

**72<sup>st</sup> Convention of the Kansas District LCMS  
Topeka, Kansas  
June 4-6, 2015**

*Baptized for This Moment  
“For Witness and Wellness” Acts 2:38-39*

**PRE-CONVENTION (Thursday, June 4, 2015)**

Registration

Floor Committee Meetings and Hearings

**FIRST SESSION  
Thursday, June 4, 2015, 1:30 pm**

Convention Opening and Greetings from President Kohlmeier.

Rev. Lee Hovel, Chairman of the Circuit Visitors, led the opening worship based on Romans 6:3-11.

President Kohlmeier offered an orientation to the delegates of the convention, noting the information on the name badge including the number that corresponds to the voting keypad. He also thanked our partners at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who underwrote portions of our District Convention. We are thankful for their generous gifts. It was noted that the President of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison has been delayed by weather. The Third Vice President of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Daniel Preus who will be sharing the bulk of the synod report.

President Kohlmeier thanked Faith Lutheran Church of Topeka, and Senior Pastor Jim Bender, for their willingness to serve as the host congregation for our worship service. He also expressed our thanks to Rev. Tom Harries of Hope, Shawnee who served as our organist for convention. During the worship service we received the special offerings of congregations in support of Guinea Mission work, \$3000. This was also the ingathering for the gifts that were brought from congregation’s Pentecost Offerings, \$10,847.98.

President Kohlmeier recognized the following individuals and groups:

Thanks to Convention Planning Committee: Jim Bradshaw, Mark Brewer, Debbie Crites, Marvin Kohlmeier, Tami Lierz, Curt Loupe, Jeff Maltz, Rev. Rocky Mease, Rev. David Meier, Shannon Oldham & Dr. Bruce Schultz.

Technology Task Group: In this age of technology we are thankful for those people who are working behind the scene to make the visuals and audio possible. Special thanks to Nick Cordt and Henry Blickhahn. Also thank you to Mr. Dean Landman, who is our district archivist but not able to be with us today due to some pending surgery. Stepping in as our official photographer for this event is Karen Peterson.

## Introductions

District Secretary: Rev. David Meier

Parliamentarian for Convention: Dr. Bruce Schultz

Kansas District Outgoing Board of Directors

- Lay Members: Dr. Jan Borst, Ruth Holste, Larry Junker, David Meisinger, Tim Ohlde, & Richard Schotte. And we remember Steve Hanschu, whom the Lord called to Himself.
- Commissioned Workers: Joyce Duitsman, Jeremy Pera, and Mark Schotte.
- Ordained Members: Rev. David Gruoner, Rev. Lee Hovel, Rev. Peter Lange, Rev. David Meier, Rev. Rick Rostek, and Rev. Scott Snow.

District Staff

- Executive Staff: Jim Bradshaw, Debbie Crites, Marvin Kohlmeier, Jeff Maltz, and Rev. Rocky Mease.
- Executive Assistants of our Office: Tami Lierz – Curt Loupe - Shannon Oldham

New workers were recognized by the Convention

The District President's wife and staff assistant for the convention: Marlene Kohlmeier;  
and the runner for convention: their grandson Christopher.

The Credentials Committee was introduced by the chairman, Rev. Justin Panzer. He reported that there were 109 Voting Lay Delegates, 85 Voting Pastoral Delegates, 57 Advisory Delegates and 24 Guests. A quorum was present.

President Kohlmeier called the Convention of The Kansas District LCMS to order at 2:10 p.m., "In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." He explained the gavel was made from lumber from the first Lutheran Church built in Kansas.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the Revised Orders of the Day. **Motion Carried.**

Electronic voting instructions were given by Rev. Rodney Fritz, Chairman of the Elections Committee.

The Convention Special Standing Rules were presented by President Kohlmeier.

### **Resolution 15-05-03 CONVENTION SPECIAL STANDING RULES**

The Special Standing Rules for the Convention which follow are being presented to the 2015 Convention for approval. They are included at the front of the workbook for the information and convenience of delegates in the event they are adopted.

1. The chair will see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible.
2. When recognized by the chair, members of the convention will state their name, whether they are a delegate or an advisory delegate, and the congregation or ministry they represent.
3. Delegates may speak and vote, Advisory Delegates may speak, but not vote.
4. A delegate who has spoken on an issue may not at the close of their remarks move the previous question.
5. The two-minute rule will apply for all who speak from the floor and for the committee during debate.
6. The chair can limit debate and also the number of times a person may speak. (The Pro-Con speakers on a question will be observed at the discretion of the chair.)

7. Personal Privilege will not be abused by using the time to advance the speaker's opinion. It is only to ask a procedure or parliamentary question.
8. All substitute motions and amendments must be presented in written form to the District Secretary. Material should be provided in digital format (and may be sent by e-mail to 2015Convention@kslcms.org ) when possible.
9. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter will be offered two minutes to provide the rationale for presenting it. The convention will then first decide by majority vote without debate whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and the substitute motion is subsequently adopted, the original motion fails; if the substitute motion does not receive favorable action either to consider or to adopt, the original motion is again before the house. (This is the so-called "Behnken rule" for dealing with substitute motions.)
10. The Convention may alter or add to the nominated slates. A floor nomination must be accompanied by written acceptance of nomination from the nominee and a brief biographical description of the nominee. Material should be provided in digital format when possible. (These are to (may) be sent to the Nominations Committee at 2015Convention@kslcms.org for review of proper credentials.)
11. Elections: Except on the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following regulations will apply: Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot will be declared elected. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast will be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates will constitute the ballot.
12. When the number of candidates for an office is four or more times larger than the number of offices, then after the second ballot and for all subsequent ballots, the lowest 25% of the candidates will be removed from the ballot until all offices are filled by a majority of votes cast.
13. Unless covered by these standing rules of the convention, parliamentary procedure will be governed by the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
14. Use of portable telephones and other electronic communication devices will be permitted in the **delegate section. Not responsible for wifi connections.**
15. No distribution of literature will be allowed in the Manor Conference Center without pre-convention approval by the office of the District President.

It was moved and seconded to adopt The Special Standing Rules for the Convention.

**ADOPTED** – Yes-204, No-6

Wellness Moment #1: Rev. Rocky Mease introduced the Wellness Moments and set the stage for our essayist.

President Kohlmeier introduced our convention essayist, The Rev. Dr. John Hirsch, former Director of Congregation and Worker care of the Texas District. The theme is *Baptized for This Moment*, focusing on *Witness & Wellness* under the Scripture of Acts 2:38-39. Dr. Hirsch presented Essay #1 – "Do You Want to Be Well?"

President Kohlmeier called the Floor Committee on Administration forward. Rev. Robert Grimm, Chairman introduced the committee: Rev. Randy Jahnke, Krista Brooks (recording

secretary), Trey Watson, Karen Boettcher and Diane Eicholz. The BOD member is Rev. David Meier and Staff member Debbie Crites.

