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TODAY'S BUSINESS

Included in this document

- Proposed Schedule**
- Standing Rules**
- Floor Nomination form**
- Election ballot information**
- Resolutions**

Convention Schedule

All events, unless otherwise noted, will be in the North Gym

- 7:00 – 8:30 am Delegate/Vendor Registration - South Gym
- 7:30 am Continental breakfast available in the south gym (vendor area)
- 8:30 am Pre-service singing – Chapel of Our Lord
- 8:45 am Opening worship service – Chapel of Our Lord
Convention Divine Service including welcoming new congregations and church workers/ congratulating those with anniversaries and commemorating those Called to Glory – Rev. Dan Gilbert/Michael Zimmer
- Preacher – Rev. Dr. John Wohlrabe, Regional Vice President
 - Presiding Minister – Rev. Dan Gilbert, President, NID
- 10:30 am Call to Order (North Gym) – Rev. Dan Gilbert, President
- 10:35 am Greetings from, Rev. Dr. Daniel Gard, CUC President
- 10:40 am District President’s Address – Rev. Dan Gilbert
- 11:00 am Introductions; Standing Rules; Adoption of Agenda
- 11:10 am Registration report – Rev. Dr. James Kellerman
- 11:15 am Committee 3 – Elections – Introduction to Electronic Voting Procedure and Practice
- 11:30 am Lunch Prayer
- 11:35 am Lunch – CUC cafeteria
- Caucuses of Advisory Ministers of Religion – Ordained ... Advisory Delegates to Synod’s 2019 Convention
- 1:25 pm Hymn sing - led by Dr. Steve Wentz
- 1:30 pm Prayer to open session – Rev. Martin Marks
- 1:35 pm Registration report – Rev. Dr. James Kellerman
- 1:40 pm Committee 3 – Elections
- Ratification of Slate of Candidates for District President
 - Election of President
 - Response from President Elect
 - Floor Nominations for Vice-Presidents
 - Elect and Rank Vice-Presidents
 - Floor Nominations for Secretary`
 - Elect Secretary
- 2:15 pm District Ministry I – *Dan Gilbert, Keith Haney, Mike Mast, Mike Zimmer*
- 2:55 pm Break
- 3:10 pm ABC Resolutions
- 3:20 pm District Ministry II – *Dan Gilbert, Keith Haney, Mike Mast, Mike Zimmer*
- 4:00 pm Committee 1 – Witness
- 4:30 pm Special Recognition – Rev. Dan Gilbert, President
- 4:35 pm Committee 2 – Mercy/Life Together
- 5:05 pm LCEF Welcome – Rev. Bart Day, President/CEO Lutheran Church Extension Fund
- 5:10 pm Close for evening
- 5:15-7:00pm President’s Reception (KCC / Cougar’s Den)
- 5:15 pm Floor Committee meetings as needed – rooms as noted in “Today’s Business”

1 **Saturday, March 10, 2018 (All convention sessions will be in the North Gym)**

- 2 7:00 - 8:00 am Break area will be set with coffee “and” – (south gym)
- 3 8:45 am Pre-devotion singing – led by Dr. Steve Wentz
- 4 9:00 am Convention Devotion – new District President
- 5 9:15 am Registration report – Rev. Dr. James Kellerman
- 6 9:20 am Committee 1 - Witness
- 7 9:50 am Committee on Nominations
- 8 • Presents slate of Nominations
- 9 • Floor Nominations
- 10 ✓ Board of Directors
- 11 ✓ 2021 NID Convention Nominations Committee
- 12 ✓ Concordia University Chicago Board of Regents
- 13 10:20 am Break
- 14 10:40 am Convention Essay - “Joy-Fully Lutheran” – Rev. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President
- 15 11:25 am Committee 3 – Elections
- 16 • Election of Board of Directors
- 17 ✓ East Region elections
- 18 ✓ North Region elections
- 19 ✓ South Region elections
- 20 ✓ West Region elections
- 21 ✓ Ratification – Circuit Counselor elections
- 22 ✗ Elect 2021 NID Convention Nominations Committee
- 23 ✗ Elect Board of Regent members, Concordia University Chicago
- 24 12:00 pm Lunch – CUC cafeteria (Koehneke center)
- 25 2:00 pm Prayer to open the Session – Rev. Alex Merlo
- 26 2:05 pm Committee 2 – Mercy/Life Together
- 27 2:35 pm Open Q & A with Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President
- 28 3:20 pm Floor Committee time – if necessary
- 29 3:50 pm Registration (Final Report) – Rev. Dr. James Kellerman
- 30 3:55 pm Closing remarks – Rev. Dan Gilbert
- 31 4:15 pm Convention Closing

