

Resolutions



LCMS Northern Illinois District 2025 Convention Resolutions

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1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
4 March 7-8, 2025
5

6 **RESOLUTION: 1-01** TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR FRANZ PIEPER AND F.C.D.
7 WYNEKEN

8 Referencing Overture 1-21
9

10 **WHEREAS**, June 27, 2027 is the 175th birthday of Franz Pieper; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, May 4, 2026 is the 150th anniversary of the death of Friedrich Conrad
13 Dietrich Wyneken; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, both these men made a tremendous impact as pastors, theologians, and
16 presidents of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS); and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, Wyneken in particular helped to organize the confessional Lutherans in
19 the United States, aroused tremendous support for Lutheran mission work in America
20 through his *The Distress of the German Lutherans in North America*, did tremendous
21 mission work in all of the congregations he served, and did much to enshrine a
22 commitment to missions in the LCMS; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Pieper in particular served on the Synodical Conference’s Board of Colored
25 Missions from 1882 until 1899 when he became LCMS president, wrote *Christian*
26 *Dogmatics*, served as the primary author of *A Brief Statement*, and wrote numerous
27 other important theological works; and
28

29 **WHEREAS**, the author of Hebrews instructs us, “Remember your leaders, those who
30 spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate
31 their faith.” (13:7);
32

33 Therefore be it
34

35 **RESOLVED**, that the convention give thanks to God for the life and work of Franz
36 Pieper and F.C.D. Wyneken; and be it finally
37

38 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations and pastors of the Northern Illinois District of the
39 LCMS be encouraged to study the life and work of these men in circuit meetings,
40 pastoral conferences, lay gatherings, and their own private study.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5
 6 **RESOLUTION: 1-02 TO STATE RELIGIOUS OBJECTION TO GOVERNMENT**
 7 **INTERFERENCE OF PARENTS' DUTY**
 8 Referencing Overtures 1-01, 1-02, 1-03, 1-04

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, the Small Catechism confesses that God has created and gives to each
 11 person “my body”; and

12
 13 **WHEREAS**, the body of the baptized is the temple of the Holy Spirit and belongs not to
 14 government or its institutions (such as schools), but to God (1 Corinthians 6:19); and

15
 16 **WHEREAS**, the Fourth Commandment, as explained in the Large Catechism, places
 17 all authority over a child on the parents of that child, so that we confess, “All authority
 18 flows and is born from the authority of parents. Where a father is unable alone to
 19 educate his child, he uses a schoolmaster to teach the child...So all whom we call
 20 ‘masters’ are in a place of parents and must get their power and authority to govern
 21 from them” (para 141-142; emphasis added); and

22
 23 **WHEREAS**, the Scriptures (and the Catechism) do not limit parental authority to a
 24 particular age, but state that God has given authority to parents over all children who
 25 live under their roof; and

26
 27 **WHEREAS**, government in our society – at federal, state, and local levels – has
 28 attempted or may attempt to step between children and their parents (impeding the
 29 parents’ duty to raise their children in faith and life of the Christian confession) in
 30 various ways, including but not limited to

- 31
- 32 • Laws that mandate vaccines for children even without parents’ approval
 - 33 • Laws that give children sex-change operations or medical procedures for
 - 34 “transitioning” minors without parents’ approval
 - 35 • Laws that permit minors to get abortions without parents’ approval
 - 36 • Laws that label parents who refuse their minor children's vaccines, sex-change
 - 37 operations and procedures, or abortions as engaging in child abuse
 - 38 • Laws that remove children from the custody of parents who refuse their minor
 - 39 children's vaccines, sex-change operations and procedures, or abortions
 - 40 • School policies that teach children various godless social agendas without
 - 41 parents’ approval
 - 42 • School policies that mandate vaccines for children even without parents’
 - 43 approval
 - 44 • School policies that encourage children to “transition” or use gender-confusing
 - 45 language without parents’ approval;
- 46



47 Therefore be it

48

49 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District boldly, unequivocally, and plainly state
50 its objection on the grounds of religious belief to any federal, state, local law, mandate,
51 and any school policy, that imposes the government's will over the parents' duty to
52 raise their children or that aids the minor child's will to be kept secret from the
53 parents; and be it further

54

55 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District state plainly its willingness to
56 recommend resources for any parents within sister congregations of the Northern
57 Illinois District who face the challenge of government laws or school policies interfering
58 with parents' duties to raise their children in the fear of the Lord; and be it further

59

60 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge The Lutheran Church—Missouri
61 Synod in convention and each of her districts to boldly, unequivocally, and plainly
62 state their unconditional agreement with this religious objection to government
63 interference in the Christian parents' duty to raise their children in the faith and life of
64 the Christian confession; and be it further

65

66 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge The Lutheran Church—Missouri
67 Synod and each of her districts to boldly, unequivocally, and plainly denounce any
68 teachings of any church bodies which seek to advocate for or tolerate the government
69 interfering with parents' duties in raising their children in the Christian faith and life
70 as unbiblical; and be it finally

71

72 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge her congregations and all their
73 families to benefit their children with the use of Lutheran schools or Lutheran
74 homeschools, that the parents may safeguard their God-given responsibility, and that
75 the children may be protected from such government overreach and godless agendas
76 and may be raised in the proper fear of the Lord.