### **RESOLUTION 15-05-02A Kansas District Bylaws Revisions**

**WHEREAS**, The Commission on Constitutional Matters (LCMS) is required by Bylaw 3.9.2.2.3 to “examine the articles of incorporation, bylaws and policy manuals of every agency of the Synod to ascertain whether they are in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod, and

**WHEREAS**, they offered a template to examine the Kansas District Bylaws and a Task Force was formed to review the Kansas District Bylaws, and

**WHEREAS**, the bylaws as adopted in 2012 Convention of the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have been reviewed and modified by the Task Force and presented to the Kansas District Board of Directors for consideration, and

**WHEREAS**, changes have been made to the bylaws, (items in red lettering with Synodical changes in red underlined lettering) requiring convention approval, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the convention of the Kansas District adopt the Bylaws as modified in three parts:

1. All changes except references to Presiding Officer of the Board Meetings and Articles VI and VII.

This is the first part of the Bylaws revisions.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by restoring the numbers on the board to 17 members, seven (7) ordained ministers; three (3) commissioned ministers and seven (7) laypersons. (see original wording in box below)

(Page 143 of workbook). 2. **Elective Boards and Appointive Boards, Committees and Commissions shall be:**

(a) The Board of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of ~~seventeen (17)~~ *the following* voting members elected at the District Convention:

I. ~~Seven (7)~~ *Eight (8)* ordained ministers:

- a. The District President.
- b. The Regional Vice Presidents.
- c. The District Secretary.
- d. The Chairperson of the Conference of Circuit ~~Counselors~~ Visitors.
- e. *Ordained Minister at large*

II. ~~Three (3)~~ *Four (4)* Commissioned Ministers.

III. ~~Seven (7)~~ *Eight (8)* Laypersons, at least one (1) elected from each region.

**ADOPTED** Yes-151, No-57

The vote on the amended resolution was called for.

**ADOPTED** Yes-183, No-24

### **RESOLUTION 15-05-01 Circuit Realignment**

**WHEREAS**, the President's office of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has requested that we comply with the following bylaw from the LCMS Handbook regarding the election of delegates by circuits for the LCMS National Convention:

*3.1.2 Voting delegates shall consist of one pastor and one layman from each electoral circuit.*

*(a) An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent visitation circuits, as shall be determined by the district board of directors on the basis of the following requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent from 7 to 20 member congregations, involving an aggregate communicant membership ranging from 1,500 to 10,000.*

*(b) Exceptions to these requirements may be made only by the President of the Synod upon request of a district board of directors; and*

**WHEREAS**, the Circuit Realignment Committee with input from the area Vice Presidents, Circuit Visitors, Pastors and congregations affected by the changes made the following report to the Board of Directors:

- Circuit 14 is eliminated
- Circuit 11 receives Preston, Nashville, and Medicine Lodge giving it 13 congregations and 3087 Communicant members
- Circuit 12 receives Ellinwood giving it 9 congregations and 3307 Communicant members. Ellinwood goes to Circuit 12 because of an expected dual parish arrangement with Grace-Lyons.
- Circuit 13 receives Larned, Great Bend, Hoisington, Claflin, and Holyrood, and loses Plainville, Natoma, and Hays, giving it 12 congregations and 2105 Communicant members.
- Circuit 15 receives Plainville, Natoma, and Hays giving it 12 congregations and 1895 Communicant members
- Circuit 16 receives Greensburg giving it 15 congregations and 2029 Communicant members.
- Circuit 9 receives Zion, Newton from Circuit 10, giving it 13 congregations and 1650 Communicant members.
- Circuits 3N and 3S have chosen to ask for exemptions. If not granted, they will join together as an electoral circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, The Kansas District Board of Directors, at its January 31, 2015 meeting approved this report; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that this proposal be adopted and be effective immediately.

**ADOPTED** Yes-200, No-10

Circuits which need to re-caucus this evening: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16.

President Kohlmeier welcomed the President of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison.

Marvin Kohlmeier introduced the Mission Moment # 1 – Transforming Churches Network.

TCN congregations and pastors were asked to come forward and be recognized.

President Kohlmeier introduced the President of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison. Dr. Harrison told us how synod is meeting challenges, and facing the

future with faith. After answering questions, he concluded with a challenge for us to be faithful people of God.

Representatives of the Kansas District Lutheran Laymen League and the Lutheran Women Missionary League, both significant partners in ministry were invited to address the convention. LLL President Tim Voelker and representing LWML President Karen Morrison, the LWML District Recording Secretary, LaJean Rinker addressed the convention.

The convention recessed at 5 pm.

7:30 pm – Convention Worship Service

Circuits 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16 caucused.

**SECOND SESSION**  
**Friday, June 5, 2015, 8:30 am**

Rev. David Gruoner, Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Linn led us in devotions based on 1 Peter 2:9.

Mission Moments #2 – Haskell Light Ministry/Lutheran Indian Ministries

Will and Patricia Main, Haskell Light Ministry presented a gift to President Kohlmeier and his wife Marlene.

President Kohlmeier gave the President's report.

Rev. Rodney Fritz from the Elections Committee came forward to lead elections. The Circuit Visitors have been elected by the circuit forums and are being presented for ratification.

Nominations from the floor were sought, but none were offered. The ballot was offered for ratification.

Circuit # 1	Rev. Mike Van Velzer	St. Matthew, Nortonville
Circuit # 2	Rev. Ken Nettling	Faith, Kansas City
Circuit # 3N	Rev. Lee Hovel	retired
Circuit # 3S	Rev. Kevin Wyssmann	Bethany, Overland Park
Circuit # 4	Rev. Luke Brown	St. John, Aliceville
Circuit # 5	Rev. Theodore E. Cook	Zion, Pittsburg
Circuit # 6	Rev. Jon Bruss	St. John, Topeka
Circuit # 7	Rev. Paul Tessaro	St. Paul, Clay Center
Circuit # 8	Rev. Larry Boye	retired
Circuit # 9	Rev. Clark Davis	St. John, Tampa
Circuit # 10	Rev. Tom Harmon	Risen Savior, Wichita
Circuit # 11	Rev. Thomas Johnson	Faith, Derby
Circuit # 12	Rev. Dale Dumperth	Grace, McPherson
Circuit # 13	Rev. Mark Lovett	Concordia, Hoisington
Circuit # 15	Rev. Tim Llewellyn	Immanuel, Oakley
Circuit # 16	Rev. Andrew Wehling	Grace, Liberal

**ADOPTED** Yes-192, No-4

Mr. Keith Jopp, Chairman of the District Nominating Committee recognized the members of Nominations Committee: Rev. Thomas Harries, Rev. Michael Schotte, Rev. Larry McDermott, Mr. Al Gehrt, Mr. Stephen Weller, Mr. Ken Jorns and Mr. Doug Wolters.

Mr. Jopp presented slate for President. The bylaws of the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod state “The Secretary of the District together with the chairman of the Elections Committee shall tabulate the nominating ballots (for the office of District President) and shall report to the Convention by means of the Convention Workbook the names of all candidates who received at least five nominating votes for the Office of President.” The Committee has announced two such names, Rev. Peter K Lange and Rev. Scott Snow. They have both accepted the nomination.

It was moved and seconded to ratify the slate for President.

**ADOPTED** Yes-200, No-2

Rev. David Gruoner led the convention in prayer for wisdom to guide our elections and lead us to choose those whom our Lord has already chosen.