STANDING RULES of the 2018 NID Convention

1. ELECTRONIC DEVICES. Only recording devices approved by the president shall be permitted. Mobile phones and pagers shall be kept in non-audible mode; vocal phone conversations shall not be permitted.
2. CREDENTIALS. Delegates, guests and staff shall wear official badges during all convention functions.
3. VOTING. Votes will normally be made with electronic keypads. At the discretion of the chair, votes may be taken by voice, rising vote, voting cards, or standing counted vote.
4. Nominations from the floor shall be seconded and a majority vote shall add the nominee to ballot.
5. MOTIONS - RESOLUTIONS - OVERTURES
 - a. Motions to amend a resolution or to offer a substitute resolution shall be submitted in writing in triplicate.¹
 - b. Only voting delegates may make or second motions.
 - c. Floor Committee Resolutions
 1. Omnibus A, B and C² resolutions shall be disposed of before taking up Floor Committee resolutions.
 2. Floor Committee representatives shall read only an overture's *resolving clauses* unless, in the judgment of the committee, each *whereas clause* should also be read.
 3. Floor Committee resolutions not taken up during the convention fall to the ground.
 4. In connection with resolutions adopted during the convention, the Constitution Committee shall be authorized to correct punctuation and grammar and to make other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the delegates, including applicable modifications to section designations and cross references in the bylaws.
6. DEBATE - DISCUSSION
 - a. Motions may be made from any microphone, however those speaking in favor of the motion shall do so at the odd numbered microphones and those opposed shall speak at the even numbered microphones.
 - b. Members seconding a motion need not go to the microphone nor be recognized by the chair.
 - c. After recognition, a delegate shall state his or her name, congregation and location or the administrative unit represented. If applicable, members shall preface remarks with "I speak for/against the motion."
 - d. Debate shall be limited to two (2) minutes per speech and twice to each motion, the second time only after all who wish to speak have done so, except that Floor Committee members have unlimited time provided Rule 6e does not apply. Extension of these limits shall require a two-thirds vote.
 - e. If a substitute motion is moved and seconded, the framer shall have two (2) minutes to speak for consideration and a Floor Committee member shall have two (2) minutes to speak against consideration. Without further debate, delegates shall vote whether to consider the substitute; a majority is required to adopt. If the substitute is subsequently adopted, the original motion is not considered. If the substitute motion is (a) not considered or (b) considered and not adopted, the original motion is then considered.³
 - f. The *previous question* (call the question) may only be made by a delegate who rises solely for this purpose.
7. THE PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY AND A HIGHER AUTHORITY. The rules contained in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, the Bylaws of the Northern Illinois District, and these convention standing rules. Above all, the rules of Christian love shall govern the convention.

¹ One copy each for the presiding officer, secretary, and parliamentarian.

² Prior to the convention, Floor Committees submitted certain overtures for Omnibus A, B and C consideration. The secretary consolidated them into one resolution for each category. The Floor Committees used Synod rules: A - when certain overtures should be presented first to a District Board or Committee (before asking the District Convention to take action); B - when certain overtures have been given adequate and appropriate response by a previous District or Synodical Convention, and C. - when the Floor Committee chooses to decline the overture.

FLOOR NOMINATION FORM

The 59th Convention of the Northern Illinois District of the LCMS
March 9 & 10, 2018

This Completed Form MUST be given to the District Secretary in triplicate BEFORE the nomination is brought to the floor. Please TYPE or PRINT CLEARLY

NOMINATED BY DELEGATE _____ (Name)

of _____ congregation of Circuit # ____ Region _____

NOMINATION FOR: _____ President
_____ Vice-president
_____ Secretary
_____ Board of Directors
_____ CUC Board of Regents
_____ 2021 NID Nominations Committee

NOMINEE IS AN/A (Check One) _____ Ordained Minister
_____ Commissioned Minister
_____ Layperson

NOMINEE INFORMATION: Is the nominee willing to serve? _____

*Was the nominee presented to the Nominations Committee for consideration? _____
If not, what prevented nominee from entering normal process of nomination?*

Name: (Last, First) _____

Address: _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

Email _____

Congregation: _____ Circuit # ____ Region _____

*** THE NOMINEE MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS A SEPARATE ATTACHED DOCUMENT ***

- Please list the strengths and previous experience you will bring to the position to which you have been nominated.
 - Congregational
 - Professional
 - District and/or Synod
 - Community or Civic Service
 - Talents and Abilities
 - Education
- Please share a word about your faith, your doctrinal position, and your view of the mission of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.
- Please comment on your experience and/or interest in the area for which you have been nominated.

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT
2018 CONVENTION
FLOOR COMMITTEE III**

III. Elections

Rev. Eric Kennaugh, (chair); Immanuel, 950 Hart Road, Batavia

PRESIDIUM BALLOT

(* Indicates Incumbent)

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Nominee Information

Rev. Allan Buss	Pages	4-7
Rev. B. Keith Haney	Pages	8-11
Rev. Kristopher Whitby	Pages	12-14
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

VICE PRESIDENT, NORTH REGION

Rev. Micah Greiner	Pages	20-21
Rev. Kristopher Whitby*	Pages	12-14
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

VICE PRESIDENT, WEST REGION

Rev. Ken Krause*	Pages	22-23
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

VICE PRESIDENT, EAST REGION

Rev. Steven Anderson*	Pages	15-17
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

VICE PRESIDENT, SOUTH REGION

Rev. Cory Estby	Pages	18-21
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

SECRETARY

Rev. David Juhl	Page	24
Rev. James Kellerman*	Pages	25-26
_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS BALLOT

(*Indicates Incumbent)