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
4 March 7-8, 2025

5
6 **RESOLUTION:1-03** ADDRESSING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM IN THE AMERICAN
7 CONTEXT

8 Referencing Overtures 1-24, 1-26

9
10 **WHEREAS**, Scripture does not endorse or prescribe one form of government over
11 another since the fall of ancient Israel; and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, there is much fear and misunderstanding of what is and is not Christian
14 Nationalism due to public discourse and this causes much confusion within our
15 synod; and

16
17 **WHEREAS**, pastors, other church workers, and laity have many questions on this
18 topic and seek to live out their faith in God pleasing ways especially in their vocations
19 as citizens;

20
21 Therefore be it

22
23 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District requests that The Lutheran Church
24 Missouri Synod in the 2026 national convention to instruct the Commission on
25 Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) thoroughly study and publish a report on
26 Christian Nationalism detailing various forms, working definitions, and its relation to
27 our Lutheran understanding of the two kingdoms.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025

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 6 **RESOLUTION: 1-04 TO CHAMPION GOD’S GOOD GIFTS OF SEXUALITY AND**
 7 **MARRIAGE**

8 Referencing Overtures 1-05, 1-06

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, God created us “male and female” (Gen 1:27), and Jesus Himself extols
 11 the Father’s creation of these two distinct and complementary sexes “from the
 12 beginning of creation” (Mt 19:4; Mk 10:6), and

13
 14 **WHEREAS**, marriage – the union of one biological man and one biological woman – is
 15 an honorable estate instituted and blessed by God in Paradise before humanity’s fall
 16 into sin (Gen 2:18-24), and sexual intimacy is intended by God solely within the union
 17 of husband and wife in marriage (1 Cor 7:2; Heb 13:4), and

18
 19 **WHEREAS**, marriage is a reflection of the union between Jesus Christ and His bride,
 20 the Church (Eph 5:22-33), and a husband is called daily to sacrifice himself for the
 21 sake of his wife and family rather than domineering over them, and a wife is called to
 22 support and respect her husband rather than undermining him, and

23
 24 **WHEREAS**, sexual immorality is listed first among “the works of the flesh” (Gal 5:19),
 25 something that “must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints” (Eph
 26 5:3) and therefore is to be “put to death” (Col 3:5), and every type of sexual immorality
 27 – including (but not limited to) premarital sex, cohabitation, adultery, marital strife,
 28 unbiblical divorce, sexual abuse, homosexuality, bisexuality, bestiality, incest,
 29 pornography, prostitution, changing one’s biological sex, and the redefinition of
 30 marriage – is sinful and offensive to God (Ex 20:14; Rom 1:26-28; 1 Cor 5:11; 6:9-10;
 31 6:18; cf. Sixth Commandment) and “those who do such things will not inherit the
 32 kingdom of God” (Gal 5:21), and

33
 34 **WHEREAS**, with the Spirit’s help we “flee from sexual immorality” (1 Cor 6:18; cf. 1
 35 Thess 4:3), confess our sins, and believe Christ’s all-atoning sacrifice for sinners on
 36 the cross, and our gracious God “is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to
 37 cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 Jn 1:9) for Christ’s sake; and

38
 39 **WHEREAS**, with the purpose of encouraging such holy living, confessional resources
 40 are available from ministries including but not limited to DOXOLOGY (*In HIS Image*
 41 conferences), Lutherans for Life (*Friends for Life* podcast), and Concordia Publishing
 42 House (*Male & Female: Embracing Your Role in God’s Design*);

43
 44 Therefore be it

45
 46 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District confess clearly and
 47 boldly in convention and in congregational life that all sins against God’s good gifts of



48 sexuality and marriage are destructive to faith and deserving of God's wrath and
49 eternal punishment; and be it further

50

51 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of Northern Illinois District in convention
52 commend The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its Districts for providing
53 resources and educational opportunities to aid the church in best stewarding God's
54 gifts of sexuality and marriage and urge this to continue; and be it further

55

56 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District, their pastors, and
57 other called workers who support the pastoral office clearly and boldly call all who are
58 guilty of sexual immorality to repent of such sins, to desire amendment of life, and to
59 look in faith to Jesus Christ as the One who died on the cross to save sinners; and be
60 it further

61

62 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District and their pastors
63 clearly and boldly proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ forgives the penitent in
64 their preaching, teaching, and regularly offering private confession and absolution, to
65 fill their ears with consolation and comfort from God's holy Word, and be it finally

66

67 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District collaborate in
68 ministries (such as marriage retreats, youth gatherings, counseling networks,
69 conferences, sharing of resources, church worker training, etc.) intended for those who
70 commit sexual sins and those hurt by sexual sin that all might live in conformity to
71 God's will, find comfort in His healing Gospel promises, and that all of us live in our
72 holy calling as His children.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
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6 **RESOLUTION: 1-05** TO AFFIRM THE NEED FOR OPEN CHURCHES DURING TIMES
 7 OF PLAGUE, PESTILENCE AND PANDEMIC
 8 Referencing Overtures 1-07, 1-08, 1-09, 1-10
 9

10 **WHEREAS**, our Lord Jesus Christ instituted His Supper for the forgiveness of sins,
 11 refreshment, comfort and strength (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:15
 12 20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; LC V 72); and
 13

14 **WHEREAS**, our Lord was physically present with His disciples at His institution of His
 15 Supper and personally administered the elements to them, and likewise He calls His
 16 undershepherds, namely the men whom He called to the Office of the Public Ministry,
 17 to administer His supper in person to His people (John 19 20:22-23; AC V; AC VII; AC
 18 XXIV 30); and
 19

20 **WHEREAS**, we must therefore, “never think of the Sacrament as something harmful
 21 from which we had better flee, but as a pure, wholesome, comforting remedy that
 22 grants salvation and comfort” (LC V 68); and
 23

24 **WHEREAS**, we are commanded by God to gather to receive God’s Word and
 25 Sacrament (SC Third Commandment) and “not neglect meeting together” (Hebrews
 26 10:25), and
 27

28 **WHEREAS**, historically the Church has thus recognized herself as essential during
 29 times of plague (notable examples including the plague of Alexandria in 250 AD, where
 30 the Christians who remained to tend for the sick were considered martyrs, and the
 31 1527 plague at Wittenberg, where Martin Luther recommends in his letter that some
 32 in the pastoral office must remain to serve the sick and dying); and
 33

34 **WHEREAS**, historically, even in times of plague, pastors have brought Absolution,
 35 God’s Word, and Sacrament to the sick and shut-ins when they were unable to be
 36 present at church and were near death; and
 37

38 **WHEREAS**, during the recent Covid pandemic and due to concerns of disease spread
 39 and lack of personal protection equipment, pastors and churches were forbidden to
 40 visit those who were hospitalized and in long-term residential care facilities; and
 41

