

# Resolutions

## Today's Business

### February 21, 2025

Replaced 1-02 with 1-02A

Replaced 1-03 with 1-03A

Replaced 1-04 with 1-04A

Replaced 2-02 with 2-02A

Replaced 2-04 with 2-04A

Replace 2-05 with 2-05A

Replaced 3-02 with 3-02A

Replaced 3-03 with 3-03A

Replaced 3-04 with 3-04A

Replaced 3-05 with 3-05A

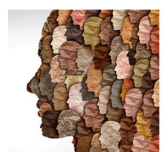
Replaced 3-06 with 3-06A

Replaced 3-07 with 3-07A

Omnibus Explanation Update

Omnibus Rationale Update Ov 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-19, 1-23, 1-25

Overture 2-15 moved from Omnibus D to Omnibus C



## LCMS Northern Illinois District 2025 Convention Resolutions

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1 To the 61<sup>st</sup> 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 175<sup>th</sup> birthday of Franz Pieper; and

11  
 12 **WHEREAS**, May 4, 2026 is the 150<sup>th</sup> 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 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
 2 The Northern Illinois District  
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5  
 6 **RESOLUTION: 1-02A** TO STATE RELIGIOUS OBJECTION TO GOVERNMENT  
 7 INTERFERENCE OF PARENTS' DUTY

8 Referencing Overtures 1-01, 1-02, 1-03, 1-04

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

11  
 12 **WHEREAS**, the body of the baptized is the temple of the Holy Spirit and belongs to  
 13 God and God alone (1 Corinthians 6:19); and

14  
 15 **WHEREAS**, the Fourth Commandment, as explained in the Large Catechism, places  
 16 all authority over a child on the parents of that child, so that we confess, “All authority  
 17 flows and is born from the authority of parents. Where a father is unable alone to  
 18 educate his child, he uses a schoolmaster to teach the child...So all whom we call  
 19 ‘masters’ are in a place of parents and must get their power and authority to govern  
 20 from them” (para 141-142); and

21  
 22 **WHEREAS**, the Scriptures (and the Catechism) do not limit parental authority to a  
 23 particular age, but state that God has given authority to parents over all children who  
 24 live under their roof; and

25  
 26 **WHEREAS**, government in our society—at federal, state, and local levels—may in  
 27 various ways attempt to step between children and their parents (impeding the  
 28 parents’ duty to raise their children in faith and life of the Christian confession),

29  
 30 Therefore be it

31  
 32 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District boldly, unequivocally, and plainly state  
 33 its objection on the grounds of religious belief to any federal, state, local law, mandate,  
 34 and any school policy, that infringes with the parents’ duty to raise their children or  
 35 that aids the minor child in circumventing parental authority; and be it further

36  
 37 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District state plainly its willingness to  
 38 recommend resources for any parents within sister congregations of the Northern  
 39 Illinois District who face the challenge of government laws or school policies negating  
 40 parents’ duties to raise their children in the fear of the Lord; and be it further

41  
 42 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District commend parents for their work in  
 43 raising their children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4) so



44 that they might be found faithful though surrounded by teachings and influences  
45 contrary to the Gospel; and be it further

46  
47 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge her congregations and all their  
48 families to benefit their children with the use of Lutheran schools, Lutheran  
49 homeschools, and other opportunities for Christian education, that the parents may  
50 safeguard their God-given responsibility, and that the children may be protected from  
51 such government overreach and godless agendas and may be raised in the proper fear  
52 of the Lord; and be it finally

53  
54 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District urge The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
55 Synod at the 2026 convention to unequivocally, and plainly state its objection on the  
56 grounds of religious belief to any federal, state, local law, mandate, and any school  
57 policy, that infringes with the parents' duty to raise their children or that aids the  
58 minor child in circumventing parental authority and to provide guidelines for parents  
59 as it relates to this topic.