President Election Results

Rev. Peter K. Lange - 115 (57.2%) (**elected**) Rev. Scott Snow – 86 (42.8%)

President-elect Rev. Peter K. Lange thanked the convention and asked for our prayers.

Former President Howard Patten addressed the convention.

Ballot for Vice President -

Region 1 – Rev. Dan Galchutt, Rev. James Andrew Keltner and Rev. Van Edward Mease

Region 2 – Rev. David Gruoner and Rev. Justin Panzer

Region 3 – Rev. Michael Schotte and Rev. Scott Snow

Region 4 – Rev. Rick Rostek

It was moved and seconded to ratify the slate.

**ADOPTED** Yes-200, No-2

Election for Region 1

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 87 (43.3%)

Rev. Van Edward Mease – 58 (28.9%)

Rev. James Andrew Keltner – 56 (27.9%)

**No Election**

Second ballot for Region 1

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 118 (58.7%) (**elected**)

Rev. Van Edward Mease – 83 (41.3%)

Election for Region 2

Rev. David F. Gruoner – 77 (37.9%)

Rev. Justin Panzer – 126 (62.1%) **(elected)**

Election for Region 3

Rev. Michael Schotte – 92 (44.4%)

Rev. Scott Snow – 115 (55.6%) **(elected)**

Election for Region 4

Rev. Rick Rostek – 119 **(elected)**

Ballot for District Secretary

Rev. Michael Brockman

Rev. Mark Lovett

Rev. David Meier

Rev. Mark Lovett withdrew his name. Floor nominations were sought, none received.

Election for District Secretary

Rev. Michael Brockman – 65 (31.3%)

Rev. David Meier – 143 (68.8%) **(elected)**

Ballot for Board Directors – Commissioned (elect 3)

Teacher Richard Hanebutt

DCE Leland Jackson

Teacher Susan Kleber

DCE Jeremy Pera

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

Election for Board Directors – Commissioned (elect 3)

Teacher Richard Hanebutt – 152 (75.2%) **(Elected)**

DCE Leland Jackson – 119 (58.9%)

Teacher Susan Kleber – 130 (64.4%) **(Elected)**

DCE Jeremy Pera – 172 (85.1%) **(Elected)**

Ballot for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 1

Janette Borst

David Bruns

Marvin Schulteis

John Wendorf

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

1<sup>st</sup> Electon for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 1

Janette Borst – 71 (35.1%)

David Bruns – 72 (35.6%)

Marvin Schulteis – 40 (19.8%)

John Wendorf – 19 (9.4%)

**No Election**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 1

Janette Borst – 75 (36.8%)

David Bruns – 91 (44.6%)

Marvin Schulteis – 38 (18.6%)

**No Election**

3<sup>rd</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 1

Janette Borst – 82 (40.2%)

David Bruns – 122 (59.8%) **(Elected)**

Ballot for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

Cliff Ascher

Ken Culbertson

David Meisinger

Timothy Ohlde

Richard Schotte

Dr. Bruce D. Schultz

Stephen Weller

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

1<sup>st</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

Cliff Ascher – 19 (9.4%)

Ken Culbertson – 17 (8.4%)

David Meisinger – 53 (26.2%)

Timothy Ohlde – 36 (17.8%)

Richard Schotte – 31 (15.3%)

Dr. Bruce D. Schultz – 34 (16.8%)

Stephen Weller – 12 (5.9%)

**No Election**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

Cliff Ascher – 15 (7.5%)

Ken Culbertson – 13 (6.5%)

David Meisinger – 74 (37.0%)

Timothy Ohlde – 35 (17.5%)

Richard Schotte – 32 (16.0%)  
Dr. Bruce D. Schultz – 31 (15.5%)

**No Election**

3<sup>rd</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

David Meisinger – 86 (42.8%)  
Timothy Ohlde – 40 (19.9%)  
Richard Schotte – 31 (15.4%)  
Dr. Bruce D. Schultz – 44 (21.9%)

**No Election**

4<sup>th</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

David Meisinger – 100 (49.5%)  
Timothy Ohlde – 48 (23.8%)  
Dr. Bruce D. Schultz – 54 (26.7%)

**No Election**

5<sup>th</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 2

David Meisinger – 118 (58.7%) **(Elected)**  
Dr. Bruce D. Schultz – 83 (41.3%)

Ballot for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 3

Chris Anderson  
Curtis Engelbrecht  
Larry Junker

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

1<sup>st</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 3

Chris Anderson – 42(20.3%)  
Curtis Engelbrecht – 66(31.9%)  
Larry Junker – 99(47.8%)

**No Election**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 3

Curtis Engelbrecht – 80(39.8%)  
Larry Junker – 121(60.2%) **(Elected)**

Ballot for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 4

Ruth Holste

Ronald Albrecht

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

Election for Board of Directors

Laity - Region 4

Ruth Holste – 110(54.2%) **(Elected)**

Ronald Albrecht 93(45.8%)

Rev. Kevin Wysmann, Education Floor Committee Chairman introduced the members of the committee: Rev. Joe Seifert, Jennifer McCall, Jill Lowe, Joyce Duitsman, and Leland Jackson with Jim Bradshaw as Staff representative.

**RESOLUTION 15-03-01 To Affirm the Ministry of Directors of Christian Education (DCE)**

**WHEREAS**, Christian education is both commanded by God (Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Matthew 28:19-20) and emphasized as important in the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod (LCMS); and **WHEREAS**, the office of the Director of Christian Education (DCE) was established by Synod in Convention in 1959 and was given “Minister of Religion – Commissioned” status by Synod in Convention (1983), to serve the Synod and its congregations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District was instrumental in providing a training ground for some of the first Synodically trained DCE interns in our church body; and

**WHEREAS**, the LCMS is a church body that sees an attrition rate of young people in our congregations of approximately 75% (Rev. Terry Dittmer, LCMS Youth Ministry), from the time a child is baptized up to age twenty-one, with those approximate 75% no longer engaged in the life of a congregation; and

**WHEREAS**, DCEs are theologically trained, engaged and impassioned team ministry players with Pastors, in a variety of congregational settings, such as: education, outreach, caring ministry, music, and youth; striving to nurture the faith in families across generations; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations in the Kansas District be encouraged to evaluate its needs and financial provision to consider the calling of a DCE to address said needs; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we acknowledge the value and contributions of DCEs to the service of the Church, to Christian education of all age groups, to the ministry of our congregations; and finally be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District in Convention sincerely praise God for the ministry of the Director of Christian Education in the LCMS by rising and singing the common doxology.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE AND SINGING THE COMMON DOXOLOGY.**

**RESOLUTION 15-03-02 To Affirm the Continued Work of the Kansas District Youth Ministry Team**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Youth Ministry Team is committed to empowering youth to use their gifts and energies in service to God and His people as it supports those who lead congregation-based youth group ministry in the Kansas District, LCMS; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than 30 years, Kansas District, LCMS, youth have participated in LCMS and District-sponsored youth ministry events, learning how serving others makes a difference because of Jesus Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, a primary purpose of Kansas District Youth Ministry is to help congregationally-based groups reach out to un-churched and marginally-churched youth; and