42 **WHEREAS**, we are to be subject to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1), yet where
 43 the authorities contradict God’s Word, we are to obey Him rather than men (Acts
 44 5:29); and
 45

46 **WHEREAS**, the 2023 Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)
 47 affirmed in-person communion (Resolution 5-08A) and encouraged in-person worship



48 (Resolution 4-06) and directed the Commission on Theology and Church Relations
49 (CTCR) to “produce a study of the Third Commandment that addresses...its
50 application to Christian worship today”;

51
52 Therefore be it

53
54 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge that where a man ordained to the
55 Office of the Public Ministry is present and available, congregations should continue
56 the in-person administration of the Lord’s Supper, even during times of plague; and be
57 it further

58
59 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge congregations, using God’s gifts of
60 science and reason, to take steps to lessen fear and risk, while not interfering with the
61 administration of the Lord’s Supper as He instituted it; and be it further

62
63 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District affirm that the bringing of Word and
64 Sacrament to the sick and shut-in is essential to his/her well-being, and the pastor,
65 as a physician of souls, should have the same visiting rights and responsibilities as for
66 the health care worker; and be it further

67
68 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District affirm that, in Christian freedom
69 (Galatians 5:1) and based on local realities, some congregations may choose to
70 temporarily and briefly suspend public gatherings during times of plague, but that the
71 deliverance of Word and Sacrament must continue; and be it further

72
73 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District affirm that, while respecting God’s
74 vocational calls to local political leaders and public health authorities, she strongly
75 opposes the forced closings of congregations in times of plague, as well as the banning
76 of contact with those hospitalized or in long-term care facilities, as a contradiction of
77 God’s Word and thus outside the Divinely-ordained bounds of their offices in His
78 Kingdom of the Left; and be it finally

79
80 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District commend the Lutheran Center for
81 Religious Liberty for their advocacy on this and other such concerns, as well as the
82 2023 LCMS Convention for Resolutions 5-08A and 4-06, and the CTCR for their
83 continued work on their study of the Third Commandment.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025
 5

6 **RESOLUTION: 2-01 TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO SEEK WELLNESS FOR**
 7 **THEIR CHURCH WORKERS**

8 Referencing Overtures 2-07, 2-09, 2-14
 9

10 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has created humanity in His image (Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis
 11 9:6) and has created us anew in Christ Jesus (II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:29); and
 12

13 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord promises to supply us with all we need to support this body and
 14 life (Luther’s Large and Small Catechisms, The Creed, Explanation to the First Article;
 15 The Lord’s Prayer, Explanation to the Fourth Petition); and
 16

17 **WHEREAS**, The Northern Illinois District in convention has affirmed “Wellness” as one
 18 of its three mission priorities and has actively pursued this emphasis through the
 19 service of its Wellness Committee and Church Worker Care Team; and
 20

21 **WHEREAS**, Surveys within our synod have revealed a significant percentage of church
 22 professionals greatly suffer in identified areas of wellness as they serve in ministry
 23 (*The Reporter*, January 2017 edition); and
 24

25 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in its 2016 convention resolved to
 26 address church worker wellness matters through our district presidents, circuit
 27 visitors, and congregations (Res. 18- 05); and
 28

29 **WHEREAS**, Sabbaticals can be a vital tool for addressing burnout, allowing church
 30 workers time for rest, renewal, and reconnection with their calling, which benefits
 31 both the worker and their congregation in the long term; and
 32

33 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has developed resources to
 34 provide care for both ordained and commissioned church workers in nine identified
 35 critical areas of wellness: Identity in Christ; Supportive and Encouraging Culture;
 36 Healthy Church, Schools, and Ministries; Finances; Relationships; Caregivers;
 37 Recognition and Connection; Awareness, Resources and Advocacy; and Care Provided
 38 Locally;
 39

40 Therefore be it
 41

42 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District in convention commend congregations
 43 to actively seek the wellness of their church workers, reflecting the value they have for
 44 them and to celebrate them as gifts from our Lord; and be it further
 45

46 **RESOLVED**, The Northern Illinois District in convention encourages congregations to
 47 annually review the salary and benefits they provide to their church workers with the



48 goal of making their workers aware of those benefits, especially those congregations
49 and ministries who provide benefits through Concordia Plan Services; and be it further
50

51 **RESOLVED**, The congregations of our district be encouraged to research and make
52 use of ministries that support the care of church workers such as Grace Place,
53 Doxology, Shepherd's Canyon, *etc.*; and be it further
54

55 **RESOLVED**, The congregations of our district be encouraged to explore the use of
56 sabbaticals for their professional church workers and resources that will support them
57 in this endeavor and be it finally
58

59 **RESOLVED**, That we ask our congregations, schools, and ministries to regularly pray
60 for their church workers and that the Lord would provide more workers for the harvest
61 (Matthew 9).



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
4 March 7-8, 2025

5
6 **RESOLUTION: 2-02** TO ALIGN THE TERM LIMITS OF DISTRICT PRESIDENT AND
7 VICE PRESIDENTS

8 Referencing Overtures 2-01, 2-02, 2-03, 2-04

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the 2022 Convention of the Northern Illinois District increased the term
11 limit for the District President to four (4) terms, and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the term limit for district Vice Presidents is currently set at three (3)
14 terms, and

15
16 **WHEREAS**, District Vice Presidents are experienced and qualified men who may
17 eventually replace an outgoing District President, and a term of service in this
18 leadership role equal to that of the District President might prove beneficial;

19
20 Therefore be it

21
22 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District extend the term limit for district Vice
23 Presidents to four (4) terms.