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

5  
6 **RESOLUTION: 1-03A** 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 direct the Commission on Theology  
25 and Church Relations (CTCR) to thoroughly study and publish a report on Christian  
26 Nationalism detailing various forms, working definitions, and its relation to our  
27 Lutheran understanding of the two kingdoms.



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

5  
 6 **RESOLUTION: 1-04A** 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 is sinful and offensive to God (Ex 20:14; Rom 1:26-28; 1 Cor 5:11; 6:9-10; 6:18; cf.  
 28 Sixth Commandment), and “those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of  
 29 God” (Gal 5:21), and

30  
 31 **WHEREAS**, with the Spirit’s help we “flee from sexual immorality” (1 Cor 6:18; cf. 1  
 32 Thess 4:3), confess our sins, and believe Christ’s all-atoning sacrifice for sinners on  
 33 the cross, and our gracious God “is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to  
 34 cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 Jn 1:9) for Christ’s sake; and

35  
 36 **WHEREAS**, with the purpose of encouraging such holy living, confessional resources  
 37 are available from ministries including but not limited to DOXOLOGY (*In HIS Image*  
 38 conferences), Lutherans for Life (*Friends for Life* podcast), and Concordia Publishing  
 39 House (*Male & Female: Embracing Your Role in God’s Design*);

40  
 41 Therefore be it

42





43 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District confess clearly and  
44 boldly in convention and in congregational life that all sins against God's good gifts of  
45 sexuality and marriage are destructive to faith and deserving of God's wrath and  
46 eternal punishment; and be it further

47  
48 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of Northern Illinois District in convention  
49 commend The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its Districts for providing  
50 resources and educational opportunities to aid the church in best stewarding God's  
51 gifts of sexuality and marriage and urge this to continue; and be it further

52  
53 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District, their pastors, and  
54 other called workers who support the pastoral office clearly and boldly call all who are  
55 guilty of sexual immorality to repent of such sins, to desire amendment of life, and to  
56 look in faith to Jesus Christ as the One who died on the cross to save sinners; and be  
57 it further

58  
59 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District and their pastors  
60 clearly and boldly proclaim the good news that Jesus Christ forgives the penitent in  
61 their preaching, teaching, and regularly offering private confession and absolution, to  
62 fill their ears with consolation and comfort from God's holy Word, and be it finally

63  
64 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Northern Illinois District collaborate in  
65 ministries (such as marriage retreats, youth gatherings, counseling networks,  
66 conferences, sharing of resources, church worker training, etc.) intended for those who  
67 commit sexual sins and those hurt by sexual sin that all might live in conformity to  
68 God's will, find comfort in His healing Gospel promises, and that all of us live in our  
69 holy calling as His children.



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

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 61<sup>st</sup> 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 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
2 The Northern Illinois District  
3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
4 March 7-8, 2025

5  
6 **RESOLUTION: 2-02A** 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 2021 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.  
24

25 and be it finally  
26

27 **RESOLVED**, that NID bylaw V.D be amended to read: ***For the offices of President***  
28 ***and Vice President, no individual may hold the same position for more than***  
29 ***four consecutive terms of three years each. For all other elective offices,*** no  
30 individual may hold the same elective office for more than three consecutive terms of  
31 three years each. Vacancy service for a period of more than one-half of a term shall be  
32 counted as a full term for purposes of term limitations.



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



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

6 **RESOLUTION: 2-04A** TO RECOGNIZE THE MARRIAGE AND HONOR THE SPOUSE  
7 OF CHURCH WORKERS  
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 and his staff, vice-presidents, and circuit visitors of  
36 the Northern Illinois District additionally encourage NID congregations to recognize the  
37 marriage and honor all spouses of church workers in a special way in the Year of Our  
38 Lord, 2025.