NORTH REGION

Nominee Information

Ordained	Rev. James Buckman	Pages	40-42
(Elect 1)	Rev. Micah Greiner	Pages	20-21
	Rev. Jerry Hays	Pages	79-80
	Rev. Matthew Hoffmann	Pages	83-84
	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

Comm. Min.	Mr. David Gottschalk	Pages	70-71
(Elect 1)	Mr. Joel Moritz	Pages	93-94
	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

Layperson	Mr. Larry Goodwin	Pages	68-69
(Elect 2)	Mr Paul Pasche	Pages	103-104
	Mr. Chuck Schild*	Pages	120-122
	Mr. Charles Traugott	Pages	136-137
	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

1 **SOUTH REGION**

Nominee Information

2
3 **Ordained** Rev. Eric Brown Pages 38-39
4 **(Elect 1)** Rev. Ron Rock* Pages 112-113
5 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

6
7 **Comm. Min.** Mr. David Bremer Pages 37
8 **(Elect 1)** Dcs. Sarah Gaffney Pages 59-60
9 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

10
11 **Layperson** Mr. David DeYoung Pages 45-46
12 **(Elect 2)** Mr. Michael Dobbs Pages 49-50
13 Mr. Ken Garst Pages 63-65
14 Mr. Will Strenge Page 133
15 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

16
17 **EAST REGION**

Nominee Information

18
19 **Ordained** Rev. Mark Birkholz* Pages 33-34
20 **(Elect 1)** Rev. Ralph Tausz Pages 136-137
21 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

22
23 **Comm. Min.** Mr. Ted Lams Pages 87-88
24 **(Elect 1)** Mr Matt Tuomi Pages 142-143
25 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

26
27 **Layperson**
28 **(Elect 2)** Mr. Tim Eischen Pages 55-56
29 Mr. Carlos Ortiz Pages 100-102
30 Mr. Daniel Sedory* Pages 126-127
31 Mr. Matt Struve* Pages 134-135
32 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

33
34 **WEST REGION**

Nominee Information

35
36 **Ordained** Rev. Tim Bayer Pages 27-28
37 **(Elect 1)** Rev. John Prohl Pages 109-110
38 Rev. Caleb Schauer Pages 118-119
39 Rev. Willis Schwichtenberg Pages 124-125
40 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

41
42 **Comm. Min.** Mr. Dan Green Pages 75
43 **(Elect 1)** Dcs. Betsy Karkan* Pages 85-86
44 Mr. Jonathan Poppe Pages 107-108
45 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

46
47 **Layperson**
48 **(Elect 2)** Ms. Carol-Joy Motisi* Pages 96-97
49 Mr. David Nessler Pages 98-99
50 Ms. Lori Solyom Pages 128-130
51 Mr. Michael Woolery Pages 144-145
52 _____ (Floor Nomination) Use Form Section 1

CIRCUIT VISITORS
2018-2021 Circuit Visitor Nominations

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- Circuit 1-N**
Wayne Jahn, Redeemer, Waukegan
- Circuit 2-N**
- Circuit 3-N**
Mark Bestul, Calvary, Elgin
- Circuit 4-N**
Larry Tieman, Immanuel, Crystal Lake
- Circuit 5-N**
Jerry Hays, St. Peter, Schaumburg
- Circuit 6-W**
- Circuit 7-W**
Ron Weidler, Immanuel, Batavia
- Circuit 8-W**
Patrick Pinion, St. John, Burlington
- Circuit 9-W**
Rick Wagner, Roscoe
- Circuit 10-W**
David Andermann, Our Savior, Dixon

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- 37 **Circuit 11-E**
- 38 Vernon Wendt, Messiah, Chicago
- 39
- 40 **Circuit 12-E**
- 41 Leonard Payton, St. John, Forest Park
- 42
- 43 **Circuit 13-E**
- 44 Valdas Ausra, Zion, Oak Lawn
- 45
- 46 **Circuit 14-E**
- 47 Elstner Lewis, St. Philip, Chicago
- 48
- 49 **Circuit 15-S**
- 50 Rod Serbus, St. John, Darien
- 51
- 52 **Circuit 16-S**
- 53 Steven Lange, Living Word, Orland Park
- 54
- 55 **Circuit 17-S**
- 56 David Daniel, Zion, Ottawa
- 57
- 58 **Circuit 18-S**
- 59 Eric Brown, Trinity, Herscher
- 60
- 61 **Circuit 19-S**
- 62 Michael Croon, St. Paul, Chicago Heights
- 63
- 64

“(e) Immediately following the circuit forum, the circuit visitor shall report in writing the results of the selection process to the secretary of the district in preparation for ratification by the district convention. (f) The convention shall have the right to alter the slate by amendment. (g) The convention shall then ratify the slate of circuit visitors, which ratification shall constitute election.”

