



**“Imagine ... Living as God’s Forgiven and Forgiving Family”**  
(Ephesians 3:20-21)

**100<sup>th</sup> Michigan District Convention**  
**Concordia University Ann Arbor**  
**June 24 - 27, 2012**

**Proceedings and Bylaws**



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Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen"*

*Ephesians 3:20-21*

With dependence on the immeasurable capacity, readiness, and record of God in Christ working powerfully His goodness in and for the church, delegates of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod gathered on the campus of Concordia University Ann Arbor, for the 100th Regular Convention of the District, June 24-27, 2012.

Assembling first for the purpose of receiving the Lord's divine favor in Word and Sacrament, district leaders and lay and pastoral delegates from 375 Lutheran congregations along with advisors and guests celebrated the Divine Service in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity before commencing duties of the convention. Only by Christ's work first within His people are hallowed goals, proposed initiatives, and salutary ends obtained.

Under the theme, *"Imagine ... Living as God's Forgiveness and Forgiving Family,"* the delegates envisioned future work, elected an able corps of leaders, and implored the Lord of the church to bless our united life in Christ which is both forgiven and forgiving.

These Proceedings are not only the result of work by the convention but express a readiness by congregations of the Michigan District to undertake specific initiatives to declare the glory of Christ in the church and to the world.

Only by faithfulness under Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions will our District continue in that course so greatly blessed over previous generations. We pray God therefore to consecrate, increase, and care for His people far beyond all human thought or appeal.

May the blessed Name of Christ Jesus who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine guide and bless the Michigan District and all sacred service to and from her people. The enclosed reports, minutes, and articles of these Proceedings outline the objectives, resources, and leadership to advance our mutual works of ministry under the Gospel.

In all things may we who comprise the Michigan District not only *"Imagine ... Living as God's Forgiveness and Forgiving Family"* but have the same abundantly realized in every aspect of our witness and work throughout the coming triennium.

Rev. David H. Reed  
Michigan District Secretary

# Officers

## The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President (2013)  
1st Vice-President: Rev. Herbert C. Mueller, Jr. (2013)  
2nd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. John C. Wholrabe, Jr. (2013)  
3rd Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier (2013)  
4th Vice-President: Rev. Daniel Preus (2013)

5th Vice-President: Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray (2013)  
Secretary: Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Hartwig (2013)  
Chief Administrative Officer: Mr. Ronald P. Schultz (Appointed)  
Chief Financial Officer: Mr. Jerald C. Wulf (Appointed)  
Chief Mission Officer: Rev. Gregory K. Williamson (Appointed)

## Michigan District

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, President (2015)

1st Vice-President: Rev. Mark D. Brandt (2015)  
2nd Vice-President: Rev. Donald O. Neuendorf (2015)  
Secretary: Rev. David H. Reed (2015)

3rd Vice-President: Rev. David A. Davis (2015)  
4th Vice-President: Rev. John M. Duerr (2015)  
Treasurer: Mr. William H. Young (2015)

## Michigan District Circuit Counselors (2015)

- |                        |                          |                            |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Charles B. Burhop   | 16. Craig M. Meyer       | 32. Lawrence K. Matro      |
| 2. Jason L. Mandley    | 17. Kendall L. Schaeffer | 33. Ainslie B. Wagner      |
| 3. Dean R. Muhle       | 18. Cary M. Richert      | 34. John A. Bookshaw       |
| 4. Michael W. Schaedig | 19. John E. Merrill      | 35. Timothy W. Olson       |
| 5. Michael G. Buchhorn | 20. Steven J. Essenburg  | 36. E. Anthony Sikora      |
| 6. William H. Allwardt | 21. Eddie Morales        | 37. Joseph Fremer          |
| 7. Kenneth D. Lueke    | 23. Erwin M. Hutter      | 38. Dennis L. Lassanske    |
| 8. Michael S. Allen    | 24. Bruce K. Lucas       | 39. Christopher M. Boehnke |
| 9. Robert G. Gaden     | 25. Randy S. Duncan      | 40. Mark W. Love           |
| 10. William W. Hessler | 26. Terry A. Nelson      | 41. Scott G. Sommerfeld    |
| 11. Erik K. Cloeter    | 27. Thomas M. Lubeck     | 42. David H. Sidwell       |
| 12. Dean G. Dumbrille  | 28. Douglas M. Adams     | 43. Michael J. Roth        |
| 13. John C. Kaiser     | 29. Larry G. Courson     | 44. L. Daniel Johnson      |
| 14. Gerhardt A. Doroh  | 30. Joel H. Sarrault     |                            |
| 15. Edward J. Steeh    | 31. Todd J. Brunworth    |                            |

# Boards and Committees

## Board of Directors

<u>Region</u>	<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>	
Metro East: (2018)	Norman A. Koy	Natalie A. Haupt	Stephen R. Boergert	Williard C. Ducharme
West: (2018)	Craig L. Bickel	Richard C. Krueger	Ruth E. Martin	John C. Raffel
Metro West: (2015)	Paul M. Moldenhauer	Harvey M. Schmit	Christine Chauvin	Duane A. Renken
North & East: (2015)	Paul D. Theiss	James C. Anderson	Dale Gust	Larry A. Bauermeister

## Church Extension Fund Board of Trustees

<u>Rostered</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>	
Robert B. Appold (2015)	Joseph Carabell (2015)	Timothy H. Haberling (2018)
Joel F. Hoyer (2018)	David C. C. Eberhard (2018)	Jeffrey T. Roscoe (2018)
Julian Petzold (2015)	James R. Saalfeld (2015)	David C. Vallie (2015)

**Staff:** Ronald L. Steinke, President & CEO; Paul Wills, VP for Marketing; John Bates, VP & CFO

## 2012 Convention Nominating Committee

<u>Region</u>	<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>
Metro East:	Thomas F. Fischer	Terry M. Davis	Phillip J. Fluegge
Metro West:	Daryl L. Andrzejewski	Steven A. Schwecke	Philip M. Krauss II
North & East:	Paul R. Hinz	Eric R. Smith	John W. Nutzmann
West:	Scott G. Sommerfeld	Susan L. Truog	Karla M. Woell

## Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support

<u>Ordained</u>	<u>Commissioned</u>	<u>Laypersons</u>
Gary L. Beck	Gregory Arnett	Catherine Lick
Mark W. Hetzner, Chairman	Beverly Koch	Roger Pickering
Daniel W. Ramthun	Kathy Krause	
Bryan R. Salminen	Amanda Neumeyer	
Richard J. Wolfram		

**Ex-Officio:** Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier

## Commission on Deacon Qualification

### Ordained

Rev. Todd Frusti  
Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper, Advisory  
Rev. Dr. Robert Schultz, Advisory

### Commissioned

Mr. Dale Vorwerk  
H. James Boldt, Chairman

### Laypersons

Mrs. Christine Brown  
Mr. Walter W. Storm, Secretary/Treasurer

## District Reconcilers

### Ordained

Rev. Gary L. Bender  
Rev. Terry E. Hoese

### Laypersons

Mr. Duane F. Nagel  
Mr. Duane A. Renken

## New/Revised Constitution Committee

Rev. Theodore Voll, Chairman, Rev. Arnold H. Brammeier, Mr. James Garber, Mr. A. William Rolf

## District Attorney

Mr. Dana Dever

## District Standing Committees

### Stewardship Committee:

Mr. Ronald Chewning, Rev. John M. Duerr, Mr. Larry H. Rockensuess, Sr., Rev. R. William Roper,  
Rev. Stephen E. Schilke, Ms. Mary Smith

### Education Committee:

Mr. Robert Hoch, Mr. Joel Bahr, Mr. David Truog, Mr. Ronald Dressler, Mrs. Jane Dohrmann, Mr. Steve Meseke,  
Mr. Charles Strohacker, Mr. Michael Rosin, Mr. Carl Hall, Ms. Janet Larocque, Mr. Jim Landskroener

## District Committees

### Endowment Advisory Council:

Mr. Stephen Boergert, Mr. John Bates, Mr. Raymond Zavada, Mr. Michael Greve, Mr. Adam Heinlein, Mr. Jack Keller,  
Rev. John Bush, Mr. Jack Kidwell, Mr. Wayne Franke, Mr. Chad Woltemath, Mr. William Young, Rev. David Maier

### Health Advocates Task Force:

Mrs. Kim Baker RN, Ms. Catherine Lick RN, Ms. Mary Lou Temple RN, Mrs. Judy Eick RN, Mrs. Jo Anne Iseler

### Children & Family Ministry Task Force:

Rev. Todd Biermann, Mrs. Ann Colley, Mr. Mark Nimtz, Mr. David Sheldon, Ms. Christine Stodola

### Youth & Family Ministry Task Force:

Mr. James Heuseman, Ms. Patricia J. Kernstock, Rev. Nicholas Koschmann, Ms. Emily Norman, Mr. John Welte

### Junior High Gathering Planning Committee:

Mr. James Anderson, Mrs. Katherine Duvendeck, Mr. Luke Esselman, Mr. Adan (Chris) Garcia, Mrs. Kristin Hardy,  
Ms. Brenda Heissenbuettel, Mrs. Kimberly Holdeman, Mrs. Rachel Hinz, Mr. Josh Kittleman, Mrs. Terri Kober,  
Mrs. Michelle Kranz, Mrs. Kelly Meyer, Mrs. Dawn Rupe

### Senior High Gathering Planning Committee:

Mr. James Anderson, Mrs. Robin Bratton, Rev. James Bruner, Rev. Anthony Creeden, Mrs. Janette Hart,  
Mr. Keith Minda, Mr. Eric Steinke

### Lutheran Adult Gathering Planning Committee:

Mr. Richard Bearup, Mrs. Judy Bearup, Rev. John Rauh, Mrs. LaVerne Rauh, Mr. William Rauh, Mrs. Carol Rauh,  
Mr. Dennis Sohn, Mrs. Miriam Sohn, Mr. Keith Waller, Mrs. Kim Waller, Mr. Daniel Stoelting, Mrs. Lara Stoelting,  
Rev. David Davis, Mrs. Sallie Davis, Mr. Al Hirt, Mrs. Shirley Hirt, Mr. Ronald Steinke, Mrs. Peggy Steinke

### Commission on Mental Illness:

Rev. Mark Hill, Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper, Dr. Carolyn Koppenol, Mrs. Peggy Lett, Mrs. Carol Staudacher,  
Mrs. Linda La Tulip

### Principal's Planning Committee:

Mr. Jim Landskroener, Mr. Daniel Stoelting, Mr. Dan Burk, Mr. Bradley Massey

### School Accreditation Committee:

Mr. David Kusch, Mr. David Dembeck, Mr. Brian Young, Mrs. Cindy Brown, Mr. Mike Benter, Mr. Brad Feenstra,  
Mrs. Barbara Eisenman, Dr. Timothy Frusti, Ms. Janet LaRocque, Mr. Julian Petzold, Mr. David Waltz, Mr. Steve Meseke

### Early Childhood Cabinet:

Mrs. Judy Williams, Mrs. Kelley Fehn, Mrs. Deborah McDonald, Mrs. Kathleen Prusak, Mrs. Miriam Sohn, Mrs. Dawn  
States, Mrs. Shirley Wallace, Mrs. Kathi Pearson

### Athletic Competition Committee:

Mr. Kurt Hofmeister, Mr. John Boldt, Mr. Tim Siekmann, Mr. Larry Nocella, Mr. Jeff Wallace, Mr. Jeff Young,  
Mr. David King, Mr. Mark Schiefer, Mr. Joel Neumeyer, Mr. Scott Neumeyer, Mr. Fred Gallert, Mr. Jim Bunkelmann

### Finance Committee:

Mr. Larry Bauermeister, Mr. John Held, Rev. David Maier, Mrs. Ruth Martin, Rev. Paul Moldenhauer,  
Mr. Chad Woltemath, Mr. William Young, Dr. Harvey Schmit

# Staff

## Office of the President

Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, President  
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Kasper, Asst. to the President - Congregation Ministries / Ministry Support  
Rev. Harry C. Henneman, Call List Support  
Julie Strobl, Executive Asst. to the President  
Dawn Marone, Administrative Asst. to the President / Ministry Support  
Julie Nielsen-Schmidt, Chaplain - University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor

## Mission Outreach

Rev. Roosevelt Gray, Jr., Asst. to the President - Missions / Evangelism  
Christina Strobl, Administrative Asst. - Missions / Evangelism / Congregations Ministries / Family Ministries / Library Resources  
Rev. Christopher R. Bodley, Missionary-at-Large for A2E  
Rev. Steven Essenburg, Missionary-at-Large in Detroit  
Rev. Randy Johnson, Missionary-at-Large in New Buffalo  
Ingrid Draper, Entrepreneurial Education Director

## Congregation Ministries

Rev. Dr. Richard J. Wolfram, Asst. to the President - Congregation Ministries / Stewardship Ministries  
Rev. Galan D. Walther, Asst. to the President - Congregation Ministries / Family Ministries  
Jennifer Rumberger, Administrative Asst. - Congregation Ministries / Stewardship Ministries

## Lutheran Day Schools

Bruce Braun, Asst. to the President - Superintendent of Schools  
Carol Williams, Administrative Asst. - Schools  
Mary Wagoner, Administrative Asst. - Schools / Call Lists & Accreditation

## Communications

Debby Fall, Asst. to the President - Communications  
Seth Hinz, Web/Media Director

## Development

Ray Zavada, Asst. to the President - Development  
Jenna Szpara, Administrative Asst. - Development / Art Director

## Business/Finance

Chad Woltemath, Asst. to the President - Business / Finance  
Donna Conrad, Administrative Asst. - Business / Finance  
Debra Cameron, Event Coordinator / Accountant  
Donna Piche, Manager - Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center

# List of Registrants

by: Robert D. Schafer, Chairman of Registration

This list contains only the names of those who actually registered and attended the convention. The entire list of professional church workers and congregations of the Michigan District appeared in the Convention Workbook and is not repeated here.

## Ministers – Ordained, Voting

Adams, Curtis W. - St. Paul, Coldwater  
Adams, Douglas M. - Emmanuel, Britton  
Allen, Michael S. - St. Paul, Unionville  
Allwardt, William H. - Zion, Bay City  
Andrzejewski, Darryl L. - Guardian, Dearborn  
Appold, Robert B. - St. Matthew, Grand Rapids  
Arendell, Mark W. - Calvary, Lincoln Park  
Arndt, Warren B. - Faith, Troy  
Astrowski, Leonard A. - Grace, Fairgrove  
Azzam, Timothy P. - Trinity, Oscoda  
Baerwolf, Robert D. - Norwalk, Onekama  
Ball, Joshua T. - St. Andrew, Memphis  
Bartzsck, Thomas W. - Messiah, Grand Rapids  
Baseley, Joel R. - Emmanuel, Dearborn  
Beck, Gary L. - St. Mark, Flint  
Beiderwieden, Theodore W. III - Trinity, Arcadia  
Belinsky, Michael G., Sr. - Our Savior, Benzonia  
Bendewald, Jon D. - Immanuel, Bridgman  
Benjamin, Scott E. - Resurrection, Detroit  
Bennett, Robert H. - Trinity, Reese  
Berlin, Mark E. - Redeemer, Interlochen  
Bickel, Craig L. - Immanuel, Grand Rapids  
Biermann, Todd A. - Faith, Grand Blanc  
Bira, Clifford F. - Holy Cross, Flushing  
Blain, James H. - St. James, Grand Rapids  
Boehne, Thomas V. - St. John's, Ludington  
Boehnke, Christopher M. - Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship, Spring Lake  
Boerger, Paul M. - Peace, Flint  
Bogda, David W. - St. John, Ionia  
Bomberger, Kenneth J. - Mount Olive, Grand Rapids  
Bookshaw, John A. - St. Peter's, Big Rapids  
Bowditch, Mark A. - Family of Christ, Comstock Park  
Boyer, Michael D. - Immanuel, Sebewaing  
Brandt, Mark D. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth  
Brazinsky, Thomas R. - Trinity, Buchanan  
Bruner, James R. - St. Paul, Millington  
Brunworth, Todd J. - Trinity, Gaylord  
Buchhorn, Michael G. - Zion, Auburn  
Buckert, Mark P. - Good Shepherd, Saginaw  
Burhop, Charles B. - St. Paul, Kincheloe / St. Barnabas, Sault Sainte Marie  
Bush, John L. - St. Paul, Trenton  
Cashmer, Terry L. - Christ The King, Southgate  
Chinery, James D. - St. Martin, Birch Run  
Clark, Paul M. - St. Paul, Fowler  
Claus, Terry A. - Faith, Highland  
Clemons, Daniel F. - Trinity, Newberry  
Cloeter, Erik K. - Messiah, Clio  
Collin, Richard W. - Grace, Baldwin  
Conradt, Robert J. - Our Redeemer, Muskegon  
Courson, Larry G. - Peace, Ann Arbor  
Daniel, David E. - United in Christ, Flint  
Davenport, Dean M. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia  
Davis, David A. - St. Luke, Haslett  
DeVries, Phillip M. - Messiah, Saginaw  
Dodge, David A. - Our Savior, Union City  
Doellinger, Paul M. - St. Paul, Cassopolis  
Doerner, Edward F. - Messiah, Midland  
Downs, G. Travis - Trinity, Lansing  
Draeger, Jeffrey G. - Our Redeemer, Washington  
Duerr, John M. - Hope, Warren  
Dumbrille, Dean G. - Trinity, Fenton  
Duncan, Randall S. - Living Word, Plymouth  
Eberhard, David - Historic Trinity, Detroit  
Eichinger, Kurt W. - Lord Of New Life, Midland  
Eilers, Gregory J. - St. John, Port Hope  
Eisinger, Alan P. - Holy Cross, Warren  
Elliott, Peter W. - Christ, Boyne City  
Etheridge, Daryl H. - St. Matthew's, Adrian  
Ferguson, Jack D. - Faith, Hawks  
Ferry, Charles D. - St. Mark's, West Bloomfield  
Filter, Edward W. - St. Andrew, Portland  
Fleming, David C. - Our Savior, Grand Rapids  
Frechette, Jeffrey D. Sr. - Bethlehem, Roseville  
Fremmer, Joseph - Good Shepherd, Lowell  
Frentz, Steven N. - Bethel, Howard City  
Frusti, Todd I - Trinity, Davison  
Gaertner, Evan P. - St. Paul, Hamburg  
Gatz, William A. - Grace, Leslie  
Gerke, Robert A. - St. Paul, Caledonia  
Giger, Scott W. - St. Luke, Ann Arbor  
Gillaspie, Wesley S. - St. Michael's, Richville  
Gilson, Mark E. - St. Mark, Muskegon  
Gnewuch, Carl M. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
Goers, Michael M. - St. Matthew, Spring Lake  
Grafe, Stephen D. - Messiah, Holt  
Grenz, Greyson D. - Trinity, Wyandotte  
Grimm, Dale A. - Our Savior, Chelsea  
Grimm, David A. - St. Paul's, Centreville / St. Paul's, Colon  
Gruenhagen, Andrew D. - St. Michael, Wayne  
Hales, Henry J. - St. John, Palms  
Haller, Mark J. - St. Peter's, Eastpointe  
Hanson, Michael B. - Trinity, Jackson  
Haupt, Dieter E. - St. John's, Grand Haven  
Hauser, Paul A. - Zion, Hemlock  
Heidt, Brian F. - St. Philip, Owosso  
Helms, Steven C. - Holy Redeemer, Dryden  
Herrod, J. Robert - First, Algonac  
Herter, Paul W. - Hope, Adrian  
Hess, Joel A. - Emmanuel, Cadillac  
Hessler, William W. - Faith, Bridgeport  
Hetzner, Mark W. - St. Thomas, Eastpointe  
Hile, John A. - Heart of the Shepherd, Howell  
Hinz, Paul R. - Peace, Saginaw  
Hoerr, Steven R. - St. Peter, Fair Haven  
Hoover, Chad E. - St. Paul, Kalkaska  
Hopkins, Paul G. - St. Michael, Rogers City  
Hoyer, Joel F. - Grace, Coopersville  
Hutter, Erwin M. - Our Redeemer, Taylor  
Jansen, Daniel L. - Faith, Prescott  
Johnson, L. Daniel - St. Paul's, Hillsdale  
Jones, Kevin C. - Immanuel, Bay City  
Jung, David A. - St. John, Pinconning  
Kaiser, John C. - St. Paul, Lapeer  
Kassen, John E. - Living Word, Rochester  
Ketelsen, Joshua C. - Holy Cross, Onaway  
Klemm, David R. - Peace, Shelby Township  
Kolzow, Calvin J., Jr. - Trinity, Sturgis  
Kopper, Glenn P. - Bethel, Grandville  
Korte, Michael R. - Bethlehem, Saginaw  
Koy, Norman A. - Trinity, Utica  
Krause, Daniel L. - Bethlehem, Glen Arbor  
Kroll, Micheal D. - Faith, Whitehall  
Krueger, James F. - Holy Cross, Saginaw  
Kruse, Paul G. - Light of Christ, Marysville  
Kuhlmann, Kurt P. - St. John, Burr Oak  
Lahrman, William C. - St. Luke, Nunica  
Lambart, Kurt E. - St. Matthew, Westland  
Lemley, Keith H. - Crown Of Life, Rochester Hills  
Loest, Mark A. - Immanuel, Saginaw  
Loewe, Timothy J. - Christ The King, Lambertville  
Loree, Larry K., Jr. - Holy Ghost, Monroe  
Love, Mark W. - St. Peter, Rockford  
Low, M. Robert - Faith, Mesick

