastor and because a specific ministry pastor’s theological education has been formed in part by and for a specific ministry context, he may not be placed or called into ecclesiastical roles that exercise pastoral oversight outside the location of his call.

(b) A specific ministry pastor is not eligible to

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

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

(3) supervise vicars; or

(4) serve as a circuit counselor.

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

**(D) Change the titles and bylaw numbering of subsequent paragraphs of Bylaw section 2.13 to accommodate the introduction of the “specific ministry pastor status and limitations” paragraphs, as follows:**

***Restricted Status and Limitations***

~~2.13.3~~

2.13.2 An individual member of the Synod may be placed...

***Removal of Restricted Status and Limitations***

~~2.13.4~~

2.13.3 An individual member of the Synod who is placed...

***Suspended Status and Limitations***

~~2.13.5~~

2.13.4 When formal proceedings have been commenced...

**(E) Change Bylaw 3.1.3.1 to read:**

3.1.3.1 Each district shall select one advisory delegate for every 60 advisory ordained ministers and specific ministry pastors, and one advisory delegate for every 60 commissioned ministers on the roster of the Synod. Fractional groupings shall be disregarded except that each district shall be entitled to at least one advisory delegate in each category;

•

and be it further

*Resolved*, That the DELTO Oversight Committee be renamed the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee be placed under the supervision of the Board for Pastoral Education; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee develop comprehensive guidelines that are consistent with the theological foundations, educational expectations, rostering process, training of mentors and supervising pastors, and membership limitations intended for this Specific Ministry Pastor Program.

## 7. PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

### To Promote Transparency in Governance of Synod and Its Institutions

#### RESOLUTION 7-05B

Overture 7-41 (*CW*, p. 250)

WHEREAS, The Synod has established a number of program boards and commissions in order to carry out its business between conventions; and

WHEREAS, From time to time the Synod establishes special boards or commissions to accomplish specific goals or address specific concerns; and

WHEREAS, These program boards and commissions are responsible to the Synod and its members as to the conduct of their duties; and

WHEREAS, Openness and transparency of operation by these program boards and commissions builds trust and confidence in the members of the Synod that the Synod is being governed correctly and competently; and

WHEREAS, Minutes of these program boards and commissions provide a historic record of proceedings; and

WHEREAS, There exists no secular legal requirement to publish such minutes; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors and various program boards and commissions currently publish minutes or proceedings; and

WHEREAS, Allowing members of the Synod the ability to obtain copies of official minutes of program boards or commissions promotes transparency; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That agencies of the Synod announce their upcoming meetings; and be it further

*Resolved*, That any member of the Synod may request a copy of any official minutes of program boards or commissions by submitting a written request to the Secretary of Synod; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Synod provide such minutes according to the policy of the Board of Directors; and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Commission on Constitutional Matters incorporate this resolution into the appropriate place in the Bylaws.

*Resolved*, That agencies of the Synod develop policies and procedures for making available official minutes of their meetings.

**To Add Bylaw re Removal of Individual Members  
from Board or Commission Membership**

**RESOLUTION 7-08A**

Overtures 7-01-02 (*CW*, pp. 233-237)

WHEREAS, The purposes of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are ecclesiastical and not secular, and the secular functions of the church exist only to serve those ecclesiastical purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod considers the process of selection and removal of all officers of Synod and all members of its boards and commissions to be an ecclesiastical function; and

WHEREAS, Bylaw 1.5.12.1 (b) states that in serving the Synod as an officer, director, or a member of a board or a commission, responsibilities shall be conducted in a manner reflecting the highest degree of integrity and honesty; and

WHEREAS, There has been some confusion among some in the Synod regarding exactly what constitutes “a potential conflict of interest,” and such appropriate procedures may not always have been closely adhered to due to this confusion (see CCM Opinion 06-2467); and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Constitutional Matters, noting that recent proposals to conventions of the Synod to add a section in the *Handbook* for the removal of board and commission members had not been acted upon, requested that the Commission on Structure develop and propose such a process for inclusion in the Bylaws of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, In order to bring peace and order among the various opinions within the Synod regarding this issue among the members and congregations of the Synod; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the following be added to the Bylaws of the Synod (location reserved in reordered Bylaw section 1.5 as proposed by Res. 7-07):

PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

***Removal of Individual Members from Board or Commission Membership***

1.5.3 Individual members of the boards and commissions identified in Bylaws 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 as well as individual members of the Board of Directors of the Synod shall discharge the duties of their offices in good faith and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. The causes for which a board or commission member may be removed after previous futile admonition are (1) advocacy of false doctrine (Constitution, Art. II); (2) failure to honor and uphold the doctrinal position of the Synod as defined further in Bylaw 1.6.2 (a) and (b); (3) conduct unbecoming a Christian; (4) breach of the duty of loyalty owed to the board or commission as defined further in Bylaw 1.2.1; (5) insubordination; (6) incapacity for the performance of duty; (7) neglect or refusal to perform duties of office; (8) conflicts of interest; or (9) failure to utilize the procedure of the dispute resolution process of the Synod (Bylaw 1.10).

(a) Under this Bylaw, a member of the board or commission shall commence action by filing a written complaint with the chairman of the board of the agency on which the member(s) subject to removal serves. If the complaint involves the chairman, the complaint shall be filed with the vice chairman.

(b) The chairman or his representative shall conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether there is sufficient cause to proceed. Within 30 days, the chairman shall make a decision to drop the complaint for lack of evidence or to proceed under this

section, and shall report the decision to the board or commission and the President of Synod.

(c) If the chairman determines that there is sufficient evidence to proceed, the matter must go before the board of the agency for hearing. Action for removal shall require written notice to each board or commission member at least 30 but not more than 60 days prior to a special meeting called for that purpose. A copy of such notice shall be sent to the President and the Secretary of the Synod as well as to the individual's ecclesiastical supervisor.

(d) The board or commission shall request the member subject to removal to recuse him/herself from board or commission voting prior to final disposition of the matter.

(e) Removal shall be effected by a two-thirds vote of the members of the board or commission on which the member serves.

(f) Removal may be appealed through the use of the Synod's dispute resolution process as provided in Bylaw section 1.10.

1.5.3.1 Removal of the President, Vice-Presidents in line of succession, Secretary, and Vice-President—Finance—Treasurer from office is not included under Bylaw 1.5.3 but is covered under Article XI A 2 of the Constitution; and be it further;

*Resolved*, That Bylaw section 1.2.1 be amended to include the following

~~PRESENT/PROPOSED~~ WORDING

## 1.2 Definition of Terms

1.2.1 The following definitions apply to the entire Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod:

(f) **Duty of Loyalty:** The duty of loyalty requires individuals to exercise their powers in the interest of the organization and not in their own interest or in the interest of another entity, particularly one in which they have a formal relationship.

### To Amend Bylaws 1.9 and 3.9.3 Pertaining to Doctrinal Review Process

#### RESOLUTION 7-10A

Overture 7-05 (*CW*, pp. 238–239)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Doctrinal Review has collaborated with Concordia Publishing House, with the assistance of the Office of the President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, to propose changes to the Bylaws 1.9 and 3.9.3, in order to clarify the doctrinal review process and to establish certain time frames to streamline the process; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Doctrinal Review believes that certain study documents prepared by boards, commissions, or other subordinate groups of the Synod should not be subject to the doctrinal review process if clearly marked as such; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That Bylaw 1.9.1.1 be amended to read as follows:

~~PRESENT/PROPOSED~~ WORDING

## 1.9 Doctrinal Review

### *Definition*

- 1.9.1 Doctrinal review is the exercise of the Synod's responsibility to determine that every doctrinal statement made in its or any of its agencies' or auxiliaries' materials is in accord with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.