1 **NID COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS BALLOT**

2 (*Indicates Incumbent)

3
4 **NORTH REGION**

Nominee Information

5

6 Ordained	Rev. Mark Bestul*	Pages	31-32
7 (Elect 1)	Rev. Micah Greiner	Pages	20-21
8	Rev. Matthew Hoffmann	Pages	83-84
9	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
10			
11 Comm. Min.	Mr Joel Moritz	Pages	94-95
12 (Elect 1)	Ms. Ardelle Pate	Pages	105-107
13	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
14			
15 Layperson	Ms. Laura Schmuldt	Pages	123
16 (Elect 1)	Mr. Charles Traugott	Pages	140-141
17	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

18
19 **SOUTH REGION**

Nominee Information

20

21 Ordained	Rev. Cory Estby*	Pages	57-58
22 (Elect 1)	Rev. David Juhl	Page	24
23	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
24			
25 Comm. Min.	Mr. David Bremer	Page	37
26 (Elect 1)	Dcs. Katelyn Hansen	Page	78
27	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
28			
29 Layperson	Mr. Michael Dobbs*	Pages	49-50
30 (Elect 1)	Mr. Will Strenge	Page	133
31	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

32
33 **EAST REGION**

Nominee Information

34

35 Ordained	Rev. Roger Gallup*	Pages	61-62
36 (Elect 1)	Rev. Stephen Heuser*	Pages	81-82
37	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
38			
39 Comm. Min.	Ms. Katie Laubenstein*	Pages	89-90
40 (Elect 1)	Ms. Kathleen Gunia	Pages	76-77
41	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
42			
43 Layperson	Mr. Aaron Doehring*	Pages	51-52
44 (Elect 1)	Mr. Mark Stern*	Pages	131-132
45	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

46
47 **WEST REGION**

Nominee Information

48

49 Ordained	Rev. John Prohl	Pages	110-111
50 (Elect 1)	Rev. Caleb Schauer	Pages	117-118
51	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
52			
53 Comm. Min.	Dcs. Betsy Karkan*	Pages	84-85
54 (Elect 1)	Mr. Jonathan Poppe	Pages	108-109
55	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	
56			
57			
58 Layperson	Ms. Sonia Sanchez	Pages	116-117
59 (Elect 1)	Mr. Michael Woolery	Pages	140-141
60	_____ (Floor Nomination)	Use Form Section 1	

1 **CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, BOARD OF REGENTS**

2 (*Indicates Incumbent)

3

4 **Ordained** **Nominee Information**

5 (Elect: 1 one from the District – (*) indicates incumbent)

6 Rev. Timothy Bayer Pages 27-28

7 Rev. Gary Bertels* Pages 29-30

8 Rev. James Buckman Pages 40-42

9 Rev. Matthew Hoffman Pages 83-84

10

11 **Commissioned Minister** **Nominee Information**

12 (Elect: 1 from the district - (*) indicates incumbent)

13
14 Mr. Don Gillingham Pages 66-67

15 Mr. Carl Lisius Pages 91-93

16 Ms. Virginia (Ginny) Terrell Pages 138-139

17

18 **Layperson** **Nominee Information**

19 (Elect 2 from the district – (*) indicated incumbent)

20
21 Mr. Paul DeLassus Pages 43-44

22 Ms. Alicia Dietrich* Pages 47-48

23 Mr. Mike Graf Pages 72-74

24 Mr. Dominic Salvino* Pages 114-115

25

26 Synod bylaw 3.10.5.2 says “The board of regents of each college and university shall consist of no more than 17 voting members... 2. One
27 ordained minister, one commissioned minister, and two laypersons shall be elected by the geographical district in which the institution is
28 located.”

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**Witness
Floor Committee One
Resolutions**

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- 1-01 Funding NID Life Task Force Events
- 1-02 To Encourage the LCMS Partner Churches to Leave the Lutheran World Federation

1 To the 59th Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District of
3 The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
4 March 9-10, 2018
5

6 **RESOLUTION: 1-01:** Funding NID Life Task Force Events
7 Referencing Overture 1-01
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the NID Life Task Force’s mission, summarized in its mission statement: “Affirming God’s Will to
10 create and sustain mortal life in the anticipation of Life in Christ, the Northern Illinois District Life Task Force’s
11 mission is to connect with church workers and their congregations by presenting unique educational and outreach
12 opportunities about the reverence of life from conception through natural death.” ...and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the NID Life Task force’s work is an expression of the mission and confession of Christ’s Church in
15 our district, and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the NID Life Task Force has networked church workers and congregations, and prepared and
18 implemented workshops and other events each year since its inception, and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the NID Life Task Force and its work were not funded through our districts budget, but through
21 monies solicited from private donors, and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, in response to observed needs, the NID Life Task Force would like to provide greater support and
24 resources for churches and people in our district, therefore be it...
25

26 **RESOLVED**, that the District President and staff encourage congregations and individuals to provide financial
27 support to the NID Life Task Force, contributing to the present annual district-wide goal of \$2,000 and be it
28 further
29

30 **RESOLVED**, the NID Life Task Force give an annual report of its ministry, expenditures, and needs to the NID
31 Board of Directors, and be it further
32

33 **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors re-examine the need and funding for the NID Life Task Force in
34 response to the task force’s report.
35

1 To the 59th Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District of
3 The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
4 March 9-10, 2018
5

6 **RESOLUTION 1-02:** To Encourage the LCMS Partner Churches to Leave the Lutheran World Federation
7 Referencing Overture 1-02
8