Lubeck, Thomas M. - St. Paul, Northville  
 Lucas, Bruce K. - Immanuel, Monroe  
 Lueke, Kenneth D. - Our Savior, Bad Axe  
 Lunneberg, Allen D. - Incarnate Word, Rochester Hills  
 Lutz, Michael J. - Immanuel, Macomb  
 Mahlborg, Steven C. - Zion, Tawas City  
 Majeski, Eric W. - Grace, Romeo  
 Makela, Matthew M. - St. John's, Midland  
 Mandley, Jason L. - St. John, Hillman  
 Maske, Steven R. - St. Paul, Flint  
 Matro, Lawrence K. - Immanuel, Leland  
 Measel, Martin P. - Christ, Stevensville  
 Meckes, Daniel C. - Faith, Bay City  
 Mehdi-Khan, Amer - All Nations, Troy  
 Menz, Andrew P. - Salem, Coloma  
 Merrell, William D. - Peace, Waterford  
 Messer, Thomas C. - Peace, Alma  
 Meyer, Craig M. - Shepherd's Gate, Shelby Township  
 Meyer, Edward A. - St. Mark, Saginaw  
 Meyer, Melvin M. - Trinity, Berrien Springs  
 Mikkelson, Robert L. - St. Paul, Hubbard Lake  
 Milatz, Mark D. - Shepherd Of The Lakes, Brighton  
 Moldenhauer, Paul M. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake  
 Monson, Paul C. - St. Augustine, Troy  
 Morales, Eddie - Outer Drive Faith, Detroit  
 Moritz, Ronald C. - Trinity, Paw Paw  
 Morris, William L. - Immanuel, Alpena  
 Morrison, Rodney L., Jr. - Hope, Saint Helen  
 Mueller, Barry L. - Christ, New Baltimore  
 Muhle, Dean R. - St. Paul, Hale  
 Mundt, Richard E. - St. Peter, Hemlock  
 Naumann, Paul R. - St. Michael, Portage  
 Neigh, Dennis J. - Faith, Harrisville / Good Shepherd, Ossineke  
 Nelson, Terry A. - Cross of Christ, South Lyon  
 Neuendorf, Donald O. - St. Paul, Ann Arbor  
 Neujahr, Troy R. - Our Saviour, Hudson  
 Newberg, Steven E. - Lutheran Church Of The Lakes, Addison  
 Newton, Steven M. - Grace, Canton  
 Nickel, Peter S. - Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods  
 Nihiser, James L. - St. Michael's & All Angels, Traverse City  
 Olsen, Roy C. - Our Savior, Lansing  
 Olson, Timothy W. - First, Charlotte  
 Pape, Richard E. - Christ, Milford  
 Parent, Raymond D. - Redford, Detroit  
 Penhallegon, Philip W. - St. Paul, Milan  
 Pflug, Mark R. - St. John, Cheboygan  
 Poellet, Dean R. - St. Matthew, Holt  
 Pollatz, Paul A. - Mount Hope, Allen Park  
 Potter, Jeffrey R. - Trinity, Reed City  
 Rahn, Dennis D. - Trinity, Manistee  
 Ramthun, Daniel W. - St. Stephen, Detroit  
 Ransdell, Charles E., Jr. - Faith, Port Huron  
 Redmann, James C. - Grace, Elk Rapids  
 Reed, David H. - Grace, Auburn  
 Reith, Samuel B. - Zion, Mount Pleasant  
 Richert, Cary M. - Redeemer, Birmingham  
 Rohwer, Gary E. - Atonement, Dearborn  
 Roper, R. William - Trinity, Monroe  
 Roth, Michael J. - Trinity, Saint Joseph  
 Rufner, David J. - New Hope, Hudsonville  
 Salminen, Bryan R. - St. John, Saint Johns  
 Sarrault, Joel H. - St. John, Adrian  
 Schaedig, Michael W. - St. Luke, Harrison  
 Schaeffer, Kendall L. - St. Trinity, Clarkston  
 Schindel, Bryan K. - Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti  
 Schleicher, John C. - Christ Our Savior, Holland  
 Schmidt, Erik R. - Community, Flat Rock  
 Schouweiler, James A. - Redeemer, Fremont  
 Schreiber, John R. - St. John, Rogers City  
 Schroeder, James E. - Our Savior, Scottville  
 Schroeder, Thomas L. - Christ Our King, Saline  
 Schultz, Randall P. - Our Savior, Flint  
 Schultz, Robert J. - Nativity, Saint Charles  
 Schultz, Roderick D. - Our Redeemer, Dearborn  
 Schulz, Charles R. - St. Thomas, Ann Arbor

Schulz, Michael P. - Holy Cross, Oxford  
 Schwartz, John W. - Peace, Warren  
 Schwichtenberg, Marc N. - St. John, Rochester  
 Schwieger, Alan J. - Immanuel, Saint Clair  
 Seeber, Timothy W. - Zion, Kalamazoo  
 Sgambelluri, Carlo A. - Living Water, Mio / Our Savior, Glennie  
 Sherouse, M. Samuel, Jr. - Our Saviour, Armada  
 Sherry, David F. - Trinity, Bay City  
 Sidwell, David H. - Immanuel, Kalamazoo  
 Siefert, Gary L. - St. Paul, Battle Creek  
 Sikora, E. Anthony - Hope, DeWitt  
 Smith, Bradley A. - St. John, Fraser  
 Snider, Merelyn R. - Trinity, Pinckney  
 Solum, David R. - Chapel Of The Lakes, Mecosta  
 Sommerfeld, Scott G. - Holy Cross, Jenison  
 Spence, Kenneth M. - Greenfield Peace, Detroit  
 Stahl, Michael G. - Trinity-St. James, Munger  
 Starke, Stephen P. - St. John, Bay City  
 Steeh, Edward J. - St. John, Ray  
 Steele, Cameron K. - St. Paul, Caro  
 Stolarczyk, Steven M. - Good Shepherd, Caseville  
 Straub, Roger K. - Good Shepherd, Lansing  
 Strenge, Karl N. - Redemption, Battle Creek  
 Sundaradhas, Arul John A. - Faith Tamil, Troy  
 Taylor, Kurt S. - St. John, New Boston  
 Teuscher, Michael L. - St. Peter, Sebewaing / St. John, Sebewaing  
 Theiss, Paul D. - St. Paul, Bay City  
 Thiel, Steven E. - Bethlehem, Lewiston  
 Thompson, Bert A. - St. Luke, Clinton Township  
 Thoms, Leo G. - St. John, Port Sanilac  
 Tino, Richard L. - Peace, Sandusky  
 Todd, Kelly D. - Christ, Goodrich  
 Travis, Howard S. - St. John, West Branch  
 Trosien, Carl F. - Pilgrim, Essexville  
 Ulm, David M. - Good Shepherd, Chesterfield  
 Undlin, Paul J. - Hosanna-Tabor, Redford  
 Verity, Timothy M. - St. Peter's, Richmond  
 Voigt, Eric W. - Immanuel, Rogers City  
 Voll, Theodore E. - Prince Of Peace, Clare  
 Wagener, Kenneth C. - St. Peter, Macomb  
 Wagner, Ainslie B. - Trinity, Onkama  
 Wagner, Robert V. - Holy Cross, Belding  
 Warsinski, Larry A. - Immanuel, Wheeler  
 Weiss, David E. - St. Timothy, Otisville  
 Wenskay, Lee C. - St. Paul, Pigeon  
 Werner, Paul G. - Living Hope of the Bay, Ray  
 Wilhelm, Jeffrey M. - Mount Calvary, Greenville  
 Williams, Rodger L. - Divine Shepherd, Ann Arbor  
 Williamson, Kenneth L. - Calvary, Carson City  
 Wilson, Richard G. - Trinity, Minden City  
 Winningham, David C. - Ascension, East Lansing  
 Winningham, Ryan A. - Zion, Holland  
 Winter, William C. - St. John, Houghton Lake  
 Witte, Mark K. - Grace, Monroe  
 Wonderly, Daniel A. - Pilgrim, Burton  
 Wright, Larry D. - Our Savior, Midland  
 Wurst, Robert W., Jr. - St. Pauls, Cedar  
 Yops, Bradley J. - Newlife Community, Swartz Creek  
 Young, Paul V. - St. Paul, Sanford  
 Zagore, Robert M. - Trinity, Traverse City  
 Zeile, Richard A. - St. John's, Taylor

## Ministers – Ordained, Advisory

Abatelli, Kirk W. - St. Paul, Millington  
 AuBuchon, Stanley R. - Emeritus, Monroe  
 Avers, Harold A. - Emeritus, Detroit  
 Bagnall, George Stevens - Good Shepherd, Cass City  
 Bakker, Jonathon J. - Zion, Mount Pleasant  
 Bayer, Robert F. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia  
 Bender, Gary L. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth  
 Blythe, Richard J. - St. Paul, Trenton  
 Bodley, Christopher R. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Couch, Mark T. - Zion, Kalamazoo  
 Creeden, Anthony M. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia

Doroh, Gerhardt A. - Emeritus, Columbus  
 Erber, David M. - Lutheran Church of Nigeria  
 Erickson, James D. - Immanuel, Alpena  
 Essenburg, Steven J. - Missionary at Large - Detroit  
 Fairbairn, Christopher D. - St. Paul, Northville  
 Fandrey, James E. - Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb  
 Flory, Mark S. - St. Peter, Petersburg  
 Fluegge, Wilton H. - Emeritus, Macomb  
 Flynn, Daniel J. - St. Luke, Ann Arbor  
 Gohn, David P. - Community, Flat Rock  
 Graves, K. Frank - Emeritus, Grand Rapids  
 Gray, Roosevelt, Jr. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Grimm, Gerald E. - Emeritus, Warren  
 Haenftling, James F. - Emeritus, Mancelona  
 Hagenow, Martin J. - Emeritus, Hemlock  
 Hakes, David E. - Emeritus, Reese  
 Hamilton, George O. - Emeritus, Zeeland  
 Heckert, Jakob K. - Emeritus, Ann Arbor  
 Heins, John L. - Emeritus, Saline  
 Hemme, Seth R. - Zion, Auburn  
 Herzog, John A. - Emeritus, Chesterfield Township  
 Hoesman, C. William - Emeritus, Frankenmuth  
 Huber, David G. - Emeritus, Plymouth  
 Johnson, Randy L. - Missionary at Large - New Buffalo  
 Jorg, R. Blaine - Faith, Whitehall  
 Kasper, Robert E. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Kaufmann, Reinald - Living Word, Plymouth  
 Kleimola, Dale M. - Emeritus, Jackson  
 Koeppen, Robert D. - Emeritus, Midland  
 Koschmann, Nicholas W. - St. Paul, Trenton  
 Kostizen, Erwin - Emeritus, Highland  
 Kromer, John C. - Emeritus, Mullett Lake  
 Krueger, Dale B. - Emeritus, Kalamazoo  
 Krugler, Richard A. - Emeritus, Rochester Hills  
 Larsen, Peter E. - Emeritus, Ann Arbor  
 Lewis, Bertram B. - Tabernacle of Praise, Romulus  
 Lorenz, Gregory M. - St. Peter, Macomb  
 Mackowiak, John E. - Our Savior, Lansing  
 Maier, David P. E. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Maier, Paul L. - Emeritus, Kalamazoo  
 Marshall, Robert H., Jr. - Riverview  
 McDonald, Gilbert K. - Lutheran High Northwest, Rochester Hills  
 Merrill, John E. - Emeritus, Roseville  
 Meyer, John W. - Emeritus, Redford  
 Moyer, Jonathan J. - Faith, Grand Blanc  
 Mueller, John F. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
 Mullen, Nicholas A. - St. Matthew, Grand Rapids  
 Nelson, Robert J. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake  
 Northend, William A. - Faith, Grand Blanc  
 Paulson, Warren L. - Emeritus, Ypsilanti  
 Pool, Charles H. - Emeritus, Cedar  
 Prouty, Albert I. - Emeritus, Taylor  
 Rahn, Robert L. - Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Macomb  
 Ramthun, Marvin W. - Emeritus, Lapeer  
 Richert, Aaron M. - Lutheran High Northwest, Rochester Hills  
 Roberts, Robert R. - Emeritus, Bay City  
 Robinson, Richard E. - Westland  
 Roland, Ronald B. - Chesterfield  
 Rossow, Richard H. - Emeritus, Prudenville  
 Ruediger, Paul G. - Emeritus, Rose City  
 Sattelmeyer, Glenn O. - Emeritus, Rochester Hills  
 Scherbarth, Ray E. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
 Schilke, Stephen E. - Emeritus, Bay City  
 Schmitt, Frederick A. - Sterling Heights  
 Schneider, Keith A. - Emeritus, Cheboygan  
 Schroeder, Roy P. - Emeritus, East Lansing  
 Schultz, Ronald C. - Grace, Monroe  
 Shuta, Richard J. - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
 Stahlhut, Stephen C. - Linden  
 Staudacher, Theodore L. - Emeritus, Lake Leelanau  
 Veitengruber, Donald P. - Emeritus, Greenville  
 Walther, Galan D. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Wangelin, William R. - Holy Cross, Jenison  
 Wentzel, Michael W. - St. Paul, Ann Arbor  
 Witto, Lawrence E. - Emeritus, Fenton

Wolff, Paul A. - Southfield  
 Wolfram, Richard J. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Wuggazer, Mark T. - Redeemer, Birmingham  
 Yang, Lang - St. Michael's, Richville

## Lay Delegates, Voting

Addison, Lutheran Church Of The Lakes - Wyman, Ronald W.  
 Adrian, Hope - Vergiels, Michael  
 Adrian, St. John - Hansen, Tom R.  
 Albion, St. Paul - Cook, Greg  
 Algonac, First - Most, Paul R.  
 Allen Park, Mount Hope - Sanker, John V.  
 Alma, Peace - Blair, Gabriel K.  
 Alpena, Immanuel - Kersten, Alfred A.  
 Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd - Lavigne, Jesse D.  
 Ann Arbor, Peace - Ramos, Juan  
 Ann Arbor, St. Luke - Felgner, Kellie  
 Ann Arbor, St. Paul - Martin, David  
 Ann Arbor, St. Thomas - Malocha, Robert  
 Arcadia, Trinity - DeLanoy, Robert  
 Armada, Our Saviour - Clay, Dave  
 Auburn, Grace - VanTol, Steven  
 Auburn, Zion - Engelhardt, Leroy J.  
 Bad Axe, Our Savior - Rumsey, Jon D.  
 Baldwin, Grace - Gibbons, William R.  
 Battle Creek, Redemption - Lantinga, Orv  
 Battle Creek, St. Mark - Kizzier, Monte  
 Battle Creek, St. Paul - Jiran, Susan K.  
 Bay City, Faith - Klepser, George  
 Bay City, Immanuel - Jones, Amy M.  
 Bay City, St. John - Enge, Jonathan M.  
 Bay City, St. Paul - Schmidt, Roy A.  
 Bay City, Trinity - Burk, Kenneth  
 Bay City, Zion - Haiderer, Donald  
 Belding, Holy Cross - Dahl, Darin  
 Belleville, Open Arms - Moore, Eric S  
 Benzonina, Our Savior - Pargeon, Roark V.  
 Berrien Springs, Trinity - Hildebrand, Greg R.  
 Big Rapids, St. Peter's - Rios, Scott J.  
 Birch Run, St. Martin - Crawford, Jeff A.  
 Birmingham, Our Shepherd - Curley, Kevin  
 Birmingham, Redeemer - Tafel, Andrew J.  
 Boyne City, Christ - Kelly, William  
 Bridgeport, Faith - Christiansen, Donald  
 Brighton, Shepherd Of The Lakes - Fitzpatrick, Jim  
 Britton, Emmanuel - Davis, Wayne  
 Buchanan, Trinity - Brazinsky, Shirley M.  
 Burr Oak, St. John - Milliman, Donald  
 Cadillac, Emmanuel - Champion, David  
 Caledonia, St. Paul - Browne, Clifton W.  
 Caro, St. Paul - Gettel, Daniel  
 Carson City, Calvary - Brown, Anthony  
 Caseville, Good Shepherd - Zemke, Gary W.  
 Cass City, Good Shepherd - Balzer, Daniel H.  
 Cassopolis, St. Paul - Frechette, David  
 Cedar, St. Pauls - Barcey, Scott  
 Cheboygan, St. John - Meyer, Richard D.  
 Chelsea, Our Savior - Pieper, Dennis  
 Chesterfield, Good Shepherd - Lietz, Barry W.  
 Clarkston, St. Trinity - Remus, Willis W.  
 Clinton Township, St. Luke - Saal, Thomas A.  
 Clio, Messiah - Nutzmann, John W.  
 Coldwater, St. Paul - Patch, Ron  
 Coloma, Salem - Worden, Caitlin  
 Comstock Park, Family of Christ - Bowditch, William A.  
 Conklin, Trinity - Beuschel, David  
 Coopersville, Grace - Seppamaki, Ray  
 Davison, Trinity - Anger, Casey  
 Dearborn, Atonement - Becker, Shirley E.  
 Dearborn, Emmanuel - Schott, William M.  
 Dearborn, Guardian - Oberly, Dennis G.  
 Detroit, Bethany - Rowe, Gerald A.  
 Detroit, Historic Trinity - Goddard, Randall L.  
 Detroit, Mount Calvary - Witte, Daryl

Detroit, Outer Drive Faith - Howard, Regina  
 Detroit, Redford - Hodge, Hattie  
 Detroit, Resurrection - Scanlon, James  
 Detroit, St. Stephen - Solano, John  
 DeWitt, Hope - Peskey, Dennis N.  
 Dryden, Holy Redeemer - Johnson, Helen E.  
 East Lansing, Ascension - Haubenstricker, John L.  
 Eastpointe, St. Peter's - Beck, Ronald G.  
 Eastpointe, St. Thomas - Baus, Frederick III  
 Elk Rapids, Grace - Orth, Donavon  
 Essexville, Pilgrim - Thompson, Jerry  
 Fair Haven, St. Peter - Boike, William R.  
 Fairgrove, Grace - Weber, David L.  
 Farmington Hills, St. Paul's - Bremer, Ross  
 Fenton, Trinity - Paehlke, Glenn A.  
 Flat Rock, Community - Carter, Eric T.  
 Flint, Calvary - Osborn, Roger  
 Flint, Our Savior - Roberts, Tom  
 Flint, Peace - Boerger, Jonathan  
 Flint, Redeemer - Weston, Linda  
 Flint, St. Mark - Gutgesell, George  
 Flint, St. Paul - Smith, Donald  
 Flint, United in Christ - Laurin, Mike  
 Fowler, St. Paul - Shankel, Roy D.  
 Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz - Kern, Ronald C.  
 Fraser, St. John - Scharich, Scott  
 Fremont, Redeemer - Whittle, Mark  
 Gaylord, Trinity - Raitchel, Thomas W.  
 Gladwin, Our Savior - Hetherington, Don  
 Goodrich, Christ - Putz, Leo L.  
 Grand Blanc, Faith - Koke, John D.  
 Grand Haven, St. John's - Haupt, Ruth A.  
 Grand Rapids, Immanuel - Saalfeld, James R.  
 Grand Rapids, Messiah - Oppeneer, Randal R.  
 Grand Rapids, Our Savior - Dierking, Keith  
 Grand Rapids, St. James - Kirt, Charles H.  
 Grand Rapids, St. Matthew - Hartwell, Will  
 Grandville, Bethel - Kopper, Karen L.  
 Grayling, Mount Hope - Bendick, Kenneth  
 Greenville, Mount Calvary - Tichelaar, Timothy P.  
 Hale, St. Paul - Carmichael, James J.  
 Hamburg, St. Paul - Richardson, Ted  
 Harrison, St. Luke - Hubbard, Gerald  
 Harrisville, Faith - Neigh, Barbara  
 Haslett, St. Luke - Fehr, Susan E.  
 Hawks, Faith - Ferguson, Kathryn W.  
 Hemlock, St. Peter - Bluemer, James  
 Hemlock, Zion - Armstrong, Jack F.  
 Highland, Faith - Erfourth, William  
 Hillsdale, St. Paul's - McArthur, Douglas  
 Holland, Christ Our Savior - Campbell, Bruce  
 Holland, Zion - Albrecht, Ken  
 Holt, Messiah - Lack, William  
 Holt, St. Matthew - Harns, David L.  
 Houghton Lake, St. John - Pedersen, C. Richard  
 Howard City, Bethel - Brady, Frank  
 Howell, Heart of the Shepherd - Hart, Richard  
 Hubbard Lake, St. Paul - Neddermeyer, William R.  
 Hudsonville, New Hope - Chambers, Dan  
 Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods - Ducharme, Williard C.  
 Imlay City, Family of Christ - Haver, William L. III  
 Interlochen, Redeemer - Burch, Bradley  
 Ionia, St. John - Knapp, Mike  
 Jackson, Trinity - Hans, Harry  
 Jenison, Holy Cross - Fisk, Terry  
 Kalamazoo, Immanuel - Mollet, Tom  
 Kalkaska, St. Paul - Stout, Phillip R.  
 Kentwood, St. Mark - Pillsbury, Paul E.  
 Kincheloe, St. Paul - Scheil, Henry  
 Kinde, St. Peter - Brade, Donald E.  
 Lake Orion, Good Shepherd - Lobser, Donald  
 Lambertville, Christ The King - Ray, Ed T.  
 Lansing, Good Shepherd - Hoels, Lisa M.  
 Lansing, Our Savior - Sohn, O. Dennis  
 Lansing, Trinity - Dowding, Robert