### *Material Subject to Doctrinal Review*

- 1.9.1.1 The following materials are subject to doctrinal review:
- (a) All official periodicals and journals of the Synod, as well as any material with doctrinal content issued publicly by boards, commissions, or other subordinate groups of the Synod, except as stipulated in these Bylaws, shall be subject to doctrinal review.
  - (b) The right to produce study documents and exploratory material plainly designated as such and published by boards, commissions, or other subordinate groups of the Synod is recognized, and such material is not required to be submitted to the doctrinal review process. Publication of such study material that is not submitted for doctrinal review shall always include this notice on or immediately following the title page: "This material is being released for study and discussion purposes, and the author(s) is(are) solely responsible for the contents. It has not been submitted to the process of doctrinal review stipulated in the Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and does not necessarily reflect the theology of the Lutheran Confessions or the doctrinal position of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod." ~~When such material is to be issued publicly, it shall be subject to doctrinal review.~~
  - (c) Each district is accountable to the Synod through its respective president and board of directors for the content of all of its published materials.
  - (d) Each of the Synod's schools is accountable to the Synod through its respective president and board of regents for the content of its professional journals and all of its published materials that are not the official publications of the Synod (paragraph [a] of Bylaw 3.8.5.2.3). The editorial boards of such publications shall serve as their own doctrinal reviewers.
  - (e) Auxiliary organizations recognized by the Synod shall be held directly accountable for their material. However, in accord with his office as defined in Article XI B 1 of the Synod's Constitution, the President of the Synod shall require doctrinal review.
  - (f) In the case of broadcasts over the Synod's radio station by other than staff members, individuals must be held responsible for their own material since it is not feasible to apply the process of doctrinal review to such broadcasts.
  - (g) Official reports of the boards, commissions, task forces, and committees of the Synod prepared in response to directives from the Synod shall not be subject to doctrinal review; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Bylaws 1.9.2 and 3.9.3 be amended to read as follows:

### PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

#### *Procedure*

- 1.9.2 Before materials stipulated in 1.9.1 are published, they shall be submitted to (a) doctrinal reviewer(s). Doctrinal r Reviewers shall make a careful evaluation of the doctrinal content of all items submitted. Materials are to be reviewed in a prompt manner and completed in no longer than four weeks. Exceptions shall be arranged by mutual agreement between the reviewer(s) and the originating entity.
- (a) The primary responsibility for doctrinal supervision and review lies with the President of the Synod (Constitution, Art. XI B 1).
    - (1) Each board, commission, and other subordinate group of the Synod shall advise the President of the Synod of the number and desired competency of doctrinal reviewers

needed by it and may suggest a list of qualified persons. The President shall appoint reviewers for each group according to its needs. They shall be broadly representative of the ministry of the Synod.

(2) Reviewers shall be appointed for renewable three-year terms. An appointment may be terminated prior to the completion of the appointed term if the reviewer is unable or unwilling to carry out the reviewing tasks assigned. In the event of such termination, the President of the Synod shall appoint another reviewer to complete the unexpired term.

(b) Each agency of the Synod, synodwide corporate entity, or auxiliary shall establish procedures that will insure that its material as specified in Bylaw 1.9.1 will be submitted for doctrinal review to one of the reviewers referred to in Bylaw 1.9.2 (a).

(c) Since time requirements vary according to the type of material being reviewed, the procedure in each case shall be worked out to the mutual satisfaction of the ~~producing~~ sponsoring group and the publisher doctrinal reviewer(s).

(d) The identity of author(s) and reviewer(s) shall not be disclosed without the approval of the President. Consultation may at times be advisable, however, where clarification is necessary.

(e) The reviewer's primary concern is that items submitted to him be in agreement in their doctrinal content with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.

(f) The reviewer(s) shall also be concerned that the items submitted do not contain statements that are inadequate, misleading, ambiguous, or lacking in doctrinal clarity.

(g) The reviewer(s) shall further be concerned that resolutions of the Synod be honored and upheld and that positions deviating from the doctrinal resolutions of the Synod be clearly identified as such.

(h) When the author is also a reviewer, his material shall be assigned to another reviewer. In order to avoid any conflict of interest, no author shall be involved in any way in the selection or assignment of reviewer(s) for his or her own work.

(i) The reviewer may request that specific material assigned to him also be reviewed by another reviewer.

(j) Where changes appear to be necessary, the reviewer(s) shall submit a thorough and clearly written documented critique that shall be made available to the author, the sponsoring group, and the publisher. The documentation provided by the reviewer(s) shall provide a thorough and detailed explanation, with all appropriate biblical and confessional references used to support the opinion offered.

(k) The author shall consider the critique and make necessary revisions until there is agreement between the author and the reviewer(s).

(1) Should any problem arise between an author, a reviewer(s), the publisher, or any other party involved with respect to the material submitted for review, the sponsoring group shall endeavor to resolve it to the satisfaction of the reviewer(s). If it cannot do so, the problem shall be submitted to the Commission on Doctrinal Review ~~under~~ which shall follow the appeals procedure and criteria stated in Bylaws 3.9.3.2.1.

### ***Commission on Doctrinal Review***

3.9.3 The Commission on Doctrinal Review exists to assist the President of the Synod in the exercise of his responsibility that all doctrinal content in its or any of its agencies' materials be in accord with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

3.9.3.1 The Commission on Doctrinal Review shall consist of five members appointed by the President of the Synod from the total number of doctrinal reviewers.

(a) The commission shall elect its own officers.

(b) The commission shall effect its own organization.

3.9.3.2 The Commission on Doctrinal Review functions in accordance with Bylaw section 1.9 and shall meet as often as necessary to provide guidelines for the work of doctrinal reviewers and to concern itself with problem areas in the procedures of doctrinal review and appeals.

### ***Appeals Prior to Publication***

3.9.3.2.1 Appeals regarding materials not yet published may be initiated by an author, the sponsoring group, or an executive staff member of that group and submitted to the chairman of the Commission on Doctrinal Review.

(a) Within seven business days After receipt of an appeal, the chairman of the Commission on Doctrinal Review shall inform all concerned and shall appoint three members of the commission to serve as a review panel and shall designate one as its chairman. A panel member shall disqualify himself on the basis of any kind of personal involvement in the issue.

(b) The review panel shall provide a copy of the appeal to the author and the sponsoring group and invite them to provide a response to the appeal. All parties to the appeal shall be given 14 days to provide their response.

~~(b)~~ To aid objectivity, the identity of author and review panel shall ordinarily not be disclosed. However, consultation may at times be necessary for clarification.

~~(c)~~ In making its recommendation, the panel shall decide within 30 days whether the item in question

- (1) is suitable for publication; or
- (2) may be published after alteration; or
- (3) may be published as a study document; or
- (4) shall be denied publication.

~~(c)~~ The decision of the panel shall be determined by a majority vote and shall be final so far as the Commission on Doctrinal Review is concerned. A report together with the panel's minutes shall be submitted to the chairman of the Commission on Doctrinal Review.

~~(d)~~ The chairman of the commission shall report the decision within seven business days to the author, the original reviewer(s), the sponsoring group, and the President of the Synod.

#### *Appeals Following Publication*

3.9.3.2.2 A challenge to the doctrinal review certification of a published item may be initiated by any member of the Synod and shall be submitted in writing via mail or personal delivery to the chairman of the Commission on Doctrinal Review.

(a) In order for the Commission on Doctrinal Review to consider a challenge, the challenger is obliged to provide specific references demonstrating how the published item is not in agreement with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

(b) After receipt of the challenge, the chairman of the commission shall within seven business days inform the President of the Synod, the sponsoring group, and, if applicable, Concordia Publishing House, ~~and~~ shall appoint three members of the commission to serve as a review panel, and shall designate one as its chairman.