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

6 **RESOLUTION: 2-05A** TO CLARIFY THE PRIOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR  
 7 THEOLOGICAL FACULTIES, CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS, AND THE  
 8 SELECTION PROCESS FOR SEMINARY PRESIDENTS

9 Referencing Overture 2-19  
 10

11 **WHEREAS**, Appointments to theological faculties at all Synodical universities and  
 12 seminaries are subject to the prior approval process (LCMS Handbook 2023 bylaws  
 13 3.10.5.7.3 and 3.10.6.9.2); and  
 14

15 **WHEREAS**, All appointments of the president of each Concordia University are subject  
 16 to the prior approval process (LCMS Handbook 2023 bylaw 3.10.6.8.2); and  
 17

18 **WHEREAS**, All seminary presidential appointments are subject to a selection process  
 19 (LCMS Handbook 2023 bylaw 3.10.5.6.2); and  
 20

21 **WHEREAS**, The aforementioned bylaws delegate the responsibility for prior approval  
 22 to specific groups, and  
 23

24 **WHEREAS**, The bylaws related to theological faculty (3.10.5.7.3 and 3.10.6.9.2)  
 25 include the phrase “and shall include a thorough theological review”, and  
 26

27 **WHEREAS**, The lack of a comprehensive definition of the scope of the prior approval  
 28 process beyond a “thorough theological review” has led to questions among members  
 29 of the synod; and  
 30

31 **WHEREAS**, Trust among brothers and sisters could increase through a more well  
 32 understood process, relieving any undue criticism of the process and those who carry  
 33 it out on our behalf;  
 34

35 Therefore be it  
 36

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



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

5  
 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.



1 To the 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
 2 The Northern Illinois District  
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
 4 March 7-8, 2025  
 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 61<sup>st</sup> 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
 2 The Northern Illinois District  
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
 4 March 7-8, 2025  
 5

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-02A** 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 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
 2 The Northern Illinois District  
 3 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
 4 March 7-8, 2025

5  
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-03A** TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD AND ENCOURAGE LUTHERAN  
 7 SCHOOLS 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.



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

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-04A** TO OFFER THANKS TO GOD FOR CONGREGATIONS AND  
 7 INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTING MINISTRY THROUGH FINANCIAL OFFERINGS  
 8 Referencing Overture 3-01  
 9

10 **WHEREAS**, The Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote to the Church in  
 11 Ephesus of God the Father, the reign of Christ and His great commitment and on-  
 12 going concern for His Church, “He put all things under his feet and gave him as head  
 13 over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.”  
 14 (Ephesians 1:22,23 ESV); and  
 15

16 **WHEREAS**, The Apostle Paul, encourages the challenged and sometimes divided  
 17 Church in Corinth to “strive to excel in the building up of the church, (I Corinthians  
 18 14:12 ESV); and  
 19

20 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s own Constitution in the Reason  
 21 for Forming of a Synodical Union, states, “Our Lord’s will that the diversity of gifts  
 22 should be for the common profit. I Cor. 12:4-31”; and  
 23

24 **WHEREAS**, Article III states the Objectives of the Synod, under Scriptures and the  
 25 Lutheran Confessions, include, to conserve and promote the unity of the true faith,  
 26 strengthen and aid congregations, schools and members in giving bold witness in word  
 27 and deed, recruit and train Pastors, teachers and other professional church workers  
 28 and assist in their continuing growth, promote harmony in our common confession  
 29 of faith, provide ecclesiastical supervision, counsel and care for workers and provide  
 30 for the welfare of workers; and  
 31

32 **WHEREAS**, Many congregations and individual offer regular prayers and financial  
 33 support for the work of the Northern Illinois District and The Lutheran Church—  
 34 Missouri Synod;  
 35

36 Therefore be it,  
 37

38 **RESOLVED**, That the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
 39 Synod in Convention offer thanks and praise to the Triune God for congregations and  
 40 individuals who are able and “compelled by the Gospel of Christ” (II Corinthians 5:14),  
 41 even in challenging times, to support the work of Christ through the Northern Illinois  
 42 District and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with financial offerings rejoicing



43 that God’s redeemed people are, “Stronger Together: Co-Workers for the Kingdom of  
44 God;” and be it further

45

46 **RESOLVED**, That The Northern Illinois District in convention express thanks to  
47 congregations and individuals for financial offerings given to support the “Common  
48 Profit” among us in the Northern Illinois District and The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
49 Synod to the Glory of God, the honor of His Name and that we are always striving  
50 “vigorously to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches,  
51 communities and the world” (LCMS Mission Statement).