**WHEREAS**, many Kansas District LCMS young people, inspired by District sponsored youth events, are now vocationally serving the Church and the world – developing passion for faith, love, and mercy through Christ crucified; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District in Convention affirm the continued work of the Kansas District Youth Ministry Team with the congregations and workers of the Kansas District, LCMS.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

**RESOLUTION 15-03-03 To Encourage the KS District Congregations to Study the Lutheran Confessions During the 2017 Reformation Celebration (500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)**

**WHEREAS**, All LC-MS congregations believe and teach the Holy Bible, and also subscribe to the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church” (LC-MS Constitution, Article II 2) as contained in the *Book of Concord (1580)*; and

**WHEREAS**, The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther will be observed in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, It is most appropriate for the Christian members of the LC-MS and other Christians to join in the celebration of that 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, The Contents of the *Book of Concord (1580)* include—The Augsburg Confession (1530); the Apology of the Augsburg Confession (September 1531); The Smalcald Articles (1537); The Small Catechism (1529); The Large Catechism (1529); and the Formula of Concord (1577)—which are rich fields of theological study; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the congregations and educational institutions of the KS District LC-MS be encouraged to participate in regular ongoing studies of the *Book of Concord (1580)* in conjunction with the study of the Holy Scriptures.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

**RESOLUTION 15-03-04 To Strengthen the Divine Institution of Marriage in the Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, the Holy Scriptures teach that marriage; one man married to one woman for life, was instituted and blessed by God; and

**WHEREAS**, God's gift of marriage unites husband and wife in heart, body, and mind for mutual companionship, help, and support in prosperity and adversity (Matthew 19:4-6). God intends in marriage that man and woman find delight in one another (Proverbs 5:18-19). God also established marriage for the procreation of children and their nurture by father and mother in the family unit (Genesis 1:28). To that end the Holy Scriptures teach that "marriage be held in honor" (Hebrews 13:4), and that we demonstrate that honor with purity, love and respect (Ephesians 5:33); and

**WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Confessions embrace the Biblical importance of marriage by stating, "Let us therefore first of all note carefully how very highly God honors and extols married life by

giving it His sanction and protection in the Ten Commandments." (LC 6th Commandment) Again, "God has therefore most richly blessed marriage above all other estates."(LC 6th Commandment); and

**WHEREAS**, the divine institution of marriage is under assault in our country, as manifested through cohabitation, a high divorce rate, and the progressive legislation redefining marriage; and

**WHEREAS**, the assault on the gift of marriage has contributed to consequences for our communities and churches. Community impact includes: increased teen pregnancy, poverty, suicide, and incarceration rates for children of divorce and out of wedlock (U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Justice, and National Crime Victimization Survey). Congregational impacts include: difficulty in catechesis, pastoral care situations, and family involvement in parish activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the church has a unique opportunity to have a direct influence on strengthening the divine institution of marriage; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Pastors of the Kansas District seek to strengthen marriages by utilizing the best current pastoral care practices. Pastors are encouraged to use Christ-centered, Biblically-based materials, studies, and programs that affirm our confession of faith and affirm the spiritual nature of the marriage relationship; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Pastors of the Kansas District be encouraged to strengthen marriage preparation by considering the following practices: At least a 4 month waiting period of engagement before a couple is married.

- Pastoral care that leads cohabiting couples to repent, receive forgiveness in Christ's name, and live in separate households.
- Use of a relationship inventory to structure pre-marriage sessions.
- Train and utilize mentor/advisor couples for marriage preparation; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that each congregation in the Kansas District consider conducting at least one marriage enrichment activity per year, including Bible study, DVD based series and/or a weekend retreat; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, ~~the~~ each married Pastors of the Kansas District, be encouraged to participate in on-going marriage enrichment activities with his wife; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Kansas District encourage and guide Pastors of the Kansas District to seek training in implementing these actions in ministry; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, the Kansas District in Convention promote the Divine institution of marriage by these marriage affirming actions in our congregations and communities.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Floor Committee, completing their work, was thanked for their work.

The Elections continued with delegates asked to select the ranking of the Vice Presidents.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ranking ballot - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Rev. Scott Snow – 91(47.9%)

Rev. Justin Panzer – 41(21.6%)

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 31(16.3%)

Rev. Rick Rostek – 27(14.2%)

**No Election**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ranking ballot - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Rev. Scott Snow – 110(55.3%) **(Elected)**

Rev. Justin Panzer – 68(34.2%)

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 21(10.6%)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ranking ballot - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Rev. Justin Panzer – 101(50.5%) **(Elected)**

Rev. Rick Rostek – 62(31.0%)

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 37(18.5%)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ranking ballot – 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President

Rev. Rick Rostek – 118(59.6%) **(Elected)**

Rev. Dan Galchutt – 80(40.4%) **(4<sup>th</sup> Vice President)**

Mr. Keith Jopp presented the ballot for Board of Directors - Laity at large (voting for 3)

Ronald Albrecht

Chris Anderson

Cliff Ascher

Janette Borst

Ken Culbertson

Curtis Engelbrecht

Timothy Ohlde

Richard Schotte

Marvin Schulteis

Dr. Bruce Schultz

Stephen Weller

John Wendorf

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

1<sup>st</sup> Election for Board of Directors – Laity at large

Ronald Albrecht – 59(29.5%)

Chris Anderson – 30(15.0%)

Cliff Ascher – 41(20.5%)

Janette Borst – 60(30.0%)

Ken Culbertson – 25(12.5%)

Curtis Engelbrecht – 57(28.5%)

Timothy Ohlde – 80(40.0%)

Richard Schotte – 72(36.0%)

Marvin Schulteis – 40(20.0%)

Dr. Bruce Schultz – 76(38.0%)

Stephen Weller – 25(12.5%)

John Wendorf – 25(12.5%)

**No Election**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Board of Directors – Laity at large

Ronald Albrecht – 60(29.7%)

Chris Anderson – 28(13.9%)  
Cliff Ascher – 47(23.3%)  
Janette Borst – 73(36.1%)  
Curtis Engelbrecht – 58(28.7%)  
Timothy Ohlde – 91(45.0%)  
Richard Schotte – 93(46.0%)  
Marvin Schulteis – 40(19.8%)  
Dr. Bruce Schultz – 94(46.5%)

### **No Election**

3<sup>rd</sup> Election for Board of Directors – Laity at large

Ronald Albrecht – 59(28.9%)  
Cliff Ascher – 47(23.0%)  
Janette Borst – 78(38.2%)  
Curtis Engelbrecht – 64(31.4%)  
Timothy Ohlde – 108(52.9%) **(Elected)**  
Richard Schotte – 110(53.9%) **(Elected)**  
Dr. Bruce Schultz – 117(57.4%) **(Elected)**

Ballot for Nominating Committee – Clergy for 2018 District Convention  
(Elect 3, no more than 1 per region)

Rev. Robert Leiste – Region 1  
Rev. Russell Bonine – Region 2  
Rev. Mark Lovett – Region 4  
Rev. Michael Brockman – Region 3

Floor Nominations were sought.

Rev. Scott Goltl – Region 3 was nominated.