(c) The chairman of the Commission on Doctrinal Review shall provide a copy of the appeal to the President of the Synod, the sponsoring group, and, if applicable, Concordia Publishing House, and offer them the opportunity to respond to the appeal within 14 days from the date of notification.

~~(c)~~ To aid in maintaining objectivity, the identity of the challenger and the identity of the panel will ordinarily not be disclosed. There shall be no publicity given to the appeal, nor an effort to circularize the Synod on a pending appeal.

~~(d)~~ The panel shall after reviewing the published material declare, within 45 days following the expiry of the 14-day response period provided in 3.9.3.2.2(c), whether the doctrinal review certification is affirmed or revoked based on whether the published material is in agreement with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.

- ~~(1) that the doctrinal review certification of the published material is affirmed because the item is in agreement with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions; or~~
- ~~(2) that the doctrinal review certification of the published material is revoked because the item is not in agreement with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.~~

~~(e)~~ If the panel revokes the doctrinal review certification, it must identify the part(s) of the item in need of clarification, amplification, and/or deletion in order to bring it into agreement with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, and withdraw the publication until such agreement is reached.



(fg) The panel will appoint one of its members to be the doctrinal reviewer for the recycling of the revised material to assure the item's agreement with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions if republished.

## 8. SYNOD STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

### To Encourage the Study of CTCR Documents Relating to Public Rebuke of Public Sin

#### RESOLUTION 8-05A

Overtures 8-11–8-30 (*CW* pp. 261–272)

WHEREAS, In 2004 Res. 8-01A, the Synod adopted new procedures for ecclesiastical supervision and dispute resolution; and

WHEREAS, These newly adopted bylaws have created uncertainty for some in the church as they relate to matters of public rebuke of public sin; and

WHEREAS, The CTCR has recently approved a study document, *Public Rebuke of Public Sin* (May 2006, *CW* pp. 361–368), which has been distributed to all LCMS congregations, pastors, and church workers; and

WHEREAS, Within the CTCR *Response to Expressions of Dissent 2004-2006* (*CW* pp. 400–410) the CTCR has further addressed public rebuke of public sin in a section entitled “Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution (2004 Res. 8-01A; 2004 Res. 7-02A)”; and

WHEREAS, Prior to the adoption of 2004 Res. 8-01A, the practice of face-to-face meetings included in the former adjudication process of the Synod, dispute resolution process of the Synod, bylaws of the Synod and CCM Opinions from 1968 to present reflected a practice and desire for fraternal and evangelical relations among members of the Synod toward the goal of reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, The CTCR *Response to Expressions of Dissent 2004-2006* states, in part (pp. 18–19):

It is clear that Matthew 18 does not directly apply to cases of public rebuke of public sin. The Scriptures make this clear and the Large Catechism teaches accordingly. In the opinion of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations the dissenters make a good point in this connection. 2004 Res. 8-01A could have made it more clear that Matthew 18 does not directly apply to instances of public sin. **However, when it comes to the Synod’s humanly devised procedures for expulsion from membership in the Synod or dispute resolution, it is legitimate for the Synod to expect a face-to-face meeting** [emphasis added]. In its May 2006 report on *Public Rebuke of Public Sin: Considerations in Light of the Large Catechism Explanation of the Eighth Commandment* [p. 15] the Commission on Theology and Church Relations says:

While there is no requirement to follow the steps outlined in Matthew 18 in cases where the text does not apply, this does not mean that steps outlined by Jesus in this text are *prohibited* [sic] in any case. Following the steps of Matthew 18 in cases beyond their direct application may in fact be beneficial to the church and its administrative structures and therefore advisable in the given case. But the church should neither assume nor insist that *Scripture requires* the procedure in every instance of public sin.  
and further

Matthew 18 does not speak specifically to cases of public sin, as Luther declares in his explanation of the Eighth Commandment. The steps outlined in Matthew 18, therefore, are not to be considered absolute requirements mandated by Scripture nor the Confessions in cases of public sin. **These steps may, however, be part of synodical processes that would lead to specific consequences of public sin (e.g., removal from the clergy roster of the Synod). Public rebuke is not the same as the filing of formal charges**” [emphasis added]; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations in *Public Rebuke of Public Sin* formulated additional conclusions (pp. 26–28) on the public rebuke of public sin to help the Synod in its deliberations:

- “Public rebuke should not be the first response to a first offense. A rapid rush to judgment should be avoided” (cf., Galatians 6:1–3);
- Public rebuke should be pursued first by those who have the office and responsibility of ecclesiastical supervision in the Synod, but if those having that responsibility fail in their duty public rebuke may be pursued by any Christian;
- One who offers public rebuke should be certain that he/she properly understands the nature of the sin to be rebuked;
- Public rebuke is not to be undertaken lightly but only after much prayer, deliberation, and consultation “with others who know of the sin;”
- In cases where the sin is not apparent to all and therefore perhaps not truly public, a call for discussion rather than rebuke might best serve the needs of the church;
- Public rebuke should be rare and used primarily in dealing with notorious or scandalous teaching or conduct in which the Gospel is at stake;
- The purposes of public rebuke are both to warn and instruct the church and to offer spiritual care to the offender;

and

WHEREAS, Paul teaches us to deal evangelically with one another: “Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:1-2) (NIV)

WHEREAS, Neither the words of Jesus in Matthew 18 nor the words of Luther in the Large Catechism prevent or preclude talking to a brother or sister who has caused offense, even with a public sin, but both Scripture and the Confessions teach the importance of reconciliation and winning the brother or sister; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we recognize that Matthew 18 does not apply directly in cases of public sin; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we affirm the bylaw requirement of face-to-face meetings, even in the case of public sin, toward the goal of reconciliation and winning the brother or sister; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Commission on Constitutional Matters be directed to bring the *Handbook* of the Synod into harmony with the understanding that Matthew 18 does not directly apply to cases of public sin (Bylaw 3.9.2.2.3); and be it finally

*Resolved*, That the Synod in convention encourage its congregations, clergy, commissioned ministers, laity, circuits and districts to study the CTCR document, *Public Rebuke of Public Sin*, and *Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution* to address the uncertainty of some in the church as it relates to 2004 Res. 8-01A and the public rebuke of public sin (2004 Res. 8-01A; 2004 Res. 7-02A) (*CW* pp. 402–405).

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

### To Prepare New Study and Increase Emphasis on Priesthood of All Believers

#### AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 1-03

Amend by striking the word “preach” in line 19, page 56 of *Today’s Business* and adding the word “spreading;” in addition, amend by striking the word “administer;” in line 19, page 56 of *Today’s Business* and adding the words “celebrate and receive.”

Submitted by:  
Michael Parnow  
Lay Delegate, Florida-Georgia District

### To Make Outreach the Top Priority in Worker Training

#### AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 1-05

Amend line 30 (*TB*, p. 57) as follows:

Replace “place outreach to the lost as the top priority” with “give greater attention to outreach to the lost.”

Submitted by:  
Rev. David Loy  
Pastoral Delegate, Missouri District

### To Provide Further Discussion and Guidance on the Matter of Serial Prayer

#### AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 3-05

Amend by substituting for paragraphs 2 through 3 as follows:

WHEREAS, The CTCR report itself notes, “The members of the Commission disagree about the issue of so-called ‘serial’ or ‘seriatim’ prayers involving representatives of different religious (Christian and/or non-Christian) groups or churches” (p. 19); and

WHEREAS, Seven districts (Minnesota North, Southern Illinois, Missouri, South Dakota, Rocky Mountain, Pacific Southwest, and Northern Illinois), three congregations, one circuit forum, and one pastors conference have submitted overtures in the *Convention Workbook* which recognize this ambiguity as to serial prayer and call for further clarification or restudy or, in several cases, for the rescission of 2004 Res. 3-06A; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Synod in convention withdraws its commendation of those *Guidelines*; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Synod assigns to the CTCR and the seminary faculties the task of providing further guidance for participation in civic events that includes the offering of serial prayer.