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

5  
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-05A** 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 150<sup>th</sup> 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 To Affirm the Common  
 38 Humanity of All People and Ethnicities (Resolution 11-04A), adopted by the Synod in  
 39 convention in 2019, and be it further

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

43



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

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

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

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



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

6 **RESOLUTION: 3-06A** TO GIVE THANKS FOR 90 YEARS OF LWML IN NID  
7 Referencing Overture 3-07  
8

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

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

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

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

22 Therefore be it,  
23

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

27 **RESOLVED**, that the district encourage all women to faithfully serve the church  
28 according to their vocations and abilities.



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

5  
 6 **RESOLUTION: 3-07A** TO ENCOURAGE PASTORS TO HONOR THEIR OWN CALL  
 7 Referencing Overture 3-08

8  
 9 **WHEREAS**, The first objective of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is  
 10 to "Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10) ... "  
 11 (Constitution Article III 1), and also to "Provide protection for congregations, pastors,  
 12 teachers, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the  
 13 maintenance of their rights" (Constitution Article III 9); and

14  
 15 **WHEREAS**, As a condition of acquiring and holding membership in the Synod, as  
 16 stated in Const. Art. VI 3 of the Constitution of the Synod, every congregation and  
 17 minister must agree to observe and respect the individual congregation's right to  
 18 call a pastor and not interfere with that pastor's proper authority in matters  
 19 pertaining to his call, and

20  
 21 **WHEREAS**, C.F.W. Walther's *Kirche und Amt*, adopted by the LCMS in Convention as  
 22 official doctrine (2001 Synod Convention To Affirm Synod's Official Position on Church  
 23 and Ministry RESOLUTION 7-17A), further defends the aforementioned rights and is  
 24 explicitly clear that pastors are not to meddle in congregations to which they have  
 25 no call or responsibility for ecclesiastical oversight according to the good order of  
 26 the church;

27  
 28 Therefore be it,

29  
 30 **RESOLVED**, That the NID memorialize the Synod in its 2026 convention to reaffirm  
 31 these beliefs, and be it finally

32  
 33 **RESOLVED**, That ecclesiastical supervisors fraternally, yet strongly, rebuke any  
 34 pastors (retired, called elsewhere, etc.) interfering with the internal affairs of a  
 35 congregation to which they are not properly called to preserve the unity of the church's  
 36 witness.



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

6 **Notation from Standing Rules regarding Omnibus A, B, C & D:**

7 Prior to the convention, Floor Committees submitted certain overtures for Omnibus A,  
 8 B, C, and D consideration. The secretary consolidated them into one resolution for  
 9 each category. The Floor Committee used Synod rules.

10  
 11 **OMNIBUS A: WHEN CERTAIN OVERTURES SHOULD BE PRESENTED FIRST TO A**  
 12 **DISTRICT BOARD OR COMMITTEE (before asking District Convention to take**  
 13 **action)**

14  
 15 **Overtures sent to Omnibus A:**

16 Overture 2-08 TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR CHURCH WORKERS (NID Board of  
 17 Directors and NID Staff are addressing this topic on an ongoing basis.)  
 18

19 Overture 2-10 TO SUPPORT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO GRADUATES  
 20 PURSUING SEMINARY STUDY (NID Board of Directors and NID Staff are addressing  
 21 this topic on an ongoing basis.)  
 22

23 Overture 3-09 TO ENCOURAGE MEETING AND FELLOWSHIP ACROSS CIRCUITS  
 24 (referred to the District President)  
 25

26 Overture 3-15 STRENGTHENING FINANCIAL AND MINISTERIAL SUPPORT FOR  
 27 URBAN MINISTRY THROUGH DISTRICT AND SUBURBAN PARTNERSHIPS (referred to  
 28 the Board of Directors)  
 29

