## Delegates
### Indiana District Convention
### June 28-29, 2012

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ADVISORY – ORDAINED

Rev. Barry Akers, Our Redeemer, Kokomo
Rev. Tomas Angon, Immanuel, Valparaiso
Rev. Robert Becker, Zion, Decatur
Rev. Otto Brillinger, Emeritus
Rev. Christopher Davis, Trinity, Elkhart
Rev. David Dubbelde, Emeritus
Rev. Russell Fuhrmann, Emeritus
Rev. Herbert Gerken, Emeritus
Rev. Weldon Leimer, Emeritus
Rev. Yohannes Mengsteab, Holy Cross, Ft Wayne
Rev. Gilbert Meske, Emeritus
Rev. Roger Olson, Emeritus

Rev. Michael Paul, St. Paul, Evansville
Rev. Curtis Peters, Resurrection, Louisville
Rev. Udhayanesan Raji, Calvary, Indianapolis
Rev. Michael Salemink, St. James, Lafayette
Rev. Ralph Schmidt, Emeritus
Rev. Steven Schumacher, Mill Neck
Rev. Timothy Sims, Emeritus
Rev. Robert Smith, Concordia Theological Sem.
Rev. Soren S. Urberg, Emeritus
Rev. David Werner, Emeritus
Rev. Cory Wielert, Wittenberg Village

ADVISORY – COMMISSIONED

George Denholm, St. Peter’s, Columbus
Ken Eichinger, St. Paul’s, Bremen
Larry Hencye, Trinity, Fort Wayne
Sara Knea, Shepherd of Paradise, Newburgh
Larry Koelper, St. Paul’s, Fort Wayne
Darin Koenemann, Ascension, Fort Wayne
Dcs. Shaina Mitchell, Grace, Muncie
John Mueller, Emeritus
Douglas Reynolds, Mt. Calvary, Fort Wayne

Fay Richert, Emeritus
Joel Rolf, Trinity, Indianapolis
James Russell, St. Paul’s, Bremen
Norbert Schaekel, Emeritus
Ken Schilf, Lutheran Ministries Media
Carl Schuelenburg, Lutheran High, Indianapolis
Linda Schuelenburg, Emeritus
Cynthia Schumacher, Bethlehem, Ossian
Richard Schwantz, Concordia, Fort Wayne
Minutes of the Twentieth Convention  
of the  
Indiana District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
June 28 – 29, 2012  
Grand Wayne Convention Center  
Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Celebrating God’s Love Together  
The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Indiana District  
Thursday, June 28, 2012  

9:55 a.m. – President May welcomed the delegates  

10:00 a.m. – Pastor Paul Shoemaker, Convention Chaplain, led the opening devotions based on the convention theme Bible passage, Philippians 1: 3-5  

10:15 a.m. – LCMS Synod Report (part 1)  

President May welcomed Rev. John C. Wohlrabe, Jr, Th.D., Pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church, Geneseo, Illinois and Second Vice-President of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod; Pastor Wohlrabe represented LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison. The report was a video presentation overview of the work of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.  

10: 25 a.m. Registration Report  

Mr. Larry Jung gave the registration report as of 10:25 a.m. Registered voting delegates: a) Pastors – 161; b) Lay delegates – 159; c) total voting delegates – 320. Registered advisory delegates: 45. Total registered delegates: 365.  

The registered voting delegates represented the required quorum of one-third of the district congregations being represented.  

10:27 a.m. – Call to Order  

With a quorum of delegates registered, President May called to order the Twentieth Convention of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.  

Mr. Jung explained and demonstrated the use of the electronic voting system.  

Motion: Agenda Approval  

It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented in the Convention Workbook.
Action: Agenda approved as presented (99%)

Introductions

President May introduced various people assisting with the convention, including Mr. David Wilkins, serving as parliamentarian; Pr. Ronald Brauer, serving as time-keeper and Pr. Douglas Christian, secretary.

Motion: Standing Rules Approval

It was moved and, seconded to adopt the standing rules as presented on pages 5 and 6 of the convention workbook.

Action: Standing Rules approved as presented (99%)

Welcome Into the District

President May welcomed the newest congregation of the District, Epiphany Lutheran Church, Westville, IN, and her Pastor, Jeremy Mills.

Also welcomed were the Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned new to the Indiana District since the 2009 district convention (names are listed on pages 51-53 of the convention workbook and page 4 of the June 28 issue of Today’s Business).

Floor Committees

President May introduced the floor committee chairmen:

   Committee 1 / Theology and Administration – Pastor Alan Barber
   Committee 2 / Outreach – Pastor Stephen Bongard
   Committee 3 / Congregation Services and Education – Pastor Steve Ensley
   Committee 4 / Stewardship and Structure – Pastor Luther Brunette
   Committee 5 / Elections – Pastor David McClean
   Committee 6 / Nominations – Mr. David Smith

10:41 Committee 5 / Elections – Election of District President

Pastor McClean explained the voting procedure then introduced the nominees for the office of District President: Rev. Dr. Daniel P. May; Rev. David Mommens; Rev. Steve Resner; Rev. Paul Shoemaker; Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch.

Chaplain Shoemaker offered prayer for the Holy Spirit’s guidance as delegates vote for one to serve as District President.
On the first ballot Rev. Daniel May was elected as president (212 votes of 292 cast; 72.6%).

Pastor McClean invited Rev. May to the podium; Rev. May accepted the election in humbleness and with joy to serve with the congregations of the Indiana District. Rev. May included in his acceptance God’s Word recorded by St. Paul in Philippians 1.

10:53 a.m. Synod Report (part 2)

Pastor Wohlrabe was invited to give the second portion of the Synod report which included a Bible study.

11:25 a.m. Greetings to the convention

President May welcomed the following representatives to bring greetings to the delegates: Margie Wickert (President Indiana District LWML), Rev. Ralph Schmidt (LLL / Orphan Grain Train), and Bob Uthoff (LCEF).

11:49 a.m. District President’s Report

During his report, President May gave special recognition to Mr. Larry Jung for his 37 years of service as financial officer for the Indiana District; Mr. Jung is retiring from his position at the end of 2012. Mr. Jung was presented with a retirement gift from the congregations of the Indiana District and a plaque recognizing his years of service to the church-at-large within the Indiana District.

12:35 p.m. Announcements and Meal Prayer

The convention went into recess at 12:37.

1:44 p.m. President May called the convention back into session. Chaplain Shoemaker offered prayer at the beginning of this session.

Motion: Voting Procedure

It was moved and seconded to have the ballot voted on as presented. In the case of a conflict where two people from the same congregation are elected to the same council or board, the convention will vote on who they would like to serve on that council or board rather than have a blind draw.

Action: passed (74.7%)

2:00 p.m. Vice President Elections, Circuit Counselor Ratification, Nominations

Pastor McClean presented the candidates for regional vice-presidents. It was noted that the ranking of the vice-presidents will take place at a later time. Chaplain Shoemaker offered prayer asking the Holy Spirit’s guidance.
Election Results for regional vice-presidents.

Northwest Region:  Pastor Roger Rohde (56.5%, first ballot)
Northeast Region:  Pastor Daniel Brege (50.9%, second ballot)
Central Region:  Pastor David Shadday (50.5%, first ballot)
Southern Region:  Pastor Martin Keller (58.1%, first ballot)

Ratification of Circuit Counselor Elections

Page 223 of the Convention Workbook lists the Circuit Counselors elected by action of each circuit.  Ratification of the election of the Circuit Counselors requires a simply majority vote.  By way of a voice vote the slate of Circuit Counselors was ratified.

Nominations from Floor for Councils and Standing Committees

The chairman opened the floor for nominations for the various councils and standing committees.  The following floor nominations were received (the proper credentials and consent to serve provided):  Worship and Spiritual Care Committee – NE Ordained: Pastor Wm. Brege (Bethlehem, Ossian); and, Nominations Committee – NE Ordained: Pastor David Koeneman (Immanuel, Decatur).

2:04 p.m. Missions and Outreach Report (part 1)

Reports were given on the two mission projects adopted by the 2009 Indiana District Convention.

Dublin / Latvian Mission Project:  Rev. Geoff Robinson gave a brief oral report on this work.  It was announced that the convention worship service offering will go to support this work.

Wittenberg Project:  Rev. David Mahsman, LCMS missionary in Europe, gave a report on the status of this work.

Committee 2 / Outreach

Pastor Bongard, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

RESOLUTION 2-01: TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO INVITE 50 NEW FAMILIES IN THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE DISTRICT

Action: Resolution 2-01 adopted as presented (89.7 %)

Motion: Suspend Reading Whereas Clauses

It was moved and seconded to suspend the reading of the whereas clauses of the resolutions.

Action: passed (90%)
RESOLUTION 2-02: TO ENCOURAGE ALL CIRCUITS TO COME UP WITH A MISSION PLAN OF ACTION FOR THEIR CIRCUIT FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS OF GROWTH OF LUTHERANISM WITHIN THEIR CIRCUIT

Action: Resolution 2-01 adopted as presented (80.5%)

RESOLUTION 2-03: TO AFFIRM WORD AND SACRAMENT CAMPUS MINISTRY IN THE INDIANA DISTRICT

Discussion

Motion to amend: a friendly amendment was offered and accepted by the floor committee that final resolve have the following added at the end “, and approval.”; the final resolve now reading:

RESOLVED, any proposed sale of District owned campus ministry property should be brought to the entire District in convention for input, advice, direction, and approval.

The clarification was made that this resolution deals with real property.

A delegate pointed out that the by-laws of the District allows the Board of Directors to sell property. The final resolve would remove authority vested in the Board of Directors. A delegate suggested a ruling by the District Committee for Constitutional Matters on resolution 2-03. The committee chairman commented that the “should” of the final resolve was chosen to avoid by-law problems.

Motion to amend: a friendly amendment was offered and accepted by the floor committee to add the following words to the final resolve “being utilized” so the final resolve reads as follows:

RESOLVED, any proposed sale of District owned campus ministry property being utilized should be brought to the entire District in convention for input, advice, direction, and approval.

Motion to table

It was moved and seconded to table resolution 2-03

Action: Resolution 2-03 tabled (77.5%)

3:00 p.m. Committee 2 time expired

Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure

Pastor Brunette, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

RESOLUTION 4-01: TO ADOPT PROPOSED INDIANA DISTRICT BYLAW CHANGES

Action: Resolution 4-01 was adopted as presented (91.5 %) noting that typographical and spelling errors will be corrected.
3:08 p.m. Committee 5 / Elections

Pastor McClean requested the Chaplain lead the delegates in prayer prior to the voting.

It was noted that several candidates on the ballot are unopposed. The Elections Committee offered the following motion:

**Motion:** Unopposed Candidates Elected by Affirmation

It is moved and seconded that unopposed candidates be elected by affirmation.

**Action:** motion passed (97.7%)

Upon the passage of the above motion, President May asked the delegates to vote 1 (yes) or 2 (no) to elect unopposed candidates on the ballot by affirmation.

**Action:** Unopposed candidates on the ballot are elected by affirmation (97.1%)

**Election results on remaining positions:**

**District Secretary:** (first ballot) Pastor D. Christian (62.5 %)

**Board of Directors**

Northeast Region – Commissioned: (second ballot) John Weber (52.5%)

Central Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Steven Lewer (57.3)

Southern Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Todd Behmlander (62%)

Northwest Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Allen Kent (70.9%)

Northeast Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Wm. Bradley (52.5%)

Central Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Paul North (60.7%)

Southern Region – Layperson: (second ballot) Dr. John Rahe (64.9%)

**Council for Congregation Outreach**

Northwest Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Erich Fickel (56%)

Southern Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Richard Woelmer (76%)

Northwest Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Carole King (50.9%)

Southern Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Tony Shull (59.2%)

Northwest Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Timothy Brettin (53%)
Northeast Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Patrick Kyler (62.8%)

**Council for Congregational Services**

Northwest Region – Ordained: (second ballot) Pr. Andrew Wollman (62.9%)

Northeast Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Rev. Prof. Dean Wenthe (71%)

Central Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Ken Greenwald (51.2%)

Northeast Region – Commissioned (first ballot) Darin Koenemann (69.5%)

Northwest Region – Layperson: (second ballot) Roger Potratz (63.4%)

**Council for Congregational Resources**

Northwest Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Wm. Foy (56.8%)

Central Region – Ordained: (second ballot) Pr. James Lewis (55.7%)

Northwest Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Sara Cunningham (73.7%)

Northeast Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) John Weber (52.5%)

Northeast Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Gary Lybarger (69.1%)

Central Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Linda Schulenburg (56.6%)

Southern Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Gerald Clow (52.9%)

**Worship and Spiritual Care Committee**

Northwest Region – Ordained: (third ballot) Pr. Christopher Gillespie (63.7%)

Northeast Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Wm. Brege (53.3%)

Central Region – Ordained: (second ballot) Pr. Sutton (59.9%)

Southern Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Curtis Peters (55.3%)

Point of order: A delegate reported that the names on the second screen were flipped from the first screen. A re-vote was requested.

Second vote for Southern Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Curtis Peters (52%)

*Voting results continued*

**Worship and Spiritual Care Committee**

Northwest Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Sandra Rhein (54.8%)
Northeast Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Kevin Hildebrand (69%)

Central Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Paul Johnson (64.9%)

Southern Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Henry Wischmeier (59.2%)

Northwest Region – Layperson: (second ballot) Gerhard Koehlinger (54.5%)

Northeast Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Annette Gard (59.3%)

Central Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Joyce Zimmerman (51.9%)

Nominations Committee

Northwest Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Gregory Fiechtner (74.7%)

Northeast Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Richard Radtke (65.8%)

Central Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. David Mueller (60.8%)

Southern Region – Ordained: (first ballot) Pr. Eric Ahlemeyer (63.9%)

Northwest Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Paul Wendt (50.5%)

Southern Region – Commissioned: (first ballot) Henry Wischmeier (54%)

Northeast Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Brian Hockemeyer (80.6%)

Southern Region – Layperson: (first ballot) Jim Claybourn (66.8%)

Committee for Constitutional Matters

The chairman explained the voting procedure for electing two from the list of ordained and two from the list of layperson: delegates will vote two times on the same list; the electronic system is formatted to record the two votes. It was noted that voting for the same individual twice, the second vote will not be recorded by the system. In each case the nominee will require more than 50% to be elected.

Ordained (two): Pr. Chad Kendall (56% second ballot)

Pr. Alan Barber (51% second ballot)

Commissioned (two): Kenneth Eichinger (by voice affirmation)

Matthew Nieman (by voice affirmation)

Layperson (two): Mark Franke (61.9% first ballot)

Rick Huff (53.2% fourth ballot)
It was announced to the delegates that John Weber (elected to two positions) opted to serve on the Board of Directors (Northeast Commissioned), therefore, Ken Schilf will serve on the Council for Congregation Resources (Northeast Commissioned).

**Ranking of Vice-presidents results:**

- First Vice-President: Pr. Roger Rohde (third ballot; 61%)
- Second Vice-President: Pr. Daniel Brege (second ballot, 54%)
- Third Vice-President: Pr. Martin Keller (first ballot, 71.8%)
- Fourth Vice-President: Pr. David Shadday

**4:36 p.m. District Anniversary Report**

President May introduced Rev. Timothy Sims, chairman of District Anniversary Committee. Following a video presentation, delegates were referred to the materials included in their handouts when they registered: an anniversary booklet (one per delegate) and a DVD (one per congregation). The Anniversary Committee announced that various resources will be sent to the congregations of the district for their use in the celebration of the District’s 50th Anniversary.

**Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure**

Pastor Brunette, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

**RESOLUTION 4:09: TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT LC-MS**

*Action:* Resolution 4:09 adopted as presented (92.8%)

**5:15 p.m.** Rev. Walter Schoedel closed the afternoon session with devotions.

**5:30 p.m.** President May announced the convention is in recess until Friday morning at 10:00 a.m.

**Friday, June 29, 2012**

Delegates gathered at 8:00 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, for the convention worship service. Pastor Wohlrabe delivered the sermon and officiated at the installation of District President May. President May installed the vice presidents and all the other officers, board, council and committee members of the district. This service also served as the memorial service remembering the pastors and commissioned members of the Indiana District roster who fell asleep in the Lord during the last triennium.
10:15 a.m. President May called the convention to order. The session began with greetings from Mr. Matt Konow, Director of Cross Connections Counseling Center, centered in Fort Wayne. During his greeting Mr. Konow presented long-range plans to extend the service area of the organization as opportunity allows.

Rev. Shonholz greeted the delegates on behalf of seminary president, Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast.

10:23 a.m. Concordia University – Wisconsin and Concordia University –

Ann Arbor Presentation.

President May welcomed Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry, president of Concordia University – Wisconsin. President Ferry addressed the pending strategic partnership of Concordia University – Wisconsin and Concordia University – Ann Arbor (see the Thursday, June 28 issue of Today’s Business for a summary of the pending strategic partnership).

Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure

Pastor Brunette, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

RESOLUTION 4-02: TO PROVIDE A DEBT-RETIREMENT GRANT TO CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ANN ARBOR

Action: Resolution 4-02 was adopted as presented (76%)

10:56 a.m. Stewardship and Finance Report

Mr. Larry Jung gave the report of the work of the Indiana District (including a brief financial report) that falls under his job description.

RESOLUTION 4-17: IN APPRECIATION OF THE 37 YEARS OF MINISTRY OF LARRY JUNG

Action: Resolution 4-17 passed with the delegates rising and singing the Doxology

RESOLUTION 4-03: TO ALLOW THE USE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF WLAB

Discussion

Motion to amend Resolution 4-03 (amendment A)

It was moved and seconded to amend Resolution 4-03 by the addition of the following resolve:

RESOLVED, that inner city churches, as defined by the Council for Congregational Outreach, may apply for funds immediately upon the passing of this resolution, while other churches must wait a year before applying after the passing of this resolution.

Call the question: A delegate called for the close of debate.
By voice vote debate was ended.

*Action:* Amendment A to Resolution 4-03 failed (93% voted in the negative)

Discussion of original Resolution 4-03 continued

**Motion to amend Resolution 4-03 (amendment B)**

It was moved and seconded to amend Resolution 4-03 by the final two resolves with the words “or RSO”; the resolves would then read:

RESOLVED, that any congregation or RSO be encouraged to apply to the Council for Congregational Outreach, under the guidelines established, to receive and utilize mission grants to further the ministry of the Gospel mission; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that any congregation or RSO receiving a mission grant be required to file an annual report concerning the grant to the Council for Congregational Outreach.

A motion to close debate on the amendment was seconded. A 2/3 vote would be required.

*Action:* motion to end debate passed (98%)

*Action:* Amendment B to Resolution 4-03 failed (88% voted in the negative)

Discussion of original Resolution 4-03 continued

A motion to call the question was seconded.

*Action:* motion to call the question passed (88%)

Resolution 4-03 came before the delegates

*Action:* Resolution 4-03 adopted as presented (75.9%)

**Going to the orders of the day**

**11:20 a.m. Education and Services Report**

Mr. Jon Mielke, Executive for Education and Congregational Services gave the Education and Services report.

**Committee 3 – Education and Services**

Pastor Ensley, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

**Motion: Approval of Indiana District Advisory Delegates for the 2013 LCMS Convention**

It is moved and seconded to approve the following list of advisory delegates to represent the Indiana District at the 2013 LCMS Convention: Matt Carlson (Christ Lutheran, Noblesville); George Denholm (St.
Peter's Lutheran, Columbus; Matthew Frick (St. Peter's Lutheran, Brownstown); Darin Koenemann (Ascension Lutheran, Fort Wayne); Larry Hencye (Trinity Lutheran, Fort Wayne); Steven Rensner (Calvary Lutheran, Indianapolis); Ken Schilf (Holy Cross Lutheran, Fort Wayne); Cynthia Schumacher (Zion Lutheran, Fort Wayne); Richard Schwantz (Concordia Lutheran, Fort Wayne); John Weber (Immanuel Lutheran, Decatur); Sarah Weber (Immanuel Lutheran, Decatur).

Action: the list of advisory delegates is approved (98%)

RESOLUTION 3-01: TO SUPPORT, COMMEND, AND INCREASE THE WITNESS, MERCY AND LIFE TOGETHER MINISTRY OF LUTHERAN SCHOOLS IN THE LCMS

Call the question: It was moved and seconded to call the question.

Action: the question is called (95%)

Action: Resolution 3-01 approved as presented (94%)

11:49 a.m. Committee 1 Theology and Administration

Pastor Barber, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

RESOLUTION 1-01: TO OPPOSE THE HHS MANDATE ON THE PROVISION OF ABORTION-INDUCING DRUGS

Move of the previous question

It was moved and seconded to move the previous question

Action to move the question: yes to move the question (91%)

Action: Resolution 1-01 adopted as presented (97.5%)

RESOLUTION 1-02: TO ADDRESS PASTORAL FORMATION AND EDUCATION

Action: Resolution 1-02 is adopted as presented (92%)

RESOLUTION 1-03: TO ENSURE THAT EVERY MAN WHO PASTORS IS A CALLED AND ORDAINED PASTOR

Motion to amend Resolution 1-03

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolve section of Resolution 4-03 as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention memorialize the 2013 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to phase out current Synod and District tracks, programs, licensing procedures, etc., which train men for Word and Sacrament ministry; and be it finally
Resolved, that those men already enrolled in Synod and District tracks, programs, licensing procedures, etc., be fully prepared to be publicly Called and ordained to the Office of the Holy Ministry by the end of 2016.

Action motion to amend: the amendment passed (66%)

Amended Resolution 1-03 came before the delegates.

Action: Amended Resolution 1-03 adopted (71%)

RESOLUTION 1-04: TO COMMEND FOR USE THE WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL CARE COMMITTEE’S —GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP AT DISTRICT EVENTS

Point of information: The guidelines were printed in the supplement of the 2012 Convention Workbook

Action: Resolution 1-04 adopted as presented (79%)

RESOLUTION 1-05: TO ALLOW FOR PARISH SERVICE FOR OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Action: Resolution 1-05 adopted as presented (68.9%)

12:17 p.m. Greetings were brought to the convention from Thrivent for Lutherans and also Child and Family Services of Indianapolis.

12:22 p.m. After the meal prayer, President May announced the convention was in recess until 1:15 pm.

1:17 p.m. President May called the convention back to order. The Chaplain led devotions to begin the afternoon session.

1:30 p.m. Ministerial Health Commission and Ministry Excellence Fund presentation

Dr. David Ebeling led a presentation on this work.

1:45 p.m. LCMS Synod Report (part 3)

Pastor Wohlrabe conducted a question and answer period.

2:31 p.m. Outreach Report (part 2)

Rev. Robinson presented the second part of the outreach report.

Committee 2 – Outreach

Pastor Bongard, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

Motion to take amended Resolution 2-03 (now labeled Resolution 2-03 B) from the table

Action: Yes to remove from table (91.8%)
Resolution 2-03 B was presented to the delegates.

RESOLUTION 2-03 B: TO AFFIRM WORD AND SACRAMENT CAMPUS MINISTRY IN THE INDIANA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has provided generous and faithful support to campus ministry since the establishment of a congregation at the beginning of the Great Depression to provide Word and Sacrament ministry specifically to students and the university community at Bloomington in 1929; and expanded that support to provide facilities in close proximity to campuses in West Lafayette, Muncie, and Terre Haute throughout subsequent years; and

WHEREAS, the combined ministry done throughout these eighty-three years has no doubt touched the vast majority of district congregations, every state in the union, and people of every continent; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana District currently owns two campus ministry properties – in Bloomington, West Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a Lutheran church so close to these campuses has provided a literal open door to the world for the proclamation of the Gospel to thousands in a way that cannot be duplicated otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual welfare of our students is a high priority in the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, it would benefit the thousands of university students who attend the secular colleges and universities of the Indiana District to assure support of campus facilities, workers, and ministries; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the valuable Word and Sacrament ministry provided by —town and gown congregations and contact congregations near campuses to be an important component in our Synod’s overall campus ministry; and

WHEREAS, controversy in the church has arisen in other Districts – Minnesota South and Pacific Southwest – over the decisions of their respective Boards of Directors to sell of district-owned campus ministry property; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, has appealed to the LCMS ministerium in an October, 2011 pastoral letter, —The Synod simply cannot afford to sit on the sideline while faithful campus congregations are being closed. College students need Word and Sacrament ministry. . . This is not the time for us to abandon campus ministry, but the time to more fully embrace and expand it; and

WHEREAS, even though the Board of Directors has the constitutional power, right, and authority to sell District-owned campus ministry properties, it would be unwise to make any such decisions without consulting the entire District in convention; therefore be it
RESOLVED, that the Indiana District affirm its commitment to and support of Word and Sacrament campus ministries to students from our synod congregations, international students, and university communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we give thanks and praise to God for the spiritual care given to the sons and daughters of our congregations, and for the Gospel proclamation to the un-churched from here and abroad through the campus ministries of the Indiana District; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District continue to provide leadership in encouraging, supporting, and coordinating campus ministry; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage congregations to sustain or increase giving to the District in order to provide adequate and vital funding to support facilities, workers and the expansion of campus ministry; and be it finally

RESOLVED, any proposed sale of District owned campus ministry property being utilized should be brought to the entire District in convention for input, advice, direction and approval.

Pastor Alan Barber, a member of the District Committee for Constitutional Matters, addressed the potential conflict of Resolution 2-03 B with the Indiana District By-laws. The authority and power of the Board of Directors is governed by the LCMS Handbook (see for example 2.107). The Indiana District is the Synod in this place. The conclusion: the Resolution 2-03 B runs contrary to the LCMS Constitution and By-laws. Language that would urge the Board of Directors to do something or consider a course of action would be acceptable.

Motion to consider substitute motion (Behnken rule)

It is moved and seconded to consider the original Resolution 2-03 as a substitute for Resolution 2.03 B.

Action: motion to consider original Resolution 2-03 adopted (91%)

Original Resolution 2-03 came before the delegates.

RESOLUTION 2-03: TO AFFIRM WORD AND SACRAMENT CAMPUS MINISTRY IN THE INDIANA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has provided generous and faithful support to campus ministry since the establishment of a congregation at the beginning of the Great Depression to provide Word and Sacrament ministry specifically to students and the university community at Bloomington in 1929; and expanded that support to provide facilities in close proximity to campuses in West Lafayette, Muncie, and Terre Haute throughout subsequent years; and

WHEREAS, the combined ministry done throughout these eighty-three years has no doubt touched the vast majority of district congregations, every state in the union, and people of every continent; and
WHEREAS, the Indiana District currently owns two campus ministry properties— in Bloomington, West Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a Lutheran church so close to these campuses has provided a literal open door to the world for the proclamation of the Gospel to thousands in a way that cannot be duplicated otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual welfare of our students is a high priority in the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, it would benefit the thousands of university students who attend the secular colleges and universities of the Indiana District to assure support of campus facilities, workers, and ministries; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the valuable Word and Sacrament ministry provided by —town and gown congregations and contact congregations near campuses to be an important component in our Synod’s overall campus ministry; and

WHEREAS, controversy in the church has arisen in other Districts – Minnesota South and Pacific Southwest – over the decisions of their respective Boards of Directors to sell of district-owned campus ministry property; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, has appealed to the LCMS ministerium in an October, 2011 pastoral letter, —The Synod simply cannot afford to sit on the sideline while faithful campus congregations are being closed. College students need Word and Sacrament ministry. . . This is not the time for us to abandon campus ministry, but the time to more fully embrace and expand it; and

WHEREAS, even though the Board of Directors has the constitutional power, right, and authority to sell District-owned campus ministry properties, it would be unwise to make any such decisions without consulting the entire District in convention; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District affirm its commitment to and support of Word and Sacrament campus ministries to students from our synod congregations, international students, and university communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we give thanks and praise to God for the spiritual care given to the sons and daughters of our congregations, and for the Gospel proclamation to the un-churched from here and abroad through the campus ministries of the Indiana District; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District continue to provide leadership in encouraging, supporting, and coordinating campus ministry; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage congregations to sustain or increase giving to the District in order to provide adequate and vital funding to support facilities, workers and the expansion of campus ministry; and be it finally
RESOLVED, any proposed sale of District owned campus ministry property should be brought to the entire District in convention for input, advice, and direction.

**Amendment:** A friendly amendment was accepted by the floor committee. The friendly amendment alters the final resolve to read as follows:

**RESOLVED, that we urge the Board of Directors to bring before the District in convention any proposed sale of district-owned real estate being utilized by our campus ministries for input, advice, direction and approval.**

Resolution 2-03 with the friendly amendment, came before the delegates for action:

**Action:** Resolution 2-03 with friendly amendment adopted (89.8%)

Committee 2 has removed Resolution 2-04 from the floor because the 2010 LCMS Synod convention has dealt with this topic already.

**RESOLUTION 2-05: TO SUGGEST A TRIENNIAL MISSION AND MINISTRY EMPHASIS FOR THE SYNOD**

**Action:** Resolution 2-05 as presented is adopted (95.9%)

Committee 2 invited Mr. Ken Schilf to make a presentation about Lutheran Ministries Media / Worship For Shut-Ins.

**RESOLUTION 2-06: TO ENCOURAGE THE TELEVISION MINISTRY OF “WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”**

**Action:** Resolution 2-06 adopted as presented (96.4%)

3:13 p.m. Committee 3 – Education and Congregational Services

Pastor Ensley, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

**RESOLUTION 3-02: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE TEACHER COLLOQUIY PROGRAM**

**Action:** Resolution 3-02 adopted as presented (95%)

**RESOLUTION 3-03: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE DCE COLLOQUIY PROGRAM**

**Action:** Resolution 3-03 adopted as presented (89.4%)

**RESOLUTION 3-04: TO INVITE AND ENCOURAGE SEMINARY PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS TO ATTEND INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCES**

**Action:** Resolution 3-04 adopted as presented (91%)

**RESOLUTION 3-05: TO COMMEND AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE SPECIFIC MINISTRY PASTOR (SMP) PROGRAM**
Discussion:

**Motion to amend Resolution 3-05**

It is moved and seconded to amend Resolution 3-05 by adding the following resolves (between the original third and fourth resolves):

> RESOLVED, that the admissions process for the SMP program be turned over to the sole authority of the seminaries, so that all students received for the pastoral ministry, in any program, have the same process of examination of fitness for ministry, and be it further

> RESOLVED, that duties held by district offices in the pastoral training admissions process be reduced to whatever they presently have in the residential seminary M. Div program, and be it further,

**Action on amendment:** amendment approved (61.5%)

**Amendment:** a friendly amendment was accepted by the floor committee:

In the second to last resolve, it should be worded “that the President of the Synod be respectfully requested...” continue with the current wording.