Submitted by:  
Rev. Charles Henrickson  
Pastoral Delegate, Missouri District

**To Address Administration of the Lord's Supper**

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 3-09**

Amend by adding the following additional *Resolved* at line 7 (*TB*, p. 75):

*Resolved*, That the Synod affirm our historic practice of close(d) communion and urge its evangelical practice upon our pastors and congregations; and be it further

Submitted by:  
Rev. David Loy  
Pastoral Delegate, Missouri District

**To Address Licensed Lay Deacons**

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 5-02**

WHEREAS, The 1989 Res. 3-05B "To Adopt Recommendations of Lay Worker Study Committee Report as Amended," which authorized lay men to serve in Word and Sacrament ministry in certain circumstances as licensed lay deacons, was never intended to serve as an alternate route into the pastoral office; and

WHEREAS, The need for such licensed lay deacons continues to be crucial and necessary, "lest God's people be deprived of the opportunity for corporate worship and the celebration of the Sacraments" (*Convention Proceedings*, 1989, p. 112); therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Board for Pastoral Education and the Council of Presidents be requested to study the situations currently served by licensed lay deacons, and to present that report with recommendations at the 2010 convention of the Synod.

Submitted by:  
Rev. Dan Kunkel  
Pastoral Delegate, NOW District

**To Amend Bylaw 3.8.3.7.2 re Election  
of College/University President**

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 5-09**

Amend Resolution 5-09, p. 108, lines 39–43, by deleting the underlined section, beginning with, "In the second phase" and ending with "electee." Restore the original wording, except substitute "screening" and "qualification" for search.

PROPOSED WORDING

The screening committee, in its second phase of activity, shall be composed of the original qualification committee, with the addition of three full time faculty members (elected by the faculty).

Submitted by:  
Dr. Marilyn Reineck  
Advisory Delegate, Minnesota South District



# *Minutes*

**63<sup>RD</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
GEORGE R. BROWN CONVENTION CENTER  
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

**Session 2  
Sunday P.M., July 15, 2007**

## *Call to Gather and Opening Devotion*

President Gerald Kieschnick called the session to order and called on Dr. Dale Meyer, President of Concordia Seminary to introduce the devotion leader, Dr. Robert Roegner. In his meditation, Dr. Roegner recalled the story of Jonah and Jonah's reluctance to go to Nineveh because he knew the heart of God and didn't want Nineveh to repent. Today the message of God's love is even more clear, as in John 3:16, favorite passage of many, to be shared with all people, even the least deserving to our way of thinking. This is what *Ablaze!* means, to simply share the good news, making God's mission our mission.

## *Election of President*

After introducing the slate for the office of President, a motion "to ratify the slate for President" was carried [Yes: 1,196; No: 10]. Convention chaplain Dale Meyer was asked to lead the assembly in prayer.

Floor Committee 9 Chairman Larry Harvala provided the latest registration report:

Voting delegates	1,238
Advisory delegates	320
Advisory district presidents	34
Ad hoc committee members	3
Former officers	2
Invited guests	5
Total	<u>1,602</u>

After the election process was explained, the results of the first ballot were as follows:

William Dickelman	23
Gerald Kieschnick	644
Daniel Preus	23
Wallace Schulz	27
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	514

Gerald Kieschnick was declared elected. He shared the words of Phil. 1:3-5 and spoke of the blessings he has received by the grace of God, including his election to the Office of President for the third time. He spoke of lessons learned, at times from criticism received, and thanked God for the daily assurance of forgiveness and spoke of the opportunities facing the Synod in years to come. He also called attention to the service provided by the Council of Presidents, offering a special word of appreciation to Dr. Robert King after 21 years of service as a vice-president of the Synod. He also gave recognition to his family members present, saving a special word of thanks and recognition for his wife, Terry, noting her involvements as the first lady of the LCMS.

*Election of First Vice-President*

After the slate of candidates for First Vice-President was introduced, a motion “to ratify the slate” was carried [Yes: 1,209; No: 9]. The President called on convention chaplain Dean Wenthe to lead the assembly in prayer.

The results of the first ballot for First Vice-President were as follows:

William Diekelman	590
Charles Mueller, Jr.	9
Daniel Preus	95
Wallace Schulz	102
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	424

After the name of Charles Mueller was removed from consideration, the results of the second ballot for First Vice-President were as follows:

William Diekelman	614
Daniel Preus	16
Wallace Schulz	22
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	582

After the name of Daniel Preus was removed from consideration, the results of the third ballot for First Vice-President were as follows:

William Diekelman	623
Wallace Schulz	11
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	600

William Diekelman was declared elected as First Vice-President of the Synod.

After the slate of 20 candidates for vice-presidents two through five was introduced, a motion “to ratify the slate” was carried [Yes: 1,203; No: 12]. After Convention Chaplain Dale Meyer led the assembly in prayer, Committee Chairman Larry Harvala explained the voting process to be used when the ballot became ready.

*Floor Committee 5: Seminary and University Education*

Committee Chairman Jon Diefenthaler, after introducing the business to be brought before the convention by his committee, introduced Res. 5-06 for consideration by the assembly, calling attention to two changes to the resolution as printed. Immediately after the new wording proposed for Bylaw 3.8.2.1 ending with the word “Education,” the committee added the words “as a voting member.” Similarly, after the new wording proposed for Bylaw 3.8.3.2 ending with the word “Education,” the committee added the words “as a voting member.” After discussion, the committee also added the words “at least” prior to the words “two shall be parish pastors” in the requirement for three ordained ministers under “voting members.” After a motion successfully terminated debate [Yes: 1,120; No: 72], Res. 5-06 was adopted [Yes: 1,123; No: 78].

Res. 5-05 was then introduced by the committee. During the discussion that followed, a suggested motion to make the necessary changes to apply the resolution to all church workers was followed by the suggestion by the chair that the committee, if it should wish to do so, should bring a separate resolution for this purpose. A motion “to terminate debate” was carried [Yes: 1,122; No: 68] and Res. 5-05 was adopted [Yes: 1,084; No: 132].

The committee also introduced Res. 5-08 and provided explanation. It was adopted [Yes: 1,108; No: 97] without debate.



*Election of Vice-Presidents Two through Five*

The slate of 20 candidates for the offices of vice-presidents two through five was again presented to the assembly. The result of the first ballot was as follows:

David Adams	280
Wally Arp	42
Edward Balfour	39
David Buegler	459
Bryant Clancy	81
Eloy Gonzalez	265
Matthew Harrison	221
Glenn Huebel	55
Paul Maier	675
Elder McCants	158
Charles Mueller, Jr.	273
Herbert Mueller, Jr.	62
Scott Murray	185
Dean Nadasdy	541
Clint Poppe	32
Daniel Preus	281
Lawrence Rast	90
Wallace Schulz	395
Dean Wenthe	152
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	561

Paul Maier was declared elected second vice-president. After six names were retained according to the requirements of Bylaw 3.12.1.6, the following were the results of the second ballot:

David Adams	515
David Buegler	593
Dean Nadasdy	666
Daniel Preus	528
Wallace Schulz	563
John Wohlrabe, Jr.	685

John Wohlrabe, Jr. was declared elected third vice-president, Dean Nadasdy fourth vice-president, and David Buegler fifth vice-president.

*Reports*

Dr. Dean Hempelmann, Executive Director of the Board for Pastoral Education, provided a brief report and video of the “What A Way” initiative, also describing many resources available to assist in efforts to encourage young people to become full time church workers.

Dr. Ray Halm, Director of QNet, briefly described the continued success of this teacher colloquy program, introducing the 1,000<sup>th</sup> teacher to complete the course of study, Dr. Mary Beth Gaertner. Heather Stuve, director of the colloquy program, reminded that while progress has been made, the Synod has a long way to go toward its goal of rostering all teachers in its parochial schools.