Nominations closed.

Election for Nominating Committee – Clergy for 2018 District Convention

Rev. Robert Leiste – Region 1 – 150(73.2%) **(Elected)**  
Rev. Russell Bonine – Region 2 – 145(70.7%) **(Elected)**  
Rev. Mark Lovett – Region 4 – 118(57.6%) **(Elected)**  
Rev. Michael Brockman – Region 3 – 82(40.0%)  
Rev. Scott Goltl – Region 3 – 99(48.3%)

Ballot for Nominating Committee – Commissioned Minister for 2018 District Convention

Teacher Betty Amey  
Principal Karen Boettcher  
Teacher Joyce Duitsman

Floor nominations were sought, none received.

Election for Nominating Committee – Commissioned Minister for 2018 District Convention  
(Elect 1)

Teacher Betty Amey – 39(19.5%)  
Principal Karen Boettcher – 45(22.5%)

Teacher Joyce Duitsman – 116(58.0%) **(Elected)**

Wellness Moment #2 – Rev. Neil Buono’s Wellness Journey was shown.

Rev. Dr. John Hirsch presented Essay #2 – “The Bridge”.

The Convention recessed for the lunch hour. Circuit Visitors were reminded to gather together for lunch and select the Chairman of the Circuit Visitors.

**THIRD SESSION**  
**Friday, June 5, 2015, 1:30 PM**

President Kohlmeier invited Third Vice President of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, the Rev. Daniel Preus to offer the second portion of our synod’s report to the Kansas District. At the conclusion of his presentation he also answered questions.

President Kohlmeier took the privilege of introducing his family: his mother, children, grandchildren and older brother.

Rev. David Gruoner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President presented a video and gifts to President Keith and Marlene Kohlmeier.

Jeff Maltz – Kansas District LCEF Vice President described the Ministry Outreach grants available to Kansas congregations. He introduced Larry Crume, National LCEF Vice President of National Lending.

Tim Swift, representing Thrivent Financial addressed the convention.

Marvin Kohlmeier introduced the Guinea Task Force. Bernie Reetz, Rev. Dan Ramsey, David Saving, Jane Limback, Ken Jorns, Rev. Scott Snow, Tim Heiney, Jim Bradshaw, Marvin Kohlmeier, Rev. Keith Kohlmeier and Rev. Rocky Mease.  
He also introduced the Mission Moment #3 – Guinea Mission.

Rev. Joel Hiesterman, chairman of the Mission Floor Committee was called forward. President Kohlmeier announced that the Pentecost offering was \$10,847.98. The Worship offering from Thursday evening for the Guinea Clinic was \$3000.

Greetings from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Guinea were read by President Kohlmeier.

Rev. Hiesterman introduced the Mission Floor Committee: Rev. Scott Goltl, Linda Sparks, Stanton Uffman, Andi Prochnow, Jane Limback, Ruth Holste and Marvin Kohlmeier.

**RESOLUTION 15-01-01 Overturn CCM Opinion 14-2724**

**WHEREAS**, God in His Word tells us, “As surely as I live, declares the sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live...”(Ezekiel 33:11); and

**WHEREAS**, Jesus calls His Church on Earth therefore to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20); and

**WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is not an ecclesiastical government exercising legislative or coercive powers, but rather existing to assist, support, and encourage individual, self-governing member congregations as they engage in their mission and ministry (Constitution Article VII); and

**WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has reaffirmed that its polity is essentially and principally congregational in nature (1983 Synod Res. 5-10A); and

**WHEREAS**, “there is a common understanding that a congregation exercises its self-government... in carrying out... its own ministry programs and financial affairs...”(CCM Opinion 09-2573); and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) ~~cannot and~~ should not limit or infringe on the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of local congregations, auxiliaries, mission societies, recognized service organizations, and the like, from carrying out their mission program; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Kansas District memorialize the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod *in convention* to overturn the CCM Opinion 14-2724. ~~since it incorrectly limits the mission work, responsibilities, and opportunities of entities not controlled by the Office of International Mission (that is, those entities which are not a part of “corporate Synod’s” mission program); and be it finally~~

**RESOLVED**, That the Kansas District respectfully request that the CCM do a thorough review, and if necessary recommend the revision of any Synodical Bylaw which appears to be unclear about, limits, or contradicts the rights of local congregations, auxiliaries, mission societies, recognized service organizations, and the like, from carrying out their mission efforts.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by dropping the words “cannot and” in the last whereas and in the first resolve add “in convention” after the word Synod, put a period after 2724 and strike the rest. (The strike through above reflects the amendment.)

**Amendment ADOPTED** Yes-135, No-42

The vote on the amended resolution was called for.

**ADOPTED** Yes-134, No-45

### **RESOLUTION 15-01-02 To Reaffirm the Ongoing Relationship of the Kansas District and the Eglise Evangelique Luthérienne en Guinée**

**WHEREAS**, at the Kansas District Convention 18 years ago, the Kansas District joined in partnership with LCMS World Mission to pledge support for a new mission field in Guinea, West Africa; and

**WHEREAS**, we celebrate the past, present, and continuing and ongoing support of Kansas District congregations and individuals for the mission of our Lord in Guinea, West

Africa with their gifts, prayers, and volunteer participation through the Office of International Missions (OIM) and many auxiliary mission societies (e.g. ~~Lead a Child/CCCS, LWML, GLO, OGT, LLL, LMM, MOST, etc.~~); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That we reaffirm and support the work of proclaiming the Gospel in Guinea, West Africa and throughout the Eglise Evangelique Lutherienne en Guinee; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That we support the formation of pastoral ministry candidates from Guinea attending the seminary in Togo, West Africa; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That we affirm the continued work of the Guinea Task Force; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That we reaffirm and renew commitment of mercy ministry for the clinic in Siguri, Guinea, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, That we encourage short term mission trips to Guinea, West Africa in order to support and assist those who work with the African people to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

An amendment was offered. Discussion was paused.

Pastor Rick Rostek presented the first part of the Strategic Ministry Planning Report to the convention.

The amendment to Resolution 15-01-02 was ruled out of order because an advisory delegate made the motion.

The convention took a 30 minute break.

The Floor committee changed the resolution by striking the bracketed material in the second Whereas. (The change is reflected in the strike through above.)

**ADOPTED** Yes-135, No-48

Marvin Kohlmeier introduced our campus missionaries – Rev. Dr. John Tape, Wichita and Rev. King Crawford, Manhattan.

Mission Moment #4– University Lutheran Center/Campus Ministries

Professor John Mehl representing Concordia University, Nebraska addressed the convention. He also presented gifts to President Kohlmeier.

Elections continued with the slate for District Nominating Committee being presented. David Meisenger asked to have his name removed from the ballot for District Nominating Committee. Request that the elections be separated to electing each region separately.

Floor Nominations were sought, none received.