Amended Resolution 3-05 with the friendly amendments now reads:

**RESOLUTION 3-05: TO COMMEND AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE SPECIFIC MINISTRY PASTOR (SMP) PROGRAM**

> WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been blessed by the Lord of the Church with seminary programs and faculties that are able to effectively instruct students both on campus and through the utilization of distance education methods; and

> WHEREAS, the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program enables men to receive theological training from our seminaries and at the same time as they are receiving practical training work under the guidance of a mentor pastor while serving in the parish; and

> WHEREAS, the SMP program was adopted in 2007 with the proposed purpose that it would produce —church planters and missionaries (2007 Convention Proceedings, p. 133); and

> WHEREAS, this program is overseen from two seminaries; therefore be it

> RESOLVED, that the congregations of the Indiana District express their appreciation for and continued support of the SMP program; and be it further

> RESOLVED, that the seminaries be encouraged to coordinate similar admissions and training programs and publish in their catalogues a course syllabus outlining additional requirements necessary to gain a Master of Divinity; and be it further,
RESOLVED, that candidates and graduates of the SMP program be encouraged to continue their theological education; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the admissions process for the SMP program be turned over to the sole authority of the seminaries, so that all students received for the pastoral ministry, in any program, have the same process of examination of fitness for ministry, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that duties held by district offices in the pastoral training admissions process be reduced to whatever they presently have in the residential seminary M. Div program, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the President of the Synod be respectfully requested to appoint a Task Force from faculty members of both seminaries and members of the Council of Presidents, to review the SMP program, assess its graduates, and to report its findings and recommendations to the 2016 synodical convention; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the 2012 Convention of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod send this resolution to the 2013 Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Action: Amended Resolution 3-05 adopted (74%)

3:30 p.m. Prayer in face of dangerous weather

Chaplain Shoemaker was called upon to offer prayer on behalf of all in the way of the severe thunderstorm (with tornado warning) that moved into the Allen County / Northeast Indiana / Northwest Ohio area and asking for protection of the delegates.

3:35 p.m. Committee 4 – Stewardship and Structure

Pastor Wm. Mueller, representing the floor committee brought the following to the convention floor.

RESOLUTION 4-06: TO ACCEPT THE AUDITOR’S REPORT

Action: Resolution 4-06 adopted as presented (98.6%)

RESOLUTION 4-08: TO REALIGN SOUTH BEND (CIRCUIT 5) AND LAFAYETTE (CIRCUIT 11) CIRCUITS

Action: Resolution 4-08 approved by voice vote

RESOLUTION 4-14: TO CONTINUE FINANCIAL AID FOR NEW CHURCH WORKERS

Action: Resolution 4-14 approved by voice vote

RESOLUTION 4-16: TO THANK THE STAFF OF THE CHURCH RESOURCE AND SUPPLY CENTER

Action: Resolution 4-16 approved by voice vote
RESOLUTION 4-04: TO REQUIRE THE DISTRICT TO ADOPT A BALANCED BUDGET AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGE CONGREGATION’S SUPPORT OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT

Action: Resolution 4-04 approved by voice vote

RESOLUTION 4-05: TO CHANGE THE PLANNING PROCESS AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT FOR DETERMINING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT-LCMS

Motion to consider substitute resolution (Behnken rule)

It is moved and seconded to consider and approve Overture 4-06 as a substitute for Resolution 4-05.

Action: motion to substitute Overture 4-06 (now Resolution 4-05 B) for Resolution 4-05 adopted (70%)

Resolution 4-05 B substituted and adopted reads as follows:

Resolution 4-05 B: TO CHANGE THE PLANNING PROCESS AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT FOR DETERMINING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT-LCMS

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has placed responsibility upon the Fiscal Conference to establish the annual budget of the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Conference was established to broaden the input of the Indiana District and gain greater ownership and involvement in the budgeting process; and

WHEREAS, the budget has primarily been established by the staff of the Indiana District, with little previous involvement by both the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference; and

WHEREAS, though it is understandable and practical to have set forth a budget in such a fashion, it has proven to be a process that has solicited little interest, involvement or ownership from pastors and congregations of the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, increasing pressure to prioritize the budget has been created by recent economic trends, including shrinking financial support; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase the ownership and level of involvement by the Board of Directors in determining the budget on the basis of objectives, goals and strategies that are reflective of the district’s congregations and professional church workers as a whole; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that current District expenditures be classified into service areas with titles descriptive of function and tied to specific budget items. Where possible, these areas should be reasonably narrow and apply to a single function; and be it further

RESOLVED, that each council/committee/board be responsible to develop and maintain a list of the service areas under their oversight, complete with descriptive information and the specific budget
RESOLVED, that the Council for Congregational Resources collect and maintain a master list of these service areas and information; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors appoint one person to serve as presenter and leader of the budget planning process, and one staff person to assist in the gathering/processing and presenting information regarding current and possible future service areas; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the presenter and leader of the budget planning process make presentations at all church worker conferences and the Indiana District Convention for the solicitation of feedback regarding the priority and effectiveness of the current service areas, suggestions for new service areas, and other information to help determine the collective goals and strategies for mission and ministry of the Indiana District’s congregations and pastors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the process not be time consuming or burdensome, but should include staff and Board of Directors’ presentations explaining present activities of the District, as well as small group sessions to solicit further input and process it in an effective manner; and be it further

RESOLVED, that further input and information regarding these service areas and priorities may be sought through other means, for determining the will and purposes of the District’s congregations and pastors, as may be determined by the Board of Directors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the various district staff and council/committee/boards receive this information for use in reviewing their budget requests each year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Council for Congregational Resources take the input from these assemblies and groups and review it in preparation of a district budget proposal that reflects the objectives and goals as outlined; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors receive this budget proposal and the input from these assemblies and groups and use it to establish the budget for the following fiscal year; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Conference be replaced by this process, with cost saving to the district budget.

RESOLUTION 4-07: TO STUDY RELOCATING THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MOVE FORWARD IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE DISTRICT

Amendment: a friendly amendment was accepted by the floor committee to have the last resolve read “...be urged to make recommendations...”

Action: Resolution 4-07 approved (87.4%)
RESOLUTION 4-10: TO GRANT REPRESENTATION AT DISTRICT CONVENTIONS TO EACH CONGREGATION OF MULTI-POINT PARISHES

Action: Resolution 4-10 adopted as presented (80.5%)

RESOLUTION 4-11: TO MAINTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY OF SYNODICAL UNIVERSITIES TO THE SYNOD

Action: Resolution 4-11 adopted as presented (93.7%)

RESOLUTION 4-12: TO REPEAL 2010 RESOLUTION 8-14A

Motion to consider substitute resolution (Behnken rule)

It is moved and seconded to consider the following Resolution as a substitute to Resolution 4-12:

Whereas, we can determine no special benefit to God’s churches in our synod by the establishment of regional government; and

Whereas, the extra costs of regional government cannot be justified; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District of the LCMS memorialize The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to rescind 2010 Resolution 8-14A.

Action: adopt substitute resolution to replace original Resolution 4-12 (57%). The substitute motion is Resolution 4-12 B

Amendment: a friendly amendment to the resolution was accepted; the resolve will read as follows:

Resolved, that the Indiana District of the LCMS memorialize The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in convention to rescind 2010 Resolution 8-14A.

Resolution 4-12 B with friendly amendment reads as follows:

Whereas, we can determine no special benefit to God’s churches in our synod by the establishment of regional government; and

Whereas, the extra costs of regional government cannot be justified; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Indiana District of the LCMS memorialize The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in convention to rescind 2010 Resolution 8-14A.

Action: Resolution 4-12 B with friendly amendment adopted (80.6%)

Committee 4 removed Resolution 4-13 from the floor as it was handled via procedural adjustments enacted by the Elections Committee.

RESOLUTION 4-15: TO ASK CONGREGATIONS TO PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR THE ARCHIVES

Action: approved by voice vote
Omnibus Resolutions

The Chair referenced the Omnibus Resolutions A and D (page 390) and brought each before the convention.

Action: Omnibus Resolution A is adopted by voice vote

Action: Omnibus Resolution D is adopted by voice vote

4:24 p.m. President May declared the twentieth convention of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod closed.

4:25 p.m. Closing Devotion

Pastor Douglas M. Christian

Secretary
RESOLUTION 1-01: TO OPPOSE THE HHS MANDATE ON THE PROVISION OF ABORTION-INDUCING DRUGS

(Ref.: Overture 1-01)

WHEREAS, the Holy Scriptures testify that the human person has been made in the image of God, [Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation, Questions 106 and 107] and thereby prohibits every kind of murder [Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13, Matthew 5:21-22; James 3:9-10]; and

WHEREAS, according to God’s good order, human life is created and conceived by the union of man and woman [Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:18-24; Genesis 4:1]; and

WHEREAS, science describes the beginning of human life as fertilization; that is, the formation of a human embryo, a unique human being, which exists prior to implantation (1); and

WHEREAS, hormonal forms of contraception include as part of their mechanism for preventing pregnancy the inhibition of an embryo’s implantation in the uterus, thereby causing the death of the embryo, and the drug Ulipristal (Ella) can also destroy an embryo after implantation, thus directly causing an abortion (2); and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has mandated virtually all health insurance programs, including those serving or managed by the Christian church, to provide contraceptives, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs; and

WHEREAS, while Christians are called to obey political authorities (Romans 13:1-17), when human authority violates God’s will, Christians are bound to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:28-29); and

WHEREAS, the doctrine of the two kingdoms does not promote quietism, but affirms that civil government is to be concerned with things other than the gospel and should not exercise its authority in the church (Augsburg Confession XXVIII, 11-12), and commands the Christian to use political laws and public redress for the benefit of temporal life (Apology of the Augsburg Confession XVI); and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned HHS mandate does not comply with United States law, which prohibits the Federal government from establishing religion or preventing the free exercise of religion (The Constitution of the United States, Amendment 1); therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention express its opposition to the HHS mandate; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Indiana District of the LCMS, on behalf of its congregations, formally petition the United States Senators from Indiana and Kentucky to oppose this mandate and to introduce and/or support legislation prohibiting it; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the laity and church workers of the congregations of the Indiana District be encouraged to study this issue in light of God’s Word, and exercise responsible Christian citizenship to oppose and/or overturn this mandate.


Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 1-02: TO ADDRESS PASTORAL FORMATION AND EDUCATION
(Ref.: Overture 1-03)

WHEREAS, Jesus commanded His apostles to “make disciples of all the nations by baptizing and teaching all that I have commanded you. . .” (Matthew 28:20); and

WHEREAS, God, through the Apostle Paul, listed as one of the qualifications for pastors that they be “able to teach” (1 Timothy 3:3); and

WHEREAS, believers and unbelievers alike benefit from a clergy that is well-trained and well-versed in all areas of Christian doctrine; and

WHEREAS, society at large stresses the great benefits of receiving more education and training and not less; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention memorialize the 2013 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Convention to encourage our district and synodical officials and the officials of our seminaries in Saint Louis and Fort Wayne to strongly impress upon prospective seminary students and candidates for the pastoral ministry (no matter the program track they are participating in) the great benefits of receiving as much residential seminary education as possible; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention memorialize the 2013 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Convention to require that by the 2016 Convention, the officers and boards of the Synod present a model (or models) for pastoral formation and funding that maximizes collegiality, community, and academic content and rigor.

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 1-03: TO ENSURE THAT EVERY MAN WHO PASTORS IS A CALLED AND ORDAINED PASTOR

WHEREAS, in certain situations today, the Synod approves of preaching and administration of the sacraments by men who have not been publicly called to and placed in the office of the ministry (this position is expressed, e.g., in 1989 Resolution 3-05B, “. . . when no pastor is available, and in the absence of any specific Scriptural directives to the contrary, congregations may arrange for the performance of these distinctive functions [preaching and administering the sacraments] by qualified individuals”); and

WHEREAS, this position contradicts the Augsburg Confession’s fourteenth article which reads, “concerning church government it is taught that no one should publicly teach, preach, or administer the sacraments without a proper [public] call” (Book of Concord, Kolb-Wingert edition, p.46); and

WHEREAS, the systematic theology faculties of both seminaries, acting jointly, have published a detailed statement on “The Office of the Holy Ministry” (Concordia Journal 33.3 [July 2007]: 242-255) which states in part, “The Confessions never use the truth that the whole church possesses the power of the keys to make the office of the holy ministry unnecessary or merely useful. On the contrary, this truth serves as the basis for the church’s right to call, choose, and ordain ministers. . .[T]he Treatise [on the Power and Primacy of the Pope] does not imagine churches without ordained ministers of some kind, even in emergency situations or when no one else will call and ordain men for the office. As confessors of the same doctrine, neither should we. . .

“[C]all and ordination’ are essential for conduct of the ministry. . . What is the sign of authority for ministers today? It is their call and ordination, which assure that they act by divine right and on the authority of Christ. This truth makes such ideas as ‘lay ministers’ invitations for difficulties and troubles to ministers whose authority is doubtful and to laypersons whose assurance of God’s grace may be questioned.” (ibid, pp. 253-254, 255); and

WHEREAS, the congregations and pastors of the Indiana District desire to uphold the Augsburg Confession’s intent that only men publicly called to and placed in the office of the ministry conduct Word and Sacrament ministry in each of its congregations; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention memorialize the 2013 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to phase out current Synod and District tracks, programs, licensing procedures, etc., which train men for Word and Sacrament ministry; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that those men already enrolled in Synod and District tracks, programs, licensing procedures, etc., be fully prepared to be publicly Called and ordained to the Office of the Holy Ministry by the end of 2016.

Adopted as amended. 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 1-04: TO COMMEND FOR USE THE WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL CARE COMMITTEE’S —GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP AT DISTRICT EVENTS
(Ref.: Overture 1-07)

WHEREAS, at the A.D. 2009 convention of the Indiana District, the Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care presented recommendations to our district in its “Guidelines for Corporate Worship For Conventions, Meetings, Workshops, and Gatherings of The Indiana District”; and

WHEREAS, these recommendations have been utilized to great benefit at many events including conventions and conferences; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that these “Guidelines” of the Worship and Spiritual Care Committee be commended for use throughout our district in planning such multi-congregational worship services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these “Guidelines” be published on the district’s website and in an upcoming Indiana District edition of The Lutheran Witness.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 1-05: TO ALLOW FOR PARISH SERVICE FOR OUR DISTRICT PRESIDENT
(Ref.: Overtures 1-05 and 1-06)

WHEREAS, District Presidents are charged with the supervision of the doctrine, life, and duties of ordained and commissioned members of the District, as well as the overall parish life of Word and Sacrament ministry of the congregational members of the District; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to keep faithful pastors, including the District President, connected to the Word and Sacrament ministry of parish life by allowing them to continue to relate Word and Sacrament to individual people whom they know and serve (i.e. the congregation); and

WHEREAS, the bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod allow that the President of the Synod “. . .may be called as an assistant pastor, provided such services do not interfere with his official duties as President.” (H.B 3.3.1); therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Indiana District Commission on Constitutional Matters be directed to prepare necessary amendments to the district by-laws to enable the District President to serve as a called assistant parish pastor in addition to his district office, as long as it does not interfere with his district duties, and to present these amendments to the District Board of Directors for their approval and recommendation to the 2015 Indiana District convention.