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
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6 **RESOLUTION: 2-03** TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO COMPLETE ANNUAL
7 REPORTS AND REVIEW GOVERNING DOCUMENTS
8 Referencing Overtures 2-05, 2-06
9

10 **WHEREAS**, God in His Word encourages and admonishes Christians to maintain good
11 order among His people [1 Corinthians 14:40, Hebrews 13:17]; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Confessions encourage good order amongst our humanly
14 agreed upon roles [Ap. XIV]; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the Congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)
17 “agree to provide annual membership and statistical information to the Synod” [LCMS
18 Bylaw 1.3.4.3]; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Illinois District (NID) has one of the lowest rates of annual
21 statistical reporting; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, a condition of membership in the LCMS is to have the congregation’s
24 constitution and bylaws approved by the district board of directors (BOD) [LCMS
25 Bylaw 2.2.1], and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, over the last triennium it has been found that some congregations do not
28 have an approved constitution and bylaws and others have made changes without
29 BOD approval;
30

31 Therefore be it
32

33 **RESOLVED**, that the pastors and congregations of the Northern Illinois District be
34 directed to annually submit accurate reports to the LCMS Office of Rosters and
35 Statistics through the LCMS Information Support Network for Congregations (LISN)
36 portal; and be it further
37

38 **RESOLVED**, that over the next triennium every congregation of the NID contact the
39 district secretary to verify the latest approved version of their constitution and bylaws
40 and if found in need of updating, follow LCMS Bylaw 2.4.1 in the amendment process;
41 and be it finally
42

43 **RESOLVED**, that the NID in convention commend those congregations who annually
44 submit their statistical report and those congregations who have intentionally and
45 regularly reviewed their governing documents.



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 2 The Northern Illinois District
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 6 **RESOLUTION: 2-04** TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR CHURCH WORKERS AND THEIR
 7 SPOUSES
 8 Referencing Overture 2-17

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, The year 2025 will mark the 500th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther’s
 11 marriage to Katherine von Bora on June 13, 1525; and

12
 13 **WHEREAS**, Luther’s marriage helped to reestablish within the Reformation movement
 14 the blessing of marriage among the Christian clergy in the West; and

15
 16 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) resolved at its 2023
 17 Convention,

18
 19 “That the LCMS encourages its districts holding pastoral conferences and/or
 20 conventions in 2025 to help celebrate the anniversary milestone by recognizing the
 21 wedding anniversaries of their pastors and their wives in whatever manner or custom
 22 might be deemed best; and be it further

23
 24 “Resolved, That district presidents and the congregations under their care be urged to
 25 give careful attention and commitment to their congregation’s moral obligation not
 26 only to love their pastor, his wife, and family, but also to provide the salary, housing,
 27 and benefits needed by the pastor to care for his wife and household”;

28
 29 Therefore be it

30
 31 **RESOLVED**, That the president, vice-presidents, and circuit visitors of the Northern
 32 Illinois District make known to all congregations of the NID the 2023 synodical
 33 resolution quoted above; and be it finally

34
 35 **RESOLVED**, That the president, vice-presidents, and circuit visitors of the Northern
 36 Illinois District encourage all NID congregations to honor their church workers and
 37 spouses in a special way in the Year of Our Lord, 2025.



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
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6 **RESOLUTION: 2-05** TO CLARIFY THE PRIOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR
7 THEOLOGICAL FACULTY AND PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS
8 Referencing Overture 2-19
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Appointments to theological faculties at all Synodical universities and
11 seminaries have been subject to the prior approval process since the 2013 Synodical
12 Convention; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, All university and seminary presidential appointments have been subject
15 to the same process since the same Convention; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, The Convention in 2013 amended the bylaws to delegate the responsibility
18 for prior approval to specific groups but did not stipulate how the prior approval
19 process should be carried out; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, This lack of stipulation has led to questions about the prior approval
22 process and the standards used to evaluate candidates; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Trust among brothers and sisters could increase through a more well
25 understood process, relieving any undue criticism of the process and those who carry
26 it out on our behalf;
27

28 Therefore be it
29

30 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District 2025 Convention memorialize the 2026
31 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Convention to request the leadership of The
32 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to publish articles in both *The Lutheran Witness*
33 and *The Reporter* to clarify what the prior approval process is and how it is being
34 carried out.



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
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6 **RESOLUTION: 2-06** TO MODERNIZE THE NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS
7 PROCEDURES OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
8 Referencing Overture 2-13
9

10 **WHEREAS**, The present election process of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
11 (LCMS) provides for the online election of the Synod President prior to the national
12 convention (LCMS Bylaw 3.12) and completion of this process two weeks prior to the
13 national convention, and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Candidacy for First Vice President, Regional Vice-Presidents, and elections
16 of the Synod Board of Directors, Mission Boards, and other elected offices are
17 subsequential to the election of the Synod President and take place at the national
18 convention, and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, This process consumes considerable resources and takes precious time
21 from discussing the business of the Synod in Convention, despite God's command to
22 steward His gifts, and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, Technological advancement and modern communication networks make it
25 possible to complete this process prior to the national convention,
26

27 Therefore be it
28

29 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District (NID) memorialize the LCMS to amend
30 LCMS Bylaw 3.12 to facilitate the election of the First Vice President, Regional Vice
31 Presidents, Synod Board of Directors, Mission Boards, and other elected offices prior
32 to the national convention.



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 2 The Northern Illinois District
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 5

6 **RESOLUTION: 2-07** TO ENCOURAGE THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE
 7 CHURCH THROUGH THE VISITATION OF ECCLESIASTICAL SUPERVISORS
 8 Referencing Overtures 2-16, 2-18, 2-20
 9

10 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has given His Church to extend the Gospel witness into all the
 11 world (Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Peter 2:9-10) and
 12

13 **WHEREAS**, The carrying forth of the Lord’s work in mission and ministry for the local
 14 parish encompasses numerous areas of Christian life including Bible study,
 15 discipleship, stewardship, evangelism, Christian education, care for human need,
 16 etc.,
 17

18 **WHEREAS**, The constitution of our synod addresses a number of these areas of
 19 Christian life in Article III – Objectives in defining the purpose of the Synod, and
 20

21 **WHEREAS**, The Bylaws of the Synod state that “The district president shall, in
 22 accordance with the Constitution of the Synod, in his ministry of ecclesiastical
 23 supervision visit the congregations of this district,” (Bylaw 4.4.4) and
 24