Lapeer, St. Paul - Slaten, Mark F.  
 Leland, Immanuel - Spinniken, Donald E.  
 Leslie, Grace - Wood, James  
 Lewiston, Bethlehem - Vasher, Dennis  
 Lexington, St. Matthew - Grund, Peter  
 Lincoln Park, Calvary - Haas, Tedd W.  
 Linden, Hope - Golden, Kevin P.  
 Livonia, Christ Our Savior - Ingersoll, Mark  
 Lowell, Good Shepherd - Betz, Gary  
 Ludington, St. John's - Abel, Kenneth E.  
 Macomb, Immanuel - Haines, Jeff D.  
 Macomb, St. Peter - Weber, Russell C.  
 Mancelona, St. Matthew's - Fleet, John H.  
 Manistee, Trinity - Bednarczyk, Steven  
 Marlette, Our Savior - Knox, Jeffrey A.  
 Marshall, Zion - Zander, Thomas R.  
 Marysville, Light of Christ - Magneson, Scott S.  
 Mecosta, Chapel Of The Lakes - Langan, Michael  
 Memphis, St. Andrew - Maljak, Michael  
 Mesick, Faith - Diefenbach, John C.  
 Midland, Lord Of New Life - Nielsen, Richard E.  
 Midland, Messiah - Kreil, Dennis J.  
 Midland, Our Savior - Crawford, Jim  
 Midland, St. John's - Thompson, Ethan S.  
 Milford, Christ - Trace, Frank  
 Millington, St. Paul - Daenzer, Constance M.  
 Minden City, Trinity - Klaus, Dale A.  
 Mio, Living Water - Mitchell, Mitch  
 Monroe, Grace - Simmons, Kathie  
 Monroe, Holy Ghost - Kregel, Dale A.  
 Monroe, Immanuel - Steinborn, Martin  
 Monroe, Trinity - Wellhausen, Howard  
 Mount Pleasant, Zion - Gust, Dale D.  
 Munger, Trinity-St. James - Baylis, Aaron J.  
 Muskegon, Our Redeemer - Koppel, Alexander J.  
 Muskegon, St. Mark - Westgate, Jerry  
 Muskegon, Trinity - Bogema, Don E.  
 New Baltimore, Christ - Brady, Richard  
 New Boston, St. John - Davis, David A.  
 Newberry, Trinity - Price, Donald  
 Northville, St. Paul - Krause, Jerald  
 Nunica, St. Luke - Lahrman, Beth  
 Onaway, Holy Cross - Ketelsen, Stefani  
 Onekama, Norwalk - Matthews, James B.  
 Onekama, Trinity - Schalow, Dean  
 Ortonville, Prince Of Peace - Sternemann, Michael J.  
 Oscoda, Trinity - Hutchinson, Steve  
 Otisville, St. Timothy - Kircoff, Ken A.  
 Owosso, St. Philip - Daenzer, James  
 Oxford, Holy Cross - Bierema, Tim  
 Palms, St. John - Klaus, Ronald E.  
 Paw Paw, Trinity - Anderson, Linda C.  
 Pigeon, St. Paul - Welchner, Richard  
 Pinckney, Trinity - Meyer, Sharon E.  
 Pinconning, St. John - Michalski, Don F.  
 Port Hope, St. John - Bush, Kenneth  
 Port Huron, Faith - Edmondson, Bob  
 Port Huron, Trinity - Weichsler, John G.  
 Port Sanilac, St. John - LaForest, Gerald A.  
 Portage, St. Michael - Wendzel, Arlan  
 Portland, St. Andrew - Filter, Nancy A.  
 Prescott, Faith - Anderson, Mark  
 Quincy, Prince Of Peace - Beier, Beverly  
 Ray, Living Hope of the Bay - Aldis, Samuel  
 Ray, St. John - Lukacs, Andrew  
 Redford, Hosanna-Tabor - Hardoin, David  
 Reed City, Trinity - Prange, Delbert  
 Reese, Trinity - Pike, Daniel J.  
 Richmond, St. Peter's - Houston, Vern  
 Richville, St. Michael's - Hecht, James W.  
 Rochester Hills, Crown Of Life - Bane, Frederick  
 Rochester Hills, Incarnate Word - Lambert, David  
 Rochester, Living Word - Janetzke, Jim  
 Rochester, St. John - Evanson, Brian D.  
 Rockford, St. Peter - Haglund, Rebecca

Rogers City, Immanuel - Grainger, Donald  
 Rogers City, Peace - Rothe, Daniel E.  
 Rogers City, St. John - Karsten, Lawrence  
 Romeo, Grace - Monicatti, Terry  
 Roseville, Bethlehem - Conger, Ronald J.  
 Royal Oak, St. Paul - Kyle, John  
 Saginaw, Bethlehem - Kerouac, Kenneth A.  
 Saginaw, Good Shepherd - Mossner, Eugene D.  
 Saginaw, Holy Cross - Ebright, Ron  
 Saginaw, Immanuel - Kaul, Albert D.  
 Saginaw, Peace - Salvner, Ron  
 Saginaw, Redeemer - Winistorf, William F.  
 Saint Charles, Nativity - LaBelle, Larry H.  
 Saint Clair, Immanuel - Dunker, Steven  
 Saint Helen, Hope - Morrison, Barbara J.  
 Saint Johns, St. John - Roll, Billy  
 Saint Johns, St. Peter - Roberts, Gerald E.  
 Saint Joseph, Trinity - Matzke, Mark E.  
 Saline, Christ Our King - Fischer, Brian  
 Sandusky, Peace - Keinath, Gerald  
 Sanford, St. Paul - Barnard, Donald M.  
 Scottville, Our Savior - Lehrbass, Roger  
 Sebewaing, St. Peter - Kern, Richard  
 Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate - Zauel, Norman  
 South Lyon, Cross of Christ - Albin, Gary  
 Southgate, Christ The King - Stephens, Gene H.  
 Spring Lake, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship - McCulloch, Bob  
 Spring Lake, St. Matthew - Bascom, Robert  
 Stevensville, Christ - Panzica, Joe A.  
 Sturgis, Trinity - Kolzow, Lynda F.  
 Swartz Creek, Newlife Community - Rossow, David E.  
 Tawas City, Zion - Hart, Gary M.  
 Taylor, Our Redeemer - Howell, Walter  
 Taylor, St. John's - Fuchs, Hans D.  
 Traverse City, St. Michael's & All Angels - Miller, Rick  
 Traverse City, Trinity - Schneider, George R.  
 Trenton, St. Paul - Carson, Robert  
 Troy, St. Augustine - Boeberitz, Gerald  
 Union City, Our Savior - Dodge, Rebecca  
 Unionville, St. Paul - VanTol, Rebecca S.  
 Utica, Trinity - McGrady, Mike  
 Walled Lake, St. Matthew - Engelhardt, Larry N.  
 Warren, Holy Cross - Eisinger, Teryl E.  
 Warren, Hope - Howard, Daniel  
 Warren, Trinity - Pouliot, Russell R.  
 Washington, Our Redeemer - Riske, James M., Sr.  
 Waterford, Peace - Poe, Robert L. III  
 Waterford, St. Stephen - Wahnfried, Paul G.  
 Wayne, St. Michael - Whitbeck, Vernon , Jr.  
 Wellston, Beautiful Savior - Richardson, Jewel  
 West Bloomfield, St. Mark's - LoCascio, Thomas S.  
 Westland, Salem National - Leppanen, Norbert C.  
 Westland, St. Matthew - Hardy, Cathy  
 Wheeler, Immanuel - Warsinski, Pamela J.  
 Whittemore, Good News Ministries - David, Kenneth A.  
 Wyandotte, Trinity - Asmus, Gerald  
 Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection - Knickelbein, Paul K.  
 Ypsilanti, Faith - Mathena, Marvin  
 Bode, Timothy A. - Christ The King, Southgate  
 Bouma, Mari-Beth - Immanuel, Grand Rapids  
 Brandt, John M. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
 Braun, Bruce N. - Michigan District, LCMS, Ann Arbor  
 Brown, Cynthia A. - Zion, Harbor Beach  
 Brown, Mark A. - Trinity, Clinton Township  
 Davey, Stefanie E. - Trinity, Utica  
 Davis, Terry M. - Emeritus, Macomb  
 Dunklau, Edward H. - Emeritus, Macomb  
 Erber, Glenn R. - Emeritus, Jackson  
 Ernst, Timothy L. - Trinity, Saint Joseph  
 Fish, Dale W. - St. John, Bay City  
 Fricke, John M. - Emeritus, East Lansing  
 Garrabrant, Steven A. - Lutheran High South, Newport  
 Genig, Dennis K. - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
 Gerds, Fredrick A. - Emeritus, Royal Oak  
 Gibson, Lisette L. - Emeritus, Bay City  
 Gleim, Laura M. - St. Paul, Millington  
 Grage, Glenn G. - Faith, Bay City  
 Guenther, Vernon C. - Emeritus, Frankenmuth  
 Haupt, Natalie A. - Lutheran High North, Macomb  
 Hausch, Michael F. - St. Paul, Hamburg  
 Heissenbuettel, Monica M. - Ypsilanti  
 Hoch, Robert M. - St. Peter, Macomb  
 Hoeft, Stacy J. - Living Word, Rochester  
 Hoehne, Matthew J. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia  
 Hofmeister, Kurt R. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
 Holdeman, Kimberly S. - Grace, Monroe  
 Hollman, Linda M. - Christ Our Savior, Livonia  
 Hooper, Susan L. - Faith, Grand Blanc  
 Hueseman, James I. - Our Savior, Gladwin  
 Kalmes, Michael W. - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
 Kell, Delmar A. - Emeritus, Midland  
 Kell, Mary L. - Emeritus, Midland  
 Kempff, Elna M. - Emeritus, Reese  
 Koch, Beverly J. - St. John, Rochester  
 Kohtz, Roger O. - Emeritus, Dearborn  
 Krone, James R. - Lutheran Special Education Ministries, Farmington Hills  
 Krone, Walter K. - Guardian, Dearborn  
 Krueger, Richard C. - Messiah, Grand Rapids  
 Kruse, Lavern R. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake  
 Laeder, Leroy D. - Emeritus, Midland  
 Locke, George M. - Emeritus, Canton  
 Looker, Paul J. - Lutheran High Northwest, Rochester Hills  
 Marshall, David P. - Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti  
 Marshall, Margaret I. E. - Cross & Resurrection, Ypsilanti  
 Massey, Bradley R. - St. Paul, Ann Arbor  
 McDonald, Deborah M. - Living Word, Rochester  
 McDonald, Ian K. - Lutheran High Northwest, Rochester Hills  
 McLoughlin, Janet M. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
 Merrill, Kenlyn S. - Emeritus, Roseville  
 Meseke, Steven D. - Lutheran H. S. Association, Rochester Hills  
 Meyer, David J. - Emeritus, Alpena  
 Miles, Robert G. - Luth Child & Family Service, Bay City  
 Mol, James M. - St. Mark, Flint  
 Moro, Martin L. III - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
 Nieman, Lenore K. - St. John, Fraser  
 Nimitz, Mark A. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
 Nimitz, Wendy E. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
 Oechsner, Bryan P. - Lutheran High North, Macomb  
 Olson, John R. - Emeritus, Auburn  
 Petzold, Julian H. - Trinity, Clinton Township  
 Pfeiffer, Ann M. - St. Matthew, Westland  
 Pickelmann, Henry M. - Trinity, Bay City  
 Pike, Kamie L. - Trinity, Reese  
 Prange, Sherry L. - Trinity, Reed City  
 Priskorn, Gary J. - Redeemer, Birmingham  
 Reincke, John M. - Lutheran High North, Macomb  
 Rockensuess, Larry H., Sr. - Emeritus, Trenton  
 Rodriguez, Teresita - Missionary at Large to Hispanic  
 Rolf, Cheryl J. - Living Word, Rochester  
 Rolf, Eida C. - Emeritus, Saginaw  
 Roth, Leslie D. - Emeritus, Frankenmuth  
 Schafer, Robert D. - St. John, Rochester  
 Schaffer, Joel P. - St. John, New Boston

## Ministers – Commissioned, Advisory

Abraham, Caleb J. G. - St. Peter, Hemlock  
 Abraham, Emily J. - St. Peter, Hemlock  
 Adler, Barbara J. - Emeritus, Ann Arbor  
 Allen, Ronald M. - Emeritus, Ann Arbor  
 Anders, Brian L. - Trinity, Clinton Township  
 Anderson, James C. - St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth  
 AuBuchon, Barbara A. - Emeritus, Monroe  
 Aufdemberge, Theodore P. - Emeritus, Dexter  
 Auger, Robert G., Jr. - Our Savior, Bad Axe  
 Barz, Daniel S. - St. Paul, Buchanan  
 Beardsley, Ronald L. - Emeritus, Howell  
 Bickel, Randall J. - St. Martin, Birch Run  
 Bielby, Sara M. - Immanuel, Monroe  
 Block, Richard A. - Emeritus, Lambertville

Scheiderer, Paul M. - St. Luke, Clinton Township  
Schempf, Richard H. - Emeritus, Clarkston  
Schmidt, Paul M. - Emeritus, Melvindale  
Schmit, Harvey M. - St. Michael, Wayne  
Schroeder, Kenneth W. - Emeritus, Rogers City  
Schultz, Robert L. - Emeritus, Traverse City  
Schultz, Sarah M. - St. Trinity, Clarkston  
Schwaegerle, Judy L. - St. Matthew, Westland  
Schwecke, Steven A. - Lutheran High Westland, Westland  
Singleton, Lisa A. - St. James, Grand Rapids  
Skov, Neil M. - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
Smith, Eric R. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
Springer, Joel W. - Living Word, Rochester  
Strang, William J. - Emeritus, Westland  
Swim, Amy B. - Trinity, Saint Joseph  
Tedesco, Kimberly J. - St. Paul, Lapeer  
Thunder-Haab, Keturah A. - Emeritus, Ann Arbor  
Topel, Stanley R. - Emeritus, Sterling Heights  
Truog, David J. - St. Peter's, Big Rapids  
Truog, Susan L. - Emeritus, Big Rapids  
Twork, Clara J. - St. Paul, Ann Arbor  
von Fange, Erich A. - Emeritus, Adrian  
Weilnau, Jeanette N. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
Weismantel, Paul O. - Emeritus, Bath  
Weston, Amy J. - St. Matthew, Walled Lake  
Wills, Paul R. - Tecumseh  
Winter, Elizabeth A. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw  
Witte, Lucie E. - Emeritus, Roseville  
Wondrasch, Ruth M. - Emeritus, Saginaw  
Wroblewski, Richard E. - Emeritus, Sebewaing  
Zill, Steven E. - Saginaw Valley Lutheran High, Saginaw

## Other Registrants

Ajak, Simon A. - Trinity Sudanese, Lansing  
Avers, Marjory R. - Guest  
Balzer, Ruth E. - Guest  
Bauermeister, Larry A. - Board of Directors  
Bodley, Shikina - Guest  
Boergert, Stephen R. - Board of Directors  
Brandon, Rachel - Guest  
Cameron, Debra R. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Clous, Jenna - Padgett  
Conrad, Donna - Michigan District, LCMS  
Davenport, Amy - Guest  
Davis, Connie - Lutherans For Life of Michigan  
DeWees, Leah - Guest  
Doede, Mark R. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
Ekong, Linda M. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Erber, Joyce - Guest  
Erber, Lois - Guest  
Fall, Deborah S. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Fluegge, Victoria M. - Guest  
Gefers, Melissa - Padgett  
Gehm, David M. - Lutheran Homes of Michigan  
Gehm, Elaine - Lutheran Homes of Michigan  
Gladden, Dietrick - St. Paul Community, Pontiac  
Grimm, Lillian M. - Guest  
Grimpo, Phil - Inspimedia  
Guenther, Andrew - Guest  
Guenther, Leona C. - Guest  
Haenftling, P. Jeanne - Guest  
Hagenow, Karen - Guest  
Harrison, Matthew C. - President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Hartwig, Raymond L. - Secretary, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Heckert, Ilona - Guest  
Heins, Wilma - Guest  
Held, John E. - Board of Directors  
Hinz, Sally - Guest  
Hinz, Seth - Michigan District, LCMS  
Hoesman, Barbara - Guest  
Johnson, Donald T. - St. Paul, Albion  
Kelly, Dee - Guest  
Khumalo, Lindiwe - Guest  
Khumalo, Mandla - Essayist

Koschmann, Rachael - Guest  
Kromer, Carol - Guest  
Maier, Joel - Guest  
Maier, Leah - Guest  
Maier, Patricia - Guest  
Maier, Walter, II - Guest  
Makuach, John Deng - Trinity Sudanese, Lansing  
Marone, Dawn - Michigan District, LCMS  
Martin, Jeff - Guest  
Martin, Ruth E. - Board of Directors  
Mason, Kenneth - St. Peter, Petersburg  
McCoy, Robin - Padgett  
McMartin, Hugh - Guest  
Meinert, Rose - St. Mark, Flint  
Meyer, Helene - Guest  
Meyer, Janet - Guest  
Meyer, Judith A. - Guest  
Minetola, Victor - Guest  
Mueller, Herbert C., Jr. - Vice-President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Neuendorf, Karen E. - Guest  
Neuenfeldt, Jerry - Guest  
Nielsen-Schmidt, Julie A. - Michigan District Chaplain  
Paulson, Virginia - Guest  
Pickelmann, Janet M. - Guest  
Pool, Geri - Guest  
Rabe, Kate - Inspimedia  
Rabe, Micah - Inspimedia  
Raffel, John C. - Board of Directors  
Renken, Duane A. - Board of Directors  
Renken, Kathryn - Guest  
Riggs, Helen M. - Guest  
Roberts, Eileen B. - Guest  
Rolf, James E. - Guardian, Dearborn  
Ruediger, Loetta - Guest  
Rumberger, Jennifer A. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Sattelmeier, Lorraine - Guest  
Schempf, Meta A. - Guest  
Schroeder, Joy - Guest  
Schroeder, Lenita M. - Guest  
Stanfill, Donald - Guest  
Steinke, Ronald - Church Extension Fund  
Strobl, Julie A. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Szpara, Jenna M. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Veitengruber, Deanna - Guest  
Vieker, Jon D. - The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Vieregge, Michael S. - Our Shepherd, Birmingham  
von Fange, Esther - Guest  
Wagoner, Mary E. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Walther, Barbara - Concordia University, Ann Arbor  
Weismantel, Barbara - Guest  
Williams, Carol - Michigan District, LCMS  
Wolf, Allison R. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Wolfram, Judith A. - Guest  
Woltemath, Chad R. - Michigan District, LCMS  
Woltemath, Heidi L. - Guest  
Wroblewski, Vera - Guest  
Young, William H. - Board of Directors  
Zavada, Cynthia - Guest  
Zavada, Raymond J. - Michigan District, LCMS

## Other Guests, Ministry Tent Exhibitors

Adams, Jimmie D., Sr. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
Baird, Peter - Eagle Communications  
Baker, Kimberly RN - Parish Nursing - Michigan District  
Barnhart, Joe - Extra Mile Video Productions  
Barnhart, Rachel - Extra Mile Video Productions  
Bascom, Judith - Siberian Lutheran Mission Society  
Bates, John H. - Church Extension Fund  
Bayes, Phil - Grace Place Lutheran Wellness Ministries  
Becker, Frederick C. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
Bohde, Donn E. - Sauriol Bohde Wagner Architects & Associates  
Boice, William L. - Siberian Lutheran Mission Society  
Brown, Christine - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
Burden, Pat - Tobias Communications Inc.

Burmeister, Todd - Concordia Publishing House  
 Chauvin, Christine - MOST Ministries  
 Chewning, Ronald - MI District Stewardship Committee  
 Clements, James A. II - Lutheran Adult Gathering  
 Cohrs, Carol - Lutheran Hour Ministries - Mission U  
 Cohrs, Richard P. - Lutheran Hour Ministries - Mission U  
 Crook, Jeff - Chime Master Systems  
 Degenkolb, Kim - Lutheran Adult Gathering  
 DeVries, Michael D. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 DeWees, Kyle - Camp Arcadia  
 Dickson, Edwin - St. Paul Community Lutheran Church, Pontiac  
 Dunseth, Thomas W. - Lutheran Friends of the Deaf / Mill Neck  
 Fehrmann, John R. - Confessional Lutheran Education Foundation  
 Fish, Cheryl E. - Michigan District LWML  
 Garber, James - MI District Constitution Review Committee  
 Gauss, Steven - Lutheran Homes of Michigan  
 Geisler, Ralph - LCMS Mission Advancement  
 Gohn, Barbara - Lutheran Adult Gathering  
 Golke, Paul - Camp Concordia  
 Golke, Sondra C. - MOST Ministries  
 Gonzalez, Jodi - Church Extension Fund  
 Gray, Paul - Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis  
 Haiser, Jill - Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan  
 Hall, Pinnie - Lutheran City Ministries  
 Hetzner, Timothy - Lutheran Church Charities  
 Hoffman, David K. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Hoffmeier, Barbara - Lutheran Braille Workers  
 Jewell, David B. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Johnson, Louis - Concordia Plan Services  
 Jostes, Kurt - Camp Restore - New Orleans  
 Kaiser, Jim - Lutheran Bible Translators  
 Kaiser, Susan - Lutheran Bible Translators  
 Kerr, Diana - Time of Grace Ministry  
 Kroon, Carolyn - Church Extension Fund  
 Kurth, Timothy J. - Lutheran Church Charities  
 Lewis, John - Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
 Lick, Catherine RN - Michigan District CMGS / Parish Nursing  
 Maltby, Susan - Church Extension Fund  
 Marshall, Dan - Tobias Communications Inc.  
 Martin, Dona - Lutheran Church Charities  
 Martin, Rich - Lutheran Church Charities  
 Mueller, Keith W. - Lutheran Trust / Lutheran Benefits Group  
 Murdock, Linda M - MOST Ministries  
 Nahrwold, Gary - Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne  
 Newton, Sharon - Sharon Newton Custom Crafted Furniture  
 Nieman, Ronald - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Pelz, Dave - Concordia Theological Seminary - Family Press  
 Perrault, Stephen - Church Extension Fund  
 Peterson, Roy - Concordia Wisconsin / Concordia Ann Arbor  
 Poulson, Quentin G. - Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
 Rakoski, Mary - Concordia Publishing House  
 Redford, Mike - Lutheran Homes of Michigan  
 Rogalski, Tony - Eagle Communication, Inc.  
 Rolf, A. William - MI District Constitution Review Committee  
 Rossow, Deanna - Lutheran Adult Gathering  
 Schilf, Ken - Lutheran Ministries Media  
 Schmidt, Ralph G. - Orphan Grain Train  
 Scott, John Raymond - Lutheran Child & Family Service  
 Slyfield, Cheryl - Church Extension Fund  
 Smith, Mary - Lutheran City Ministries  
 Smith, Steven W. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Sproul, Dorothy - Lutheran Braille Workers  
 Storm, Walter W. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Teets, Nancy E. - MI District Stewardship Committee  
 Thomas, Brad A. - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Thompson, Linda - MOST Ministries  
 Todd, Linda - Lutheran Church Charities  
 Vrazo, Joe - Concordia Plan Services  
 Waligore, Dennis - Commission on Deacon Qualifications (CDQ)  
 Whitaker, Ronald B. - St. Paul Community Lutheran Church, Pontiac  
 White, Dawn - Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan  
 Wingfield, Albert B - Concordia Theological Seminary - Family Press  
 Wolff, Kaye - Lutheran Hour Ministries - Mission U