*Committee 4: Program and Finance*

Rev. Keith Kohlmeier, President of the Kansas District and chairman of Committee 4, initiated consideration of Res. 4-13 by introducing Rev. Tom Ries, President of the LCMS Foundation, who spoke of the foundation’s success in helping with estate planning over the 50 years of its existence as a ministry of the Synod. After Res. 4-13 was read and introduced for action, it was adopted without further discussion



[Yes: 1,027; No: 41]. Board Chairman George Black emphasized that the Foundation is not about money but about saving souls, at the same time emphasizing stewardship education according to sound biblical principles. To mark LCMS Foundation's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, he presented a check of \$50,000 to the President of the Synod for the purpose of establishing a special foundation to promote stewardship education. As he presented the check, he made the following statement:

In pursuing its mission the Foundation teaches and practices sound principles of biblical stewardship. Stewardship education is of paramount importance to individual Christians who seek to live out lives of faithful service and witness to Jesus Christ. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, the Foundation Board of Trustees, on behalf of the Members of the Foundation, hereby presents a gift of \$50,000 to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to establish a permanent, Synod-owned endowment to help fund stewardship education in the Church and assure that there will continue to be gifts for today, tomorrow, and forever for the work of the Church.

#### *Committee 10: Nominations*

Committee Chairman John Brunner, President of the Eastern District, called attention to Special Standing Rule 25 and noted how the nominations process will proceed. After President Kieschnick briefly described the composition of the Committee for Convention Nominations and the process it used to develop the slates to be presented to the convention, the committee chairman introduced the slate for the office of Secretary.

When the chair asked if there was an interest in offering further nominations, a motion “to accept nominations from the floor” was introduced and carried [Yes: 588; No: 581]. A motion was introduced “to nominate Rev. Larry Harvala for Secretary.” When the committee chairman reported that Rev. Harvala's name was not in the pool of names originally nominated, the chair ruled that the current motion would satisfy the bylaw requirement for a motion to approve such nominations. The motion failed [Yes: 527; No: 656]. There were no further nominations.

The slate for the position of Vice-President—Finance—Treasurer was introduced. No motion for nominations from the floor was offered.

The slate for the Board of Directors of the Synod was introduced. A motion followed “that prior to any vote on any individual floor nominee for any board or commission, the convention delegates be told whether or not the floor nominee either was a plaintiff in the Anderson lawsuit or was party to the Motion to Intervene on the part of four members of the Board of Directors.” The chair ruled that the motion was in order and was not amendable or debatable. The motion was adopted [Yes: 626; No: 544]. A motion “to allow further nominations for the Board of Directors of the Synod” was introduced and carried [Yes: 650; No: 529]. The chair explained that since the entire board is an officer of the Synod, all categories would be considered at the same time.

A motion was introduced “to nominate Rev. Dr. William F. Meyer.” After discussion, the motion failed [Yes: 341; No: 835]. A question was raised regarding the propriety of the earlier motion that delegates be told of involvements in the Anderson lawsuit in light of the Commission on Constitutional Matters opinion read earlier. The commission was asked to provide a response later.

A motion was introduced “to nominate Mr. Mark Stern from the Northern Illinois District.” It was noted that there already was a candidate on the slate from the same district, satisfying the requirement of Bylaw 3.12.3.7 (b) that such information be provided. A question arose regarding the process to be used to elect the members of the Board of Directors. The chair asked the Commission on Constitutional Matters to consult with the Elections Committee to make a recommendation to the convention in this regard. The chairman of the Elections Committee proposed that the ordained members of the board be elected first, then the commissioned member, followed by the lay members. When attention returned to the motion to add the name of Mark Stern, the motion failed [Yes: 462; No: 705].

A motion was introduced “to nominate David Hawk of the Indiana District.” After all required consideration was given to qualifications and restrictions, the motion was defeated [Yes: 451; No: 728].

A motion was introduced “to nominate Elizabeth Skinner from the Southeastern District.” After all required consideration was given to qualifications and restrictions, the motion was defeated [Yes: 415; No: 762].

A motion was introduced “to nominate Jonathan Dorr from the South Dakota District.” After consideration was given to qualifications and restrictions, the motion was defeated [Yes: 558; No: 619].

A motion was introduced “to nominate Ralph L. Reinke from the Pacific Southwest District.” After consideration was given to qualifications and restrictions, the motion was defeated [Yes: 403; No: 757].

A motion was made “that any lawsuit designation be removed in a spirit of forgiveness and seeking God’s will.” The chair ruled the motion out of order, suggesting that a motion to reconsider the previous motion could be brought by a delegate who voted on the prevailing side.

A motion “to cease nominations for the Board of Directors of the Synod” was declared out of order by the chair for not being in accord with parliamentary rules, as was also a motion “to identify all delegates who voted to identify the plaintiffs in the lawsuit.”

Noting no further speakers at microphones, the chair observed that nominations were thereby closed. The floor committee chairman then called attention to page 215 in *Today’s Business*, noting changes to the report of his committee.

#### *Omnibus Resolutions*

After the chair provided a brief explanation of the purposes served by the various omnibus resolutions, he called attention to Omnibus Res. A (*TB*, pp. 155-157). The Secretary offered several additions to the list of overtures: Ov. 3-95, “To Commit to Working Together with Other Denominations,” to be referred to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations; Ov. L3-106, “To Recognize Greater Specificity Regarding Functions of the Pastoral Office,” to be referred to the Commission on Worship; and Ov. 4-36, “To Change Appointment Process for Director of News and Information Services,” to be referred to the Commission on Structure. A motion to adopt Res. A as changed was introduced.

A motion was introduced “to amend by separating Ov. 1-01 from Omnibus A and referring it back to the committee to bring to the floor at the nearest available time.” After a discussion of parliamentary considerations, the motion was changed “to amend the resolution by deleting Ov. 1-01.” After discussion, the motion to amend failed [Yes: 255; No: 924].

A motion was introduced “to amend Omnibus Res. A by changing the referral of Ov. 8-32, ‘Develop Method for Review of CCM Opinions,’ from Commission on Theology and Church Relations to Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance.” The committee accepted the change and no vote was necessary.

A motion was introduced “to amend Omnibus Res. A by deleting Ov. L1-119.” After discussion, the motion was not carried [Yes: 566; No: 590].

A motion was introduced “to amend Omnibus Res. A by deleting Ov. 3-99.” After discussion, the motion was not carried [Yes: 402; No: 759].

A motion was introduced “to amend Omnibus Res. A by deleting Ov. 4-20.” After discussion, the motion failed [Yes: 490; No: 673].

A motion was introduced “to amend Omnibus Res. A by deleting Ov. 3-30.” After discussion, the motion failed [Yes: 296; No: 855].

The chair referred to Special Standing Rule 16, allowing the chair to take the initiative to put to the assembly the question whether it wishes to vote on the main motion. A motion was introduced “to amend

the resolve paragraph of Omnibus Res. A to include mention of ‘task force’ after the word ‘commission.’” This change was adopted by common consent. After a vote to cease debate carried [Yes: 983; No: 205], the vote to adopt Omnibus Res. A as amended was carried [Yes: 1,042; No: 137].

The chair called attention to Omnibus Res. B, which was moved and seconded. A motion “to amend Omnibus Res. B by removing Ov. 7-62” was introduced, discussed, and then not carried [Yes: 329; No: 830]. After a motion “to terminate debate on Omnibus Res. B” carried [Yes: 1,042; No: 131], the motion to adopt the resolution carried [Yes: 1,055; No: 122].

The chair called attention to Omnibus Res. D. When moved and seconded, a motion immediately following “to terminate debate” without debate carried [Yes: 1,019; No: 139]. The resolution was adopted [Yes: 1,109; No: 71].