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 2-01: TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO INVITE 50 NEW FAMILIES IN THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE DISTRICT
(Ref. Overture 2-01, Convention Workbook, page 173)

WHEREAS, we are called to proclaim Christ crucified and raised from the dead, repentance and forgiveness beginning where we are (Jerusalem) Luke 24:45-48; and

WHEREAS, we have reason for thanksgiving for the grace given to the church as a whole, our individual congregations, and 50 years of walking together as a District; and

WHEREAS, the need of individuals and families to receive God’s grace is great in every neighborhood and community of our district congregations; and

WHEREAS, it is God’s call to be making disciples by baptizing and teaching; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the District in convention encourage each congregation of the district to invite 50 new families to their church in recognition of the 50th anniversary year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the district president, regional vice presidents, and circuit counselors personally participate in encouraging each congregation toward this goal; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the mission executive and CFCO provide assistance and resource materials for outreach, follow-up, and new member integration; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that by the end of 2013 congregations, in thanksgiving to God, willingly report to the district office how God has blessed their efforts, as evidenced through baptisms and confirmations.

Adopted 6-28-2012

RESOLUTION 2-02: TO ENCOURAGE ALL CIRCUITS TO COME UP WITH A MISSION PLAN OF ACTION FOR THEIR CIRCUIT FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS OF GROWTH OF LUTHERANISM WITHIN THEIR CIRCUIT
(Ref. Overture 2-03, Convention Workbook, pages 174-175)

WHEREAS, we are called to witness to the world, beginning in our area and region (Acts 1:8; and 1 Peter 2:9-10); and

WHEREAS, Jesus called His ministers to hear His wisdom in Luke 14:28-35 to intentionally plan; and
WHEREAS, congregations and circuits are proven to be the most effective means of starting new congregations and ministries; and

WHEREAS, people in our communities need the message of God’s grace; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the district in convention encourage circuits to come up with a mission plan of action for the next ten years of growth of Lutheranism within their area; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the district president and regional vice presidents encourage circuit counselors toward this goal; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the mission executive provide access to demographic information for circuits to assess possibilities as well as be available to consult with circuits on starting and continuing the process of a mission plan as requested by the circuit; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that circuit counselors work with circuits in establishing a time table for a mission plan, followed by implementation.

Adopted 6-28-2012

RESOLUTION 2-03: TO AFFIRM WORD AND SACRAMENT CAMPUS MINISTRY IN THE INDIANA DISTRICT
(Ref. Overture 2-04 and 2-05, Convention Workbook, pages 175-178)

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has provided generous and faithful support to campus ministry since the establishment of a congregation at the beginning of the Great Depression to provide Word and Sacrament ministry specifically to students and the university community at Bloomington in 1929; and expanded that support to provide facilities in close proximity to campuses in West Lafayette, Muncie, and Terre Haute throughout subsequent years; and

WHEREAS, the combined ministry done throughout these eighty-three years has no doubt touched the vast majority of district congregations, every state in the union, and people of every continent; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana District currently owns two campus ministry properties – in Bloomington, West Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a Lutheran church so close to these campuses has provided a literal open door to the world for the proclamation of the Gospel to thousands in a way that cannot be duplicated otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual welfare of our students is a high priority in the Indiana District; and
WHEREAS, it would benefit the thousands of university students who attend the secular colleges and universities of the Indiana District to assure support of campus facilities, workers, and ministries; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the valuable Word and Sacrament ministry provided by “town and gown” congregations and contact congregations near campuses to be an important component in our Synod’s overall campus ministry; and

WHEREAS, controversy in the church has arisen in other Districts – Minnesota South and Pacific Southwest – over the decisions of their respective Boards of Directors to sell of district-owned campus ministry property; and

WHEREAS, the Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, has appealed to the LCMS ministerium in an October, 2011 pastoral letter, “The Synod simply cannot afford to sit on the sideline while faithful campus congregations are being closed. College students need Word and Sacrament ministry. . . This is not the time for us to abandon campus ministry, but the time to more fully embrace and expand it;” and

WHEREAS, even though the Board of Directors has the constitutional power, right, and authority to sell District-owned campus ministry properties, it would be unwise to make any such decisions without consulting the entire District in convention; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District affirm its commitment to and support of Word and Sacrament campus ministries to students from our synod congregations, international students, and university communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we give thanks and praise to God for the spiritual care given to the sons and daughters of our congregations, and for the Gospel proclamation to the un-churched from here and abroad through the campus ministries of the Indiana District; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District continue to provide leadership in encouraging, supporting, and coordinating campus ministry; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage congregations to sustain or increase giving to the District in order to provide adequate and vital funding to support facilities, workers and the expansion of campus ministry; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that we urge the Board of Directors to bring before the District in convention any proposed sale of district-owned real estate being utilized by our campus ministries for input, advice, direction, and approval.

Adopted as amended 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 2-04: TO ASK THE CTCR AND SEMINARIES TO EVALUATE TRANSFORMING CHURCHES NETWORK
(Ref. Overture 2-09, Convention Workbook, pages 181-182)

WHEREAS, the Transforming Churches Network (TCN) is listed on the Synod’s Web site as a “Recognized Service Organization”; and

WHEREAS, theological concerns have been raised regarding materials published by TCN with respect to the integrity of the Pastoral office, the doctrine of the Call, and the use of sociological principles rather than Biblical directives; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District memorialize the LCMS at her next convention to direct the CTCR, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and Concordia Theological Seminary, in Fort Wayne to give a theological evaluation of the premise, methods, and materials of Transforming Churches Network; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that this theological evaluation be completed and published in The Lutheran Witness within a year of the completion of the next LCMS convention.

Not presented as Synod is dealing with this.

RESOLUTION 2-05: TO SUGGEST A TRIENNIAL MISSION AND MINISTRY EMPHASIS FOR THE SYNOD
(Ref. Overture 2-08, Convention Workbook, page 180)

WHEREAS, at the 2010 Synodical Convention The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod adopted a process whereby the triennial emphasis is established by suggestions forwarded through the adoption of resolutions at the congregational level, then by circuit forums, then district conventions, and finally the synodical convention; and

WHEREAS, no triennial emphasis could be adopted at the 2010 Synodical Convention because this process had been newly established; and

WHEREAS, the Synodical President and his staff developed an emphasis for this first triennium based on the ancient description of the Church; and

WHEREAS, congregations, circuits and districts of the Synod are asked in Bylaw 4.2.1 to submit mission and ministry emphases for consideration by the synodical convention; and
WHEREAS, the current mission and ministry emphasis of *Witness, Mercy, Life Together* holds much potential for further spiritual growth and implementation throughout the Synod; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District encourage the LCMS President and 2013 Synodical convention to continue the mission and ministry emphasis of *Witness, Mercy, Life Together* for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for the 2013-2016 Triennium.

Adopted 6-29-2012

**RESOLUTION 2-06: TO ENCOURAGE THE TELEVISION MINISTRY OF “WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS”**
(Ref. Overture 2-02, Convention Workbook page 174)

WHEREAS, the increased aging of the American population (one of every eight Americans is now over 65 years old) has impacted the membership of our congregations, thus creating a growing number of shut-ins at each church and within every community of the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, God has continued to bless since 1980, the efforts of Lutheran Ministries Media to offer weekly worship opportunities to the infirm with the successful production and distribution of the “Worship for Shut-Ins” television program; and

WHEREAS, “Worship for Shut-Ins’ has expanded the outreach of its ministry since moving into the Elsie Rossman Media Center on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary, by offering DVD’s of each program to individuals, congregations, and other agencies using its “Reach and Preach” initiative; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention lift-up the ministry of “Worship for Shut-Ins” to all its member congregations and encourage their use of this ministry as a truly Spirit-filled approach to preaching the Gospel to their communities and their infirmed members.

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 3-01: TO SUPPORT, COMMEND, AND INCREASE THE WITNESS, MERCY AND LIFE TOGETHER MINISTRY OF LUTHERAN SCHOOLS IN THE LCMS
(Ref. Overtures 3-01 & 3-02, Convention Workbook, pages 182-184)

WHEREAS, elementary and secondary schools in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have a long and distinguished history in America, participating in Christ’s mission of His church for 175 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther’s words ring as true in the 21st century as when he wrote them: “For if the devil is to be dealt a blow that really hurts, it must be done through young people who have come to maturity and knowledge of God, and who spread His word and teach it to others” (Martin Luther, “To the Councilmen of All Cities in Germany That They Establish and Maintain Christian Schools.” 1524); and

WHEREAS, Lutheran schools bear witness to the importance our forebears gave to Dr. Luther’s imperative that “for the sake of the Church, we must have and maintain Christian schools,” (Martin Luther, “To the Councilmen of All Cities in Germany That They Establish and Maintain Christian Schools,” 1524); and

WHEREAS, schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have been established to encourage, support, equip, and empower parents in their duty and responsibility to bring their children up “in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4); and

WHEREAS, schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod strive to connect the congregation to the community they serve through daily instruction, activities, and programs; and

WHEREAS, congregations and Lutheran day schools within the LCMS also operate 2,300 early childhood centers and preschools, serving more than 129,000 children; and

WHEREAS, our congregations operate 946 elementary schools serving 107,000 students; and

WHEREAS, one hundred thirty domestic and international Lutheran high schools touch the lives of students and families alike; and

WHEREAS, Lutheran schools provide a strong witness to their communities through rigorous academic programs, competitive athletic programs and a passion for the arts; and

WHEREAS, in Lutheran schools families outside the church are often drawn to life together with LCMS families thus facilitating a Gospel witness; and

WHEREAS, the purpose and mission of Lutheran schools is to equip children, youth, young adults, and their parents to fulfill the great commission of Jesus Christ by baptizing and teaching:
and to this end, prepare them for service and leadership in Lutheran congregations, all of which support our synod’s theme of Witness, Mercy and Life Together; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the LCMS in convention congratulates its Lutheran schools, and their associated students, parents, teachers, administrators, and congregations across the nation for their ongoing contributions to education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this convention affirm Dr. Luther’s urgent call to maintain Christian schools; and be it further

RESOLVED, that our Lutheran schools be urged to excellence in all areas of the educational enterprise (pedagogy, assessment, technology, etc.); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the commitment to proclaiming the pure Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ as taught in the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions be a major focus of the ethos of the school, that hope and healing may be applied to the students and families of our Lutheran schools; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this convention unequivocally and passionately encourage all church leaders (pastors, commissioned workers of all kinds and laity) to support and increase, both at synod and local levels, the education ministry that is Lutheran schools; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the 2012 Convention of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod send this resolution to the 2013 Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 3-02: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE TEACHER COLLOQUIY PROGRAM
(Refers to Overture 3-03, Convention Workbook, page 184)

Preamble: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has established a teacher Colloquy program to provide the necessary class work for those teaching in our Lutheran schools to obtain Lutheran doctrinal training, to receive their Lutheran teacher diploma and be eligible for roster status in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Indiana District affirms and acknowledges this teacher Colloquy program.

WHEREAS, the Colloquy program provides opportunity for teachers to receive their Lutheran teaching diploma and be on the roster of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of teachers have enrolled in the Colloquy program since the inception of the program; and
WHEREAS, approximately one fourth of the teachers in the schools of the Indiana District are eligible for the Colloquy program; and

WHEREAS, over the past two trienniums, forty-one (41) servants have enrolled into the Colloquy program, twenty-four (24) teachers have completed all course work and fourteen (14) of those twenty-four (24) have been commissioned and are now on the roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has made it a priority to support the Colloquy program through scholarship money; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District continue to affirm and support the Colloquy program through scholarship funds for teachers who desire to enroll and graduate from this program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Indiana District congregations and association schools continue to encourage the use of the Colloquy program for their teachers.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 3-03: TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE DCE COLLOQUY PROGRAM
(Refers to Overture 3-04, Convention Workbook, page 185)

Preamble: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has established a Director of Christian Education Colloquy program to provide the necessary class work for those serving in our Lutheran congregations to obtain Lutheran doctrinal training and be eligible for roster status in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Indiana District affirms and acknowledges this DCE Colloquy program.

WHEREAS, more congregations are raising up workers from amidst their membership; and

WHEREAS, most of these lay parish workers are teaching doctrine directly and indirectly in many aspects of their ministry; and

WHEREAS, the Colloquy program provides opportunity for contracted lay parish workers to receive doctrinal training and be on the Commissioned Minister roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of lay parish workers have enrolled in the DCE Colloquy program since the inception of the program; and
WHEREAS, the Indiana District has made it a priority to support the LCMS Colloquy programs through scholarship money; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District continue to affirm and support the Colloquy program through scholarship funds for lay parish workers who desire to enroll and graduate from this program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District congregations and association schools continue to encourage the use of the DCE Colloquy program for their lay parish workers.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 3-04: TO INVITE AND ENCOURAGE SEMINARY PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS TO ATTEND INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCES
(Refers to Overture 3-07, Convention Workbook, page 188)

WHEREAS, our district has the (nearly) unique blessing of having a seminary of our Missouri Synod within our borders; and

WHEREAS, the pastors and other church workers of our district would be benefited by the presence and participation of our seminary professors and staff at conferences, and not only in the capacity of “presenter” or “speaker”; and

WHEREAS, the students at the seminary may also find it beneficial to attend the conferences, and our pastors and church workers would be encouraged by their presence; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District warmly invite and encourage the members of our Ft. Wayne seminary community to attend our district’s conferences as often as possible.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 3-05: TO COMMEND AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVE THE SPECIFIC MINISTRY PASTOR (SMP) PROGRAM
(Ref. to Overture 3-05 & 3-06, Convention Workbook, pages 186-187)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been blessed by the Lord of the Church with seminary programs and faculties that are able to effectively instruct students both on campus and through the utilization of distance education methods; and
WHEREAS, the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program enables men to receive theological training from our seminaries and at the same time as they are receiving practical training work under the guidance of a mentor pastor while serving in the parish; and

WHEREAS, the SMP program was adopted in 2007 with the proposed purpose that it would produce “church planters and missionaries” (2007 Convention Proceedings, p. 133); and

WHEREAS, this program is overseen from two seminaries; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the congregations of the Indiana District express their appreciation for and continued support of the SMP program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the seminaries be encouraged to coordinate similar admissions and training programs and publish in their catalogues a course syllabus outlining additional requirements necessary to gain a Master of Divinity; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that candidates and graduates of the SMP program be encouraged to continue their theological education; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the admissions process for the SMP program be turned over to the sole authority of the seminaries, so that all students received for the pastoral ministry, in any program, have the same process of examination of fitness for ministry; and be it further

RESOLVED, that duties held by district offices in the pastoral training admissions process be reduced to whatever they presently have in the residential seminary M.Div. program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Synod be respectfully requested to appoint a Task Force from faculty members of both seminaries and members of the Council of Presidents, to review the SMP program, assess its graduates, and to report its findings and recommendations to the 2016 synodical convention; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the 2012 Convention of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod send this resolution to the 2013 Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Adopted as amended 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4-01: TO ADOPT PROPOSED INDIANA DISTRICT BYLAW
CHANGES
(Ref. Convention Workbook, pages 199-220)

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention in June 2012 adopt the proposed changes to
the Indiana District Bylaws.