# Congregations by Circuit and Region

## North & East Region

<b>Circuit #1 - Mackinaw Straits</b>	<b>Confirmed Members</b>	<b>Circuit #6 - Bay City</b>	
Cheboygan, St. John	228	Bay City, Faith	1,051
DeTour Village, Redeemer	6	Bay City, Immanuel	1,265
Drummond Island, Drummond Island	94	Bay City, St. John	658
Engadine, Bethlehem	115	Bay City, St. Paul	780
Germfask, Grace	94	Bay City, Trinity	650
Hawks, Faith	114	Bay City, Zion	1,109
Kincheloe, St. Paul	25	Essexville, Pilgrim	454
Newberry, Trinity	51	Pinconning, St. John	402
Onaway, Holy Cross	135	8 Member Congregations	6,369
*Paradise, Paradise			
Rogers City, Immanuel	192	<b>Circuit #7 - Thumb East</b>	
Rogers City, Peace	340	Bad Axe, Our Savior	599
Rogers City, St. John	532	Harbor Beach, Zion	508
Rogers City, St. Michael	268	Kinde, St. Peter	121
Sault Sainte Marie, St. Barnabas	60	Marlette, Our Savior	269
Trout Lake, Trout Lake	8	Minden City, Trinity	86
15 Member Congregations	2,262	Palms, St. John	173
		Port Hope, St. John	592
<b>Circuit #2 - Alpena</b>		Port Sanilac, St. John	124
Alpena, Immanuel	1,176	Sandusky, Peace	355
Harrisville, Faith	23	9 Member Congregations	2,827
Hillman, St. John	417		
Hubbard Lake, St. Paul	316	<b>Circuit #8 - Thumb West</b>	
Lewiston, Bethlehem	218	Caseville, Good Shepherd	128
Mio, Living Water	67	Cass City, Good Shepherd	384
Ossineke, Good Shepherd	82	Fairgrove, Grace	273
Posen, St. Paul	26	Pigeon, St. Paul	360
8 Member Congregations	2,325	Sebewaing, Immanuel	915
		Sebewaing, St. John	240
<b>Circuit #3 - Timberline</b>		Sebewaing, St. Peter	106
Au Gres, St. John	234	Unionville, St. Paul	401
Glennie, Our Savior	33	8 Member Congregations	2,807
Hale, St. Paul	364		
Oscoda, Trinity	356	<b>Circuit #9 - Frankenmuth</b>	
Prescott, Faith	326	Caro, St. Paul	620
Tawas City, Zion	362	Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz	3,842
Whittemore, Good News Ministries	87	Millington, St. Paul	1,494
7 Member Congregations	1,762	Munger, Trinity-St. James	562
		Reese, Trinity	1,010
<b>Circuit #4 - Gladwin</b>		Richville, St. Michael's	1,211
Clare, Prince Of Peace	100	Saginaw, Immanuel	552
Gladwin, Our Savior	600	7 Member Congregations	9,291
Harrison, St. Luke	197		
Houghton Lake, St. John	453	<b>Circuit #10 - Saginaw</b>	
Saint Helen, Hope	141	Bridgeport, Faith	528
Standish, Bethlehem	251	Hemlock, St. Peter	1,040
West Branch, St. John	248	Hemlock, Zion	405
7 Member Congregations	1,990	Owosso, St. Philip	104
		Saginaw, Bethlehem	1,074
<b>Circuit #5 - Midland</b>		Saginaw, Good Shepherd	809
Alma, Peace	114	Saginaw, Holy Cross	659
Auburn, Grace	452	Saginaw, Messiah	142
Auburn, Zion	903	Saginaw, Peace	1,646
Midland, Lord Of New Life	89	Saginaw, Redeemer	141
Midland, Messiah	950	Saginaw, St. Mark	484
Midland, Our Savior	145	Saint Charles, Nativity	71
Midland, St. John's	1,382	12 Member Congregations	7,103
*Mount Pleasant, Christ The King			
Mount Pleasant, Zion	424	<b>Circuit #11 - Flint North</b>	
Sanford, St. Paul	233	Birch Run, Christ	263
Wheeler, Immanuel	428	Birch Run, St. Martin	551
10 Member Congregations	5,120	Clio, Messiah	1,356
		Flint, Christ The King	39
		Flint, Our Savior	208
		Flint, St. Paul	772
		Flint, United in Christ	159
		Flushing, Holy Cross	375
		8 Member Congregations	3,723

**Circuit #12 - Flint South**

Burton, Pilgrim	169
Fenton, Trinity	731
Flint, Peace	183
Flint, Redeemer	136
Goodrich, Christ	225
Grand Blanc, Faith	1,566
Linden, Hope	291
Swartz Creek, Newlife Community	240
8 Member Congregations	<u>3,541</u>

**Circuit #13 - Lapeer**

Davison, Trinity	579
Dryden, Holy Redeemer	228
Flint, Calvary	69
Flint, St. Mark	655
Lapeer, St. Paul	1,037
North Branch, New Life In Christ	100
Otisville, St. Timothy	291
7 Member Congregations	<u>2,959</u>

**114 Member Congregations** **52,079**

**Metro East Region****Circuit #14 - Port Huron**

Algonac, First	89
Armada, Our Saviour	270
Fair Haven, St. Peter	158
Goodells, Hope	12
Lexington, St. Matthew	545
Marine City, Living Faith	27
Marysville, Light of Christ	87
Memphis, St. Andrew	157
Port Huron, Faith	453
Port Huron, Trinity	1,028
Ray, Living Hope of the Bay	124
Richmond, St. Peter's	1,092
Saint Clair, Immanuel	943
13 Member Congregations	<u>4,985</u>

**Circuit #15 - Macomb North**

Chesterfield, Good Shepherd	92
Clinton Township, St. Luke	836
Clinton Township, Trinity	1,814
Macomb, Immanuel	2,693
Macomb, St. Peter	2,765
New Baltimore, Christ	104
Ray, St. John	212
7 Member Congregations	<u>8,516</u>

**Circuit #16 - Macomb NW**

Imlay City, Family of Christ	160
Romeo, Grace	515
Shelby Township, Peace	395
Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate	993
Sterling Heights, Redemption	275
Sterling Heights, St. Paul	206
Troy, All Nations	100
Troy, Faith	2,802
Troy, Faith Tamil	41
Utica, Trinity	3,416
Washington, Our Redeemer	442
11 Member Congregations	<u>9,345</u>

**Circuit #17 - Oakland North**

Clarkston, St. Trinity	608
Lake Orion, Good Shepherd	539
Ortonville, Prince Of Peace	54
Oxford, Holy Cross	163
*Pontiac, St. Paul Community	
Rochester, Living Word	362
Rochester, St. John	1,644
Rochester Hills, Crown Of Life	152
Rochester Hills, Gethsemane	141
Rochester Hills, Incarnate Word	28
Waterford, St. Stephen	663
10 Member Congregations	<u>4,354</u>

**Circuit #18 - Birmingham**

Birmingham, Redeemer	1,130
Birmingham, Our Savior Deaf	52
Birmingham, Our Shepherd	1,310
Bloomfield Hills, Cross Of Christ	537
Hazel Park, New Life	108
Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods	351
Royal Oak, St. Paul	776
Troy, St. Augustine	177
Warren, Holy Cross	406
9 Member Congregations	<u>4,847</u>

**Circuit #19 - Macomb South**

Eastpointe, St. Peter's	1,103
Eastpointe, St. Thomas	869
Fraser, St. John	899
*Harper Woods, Genesis Center	
Roseville, Bethlehem	240
Warren, Hope	786
Warren, Peace	284
Warren, Trinity	320
7 Member Congregations	<u>4,501</u>

**Circuit #20 - Detroit East**

Detroit, Bethany	127
Detroit, Charity	36
Detroit, East Bethlehem	54
Detroit, Historic Trinity	1,107
Detroit, Mount Calvary	110
Detroit, Peace	95
Detroit, Redemption	46
Detroit, Resurrection	107
8 Member Congregations	<u>1,682</u>

**65 Member Congregations** **38,230**

## Metro West Region

### Circuit #21 - Detroit West

Dearborn, Atonement	127
Detroit, Berea	155
Detroit, Evergreen	147
*Detroit, Family of God	
Detroit, Greenfield Peace	95
Detroit, Holy Cross	212
Detroit, Pan De Vida	97
Detroit, Nazareth	50
Detroit, Outer Drive Faith	190
Detroit, Redford	115
Detroit, St. John	48
Detroit, St. Philip	130
Detroit, St. Stephen	97
12 Member Congregations	<u>1,463</u>

### Circuit #23 - Down River

Allen Park, Mount Hope	182
Flat Rock, Community	415
Lincoln Park, Calvary	264
*Southgate, Christ The King	
Southgate, Christ The King	1,445
Taylor, Our Redeemer	91
Taylor, St. John's	328
Trenton, St. Paul	1,087
Wyandotte, Trinity	384
8 Member Congregations	<u>4,196</u>

### Circuit #24 - Monroe

Flat Rock, New Hope	
Lambertville, Christ The King	166
Monroe, Grace	444
Monroe, Holy Ghost	555
Monroe, Immanuel	383
Monroe, Trinity	1,339
New Boston, St. John	822
Newport, Christ Our Shepherd	56
Petersburg, St. Peter	203
9 Member Congregations	<u>3,968</u>

### Circuit #25 - Dearborn

Canton, Christ The Good Shepherd	29
Dearborn, Emmanuel	499
Dearborn, Guardian	957
Dearborn, Our Redeemer	150
*Dearborn Heights, First Arabic	
Plymouth, Living Word	272
Wayne, St. Michael	488
Westland, Our Saviour	28
Westland, St. Matthew	642
8 Member Congregations	<u>3,065</u>

### Circuit #26 - Kensington

Brighton, Shepherd Of The Lakes	1,019
Highland, Faith	477
Milford, Christ	368
South Lyon, Cross of Christ	283
Walled Lake, St. Matthew	1,554
Waterford, Peace	453
West Bloomfield, St. Mark's	113
White Lake, Cedar Crest	87
*Wixom, St. Matthew	
8 Member Congregations	<u>4,354</u>

### Confirmed Members

### Circuit #27 - Livonia

Canton, Grace	53
Dearborn Heights, Immanuel	252
Farmington Hills, Prince Of Peace	321
Farmington Hills, St. Paul's	411
Livonia, Christ Our Savior	1,215
Northville, St. Paul	431
Redford, Hosanna-Tabor	288
Westland, Salem National	109
8 Member Congregations	<u>3,080</u>

### Circuit #28 - Milan

Ann Arbor, St. Thomas	74
*Ann Arbor, St. Thomas	
Belleville, Open Arms	215
Britton, Emmanuel	290
Milan, St. Paul	228
New Boston, St. Paul's	373
Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise	12
Saline, Christ Our King	504
Ypsilanti, Faith	104
8 Member Congregations	<u>1,800</u>

### Circuit #29 - Ann Arbor

Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd	45
Ann Arbor, Peace	203
Ann Arbor, St. Luke	1,166
*Ann Arbor, St. Paul	
Ann Arbor, St. Paul	793
*Ann Arbor, University Lutheran Chapel	
Chelsea, Our Savior	190
Hamburg, St. Paul	554
Pinckney, Trinity	106
*Whitmore Lake, Living Water	
Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection	105
8 Member Congregations	<u>3,162</u>

### Circuit #30 - Jackson

Addison, Lutheran Church Of The Lakes	325
Adrian, Hope	189
Adrian, St. John	525
Adrian, St. Matthew's	120
Brooklyn, St. Mark	280
*Grass Lake, Grass Lake	
Hudson, Our Saviour	141
Jackson, Redeemer	530
Jackson, Trinity	1,191
8 Member Congregations	<u>3,301</u>

### 77 Member Congregations

**28,389**

## West Region

<b>Circuit #31 - Petoskey</b>	<b>Confirmed Members</b>	<b>Circuit #37 - Tri River</b>	
Bellaire, Hope	62	Belding, Holy Cross	82
Boyne City, Christ	354	Greenville, Mount Calvary	180
Charlevoix, Bethany	147	Howard City, Bethel	199
Gaylord, Trinity	254	Ionida, St. John	135
Grayling, Mount Hope	127	Lowell, Good Shepherd	129
Kalkaska, St. Paul	252	Sand Lake, Resurrection	50
Mancelona, St. Matthew's	72	Stanton, Hope	100
Petoskey, Zion	372	7 Member Congregations	875
8 Member Congregations	<u>1,640</u>		
<b>Circuit #32 - Traverse City</b>		<b>Circuit #38 - Muskegon</b>	
Benzonia, Our Savior	94	Conklin, Trinity	506
Cedar, St. Pauls	84	Montague, St. James	513
Elk Rapids, Grace	89	Muskegon, Our Redeemer	370
Glen Arbor, Bethlehem	64	Muskegon, St. Mark	664
Interlochen, Redeemer	307	Muskegon, Trinity	510
Leland, Immanuel	231	Nunica, St. Luke	181
Traverse City, St. Michael's & All Angels	213	Shelby, St. Stephen's	118
Traverse City, Trinity	1,215	Whitehall, Faith	292
8 Member Congregations	<u>2,297</u>	8 Member Congregations	<u>3,154</u>
<b>Circuit #33 - Manistee</b>		<b>Circuit #39 - Holland</b>	
Arcadia, Trinity	166	Coopersville, Grace	302
Cadillac, Emmanuel	412	Grand Haven, St. John's	760
Ludington, Peace	36	Holland, Christ Our Savior	212
Ludington, St. John's	350	Holland, Zion	325
Manistee, Trinity	568	Spring Lake, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship	332
Mesick, Faith	30	Spring Lake, St. Matthew	166
Onekama, Norwalk	65	West Olive, United	163
Onekama, Trinity	158	7 Member Congregations	<u>2,260</u>
Pentwater, Lighthouse	44		
Scottville, Our Savior	596	<b>Circuit #40 - Grand Rapids N Central</b>	
Wellston, Beautiful Savior	18	Comstock Park, Family of Christ	83
11 Member Congregations	<u>2,443</u>	Grand Rapids, Immanuel	442
		Grand Rapids, Messiah	281
<b>Circuit #34 - Big Rapids</b>		Grand Rapids, Mount Olive	109
Baldwin, Grace	72	Grand Rapids, Our Savior	267
Big Rapids, St. Peter's	563	Grand Rapids, Redeemer	58
Fremont, Redeemer	140	Grand Rapids, St. James	404
Mecosta, Chapel Of The Lakes	320	Grand Rapids, St. Matthew	369
Reed City, Trinity	496	Rockford, St. Peter	525
White Cloud, Christ	137	9 Member Congregations	<u>2,538</u>
6 Member Congregations	<u>1,728</u>		
<b>Circuit #35 - Capitol</b>		<b>Circuit #41 - Grand Rapids SW</b>	
Charlotte, First	390	Byron Center, Journey of Faith	
*Eaton Rapids, Open Arms		Caledonia, St. Paul	626
Holt, Messiah	320	Grandville, Bethel	169
*Holt, Rehoboth		Hudsonville, New Hope	222
Holt, St. Matthew	272	Jenison, Holy Cross	1,220
Howell, Heart of the Shepherd	386	Jenison, St. John	194
Lansing, Good Shepherd	161	Kentwood, St. Mark	561
Lansing, Living Word	16	Middleville, Good Shepherd	74
Lansing, Our Savior	953	8 Member Congregations	<u>3,066</u>
Lansing, Trinity	104		
*Lansing, Trinity Sudanese		<b>Circuit #42 - Battle Creek</b>	
Leslie, Grace	68	Albion, St. Paul	279
9 Member Congregations	<u>2,670</u>	Battle Creek, Redemption	221
		Battle Creek, St. Mark	560
<b>Circuit #36 - St. Johns</b>		Battle Creek, St. Paul	401
Carson City, Calvary	76	Kalamazoo, Immanuel	200
DeWitt, Hope	220	*Kalamazoo, Solid Grounds	
East Lansing, Ascension	239	Kalamazoo, Zion	825
Fowler, St. Paul	125	Marshall, Christ	177
Haslett, St. Luke	549	Marshall, Zion	411
Portland, St. Andrew	196	Paw Paw, Trinity	1,140
Saint Johns, St. John	243	Portage, St. Michael	602
Saint Johns, St. Peter	494	Three Rivers, St. Peter	175
8 Member Congregations	<u>2,142</u>	11 Member Congregations	<u>4,991</u>

**Circuit #43 - St. Joseph**

Berrien Springs, Trinity	358
Bridgman, Immanuel	595
Buchanan, St. Paul	101
Buchanan, Trinity	335
Cassopolis, St. Paul	91
Coloma, Salem	300
*New Buffalo, Journey	
Niles, St. Paul	386
Saint Joseph, Trinity	1,446
Sawyer, Trinity	427
Stevensville, Christ	<u>1,181</u>
10 Member Congregations	5,220

**Circuit #44 - South Central**

Burr Oak, St. John	135
Centreville, St. Paul's	184
Coldwater, St. Paul	139
Colon, St. Paul's	125
Hillsdale, St. Paul's	335
Quincy, Prince Of Peace	46
Sturgis, Salem	20
Sturgis, Trinity	451
Union City, Our Savior	139
9 Member Congregations	<u>1,574</u>

**119 Member Congregations** **36,598**

**375 Member Congregations** **155,296**

\*Indicates new mission or satellite site of the Michigan District, LCMS

# Advisory Delegates to the 2013 Synod Convention

## Ministers of Religion – Ordained

### Delegates

Rev. George O. Hamilton  
Rev. Dr. Dale M. Kleimola  
Rev. Nicholas W. Koschmann

### Alternate

Rev. Gerald E. Grimm

## Ministers of Religion – Commissioned

### Delegates

Mr. John M. Brandt  
Mrs. Susan R. Brandt  
Mr. Thomas J. Farrand  
Mr. Frederick D. Gallert  
Mrs. Ann M. Pfeiffer  
Mr. Henry M. Pickelmann  
Mr. Jonathon H. Pickelmann  
Mr. Robert D. Schafer  
Mrs. Amy J. Weston  
Ms. Elizabeth A. Winter

### Alternate

Mr. Bruce N. Braun

# President's Address

## 2012 Michigan District Convention



Grace, mercy, and peace ... be yours **again** this morning from our all-loving, all-merciful God ...

**The Lord is risen!! ... He is risen, INDEED!!**

**“Rejoice in the Lord, ALWAYS!”** the Apostle Paul admonishes and encourages us – **FROM PRISON!** And as if knowing **WE** would have a hard time with that, he says again, **“Rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4)**

We have good reason to **“Rejoice!”** this morning—poor, miserable sinners though we be—as we, in faith, embrace these words of the prophet:

*... this I call to mind  
and therefore I have hope:  
Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.  
They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:21-23*

We have good reason to rejoice as we remember that God is not ashamed to be called our God, that He is our Redeemer from of old ... and that **God does not change.** The prophet **Malachi** records God saying in Chapter 3 **“I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.**

This is surely a clear invitation to biblical repentance. But it is also a clear invitation to return to a **changeless God of love, a God that is merciful and kind.** James also reminds us ...

**“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows” (James 1: 17).**

And the writer of Hebrews ... **“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).**

To know, to believe in, to **be embraced by our changeless God of love, and His inspired Word of truth,** when the **winds of change are howling ...** these become the eternal anchor of our souls. This is desperately needed in **these times** when the one **constant** is **CHANGE.** As we sing: **“Change and decay in all around I see—O Thou who changest not, abide with me.”**

Michigan has experienced a monstrous metamorphous over the last 5+ years. In the last five years about 100,000 more people have left Michigan **each year** than have moved in. In other words, Michigan lost about a half-million people, which is roughly the combined populations

of Grand Rapids, Warren, and Sterling Heights, the state's second, third, and fourth largest cities.

Even though Michigan's unemployment rate dropped to 8.8 percent in March 2012, it is still one of the highest in the nation. Detroit's unemployment remains at 19 percent, and what's even more difficult to comprehend is that the unemployment rate in some northern Michigan counties is greater than that of Detroit.

Not only have we been hit demographically, which may help account for fewer people in the pew, and economically, meaning, we've **ALL** had to learn how to get along with less, there have been other **“tsunami-like” changes** that effect ministry.

The face of the **“family”** continues to change dramatically. The percentage of adults who are divorced is five times what it was in 1950. The number of couples living together without the blessing



of marriage has increased 15 times what it was in 1970. The number of children living with one parent doubled between 1970 and 1985, and since then has doubled again. At the same time, the number of two-parent households has declined dramatically. Then, there is the accepted 'norm' of the 'two career' family that's had a tremendous impact on the face of the family today.

Our children and the youth of today are not only living in an **age of change** but in an **age of uncertainty**—and for some **hopelessness** about the future. This is something that previous generations have **NOT had to deal with.** 9/11 had a huge impact on all generations but especially on younger generations. For them ...

- Terrorism and fear are ways of life.
- Abortion is an accepted way of looking out for yourself, an accepted way of death. And now ...
- **The majority** of youth and children come from broken homes, many of which are in our congregations. Most of them will never know the stability of a loving, two parent home. Nuclear homes are becoming the oddity.

Entertainment, although it affects everyone, especially impacts our children with a free sex, fatalistic emphasis and “attitude.” Our children have met their doom through nuclear war, a worldwide super-plague, global warming, the earth's core over-heating, overpopulation, a comet striking the earth, sentient machines taking over, rampaging simians, alien invasion, flesh-eating zombies, and fire-breathing dragons.

My wife regularly asks our family, “**How do such things help our spiritual life?**” It’s a good question that we should ALL wrestle with when you consider the Apostle Paul’s directive: “*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things*” (Philippians 4:8).

**Abortion**, legalized in America by judicial decree in 1973, continues to impact a selfish society. Like contraception, abortion is based on 1960’s assumptions, chief among them that nothing should be allowed to interfere with your happiness (or what you’ve been told will make you happy), **including children**. In other words, “Do your own thing.” And if “your own thing” includes having a human life exterminated in what used to be the safest place in the world, that’s a small price to pay for you being you.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, what will we do if the President’s health plan is enforced and we would be asked to help fund abortions? **We have to say a loud and clear “No!” ... and learn to trust God for new directions in health care.**

Indeed, we thank God for the clear testimony given to this truth by President Harrison in Washington, D.C. earlier this year!