9 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) “is a global communion of 145 churches in the Lutheran
10 tradition, representing over 74 million Christians in 98 countries,” and it declares of itself that its member churches
11 “share a vision, purpose and values. We work to strengthen our relationships and build an inclusive, respectful
12 communion. We are on a common journey of renewal shaped and enriched by the different contexts within which
13 we live.” (www.lutheranworld.org) Article III of the LWF Constitution states, “The Lutheran World Federation is a
14 communion of churches which confess the triune God, agree in the proclamation of the Word of God and are
15 united in pulpit and altar fellowship.” The LCMS is not a member of the LWF. The LCMS is a member of the
16 International Lutheran Council (ILC), which is not a communion fellowship. However, the majority of ILC
17 member churches are partner churches of the LCMS with whom we share altar and pulpit fellowship; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, The July 7, 2017 Reporter article “Boards and Business: International, National Mission” states, The
20 Rev. Dr. Al Collver, director of Church Relations for the Synod, provided an overview of two kinds of Lutheranism
21 evident worldwide. He described the differences between church bodies affiliated with the International Lutheran
22 Council (ILC) and the more liberal Lutheran World Federation – with its focus on women’s ordination, acceptance
23 of the LGBT lifestyle and using a higher critical approach to interpreting Scripture. Collver explained that the ILC
24 exists to encourage, strengthen and promote confessional Lutheran theology and practice. Increasingly, he said,
25 Lutheran church bodies in the Global South are seeking closer ties with the ILC and the LCMS. He pointed out
26 that the LCMS has 36 official partner churches and 25 “allied church bodies,” which have some degree of
27 partnership but do not yet have altar and pulpit fellowship. An additional 14 “emerging church bodies” have made
28 contact with the LCMS to learn more about its doctrine and practice. Collver also noted that many large, established
29 church bodies are seeking a more equal partnership with the Synod and desire theological education, financial
30 expertise to better manage growing ministry institutions and help with mercy work. “There is no time like the
31 present to have a significant impact on world Lutheranism,” said Collver; and
32

33 **WHEREAS**, The LCMS has remained faithful and continues to confess the truth of God’s Word as its members
34 subscribe unconditionally to the Book of Concord. As a result of its confessional subscription (Article II of the
35 LCMS Constitution), the LCMS has not joined the LWF. Sadly, the LCMS has eleven partner churches with whom
36 we are in full altar and pulpit fellowship who are members of the LWF. They are as follows with the year they
37 joined the LWF:

38 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana – 2004
39 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya – 1970
40 The Lutheran Church of Nigeria – 1973
41 India Evangelical Lutheran Church – 1970
42 Japan Lutheran Church – (Associate Member) 1999
43 Lutheran Church in Korea – 1972
44 Gutnius Lutheran Church (Papua New Guinea) – 1979
45 Lutheran Church in the Philippines – 1973
46 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia – 1963
47 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania – 1967
48 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia – 1994; and
49

50 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), has as its focus women’s ordination, acceptance of the
51 LGBT lifestyle, and using a higher critical approach to interpreting Scripture; and

1 **WHEREAS**, The Word of God says, “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship
2 has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” (2 Cor. 6:14) and “Now I urge
3 you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid
4 them.” (Rom. 16:17); and
5

6 **WHEREAS**, Jude reminds us, “have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to
7 others show mercy with fear and hating even the garment stained by the flesh.” (Jude 22-23). We must always deal
8 with wayward brothers and sisters in the gentle loving and firm manner because repentance rarely is resolved
9 quickly as the Holy Spirit moves at his own pace; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, these brothers and sisters in Christ sometimes have deep and long-standing relationships with faithful
12 orthodox believers who happen to be long-time members of these now-heterodox fellowships; therefore be it
13

14 **RESOLVED**, that in Christian love, and faithfulness to our common confession, the LCMS encourage the

15 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana,
16 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya,
17 The Lutheran Church of Nigeria,
18 India Evangelical Lutheran Church,
19 Japan Lutheran Church,
20 Lutheran Church in Korea,
21 Gutnius Lutheran Church (Papua New Guinea),
22 Lutheran Church in the Philippines,
23 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia,
24 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania, and
25 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia

26 to leave the membership of the Lutheran World Federation as soon as possible; and be it further
27

28 **RESOLVED**, that the Commission on Theology and Church Relations report to the Synod regarding the results of
29 this encouragement as churches are able to respond; and be it finally
30

31 **RESOLVED**, the Northern Illinois District in convention submit this resolution as an overture to the 2019
32 Convention of the LCMS.
33

**Mercy/Life Together
Floor Committee Two
Resolutions**

- 1
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5 2-01 To Grant the Board of Directors the Authority to Realign Circuits
6
7 2-02 To Allow Amendments to the District Bylaws to be Adopted Provisionally
8
9 2-03 To Clarify Some Language in the District’s Bylaws
10
11 2-04 To Divide Electoral Circuit 13 Into Two Visitation Circuits
12
13 2-05 To Declare the Reverend Dan Gilbert, President Emeritus of the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran
14 Church—Missouri Synod
15
16 2-06 To Make the Term Limit For the Office of District President Five Terms
17
18 2-07 To Establish a Task Force on Stewardship of District Resources
19
20 2-08 To Care for the Members of the Body of Christ through Fraternal Communication
21
22 Omnibus B To Allow Fall Pastoral Conferences to Submit Overtures to the District Convention
23
24
25