#### *Committee 7: Planning and Administration*

Committee 7 Chairman Daniel May, President of the Indiana District, explained the absence of District President Don Fondow due to health reasons. After he introduced the work of the committee, Res. 7-01A (*TB*, p. 200) was presented for adoption. After further explanation by the committee, a substitute motion was proposed “to consider Ov. 7-33 (*CW*, p. 247) in place of Res. 7-01A.” After the presenter of the motion and the committee offered comment, the convention declined to consider the substitute motion [Yes: 378; No: 774].

As discussion continued on Res. 7-01A, a motion was introduced “to retain the word ‘age’ in line 23 of the resolution.” After brief discussion, the motion to amend was carried [Yes: 834; No: 322]. A motion “to add the words, ‘one’s position with regard to the Anderson lawsuit’ until 2013” was ruled out of order since the inclusion of a definite date made the resolution other than a bylaw amendment. A motion “to cease debate” was then carried [Yes: 1,031; No: 142] and Res. 7-01A was adopted [Yes: 1,073; No: 100].

The committee then introduced Res. 7-02 (*TB*, p. 123), noting one change to the second whereas paragraph, replacing the word “unclarity” with the words “a lack of clarity.” The resolution was adopted without discussion [Yes: 1,077; No: 84].

The committee introduced Res. 7-03A (*TB*, p. 200). During discussion, the parliamentarian was asked to discuss the relationship of bylaws to parliamentary rules. The propriety of a motion “to amend the resolution by deleting the word “not” from the proposed wording” was discussed. A motion “to introduce the change as a substitute motion” was declared out of order on the basis of parliamentary rule. Discussion and further clarification by the committee of the main motion followed. The Commission on Constitutional Matters, asked to produce an opinion on the subject, called attention to Opinions 05-2439; 05-2440; 05-2442 in the *Convention Workbook*. After further discussion a motion to cease debate carried [Yes: 1003; No: 154] and Res. 7-03A was adopted [Yes: 774; No: 399].

Session 2 was closed with closing prayer by convention chaplain Dean Wenthe and the announcement that the convention offering now totaled \$409,157.

**Session 3**  
**Monday A.M. July 16, 2007**

*Morning Devotion*

President Gerald Kieschnick called the assembly to order and called on convention chaplain Dean Wenthe to introduce Dr. L. Dean Hempelmann, Executive Director of the Board for Pastoral Education, the morning devotion leader. Basing his message on 1 Cor. 1:18-25, he spoke of the wisdom of the world as foolishness and the foolishness of God's wisdom in the eyes of the world. Because we preach Christ crucified and disgraced, we are fools for Christ the crucified One. But we are wise fools, not ashamed of the Gospel, the power of God.

*Committee 3: Theology and Church Relations*

Committee 3 Chairman Gerhard Michael, President of the Florida-Georgia District, presented Res. 3-01, "To Declare Altar and Pulpit Fellowship with the American Association of Lutheran Churches" (*TB*, pp. 69-70). Given its significance, the entire resolution was read by a member of the committee and the resolution was moved by the committee for adoption. Dr. Samuel Nafzger, Executive Director of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, further explained the process that resulted in the proposed resolution, reporting that the AALC recently took its own action to declare altar and pulpit fellowship with the LCMS.

Extensive discussion followed in response to specific issues and concerns raised by the assembly. It was assured that agreements will be put into place to handle unique church worker issues in a manner that will satisfy both church bodies. A motion was introduced to amend the resolution by substituting two resolves for the second-last resolve in the proposed resolution as follows: "*Resolved*, That the LCMS request the American Association of Lutheran Churches to make known publicly its positions with respect to Christians having membership in secret societies such as lodges and to Christians participating with heterodox congregations in worship; and be it further *Resolved*, That pastors of Missouri Synod congregations may exercise pastoral care with respect to altar and pulpit fellowship in the extraordinary circumstances of having a nearby AALC congregation that allows membership in secret societies such as lodges or that publicly worships with heterodox congregations; and be it finally." After discussion, the amendment failed [Yes: 288; No: 891].

As discussion continued on the main motion, it was clarified that the AALC professes a *quia* and not a *quatenus* subscription to the Lutheran Confessions. A motion was introduced to terminate debate on Res. 3-01. The motion failed [Yes: 739; No: 457] and allotted time was extended for discussion to continue. An amendment was introduced to add the words "and for reconciliation" after the word "relationship" in the fourth resolve. After discussion, this amendment was adopted [Yes: 823; No: 366]. During the discussion that continued, the chair explained the decision to allow AALC students to commune as part of the Concordia Theological Seminary community. After twenty minutes of debate had elapsed, the chair asked the assembly whether it wished to cease debate. Debate was ended [Yes: 787; No: 388] and Res. 3-01 was adopted as amended [Yes: 846; No: 345]. In accord with the final resolve of the resolution, the assembly stood to sing the Common Doxology to the glory of God.

AALC Presiding Pastor Tom Aadland was introduced and spoke to the convention on behalf of the AALC and its Presiding Pastor-elect. The text of his message to the convention will be printed in the *Convention Proceedings*. Formal protocol documents were signed by the heads of the two church bodies.

*Committee 5: Seminary and University Education*

Committee 5 Chairman Jon Diefenthaler introduced the subject of the proposed establishment of the Specific Ministry Pastor Program. He clarified that the introductory material preceding Res. 5-01A (*TB*, pp. 186-194) is to be regarded as background information to inform the convention's decision. Dr. L. Dean Hempelmann, Executive Director of the Board for Pastoral Education, Dr. Andrew Bartelt, Academic Dean of Concordia Seminary, and Dr. Larry Rast, Academic Dean of Concordia Theological Seminary, outlined

the proposed program, responded to concerns raised, and reported on the support that the proposal enjoys and the positive reception it has enjoyed on both seminary campuses.

Given time constraints, the chair recommended that the resolution not be formally introduced, but that the brief time remaining be spent asking and responding to questions regarding the proposal.

### *Bible Study*

The chair called on convention chaplain Dale Meyer to introduce the Bible study leader, Dr. Paul Maier, Second Vice-President-elect of the Synod and Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University. His Bible study focused on the first chapter of 1 Cor. and its historical setting, the Grecian capital established by Rome, presumably the worst seedbed for the Gospel, given the city's great vices and false religions. But the church start was surprisingly successful—at least until Paul left, when the church suffered, occasioning this letter from Paul.

Delegates were asked to form groups of four to discuss the biblical text in light of its historical setting, after which Dr. Maier made application, noting the “perfect parallel” of our present day with that of Corinth, especially in light of some of the relational difficulties our Synod faces today. The remedy is still the same, to focus on Christ, to take these words literally, leaving this convention as if Jesus Himself had been present and had addressed the convention with words like those of Paul.

### *Committee 5: Seminary and University Education*

Committee 5 Chairman Jon Diefenthaler called attention to a resolution requiring early attention, given its potential effect on ballot preparations, Res. 5-04 (*TB*, pp. 102–103). He introduced Dr. Jacob Preus, President of Concordia University Irvine, who spoke in support of the proposed resolution, and assured that the resolution is not intended in any way to create greater separation from the Synod but to provide greater support for the Synod's schools by providing the wisdom and support needed to operate schools in this day and age. Vice-President–Finance—Treasurer Tom Kuchta added his support as Treasurer of the Synod before the resolution was introduced by the committee for consideration.

During discussion, a motion was introduced “to amend the resolution by adding the prefix ‘non’ to the word ‘voting’” in proposed wording for Bylaw 3.8.3.6.2 in its third numbered sentence. Given time constraints, the chair tested the will of the assembly to continue discussion of the amendment. The assembly voted to terminate debate [Yes: 991; No: 173] and then defeated the motion to amend [Yes: 341; No: 809]. The chair again tested the will of the assembly to continue discussion of the main motion. As the vote was being taken, it was determined that a number of key pads were not operative, and the vote was taken by having the delegates vote by standing. After the vote was taken, the chair ruled that the motion to terminate debate was carried. By rising vote, the convention also adopted Res. 5-04.