Worldwide, approximately 115,000 abortions are performed each day. Morality aside, friends, from a demographic perspective, we’re not just aborting 42 million unborn children a year, but also their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who will never exist. As the great theologian Dick Cavett said, “If your parents never had children, chances are you won’t either.”

The results of the sexual revolution of the sixties have continued on an exponential pace. “Sex” was divorced from marriage, commitment and even psychological connection. We’ve seen the initiation of sexual activity at an earlier and earlier age. Use of pornography—which certainly encourages lust in the mind and heart, which is adultery—is epidemic and leads to further sin. Sex before marriage has led to sex



outside marriage, which has led to multiple liaisons, divorce, and what’s been called serial polygamy. In a few decades, we’ve gone from making love to having sex. (Think about it ...)

This may seem counter-intuitive, but more and more “sex” has led to fewer and fewer children. But, as one President, John Adams, famously said: “Facts are stubborn things.”

Add to those facts that “same-sex marriage” completely cuts the tie between marriage and children. Some heterosexual couples choose not to have children. Others are unable to have children. With “homosexual marriage,” (and I use the term advisably) we’re applying the label to couples which, by their very nature, are incapable of reproduction—severing the already tenuous connection between marriage and procreation. More importantly, the Bible tells us that this is NOT what God intended ... no matter what the President of the United States says. **MARRIAGE**, clearly the union of one man and one woman for life, should be honored and reinforced, NOT redefined.

Is it any wonder that ministry in this day and age is similarly characterized by one word: **CHANGE**.

Professor Roland Ziegler shared with the Council Of Presidents (COP) at Concordia Theological Seminary in May of 2011 that professed non-religion in America is growing 9.5 percent faster than Christianity; in Europe, 17 times faster. Did you realize that more than 70 percent of American children have never been to Sunday School? Keep in mind that only 15 percent of Christian churches, for the LCMS its less, are growing and that only 5 percent of those are growing by reaching the unsaved.

Couple that with the fact of our congregations’ reluctance to change. We’re losing thousands of people every year, especially our youth. Some say that we’ve already lost an entire generation. Einstein’s definition of insanity should be considered, “doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.”

This is the climate in which we (1) live and in which we are to (2) proclaim the Gospel! **What are we to do?**

I truly believe that we are living in a post-church, pre-Christian era that highly resembles the time of the Apostles. So how do we begin to handle all this change? Listen to Paul again writing from prison in *Philippians 4:4-7*: “*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*”

What are we to do? The answer—without question or hesitation—is first and foremost, **the faithful proclamation of, and obedience to, God’s Word**, which clearly displays our loving Savior Jesus as the world’s Savior, our desperate need for Him, and His Word as truth and as the clarifier of life.

And **WE ALSO HAVE TO BE PRACTICAL** while remaining true to the Scriptures and therefore, our Lutheran heritage when we deal with this momentous time of change, which will probably never end. Let me explain.

G. K. Chesterton and several literary friends gathered one evening to enjoy some stimulating intellectual conversation.

One of them posed a hypothetical question: "If you were isolated on a desert island, and could only have one book, one volume, which one would you have?" (Think about that question yourself right now.) One said he would have the complete works of Shakespeare. Another said that he would have the Holy Scriptures. Chesterton said, "I would choose *Thomas's Guide to Practical Ship Building*."

We have to have practical, spiritual eyes, because we as Bible believing, confessional Lutherans have the answer to what our communities and culture need most, the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to pay for the sins of the world. And that Gospel message IS STILL THE POWER OF GOD (du/namiß ga»r qeouv) UNTO SALVATION. I hope and pray we believe that!

We are in a climate of change; in a climate of decline where 100 million Americans have no religious affiliation at all. It is time for the Church, our congregations, to be "bullish." It's like the two shoe salesmen who were sent to Africa. One wired back to send him a ticket home because no one there wore shoes. The other salesmen wired to send two shiploads of shoes, because everyone there needed them.

Dear brothers and sisters, 100 million people in the United States ALONE are needing what we have to offer, and almost 6 million of them live in Michigan! So how do you take the Gospel and effectively minister in the unique and varying contexts in which we live in Michigan and in this atmosphere of change?

**We've got to get back to basics!** IMAGINE ... the WITNESS and acts of MERCY flowing from fully alive congregations, Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family! Here are three 'basics' I want to emphasize:

### **BE IN THE WORD!**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, find a way to deepen your own devotional life, your spiritual life. Find a way to replenish the springs of your own regenerate spirit. Music, time with God, and especially read. You should regularly read the Scriptures, in fact, read through the Scriptures. Take care lest it becomes routine. Find ways to draw aside, to look full into the face of God, to listen for His voice, to feel His presence.

It has been said to pastors: "Study the Scriptures, not because you have to preach; but PREACH, because you have studied the Scriptures."

The question of all questions for every child of God, but especially for our Lord's under-shepherds, is, "**Are you making progress in your walk with Jesus Christ?**" We need to ask it.

It is very important that you, ALL OF US, continue to grow in our faith. Peter says, "*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen*" (2 Peter 3:18). This especially applies to pastors, as shepherds of the flock that God has given us. It is important that our sheep drink from a fresh, running stream, and NOT from a stagnant pool. This renewed, regular, reliable

time and association with God by ALL of us will also give insight and wisdom in our work of ministry in the context and cultures where God has placed us. (Acts 17:26)

I believe these considerations, in some way, maybe directly, account for the explosion of Christianity in Africa. They, that is the indigenous peoples of Africa, our brothers and sisters in Christ, once they hear the Gospel and through the Holy Spirit's power believe in Jesus, whole heartedly embrace **three beliefs and promises**:

1. That the Bible is God's Word and therefore TRUE, and should be revered, read, and trusted;
2. That prayers are answered at God's command and promise; and
3. That miracles still happen!

Maybe, these are some of the basics we should consider and return to!

Not only does God invite us to draw close to Him in the Word, but He also encourages us to ...

### **PRAY!**

This is the second "basic" that we need to exercise. Remember our convention theme verse: "*Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...*" I agree with C. S. Lewis when he says, "*The Christian is the one whose imagination should fly beyond the stars.*"

Remember, our battle is NOT against flesh and blood! "*but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms*" (Ephesians 6:12). Luther continually emphasizes this fact! Prayer is so central to Luther's conception of the Christian life and ministry that it is naturally the first thing to come to his mind when writing his good friend Philip Melancthon in Wartburg, May 12, 1521. He is well aware that the only recourse when encountering spiritual enemies and spiritual hardship is PRAYER. After encouraging his friend with several exhortations alluding to pastoral charges from *1 and 2 Timothy*, Luther moves seamlessly back into praying. He is instructing Melancthon to "Return, therefore, this service so that we carry this burden together" i.e. "Pray for me as well," an allusion to *Galatians 6:2*: "*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*" That's Life Together! This is just one of innumerable examples of how Luther weaves from Scripture to prayer and then back again naturally, thus showing his prayers' dependence on Scripture. (Today this is popularly called, "Praying the Scriptures.")

Luther would later write:

That the Holy Scriptures cannot be penetrated by study and talent is most certain. Therefore your first duty is to begin to pray, and to pray to this effect: that if it please God to accomplish something for His glory, not for yours or any other person's, He very graciously grant you a true understanding of His words. For no master of the divine words exists except

the Author of these words, as He says: *'They shall be all taught of God'* (John 6:45). You must, therefore, completely despair of your own industry and ability and rely solely on the inspiration of the Spirit.

Friends, prayerlessness is really faithlessness. It is the worst sin. We usually think of murder, adultery, or theft as among the worst. But the root of all sin is self-sufficiency — independence from God. When we fail to pray, when we fail to wait prayerfully for God's guidance and strength, we are saying with our actions, if not our lips, that we do not need Him. How much of our service is characterized by "going it alone."

Prayer is our witness to ourself, a "confession" of our total dependence on God. Prayer signals dependence on God.

In another place, Luther would say of "listening" in prayer, "the Holy Spirit preaches here. Many times I have learned more from one prayer than I might have learned from much reading and speculation." It is essential to note, however, that Luther is not setting prayer over against study of Scripture, but is rather arguing on the assumption that prayer will already be based on Scripture, thus allowing the Holy Spirit to give insight into His Word.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, **we are to Pray!** It is essential for ministry, especially to help understand the culture and contexts in which we find ourselves doing ministry.

**Pray ... for reinforcements!** In *Luke 10:2-3* Jesus told them, *"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves."*

**Pray ... that Satan is hindered!** *Ephesians 6:10-12* "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power" Paul writes. *"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."*

**Pray ... that you have the eyes of Jesus ...** and that you see people in our congregations and communities as wounded sheep needing the continual healing and leading of the Good Shepherd. Pray that you see those outside Christian congregations, as people going to a Christless eternity. **"May God soften, indeed may He break, our hearts for what breaks His."** Let us pray that we are made willing to (1) live the Gospel with them; and (2) share the Gospel with them.



- (1) **Be in the Word,**
- (2) **Pray,** and the final "basic" that I want to commend to you is
- (3) **LOVE PEOPLE!**  
**Love for God ... means to have His love for people.**

Please listen: If the world needs to see anything in the Christian Church, in our Lutheran congregations, it is the power of grace to overcome the sinful, human, flesh-nature instinct to classify and rank people and disunite.

In a Peanuts Cartoon, Linus, clutching his ever-present blanket, and with unusual determination in his voice, has announced to Lucy that he had finally discovered his calling in life. He was going to be a doctor. Lucy, ever the intimidating big sister, countered that there was no way he could be a doctor because, as she explained, he hated mankind.

Stung by that objection, Linus shot back that she really didn't understand. **He loved mankind. It was people he couldn't stand.**

All of us can identify with Linus's dubious distinction. Humankind is a wondrous thing. It's those pesky people who spoil the broth. While often the source of our greatest joys, people are just as likely to use us, frustrate us, cheat us, intimidate us, misunderstand us, criticize us, manipulate us, abuse us, talk behind our backs, ignore us, and inevitably disappoint us.

Outside of a few close friends who make us feel good about ourselves, and subordinates at work who do what we tell them to and treat us well (to our face), the world of people is often too spooky to wade into much further than the shallow end. Masking our resistance to closer relationships, we salve our neglect by **"focusing on Jesus."**

Sounds good, doesn't it? After all, He's the One we can trust. In relationship with Him we feel safe, secure, and satisfied. Who needs people?

But those thoughts and actions are also way off the mark. **And our Lord is not pleased.**

Patiently, firmly, repeatedly, Jesus keeps reminding us that **our relationship with Him** is going nowhere unless it is lived out in a bold, constructive involvement in the lives of others.

When Peter, after the resurrection at that lakeside breakfast fire, affirmed his love for Jesus verbally, Jesus said, in essence, that He would know that Peter was serious about loving Him when Peter **got busy with people.** Or, as Jesus actually said it, *"Feed My sheep."* *"Feed My lambs."* *"Feed My sheep."* (John 21:15-17) Grace is opposed to "earning," not "effort." (cf. *Titus 2:14*)

Jesus measures **His worth in our lives** not by what we say, not by what we sing in heartfelt liturgy, hymns, or worship songs, not by how many rules we keep, but rather **by how we treat people and respond to their needs.**

One of the Sadducees' lawyers once sought to trap Jesus with a leading question. *"Teacher," he asked, "which is*

*the greatest commandment in the law?"* For His answer, Jesus reached all the way back to the first of the Ten Commandments: ***"That we love the Lord our God with our heart, soul, and mind"*** (Matthew 22:37).

We all like that command. It has a nice ring to it. It's easy to see where we break it so we can repent, and we feel great when we "keep" it.

But then Jesus upped the ante. *The second, He said, was just like the first: "You should love your neighbor as you love yourself"* (Matthew 22:39). In other words, IF you say you love God, then the proof of that love rises and falls on what you do with and for your neighbor.

And the biblical definition of "neighbor," as Jesus uses it in this text, is **anyone who crosses the path of your life**, not just the guy or gal who occupies the apartment or home, or cubicle or office, next door. It's that rude person in the "12 Items or Less" line at the grocery store, who makes you late because he has just placed 19 items on the belt. It's your wife, your husband, your head elder, your pastor, your coworker. **"Neighbor" is anyone who comes close enough to be loved and helped.**

In His last teaching session with His disciples in John's Gospel, Jesus raised the bar even higher with a NEW command: ***"love one another"*** (John 13:34). ***"A new command I give you: Love one another."*** Here's the NEW part ***"... as I have loved you, so you must love one another."***

Surely at a bare minimum, that means we need to get positively involved in the lives of fellow followers. **IMAGINE ... Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family!**

But, let's face it; this may be the toughest test yet.

Do you ever feel that many of the people you know who are outside the faith are nicer and easier to love than some of the Christians you know? I'm reminded of that little verse:

**"To live above with saints we love,  
oh that will be glory.**

**To live below with saints we know ... well,  
that's a different story!"**

But, friends, **the real issue comes to the surface** when Jesus adds this reminder: **others outside of the family will only recognize our link to Him if we live to love each other.** Listen to the following verse in *John 13:35*: ***"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*** **Our "LIFE TOGETHER," our living as God's forgiven and forgiving family, is of the greatest importance.**

Philip Yancey had an interview with a leader of a Christian Church in India. The leader reported that any religion in India could replicate every reported modern Christian miracle ... except one. (It's important that we HEAR this ...)

- Christians claim physical healing, and so do Hindus and Muslims.
- Christians claim changed/transformed lives, and so

do Buddhists.

- Only one miracle by Christians causes other Indians to marvel: when people of different genders, races, castes, and social classes come together in a true spirit of unity. ... **"LIFE TOGETHER!"**

How much easier would it be to **reach out with the love of Christ** in our communities, circuits, District, and Synod ... if that could be said of the LCMS and its congregations and pastors. **"See how they love one another."**



**IMAGINE ... Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family**

The **first** president of Synod, Dr. C. F. W. Walther, made this comment at The Synodical Conference: (Rev. Terry Cripe, President The Ohio District, translator)

"What would happen if we really would make the saving of souls the ultimate purpose, the end and aim of our joint work?

... we would not make it our aim to become an ever larger organization that, as people say, commands attention, and to erect an imposing, complex, though hollow, structure. Still less would we apply ungodly means to realize such an aim...

... what an influence it will be on our dear congregations and their pastors and on their relationship toward one another if all acknowledge the saving of souls as the end and aim of our joint work! They will all pull, as peacefully as they do zealously, on the same yoke. Even though all kinds of strife-causing questions might arise—yet the question: "Which course is best for the salvation of souls?" will quickly give the right solution ...

... then our dear congregations will say to one another, as Abraham said to Lot: ***"Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brothers ..."*** (Gen. 13:8f). Whatever will win the most souls for Christ, that would decide between us." CFW Walther to the Synodical Conference

Are we willing to do whatever will win the most souls for Christ? And what souls, what people, what types are we looking to minister to or do we already have within our congregations? **Are we living in the imitation of our Lord and seeking the lost that they might be saved?** Are we going to allow Satan to continue to divide us and hinder His mission?

As we sang earlier today:

Come imagine life together  
In a place where each belongs  
Where our hallowed lips are singing  
Psalms and hymns and sacred songs  
Giving thanks to God the Father  
For His Son once sacrificed  
And submitting to each other  
Out of reverence for Christ

Saints take up your Gospel armor  
Stand against the devil's schemes  
Strong in God's almighty power  
For our fight's not what it seems  
Is our war with one another  
As we struggle here below?  
No! But shield to shield our battles  
Waged against the evil foe!

Four of Jesus' **last parables** in *Matthew 24-25* have a common theme lurking in the background. Consider:

- an owner who leaves his house vacant, (*Matthew 24:42-44*, the Faithful Householder);
- an absentee landlord who puts his servant in charge, (*Matthew 24:45-51*, the Wise Slave);
- a bridegroom who arrives so late the guests fall asleep, (*Matthew 25:1-13*, the 10 Virgins); and
- a master who distributes talents among his servants and takes off. (*Matthew 25:14-30*, Talents)

In effect, Jesus' four parables anticipated the central question of the modern era, asked by the likes of Nietzsche, Marx, Camus, and Beckett. **"Where is God now?"** The modern answer is that the 'landlord' has abandoned us. We are free to set our own rules and agenda. **Deus absconditus.**

However, as you read on you come to one more parable. We all know well the message of the Sheep and the Goats, (*Matthew 25:32-33*) but I had never noticed its connection with the parables that precede it. This last parable answers the question raised by the others, the issue of the **absentee landlord**, in two ways:

1. First, it gives a glimpse of the landlord's return, on judgment day, when there will be hell to pay—literally.
2. Second, the parable gives an insight into the 'meantime,' the "mean time," the centuries-long interval when God seems absent. (*Matthew 25:31-46*)

Matthew 25's answer is at once profound and shocking. God has not absconded at all, but instead has taken on a most unlikely disguise of the stranger, the poor, the hungry, the prisoner, the sick, the ragged ones of earth. **"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for Me"** (*Matthew 25:45*).

Jesus' final parable and the judgment scene leaves His body—the church, our congregations—with a heavy burden, **yet one that offers clarity for ministry direction and the only lasting HOPE for the world.**

- We must oppose all sin and anarchy by insisting that there is a Leader, a Landlord for the entire planet who will dispense perfect justice.
- Furthermore, **until the Landlord's return, it is up to us to demonstrate God's presence.** We reach out to needy people and places, not out of paternalism, but out of love.

By serving each other, and **especially the needy outside our congregations**, we serve God in disguise. (A2E)

Friends, R. A. Knowen, a Catholic theologian, shares this pertinent thought: "In our world filled with strangers, who are estranged from their past, from their culture, from their country, their neighbors, their friends, their family, from their deepest self, and from God we are witnessing a painful search for a hospitable place where life can be lived without fear and community can be found. It is possible and obligatory for Christians to offer an open and hospitable place where strangers can cast off their strangeness and become fellow human beings."

As **People of Hope, vigorously sharing the love of God, IMAGINE...**

- **the MERCY shared,**
- **the WITNESS given, and**
- **the joy and adventure of Living in and under God's grace ... as His Forgiven and Forgiving Family, LIFE TOGETHER**

In closing, the **Book of Acts** begins with these words by Luke: **"In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ..."**

**The Book of Acts CONTINUES ...**

In union with Christ, our Leader, Who is at work within us *both to will and to do His good pleasure* (*Philippians 2:13*), let us give our all and embrace the adventure!

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



## 2012 Michigan District Convention Essayist

**Rev. Mandla Khumalo**

**Pastor, St. Peter Confessional Lutheran Church in South Africa**

After the Convention Committee chose the theme for the 2012 Convention, IMAGINE ... Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family, primarily based on *Ephesians 3:20-21*, I soon thereafter gave good friend Pastor Mandla Khumalo from Middelburg, South Africa a call to see if he would serve as the essayist for the convention. After supplying him with daily themes and scriptures:

**Monday:** IMAGINE ... Outwitting Satan, Submitting to One Another, *Ephesians 5:19-21* and *Ephesians 6:10-12*

**Tuesday:** IMAGINE ... The Whole Building Joined Together - Saints Above and Saints Below, *Ephesians 2:19-22*

**Wednesday:** IMAGINE ... Building Up In Love ... Imitating Christ, *Ephesians 4:15-16, 31-5:2*

... he was very excited, and willing, to do so.

Pastor Khumalo, a graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., is a brother in Christ devoted to the study of the inspired, inerrant Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions, and the care of souls. He loves the Missouri Synod, believes that the Gospel is INDEED the power of God unto Salvation (*Romans 1:16*), and regularly prays with his congregations that our congregations in the Michigan District would believe, grow in grace and knowledge, and, as the forgiven and forgiving body of Christ, go with Gospel power to see God's transforming power, love, and grace at work in our communities.

May you continue to be encouraged by his words.

Rev. David P. E. Maier, President  
Michigan District, LCMS

### **Watch Rev. Khumalo Online!**

**All three of Rev. Mandla Khumalo's Bible studies from convention are available to view online at [michigandistrict.org/convention/media/videos](http://michigandistrict.org/convention/media/videos).**

# Minutes

## Sunday, June 24, 2012

The Chapel of the Holy Trinity on the campus of Concordia University Ann Arbor, was the setting for the Opening Divine Service for the 100<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. At the hour of 7:00 p.m., the invocation of The Name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit was spoken by the Rev. Steve Bagnall, celebrant for the service which gathered delegates and guests. The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, preached the sermon based upon the Word of the Lord from *Ephesians 3:20-21*, theme text for the convention: “*Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen*”

## Monday, June 25, 2012

Morning devotions were conducted in the chapel. Rev. Craig Bickel of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, was preacher for the service. His message was based upon *Ephesians 5:14-21; 6:10-18*.

### **Morning Session**

The following attendance report was received from Mr. Robert D. Schafer, Chair of the Registration Committee:

	Registered	Attending
Voting Pastoral Delegates	275	237
Voting Lay Delegates	281	262
Total Voting Delegates	<b>556</b>	<b>499</b>
Additional attendees:		
Advisory Ordained Ministers		38
Advisory Commissioned Ministers		59
Advisory Emeriti		55
Total Advisory Delegates		<b>152</b>
Convention guests	64	81
Total present		<b>732</b>

Declaring a delegate quorum thus assembled, President Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier called the Convention to order in the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Hartwig, Secretary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, was introduced to the delegates as parliamentarian.

By voice consent, the Convention Agenda and 2012 Special Standing Rules, as printed, were adopted.

Dr. Ross Stueber, Senior Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Concordia University Ann Arbor, was introduced to bring greetings on behalf of the university, Acting President Randall Luecke and Concordia University Wisconsin President Dr. Patrick Ferry. He spoke of the historic moment at hand in the affiliation of the two universities in which new opportunities and great hopefulness abound. He welcomed delegates to the campus of Concordia University with thanks for all the service done for “your university.”

The Convention received general orientation from Rev. Robert Appold, Chair of the Convention Committee with reference to such matters as the information desk, prayer room, technology concerns, the ministry tent, and etcetera. He thanked the convention committee and district staff.