1 To the 59th Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District of
3 The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
4 March 9-10, 2018
5

6 **RESOLUTION 2-01:** To Grant the Board of Directors Authority to Realign Circuits
7 Referencing Overture 2-01
8

9 **RATIONALE:**

10
11 All districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have the authority to reconfigure their circuits at a regular or
12 special convention (Synod Constitution XII.3.c; Bylaws 1.3.2 and 5.1.2). A district may also grant that authority to
13 its board of directors as well, but the district’s intention to give that authority to the board must be stated explicitly
14 in its bylaws.
15

16 Circuits must be kept within the ranges stipulated by Synod Bylaw 3.1.2.a (7 to 20 congregations with a total
17 communicant membership between 1,500 and 10,000 members), and demographic changes will likely continue to
18 precipitate the need for frequent redrawing of the map. While special conventions have been a way in which this
19 issue has been addressed in recent years (specifically, in 2005 and 2017), they are an additional expense and burden
20 of time for the district and its congregations. A regular district convention could address this matter, but its solution
21 could not be implemented until the next district convention, thus affecting representation at the Synod convention
22 in the intervening years.
23

24 A sensible solution would be to grant the Northern Illinois District Board of Directors the authority to reconfigure
25 the circuits and, if necessary, adjust the four regions to keep the number of circuits in each region roughly the same
26 (as the district’s Bylaw I.C requires). However, congregations and circuits are rightly concerned whenever there is
27 discussion of changing the way circuits are organized. Therefore, it is imperative that the board not make changes
28 arbitrarily. It would make sense then that all circuits that would be affected by a proposed realignment first give
29 their approval to the changes through their circuit visitors before the district’s Board of Directors adopts the
30 changes. In addition, it would be sensible for all the district’s circuit visitors to be consulted and give advice on
31 possible changes to the way circuits are arranged, even if the proposed changes do not directly affect them.
32 Therefore, be it
33

34 **RESOLVED,** That bylaw III.A.3 be amended to read as follows:

35 3. Powers.

36 a. The Board of Directors shall have such authority over and responsibility for the property of the district as is
37 generally vested in and imposed upon the Board of Directors of a corporation.

38 b. The Board of Directors shall have the power to borrow money in the corporate name of the district, to issue and
39 sell the district’s obligations and evidences of indebtedness, and to exercise such power within and without the State
40 of Illinois.

41 c. The Board of Directors shall be legal representative and custodian of all properties and documents of the district,
42 maintain an accurate inventory of all properties, legacies, and valuable documents, and provide for the adequate
43 safekeeping of such documents and negotiable securities.

44 d. The Board of Directors shall have all powers necessary or incidental to the full exercise of the foregoing powers
45 and to the discharge of its duties in these Bylaws, the Bylaws of the Synod or duties assigned to it by the district
46 convention.

47 **e. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to reconfigure the circuits of the district, including**
48 **making adjustments in the organization of the regions, as long as the principles of Bylaw I.C are observed**
49 **and the Board has secured advice from all the circuit visitors and the written consent of each circuit visitor**
50 **of the circuits whose congregations would be affected by the change. Such changes must be implemented**
51 **in a timely manner so as not to interfere with synod or district convention cycles.**

52 e-f. The Board of Directors shall in all actions be accountable to the district convention.
53

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6 **RESOLUTION 2-02:** To Allow Amendments to the District Bylaws to be Adopted Provisionally
7 Referencing Overture 2-02

8
9 **RATIONALE:**

10
11 Because all amendments to the district’s bylaws must be approved by the Synod’s Commission on Constitutional
12 Matters before they can be implemented, the procedure that our district has followed is that proposed amendments
13 to the bylaws are submitted to the Commission on Constitutional Matters months in advance of the district
14 convention; then, once tweaks have been made and final approval granted, the amendments are brought before the
15 district convention for their approval. The downside of this procedure is that no last minute changes can be made
16 to resolutions presenting proposed amendments to our bylaws. Instead, such resolutions have to be voted up or
17 down without alteration.

18
19 The 2016 Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod wisely recognized the flaw in this procedure and
20 revised the Synod’s bylaws to allow districts to make changes to their bylaws at their convention on the provision
21 that the revised bylaws will not go into force until and unless the Commission on Constitutional Matters grants their
22 approval. If the commission decides that some additional tweaks need to be made before the bylaws can go into
23 force, a district’s board of directors is authorized to make the revisions.

24
25 Regardless of whether this procedure is stated explicitly in the district’s bylaws, the new provisions of Synod’s bylaw
26 3.9.2.2.3 (b) still apply. Nonetheless, it is desirable that the district bylaws reflect the language of the Synod’s bylaws
27 as much as possible and that procedures available to a district convention be stated in its bylaws. Therefore, be it
28

29 **RESOLVED:** That bylaw VI be amended to read as follows: Amendments to the bylaws may be made by using
30 one of two procedures:

- 31 1. Amendments may be made by conventions of the district.
- 32 a. They shall be presented in writing to a convention of the district.
 - 33 b. They shall be specified as bylaw amendments and be considered by a convention floor committee.
 - 34 c. They shall be examined by the district Constitution Committee prior to presentation to the convention to
35 determine that they are not in conflict with the Bylaws of the Northern Illinois District.
 - 36 d. They shall be reviewed and approved by the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod prior to
37 presentation to the convention to determine that they are not in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the
38 Synod.
 - 39 e. They shall be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.