25 **WHEREAS**, The Bylaws of the Synod further stipulate that said ecclesiastical
 26 supervisory visits (done by the district president or the circuit visitors or vice
 27 presidents as he sees fit) are to be conducted in this manner, “He shall come to the
 28 pastor and congregation as a brotherly advisor, reminding them of the joy of serving in
 29 the mission and ministry of the church,” (Bylaw 4.4.4d) and
 30

31 **WHEREAS**, The Bylaws of the Synod further stipulate that at these visits the district
 32 president or his official representative “shall include fraternal discussion in regard to
 33 worship and communion attendance; participation by the congregation in missions
 34 and work of the church at large; the congregation’s evangelism and education
 35 endeavors; its cultivation of sound stewardship principles; all aspects of compensation
 36 for professional church workers; the need for maintenance of purity of doctrine, the
 37 strengthening of the bond of Christian fellowship; and the provision of resources,
 38 opportunities, and assistance so God’s people can grow in their faith, hope, and love”
 39 (Bylaw 4.4.4e),
 40

41 Therefore be it
 42

43 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District commend its district president in the
 44 carrying out of such ecclesial visits to all of our congregations and their pastors, and
 45 be it further
 46

47 **RESOLVED**, that in these visits, the district president, or his official representative,



48 fraternally discuss theological commitment to LCMS teachings with the goal of
49 bringing about more harmony and unity between our churches, and be it further
50

51 **RESOLVED**, that the health and wellness of the ministry and its workers is also
52 discussed, and be it further

53
54 **RESOLVED**, these visits also include a discussion regarding future ministry direction
55 and possible partnerships with other congregations and Recognized Service
56 Organizations and be it further

57
58 **RESOLVED**, that we encourage our pastors and congregations to readily and joyfully
59 receive these ecclesial visits as they are intended for the building up of God's holy
60 people for the carrying out of His mission and ministry, and be it finally

61
62 **RESOLVED**, that the district president, or his representative, shall include progress of
63 these reports annually in official district communication and also in his report to the
64 2028 district convention.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5
 6 **RESOLUTION; 3-01** TO REAFFIRM “WORD, WELLNESS, WITNESS” AS THE
 7 NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT’S MINISTRY FOCUS
 8 Referencing Overture 3-04

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has given us His inspired Word to make us wise for salvation
 11 through faith in Christ Jesus and to equip us for every good work [II Timothy 3:14-17];
 12 and

13
 14 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has blessed us in wellness, giving us our very lives and richly
 15 and daily providing us with all we need to support this body and life. [Luther’s Small
 16 Catechism, The Creed, The First Article Explanation], and

17
 18 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has called us to witness the gift of His grace to the World,
 19 proclaiming the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous
 20 light. [I Peter 2:9]; and

21
 22 **WHEREAS**, The Northern Illinois District in its 60th Convention resolved that “Word,
 23 Wellness, Witness” would be our ministry focus for our work together; and

24
 25 **WHEREAS**, “Word, Wellness, Witness” has served us well, helping to clarify ministry
 26 priorities and setting direction for our common efforts as a district in service to our
 27 Lord and His people;

28
 29 Therefore be it,

30
 31 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District reaffirm the focus of “Word, Wellness,
 32 Witness,” for its work together; and be it further

33
 34 **RESOLVED**, That this focus be commended to the congregations, schools and
 35 ministries of the Northern Illinois District for its use, shaping their local ministry
 36 priorities; and be it finally

37
 38 **RESOLVED**, That we continue to lift up our prayers to our Savior, asking Him to bless
 39 our service together under “Word, Wellness, Witness” to the glory of God the honor of
 40 His name and salvation of all.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025
 5

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-02** TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS AND SCHOOLS OF THE
 7 NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT TO WORK TOGETHER IN MISSION AND MINISTRY
 8 PARTNERSHIPS

9 Referencing Overture 3-02

10
 11 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord compares His Church to a human body in which the various
 12 parts of that body depend on one another and work together to fulfill His purposes for
 13 it (I Corinthians 12:12-27); and
 14

15 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord has equipped His Church with various gifts by the work of the
 16 Holy Spirit for the benefit of the entire body (Romans 12:1-8; I Corinthians 12:4-11,
 17 28-31; Ephesians 4:12-16); and
 18

19 **WHEREAS**, Our confessions remind us that our Lord has called us to a church that,
 20 while gathered around His Word and Sacraments locally, extends beyond the local
 21 congregation (Augsburg Confession Article VII; Luther's Large and Small Catechisms
 22 explanation to the Apostles' Creed Article III); and
 23

24 **WHEREAS**, Today, the churches, schools, and ministries of the Northern Illinois
 25 District face tremendous and numerous challenges, both internally and externally, as
 26 we seek to carry out our Lord's mission in this place; and
 27

28 **WHEREAS**, The Northern Illinois District, in response to these challenges, has been
 29 conducting Partnership Gatherings in our circuits during the past two trienniums to
 30 encourage congregations and ministries to build relationships with each other that we
 31 might assist one another in the carrying out of the work our Lord has given us to do
 32 together in Christian love, unity and strength; and
 33

34 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has produced resources to
 35 encourage and assist congregations to develop partnerships in ministry with one
 36 another;
 37

38 Therefore be it,
 39

40 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District in convention commend congregations,
 41 schools, and ministries to the task of purposefully building healthy relationships with
 42 each other in Christian love; and be it further
 43

44 **RESOLVED**, The Northern Illinois District encourage congregations, schools and
 45 ministries to explore various ways that they might partner together to build one
 46 another up in love and service, to lighten present burdens and carry out the mission of
 47 Jesus among us; and be it finally



48
49 **RESOLVED**, That we entreat our congregations to continually lift up neighboring
50 LCMS ministries by name in our Prayers of the Church and to speak well of sister
51 congregations, schools and ministries to the glory of God, the honor of His name and
52 the salvation of all.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-03** TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD AND ENCOURAGE LUTHERAN
 7 SCHOOLS AND CONGREGATIONS TO CONTINUE WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
 8 Referencing Overture 3-03

