

Resolutions

Today's Business

March 4, 2025

- Updated Resolution 3-05A (replace)



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: 3-05A** 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 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 one
34 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 11-03A), adopted by the Synod in
39 convention in 2023, 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 150th anniversary of Black Ministry in the LCMS in 2027.