40 **f. If discussion at a district convention gives rise to a proposed amendment to the bylaws that was**
41 **not pre-approved by the Commission on Constitutional Matters, then the procedure of Synod Bylaw**
42 **3.9.2.2.3 (b) shall apply. The district in convention may vote to amend its articles or bylaws provided the**
43 **resolution is contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The amended articles**
44 **or bylaws become effective immediately upon, and only upon, approval of the Commission on**
45 **Constitutional Matters. Should the Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted**
46 **changes, the district Board of Directors by a two-thirds vote may modify the amendments to comply with**
47 **the Commission on Constitutional Matters requirements.**

- 48
49 2. In exceptional circumstances and upon the direction of a convention of the district or Synod, amendments may
50 be made by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors of the district.
- 51 a. Such amendments to the bylaws shall be necessary to implement resolutions adopted by a convention of
52 the district or Synod.

1 b. Such amendments shall be drafted by the Secretary of the district and shall receive, before presentation to
2 the district board of directors, review and approval by the Constitution Committee of the district and by the
3 Commission on Constitutional Matters of Synod.
4
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6

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6 **RESOLUTION 2-03:** To Clarify some Language in the District Bylaws
7 Referencing Overture 2-03
8

9 **WHEREAS,** The Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters, in reviewing other proposed bylaw changes,
10 noted that our bylaws would be better served by cross referencing the Synod’s bylaws in the district’s bylaw
11 III.D.2.b, and
12

13 **WHEREAS,** An old reference to the Synod’s Handbook in district bylaw V.B.5 needed to be updated; therefore be
14 it
15

16 **RESOLVED,** That the duties of the Constitution Committee in bylaw III.D.2.b be amended to read as follows:
17 Embody in the District Bylaws such changes as are necessitated by convention actions of the district or the
18 Synod. **Changes to a district’s bylaws require either adoption by the convention or an action of the**
19 **board of directors consonant with LCMS Bylaw 7.1.2.**
20 And be it finally
21

22 **RESOLVED,** That bylaw V.B.5 be amended to read as follows: The convention shall ratify the election of the
23 circuit visitors in the manner set forth in the Handbook of the Synod (5.2.2 [g]-[h])
24
25
26
27

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7 **RESOLUTION 2-04:** To Divide Electoral Circuit 13 into Two Visitation Circuits
8 Referencing Overture 2-08
9

10 **WHEREAS,** Synod Bylaw 3.1.2.a states that “An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent
11 visitation circuits, as shall be determined by the district board of directors on the basis of the following
12 requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent from 7 to 20 member congregations, involving an aggregate
13 confirmed membership ranging from 1,500 to 10,000”; and
14

15 **WHEREAS,** The 2017 special district convention formed electoral circuits in such a way that they would meet the
16 requirements of Synod bylaws, but created some circuits that contain too many congregations for one circuit visitor
17 to effectively serve; and
18

19 **WHEREAS,** The congregations that will form circuit 13 effective June 1, 2018 met on November 18th and agreed
20 that it should be divided into two visitation circuits in the following way:
21

22 Circuit 13 A
23 Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL
24 Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL
25 Hope Lutheran Church, Countryside, IL
26 Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hodgkins, IL
27 Zion Lutheran Church, Summit, IL
28 Grace Lutheran Church, Western Springs, IL
29

Circuit 13 B
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Burbank, IL
Mount Greenwood Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL
Faith Lutheran Church, Oak Lawn, IL
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Oak Lawn, IL
Zion Lutheran Church, Oak Lawn, IL
Grace Lutheran Church, Willow Springs, IL
Zion Lutheran Church, Lyons, IL

30
31 therefore be it
32

33 **RESOLVED,** That electoral circuit 13 be divided into two visitation circuits as proposed above.
34
35
36

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6 **RESOLUTION 2-05:** To Declare the Reverend Dan Gilbert, President Emeritus of the Northern Illinois District
7 of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
8 Referencing Overture 2-04
9

10 **WHEREAS,** The Reverend Dan Gilbert has served The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for 40 years and the
11 Northern Illinois District for 35 years with the past 12 years as our District President, and
12

13 **WHEREAS,** in recent times previous district presidents have been designated “President Emeritus” upon their
14 retirement, therefore be it
15

16 **RESOLVED,** that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District thank God for His servant Dan; and be it
17 further
18

19 **RESOLVED,** that the NID declare the Reverend Dan Gilbert to be District President Emeritus; and be it finally
20

21 **RESOLVED,** that the Northern Illinois District gathered in convention stand and give praise to God by singing
22 the Common Doxology.
23
24

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7 **RESOLUTION 2-06:** To Make the Term Limit for the Office of District President Five Terms
8 Referencing Overture 2-05
9