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, The Triune God commands that children be taught His Word by their
 11 parents and by the Church (Deut, 4:9-10; 6:5-9; Psalm 78; Matt. 19:13-15; 28:16-20;
 12 Eph. 6:4; 1 Tim. 4:10-11); and

13
 14 **WHEREAS**, Congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have
 15 established early childhood centers, day schools, and high schools to teach the Word
 16 of God, and to assist fathers and mothers in their calling to instruct their children in
 17 the same Word and all godly knowledge; and

18
 19 **WHEREAS**, 2023 synodical resolution 12-04A commended and gave thanks for
 20 Lutheran schools; and

21
 22 **WHEREAS**, Lutheran schools provide a tremendous blessing to their students and
 23 broader communities; and

24
 25 **WHEREAS**, Lutheran parents who homeschool their children also provide a
 26 tremendous blessing to their children and those influenced by them; and

27
 28 **WHEREAS**, many faithful LCMS members teach children in public schools and
 29 provide a tremendous blessings and faithful witness in an environment increasingly
 30 hostile to Christianity and biblical teachings;

31
 32 Therefore be it,

33
 34 **RESOLVED**, That the district in convention commend all educators and leaders in our
 35 NID schools and congregations, giving thanks to God for their faithful service; and be
 36 it further

37
 38 **RESOLVED**, That the district in convention commend all congregation members who
 39 serve in public or non-Lutheran private schools, encourage them to continue being a
 40 light shining in the darkness of an increasingly hostile world, and give thanks to God
 41 for their faithful service; and be it further

42
 43 **RESOLVED**, That all congregations of the district congregations be encouraged in
 44 their continued operation and support of our Lutheran schools; and be it further

45
 46 **RESOLVED**, That all parents who are members of district congregations be
 47 encouraged, where available, to enroll their children in our Lutheran schools; and be it



48 further

49

50 **RESOLVED**, That the pastors and congregations of our district view their schools as
51 the front line of the mission field; and be it further

52

53 **RESOLVED**, That the district in convention give thanks to God for the growth of
54 Lutheran schools, including classical Lutheran schools, micro-schools, homeschools,
55 and all other emerging school models that provide instruction in Lutheran doctrine
56 and godly knowledge; and be it finally

57

58 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the district be encouraged regularly to pray for
59 all schools, their teachers, administrators, staff, and boards, and the welfare of the
60 youth entrusted to their care.



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 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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 5

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-04** TO OFFER THANKS TO GOD FOR OUR LIFE TOGETHER
 7 Referencing Overture 3-01
 8

9 **WHEREAS**, The Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote to the Church in
 10 Ephesus of God the Father, the reign of Christ and His great commitment and on
 11 going concern for His Church, “He put all things under his feet and gave him as head
 12 over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.”
 13 (Ephesians 1:22,23 ESV); and
 14

15 **WHEREAS**, The Apostle Paul, encourages the challenged and sometimes divided
 16 Church in Corinth to “strive to excel in the building up of the church, (I Corinthians
 17 14:12 ESV); and
 18

19 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s own Constitution in the Reason
 20 for Forming of a Synodical Union, states, “Our Lord’s will that the diversity of gifts
 21 should be for the common profit. I Cor. 12:4-31”; and
 22

23 **WHEREAS**, Article III states the Objectives of the Synod, under Scriptures and the
 24 Lutheran Confessions, include, to conserve and promote the unity of the true faith,
 25 strengthen and aid congregations, schools and members in giving bold witness in word
 26 and deed, recruit and train Pastors, teachers and other professional church workers
 27 and assist in their continuing growth, promote harmony in our common confession
 28 of faith, provide ecclesiastical supervision, counsel and care for workers and provide
 29 for the welfare of workers; and
 30

31 **WHEREAS**, Many congregations and individual offer regular prayers and financial
 32 support for the Churchly work of the Northern Illinois District and The Lutheran
 33 Church—Missouri Synod;
 34

35 Therefore be it,
 36

37 **RESOLVED**, That the LCMS Northern Illinois District in Convention offer thanks and
 38 praise to the Triune God for congregations and individuals who are able and
 39 “compelled by the Gospel of Christ”,(II Corinthians 5:14) even in challenging times, to
 40 support the work of Christ through the Northern Illinois District and The Lutheran
 41 Church—Missouri Synod with financial offerings rejoicing that God’s redeemed people
 42 are, “Stronger Together: Co-Workers for the Kingdom of God;” and be it further
 43

44 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District in convention express thanks to
 45 congregations and individuals for financial offerings given to support the “Common
 46 Profit” among us in the Northern Illinois District and The Lutheran Church—Missouri
 47 Synod to the Glory of God, the honor of His Name and that we are always striving



48 “vigorously to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches,
49 communities and the world” (LCMS Mission Statement).



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-05** TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR 150 YEARS OF BLACK
 7 MINISTRY
 8 Referencing Overture 3-05

9
 10 **WHEREAS**, Christ our Lord commissioned His church to make disciples of all nations.
 11 Matthew 28:19-20.

12
 13 **WHEREAS**, Revelation 5:9, 13:7, and 14:6 speak of salvation freely offered and the
 14 proclamation of the Gospel “to every nation and tribe and language and people”; and

15
 16 **WHEREAS**, many other passages of Holy Scripture testify to God’s love for all people
 17 and our obligation to likewise love our neighbors regardless of ethnic, geographic, or
 18 social background; and

19
 20 **WHEREAS**, 2027 marks the 150th anniversary of Black Ministry within The Lutheran
 21 Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) with its establishment at Emmanuel Lutheran
 22 Church, Ft. Wayne, IN at the 1877 convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical
 23 Conference of North America; and

24
 25 **WHEREAS**, the history of Black Ministry within the LCMS as the Rev. Dr. Richard C.
 26 Dickinson aptly put it is one of both “roses and thorns”; and

27
 28 Therefore be it,

29
 30 **RESOLVED**, that the NID celebrate the missionaries, teachers, churches, and schools
 31 involved in this work; and be it further