Ballot for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 1

Steve Hatesohl

Jared Kosberg

Bruce Lindskog

1<sup>st</sup> Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 1

Steve Hatesohl – 59(32.4%)  
Jared Kosberg – 51(28.0%)  
Bruce Lindskog – 72(39.6%)

**No election.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 1

Steve Hatesohl – 79(42.9%)  
Bruce Lindskog – 105(57.1%) (**Elected**)

Ballot for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 2

Cliff Ascher  
Ronald Bott  
Barry Montgomery  
Dr. Bruce Schultz

1<sup>st</sup> Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 2

Cliff Ascher – 70(36.1)  
Ronald Bott – 34(17.5%)  
Barry Montgomery – 33(17.0%)  
Dr. Bruce Schultz – 57(29.4%)

**No election.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 2

Cliff Ascher – 93(48.2%)  
Ronald Bott – 31(16.1%)  
Dr. Bruce Schultz – 69(35.8%)

**No election.**

3<sup>rd</sup> Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 2

Cliff Ascher – 118(60.5%) (**Elected**)  
Dr. Bruce Schultz – 77(39.5%)

Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 3

Curtis Engelbrecht 183(100.0%) (**Elected**)

Election for Nominating Committee – Laity for 2018 District Convention

Region 4

Larry Gawith – 169(100.0%) (**Elected**)

The Nominating Committee and the Elections Committee were thanked and dismissed.

Pastor Tom Van Duzer, Chairman of the Convention Resolutions Committee introduced the floor committee members: Rev. Jay Hobson, Janie Theel, Bruce Lindskog, Jeremy Pera, Henry Blickhahn and Tim Ohlde.

#### **RESOLUTION 15-06-01 Koinonia Project**

**WHEREAS**, the 2007 convention of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod mandated a Task Force on Synodical Harmony appointed by the Board of Directors and Council of Presidents; and **WHEREAS**, upon completion of their work as a Task Force a final report was issued in 2010, along with a number of possible strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, the present day “Koinonia Project,” managed under the Office of the President of Synod, enfoldes the suggested recommendations of the Task Force and has already been tested as a pilot program in several districts with favorable results; and

**WHEREAS**, even in Circuit # 6 of the Kansas District this project has been implemented and is presently being used with mostly favorable results; and

**WHEREAS**, this initiative is designed to foster theological discussion under the Word of God so that we, as a Synod of church workers and congregations, understand more clearly our unity in Christ and are drawn by God’s Spirit into greater concord in our teaching and greater harmony in our life together as God’s people; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the pastors, active and emeritus, along with all other professional church and school workers, as well as the congregations, the president’s council, and all of the electoral circuits of the Kansas District be encouraged to participate in the “Koinonia Project;” and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the newly elected President of the Kansas District be encouraged to interface with Dr. Herbert Mueller Jr., Synod’s First Vice President, who is the lead facilitator for the implementation of this project in the various districts of Synod, and to provide guidance and recommendations to any and all interested pastors and lay leaders of how best to follow through with the use and application of this project in our midst for its intended purpose.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

#### **RESOLUTION 15-06-04A To Seek More Clarity for Congregations in the Call Process**

**WHEREAS**, many congregations find the call process unfamiliar and are uncertain of the many steps needed to gather candidate information for a call, and

**WHEREAS**, digital technology allows for integrated and immediate access to information; and **WHEREAS**, churches desire to receive basic information already on file in order to streamline the call process; and

**WHEREAS**, information in regards to the Divine Calls are to be guarded and overseen with care and wisdom of the District President; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Synod be encouraged to increase communication and clarity to the congregations in the call process. Included for consideration is that the Council of Presidents:

1. Develop an access portal that congregations can use to be updated on the status of the process, and
2. Instruct ecclesiastical supervisors to have called workers update Personal Information Forms, Self Evaluation Tools and Lutheran Education Information Forms (PIFs, SETs and LEIFs) and similar documents triennially, and
3. That District Presidents remove the restriction of using PIFs, SETs and LEIFs that are more than three years old, and finally
4. Publish a thorough written and video manual to explain the process be developed on a Synod-wide basis.

**ADOPTED** Yes-176, No-15

Wellness Moment #3 – Deaconess Ministry Deaconess Linda Kinnett

All Deaconesses were invited to come forward and were introduced by Rev. Rocky Mease.

Rev. Rocco Mallardi, Chairman of the Caring Ministry Floor Committee introduced the committee: Rev. Andy Keltner, Vicar Nick Cordt, Allen Kohlmeier, Linda Kinnett, Rachel Goodpasture, Mark Schotte and Rev. Rocky Mease

**RESOLUTION 15-02-01 To Encourage the Calling of Deaconesses in the Kansas District**

**WHEREAS** the LCMS and the Kansas District have been well served by *all* its commissioned workers, including Directors of Christian Education, Directors of Christian Outreach, and others; and

**WHEREAS** God gives many different gifts and offices for service in His kingdom; and

**WHEREAS** there is a long and rich tradition of deaconess ministry in the LCMS; and

**WHEREAS** deaconesses are being trained today at both LCMS seminaries and at Concordia University Chicago; and

**WHEREAS** there is the need for additional calls for deaconess graduates; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District in convention encourage LCMS congregations and agencies of the District to investigate the many and various ways that deaconesses can assist in ministry, and to consider calling a deaconess to serve those needs.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Caring Ministry Floor Committee was thanked for their work.

The Resolution Floor Committee was called back. Resolution 15-06-05A

**RESOLUTION 15-06-05 Resolution for Support to Alternate Routes to the Ministry**

**Whereas** God has given gifts to His people for the up-building of the saints, and

**Whereas** many congregations of the Kansas District have experienced the blessings of service from individuals who had trained under the former Kansas District Lay Leadership Institute; and

**Whereas** God desires all people to grow in the grace and knowledge of His Word to more effectively serve as leaders in His local congregations, and

**Whereas** the Synod adopted Resolution 5-14A at the 2013 Synodical Convention as follows:

“That the Synod President appoint a task force (chaired by the Executive Director for Pastoral Education) to conduct a study of the non-Masters of Divinity routes to the Pastoral Office, and that it report its findings and recommendations regarding the appropriateness of each route, the

optimal number of such routes, etc. to the Synod President by the end of 2015 for action at the 2016 Synod convention, therefore

**Be it resolved** that the Kansas District in Convention give thanks for the licensed deacons and those individuals formally trained under the Kansas District Lay Leadership Institute, and

**Be it further resolved** that if the Kansas District in Convention encourage congregational lay leaders and members to grow in their knowledge and skills as part of the priesthood of all believers, and

**Be it finally resolved**, that the Kansas District in Convention support and participate in the process as set forth by Resolution 5-14A passed at the 2014 Synodical Convention, encouraging the task force to reinstate programs similar in purpose and practice to the Kansas District Lay Leadership Training Institute.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by adding at the end of the last resolve, “encouraging the task force to reinstate programs similar in purpose and practice to the Kansas District Lay Leadership Training Institute.”

**Amendment ADOPTED** Yes-96, No-92

The vote on the amended resolution was called for.

**ADOPTED** Yes-100, No-91

Administration Floor Committee returned.

#### **RESOLUTION 15-05-02B Presiding Officer of the Board Meeting**

Committee added the following statement to Article III, 1, f. “The District President will not normally serve as the presiding officer of the Board meetings. In the absence of the presiding officer, the District President shall assume the role of presiding officer, pro tem.”