Adopted 6-28-2012

RESOLUTION 4-02: TO PROVIDE A DEBT-RETIREMENT GRANT TO
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ANN ARBOR
(Ref. Overture 4-11, page 337)

WHEREAS, Concordia University - Ann Arbor (CUAA) has provided higher education for
many Indiana District students in its fifty years; and

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has received many church workers who graduated from CUAA; and

WHEREAS, there are continuing talks of merger between CUAA and Concordia University –
Wisconsin (CUW); and

WHEREAS, the current debt load at CUAA might hinder the future development of the
University; and

WHEREAS, should the merger of CUAA and CUW be approved, a capital campaign will be
developed by CUW for debt reduction, capital improvements and expansion of CUAA; and

WHEREAS, the district board of directors considered other options, namely an unsecured loan
for three years; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention approve a debt-reduction grant for CUAA in
the amount of $300,000.00, the funds to come from the District’s unrestricted funds, and be it
finally

RESOLVED, that this grant will be allocated contingent upon the actual merger of CUAA and
CUW.

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4-03: TO ALLOW THE USE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF WLAB
(Ref. Overture 4-03, Convention Workbook, pages 190-191)

WHEREAS, our Lord Jesus Christ encourages us to utilize the talents with which He has blessed His church for the growth of His church (Matt. 25:14-30); and

WHEREAS, He also discourages us from using those talents in ways in which offer no or little production for His kingdom (Matt. 25:14-30); and

WHEREAS, the Lord has blessed the Indiana District with the talent of $500,000 plus through the sale of the radio station WLAB, sitting now in an endowment fund; and

WHEREAS, the interest rates in the world today are bearing little interest at all; therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Council for Congregational Outreach, reporting to the Board of Directors, establish guidelines to use the restricted funds from the sale of WLAB to further God’s kingdom through new and vibrant ministry efforts throughout the District; and be it further RESOLVED, that any congregation be encouraged to apply to the Council for Congregational Outreach, under the guidelines established, to receive and utilize mission grants to further the ministry of the Gospel mission; and be it finally, RESOLVED, that any congregation receiving a mission grant be required to file an annual report concerning the grant to the Council for Congregational Outreach.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-04: TO REQUIRE THE DISTRICT TO ADOPT A BALANCED BUDGET AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGE CONGREGATION’S SUPPORT OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT
(Ref. Convention Workbook, pages 84-94; Overture 4-07 Convention Workbook, page 195)

WHEREAS, the Lord of the Church calls all to be good stewards of His gifts; and

WHEREAS, a budget that intends to spend more than presumed to be received is not in keeping with Biblical stewardship; and

WHEREAS, there is available both historic and predictive financial numbers on which to base such a faithful budget; and
WHEREAS, the historical trends of congregational support for the ministry of the Indiana District and The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod has declined significantly in the past decade; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District shall only adopt a balanced budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that all the congregations of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod be strongly encouraged to support the ministry of the District with their prayers and with their financial support.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-05: TO CHANGE THE PLANNING PROCESS AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE DISTRICT CONGREGATIONS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT FOR DETERMINING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT-LCMS
(Ref. Convention Workbook, pages 80-81; Overture 4-06 Convention Workbook, pages 193-194)

WHEREAS, the Indiana District has placed responsibility upon the Fiscal Conference to establish the annual budget of the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Conference was established to broaden the input of the Indiana District and gain greater ownership and involvement in the budgeting process; and

WHEREAS, the budget has primarily been established by the staff of the Indiana District, with little previous involvement by both the Board of Directors and the Fiscal Conference; and

WHEREAS, though it is understandable and practical to have set forth a budget in such a fashion, it has proven to be a process that has solicited little interest, involvement or ownership from pastors and congregations of the Indiana District; and

WHEREAS, increasing pressure to prioritize the budget has been created by recent economic trends, including shrinking financial support; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase the ownership and level of involvement by the Board of Directors in determining the budget on the basis of objectives, goals, and strategies that are reflective of the district’s congregations and professional church workers as a whole; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that current District expenditures be classified into service areas with titles descriptive of function and tied to specific budget items. Where possible, these areas should be reasonably narrow and apply to a single function; and be it further
RESOLVED, that each council/committee/board be responsible to develop and maintain a list of the service areas under their oversight, complete with descriptive information and the specific budget items or percentages of budget items, including administrative costs, that apply to these areas; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Council for Congregational Resources collect and maintain a master list of these service areas and information; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors appoint one person to serve as presenter and leader of the budget planning process, and one staff person to assist in the gathering/processing and presenting information regarding current and possible future service areas; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the presenter and leader of the budget planning process make presentations at all church worker conferences and the Indiana District Convention for the solicitation of feedback regarding the priority and effectiveness of the current service areas, suggestions for new service areas, and other information to help determine the collective goals and strategies for mission and ministry of the Indiana District’s congregations and pastors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the process not be time consuming or burdensome, but should include staff and Board of Directors’ presentations explaining present activities of the District, as well as small group sessions to solicit further input and process it in an effective manner; and be it further

RESOLVED, that further input and information regarding these service areas and priorities may be sought through other means, for determining the will and purposes of the District’s congregations and pastors, as may be determined by the Board of Directors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the various district staff and council/committee boards receive this information for use in reviewing their budget requests each year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Council for Congregational Resources take the input from these assemblies and groups and review it in preparation of a district budget proposal that reflects the objectives and goals as outlined; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors receive this budget proposal and the input from these assemblies and groups and use it to establish the budget for the following fiscal year; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Fiscal Conference be replaced by this process, with cost saving to the district budget.

Substitute Motion Overture 4-06 Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4-06: TO ACCEPT THE AUDITOR’S REPORT
(Ref. Convention Workbook, page 269-301)

WHEREAS, the annual certified auditor’s report is requested by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and

WHEREAS, this report has been presented to the Board of Directors of the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention accept the auditor’s report provided by the certified public accounting firm of Baden Gage and Schroeder.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-07: TO STUDY RELOCATING THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO MOVE FORWARD IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE DISTRICT
(Ref. Convention Workbook, page 100; Overture 4-09, Convention Workbook, page 196)

WHEREAS, the Lord of the Church calls all to be good stewards of His gifts; and

WHEREAS, the current District Office facility is under-utilized; and

WHEREAS, there may be cost efficiencies in shared assets and services with other LCMS entities; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the District Board of Directors will appoint a task force to examine the current location of and best use of the District Office on Barr Street and recommend any changes, including relocation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this task force report back to the Board of Directors by January 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors be urged to make recommendations to the 2015 District Convention to act in the best interests of the District.

Adopted as amended (friendly amendment) 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4-08: TO REALIGN SOUTH BEND (CIRCUIT 5) AND LAFAYETTE (CIRCUIT 11) CIRCUITS
(Ref. Overture 4-02, Convention Workbook, pages 189-190)

WHEREAS, Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver, Indiana, entered into a dual parish relationship with St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Logansport, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, this dual parish relationship began January 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, this dual parish spans two circuits of the Indiana District, South Bend and Lafayette Circuits; and

WHEREAS, a dual parish spanning two circuits requires the pastor of the dual parish to attend two circuit pastors conferences each month; and

WHEREAS, a dual parish spanning two circuits requires the pastor of the dual parish to attend two circuit forums; and

WHEREAS, a dual parish spanning two circuits allows an individual pastor to participate in the election of circuit counselors of two different circuits in the same triennium; and

WHEREAS, a dual parish requires its pastor to live in the parsonage owned by St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Logansport, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the time spent by the pastor of this dual parish will be spent serving St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Logansport, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Logansport, Indiana is a congregation aligned with Circuit 11 (Lafayette Circuit); and

WHEREAS, it is better for the two congregations of the dual parish to be aligned with one circuit; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver, Indiana and St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Logansport, Indiana to be aligned in the same Circuit as expressed in resolutions adopted by their respective Voters Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the congregations of Circuit 11 (Lafayette Circuit) supports this realignment and would welcome the addition of Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver, Indiana to Circuit 11; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention realign the South Bend and Lafayette Circuits, moving Trinity Lutheran Church, Culver, Indiana from the South Bend Circuit (Circuit #5) into the Lafayette Circuit (Circuit #11).

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4:09: TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA DISTRICT LC-MS

WHEREAS, our gracious God has empowered the congregations of the Indiana District of the LC-MS to carry out His work of making disciples through Word and Sacrament ministry (Matthew 28:16-20); and

WHEREAS, this critical work continues to be carried out today and by His grace into the future; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all congregations of the Indiana District of the LC-MS be encouraged to give thanks in a public worship service(s) for the work of the Gospel carried out by ministries of the Indiana District during these past 50 years with resources prepared and to be distributed by a special anniversary committee, and be it

RESOLVED, that all congregations be encouraged to take a special thank offering with special envelopes prepared and made available by the 50th Anniversary Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this offering be designated for Church Worker Scholarships to be distributed, in addition to the amount received from The Lutheran Foundation, under the direction of the Council for Congregational Resources.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-10: TO GRANT REPRESENTATION AT DISTRICT CONVENTIONS TO EACH CONGREGATION OF MULTI-POINT PARISHES (Ref Overture 4-04, Convention Workbook, pages 191-192)

WHEREAS, congregations which form multi-point parishes (dual-, tri-point, etc) do so for the purpose of having a called pastor serving the congregations of the multi-point parish; and

WHEREAS, congregations of a multi-point parish do not merge together to form one congregation; and

WHEREAS, each congregation of a multi-point parish is The Church in that location because Christ is there giving His gifts through Word and Sacrament; and

WHEREAS, each congregation of a multi-point parish operates with its own Constitution and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, each congregation of a multi-point parish elects its own officers; and
WHEREAS, the restructuring of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod now allows each congregation of the Synod through its delegate to the District Convention to cast a vote for the Synod President; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Commission on Constitutional Matters has ruled that multi-point parishes are allowed only one delegate and only one alternate delegate to represent the multi-point parish at District Conventions; and

WHEREAS, this CCM ruling has disallowed some congregations from representation at District Conventions; and

WHEREAS, this CCM ruling now denies some congregations the ability to cast a ballot for the Synod President; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod consider granting suffrage to all congregations of the Synod for the purpose of delegate representation at District Conventions, which thereby permits all congregations to cast a ballot for Synod President.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-11: TO MAINTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY OF SYNODICAL UNIVERSITIES TO THE SYNOD
(Ref. Overture 4-05, Convention Workbook, page 192)

WHEREAS, one of the most important ways in which Synod universities are held accountable to the membership of the Synod is through the election of four of the university Board of Regents at Synod conventions on a regular basis, and the election of four others at the respective district conventions; and

WHEREAS, in the restructuring of the synod in 2010, the Task Force added a bylaw that mandated “no less than four and no more than eight laypersons” are to be appointed as voting members by the board of regents; and

WHEREAS, the appointed members of the Regents are allowed to appoint their successors, and this practice of self-perpetuating appointments is not allowed on the LCMS Board of Directors (bylaw 3.3.4.1.5) or on the LCMS seminary Board of Regents (bylaw 3.10.4.2.4); and

WHEREAS, in the absence of one elected member, or other situations, the eight appointed members could control the board against the will of the elected members of the synod and district; and

WHEREAS, this situation undermines the accountability of all ten Synod universities to their chief constituency, the membership of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; therefore be it
RESOLVED, that The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod consider changing the present bylaw 3.10.5.2.3 by adding to its end this sentence: “Appointed members may not vote on the appointment of other members of the board.”

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-12B: TO REPEAL 2010 RESOLUTION 8-14A
(Ref. Overture 4-08 Convention Workbook, page 196)

WHEREAS, we can determine no special benefit to God’s churches in our synod by the establishment of regional government; and

WHEREAS, the extra costs of regional government cannot be justified; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District of the LCMS memorialize The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in convention to rescind 2010 Resolution 8-14A.

Substitute Amendment Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-13: TO ALLOW ALL CANDIDATES TO STAND FOR ELECTION
(Ref. Overture 4-10, Convention Workbook, page 197)

WHEREAS, the Holy Spirit graciously gives the gifts of leadership to the Body of Christ; and

WHEREAS, the task of the Indiana District Nominating Committee is to prayerfully seek out those whom the Spirit has gifted; and

WHEREAS, the arbitrary order of elections has caused nominees to be removed from consideration prior to the presentation of the ballot containing their names to the Indiana District in Convention; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all candidates be allowed to stand for election through the completion of the first balloting for all offices; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Elections Floor Committee be charged with resolving any subsequent conflicts; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that, if necessary, the Elections Floor Committee present a subsequent slate to the Indiana District in Convention after such conflicts have been resolved.
RESOLUTION 4-14: TO CONTINUE FINANCIAL AID FOR NEW CHURCH WORKERS  
(Ref. Convention Workbook, page 94)

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Foundation of Fort Wayne has provided support for new church workers of the Indiana District in Northeast Indiana; and

WHEREAS, this support has been a tremendous blessing to the church workers and their families; and

WHEREAS, this support has assisted the Indiana District to provide broader support for the ministries of new church workers throughout the District; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we give thanks to almighty God for the work of The Lutheran Foundation; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that the Lutheran Foundation be encouraged to provide continued financial support for the new church workers and their families.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-15: TO ASK CONGREGATIONS TO PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR THE ARCHIVES  
(Ref. Convention Workbook, page 95)

WHEREAS, we give thanks to God for the 50 years of abundant blessings bestowed upon the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, the District has been blessed with an active and effective Archives Committee; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that congregations be encouraged to share historical and celebrative information with the District Archive Committee.

Adopted 6-29-2012
RESOLUTION 4-16: TO THANK THE STAFF OF THE CHURCH RESOURCE AND SUPPLY CENTER
(Ref. Convention Workbook, page 101)

WHEREAS, the Church Resource and Supply Center has been a vital aid to congregations and their pastors in ministry; and

WHEREAS, this work has been effectively led by Carol Lydy and Linda Kleinrichert; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District heartily give thanks to God for the work of Carol and Linda and encourage their continued service to the Lord.

Adopted 6-29-2012

RESOLUTION 4-17: IN APPRECIATION OF THE 37 YEARS OF MINISTRY OF LARRY JUNG

WHEREAS, Mr. Larry Jung has faithfully served his Lord and the Indiana District for 37 years; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership the Indiana District has become a model for fiscal and ministry responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jung has plans to retire in December 2012; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Indiana District in convention give praise to our Lord for Mr. Jung and his years of faithful and effective service by rising and singing the Common Doxology.