Rev. Theodore Voll, Chair of the Constitutional Review Committee addressed the convention with reference to a distributed listing of congregations having received approval for new or revised constitutions during the previous

triennium. He explained the work of the committee and stressed need for indemnification clauses in parish constitutions. Names of congregations received into membership in the synod and district since 2009 were read: St. Matthew's, Adrian; New Hope, Flat Rock; Light of Christ, Marysville; and Tabernacle of Praise, Romulus. Delegates present from these congregations were specially acknowledged. Three additional congregations with approved constitutions await formal reception into the synod: Blessed Savior, Blissfield; St. John, Brant; Lamb of God, Flint.

Requested to stand and be acknowledged by name were 39 Ministers of Religion - Ordained and 53 Ministers of Religion - Commissioned (ref. Convention Workbook II, pgs. 9-10) to have become members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by signing the LCMS Constitution during the previous triennium. In recognition of the blessings of God provided through these servants of the church, the Convention united in singing the Doxology.

President David P. E. Maier delivered the President's Address. Summoning the convention according to *Philippians 4:4* to "Rejoice in the Lord always," and to hope in the Lord for His faithfulness (*Lamentations 3:21-23*), the president, citing other certainties of Holy Scripture, offered abundant grounds for confidence in the Lord during an age of change. Acknowledging the wide spectrum of changes observed in families and the state today and an equal number of arduous questions confronting the church, the president observed that we live in times similar to the apostolic age. Among many emphases, the president called for the church, serving in this age of change, to first and foremost remain faithful in the proclamation of God's Word and in obedience to it. He underscored the necessity of honoring marriage and the family at a time in which the institution of the home is under attack. Gratitude expressed to LCMS President Harrison for clearly articulating the church's affirmation of the sanctity of life on the national stage in testimony before the United States House Oversight Committee received a rousing ovation from President Maier and all the delegates. President Maier continued with a call for the church, at a time when only 5% of our congregations are growing numerically by reaching the unsaved, to return to the basics of being students of the Word reinforced in prayer and devoted in Christ's love for all people. Expounding four of Christ's parables from *Matthew 24-25* and recalling a desire voiced by C.F.W. Walther regarding "the saving of souls as the end and aim of our joint work," the president concluded his address stating, "As people of hope, vigorously sharing the love of Christ... imagine.. the mercy shared, the witness given, and the joy and adventure of living in and under God's grace as His forgiven and forgiving family."

Following the President's Address, Rev. Scott Sommerfeld, Chair of the Nominations Committee, was called forward for a brief explanation of the process of nominations which led to elections now anticipated. He also thanked the members of the Nominations Committee for their work.

Rev. Peter Nickel, Election Chair, was introduced to present the slate of five candidates for the office of President. He led the convention in prayer prior to balloting. With a first ballot 78.5% majority, Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier was elected for a second term. In appreciation of her devoted support, the president's wife, Pat Maier, was escorted forward with expressions of esteem. The president responded with most cordial personal remarks.

Balloting continued for the offices of Regional Vice-President with the following results:

Metro East Region	Rev. John M. Duerr (76.8%)
Metro West Region	Rev. Donald O. Neuendorf (53.8%)
North and East Region	Rev. Mark Brandt (62.3%)
West Region	Rev. David Davis (54.3%)

The Chair requested a point of privilege to acknowledge with thanks the service rendered by Rev. Dr. K. Frank Graves for service now completed as Metro West regional vice-president.

Balloting by the delegates further determined the position of the now-elected vice-presidents. Upon a second ballot Rev. Mark Brandt was named First Vice-President. Thereafter, Rev. Donald Neuendorf was duly elected Second Vice-President, in consequence of which Rev. David Davis became Third Vice-President with Rev. John Duerr completing the presidium as Fourth Vice-President.

Rev. David H. Reed was re-elected District Secretary (75.4%) and Mr. William Young, unopposed, received a unanimous vote to be returned as District Treasurer.

The following were subsequently elected to the District Board of Directors.

#### Metro East Region

Rev. Norman Koy (60.3%)

Natalie Haupt (51.0%)

Stephen R. Boergert (41.9%) \*

William Ducharme (55.6%)

\* Initially, Stephen Boergert was mistakenly determined not to have been elected on the first ballot. However, re-examination determined that he was elected appropriately from a ballot in which delegates were to make a selection of their two preferred candidates.

Orders of the Day suspended the election process.

With expressed courtesies for long and faithful service, the Chair recognized as present in the hall President Emeritus Rev. C. William Hoesman and his wife, Barbara. Also recognized was President Emeritus Rev. John Heins and his wife, Wilma. Likewise acknowledged with esteem were Dr. Walter and Mrs. Maier, parents of the district president. All were greeted with ovation.

Upon reassembling at 11:00 a.m. following a morning break, the Convention was introduced to Convention Essayist, Rev. Mandla Khumalo of St. Peter Confessional Lutheran Church, Middelburg, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa. He brought greetings from the Lutheran Church there and widely addressed the convention theme of God's Forgiveness and Forgiving Family. Following the first portion of his essay, Lindewe Khumalo, wife of the speaker was warmly introduced.

The morning session was concluded with prayer led by Rev. Charles Schulz.

During lunch recess a conclave of Advisory Ordained Delegates gathered to determine who would serve as the three Michigan District's Advisory delegates (ordained) allotted for the 2013 Synod Convention. Since all who gathered were willing to attend, it was unanimously determined that selections would be determined by blind draw. The following were identified. Rev. Nicholas Koschmann (St. Paul, Trenton), Dr. Dale M. Kleimola, EM (Jackson), and Rev. George O. Hamilton. EM (Zeeland) will be the advisory delegates. Rev. Gerald E. Grimm, EM (Warren) will serve as alternate.

#### Monday Afternoon Session

Devotions based upon *Acts 15:28* were led by Rev. Charles Schulz, Assistant Professor of Religion and Pre-seminary Director of Concordia University Ann Arbor. He spoke of the God who hides Himself in contraries and blesses us even as He did the earliest convention of the apostolic church.

Bringing greetings on behalf of the seminaries, Mr. Paul Gray, Advancement Officer of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. brought well-wishes on behalf of Dr. Dale Meyer. Also, Mr. Gary Nahrwold, Assistant Vice-President of Advancement for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. brought compliments from Dr. Lawrence Rast. Each took a few moments to remind delegates of the favor God has shown the church through His faithful seminaries.

President Maier called to the dais Floor Committee #2 (Administration, Structure, and Constitutional Matters). Chair, Rev. David Davis, directed convention attention to floor resolutions for this committee (ref. Convention Workbook II, Resolutions pages 7-14)

**Resolution 2-01:** "To Realign Michigan District Circuits." The committee substituted in line 32 the word "visitation" in the place of "electoral." The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

A motion was moved, supported, and adopted to ratify the listing of Circuit Counselors (Workbook II, Section 4, page 4) nominated by their respective circuits according to Bylaw 5.2.2 of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Following a recognition and welcome for Rev. Herbert Mueller, First Vice-President of the LCMS, who had joined the assembly, the Chair formally introduced to the convention the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for a half hour Bible study and presentation on the synod emphases, "Witness, Mercy, Life Together." The study began with a prepared video under this theme. President Harrison then offered exegesis of *Galatians 2:9-10*, *John 1:6*, *1 John 3:3*, et al which serve as foundation for the three vital theme keynotes.

Rev. Peter Nickel, Election Chair, returned to continue election balloting.

Those further elected to the District Board of Directors.

#### West Region

Rev. Craig Bickel (71.7%)

Richard Krueger (66.4%)

Ruth Martin (40.5%) ‡

John Raffel (39.6%) ‡

‡ Percentages reflect a three-candidate ballot.

#### Church Extension Board of Trustees election results:

Rostered Member: Rev. Joel Hoyer elected on a first ballot. (54.0%)

Laypersons: David Eberhard (21.9%), Tim Haberling (20.9%), and Jeff Roscoe (19.3%) were elected on the second ballot.

#### Nominating Committee election results:

##### Metro East Region

Ordained: Thomas F. Fischer was elected (72.1%)

Commissioned: Terry M. Davis was elected (54.5%)

Layperson: Phillip J. Fluegge was elected (65.4%)

##### Metro West Region

Ordained: Daryl Andrzejewski was elected (54.9%).

Commissioned: Steven Schwecke was elected unopposed (100%)

Layperson: Philip M. Krauss was elected (71.3%)

##### North and East Region

Ordained: Paul R. Hinz was elected (63.4%)

Commissioned: Eric Smith was elected (56.4%)

Layperson: John Nutzmam was elected (52.4%)

##### West Region

Ordained: Scott G. Sommerfeld was elected (60.8%)

Commissioned: Susan L. Truog was elected (56.3%).

Layperson: Karla M. Woell was elected (58.1 %)

#### 2013 Synod Convention Nominations Committee election results:

When a second ballot inadvertently left an open third unnamed option failed to produce a full majority, the ballot was reordered to reflect only two names. The result was the election of David Vallie (51.4%). A subsequent ballot named Roy Schmidt (68.1%) as committee alternate.

The convention was granted a brief recess.

President Maier called to the dais Floor Committee #1 (Theology, Relations, and Practice). Chair, Rev. Mark Brandt directed the convention to floor resolutions for this committee (ref. Convention Workbook II, Resolutions pages 1-6)

**Resolution 1-01:** “To Encourage ‘Life Together’ Through use of the Word of God and Prayer” was moved, supported, and unanimously adopted.

**Resolution 1-02A:** “To Give Careful Consideration to Style of Worship When Starting New Congregations.” The resolution was moved and supported. Motion was made and supported to place Memorial 1-11 (Convention Workbook I, Sec. 3, page 12) as a substitute motion. The delegate offering the substitute motion was accorded two minutes for speaking

to the rationale. The floor committee was provided equal time to respond. By rule the substitute motion was directly offered for consideration. The substitute motion was defeated and consideration was returned to the original motion (Res. 1-02A).

The floor committee accepted as a friendly amendment replacing the word “imagine” in line 38 with the word “support.” A delegate called the question and was supported. With a 75% majority, the house approved the question to be called. Resolution 1-02A was adopted as amended.

**Resolution 1-03** “To Reaffirm Deacon Ministry.” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 1-04A** “To Have the CTCR Address Questions Raised Concerning the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program.” The resolution was moved and supported. A motion was made, supported, and adopted to strike lines 29-30. Appealing to the orders of the day, the Chair tabled the current matter for later discussion.

Rev. Richard Wolfram solicited responses from delegates to a series of District Ministry Survey Questions. As a point of information, the convention was apprised of an oversight in Resolution 2-01 to include Atonement Lutheran Church, Dearborn, in the list of congregations to compose the new Detroit West Circuit and that the matter would be addressed most simply with a separate resolution later in the convention. The Chair also introduced to the convention District Secretary Rev. David Reed and Rev. John Merrill whom the president asked to assist as timekeeper and convention aide.

The convention was presented a video explicating the work of MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term). Executive Director Carly Hatcher was acknowledged among convention guests.

Likewise, the convention viewed a video regarding Lutheran Special Education Ministries. LSEM President and CEO, Jim Krone and Mr. Tim Winterstein, Director of Programs & Services were acknowledged among convention guests.

Floor Committee 2 business was again addressed.

**Resolution 2-02** “To Affirm Convention Purpose” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 2-03** “To Encourage a Four-Year Convention Cycle Within Districts and Synod.” The resolution was moved and supported. An amendment was offered that was ruled out of order. The floor committee accepted as a friendly amendment that the final resolve (line 21) be altered to read, “Resolved, that this resolution be implemented if passed by the Synod Convention in 2013.” The resolution was defeated.

**Resolution 2-04** “To Change the Date for the Regional Assemblies Prior to the District Convention.” The committee made two changes before presentation. In line 15, “60 days” was changed to “45 days.” Secondly, and also in line 15, the following text was added so the resolve reads, “...*Convention of the Michigan District, subject to approval by the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Synod,*” and be it finally ...” Resolution 2-04 was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 2-05** “To Inform Delegates About Candidates.” The words “to be” were added following the word “candidates” in line 11. The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 2-06** “To Amend Michigan District Bylaws.” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 2-07** “To Address District Service to Congregations.” The resolution was moved and supported. A motion was made and supported to have Memorial 2-03 (Convention Workbook I, Sec. 3, page 23) be a substitute motion. Two minutes were accorded for rationale and two minutes for floor committee response. The substitute motion was offered by rule for immediate consideration and was defeated. Motion was made and supported to strike lines 25-26. Addition of the word “administration” in line 25 following “District” was received as a friendly amendment. The motion to strike lines 25-26 was defeated. Resolution 2-07 was adopted as amended.

A District Ministry video presentation was shown to the delegates.

Omnibus Resolution A (Workbook II, Sec. 5, page 25) was read to the convention by the Chair. The omnibus resolution was adopted as presented.

For a final time, Rev. Peter Nickel, Election Chair, led the convention in balloting.

Concordia University Ann Arbor Board of Regents election results:

Ordained: Paul R. Naumann was elected on a first ballot (55.3%)

Commissioned: Mark Kirchenberg was elected (70.1%)

Laypersons: Ian Schonscheck (36.4%) and Tina Putz (27.6%) were elected on a first ballot.

The Election Committee having completed its duties was dismissed with thanks.

Rev. Mark Hetzner, Chair of the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support for the district was introduced for a brief report.

Closing devotion and prayer to complete the day's sessions was offered by Rev. Scott Benjamin of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Detroit.

## **Tuesday, June 26, 2012**

A Memorial Service was conducted in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity as convention delegates and guests gave thanks for the consecrated lives and service of pastors and teachers of the Michigan District whom the Lord of the church has brought home to paradise in the previous triennium. Rev. David Fleming of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, offered the sermon based upon *Revelation 14:1-3*.

### **Morning Session**

Delegates were called to order by President Maier at 9:30 a.m. Following announcements, members of the full district staff were introduced by teams, and the convention expressed its gratitude. The president also noted the contribution of Rev. Stephen P. Starke as author of a magnificent convention hymn, "Come, Imagine Life Together."

The Rev. Mandla Khumalo was returned to present to the convention the second portion of his essay/Bible study.

The convention viewed a video featuring Connie Davis, President of Michigan Lutherans For Life underscoring that organization's vital work. Connie Davis was recognized accordingly by the Chair.

Similarly, the convention was shown a video narrated by Rev. James Fandrey, Executive Director of Lutheran Heritage Foundation, the mission organization providing resources to missionaries, teachers, and evangelists around the world. Following the video, the Chair also recognized Rev. Dr. Robert Rahn, ambassador for LHF.

President Maier called to the dais Floor Committee #3 (Mission, Ministry, and Church Extension Fund). Chair, Rev. John Duerr, directed the convention to floor resolutions from this committee (ref. Convention Workbook II, Resolutions pages 15-24)

**Resolution 3-01** "To Express Gratitude to the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District." The resolution was moved, supported, and unanimously adopted as the convention stood to sing the Doxology.

**Resolution 3-02** "To Encourage and Support Discussion of Joint Ministry Ventures Within the Michigan District." The resolution was moved and supported. The floor committee accepted as friendly amendments the substitution of the word "encouraged" in place of "open" in line 27 and the striking of the word "the" at the end of line 16. A motion was made and supported to strike the second "Whereas." Both motion and second were thereafter withdrawn. Resolution 3-02 was adopted as amended.

**Resolution 3-03A** "To Commend the Affiliation of Concordia University Ann Arbor and Concordia University Wisconsin." The resolution was moved and supported. A motion to replace the first "Whereas" with the following was received by the committee as a friendly amendment: "Whereas our Lord has graciously moved Concordia University

Wisconsin and Concordia University Ann Arbor to affiliate so that they might pursue educational ministry together; and.” Resolution 3-03 was adopted as amended. A point of order to question whether the vote was for an amendment or the main motion was satisfactorily explained resulting in no action.

**Resolution 3-04A** “To Commend the Partnership of Lutheran Homes of Michigan (LHM) and Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan (LCFS).” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 3-05** “To Demonstrate our Recognition of, and Support for, all Life by Particularly Encouraging Foster Care Homes and Adoption.” The resolution was moved and supported. A friendly amendment to replace “15,600” in line 28 with “thousands of” was accepted by the committee. Resolution 3-05 was adopted as amended.

Mr. Ray Zavada, Assistant to the President - Development, was introduced to present a thorough and final report on “The Future is Now” campaign. Reviewing the three prime initiatives targeted by the campaign, noting the success of the campaign despite difficult economic times, and outlining participation levels and fund distributions, he expressed sincere thanks for all who supported this highly beneficial campaign.

Further district ministry survey questions were posed to delegates for responses. The convention also paused to warmly acknowledge the presence of Ruth Schlecht, wife of former district president + Rev. Dr. Richard Schlecht + in attendance for the memorial service.

Mr. Ron Steinke, President and C.E.O. of Church Extension Fund was welcomed to speak to the convention. He provided a comprehensive report of the extraordinarily beneficial work of CEF. He expressed gratitude for the passage of Resolution 3-01 and reassured the convention of the values, health, and programs of the Fund which continues as a crucial asset to the district.

The morning session was completed with announcement. The convention was then led in prayer by Rev. Philip Penhallegon, Pastor of St. Paul, Milan, and Assistant Professor of Religion, Concordia University Ann Arbor. As delegates completed the morning, the Chair recognized among the assembly, the Rev. David Erber and his wife, Joyce, on furlough from service in the Ghana/Nigeria mission field.

## **Tuesday Afternoon Session**

Rev. Philip Penhallegon again spoke to the convention and provided a devotion centered upon the convention theme, “Imagine—Living as God’s Forgiven and Forgiving People.”

Floor Committee 1 was returned to the podium to continue its work. Chair Mark Brandt, in preliminary remarks regarding continued discussion on **Resolution 1-04A**, referenced a 3/15/12 White Paper of the Specific Ministry Pastor Committee as a resource but with no official weight. Since suspension of discussion on the resolution Monday afternoon, the committee made two changes. In line 15, after the word “Whereas,” the following text was inserted: “there is some confusion as to whether or not.” Also, in line 18 the word “would” was added following the word “restrictions.” Debate continued on the motion. The question being called from the floor and upheld, Resolution 1-04A was adopted as amended.

**Resolution 1-05** “To Review and Confirm the Baptismal Formula and Request Guidelines for the Acceptance of Members.” The resolution was moved and supported. An amendment was moved and supported to replace the final two resolves with the following. It was subsequently received as a friendly amendment by the committee:

Resolved, that the Michigan District petition the council of Presidents (COP) to keep pastors and congregations informed as to the changing and evolving baptismal practices of other denominations; and be it finally Resolved, that this information be used to guide pastors and congregations of the Michigan District, LCMS in the receiving of new members that they be examined and cared for in a most loving and pastoral manner.

The committee also received as a friendly amendment the insertion of “[as a member]” in line 23 following the word “accepted.” The question being called from the floor and upheld, Resolution 1-05 was adopted as amended.

The convention was presented a video to serve as a report on Lutheran high schools in Michigan. Dr. John Brandt of Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw, and Mr. Steve Meseke, Superintendent of the Detroit Lutheran High School Association were acknowledged among convention attendees.

The floor was once again given to President Harrison for a period of time to receive unscripted questions from delegates and offer his concluding remarks.

Floor Committee 2 returned for more of its work.

**Resolution 2-08** “To Respectfully Decline Overtures.” The resolution was moved and supported. Motion was made and supported to place Memorial 2-17 (Convention Workbook I, Sec. 3, page 3 39-40) as a substitute motion. The delegate offering the motion and the committee were both offered two minutes for rationale and response. By rule the substitute motion was voted upon and defeated. Resolution 2-08 was thereafter adopted as presented.

**Resolution 2-09** “To Transfer Atonement Lutheran Church in Dearborn from Dearborn Circuit #25 to the new Detroit West Circuit #21” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted. Having completed its work, Floor Committee 2 was dismissed with thanks.

With agenda time allowing, Floor Committee 1 returned.

**Resolution 1-06** “To Encourage Study of the Christian’s Response to Cremation.” The resolution was moved and supported. Two typographical errors were noted and corrected on lines 18 and 22 (provide(s) / interment). A friendly amendment was accepted to strike the words “on the District’s website” from line 26. Resolution 1-06 was adopted as amended.

**Resolution 1-07** “To Encourage and Educate Voters in our Congregations Before National and State Elections.” The resolution was moved and supported.

Asserting orders of the day, the Chair invited forward Dr. Patrick Ferry, President of Concordia University Wisconsin who addressed the convention with eloquent remarks regarding the backdrop for and the foundation of the imminent affiliation of Concordia University Ann Arbor, with Concordia University Wisconsin. His remarks were received with gratitude and a standing ovation.

Following a brief break, Floor Committee 3 was returned.

**Resolution 3-06A** “To Encourage the Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Concordia University Ann Arbor.” The resolution was moved and supported. The second “the” in line 23 was removed by the committee. Upon presentation of the resolution, the current faculty of CUAA and all alumni and students of Concordia were asked to stand. The convention then rose, adopted the resolution, and sang the Doxology. The convention also observed an ovation in thanks to Presidents Maier and Hoesman for championing the cause of CUAA.

**Resolution 3-07** “To Encourage and Support Public University Campus Ministry.” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

**Resolution 3-08** “To Encourage the Establishment of Prison Ministries by Local Congregations and Clergy.” The resolution was moved and supported. Received as a friendly amendment was the inclusion of the words “(county, state, federal, and forensic centers)” in line 20 following the word “prisons.” Resolution 3-08 was adopted as amended. Dr. Robert Miles, retiring President/CEO of Lutheran Child and Family Service of Michigan and Mr. David Gehm, President of Lutheran Homes of Michigan were invited to address the convention. Their presentation began with a video outlining the historic and dynamic change attendant to the public announcement this day of the collaborative partnership and broadened services launched between LCFS and LHM. The united organization will be effected July 1, 2012. Video vignettes illustrated the uniting of human care ministry to the real needs of people. The number of lives impacted in nursing, adoption, foster care, counseling, housing and other human care needs was affirmed. Thanks were also expressed to Bob Miles for thirty-four years of service with LCFS.

The convention received a report from Cheri Fish, Michigan District President of Lutheran Women's Missionary League who brought greetings from the LWML's 6,000 members and wonderful news that the women fulfilled all mission grants intended for this past year.

Mr. John Raffel, Governor of Region Nine of the International Lutheran Laymen's League also addressed the convention with welcomed remarks.