10 **WHEREAS,** the service of the District President is very specific to that office, and
11

12 **WHEREAS,** the office of the District President requires deep and broad knowledge and wisdom for many specific
13 aspects and contexts of the life of the church, and
14

15 **WHEREAS,** district presidents usually grow in experiences for these specific aspects continually throughout their
16 years of service, and
17

18 **WHEREAS,** the members of the District are better served as the district president matures in his skills and
19 knowledge, and
20

21 **WHEREAS,** new district presidents frequently consult with more experienced district presidents who have served
22 longer and seek their advice thus serving the Synod at large, and
23

24 **WHEREAS,** every three years the District in convention may elect a different district president rather than the
25 incumbent, therefore be it
26

27 **RESOLVED,** that the term limit of District President be changed from four terms to five with the following bylaw
28 change.
29

30 V. D. Limitation of Terms: No individual may hold the same elective office for more than three consecutive
31 terms of three years each, with the exception of the President who may serve ~~four~~ **five** consecutive terms of
32 three years each. Service for a period of one-half or more of an expired term shall be counted as a full term
33 for purposes of term limitations.
34
35
36

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7 **RESOLUTION 2-07:** To Establish a Task Force On Stewardship District Resources
8 Referencing Overture 2-06
9

10 **WHEREAS,** it is our responsibility as God’s people to be good stewards of the gifts and resources our Lord has
11 given us, and
12

13 **WHEREAS,** the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has seen declines in both the
14 number of congregations and in total membership in recent decades, and
15

16 **WHEREAS,** demographic data suggests that this decline will continue for some time, and
17

18 **WHEREAS,** it is our responsibility to plan for the future, and
19

20 **WHEREAS,** it is often helpful to have individuals examine organizational structure who are not part of that
21 structure, therefore be it
22

23 **RESOLVED,** that the current District President by May 15, 2018, establish a Task Force to examine stewardship
24 of District resources, and be it further
25

26 **RESOLVED,** that said Task Force be composed of three members of the Board of Directors, three laypersons not
27 on the Board of Directors with experience and expertise in large organizations and management, and three parish
28 pastors and three Commissioned workers with extensive familiarity with the District that do not hold office in the
29 District, and be it further
30

31 **RESOLVED,** that among the questions the Task Force should examine but not be limited to are the following:
32 1. The need for a full time or part time District President
33 2. Ways in which volunteers and circuit visitors may be utilized to carry out the functions currently done by District
34 staff.
35 3. The stewardship of maintaining the current District Office Building.
36 4. The potential partnership in sharing resources with neighboring districts and, be it further
37

38 **RESOLVED,** that the Task Force shall issue a report to be communicated throughout the District at least one year
39 prior to the next District Convention, and be it finally
40

41 **RESOLVED,** that the Task Force recommendations be presented to the Board of Directors for any actions the
42 Board deems appropriate."
43
44
45

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7 **RESOLUTION 2-08:** To Care for the Members of the Body of Christ through Fraternal Communication
8 Referencing Overture 2-07
9

10 **WHEREAS**, though many members, we are all one body in Christ (Romans 12:5); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, we are gathered in over 200 congregations in our District, and over 6,000 in our Synod; all of these
13 congregations matter, and every member of the body of Christ matters; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, an absent member is a missing member of the body of Christ and the loss is felt by all of those in the
16 body; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, for the sake of pastoral care, for good order, for church discipline, and as a matter of fraternity in the
19 body of Christ, the shepherds called to serve each of these congregations need and ought to know when their
20 absent members are regularly attending other congregations, or even have transferred to other congregations; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, it sometimes happens that individuals fail to take the appropriate steps to transfer their membership
23 from one congregation to another; therefore be it
24

25 **RESOLVED**, that as a matter of Christian love for the individual concerned, for the prior congregation and pastor,
26 and for the receiving congregation, each pastor in the District seek to follow these practices in dealing with
27 members of another congregation of the Synod who regularly attend services or seek pastoral care outside their
28 home congregation:

29 1) to speak with the individual and ascertain why the individual is not attending services and seeking pastoral care
30 within the body of the home congregation;

31 2) to promptly notify the pastor of the home congregation to advise the home pastor of the situation and determine
32 if any disciplinary or other spiritual care situation exists, giving due respect to the discipline of the home
33 congregation if such exists;

34 3) where the individual cannot adequately be cared for by the home congregation (e.g., the individual has moved a
35 significant distance), to encourage the individual to transfer membership to the receiving congregation;

36 4) if an individual seeks transfer of membership, to confirm that the individual is a member in good standing of the
37 home congregation, and to ensure that the individual properly requests transfer from the home congregation prior
38 to taking the individual into membership at the receiving congregation; and be it finally,
39

40 **RESOLVED**, that the District President communicate the foregoing steps through appropriate resources
41 throughout the District.
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52

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6 **OMNIBUS Resolution**

7
8 Omnibus B – Overture 2-08 To Allow Fall Pastoral Conferences to Submit Overtures to the District Convention
9 *(The deadline for receiving overtures is established not by the district, but by the Synod per its bylaws 3.1.6 and*
10 *4.2.1.a.)*

11
12
13
14