A motion was introduced “to allow delegates to register their negative votes.” It was determined by voice vote that the motion was carried by the required 1/3 vote. The following delegates registered their votes in writing with the Secretary: Steven J. Anderson, Benjamin Ball, Sean Ballard, Arie Bertsch, Bruce Blocker, Neal Breitbarth, Paul E. Bremer, R. Thomas Colgrove, Loren D. Cooper, Perry Culver, Wm. Keith Davis, Frederick E. Davison, Charlie A. Dietrich, Roger Dilger, Rebecca Dominguez, Everett Doyle, Thomas Dufresne, Mark Eckert, Paul Egger, Roger Gallup, Gary V. Gehlbach, H. Glaess, Timothy Hafner, Jim Hamilton, John W. Hamilton, Gregg Hein, Gary Held, Jeffrey Heller, Charles Henkel, Karl Hess, Gary Hoffmann, Daniel G. Holthus, Robert Jahns, Ronald Kabitzke, Chad Kendall, Harold King, Jessie King, Mark A. Kloha, Tim Koch, Henry J. Koopmann, Richard Kreutzer, Larry Le Blanc, Bryan Lindemood, David Lord, David Markworth, Michael Mathews, Timothy D. May, Jon P. Meyer, Alan Miller, Aaron Moldenhauer, Bruce Nathan, Shawn Nettleton, Lydia Nighswander, Charles Olander, Fred Page, Raymond Parent, Peter Piepkorn, Donald E. Prevallet, Davin Quiram, Steve Rasmussen, Russell D. Reimers, John Riley, Franklin Schatte, Tim Schenks, Dana Schnelle, V. Schroeder, Larry Smallfield, Ken Sparbel, Roger Sterle, Winfred Strieter, D. Richard Stuckwisch, Le Roy B. Sundbom, David Teigen, Matthew Theriault, Magdalen Veitenruber, Charlie Wachlin, Paul M. Weber, Keith R. Weise, Stephen Weiss, Craig E. Whitson, Henry C. Wied, Alan Wollenburg, Robert Wurst.

*Committee 8: Synod Structure and Governance.*

Committee 8 Chairman Lane Seitz, President of the Minnesota South District, introduced Res. 8-01 on behalf of the committee (*TB*, pp. 143–145) and reviewed the history of the issues addressed by the resolution and the Report of the Res. 7-02A Committee (*TB*, pp. 26-38), this the first segment of Special Standing Rule 7. After noting the change made by the convention to the standing rule in an earlier session, the 30-minute debate on the main motion was begun.

After the 30-minute period had elapsed, discussion of Res. 8-01 moved into the final 45-minute period of debate. A motion was introduced “to amend Res. 8-01 by deleting the proposed wording for Bylaw 3.9.2.1.1 and inserting two new paragraphs: (a) The Commission on Constitutional Matters shall be elected by the Synod in convention. (b) In the event of a vacancy, the President shall nominate a replacement with the consent of three vice-presidents, that nomination to be effective upon ratification by a majority vote of the Council of Presidents.” The chair questioned the propriety of the motion to amend since it included a bylaw change and had not been reviewed by the Commission on Constitutional Matters. He asked that the commission look into the matter. As discussion continued on the resolution, it was noted that amendments to the Bylaws also need to be first considered by a convention floor committee. The maker of the amendment was asked to take the matter to the floor committee prior to its consideration by the convention.

Discussion continued on Res. 8-01 until the chair tested the interest of the assembly in terminating the debate. The convention voted to end debate [Yes: 814; No: 384] and Res. 8-01 was adopted [Yes: 905; No: 292].

*Recess*

# Notices

## Reminder re Amendments to Bylaws

As a reminder to delegates, when submitting amendments to the bylaws the procedure as detailed in Bylaw 7 must be followed. Please find printed below Bylaw 7 for your information and use throughout the rest of the convention.

### 7. Amendments to Bylaws

- 7.1 Amendments to the Bylaws may be made using one of two procedures, provided they are not contrary to the Constitution of the Synod.
- 7.1.1 Amendments may be made by conventions of the Synod.
  - (a) They shall be presented in writing to a convention of the Synod.
  - (b) They shall be specified as bylaw amendments and considered by a convention floor committee.
  - (c) They shall be examined by the Commission on Constitutional Matters prior to presentation to the convention to determine that they are not in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.
  - (d) They shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.
- 7.1.2 In exceptional circumstances and upon the express direction of a convention of the Synod, amendments may be made by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors.
  - (a) Such amendments to the Bylaws shall be necessary to implement resolutions adopted by a convention of the Synod.
  - (b) Such amendments shall be drafted by the Secretary of the Synod and shall be reviewed by the Commission on Constitutional Matters.

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**ATTENTION:** Any materials for inclusion in Today's Business should be submitted by 3:30 p.m. on the day before the item should appear in print. The doors to the Today's Business Office (Room 370A) will close daily at 6:45 p.m.

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**REMINDER to all individuals turning in work to Today's Business staff:** All work submitted must be approved before it is printed in the next edition. Please remember to come down to room 370A by 6:45 p.m. to approve of the completed work.

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*Please do not leave anything in the convention hall. Your cooperation is appreciated.*

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### A THANK YOU TO LUTHERAN TRUST

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod would like to thank Lutheran Trust for their generous support of the 63rd Regular Convention through their underwriting of the T-shirts given to Convention volunteers and pages. Be sure to visit them in Booth 310 in the Exhibit Hall.

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*Ablaze!* AMBASSADORS ... have you talked with one yet? Their Planning Team consists of Dr. Elaine Richter Bryant, Mrs. Linda Reiser, Dr. Ron Meyer, and Dr. Rich Bimler. They are anxious to tell the *Ablaze!* story ... of Jesus and His love for all!

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Nebraska District Delegates ... The Nebraska District Delegate luncheons scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, will be held in room 310AD (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor) of the Convention Center.

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CONCORDIA PLAN SERVICES reminds you of the "Lunch and Learn Sessions" they are hosting today through Wednesday. The sessions will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level of the Convention Center during the lunch break. Approximate starting time for the sessions is 12:45 pm.

TUESDAY:

- "An Introduction to Personal Finance & Retirement Planning" ... Room 381 A & B
- "New Directions in Health Care" ... Room 351 A & D

WEDNESDAY:

- "Be Well ... Serve Well" Room ... 381 A & B
  - "The Church's Plan—Maximizing Your Benefits" ... Room 351 A & D
- 

Jeff Heller is the 1<sup>st</sup> WINNER of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation drawing on Monday ... Please come by Booth 221 to claim your prize.

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Prayers for individuals in need will be included in the closing devotion each day. Requests may be submitted at the small table near the entrance to the hall.

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Winners of the Lutheran Service Book resources provided by the Commission on Worship are:

- Saturday: Henry Pickelmann, John Lultmann
- Sunday: Ann Schueler, Kathy Angst

Winners may pick-up their gifts at The Commission on Worship Booth 312. Everyone can still stop by to register for additional drawings on Tuesday.

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Enter the drawing for a FREE book, "Jewish Believers in Jesus: The Early Centuries," at Booth 323 on Tuesday. The drawing will take place at 5:30 p.m. ... You do not need to be present to win. Caspari Center for Biblical and Jewish Center.

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Jacqueline Paige and Virginia Von Seggers are WINNERS! ... Stop by the Lutheran Bible Translators Booth 400 to select your gift!

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LOST and FOUND: A collection of items that have been found and turned in is in the convention offices, Room 216 of the Convention Hall, on the second level near the registration areas.