Adopted 6-29-2012
**OMNIBUS RESOLUTION A**

WHEREAS, the synod has created many offices, boards, commissions and departments; and

WHEREAS, proposals related to the responsibilities of such administrative units should ordinarily be directed to them; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following overture be referred to the listed administrative unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overture</th>
<th>Board or Commission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-02: To Direct Concordia Publishing House to Put the 1986 Translation of Luther’s Small Catechism into the Public Domain</td>
<td>CPH</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Adopted 6-29-2012

**OMNIBUS RESOLUTION D**

WHEREAS, some of the following overtures suggest to the convention acceptable approaches in dealing with matters mentioned; and

WHEREAS, others among the following overtures thank and commend laudable individuals and efforts; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following overtures be received as expressions of encouragement or gratitude:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overture</th>
<th>Encouragement/Thanks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-06: To Thank God for His Actions in Dublin, Ireland</td>
<td>Thanks to God and congregations and encourage continued support.</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overture</th>
<th>Encouragement/Thanks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-07: To Praise and Thank God for His Work In Wittenberg, Germany</td>
<td>Thanks to God and continued support of the work in Wittenberg</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Adopted 6-29-2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Daniel P. May</td>
<td>Emmanuel, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>260.423.1511</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dan.may@in.lcms.org">dan.may@in.lcms.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1145 South Barr Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Vice President</td>
<td>Rev. Roger Rohde</td>
<td>St. Paul, Bremen</td>
<td>574.546-2332</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrohde@stpaulsbremen.org">rrohde@stpaulsbremen.org</a></td>
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<td>605 S. Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege</td>
<td>St. Paul, Decatur</td>
<td>260.547-4176</td>
<td><a href="mailto:djbrege@centurylink.net">djbrege@centurylink.net</a></td>
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<td>4510 W. 750 N.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Vice President</td>
<td>Rev. Martin Keller</td>
<td>St. Paul, Brownstown</td>
<td>812.358-2334</td>
<td><a href="mailto:martin.keller@sbcglobal.net">martin.keller@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>1165 E. 400 S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth Vice President</td>
<td>Rev. David Shaday</td>
<td>St. Paul, Indianapolis</td>
<td>317.787.4464</td>
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<td>3932 Mi Casa Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Rev. Douglas Christian</td>
<td>St. John, Monroeville</td>
<td>260.639.6404</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rev.dmc2@juno.com">rev.dmc2@juno.com</a></td>
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<td>12912 Franke Rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Thomas Steinmetz</td>
<td>Trinity, Indianapolis</td>
<td>317.508-0943</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tsteinmetz@capstonewa.com">tsteinmetz@capstonewa.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1745 Touchstone Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-Commissioned</td>
<td>John Schultz</td>
<td>Trinity, Crown Point</td>
<td>219.663.1586</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>250 S. Indiana Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE-Commissioned</td>
<td>John Weber</td>
<td>Immanuel, Decatur</td>
<td>260.623.6115</td>
<td><a href="mailto:principal@splutheran.org">principal@splutheran.org</a></td>
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<td>3845 E. 1100 N.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CE-Commissioned</td>
<td>Steven Lewer</td>
<td>Zion, New Palestine</td>
<td>317.862.0612</td>
<td><a href="mailto:slewer@lhsi.org">slewer@lhsi.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2828 Davis Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>SO-Commissioned</td>
<td>Todd Behmlander</td>
<td>Immanuel, Seymour</td>
<td>812.522.1301</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tgb@immanuelschool.org">tgb@immanuelschool.org</a></td>
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<td>1701 Northbrook Ct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-Lay</td>
<td>Allen Kent</td>
<td>Prince of Peace, Valparaiso</td>
<td>219.548.7073</td>
<td><a href="mailto:akent@kentheatingandac.com">akent@kentheatingandac.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>52 Northview Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE-Lay</td>
<td>William Bradley</td>
<td>Emmaus, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>260.442.8460</td>
<td><a href="mailto:webjr2611@comcast.net">webjr2611@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td>2611 Willow Oaks Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CE-Lay</td>
<td>Paul North</td>
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<td>765.675.4696</td>
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<td>103 Nansue Dr.</td>
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<td>SO-Lay</td>
<td>Dr. John Rahe</td>
<td>St. John, Aurora</td>
<td>812.926.2826</td>
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<td>204 Hillview Dr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-1</td>
<td>Hammond</td>
<td>Rev. Ronald Saatkamp</td>
<td>7441 Grand Avenue, Hammond, IN 46323</td>
<td>219.844.5616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W-2</td>
<td>Gary</td>
<td>Rev. Jared Raebel</td>
<td>1700 S. Halleck, DeMotte, IN 46383</td>
<td>219.987.3730</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW-3</td>
<td>Valparaiso</td>
<td>Rev. Donald Williams</td>
<td>1700 Monticello Park Dr., Valparaiso, IN 46383</td>
<td>219.462.8207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW-4</td>
<td>LaPorte</td>
<td>Rev. Joel S. Zipay</td>
<td>15495 S 900 W, Wanatah, IN 46390</td>
<td>219.773.9475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW-5</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch</td>
<td>929 E. Milton St., South Bend, IN 46613</td>
<td>574.287.4151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE-6</td>
<td>Kendallville</td>
<td>Rev. David Mommens</td>
<td>2465 W. Keiser Rd., Columbia City, IN 46725</td>
<td>260.244.3712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE-7</td>
<td>Fort Wayne North</td>
<td>Rev. Russell Dewell</td>
<td>1636 St. Marys Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46808</td>
<td>260.422.7931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE-8</td>
<td>Fort Wayne South</td>
<td>Rev. Douglas Punke</td>
<td>2313 S. Hanna, Fort Wayne, IN 46803</td>
<td>260.744-1389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE-9</td>
<td>Fort Wayne East</td>
<td>Rev. Matthew Kohl</td>
<td>333 E. Moeller Rd., New Haven, IN 46774</td>
<td>260.749.0014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE 10</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Rev. David Koeneman</td>
<td>8538 N. 500 E, Decatur, IN 46733</td>
<td>260.724.7680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 11</td>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>Rev. David R. Mueller</td>
<td>213 W. Jasper, Goodland, IN 47948</td>
<td>219.297.3556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 12</td>
<td>Kokomo</td>
<td>Rev. William S. Allison</td>
<td>705 E. Southway Blvd, Kokomo, IN 46902</td>
<td>765.453.0969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 13</td>
<td>Indianapolis East</td>
<td>Rev. Ronald W. Baumann</td>
<td>5601 S. 450 W., New Palestine, IN 46163</td>
<td>317.462.4609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>Rev. Name</td>
<td>Church Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>CE 14 – Indianapolis West</td>
<td>Rev. Al Hellert</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>965 Ironwood Dr. East</td>
<td>317.286.3374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 15 – Indianapolis Central</td>
<td>Rev. Arthur Wehrmeister</td>
<td>Calvary, Indianapolis</td>
<td>6111 Shelby</td>
<td>317.783.2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 16 – Columbus</td>
<td>Rev. Nathan Janssen</td>
<td>Prince of Peace, Martinsville</td>
<td>3496 E. Morgan</td>
<td>765.342.2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO 17 – Seymour</td>
<td>Rev. Philip Bloch</td>
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<td>SO 19 – Aurora</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Emanuel, Tipton</td>
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<td>St. Peter, North Judson</td>
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<td>NE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW</td>
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<td>Rev. Andrew Wollman</td>
<td>Prince of Peace, Goshen</td>
<td>18548 CR 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
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<td>Rev. Dr. Dean Wenthe</td>
<td>St. Paul’s, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>2019 Foxchase Run</td>
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<td>CE</td>
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<td>181 W. Main St.</td>
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<td>SO</td>
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<td>Rev. Douglas Bauman</td>
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<td>6045 E. State St.</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Huntington</td>
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### COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL CARE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
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<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Ordained</td>
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## COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION MATTERS

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<th>Church</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Rev. Alan Barber</td>
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**COMMISSIONED:**

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I. PREAMBLE

The Indiana District is a district created by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (hereafter Synod) and is a component part of the Synod. The District serves to assist congregations and their members in conserving and promoting the unity of the faith and in carrying out their mission and ministry. The District also serves as the structure through which congregations carry out certain functions that can be performed more effectively and efficiently together with other member congregations.

The District is obligated to carry out resolutions of the Synod and is the structure for congregations to review decisions of the Synod, to motivate one another to action, and to shape and suggest new direction for the Synod.

1.01 Name

The name of this corporation is “The Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Inc.” (hereinafter referred to as “The District”).

1.03 Confession and Objectives

The confession and objectives of the District are the same as for the Synod (LCMS Handbook (H.B. Articles II and III).

1.05 Corporate Seal

The corporate seal of the District shall be a circular disk bearing the words, “The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Inc.” in the upper part of the outer circle. Paralleling these words in smaller type shall be the following: “I am the Vine, ye are the branches – St. John 15:15.” In the center of the disk shall be the symbol of a cross and vine, and along the lower part of the outer circle shall be the words, “The Indiana District.”

1.07 District Boundaries

The District is empowered to carry out its work within the geographic boundaries determined by the parent organization, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, viz., the State of Indiana, and those counties in the North portion of the State of Kentucky: Henderson, Daviess, Hancock, Breckinridge, Meade, Hardin, Trimble, Carroll, Gallatin, Oldham, Henry, Owen, Jefferson, Shelby, Franklin, Scott, Bullitt, Spencer, Anderson, Woodford, Fayette, Bourbon, Nelson, Washington, Mercer, Jessamine, Clark, Montgomery, Larue, Marion, Boyle, Garrard, Madison, Estill, Powell, Lincoln, and Grayson.
1.09 Constitution and Bylaws

a. The Constitution of the Synod is also the constitution of the District. The Bylaws of the Synod shall be primarily the bylaws of the District. The District shall adopt additional bylaws, regulations and resolutions that are necessary or proper for its own administration for the effective carrying out of the work of the Synod in this place; these shall not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod. (H.B. 4.1.1.2)

b. The Bylaws of the District shall be maintained by the District’s Committee on Constitutional Matters. Changes to the District bylaws shall be submitted to the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod for review and approval. (H.B. 4.1.1.2.b)

c. The Policy Manual of the District shall contain operational guidelines and job descriptions established for the various councils and committees as established by the Board of Directors (B.O.D.).

1.11 Membership

a. Membership in the District shall be determined by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod. (H.B. Article V., Article VI, Article XII, Article XIII, and Bylaws Chapter 2).

b. Membership in the District consists of all those members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (congregations, Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned) who have been received into the District at the time of joining the Synod, who have transferred from another district, or who have been assigned to the District by the Synod.

1.13 Relationship between members and the Synod/District (H.B. 1.3-1.4, 4.1 and 1.7)

a. The Constitution, Bylaws, and all other rules and regulations of the Synod apply to all members of the Synod/District, i.e., to all congregations, Ministers of Religion – Ordained, and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned, who hold membership in the Synod/District to honor its rules and regulations.

b. The Synod/District expects every member congregation to respect its resolutions and to consider them of binding force if they are in accordance with the Word of God, and if they appear expedient as far as the condition of the congregation is concerned. The Synod/District, being an advisory body, recognizes the right of the congregation to be the judge of the expediency of the resolution as applied to its local condition.
However, in exercising such judgment, a congregation must not act arbitrarily, but in accordance with the principles of Christian love and charity.

c. Membership in the District gives the District no equity in the property of the congregation.

II. ORGANIZATION

A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

1. Conventions

2.01 Regular conventions of the District are held in those years immediately preceding the regular convention of the Synod (Constitution of Synod, Article XII, B.13).

2.03 The regular conventions of the District shall be held at such place as may be designated by the B.O.D. or the district in convention.

2.05 In cases of urgent necessity the District President is empowered to convene special sessions of the District. He must, however, previously have obtained consent of at least a majority of the voting members of the District after having informed them and the President of the synod of the purpose of the intended special session. (Constitution of Synod, Article XII, B.15).

2.07 Notice of all regular conventions shall be given by the secretary six weeks prior to the meeting date. Such notices are to be printed in the Supplement of the official Church Periodicals, THE LUTHERAN WITNESS, or such other official publications as may be designated.

2.09 One-third of the voting congregations represented by at least one of their respective delegates (Minister of Religion - Ordained or lay delegate) shall constitute a quorum.

2.11 The conventions of the District are governed in part by the Bylaws of the Synod. The District President shall conduct the sessions according to accepted parliamentary procedure, and shall so arrange the schedule of business that the sessions do not extend beyond six days. (H.B. Art. IXX and 4.2.1).

2.13 The Secretary shall always have the most recent copy of Robert’s Rules of Order, the District Bylaws, and the most recent edition of the LCMS Handbook as a ready reference at the conventions.
2. Circuit Forums (H.B. 5.3)

2.14 Electoral Circuit Forums (H.B. 3.1.2)

Electoral Circuit Forums are established by the District following the guidelines outlined in the Synod Bylaws. Ordinarily the electoral circuit and visitation circuit is co-terminus. In situations where electoral circuits are established combining more than one visitation circuit, the electoral circuit will be established by the B.O.D. and announced in sufficient time for the proper election of electoral circuit delegates for the national convention of the Synod.

a. The electoral circuit forum shall be made up of a Minister of Religion – Ordained of each congregation and one lay member of each congregation designated by the congregation.

b. Election of voting delegates shall follow the guidelines of the Synod bylaws as outlined in H.B. 3.1.2.1

c. Voting delegates shall serve according to the prescribed guidelines of the position as outlined in H.B. 3.1.2.2

2.15 Visitation Circuit Forums (H.B. 5.3)

The visitation circuit forum serves the purpose as outlined in H.B. 5.3, in particular to aid the process in which lay leaders of the congregations, Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned remain supportive of one another in their common confession and mutually active in developing programs for the good of members congregations. The forum also provides the avenue for members of the circuit to participate in the triennial process of suggesting, developing and attaining the Synod’s priorities and goals.

a. The visitation circuit forum consists of a Minister of Religion – Ordained of each congregation and one lay member of each congregation designated by the congregation;

b. Additional representation from each congregation as determined by each circuit;

c. The circuit counselor shall ordinarily serves as chairman of the circuit forum, having the primary responsibility to set the agenda and date for the circuit forum; additional officers may be chosen by the circuit forum in session.

2.16 Functions

a. To elect the Minister of Religion – Ordained and lay delegate and their alternates to the national convention of the Synod according to the bylaws of the Synod, provided the visitation circuit forum is an electoral circuit forum
(see 2.14). The delegates shall upon their election serve a term of three years as advisory members of the circuit forum (H.B. 5.3.3)

b. To elect the circuit counselor following the bylaws of the Synod (H.B. 5.2.2)

c. To develop and adopt within existing policies of the District Complementary and sometimes joint plans for mission outreach in the Circuit area;

d. To devise and develop programs and services relevant to the needs of Circuit congregations, lay leaders, Minister of Religion – Commissioned, and ministers of Religion – Ordained;

e. To receive and respond as appropriate to advice, guidance, resolutions, and programs in other sections of the Synod as such may be addressed to it from other Circuits, the District and the general Synod;

f. To serve as a setting to review and evaluate programs, plans, and long-range directions of the District; and participate in the triennial process of suggesting, developing and attaining the Synod’s priorities and goals (H.B. 5.3.4)

g. To submit overtures to Synod and District conventions.