Devotion and prayer based upon *Psalms 24* to end the day's sessions was led by Rev. David Reed, Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Auburn.

## **Tuesday Evening**

A Service of Installation was conducted at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity. Michigan District President, Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, delivered the sermon and was installed to office along with members of the presidium and all other officers and servants elected by the convention. The service was also occasion for the Installation of the Rev. Christopher Bodley as Missionary-at-Large in Detroit for the A2E Urban Ministry Initiative.

## **Wednesday, June 27, 2012**

Morning prayer and devotions were led by recently installed Pastor Christopher Bodley based upon *Ephesians 3:19*.

The Rev. Mandla Khumalo returned one final time to present to the convention the final portion of his well-received essay/Bible study.

Mr. Richard Cohrs, Curriculum Advisor for Mission U (Lutheran Hour Ministries) offered a promotional video and explanation of Mission U along with information regarding courses being offered.

The convention viewed a video regarding the work of Lutheran Braille Workers narrated by Rev. Dr. Phillip Pledger, President of LBW.

LATINO Ministry was affirmed as a vital outreach in Michigan as delegates watched a video presentation of the LATINO Mission Society and Iglesia Luterana Pan De Vida reaching out to the Hispanic population with the grace of God. In keeping with this dedicated ministry, a special retirement presentation was made to Deaconess Teresita Rodriguez for her untiring service to LATINO Ministries. Appreciation, spoken by Rev. Roosevelt Gray, Jr. and Rev. Gregory Lorenz in both English and Spanish, was offered sincerely for her service.

Following announcements and a brief break, the president requested a point of personal privilege to express his thanks to the district staff in general. He also request Pat Maier to escort forward Julie Strobl, Executive Assistant to the President, for particular thanks for martialing so well the advance details of the convention.

The convention returned to the work of floor Committees. Debate was continued from the previous day regarding **Resolution 1-07**. Motion was made and supported to strike the last two resolves. The amendment was defeated. Received as a friendly amendment were the following words to be added at the very end of the final resolve, “, always being careful to address issues without endorsing specific candidates or parties.” Likewise, accepted as friendly amendments by the floor committee were two changes to the second to last resolve. Line 39 was altered to read, “Resolved, that our District be encouraged to prepare ...”, and in line 40 the insertion of the words “addressing sin in” would follow the word “information.” The question being called from the floor and upheld, Resolution 1-07 was adopted as amended.

Welcomed to the dais was Treasurer Bill Young for the Treasurer's Report. He was followed by Mr. Chad Woltemath, Assistant to the President - Business / Finance, who reported on district properties and other matters financial. The convention offered gratitude for the able service rendered by those who oversee the important financial affairs of the district.

Rev. Dr. Paul Maier, Third Vice-President of the LCMS was welcomed forward for general remarks and opportunity for delegate questions and answers. He principally spoke of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Luther's tower experience and the current status of the Wittenberg Project.

**Resolution 1-08** “To Emphasize Marriage and the Family.” The resolution was moved and supported. A typographical error in line 9 and the omitting of the word “the” in line 17 were accepted. Resolution 1-08 was adopted as corrected.

**Resolution 1-09** “To Commend the Roman Catholic Church for its Stance on Religious Freedoms and Defense of the Rights of the Unborn.” The resolution was moved and supported. “And” to “as” in line 19 was corrected. The following two changes were received as friendly amendments. Line 19 to read, “contraceptive benefits (including the inappropriate contraceptives that would function as abortifacients), even if the.” Also the insertion of the words “and work toward” in line 32 following the words “to pray for.” Resolution 1-09 was unanimously adopted as amended.

Having completed its work, Floor Committee 1 was dismissed with thanks.

**Resolution 3-09** “To Encourage District Wide Congregational Awareness, Support, and Involvement in the Michigan District Urban Ministry Initiative.” The resolution was moved, supported, and adopted.

Having completed its work, Floor Committee 3 was dismissed with thanks.

Mr. Robert Schafer offered a final Registration Report

	Attending
Voting Pastoral Delegates	269
Voting Lay Delegates	276
Total Voting Delegates	<b>545</b>
Additional attendees:	
Advisory Ordained Ministers	51
Advisory Commissioned Ministers	82
Advisory Emeriti	77
Total Advisory Delegates	<b>210</b>
Convention guests	186
Total present	<b>941</b>

President Maier expressed a special note of thanks to those have completed terms who will not be returning in their offices on the Board of Directors, the Church Extension Board of Trustees as well as the considerable number of Circuit Counselors finishing their service in that capacity. Additional thanks was offered to the various worship leaders and those servicing the convention in various duties.

President Maier drew the convention toward its completion with concluding remarks that Christ ever be foremost among us. To be followed by a Service of Sending at which Rev. Randy Duncan of Living Word Lutheran Church, Plymouth, offered the sermon, the 100th regular Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod was adjourned by President Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier in the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David H. Reed  
District Secretary

# Resolutions

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-01  
SUBJECT: To Encourage "Life Together" Through use of the Word of God and Prayer  
REFERENCE: Overtures 1-07, 1-08, CW Overtures pages 8-9

**Whereas**, the theme for this 100<sup>th</sup> Michigan District Convention is "IMAGINE... Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family" and was chosen to highlight the "Life Together" aspect of our Synod's three-fold emphasis (Witness, Mercy, and Life Together); and

**Whereas**, Dr. Luther in his Large Catechism (15-19, Tappert) challenges believers to develop specific spiritual disciplines and practices which would promote a God-fearing, sanctified life; and

**Whereas**, God invites His people to grow in grace and knowledge through the study of His Word and to remember that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation; and

**Whereas**, God invites and commands us to pray and promises that He will hear and answer; and

**Whereas**, God the Holy Spirit reminds us "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1); and

**Whereas**, God the Holy Spirit reminds us that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (Ephesians 6:12); and

**Whereas**, it is only as God's people, believing the Word and living in obedience to it through the power of the Holy Spirit, "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3), that we can demonstrate that unity, experience many of God's promised blessings, and overcome the spiritual forces of evil; and

**Whereas**, the Word of God is a Means of Grace by which we are empowered to live as God's people; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that all delegates at the 2012 Michigan District Convention be encouraged to take the lead in their respective congregation in the area of developing spiritual disciplines; and be it further

**Resolved**, that all delegates, and all the members of our congregations, be encouraged to read the Bible on a daily basis and work toward reading the entire Bible annually; and be it further

**Resolved**, that all delegates, and all the members of our congregations, be encouraged to develop a discipline of daily prayer time of 30 minutes or more; and be it further

**Resolved**, that all delegates, and all the members of our congregations, be encouraged to grow in the grace of giving and focus on returning at least 10 percent of what God gives to them back to Him through the local congregation, and be it finally

**Resolved**, that all delegates diligently work to purposely promote, and daily give thanks for, the unity of the Holy Spirit with which we have been blessed.

## **ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-02A  
SUBJECT: To Give Careful Consideration to Style of Worship When Starting New Congregations  
REFERENCE: Overtures 1-04, 1-09, 1-10, 1-11, CW Overtures pages 4, 10-12

**Whereas**, all members of Synod have pledged to submit to Scripture, have subscribed to the Confessions, and have signed our constitution; and

**Whereas**, we are commanded in Scripture, "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3); and

**Whereas**, Scripture grants Christians a certain freedom in determining how they worship the Lord (Romans 14:5); and

**Whereas**, the Confessions assert “For this unity, we say, a similarity of human rites, whether universal or particular, is not necessary.”(AP VII) (see also AC XXVI and FC Ep X); and

**Whereas**, there is a perception that the Michigan District has moved away from the strategy of starting liturgical mission congregations; and

**Whereas**, our Constitution lists one of the objectives of Synod to “Encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith” (Article 3.7); and

**Whereas**, our liturgy greatly aids in grounding, teaching, and exercising its participants in the faith and our confession of the same; and

**Whereas**, Walther’s Church and Ministry sites Chemnitz as saying “This office [of pastor] has power granted to it by God” to “with the consent of the congregation introduce ceremonies that serve the ministry, are not at variance with God’s Word, do not burden consciences, but promote order, dignity, propriety, peace, and edification”(Concerning the Holy Ministry Thesis V); and

**Whereas**, “Life Together” involves trusting one another to understand both the particular needs of the communities in which we serve and to correctly apply Biblical teachings to those needs; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that as People of Hope we support a District that rejoices in our God-given doctrinal unity and celebrates Christ-centered diversity in worship practices; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District also encourage the establishment of congregations that use synodically approved liturgies and hymnals; and be it further

**Resolved**, that pastors be encouraged to continue instructing their congregations, catechumens, and new members in the Biblical principles of worship; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that we therefore affirm the Theses on Worship adopted by our Council of Presidents (COP) and commended by our 2010 Synod convention.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME:	THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE
RESOLUTION NUMBER:	1-03
SUBJECT:	To Reaffirm Deacon Ministry
REFERENCE:	Overtures 1-06, 1-16, CW Overtures pages 6-7, 20

**Whereas**, we are “People of Hope ... Vigorously Making Known the Love of Christ” through any God-pleasing means available; and

**Whereas**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod approved the office of the deacon at the 1989 Synod convention in Wichita, Kansas for just that purpose; and

**Whereas**, the Michigan District, LCMS has utilized deacons since 1989; and

**Whereas**, from the deacons of the LCMS fifteen have been ordained into the Office of the Public Ministry; and

**Whereas**, all 41 licensed deacons currently serving the Michigan District in a variety of places have completed the deacon and pre-SMP training program and serve under the guidance and direction of a supervising pastor; and

**Whereas**, the Council of Presidents (COP) has implemented policies and procedures to bring uniformity in training and practice for deacons; and

**Whereas**, the 1989 Synod convention acknowledged the following: “The supervising pastor will normally administer Holy Communion. However, in exceptional circumstances, when no ordained clergy is available and the congregation would otherwise be deprived of the Sacraments for a prolonged period of time, the licensed layman (deacon) will preside, when specifically authorized to do so by the congregation and with the approval of a supervising pastor and the District President.”; and

**Whereas**, the LCMS has now implemented a Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program to allow a more convenient path to ordination into the Office of the Holy Ministry; and

**Whereas**, deacons serving a congregation for 10 years or more are eligible for the colloquy process toward ordination; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District, LCMS reaffirm that deacon ministry is a valid and valued means for vigorously making known the love of Christ; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District encourage men to consider deacon ministry as a means of serving their congregations, helping their pastors, and sharing the load of spiritual ministry with the laity; and be it further

**Resolved**, that our District President's Office study the feasibility of circuit riders or other means of providing pastors to administer the Sacrament of the Altar; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District encourage our deacons to pursue ordination into the Office of the Holy Ministry whenever possible.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME:	THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE
RESOLUTION NUMBER:	1-04A
SUBJECT:	To Have the CTCR Address Questions Raised Concerning the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program
REFERENCE:	Overtures 1-12, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15, CW Overtures pages 13-19

**Whereas**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been blessed by the Lord of the Church with seminary programs and faculties that are able to effectively instruct students both on campus and utilizing distance education methods; and

**Whereas**, the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program enables men to receive theological training from our seminaries at the same time as they are receiving practical training under the guidance of a mentor pastor while serving in the parish; and

**Whereas**, there is some confusion as to whether or not the Specific Ministry Pastors are restricted to a particular place and are not available to be called by the church at large; and

**Whereas**, such restrictions would introduce the possibility of doubt in that man's legitimate exercise of the Office of the Holy Ministry; and

**Whereas**, the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) has stated that an ordained pastor is ordained as a member of the Holy Ministry of the whole confessional fellowship (1981 "The Ministry: Office, Procedures, and Nomenclature"); and

**Whereas**, there appears to be a conflict of understandings regarding the SMP pastors' availability to the confessional fellowship at large and the nature of ordination put forth previously by the CTCR; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that candidates and graduates of the SMP program be encouraged to continue their theological education; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the District have this issue remanded to the CTCR for review and clarification, specifically but not limited to the purpose of answering the concerns raised above, with the results to be reported to the Synod at large as well as the Synod in Convention; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the 2012 Michigan District Convention send this resolution to the 2013 Synod convention.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-05  
SUBJECT: To Review and Confirm the Baptismal Formula and Request Guidelines for the Acceptance of Members  
REFERENCE: Overtures 1-01, 1-02, 1-03, CW Overtures pages 1-3

**Whereas**, Holy Baptism has been instituted by our Lord Christ as a means of grace (Matthew 28:19-20; Titus 3:5; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-5; etc.); and

**Whereas**, Holy Baptism “is not a matter of choice (an adiaphoron), but a divine ordinance” (Pieper vol. III pg. 280); and

**Whereas**, Christ our Lord has given us the baptismal formula commanding us to baptize “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19-20); and

**Whereas**, this Trinitarian formula in administering Holy Baptism is “by all means to be retained and that no one should be permitted capriciously to change these words and use other words in baptizing” (Pieper vol. III pg. 261); and

**Whereas**, the custom of changing these words and using other words in baptizing has been accepted in other church bodies; and

**Whereas**, Holy Baptism is necessary “for someone to be accepted (as a member) into the congregation (Walther, Pastoral Theology, pg. 261); and

**Whereas**, a change in the wording of the Trinitarian formula introduces doubt in both the heart of the one who has received such a baptism and the LCMS pastor and congregation to which the person wishes to be joined; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that congregations of the Michigan District, LCMS faithfully confess and retain the Trinitarian formula in baptizing and refrain from capriciously changing these words and making use of others words in the baptismal formula; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District petition the Council of Presidents (COP) to keep pastors and congregations informed as to the changing and evolving baptismal practices of other denominations; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that this information be used to guide pastors and congregations of the Michigan District, LCMS in the receiving of new members that they be examined and cared for in a most loving and pastoral manner.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-06  
SUBJECT: To Encourage Study of the Christian’s Response to Cremation  
REFERENCE: Overture 1-05, CW Overtures page 5

**Whereas**, in light of the incarnation and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and the promises given to all believers in Christ through Him, we believe, teach, and confess the value of the human body as God’s creation and gift, and the resurrection of the body as part of God’s redemption of His creation; and

**Whereas**, this trust in the resurrection is precisely what makes us “People of Hope”; and

**Whereas**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has yet to take an official, formal stand on the practice of cremation; and

**Whereas**, our sister church body, the Lutheran Church—Canada (LC-C), meeting in convention in June 2011, received a report by its own Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) which provides “guidelines for pastoral care in the context of cremation”; and

**Whereas**, the Lutheran Service Book Agenda contains rubrics regarding interment of cremated remains (pg. 124 Committal Service, LSB); and

**Whereas**, Mueller/Kraus’ Pastoral Theology states: “In itself, the practice (cremation) has no theological significance and may be used in good conscience”; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the President's Office make available the LC-C CTCR document on cremation; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that pastors of the Michigan District review the "guidelines for pastoral care in the context of cremation" as offered by the LC-C.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-07  
SUBJECT: To Encourage and Educate Voters in our Congregations Before National and State Elections

**Whereas**, Scripture identifies three institutions as having been ordained by God: marriage and family (Genesis 1:22), the church (Matthew 16:18, Ephesians 5:25-27), and government (Matthew 22:21, Romans 13:1-7); and

**Whereas**, our government has been increasingly hostile to the other two institutions ordained by God; and

**Whereas**, three recent examples of this hostility are evidenced by

1. the U.S. Justice Department's lawsuit against Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School
2. the Health and Human Services Department's provisions concerning implementation of regulations in the new health care law especially regarding reproductive services (abortion, supply of different types of birth control, etc.)
3. President Obama's announcement that "it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married." (ABC interview on May 9, 2012); and

**Whereas**, Christians are commanded to submit to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1) but also have the example of Peter and John's determination to obey God rather than the members of the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:5-20); therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the delegates at this convention acknowledge and accept our God-given duties as citizens of this great nation; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we continually pray for those in governmental authority following the Apostle Paul's Holy Spirit inspired injunction in 1 Timothy 2: 1-4; I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we pledge to follow the example of Peter and Paul in being obedient to the will of God rather than that of men; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we submit to the governing authorities by our willingness to suffer punishment for any infractions of regulations that such obedience to God requires; and be it further

**Resolved**, that our District be encouraged to prepare, or make available, Bible Studies and additional relevant information addressing sin in issues confronting our nation for distribution to the congregations of the Michigan District especially prior to National elections; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District be encouraged to distribute this information to their members in the most effective manner possible, always being careful to address issues without endorsing specific candidates or parties.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-08  
SUBJECT: To Emphasize Marriage and the Family

**Whereas**, God instituted marriage as the lifelong union of one man and one woman as husband and wife (Genesis 2); and

**Whereas**, God instituted marriage for the procreation of children (Genesis 1:28), the avoidance of sin (1 Corinthians 7:2), and so that man and woman may find delight in one another (Genesis 2:18); and

**Whereas**, the institution of marriage is foundational for family and community; and

**Whereas**, the home is an integral partner in passing on the faith to the next generation (Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Deuteronomy 11:18-21; Psalm 78:4-7; Joel 1:3; Ephesians 6:4); and

**Whereas**, actions in several areas of society are threatening and undermining the Biblical foundation of marriage and family; and

**Whereas**, the Michigan District in convention has voiced support for the Biblical foundation of marriage; therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District reaffirm its support for the Biblical foundation of marriage and the family; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this biblical truth be clearly proclaimed, taught, and supported in each congregation and ministry in the District; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District memorialize The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod to continue to provide a clear and emphatic witness to and an emphasis on the Scripture’s teachings concerning marriage and the family in the next triennium.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: THEOLOGY, RELATIONS, AND PRACTICE  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-09  
SUBJECT: To Commend the Roman Catholic Church for its Stance on Religious Freedoms and Defense of the Rights of the Unborn

**Whereas**, God created human beings male and female as reflections of His own image (Gen. 1:27); and

**Whereas**, God’s Word teaches that human life begins at conception (Psalm 139: 13-16); and

**Whereas**, Through baptism into Christ Jesus we are reborn to eternal life as members of His body, the Holy Christian Church (Romans 6:4); and

**Whereas**, As citizens of the United States of America, the First Amendment of the Constitution guarantees the free exercise of our religious liberties; and

**Whereas**, The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has mandated that religious institutions, with only a narrow religious exception, must provide access to certain contraceptive benefits (including inappropriate use of contraceptives that would function as abortifacients), even if the covered medications or procedures are contradictory to their beliefs; and

**Whereas**, Both The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the Roman Catholic Church have publicly expressed their opposition to the mandates of the HHS concerning these contraceptive benefits, including the latter’s willingness to help defend this common religious right in civil court; and

**Whereas**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod stands with The Roman Catholic Church as Christian citizens in this struggle and is proud and honored to do so; therefore be it

**Resolved**, That the Michigan District in Convention publicly express its gratitude to the Roman Catholic Church for defending religious freedoms and the rights of the unborn; and be it finally

**Resolved**, That the Michigan District continue to pray for and work toward the preservation of both the religious freedoms we enjoy as American citizens and the sanctity of human life as a gift of God.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-01  
SUBJECT: To Realign Michigan District Circuits  
REFERENCE: Overture 2-16, CW Overtures page 38

**Whereas**, the 2010 Handbook of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (Bylaw 3.1.2.a) states, “An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent visitation circuits, as shall be determined by each district 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.”; and

**Whereas**, six circuits of the Michigan District (Circuits 4-Gladwin, 20-Detroit East, 22-Detroit West, 34-Big Rapids, 36-St. Johns, and 37-Tri River) do not presently fall within the bylaw parameters for an electoral circuit; and

**Whereas**, the president of the District appointed a Circuit Realignment Task Force to review the current electoral circuit map with particular eye to avoiding as much as possible requests for future electoral exceptions (Bylaw 3.1.2.b); and

**Whereas**, the task force submitted to the Michigan District Board of Directors proposed changes which would, as much as possible, bring Michigan District circuits into conformity with Bylaw 3.1.2.a; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Standish be transferred from Timberline Circuit #3 to Gladwin Circuit #4; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Historic Trinity Lutheran Church of Detroit be transferred from Detroit Central Circuit #21 to Detroit East Circuit #20; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Detroit Central Circuit #21 and Detroit West Circuit #22 be united to become a single visitation circuit, thus reducing the Michigan District circuit total by 1; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Ascension Lutheran Church of East Lansing and St. Luke Lutheran Church of Haslett be transferred from Capitol Circuit #35 to St. Johns Circuit #36, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Lansing be transferred from St. Johns Circuit #36 to Capitol Circuit #35; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the Big Rapids Circuit #34 and the Tri River Circuit #37 be retained as currently registered.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-02  
SUBJECT: To Affirm Convention Purpose  
REFERENCE: Overtures 2-11, 2-12, 2-13, 2-14, CW Overtures pages 33-36

**Whereas**, the 2010 Handbook of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod affirms that “conventions of the districts shall afford opportunities for worship, nurture, inspiration, fellowship and the communication of vital information”(Bylaw 4.2.1); and

**Whereas**, we acknowledge that challenges exist within our District and Synod; and

**Whereas**, it is important for us to maintain fellowship and a positive attitude as we work together toward the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ; and

**Whereas**, the theme for this convention highlights the importance of living together as God’s forgiven and forgiving family; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that we give thanks to God for this opportunity to enjoy our community of faith as we gather around the Word of God and our confession of that faith, demonstrated in our unity and purpose of mission; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we address the challenges that exist within our District and Synod in the spirit of fellowship and forgiveness; and be it further

**Resolved**, that in this convention we move forward in our worship, fellowship, and discussions with mutual respect for each other as we work together in our shared goals of witness, mercy, and life together; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that all participants be encouraged to take part in all activities, discussions, and opportunities for fellowship offered at this convention.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-03  
SUBJECT: To Encourage a Four-Year Convention Cycle Within Districts and Synod  
REFERENCE: Overture 2-09, CW Overtures page 31

**Whereas**, the proposed Synod restructuring was passed for the most part at the 2010 Synod convention in Houston; and

**Whereas**, the proposed four-year cycle received the most support at the regional gatherings prior to the 2010 Synod convention in Houston; and

**Whereas**, our Lord has called us to be good and wise stewards and going to a four-year cycle would save both time and money; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention request the LCMS in Convention to reconsider a four-year cycle as outlined in Resolution 8-18 of the 2010 Synod convention proceedings; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that this resolution be implemented if passed by the Synod Convention in 2013.