30 **OMNIBUS B: WHEN CERTAIN OVERTURES HAVE BEEN GIVEN ADEQUATE AND**  
 31 **APPROPRIATE RESPONSE BY A PREVIOUS DISTRICT OR SYNODICAL**  
 32 **CONVENTION**

33  
 34 **Overtures sent to Omnibus B:**

35 Overture 1-11 TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE THE USE OF GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS AS  
 36 A PROPER ELEMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod  
 37 Convention 2023 5- 15 *To Uphold Proper Elements and Reverential Administration of*  
 38 *the Lord's Supper*, and the committee has been informed that the subsequent report  
 39 by the CTCR will not discourage the use of gluten-free hosts)  
 40

41 Overture 1-12 TO AFFIRM AND ENCOURAGE THE USE OF GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS AS  
 42 A PROPER ELEMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod  
 43 Convention 2023 5- 15 *To Uphold Proper Elements and Reverential Administration of*  
 44 *the Lord's Supper*, and the committee has been informed that the subsequent report  
 45 by the CTCR will not discourage the use of gluten-free hosts)  
 46





47 Overture 1-13 ESTABLISHING A NEW VOTING STRUCTURE INCLUDING ROSTERED  
 48 WORKERS (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen*  
 49 *Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019 *Res. 9-17 Report:*  
 50 *Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023 *Convention*  
 51 *Workbook*) Our congressional polity determines our 50/50 ordained to lay  
 52 representation at the District and Synod levels. Adding commissioned ministers would  
 53 require adding an equal number of lay delegates or pastoral delegates to maintain this  
 54 balance. Proposed changes at synodical conventions have been repeatedly rejected.

55  
 56 Overture 1-14 TO GRANT COMMISSIONED CHURCH WORKERS THE RIGHT TO  
 57 VOTE UNDER BYLAW 3.2.1 c (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-  
 58 08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019  
 59 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023  
 60 *Convention Workbook*) Our congressional polity determines our 50/50 ordained to lay  
 61 representation at the District and Synod levels. Adding commissioned ministers would  
 62 require adding an equal number of lay delegates or pastoral delegates to maintain this  
 63 balance. Proposed changes at synodical conventions have been repeatedly rejected.

64  
 65 Overture 1-15 RECOGNIZING ROSTERED WORKERS AS LAITY FOR VOTING  
 66 PURPOSES (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen*  
 67 *Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019  
 68 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023  
 69 *Convention Workbook*) Our congressional polity determines our 50/50 ordained to lay  
 70 representation at the District and Synod levels. Adding commissioned ministers would  
 71 require adding an equal number of lay delegates or pastoral delegates to maintain this  
 72 balance. Proposed changes at synodical conventions have been repeatedly rejected.

73  
 74 Overture 1-17 ALLOWING WOMEN TO ASSIST IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S  
 75 SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2016 5-14 *To Reaffirm*  
 76 *Biblical Teaching on Man and Woman In The Church* and CTCR Report: "The Order of  
 77 Creation: Theology, History, Definition" (October, 2022)

78  
 79 Overture 1-18 TO AFFIRM INSPIRATION AND AUTHORITY OF MARK 16:9-20 (This  
 80 has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 5-50 *To Affirm Inspiration and*  
 81 *Authority of Mark 16:9-20* which was referred to Omnibus A – Responsibility Assigned  
 82 to Others (Commission On Theology And Church Relations) and the CTCR response  
 83 "Textual Criticism" (2019)

84  
 85 Overture 1-19 TO USE ONLY SUSTAINABLE BIBLE TRANSLATIONS (2023 Synod  
 86 convention Ov. 4-10 *To Use Only Sustainable Bible Translations* was respectfully  
 87 declined by the floor committee because the "Overture does not accurately state  
 88 current LCMS agreements with Crossway"