3. Convocations (H.B. 5.4)

2.27 Functions

Each circuit may arrange for a Circuit Convocation, which is a large gathering of members from circuit congregations held during a year in which there is no Synod or District convention. The circuits are encouraged to meet in convocation each year to gather support for circuit work. Its purpose is to provide a setting in which congregational members may know and celebrate the ministry pursued by each congregation, may review and discuss the work of the circuit forum, and may receive information on various phases of the work pursued through District and the Synod. As such, its emphasis should be on inspiration, education, and motivation. (See H.B. 5.4.2)
4. Conferences (H.B. 4.8)

2.29 Ministers of Religion – Ordained Conferences

a. A District-wide conference shall be held in the fall of each year for all members of the District’s Ministers of Religion – Ordained roster; attendance is expected.

b. The Conference shall be convened by the Presidium of the District.

c. The conference agenda shall be prepared by the Presidium of the District. Committees shall be elected/appointed as required.

d. Regional conferences for Ministers of Religion – Ordained may be held in the spring of each year, and shall be planned and convened by the elected officers of the regional conference.

2.31 Ministers of Religion – Commissioned Conferences

a. A District-wide conference for Ministers of Religion – Commissioned shall be held annually unless an alternate conference is arranged. All Ministers of Religion – Commissioned on the District roster are expected to attend.

b. The Minister of Religion – Commissioned conference shall be convened by the officers of the conference(s) who shall also cause the agenda to be prepared in consultation with the District Executive of Congregational Services.

B. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS (B.O.D.), COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

1 Elected Officers and B.O.D.

2.35 Elected Officers (H.B. 4.3 and 4.5)

a. The following officers shall be elected from the Minister of Religion – Ordained roster of the Synod for three year terms of office: The District President, four Vice-Presidents, the Secretary and a Circuit Counselor for each circuit established by the District.
b. A layman shall be elected to serve as the Treasurer for a three year term of office.

c. All officers and members of the B.O.D., councils, and committees shall be members of member congregations of the District upon assuming office and during the course of their tenure.

d. All officers and members of the B.O.D., councils and committees who are elected to represent a region of the District shall forfeit their position if they move outside of the region to which elected.

2.41 Elected B.O.D., Councils and Committees

a. The Board of Directors (B.O.D.)
b. Council for Congregational Outreach
c. Council for Congregational Services
d. Council for Congregational Resources
e. The Committee on Constitutional Matters
f. The Committee for Worship and Spiritual Care
g. The Committee for Convention Nominations

2.43 General Provisions for the elected B.O.D., Councils and Committees

a. They shall seek to carry out the program and the resolutions of the Synod and promote the Synod’s triennial mission and ministry emphases within the District.

b. They shall publicize their plans and activity among all the members of the District.

c. The councils and committees shall report regularly regarding their work to the B.O.D.

d. The councils and committees shall present their budget requests to the B.O.D. through the Council for Congregational Resources and shall work with the B.O.D. and operate within the budget as adopted by the B.O.D.

e. They shall seek to coordinate their work and activities with the other councils and committees of the District.

f. They shall perform such functions and duties as are outlined in the District Bylaws or as may be assigned to them by the District Convention or the B.O.D.
2.45 Membership of Elected B.O.D., Councils and Committees

Unless otherwise indicated:

a. Voting members shall be one Minister of Religion – Ordained, one Minister of Religion – Commissioned, and one lay person elected from each region of the District. No more than one person from one congregation may serve on the B.O.D. or any one council at the same time.

b. Advisory members of each council and committee shall be the respective Executive or other staff person and a representative of the B.O.D.

c. Others with special expertise may be invited to attend as advisors.

2.47 Organization of Elected Councils and Committees

Unless otherwise indicated:

a. Each council and committee shall elect a chairman and a secretary in the meeting following the District Convention. It shall organize itself in any manner it deems as advisable to carry out its functions and duties.

b. Each council and committee shall normally meet at least three times a year. Special meetings may be called by the council/committee chairman or by the District President acting on behalf of the B.O.D.

c. Two consecutive unexcused absences from any District council or committee, by a member, means automatic removal and he/she shall be informed in writing by the Secretary of the District.

2. Appointments

2.51 Appointments by the B.O.D.

a. Legal Counsel
b. The Assistant Secretary
c. The Auditor
d. Reconcilers
e.
2.55 Appointments by the District President
   a. The Committee on Ministerial Health
   b. Floor Committees and any necessary personnel for the District Convention

3. Term and Tenure

2.61 Terms of Office (H.B. 4.7.4)
   a. All members of the B.O.D., councils and committees shall be elected for three year terms of office.
   b. All appointed positions shall be for three years, except for reconcilers which shall be a six year term.

2.67 Tenure
   a. The District President may be reelected without limitation to the number of terms.
   b. Regional vice-presidents, circuit counselors and all elected members of the B.O.D. (with the exception of the District President), councils and committees shall follow the Synod bylaws for terms of service (H.B. 3.2.4.2), to wit, terms of office are limited to two successive six-year terms or three successive three-year terms unless otherwise provided in the Bylaws.
   c. Appointment to fill one-half or more of a term shall be regarded as a full term under limited tenure rules (H.B. 3.2.4.1.b)
   d. There shall be no limitation upon the number of terms a person may serve in an appointed position. (H.B. 1.10.10.1)

C. OFFICERS

1. District President

2.71 Powers and Duties
   a. The District President shall serve as the full time chief executive officer of the District. He shall have all the powers and shall discharge all the duties and responsibilities given to the office of District President by the Constitution, Bylaws and resolutions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and by the Bylaws of the District and the resolutions of the District Convention. (H.B. XI.B and XII 6-9).
b. He shall report to the President of the Synod, and shall represent the Synod in the District and shall represent the District in the church-at-large.

c. He shall serve as Chairman of the B.O.D. He or his representative shall serve, ex officio, as an advisory member of all councils and committees.

d. He shall draw upon his vice-presidents, circuit counselors and staff to help him carry out his duties and responsibilities.

e. He shall report to each District Convention concerning his activities and the state of the District.

2.75 Areas of Responsibility (H.B. Art. XII, and 4.4)

a. As Ecclesiastical Supervisor

1. He shall supervise the doctrine and life of all members of the District.

2. He shall be a student of the Word, aware of world affairs and developments affecting the life of the church. He shall make suitable recommendations to meet these challenges.

3. He shall stimulate theological study of issues facing the church.

b. As Counselor

1. He shall maintain a pastoral relationship with called and appointed workers of the District and bring them strength and encouragement for their tasks. He will always remember that he is the Lord’s servant to his brethren, a strengthener of strengtheners.

2. He shall use the conferences of Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned to provide leadership in such matters that pertain to the church.

c. As Administrator

1. He shall be responsible for the organization, delegation, and supervisor of district work.

2. He shall be responsible for the supervision of staff officers and shall help coordinate their activities.
3. He shall be responsible for the execution of both Synod and District Convention resolutions.

4. He shall perform in person or delegate the ordination of candidates for the ministry who are assigned to the District and the installation of all called workers in the District.

5. He shall sign all certificates of ordination, and in general, all ecclesiastical papers and documents of the District.

6. He shall be responsible for the official rosters of member congregations, Ministers of Religion – Ordained and Ministers of Religion – Commissioned of the District.

7. He shall be responsible for the orientation and training of circuit counselors, so they may understand their responsibilities and carry them out more effectively.

8. He shall prepare a list of candidates for the pastoral office where vacancies exist in congregations of the District. He shall be assisted by the Executive Counselor of Congregational Services in the preparation of lists for congregations and schools where vacancies exist in offices held by Ministers of Religion – Commissioned.

2 Vice-Presidents

2.81 Provisions and Duties

a. Vice-Presidents shall be nominated and elected from the roster of Ministers of Religion – Ordained of the Synod (H.B. 4.3.1), giving consent to serve upon nomination, including consent to relocate as necessary to fulfil the expectations of the office (H.B. 4.3.3.).

b. Upon the request of the District President, they shall represent him in any of his functions.

c. The vice-presidents, in the order in which they have been ranked, shall perform the duties of the President in the event the President’s office is vacated or if he becomes unable to serve.

d. According to their rank, the vice-presidents may be directed by the President to assume certain duties of his office during his absence.

e. They shall be voting members of the B.O.D.
3. Secretary

2.91 Duties

a. The Secretary of the District shall serve as the secretary of the B.O.D.

b. He shall serve as an ex officio member (without vote) of the Committee on Constitutional Matters (H.B. 3.12.3.5)

c. He shall prepare and sign official papers and documents of the District as may be required by government entities or corporations with which the District conducts business.

d. He shall perform such other duties as the District may enjoin upon him through its Bylaws or by special resolutions.

e. He shall call for nominations from the congregations for District President no later than six months prior to the first day of the District Convention.

f. He shall record the proceedings of the District Convention with the assistance of the assistant secretary.

g. He shall prepare and arrange for the publication of District Convention Proceedings.

h. He shall transmit resolutions to the Synod which have been adopted at District Conventions concerning matters relating to the Synod.

2.93 Assistant Secretary

An assistant secretary shall be appointed by the B.O.D., and shall assist the secretary at the District Convention, and otherwise as needed.

4. Treasurer

2.95 Duties

a. The District Treasurer shall be the trust officer of the District, and shall sign all documents required of him.

b. He or the President shall sign all checks in the absence of the Executive for Finance.

c. He shall be aware of the financial condition of the District and provide recommendations to the Board to safeguard the assets of the District.
d. He shall assist the President as requested in the annual performance review of the Executive for Finance.

e. He shall be an advisory member of the Council for Congregational Resources.

f. He shall be a member of the District B.O.D.

g. He shall perform such other duties as assigned by the B.O.D.

5. Board of Directors (B.O.D.)

2.101 Purpose

The B.O.D. shall be vested with the general management and supervision of the District’s business affairs that all be done to the glory of God and in the best interest of the Church.

2.103 Membership

Voting members shall be the District President, the four regional vice-presidents, the secretary, the treasurer and one Minister of Religion – Commissioned and one layperson elected from each Region of the District.

2.105 Organization

The District President shall be the chairman of the B.O.D. The District Secretary shall be the secretary of the B.O.D.

2.107 Power and Authority

The B.O.D. represents the congregations of the District, and shall have power to conduct and transact all business necessary to carry out the purposes of the District. The B.O.D. defines the general sphere of duties for each council or committee. The authority to carry out the purposes of the District is vested in this B.O.D. as limited by the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod, the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and resolutions of the District.

2.109 Functions and Duties

a. The B.O.D. shall be the legal representative of the District and the custodian of the District’s property. It shall be custodian of and keep on file an accurate inventory of all properties, legacies, and valuable documents.

b. The B.O.D. shall have authority to borrow money and to issue, sell or pledge not its own but the corporation’s obligations and evidence of indebtedness, and to mortgage and pledge the corporation’s property to secure payment thereof.
c. The B.O.D. shall appoint and employ an Executive for Finance who shall be responsible to the District President.

d. The B.O.D. shall nominate a person to serve as Vice President for the District program of Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

e. The B.O.D. shall place the Treasurer and the Executive for Finance under bond in an adequate amount. It shall cause annual audits of the financial records of the District to be made by a certified public accounting firm.

f. The B.O.D. shall have charge of all matters that deal with District finances.

g. The B.O.D. shall review the proposed annual budget prepared by the Executive for Finance and adopt a final budget for each fiscal year.

h. The B.O.D. shall supervise the establishment and maintenance of a Policy Manual governing the functions of all officers, councils and committees of the District.

i. The B.O.D. shall elect and/or call all executive staff and personnel as required. A list of candidates for the calling of executive staff shall be supplied by the congregations or individuals of the District. It shall outline the duties in accordance with the objectives as stated in the Bylaws and Policy Manual.

j. The B.O.D. shall be responsible to the District Convention for implementing the District’s resolutions and program, in accordance with the District’s Bylaws and regulations.

k. The B.O.D. shall review annually the salaries and benefits of all District-paid (Called and contracted by the District) workers and arrange for appropriate recognition of special anniversaries.

D. DISTRICT STAFF

2.135 Annual Review

Executives/Counselors and other staff persons shall be called/elected/appointed to their office, and shall be subject to regular annual review by the B.O.D.

2.137 Accountability

Executives/Counselors and other staff persons shall report regularly and/or be responsible to the District President for the exercise of their duties, as set forth in the Policy Manual of the District, and as assigned to them from time to time.
III. COUNCIL FOR CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH

3.01 Purpose
The purpose of the Council for Congregational Outreach is to advise and assist the District staff in implementing programs and activities throughout the District that encourage and assist congregations in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ within and, on occasion, beyond the confines of the District.

3.02 Membership
The Council for Congregational Outreach shall consist of twelve members (one ordained, one commissioned, one lay from each of the four regions of the District) elected by the District Convention to three year terms of office. Advisory members of the council will be the Executive Counselor and any invited members of duly constituted task forces that are under the jurisdiction of this council.

3.03 Meetings
The Council for Congregational Outreach shall meet a minimum of three times a year, as scheduled by its chairperson. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or the District President. The Executive Counselor shall provide minutes of all council meetings to the B.O.D. through the District President.

3.04 Organization
The Council for Congregational Outreach shall elect a chairperson and a recording secretary. The chairperson shall work together with the Executive Counselor to develop an agenda and Bible Study based on the policies established by the B.O.D.

3.05 Function
The Council for Congregational Outreach shall maintain working relationships with a number of task forces which shall have the primary responsibility of developing and implementing programs and plans to accomplish those goals established by and in accordance with the policies of the B.O.D. These Task Forces are concerned with church planting, evangelism, ethnic ministry, deaf and campus ministry and other outreach ministries.
IV. COUNCIL FOR CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

4.01 Purpose
The purpose of the Council for Congregational Services is to advise and assist the District staff in implementing programs and activities throughout the District that encourage and assist the congregations in the areas of social ministry, Christian education, youth and worship and spiritual care.

4.02 Membership
The Council for Congregational Services shall consist of twelve members (one ordained, one commissioned, one lay from each of the four regions of the District) elected by the District Convention to three year terms of office. Advisory members of the council will include members of the District staff who have duties pertinent to the purposes of this council and any invited members of duly constituted task forces that are under the jurisdiction of this council.

4.03 Meetings
The Council for Congregational Services shall meet a minimum of three times a year at times, as scheduled by its chairperson. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or the District President. The Executive Counselor shall provide minutes of all council meetings to the B.O.D. through the District President.

4.04 Organization
The Council for Congregational Services shall elect a chairperson and a recording secretary. The chairperson shall work together with the Executive Counselor to develop an agenda and Bible Study based on the policies established by B.O.D.

4.05 Function
The Council for Congregational Services shall maintain working relationships with a number of task forces which shall have the primary responsibility of developing and implementing programs and plans to accomplish those goals established by and in accordance with the policies of the B.O.D. These task forces are concerned with such things as social ministry, Christian education, youth ministry, and worship and spiritual care.