32
 33 **RESOLVED**, that the NID lament failure to meet the scriptural standards of love for
 34 one another; and be it further

35
 36 **RESOLVED**, that we commend the 2023 NID report on Crossing Thresholds: to Others
 37 mandated by the 2022 NID convention (Resolution 3-03A) and be it further

38
 39 **RESOLVED**, that the NID reaffirms the scriptural condemnation of racism in all its
 40 forms; and be it further

41
 42 **RESOLVED**, that the NID encourage the study of the history of Black Ministry in the
 43 LCMS through books such as Roses and Thorns: The Centennial Edition of Black
 44 Lutheran Missions and Ministry in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and Light in
 45 the Dark Belt: The Story of Rosa Young as Told by Herself, films such as The First
 46 Rosa, and other sources; and be it further

47



48 **RESOLVED**, that able scholars within the LCMS be encouraged to provide an updated
49 history of Black Ministry within the LCMS; and be it further

50

51 **RESOLVED**, that pastors, commissioned ministers, and lay people involved in this
52 work be encouraged to record their reflections and personal accounts for the sake of
53 preserving our knowledge of this important work; and be it further

54

55 **RESOLVED**, that the district in convention memorialize the Synod to adopt this
56 resolution generally as is, at its 2026 convention and that resources be provided to
57 celebrate the 150th anniversary of Black Ministry in the LCMS in 2027.



1 To the 61st Convention of
2 The Northern Illinois District
3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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5

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-06** TO GIVE THANKS FOR 90 YEARS OF THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S
7 MISSIONARY LEAGUE IN THE LCMS NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT
8 Referencing Overture 3-07
9

10 **WHEREAS**, at the 1937 of the Northern Illinois District (NID) of The Lutheran Church
11 —Missouri Synod, the district in convention approved the establishment of the
12 Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) in the district; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the NID LWML has been a tremendous blessing to the church through
15 their prayerful and material support of mission work; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, individual LWML societies provide tremendous other service within their
18 congregations and communities; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, the faithful service of women in the church according to their vocations is
21 a tremendous blessing from God and example to younger women (cf. Titus 2:3-5);
22

23 Therefore be it,
24

25 **RESOLVED**, that the NID in convention commend the district LWML for their faithful
26 service; and be it further
27

28 **RESOLVED**, that the district encourage all women to faithfully serve the church
29 according to their vocations and abilities; and be it finally
30

31 **RESOLVED**, that the convention rise and give thanks to God for the forthcoming 90th
32 anniversary of LWML in the district in 2027 by singing stanzas 1, 4, and 5 of *Praise to*
33 *the Lord , the Almighty* (LSB 790).



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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5
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-07 TO REAFFIRM KIRCHE UND AMT AS OFFICIAL DOCTRINE OF**
 7 **THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD AND REBUKE PASTORS WHO**
 8 **INTERFERE WITH THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A CONGREGATION WITHOUT A**
 9 **PROPER CALL**
 10 Referencing Overture 3-08

11
 12 **Preamble**

13
 14 **WHEREAS**, The first objective of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is to
 15 "Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10) ... "
 16 (Constitution Article III 1), and also to "Provide protection for congregations, pastors,
 17 teachers, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties
 18 and the maintenance of their rights" (Constitution Article III 9); and

19
 20 **WHEREAS**, As a condition of acquiring and holding membership in the Synod, as
 21 stated in Const. Art. VI 3 of the Constitution of the Synod, every congregation and
 22 minister must agree to observe and respect the individual congregation's right to call a
 23 pastor and not interfere with that pastor's proper authority in matters pertaining to
 24 his call, and

25
 26 **WHEREAS**, C.F.W. Walther's *Kirche und Amt*, adopted by the LCMS in Convention as
 27 official doctrine (2001 Synod Convention To Affirm Synod's Official Position on Church
 28 and Ministry RESOLUTION 7-17A), further defends the aforementioned rights and is
 29 explicitly clear that pastors are not to meddle in congregations to which they have no
 30 call or responsibility for ecclesiastical oversight according to the good order of the
 31 church;

32
 33 Therefore be it,

34
 35 **RESOLVED**, That the NID memorialize the Synod in convention to reaffirm these
 36 beliefs, and be it finally

37
 38 **RESOLVED**, That ecclesiastical supervisors fraternally, yet strongly, rebuke any
 39 pastors interfering with the internal affairs of a congregation to which they are not
 40 properly called (retired, called elsewhere, etc.) to preserve the unity of the church's
 41 witness.



1 To the 61st Convention of
 2 The Northern Illinois District
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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5
 6 **OMNIBUS A:**

7 Overture 2-08 TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR CHURCH WORKERS (NID Board of
 8 Directors and NID Staff are addressing this topic on an ongoing basis.)

9
 10 Overture 2-10 TO SUPPORT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO GRADUATES
 11 PURSUING SEMINARY STUDY (NID Board of Directors and NID Staff are addressing
 12 this topic on an ongoing basis.)

13
 14 Overture 3-09 TO ENCOURAGE MEETING AND FELLOWSHIP ACROSS CIRCUITS
 15 (referred to the District President)

16
 17 Overture 3-15 STRENGTHENING FINANCIAL AND MINISTERIAL SUPPORT FOR
 18 URBAN MINISTRY THROUGH DISTRICT AND SUBURBAN PARTNERSHIPS (referred to
 19 the Board of Directors)

20
 21 **OMNIBUS B:**

22 Overture 1-11 TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE THE USE OF GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS AS
 23 A PROPER ELEMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod
 24 Convention 2023 5- 15 *To Uphold Proper Elements and Reverential Administration of*
 25 *the Lord’s Supper*, and the committee has been informed that the subsequent report
 26 by the CTCR will not discourage the use of gluten-free hosts)

27
 28 Overture 1-12 TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE THE USE OF GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS AS
 29 A PROPER ELEMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod
 30 Convention 2023 5- 15 *To Uphold Proper Elements and Reverential Administration of*
 31 *the Lord’s Supper*, and the committee has been informed that the subsequent report
 32 by the CTCR will not discourage the use of gluten-free hosts)