89  
 90 Overture 1-20 TO REJOICE IN THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD BY HIS  
 91 CALLED AND ORDAINED SERVANTS (This has been addressed by Synod Convention  
 92 1989 35-14 *To Address Appropriate Roles for Women and men in Worship* and CTCR



93 *Report: “Women in the Church: Scriptural Principles and Ecclesial Practice”*  
 94 *September, 1985)*

95  
 96 Overture 1-22 TO AFFIRM CONGREGATIONS RIGHT TO ALLOW WOMEN TO ASSIST  
 97 IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (This has been addressed by Synod  
 98 Convention 2016 5-14 *To Reaffirm Biblical Teaching on Man and Woman In The Church*  
 99 and CTCR Report: “The Order of Creation: Theology, History, Definition” (October,  
 100 2022)

101  
 102 Overture 1-23 TO PROVIDE THE OPTION OF APPOINTING ONE ORDAINED PASTOR  
 103 OR ONE COMMISSIONED MINISTER AS THE ROSTERED VOTING DELEGATE TO  
 104 DISTRICT CONVENTION (This has been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-  
 105 08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019  
 106 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023  
 107 *Convention Workbook*) Our congressional polity determines our 50/50 ordained to lay  
 108 representation at the District and Synod levels. Adding commissioned ministers would  
 109 require adding an equal number of lay delegates or pastoral delegates to maintain this  
 110 balance. Proposed changes at synodical conventions have been repeatedly rejected.

111  
 112 Overture 1-25 TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF CIRCUIT DELEGATES TO SYNODICAL  
 113 CONVENTIONS AND INCLUDE MINISTERS OF RELIGION COMMISSIONED (This has  
 114 been addressed by Synod Convention 2023 9-08A *To Strengthen Nonvoting Advisory*  
 115 *Delegate Participation at Conventions* and 2019 *Res. 9-17 Report: Study of Voting*  
 116 *Privilege in the LCMS (CCM)* (pgs. 159-168 of 2023 *Convention Workbook*) Our  
 117 congressional polity determines our 50/50 ordained to lay representation at the  
 118 District and Synod levels. Adding commissioned ministers would require adding an  
 119 equal number of lay delegates or pastoral delegates to maintain this balance. Proposed  
 120 changes at synodical conventions have been repeatedly rejected.

121  
 122 Overture 3-06 CREATING A THIRD PATHWAY FOR GENERAL PASTORAL COLLOQUY  
 123 FOR MEMBERS OF LCMS CONGREGATIONS WHO HAVE GRADUATED WITH AN  
 124 ACCREDITED MASTERS OF DIVINITY DEGREE FROM A NON-LCMS SEMINARY (the  
 125 2023 LCMS Convention passed Resolution 6-03A, especially the 6<sup>th</sup> resolve, there is an  
 126 ongoing study)

127  
 128 Overture 3-13 TO GIVE A CLEAR CONFESSION OF THE RESURRECTION IN OUR  
 129 FUNERAL PRACTICES (see CTCR report “Cremation and Christian”)

130  
 131 **OMNIBUS C: WHEN THE FLOOR COMMITTEE CHOOSES TO DECLINE THE**  
 132 **OVERTURE**

133  
 134 **Overtures sent to Omnibus C:**  
 135 Overture 1-16 TO GIVE GUIDANCE ON SEPARATION OF FIRST COMMUNION AND  
 136 CONFIRMATION (This is addressed by *Lutheran Service Book: Agenda* (pg. 25))

137  
 138 Overture 2-11 TO REVIEW SYNODICAL PROPERTY FOR THE SAKE OF GOOD



139 STEWARDSHIP (The Synodical channels already in place are best equipped to steward  
140 the Synod’s facilities and structure.)

141

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

145

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

149

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

155

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

159

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

162

### 163 **OMNIBUS D: TO GIVE THANKS AND ENCOURAGEMENT**

164

#### 165 **Overtures sent to Omnibus D:**

166 Overture 3-14 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SOUTH  
167 WISCONSIN DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOHN WILLE

168

169