V. COUNCIL FOR CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES

5.01 Purpose
The purpose of the Council for Congregational Resources is to advise and assist the District staff in implementing programs and activities that encourage and assist the congregations in the management of resources God has provided to the congregations of the District.
5.02  Membership
The Council for Congregational Resources shall consist of twelve members (one ordained, one commissioned, and one lay from each of the four regions of the District) elected by the District Convention to three year terms of office. Advisory members of the council will include members of the District staff who have duties pertinent to the purposes of this council and any invited members of duly constituted task forces that are under the jurisdiction of this council.

5.03  Meetings
The Council for Congregational Resources shall meet a minimum of three times a year, as scheduled by its chairperson. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or the District President. The Executive Counselor shall provide minutes of all council meetings to the B.O.D. through the District President.

5.04  Organization
The Council for Congregational Resources shall elect a chairperson and a recording secretary. The chairperson shall work together with the Executive Counselor to develop an agenda and Bible Study based on Christian Stewardship.

5.05  Functions
The Council for Congregational Resources shall maintain working relationships with a number of task forces which shall have the primary responsibility of developing and implementing programs and plans to accomplish those goals established by and in accordance with the policies of the B.O.D. These task forces may be concerned with such areas as stewardship education, financial planning, LCEF, gift planning services, Resource Center, financial aid, and others as deemed appropriate by the council.

VI.  SPECIAL SERVICES

A.  Dispute Resolution

6.01  Purpose, Function, Duties and Membership
The purpose, function, duties and membership of reconcilers and dispute resolution panels shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the Synod (H.B. 1.10-10.10.18.1)

B.  Committee on Constitutional Matters
6.21 Purpose
The Committee on Constitutional Matters shall provide guidance and direction to the District and to the congregations regarding their organization, constitution, and bylaws. It shall assure the District that all new and revised constitutions and bylaws are in agreement with the Scriptures and with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod. (H.B. 2.2.1. and 2.4.1)

6.23 Membership
Two Ministers of Religion – Ordained, two Ministers of Religion – Commissioned, and two laymen shall be elected for three year terms of office. At least one layman shall be a lawyer. The Secretary of the District shall be an ex-officio (without vote) member.

6.25 Organization
The committee shall elect a chairman and secretary and shall organize itself as it deems necessary. Three of its members may be designated as a “Congregational Constitution and Bylaw Committee.”

6.27 Function and Duties

a. The committee shall update the bylaws of the District following each District Convention.

b. The committee shall propose additions and corrections to the Bylaws as mandated by the Synod in convention. Approval for additions and corrections to the District Bylaws must be approved by the Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters prior to presenting them to the District Convention for vote.

c. The committee shall be responsible for interpreting the Bylaws of the District when this is necessary.

d. The committee shall examine and review all new and revised constitutions and bylaws of congregations, and shall report its approval of such constitutions and bylaws to the District President who in turn will take the approved documents to the B.O.D. for approval (H.B. 2.4.1)
C. Committee on Ministerial Health

6.31 Purpose
The Committee on Ministerial Health will seek to assist full time workers and their families within the District in handling stress and strain in their lives.

6.33 Membership
The committee shall consist of one Minister of Religion – Ordained and one Minister of Religion – Commissioned from each region of the District, and at least one layperson at large, the District President and the Executive Counselor of Congregational Services. The Minister of Religion – Ordained and the Ministers of Religion – Commissioned and layperson(s) at large shall be appointed by the District President, in consultation with the District Vice-Presidents and the Executive Counselor of Congregational Services.

6.35 Organization
The committee shall elect a chairman and a secretary and shall organize itself in any way it deems advisable to carry out its responsibilities. Members shall be appointed to three year terms, and are not subject to limitation of terms.

6.37 Functions and Duties

a. The committee shall identify and publicize the names of those who can provide professional assistance to those who need help.

b. The committee shall use conferences and workshops to provide understanding and to suggest preventive strategies.

c. The committee shall work with and through the Council for Congregational Services and the Worship and Spiritual Care Committee, to make services known and available.

d. The committee shall report to the B.O.D. through the District President concerning its activities and plans, and shall submit appropriate budget requests to the Council for Congregational Resources.

D. Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care

6.41 Purpose
The committee shall promote and encourage meaningful worship in all congregations of the District and shall provide leadership for worship services at major gatherings with the
District, for example, the District Convention. The committee shall promote and encourage a strong sense of responsibility and spiritual concern for all members of all congregations.

6.42 Membership
The Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care shall consist of twelve members (one Minister of Religion – Ordained, one Minister of Religion – Commissioned and one layperson from each of the four regions of the District), elected by the District Convention to three year terms of office. Non-voting advisory members of the committee will include the District President or his representative.

6.43 Meetings
The Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care shall meet a minimum of three times a year, as scheduled by its chairperson. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or the District President. The chairperson shall provide minutes of all committee meetings to the Council for Congregational Services to which it reports.

6.44 Organization
The Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care shall elect a chairman and a recording secretary. The chairperson shall provide an agenda and arrange for a Bible Study based on the policies established by the B.O.D.

6.45 Functions and Duties
The Committee on Worship and Spiritual Care shall develop principles and guidelines for congregational use; develop material resource centers; conduct workshops and institutes for worship leaders of the congregations, such as pastors, organists and choir directors. The committee shall also conduct workshops for congregational leaders, such as pastors, elders, and others who are involved in spiritual care, conservation, and involvement of members in the mission of the Church and Christian fellowship.

VII. NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES

A. Nomination and Election of District President

7.01 Nomination

a. Each congregation of the District may nominate two persons from the Minister of Religion – Ordained roster of the Synod for the office of President. Nominations shall be mailed to the District Secretary and postmarked no later than sixty days prior to the first day of the Convention.
b. Candidates for the office of the President shall be the five persons who receive the largest number of nominations, even if one candidate receives a majority.

c. A ballot containing the slate shall be prepared for the District Convention by the Election Committee under the supervision of the District Secretary.

7.03 Election

a. Each voting delegate shall be entitled to vote for one of the candidates.

b. The candidate receiving a majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

c. If no candidate receives a majority of votes cast on the first ballot, the four candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be retained on the ballot, and another vote shall be taken. Thereafter, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated on each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast (H.B. 4.7.3).

7.05 Transition

a. When there is a change in the presidency, a period of ninety days shall be allowed for the orderly transfer of duties to the new president. During this period of time the successor may continue in his previous activity, and in that case shall be given additional salary by the District. His combined salaries shall equal the amount he will receive as President.

b. A President who is not reelected, or elects to resign his position, shall receive his full salary during the period of transition. Thereafter, the B.O.D. shall determine his stipend until such time as he receives a call, or until other permanent arrangements for his future are made. The B.O.D. shall also determine for what length of time it seems advisable for the District to provide for his sustenance.

B. Nomination and Election of Vice-Presidents

7.11 Nominations for Vice-Presidents

a. Six months prior to the District Convention the district office shall notify each congregation of its privilege to nominate candidates for the office of Regional Vice-President from the Synod’s roster of Ministers of Religion – Ordained. The
notification will include a current list of Ministers of Religion – Ordained who are members of congregations of each region of the District. The notification will include information that nominees must give consent to relocate as necessary in order to fulfill the office of Regional Vice President (H.B. 4.3)

b. Each congregation of the region has the authority to nominate two candidates. Nominations shall be mailed to the District Secretary and postmarked no later than sixty days prior to the first day of the convention.

c. The two individuals receiving the greatest number of nominations from each region shall be placed on the convention ballot.

d. Information about each of the nominees shall be published along with other election information prior to the convention.

7.13 Election

a. A slate containing the names of the two nominees selected by the nominating procedure shall be prepared for convention election by the Election Committee under the supervision of the District Secretary.

b. Each delegate may cast a vote for one candidate on each regional slate. Candidates receiving a majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

7.15 Ranking

After the Vice-Presidents have been elected, the voting delegates will rank the Vice-Presidents in the following manner. The first ranking-ballot will include the names of all four Vice-Presidents in random order; the Vice-President receiving the most votes cast will be the First Vice-President. The second ranking-ballot will list the three remaining Vice-Presidents; the Vice-President receiving the most votes cast will be the Second Vice-President. The third ranking-ballot will list the remaining Vice-Presidents; the Vice-President receiving the most votes cast will be the Third Vice-President. In the event of a tie in receiving the most votes cast on any ranking-ballot, the name receiving the fewest votes cast will be removed from the run-off ranking ballot.
C. Nomination and Election of Circuit Counselors

7.23 Nomination and Election

The nomination and election of Circuit Counselors, as well as their function and duties, shall be in accordance with the Bylaws of the Synod (H.B. 5.2.2. – 5.2.2.1)

D. Committee for Convention Nominations

7.31 Purpose

The Committee for Convention Nominations shall solicit names and prepare a slate of well qualified candidates for each position to be filled at the District Convention, in accordance with the District and Synod Bylaws.

7.33 Membership

One Minister of Religion – Ordained, one Minister of Religion – Commissioned and one layman shall be elected from each region of the District for a three year term of office, and may serve no more than three successive terms of office.

7.35 Organization

a. The committee shall meet nine months before the District Convention for organization and orientation purposes. This meeting shall be convened and conducted by the District President and the District Secretary.

b. The committee shall elect a chairman and a secretary, and shall organize itself otherwise as it deems necessary to accomplish its functions.

7.37 Functions and Procedures

a. The names of the members of the committee and the positions to be filled by election shall be published at least nine months in advance of the District Convention in an official District publication. Qualified candidates shall be solicited for each position.

b. The committee shall prepare and provide appropriate forms for recommending candidates for nomination, for indicating a willingness to serve if elected, and for evaluating candidates.

c. The committee shall solicit names of qualified candidates for all positions to be filled. All names to be considered shall be received at least sixty days prior to the election.
d. The committee shall prepare a slate of at least two nominees for each position to be filled from among the names of those persons recommended. The committee shall have received the consent to serve of each person placed on the slate for election.

e. The committee shall provide the delegates with the slate of nominees together with their biographical sketch and qualifications prior to Convention.

f. Biographical information and qualifications of persons added to the slate on the floor of Convention shall be published in “Today’s Business” prior to the election.

g. The Chairman of the committee shall submit the Committee’s report in person to the Convention during one of the first sessions.

h. Additional names may be added to the slate on the floor of Convention only from among the persons already recommended for nomination during the nominating process.

i. Incumbents who are eligible for reelection must be proposed for reelection.

j. Nominations for positions held by laity are to be members of member congregations of the District, and if the position requires, of the appropriate region of the District. Nominees for positions held by Ministers of Religion – Commissioned are to be members of a District congregation, and if the position requires, of the appropriate region of the District. Nominees for District President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Circuit Counselors are to be from the Synod roster of Ministers of Religion – Ordained; all other positions (councils, committees, etc.) that are to be filled by Ministers of Religion – Ordained shall be filled with members of the District roster of Ministers of Religion – Ordained, and if the position requires, of the appropriate region of the District.

E. Election Regulations

7.41 The Election Committee

a. An Elections Committee shall be appointed by the District President prior to the District Convention.

b. The committee shall acquaint itself with Bylaw regulations regarding nominating and election processes.
c. The committee shall make necessary arrangements for the election; shall prepare the ballots in consultation with the chairman and the Secretary of the Committee for Convention Nominations; and shall supervise the election.

7.43  Procedures

a. A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all positions.

b. When more than one ballot is required, the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from the succeeding ballot. Balloting shall continue until a majority vote is achieved.

c. The chairman shall announce the results of each election promptly to the Convention, and shall file with the District Secretary and the District President a written report of the tabulation of all votes cast for each election, signed by himself and the Secretary of the Elections Committee.

d. Any paper ballots shall remain in the possession of the Chairman of the Elections Committee until the Convention has been adjourned. They shall then be destroyed.

7.45  Holding More than One Office (H.B. 5.1.2)

a. No one, either in the Synod or in the District, or between the Synod and the District, shall hold more than one elective office; or more than two offices, although one or both be appointive; or every hold two offices, of which one is directly responsible for the work done by the other.

b. An office shall be regarded as elective only if it is an office filled through election by a Synod or District Convention, even though a vacancy in such an office may be filled by appointment.

c. This rule, however, does not apply to persons elected to serve on the Committee for Convention Nominations for the District or for the Synod.

d. If a member serving in one elected position consents to serve in another position if elected, that person shall forfeit his/her position if elected to the other position.
F. Induction into Office

7.51 Induction

a. All elected officers and members of the elected B.O.D., councils, and committees shall be inducted into office in a special service following the final session of the District Convention.

b. Those who are not present at the Convention shall be inducted into office at the first meeting of the B.O.D., council, or committee to which they have been elected, following the Convention.

c. The President of the Synod or his representative shall install the District President, and the newly elected President shall induct all other elected persons.

G. Organization

7.53 Organization of the B.O.D., Councils and Committees
The B.O.D., councils, and committees shall organize within ninety days after their election or appointment. Their organization shall be reported to the District President, and shall be published without delay in an official publication of the District.

H. Vacancies

7.61 Office of the President

a. In the event of the death, retirement or resignation of the District President, the Vice-Presidents, in the order in which they have been ranked, shall serve as Acting President, until the next regular Convention elects and inducts a new President. His duties may be on a part-time basis only.
b. In the event of prolonged illness or disability, the ranking Vice President shall serve as the Acting President on a part-time basis until the B.O.D. determines that the President is able to resume his duties, or until the next District Convention.

7.63 Office of the Vice-presidents
In the event of a vacancy in the Vice-Presidency, the remaining Vice-Presidents shall advance in rank as required. The vacancy shall then be filled by the President after consultation with the B.O.D.

7.65 Office of Circuit Counselor
In the event of a vacancy in this office, the District President shall appoint a Circuit Counselor to fill the unexpired term.

7.67 Office of Secretary
In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary shall serve as Secretary until the next District Convention. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Assistant Secretary, the B.O.D. shall be empowered to fill the vacancy.

7.69 Office of the Treasurer
In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Treasurer, the B.O.D. shall be empowered to fill the vacancy until the next regular District Convention.

7.71 Member of the B.O.D.
In the event of a vacancy on the B.O.D., the B.O.D. shall be empowered to fill this vacancy for the unexpired term.

7.75 Members of Councils and Committees
In the event of a vacancy in any other elected council or committee, such council or committee shall be authorized to appoint a successor for the unexpired term, with the approval of the B.O.D. Consideration should be given to alternate candidates on the ballot.
7.77 Vacancy Because of a Move

Any office, the election or appointment to which is contingent upon residence in a given region, shall be considered vacant when the incumbent moves to another region. This office shall be filled according to the manner prescribed.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

8.01 Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made, provided:

a. They are not contrary to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod;

b. They are specified as Bylaw amendments and are submitted in writing to the District Constitution Committee prior to presentation to the Convention;

c. They are approved by the Synod’s Commission on Constitution Matters prior to the action by the District Convention.

d. They are presented as overtures to the District Convention in the Convention Workbook and/or in Today’s Business.

e. They are approved by a majority of the voting delegates at the District Convention.

Footnote:

Abbreviations/References