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WINNERS - Al Henderson of Ft. Dodge, IA and Anne Scheer of Covington, LA ... Please stop by the LCMS World Relief and Human Care Booth 500 to claim your bag!

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LCMS World Relief and Human Care, Booth 500 .... Pedometer WINNERS need to come by to pick up your prize: Larry Vogel, Paul Terhune, Gilbert Pingel, Bruce Crabtree, Charlotte Champbel, Randy Ledbetter, Susan Lee, Dalton Noack, Elizabeth Pilcher, Harriet Graf, Margaret Gandson, Jim Johnsen, Paul Bremer, Paul Grime, Teresa Becker, Margaret Twin, Susan Mercier, Kathy Newman, Margaret, Mueller, Gary Mercier, Linda Meyer, Arthur During, Patricia Goodwill, Aaron Dickerson, Charlotte Boltzmann, Margie Arp, Jim Johnsen, Luanne Eckert, Betty Greene, Bill Gaza, Lonnie Angst, Heidi Scatter, Kathy Angst, Amanda Jones, Mark Rabe, Greg Becker, Dean Pfeffer, Erin Beal, Barb Faga, Magdalen Voitengraber, Pat Eleby, Jeff Schufreider, Eric Nelson, Rich Cohrs, Minard Petersen, Barb Anglard, Marilyn Gardner, Alice Strieter, Roger Carlisle, Liz Pfeffer, Liz Anderson, Steve Hanscher, Meg Prosch, Isaac Schuller, Steve Schilke, Karrol Gielow, Barbara Altevogt, Carol Guewnch, Connie Savant, Margaret Zastrow, Rebecca Anderson, Bernell Lovett, Jodie Smith, Bernie Lutz, Roberta Lutz, Tom Going, Lloyd Schultz, Sherri Schroeder, Karl Anderson, Dave Wrsche, Marvin Swan, Rick Bowen, Sandy Ruttan, Carol Peterson, Ken Sparbel, John Jaeger, Rodney Fritz, Jim Hillmann, Steve Dow, Wesley Krueger, Jo Saemrow, Penny Courtney, Dennis Wittenberger, Mary Zastrow, Ruth Muck, Laura Page, Jeff Heller, Glen Wurdeman, William Zastrow, and Carrie O'Donnell.

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Three Crosses, Booth 231 WINNERS are Doris Weispfennig of Villard, MN, John Stieve of Green Valley, AZ, Perry Culver of Shreveport, LA, Paul Bremer of Arlington, MN, David Schouweiler of Fremont, MI, Alan Bauch of Lockport, NY, and Vernon C. Koch of Bristol, CT. Come by to pick-up your prize!

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**REMINDER — DISTRICT DELEGATION PHOTOS:** As at past Synod conventions, district delegation group photographs will be taken. Please gather *promptly* at the appropriate time and place listed below to limit your delegation's time away from the convention floor. *PLEASE NOTE THAT DELEGATIONS SCHEDULED AFTER 2:05 P.M. ON MONDAY, JULY 16 WERE RE-SCHEDULED FOR THIS AFTERNOON BEGINNING AT 3:45 P.M.* You will see that two district delegations are scheduled during each 10-minute time slot. All photos will be taken in Room 350E on Level 3 of the convention center. 8X10 color prints will be available for purchase at the time of your photo shoot for \$12 per print. Please have your payment (cash, check, or credit card) ready at the time you order. You may pick up your photos in Room 350E on Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> or Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. You may also choose to have them mailed to you for an additional \$2.

Monday, July 16

Atlantic	1:45 p.m.
Cal-Nev-Hi	1:45 p.m.
Central Illinois	1:55 p.m.
Eastern	1:55 p.m.
English	2:05 p.m.
Florida-Georgia	2:05 p.m.
Indiana	Re-scheduled
Iowa-East	Re-scheduled
Iowa-West	Re-scheduled
Kansas	Re-scheduled
Michigan	Re-scheduled
Mid-South	Re-scheduled
Minnesota-North	Re-scheduled
Minnesota-South	Re-scheduled
Montana	Re-scheduled
Nebraska	Re-scheduled
New Jersey	Re-scheduled
Missouri	Re-scheduled

Tuesday, July 17

New England	8:45 a.m.	Texas	9:55 a.m.
North Dakota	8:45 a.m.	Wyoming	10:05 a.m.

North Wisconsin	8:55 a.m.	Minnesota-North	3:45 p.m.
Northern Illinois	8:55 a.m.	Iowa-East	3:45 p.m.
Northwest	9:05 a.m.	Iowa-West	3:55 p.m.
Ohio	9:05 a.m.	Missouri	3:55 p.m.
Oklahoma	9:15 a.m.	Michigan	4:05 p.m.
Pacific Southwest	9:15 a.m.	Mid-South	4:05 p.m.
Rocky Mountain	9:25 a.m.	Indiana	4:15 p.m.
SELC	9:25 a.m.	Minnesota-South	4:15 p.m.
South Dakota	9:35 a.m.	Montana	4:25 p.m.
South Wisconsin	9:35 a.m.	Nebraska	4:25 p.m.
Southeastern	9:45 a.m.	New Jersey	4:35 p.m.
Southern	9:45 a.m.	Kansas	4:35 p.m.
Southern Illinois	9:55 a.m.		

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YOU ARE A WINNER!!! ... Liz Anderson of Custer, SD .... Stop by the Lutheran Deaconess Association Booth 106 to pick-up your prize.

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Do you need help with Marriage Ministry at your church? ... Consider hosting a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend at your church (contact [jimbeversdorf@verizon.net](mailto:jimbeversdorf@verizon.net)).

TODAY'S WINNERS of the \$45 weekend registration need to come by Booth 325 to pick-up your prize:

- Peg Baxter                      Fenton, MO
  - Joanne Goforth                Grand Prairie, TX
  - Kurtis Smith                    Slidell, LA
  - Kathy Trapp                    St. Paul, MN
  - Jennie Waters                 Broadview, IL
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Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S., Booth 207 announces the WINNER of Monday's drawing of the Native American earrings is Jan French from Lafayette, IN. Please come by to pick-up your prize during today's exhibit hours.

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The WINNER of Tuesday's "Be Well Basket" from CONCORDIA PLAN SERVICES: Lee Wenskay of Pigeon, MI. Second & Third place winners of a 20" stuffed Snoopy from MetLife Resources: Charlene Helmer of Gardner, KS and Jeff Schufreider of San Francisco, CA. Please come by Booth 600 to pick-up your prize!

A REMINDER: If you signed up for one of the LUNCH AND LEARN sessions offered by Concordia Plan Services, they are being held in rooms 251 A&D and 381 A & B on the third level of the Convention Center.

And ... don't forget to stop by our booth in the Exhibit Hall with your questions or to meet our vendor representatives.

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#### Recycling:

If you have paper, cans or plastic water bottles that you would like recycled, these items may be left on the tables in the convention meeting hall at the end of the day's session. These will be recycled by the convention center staff.

#### Regarding the Policy on Distribution of Materials:

Your attention is called to the Policy re Distribution of Materials found on page 7 of the first issue of *Today's Business*:

*“Only materials requiring convention action (e.g. resolutions, ballots) shall be distributed within the convention hall proper. A public material distribution area will be established on the second floor of the convention center where other materials may be placed. The public material distribution area will be available for use by members of the LCMS who register for its use on-site. There shall be no person-to-person distribution of such materials within the building except for the exhibits planned or approved by the convention committee. The President’s Office shall see that these provisions are carried out and that the standards of Christian decency and constraint are maintained.”*

It is inconsistent with this policy to distribute materials on the sidewalks of the George R. Brown Convention Center and hotels. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

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**PERSONAL NOTICES:** Personal notices are not published in *Today's Business*.

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