<p>(f) Presiding Officer of Board meetings: The Board of Directors shall appoint a member of the Board to be the presiding officer of the meetings of the Board in consultation with and with the concurrence of the District President. The District President will not normally serve as the presiding officer of the Board meetings. In the absence of the presiding officer, the District president shall assume the role of presiding officer, pro tem.</p>
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In Article III, 2, b, VI, the following was added “The District President shall serve as chairman of the Executive Council.”

VI. Executive Council: The Executive Council shall include the District President, Presiding officer of the Board meetings, the Regional Vice Presidents, the Chairman of the Circuit Visitors, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The District President shall serve as chairman of the Executive Council. The Executive staff are advisory members of the Executive Council. The Executive Council shall recommend action to the Board on matters which do not fall within the scope of activities of the Boards listed above. The Executive Council is to serve as the coordinating agency of the Board of Directors for meeting schedule preparation, recommendations for appointments and as a forum for sharing program and budget information with service boards.

### **ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Administration Floor Committee proposed adopting Article VI – Property as suggested by Synod, but not adopting Article VII – Dissolution.

### **RESOLUTION 15-05-02C Dissolution**

#### Article VI – Property

This corporation shall have power to acquire by gift, grants, demise, devise, bequest, purchase, or otherwise, property of every kind and description, real, personal, or mixed; to hold and use such property and deal with, or dispose of, any or all such property by sale, exchange, or gift, when necessary or expedient to carry out the objectives-of the corporation; provided that all such property shall be acquired, dealt with, or disposed of in a manner not in conflict with the laws of the State of Kansas or the laws of any state in which said property is located.

#### ~~Article VII – Dissolution~~

~~1. In the event this corporation is dissolved or its existence otherwise terminates or is terminated, after the payment of the debts of the corporation, all right, title, and interest in and to its property, whether tangible or intangible and whether real or personal, shall thereupon automatically vest in or be transferred to the Synod, and this corporation covenants and agrees to execute and deliver to the Synod such documents and instruments and to take such other and further actions as the Synod may deem necessary or desirable, in order to evidence and give full effect to the foregoing. This provision may not be altered or deleted without the approval of the Synod in convention or the Board of Directors of the Synod.~~

~~2. If, however, on the date of such proposed dissolution, The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, is no longer in existence, the assets of the corporation may be distributed to any other Section 501 (C)(3) organization as designated by the board of directors.~~

**ADOPTED** Yes-169, No-13

**RESOLUTION 15-05-04 Concordia Plan Services**

**WHEREAS**, Concordia Plan Services is the preeminent provider of health, retirement and disability benefits for church workers throughout the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod; and **WHEREAS**, significant detrimental consequences may occur to both employer and employee upon withdrawal from Concordia Plan Services; and

**WHEREAS**, Concordia Plan Services has continued to improve and update benefits to better serve the needs of the employees and employers of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod; and **WHEREAS**, Concordia Plan Services introduced “The Church’s Plan” to offer additional retirement benefits and the option of a 403(b) Tax Sheltered Annuity; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations, schools, associations and entities in the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod be encouraged to participate in the Church’s Plan for their employees.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Administration Floor Committee was dismissed and thanked for their work.

Richard Jostes representing the St. Louis Seminary addressed the convention.

Randy Wurschmidt representing the Ft. Wayne Seminary addressed the convention.

President Elect Rev. Peter K. Lange accompanied by his wife Marcia, addressed the convention.

Pastor Gruoner closed with prayer. The convention recessed.

**FOURTH SESSION**  
**Saturday, June 6, 2015, 8:30 am**

Rev. Rick Rostek, Fourth Vice President of the District led devotions using Responsive Prayer III

Mission Moment #5– LUMA Lutheran Urban Mission Agency

Rev. Joel Hiesterman, Mission Floor Committee chairman was called forward.

**RESOLUTION 15-01-03A To Encourage the Kansas District to Work Together in Mission**

**WHEREAS**, the communities of the *Kansas* District are rich fields of mission; and **WHEREAS**, the word “Synod” is formed from two (2) Greek words meaning “walk together down the same path”; and

**WHEREAS**, The 2013 LCMS Convention passed by an overwhelming majority Resolution 2-08, “To Challenge Congregations to Engage in Works of Mercy in Their Communities”; and

**WHEREAS**, The 2013 LCMS Convention passed Resolution 3-08A, “To Reaffirm Faithful Church Revitalization as a Priority of the Office of National Mission by an overwhelming majority; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 2-11 “*Resolved*, That the LCMS Office of National Mission encourage districts and congregations to utilize the *Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs* training process and develop additional training materials to introduce, offer, sustain, and expand the existing efforts to encourage congregations to immerse and root themselves in their

immediate neighborhoods for the sake of proclaiming the Gospel” (*Today’s Business*, pp. 67-68); and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Pastors in their business meeting on October 14, 2013 in Hutchinson, KS gave approval to utilizing the *Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs* training program in the Kansas District; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District Board of Missions take the necessary steps to promote this vital program in the KS District; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District Assistant to the President, Missions and Stewardship report on this progress quarterly on the Kansas District website “Missions section.”

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

#### **RESOLUTION 15-01-05 Support of Lutheran Hour Ministries/Lutheran Laymen's League**

**WHEREAS**, Lutheran Hour Ministries/Lutheran Laymen's League (LHM/LLL) is an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and

**WHEREAS**, LHM/LLL continues to support the 4th year Seminarians through the Seminary Banquet, and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District LLL continues to support the training of Professional Church workers through its District Project, and

**WHEREAS**, LHM/LLL seeks to bring Christ to the nations and the nations to the church, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas District be encouraged to continue their support of the work of LHM/LLL, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas District make use of the programs of LHM/LLL, especially Mission U to train and equip God's people to reach out with the Gospel.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

#### **RESOLUTION 15-01-06 Recognize Marvin Kohlmeier’s Years of Service as Mission Awareness Coordinator**

**WHEREAS**, Marvin Kohlmeier has been a dedicated servant for the past 18 years in the area of Mission; and

**WHEREAS**, He and his wife Karen have opened their home for the Guinea missionaries and escorted them to their Together in Mission congregations and partook in many “potluck” meals; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Kansas District congregations have listened to many bad jokes and stories for the past 18 years; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That those in attendance at the 2015 Kansas District Convention rise and sing the Doxology to the glory of God for Marvin’s work in the Kansas District.”

**ADOPTED BY SINGING THE DOXOLOGY**

Marvin Kohlmeier addressed the convention.

The Missions Floor Committee was dismissed and thanked for their work.

The Resolutions Floor Committee was called forward.

**RESOLUTION 15-06-02A To Encourage the KS District to Stand Together in Unity Against False Doctrine**

**WHEREAS** 1 Corinthians 16:13 (ESV) says, “Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong”, and

**WHEREAS** 2 Timothy 4:3 (ESV) says, “For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions”, and

**WHEREAS**, 2 Peter 2:1-3 (ESV) says, “But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed. And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep”; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, That the Kansas District in Convention, through the passing of this resolution and through the rising together and singing of “The Church's One Foundation” (LSB #644 - words printed below), publicly express its agreement and support for our elected leaders in regards to their zeal and concern for preserving the clear confession of the faith publicly held and proclaimed by the called workers of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

**“The Church’s One Foundation” – LSB 644** (*text and music: Public domain*)

1. The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation By water and the Word.  
From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
2. Elect from ev’ry nation, Yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses With ev’ry grace endued.
3. Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.
4. Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.
5. Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE AND SINGING**

The Resolutions Committee was dismissed and thanked for their work.