33
 34 Overture 1-13 ESTABLISHING A NEW VOTING STRUCTURE INCLUDING ROSTERED
 35 WORKERS (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen*
 36 *Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019 *Res. 9-17 Report:*
 37 *Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023 *Convention*
 38 *Workbook*)

39
 40 Overture 1-14 TO GRANT COMMISSIONED CHURCH WORKERS THE RIGHT TO
 41 VOTE UNDER BYLAW 3.2.1 c (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-
 42 08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019
 43 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023
 44 *Convention Workbook*)

45
 46 Overture 1-15 RECOGNIZING ROSTERED WORKERS AS LAITY FOR VOTING
 47 PURPOSES (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen*



- 48 *Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions and 2019*
 49 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023
 50 *Convention Workbook*)
 51
- 52 Overture 1-17 ALLOWING WOMEN TO ASIST IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD’S
 53 SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2016 5-14 *To Reaffirm*
 54 *Biblical Teaching on Man and Woman In The Church* and CTCR Report: “The Order of
 55 Creation: Theology, History, Definition” (October, 2022)
 56
- 57 Overture 1-18 TO AFFIRM INSPIRATION AND AUTHORITY OF MARK 16:9-20 (This
 58 has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 5-50 *To Affirm Inspiration and*
 59 *Authority of Mark 16:9-20* which was referred to Omnibus A – Responsibility Assigned
 60 to Others (Commission On Theology And Church Relations) and the CTCR response
 61 “Textual Criticism” (2019)
 62
- 63 Overture 1-19 TO USE ONLY SUSTAINABLE BIBLE TRANSLATIONS (2023 Synod
 64 convention Ov. 4-10 *To Use Only Sustainable Bible Translations* was respectfully
 65 declined by the floor committee because the “Overture does not accurately state
 66 current agreements with Crossway”
 67
- 68 Overture 1-20 TO REJOICE IN THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD BY HIS
 69 CALLED AND ORDAINED SERVANTS (This has been addressed by Synod Convention
 70 1989 35-14 *To Address Appropriate Roles for Women and men in Worship* and CTCR
 71 *Report: “Women in the Church: Scriptural Principles and Ecclesial Practice”*
 72 September, 1985)
 73
- 74 Overture 1-22 TO AFFIRM CONGREGATIONS RIGHT TO ALLOW WOMEN TO ASSIST
 75 IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod
 76 Convention 2016 5-14 *To Reaffirm Biblical Teaching on Man and Woman In The Church*
 77 and CTCR Report: “The Order of Creation: Theology, History, Definition” (October,
 78 2022)
 79
- 80 Overture 1-23 TO PROVIDE THE OPTION OF APPOINTING ONE ORDAINED PASTOR
 81 OR ONE COMMISSIONED MINISTER AS THE ROSTERED VOTING DELEGATE TO
 82 DISTRICT CONVENTION (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-
 83 08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions and 2019*
 84 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023
 85 *Convention Workbook*)
 86
- 87 Overture 1-25 TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF CIRCUIT DELEGATES TO SYNODICAL
 88 CONVENTIONS AND INCLUDE MINISTERS OF RELIGION COMMISSIONED (This has
 89 been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory*
 90 *Delegate Participation at Conventions and 2019 Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting*
 91 *Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023 *Convention Workbook*)
 92
- 93 Overture 3-06 CREATING A THIRD PATHWAY FOR GENERAL PASTORAL COLLOQUY
 94 FOR MEMBERS OF LCMS CONGREGATIONS WHO HAVE GRADUATED WITH AN



95 ACCREDITED MASTERS OF DIVINITY DEGREE FROM A NON-LCMS SEMINARY (the
 96 2023 LCMS Convention passed Resolution 6-03A, especially the 6th resolve, there is an
 97 ongoing study)
 98

99 Overture 3-13 TO GIVE A CLEAR CONFESSION OF THE RESURRECTION IN OUR
 100 FUNERAL PRACTICES (see CTCR report “Cremation and Christian”)
 101

102 **OMNIBUS C:**

103
 104 Overture 1-16 TO GIVE GUIDANCE ON SEPARATION OF FIRST COMMUNION AND
 105 CONFIRMATION (This is address by *Lutheran Service Book: Agenda* (pg. 25)
 106

107 Overture 2-11 TO REVIEW SYNODICAL PROPERTY FOR THE SAKE OF GOOD
 108 STEWARDSHIP (The Synodical channels already in place are best equipped to steward
 109 the Synod’s facilities and structure.)
 110

111 Overture 2-12 TO LOCALIZE AND CENTRALIZE DISTRICT WORK (The Synodical
 112 channels already in place are best equipped to steward the Synod’s facilities and
 113 structure.)
 114

115 Overture 3-10 AFFIRM BAPTISMAL IDENTITY IN CHRIST AND REJECT IDOLATRY OF
 116 HUMAN CHARACTERISTICS (CTCR Feb 1994 report, “Overcoming Racism and
 117 Idolatry in the Church” already addresses this. It is also covered in “Racism: a
 118 Christian Response” (October, 1996). The NID also approved resolution 11-04A, “To
 119 Affirm the Common Humanity of All People and Ethnicities” in 1995 Convention.
 120

121 Overture 3-11 PROTECT THE DIVINE CALL OF MISSIONARIES (Calling missionaries
 122 is the work of LCMS BFIM, see bylaw 3.1.6.2 of Synodical Handbook, congregations
 123 can send this overture directly to Synod convention.)
 124

125 Overture 3-12 TO LET THE WORD, CONFESSIONS, AND LITURGY HAVE FREE
 126 COURSE (This matter should be taken up with CPH.)
 127

128 **OMNIBUS D:**

129
 130 Overture 2-15 TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTION OF UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES BY
 131 SLATE (*Robert’s Rules of Order* state that when bylaws require a vote to be taken by
 132 ballot, this requirement cannot be suspended even by a unanimous vote.)
 133

134 Overture 3-14 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SOUTH
 135 WISCONSIN DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHN WILLE
 136
 137