President Kohlmeier called Rev. Lee Hovel, Chairman of the Stewardship Floor Committee forward and he introduced the committee: Rev. Mark Wenger, Dave DeFreece, Dennis Hintz, Teddy Boettcher, Richard Schotte, Jeff Maltz and Dennis Koch.

### **RESOLUTION 15-04-01 Encourage Use of Kansas District Salary Guidelines**

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Kansas District Salary Guideline is to provide congregations with an objective approach to developing a salary plan for professional and lay workers who serve them; and

**WHEREAS**, the first step in salary administration in ~~churches~~ congregations must be prayer; and

**WHEREAS**, church workers are professionals and deserve comparable pay to other professionals in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District encourages congregations to make it possible for their workers to maintain a lifestyle comparable to their own in the community, and the workers should be paid accordingly; therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that congregations ask the Lord's guidance that His will be done and He may be glorified as they begin planning salaries for their congregation's workers; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that congregations of the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod be encouraged to follow and implement the Kansas District Salary Guidelines, as an entry point, in establishing compensation for their church workers.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

### **RESOLUTION 15-04-02 To Publicize the Availability of the Kansas District Budget Among Members of the Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, transparency leads to improved relational health in any organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the availability of an organization's budget is a key component of transparency; and

**WHEREAS**, an organization's budget is also a prime indicator of the values and priorities of that organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District currently makes widely available a brief (pie chart) synopsis of its budget, but only distributes the complete budget upon request; and

**WHEREAS**, many members of the Kansas District who would like to see the entire budget are not aware that it is available upon request from the District Business Manager; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that a standard reminder sentence about the availability of the entire budget upon request be included, in an appropriate place, in the public minutes of every meeting of the Kansas District Board of Directors; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the District Business Manager be encouraged to remind the professional workers of the Kansas District of the availability of the budget whenever he/she makes public remarks to conferences.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Stewardship Floor Committee was dismissed and thanked for their work.

Pastor Lee Hovel introduced the Visitation Ministry – Congregational Visits

Rev. Rick Rostek presented the second portion of the Strategic Ministry Planning Report to the convention.

Brad Peterson, Concordia Plan Services was introduced and addressed the convention.

Wellness Moment #4 – Rev. Jeff Duncan Wellness Journey

Rev. Dr. John Hirsch presented Essay #3 – “Commending of Self”

Rev. David Meier, Secretary of the District presented the Omnibus Resolutions

Omnibus A – refer to Board of Directors

### **OMNIBUS RESOLUTION A**

#### **15-06-06 To move the Kansas District Convention to April**

**WHEREAS**, the regular Kansas District Convention has been held in the month of June for many years now, and

**WHEREAS**, this scheduling poses many challenges to congregations, particularly in rural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, many other districts, including North Dakota, Minnesota South, and California-Nevada- Hawaii hold their regular conventions prior to June, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the District President, in consultation with the Board of Directors of the Kansas District investigate the feasibility of moving the Kansas District Convention to the last weekend of April, provided that it does not occur before Easter Sunday; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that if the opinion of the District President, in consultation with the Board of Directors, that holding the regular Kansas District convention on the last weekend of April is feasible, that the 2018 convention, and all further conventions, be so scheduled.

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

Omnibus B – refers back to a previous convention action

### **OMNIBUS RESOLUTION B**

**WHEREAS**, The District in convention has already spoken to this proposal addressed to this convention; and

**WHEREAS**, There is no compelling reason to amplify or to revise previous convention action relating to this proposal, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That in the following instance the petitioners be referred to previous convention action as indicated:

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference (Convention &amp; Resolution No.)</u>
15-05-05	To Request Voting Rights for Multi-Site Congregations	2012 Res. 01-01

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

Omnibus C – declines overture

### **OMNIBUS RESOLUTION C**

**WHEREAS**, the floor committee has considered all memorials assigned to it and has concluded, for various reasons, that certain memorials should be declined; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the following memorial be respectfully declined for the reasons given:

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
15-06-03	To Reaffirm the LCMS stance against Sacerdotalism and Grabauism	This is a matter for Circuit Visitors and Ecclesiastical supervisors

**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE**

Vendors announced the winners of their drawings.

Wellness moment #5 – Comfort Dog Ministry

Rev. Justin Panzer, Chairman of the Credentials Committee gave his final report – 84 Lay Delegates, 93 Pastoral Delegates, 19 Guests, 29 Advisory Delegates

The Credentials Committee was dismissed and thanked for their work.

The 72nd convention of the Kansas District stands adjourned, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Go in Peace, Serve the Lord, and tell someone about Jesus!

Pastor Rostek led us in closing devotions, using the devotion for NOON. The closing worship included the following installations:

President-Elect Peter Lange was installed by Third Vice President of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, the Rev. Daniel Preus, the Synodical Representative.

Vice Presidents, Circuit Visitors and Board of Directors were installed by President-Elect Lange.

Rev. David E. Meier  
Secretary, Kansas District LCMS

Addendum A  
**Strategic Planning survey results**

**Feedback Regarding Vision Targets**

**Friday/Saturday, June 5-6, 2015**

Based on the three vision themes you see here on the far left side of the strategic plan summary, which one most excites you in our work together? (158 responded)

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 40.5% (64) | Serving in Biblical Unity, Love and Community (Witness, Mercy and Life Together)                         |
| 17.7% (28) | The District Office Functions as a Highly Valued Partner   |
| 41.8% (66) | Congregations and Church Workers (Members of Synod) are Faithful and Purposeful in Ministering to People |

**Feedback Regarding Breakthrough Goals**

1. Of the breakthrough goals you see listed here, which one rises to the top for you as a priority for the District and our work together? (160 respondents)

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 42.5% (68) | Break down walls that separate us and affirm who we are as baptized children of God   |
| 23.8% (38) | Shape strategic frameworks for a network of congregations with similar affinity   |
| 33.8% (54) | Establish the voice of District leadership and Staff as champions of Biblical unity, love, and community (witness, mercy and life together) |

2. Of the breakthrough goals you see listed here, which one rises to the top for you as a priority for the District and our work together? (160 respondents)

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 15.1% (29)  | Demonstrate the relevance of the ministry of the District Office  |
| 64.4% (103) | Align the competence of the District Office with the needs and opportunities of the workers and congregations |
| 17.5% (28)  | Be disciplined listeners District-wide  |

3. Of the breakthrough goals you see listed here, which one rises to the top for you as a priority for the District and our work together? (156 respondents)

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 67.2% (108) | Assist church workers and church leaders with ministry strategies for congregations to reach their local communities (outreach) |
| 26.3% (41)  | Assist church workers and church leaders with ministry strategies for its membership  |
| 4.5% (7)    | Establish a process for measuring and evaluating mission and ministry at the local level  |