**ACTION: Defeated**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-04  
SUBJECT: To Change the Date for the Regional Assemblies Prior to the District Convention  
REFERENCE: Overture 2-06, CW Overtures page 26

**Whereas**, the regional gatherings of the delegates are an important part of pre-convention preparations for the District Convention; and

**Whereas**, the current Bylaw 3.1 requiring the regional assembly to take place on the first Saturday of May preceding the District Convention impedes scheduling flexibility; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the wording of Bylaw 3.1 be changed to read "Regional assemblies shall meet no later than 45 days prior to the opening of the Convention of the Michigan District"; subject to the approval of the LCMS Commission on Constitutional Matters; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the scheduling of the Regional Assembly be determined by the Regional Vice President and be appropriately published.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-05  
SUBJECT: To Inform Delegates About Candidates  
RESOLUTION: Overture 2-15, CW Overtures page 37

Whereas, it is desirable and important for voting delegates to be informed about candidates ; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Board of Directors improve upon the process to better inform delegates about all candidates to be voted upon by the Convention.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-06  
SUBJECT: To Amend Michigan District Bylaws  
REFERENCE: Overture 2-19, CW Overtures page 43

**Whereas**, periodic review and updating of the Bylaws of the Michigan District is in keeping with proper monitoring of the document which defines the orderly governance of the District; and

**Whereas**, a 2009 review of the Bylaws of the Michigan District by the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod noted 13 recommendations to facilitate uniformity of usage in bylaw and policy documents in the Synod; and

**Whereas**, language to address the specific recommendations was submitted by the Michigan District Board of Directors to the CCM for preliminary approval as required by Synod Bylaw 3.9.2.2.3 (a) prior to consideration of such changes by the 2012 Michigan District Convention; and

**Whereas**, the Michigan District Board of Directors has received the requisite pre-approval; and

**Whereas**, the CCM also requested sparing use of capitalization in reference to many common nouns, none of which affect the essential meaning of the text; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention adopt the recommendations herewith presented by the Board of Directors for amendment to the District Bylaws; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the Secretary of the District be entrusted with the adjustment of all clerical matters regarding capitalization throughout the Bylaws as long as none involve any change in meaning.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-07  
SUBJECT: To Address District Service to Congregations  
REFERENCE: Overtures 2-01, 2-02, 2-03, 2-04, 2-05, CW Overtures pages 21-25

**Whereas**, in 1997 the Michigan District in Convention changed the responsibility for staffing from the District Convention to the District President (Res. 1-01) and clarified the role of the District President as Chief Executive Officer (Bylaw 8.1); and

**Whereas**, the Michigan District Board of Directors continues to operate in this manner to clearly differentiate between the roles of the convention, the Board of Directors, and the District President; and

**Whereas**, the current structure has provided flexibility to meet the changing needs of ministry; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Convention commends the District President for his leadership in helping congregations minister in changing and difficult times, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the District President continue to monitor the effectiveness of the District and its staff in serving the needs of congregations, and be it further

**Resolved**, that congregations are encouraged to become increasingly aware of the District Administration and its resources and continue to utilize them, and be it finally

**Resolved**, that as part of living as God's Forgiveness and Forgiving Family, congregations are encouraged to contribute financially to the District to fund the ministries of both the Michigan District and the LCMS.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-08  
SUBJECT: To Respectfully Decline Overtures  
REFERENCE: Overtures 2-17, 2-18, CW Overtures pages 39-42

**Whereas**, the floor committee has considered all overtures assigned to it and has concluded that certain overtures should be declined; and

**Whereas**, it is the policy of the District to use proceeds from the sale of congregation or District properties to fund ministries that further the strategic direction of the District; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the following overtures be respectfully declined:

Number	Subject	Reason
2-17	Sale of Congregation Properties	District Policy in place
2-18	Sale of Congregation Properties	District Policy in place

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-09  
SUBJECT: To Transfer Atonement Lutheran Church in Dearborn from Dearborn Circuit #25 to the new Detroit West Circuit #21

**Whereas**, Resolution 2-01 inadvertently left out a congregation transfer to make the new Detroit West Circuit #21 an electoral circuit according to the LCMS election guidelines; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that Atonement Lutheran Church in Dearborn be transferred from Dearborn Circuit #25 to the new Detroit West Circuit #21.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-01  
SUBJECT: To Express Gratitude to the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-03, CW Overtures page 47

**Whereas**, the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District (CEF) has faithfully served the Michigan District for 111 years; and

**Whereas**, CEF has been instrumental in providing financial resources to hundreds of LCMS congregations for ministry expansion; and

**Whereas**, CEF has provided a conduit for individual Lutherans, through their investments, to assist in funding those ministry expansions; and

**Whereas**, CEF has supported professional church workers through housing loans and support of conference, education, and fellowship opportunities; and

**Whereas**, CEF has provided numerous grants and other funding (green grants, interest rebates, etc.) for the expansion of mission and ministry in the Michigan District; and

**Whereas**, through the generous and strategic support of CEF, the existence and work of Concordia University Ann Arbor continues; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that delegates encourage their congregations to be educated, invest, and actively participate in the ministries of CEF; and be it further

**Resolved**, that each congregation of the District be encouraged to have a prayer of thanksgiving to God for CEF in their worship services; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the convention delegation express our gratitude to God for the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District with a standing ovation and a joyous singing of the Common Doxology.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-02  
SUBJECT: To Encourage and Support Discussion of Joint Ministry Ventures Within the Michigan District  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-06, CW Overtures pages 51-52

**Whereas**, the congregations and ministries of the Michigan District within the state of Michigan have endured a most difficult economic downturn making local support of individual ministries more challenging at times; and

**Whereas**, our teaching of the individual autonomy of the congregation is often beneficial but can also, because of our sinful pride, deter thorough consideration and discussion of joint ministry ventures which should often be considered by local ministries because of economic efficiencies; and

**Whereas**, the devil works to destroy the Church by dividing congregations from each other rather than having them live and minister together in humble respect and in faithful joint ministry under God's blessing; and

**Whereas**, congregations and pastors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod should be willing to work together in the unity of the Spirit and in the spirit of Synod—a true “walking together”; therefore be it

**Resolved**, the Michigan District in convention encourage its congregations and members to pray for the Holy Spirit (James 1:5; Luke 11:13), study the Scriptures, and seek to have a humble spirit to perceive God's will in these matters; and be it further

**Resolved**, that congregations and their pastors, circuits and other ministries, be encouraged to shared ministry ventures; and be it further

**Resolved**, the Michigan District supply ideas and help when asked for assistance, and suggest ideas and offer help where they see such joint ministry ventures as a possibility; and be it further

**Resolved**, that where possible these joint ministry ventures be pursued, recognized, and publicized with the blessing and prayers of all God's people in the Michigan District; and be it further

**Resolved**, that this resolution, once properly edited, be forwarded for consideration at the 2013 Synod convention.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-03A  
SUBJECT: To Commend the Affiliation of Concordia University Ann Arbor and Concordia University Wisconsin  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-04, CW Overtures page 48

**Whereas**, our Lord has graciously moved Concordia University Wisconsin and Concordia University Ann Arbor to affiliate so that they might pursue educational ministry together; and

**Whereas**, the affiliation of these two educational institutions allows for broader educational opportunities, operational efficiencies, and wise stewardship of resources; and

**Whereas**, many different entities have selflessly worked and sacrificially given to accomplish this bold endeavor; and

**Whereas**, this is an example of walking together, working together, and cooperation in the church for the well-being of the kingdom of God; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that we commend and affirm this union; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we pray for its successful transition and blessed expansion under God's continued guidance and the furtherance of the Kingdom; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that people of the Michigan District be encouraged to embrace and support this union through their prayers, gifts, and the recruitment of students for Concordia University.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-04A  
SUBJECT: To Commend the Partnership of Lutheran Homes of Michigan (LHM) and Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan (LCFS)  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-07, CW Overtures page 53

**Whereas**, the care and keeping of God's people from conception to glory is the foundation and substance of the love of God and has been a mission of these social service agencies of the Michigan District for more than 100 years; and

**Whereas**, the mission and ministry of the Michigan District has been greatly enhanced through the efforts of these two agencies, and by the grace of God, through them the visible caring ministry of Christ is revealed; and

**Whereas**, the partnership of these two social service agencies allows for broader care opportunities, operational efficiencies, and wise stewardship of resources; and

**Whereas**, this is an example of walking together, working together, and cooperation in the church for the well-being of the kingdom of God; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that we commend and affirm this union; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we pray for its successful transition and blessed expansion under God's continued guidance and the furtherance of His kingdom; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that people of the Michigan District be encouraged to embrace and support this union through their prayers, gifts, and utilization of their services.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-05  
SUBJECT: To Demonstrate our Recognition of, and Support for, all Life by Particularly Encouraging Foster Care Homes and Adoption  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-05, CW Overtures pages 49-50

**Whereas**, the Holy Scriptures recognize the value of all human life through the universal redemption effected by our dear Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary's cross (John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18); and

**Whereas**, we also recognize from the inspired Word of God that human life is knit together in the womb by our Lord and that all are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13, 14); and

**Whereas**, this is true of all human life, not only from the moment of conception until birth, but also from birth to the grave; and

**Whereas**, all humanity is loved and embraced by God in His everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3) and the church is to witness to that universal love, as for example, by taking care of orphans and widows in their distress (James 1:27); and

**Whereas**, every life is not only valuable to God but needs the Gospel of Jesus from the moment of conception to the grave; and

**Whereas**, the church has frequently demonstrated its recognition of the beginning of life and value of all life through pro-life ministries like that of Lutherans for Life and other means, such as opening up their God-fearing homes as foster care homes for displaced children; and

**Whereas**, life outside the womb is also highly valued but difficult for newborns through older adolescents as witnessed by the thousands of children in Michigan who are in, or need, Foster Care homes or adoption; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention affirm the value of life outside the womb as well as inside the womb from the moment of conception; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention encourage the members of its congregations to celebrate the miracle of life in every aspect and at every age through Bible study, worship services, and other opportunities for meaningful presentations; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention encourage the members of its congregations to prayerfully consider opening their God-fearing homes to be foster care homes for displaced children from the State of Michigan and beyond; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention encourage the members of its congregations to prayerfully consider opening their hearts as well as their God-fearing homes to the possibility of adopting one or more of the thousands of children of all ages who are parentless or have no legal guardians; and be it further

**Resolved**, that our congregations and its members be encouraged to work with and through Lutheran Child & Family Service (LCFS) to learn more about foster care and adoption and becoming a foster care home or adopting a child or children; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that as a District we commit to diligently and regularly praying the Lord of the Church and the Lord of the harvest to graciously use us to be a witness to the value of all life through our words and deeds.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-06A  
SUBJECT: To Encourage the Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Concordia University Ann Arbor  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-01, CW Overtures page 44

**Whereas**, under the grace and guidance of God, our forefathers had the foresight to establish in 1963 a college of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the Michigan District; and

**Whereas**, almighty God in His mercy has allowed the equipping of many students for lives of service in professional church work and other vocations; and

**Whereas**, our gracious God has provided for the continuance of the ministry of Concordia University Ann Arbor through its affiliation with Concordia University Wisconsin; and

**Whereas**, we anticipate God's continued blessings upon Concordia University Ann Arbor in its future preparation of professional church workers and for additional students in other vocations; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that we thank the dedicated faculty, staff, and the Board of Regents past and present, for their faithful years of service to our Lord; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we thank all the individuals and congregations who have encouraged enrollment at Concordia University Ann Arbor and those who have faithfully contributed to the financial well-being of the college/university; and be it further

**Resolved**, that every congregation encourage its members to pray daily for this institution of higher learning and consider participating in the 50th Anniversary Celebration and Thank Offering for Concordia University Ann Arbor; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that we show our gratitude to God for the blessing of Concordia University Ann Arbor by rising to sing the Common Doxology.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-07  
SUBJECT: To Encourage and Support Public University Campus Ministry  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-02, CW Overtures pages 45-46

**Whereas**, the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has made Campus Ministry a priority by establishing and maintaining places of worship on public university campuses and by providing for Word and Sacrament Ministry and Christian fellowship in these places through partnerships with local congregations; and

**Whereas**, public university students are thrust into an environment hostile to faithful Christianity that persistently attacks the Christian faith, resulting in increasing numbers of young adults being influenced by other denominations or religions, or abandoning the faith entirely; and

**Whereas**, the changing financial realities of Michigan District congregations has impacted the level of ongoing financial and infrastructure support the Michigan District is able to provide to campus ministries, thereby leading to the creative establishment of ministry partnerships with local congregations to provide these ministries, which now bear the increasing costs for staff, benefits, utilities, and basic building maintenance with modest outside support; and

**Whereas**, public universities also attract an enormous population of international students and their families, many of whom have an interest in American culture and religion, and are therefore also a vital focus of campus ministries in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the forgiveness of sin; and

**Whereas**, the unique and ongoing challenges and opportunities of campus ministry all require an ongoing renewal of support and effort for those actively engaged in such dynamic ministry; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod gathered in convention give thanks to God for the priority given to campus ministry and for the support it has given in the past, and reaffirm its ongoing support of campus ministry in general and of those congregations actively engaged in full-time campus ministry in particular; and be it further

**Resolved**, that congregations engaged in full-time campus ministry and campus contact congregations be publicly encouraged and prayed for in their ongoing mission efforts against the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh to all in the public university community; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District and local congregations having students attending particular public universities be encouraged to provide prayerful and financial support to those specific campus ministries engaged in the effort to provide Word and Sacrament Ministry to their congregational members while they are away at school; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District recognize the unique outreach opportunities to international students and their families by providing prayerful and financial support to campus ministries also engaged in ministry to international students; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District knowing of students attending public universities make known their names and contact information to the full-time campus ministry or the designated campus contact congregation as a further means of supporting the ongoing efforts of handing over the faith to the next generation.

**ACTION: Adopted**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-08  
SUBJECT: To Encourage the Establishment of Prison Ministries by Local Congregations and Clergy  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-09, CW Overtures page 56

**Whereas**, Jesus speaks of visiting those in prison (Matthew 25:36); and

**Whereas**, research has shown that clergy visits are a positive influence in combating recidivism (repeat offense); and

**Whereas**, it may be difficult for the home pastor to visit because of distance and time; and

**Whereas**, because of a lack of a conduit, families have difficulty in establishing contact with local pastors; and

**Whereas**, congregations and pastors may need assistance in establishing a prison ministry; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention encourage congregations with prisons (county, state, federal, and forensic centers) in their communities to establish a prison ministry; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we encourage these congregations to joyfully allow their pastors to have clergy visits with referred prisoners; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District assist pastors in cutting through the red tape and hurdles established by the Michigan Department of Corrections which impedes clergy visits; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District provide a link on the District website for families of inmates to connect with a local pastor for the purpose of requesting clergy visits; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that the Michigan District assist in providing the resources (conferences, training, and materials) needed to assist congregations in establishing these ministries.

**ACTION: Adopted as amended**

COMMITTEE NAME: MISSION, MINISTRY, AND CHURCH EXTENSION FUND  
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3-09  
SUBJECT: To Encourage District Wide Congregational Awareness, Support, and Involvement in the Michigan District Urban Ministry Initiatives  
REFERENCE: Overture 3-10, CW Overtures pages 57-58

**Whereas**, God wants all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4); and

**Whereas**, the Gospel—in the Word and Sacraments (Holy Baptism and Holy Communion)—is God’s power unto salvation (Romans 1:16), and therefore has sway over men’s hearts in every place, and every time, and every culture, according to the Holy Spirit’s bidding; and

**Whereas**, we as God’s people are called upon to believe in, serve as messengers of, and be God’s display of, the power of the saving Gospel in our lives as it is also proclaimed and demonstrated through God’s love and life within us in deeds of compassion and mercy; and

**Whereas**, the Holy Spirit attends the truthful proclamation of the Word, the right administration of the Sacraments, and the demonstration of His (1 Corinthians 6:19), and Christ’s (Galatians 2:20), indwelling presence through our obedience to His Word as seen in the forgiveness we offer one another and others in our “life together,” in deeds of compassion and mercy, and in our witness; and

**Whereas**, the state of Michigan has one of the great cities of the world, Detroit, and many other urban areas where the Gospel needs to be lived, demonstrated, and proclaimed; therefore be it

**Resolved**, the Michigan District in convention encourage and direct its officers and staff to continue to take seriously God’s mission in the urban setting through its A2E (Acts 2 Enterprise) Urban Initiative, other urban initiatives, and especially through continual, urgent, special, and focused prayer and planning; and be it further

**Resolved**, that we, the congregations of the Michigan District, join in these prayers for God’s blessing upon urban ministry, and where possible, join in the work that needs to be done in the urban setting through that planning; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the congregations of the Michigan District further support in whatever means or ways possible these urban ministry efforts, or as the Apostle Paul says in Galatians 6:10: “... as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers”; and be it finally

**Resolved**, that this resolution, once properly edited, be forwarded for consideration at the 2013 Synod convention.

**ACTION: Adopted**

# Omnibus Resolutions

## RESOLUTION A

**Whereas**, many overtures request action that is the responsibility of various boards, commissions, or individuals to study and to implement; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the following overtures be referred to the designated board, commission, task force, or individual:

Number	Subject	Board, Commission, Task Force, Individual
2-07	Strategic Planning for District Mission Funds	District President
2-08	Strategic Planning for District Mission Funds	District President
2-10	Use Technology in the Call Process	District President
3-08	Encourage Mission Zeal	District President

**ACTION: Adopted**

**BYLAWS**  
**MICHIGAN DISTRICT**  
**OF**  
**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**  
(As Amended by the 2012 Michigan District Convention, June 24–27, 2012)

**ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION**

- 1.1 The Michigan District shall consist of congregations, ministers of religion (ordained and commissioned), holding membership in the synod received by the district or the synod.
- 1.2 The district shall establish an organizational structure for the effective operation of its program and conduct of its affairs, which structure shall embrace the convention, regional assemblies, the board of directors, circuits, and such other boards, commissions, committees, officers and functionaries as may from time to time be established.
- 1.3 The governance and control of the district's affairs shall be conducted on the basis of four (4) levels of organization.
- a. The convention which shall consist of the district at large through its delegates in convention assembled and shall be the governing body of the district subject to the constitution, bylaws, and resolutions of Synod, and to these bylaws.
  - b. The regional assemblies (4) shall meet prior to the district convention, at which time delegates shall consist of the regularly elected and delegated representatives, cf 2.3, of said regions. The purpose of the regional assemblies shall be to evaluate their regional as well as district needs, and to nominate for district elections.
  - c. The board of directors shall be construed as district in constant session to establish policy and direct the affairs of the district subject to the Constitution, Bylaws and Resolutions of Synod, and to these Bylaws and the resolutions of the district in convention.
  - d. The circuits shall carry out resolutions of the synod and the district. They shall interpret, administer and engage in the objectives of the synod locally, in accordance with Synod Bylaw 1.3.6.

**ARTICLE II - CONVENTIONS**

- 2.1 District conventions shall be held and conducted as prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod.
- 2.2 The convention shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Bylaws of Synod.
- 2.3 Representation - The district convention shall be composed of regularly elected and delegated representatives and of certain individual persons, as follows:
- a. Representatives of congregations entitled to vote. Every congregation or parish is entitled to two (2) votes, one (1) of which is to be cast by the pastor and the other by the lay delegate.
  - b. The advisory members of the synod (Constitution, Art. V B).
  - c. Advisory representatives of the board of directors, other boards, commissions, and educational institutions and such as by virtue of their office are required to attend district conventions.
- 2.4 Quorum - For a legal convention, a constitutional convocation of the meeting and the presence of at least one-fourth of the constitutionally-elected voting representatives are necessary.

**ARTICLE III - REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES**

- 3.1 Regional assemblies shall meet on the first Saturday in May prior to the convention of the Michigan District. The regional vice-president shall call at a place of his choosing an assembly of his region.

- 3.2 The regional assembly shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws or the Bylaws of Synod.
- 3.3 Representation: Each congregation shall be represented at this assembly by two voting delegates (one pastor and one layperson) and by the advisory members of synod (cf 2.3).
- 3.4 The regional vice-president shall chair the assembly and shall appoint a secretary to record the proceedings.
- 3.5 Quorum - For a legal assembly of the region, the presence of at least one-fourth of the voting representatives shall be present.
- 3.6 The purpose of the regional assembly shall be:
- a. To study the needs of the region in mission and ministry;
  - b. To hear and discuss the total needs of the district;
  - c. To be informed about major issues to come before the district convention;
  - d. To nominate from its region two (2) pastors for election by the district convention to the office of regional vice-president in accordance with the provisions of Michigan District Bylaw 5.12 and the Schedule of Elections.
  - e. To nominate from its region two (2) ordained ministers, two (2) commissioned ministers, from the roster of the district and four (4) lay persons from a slate prepared by the Regional Nominating Committee for election by the district convention to the board of directors of the district.
  - f. To nominate as specified in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8 c. and d.

#### **ARTICLE IV - QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

- 4.1 Officers and board members shall meet all qualifications established from time to time by the Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and such other qualifications as may be established from time to time by these Bylaws.
- 4.2 Officers and members of the board of directors must be members in good standing of congregations which are members of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, except as noted in Michigan District Bylaw 5.11a. No congregation of the district shall have more than one (1) member from its congregation as a voting member of the board of directors to the district.

#### **ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

- 5.1 Elective Officers. The elective officers of the district shall be the president, four vice-presidents (one from each region), a secretary, a treasurer and the circuit counselors.
- 5.2 The elective board of the district shall be the board of directors.
- 5.3 Term of Officers and Board Members.
- a. The term of office of each elected officer shall be three (3) years. All officers other than circuit counselors may be elected or appointed to the same office for four (4) consecutive terms after which a period of three (3) years shall elapse before such person is again eligible for election or appointment to the same office, unless otherwise provided by these Bylaws. An officer, elected or appointed to fill an unexpired term, who serves two (2) or more years, shall be considered to have completed one (1) term. Circuit counselors may serve an unlimited number of terms.
  - b. The term of office of each board member shall be six (6) years. All board members may be elected or appointed to the same office for two (2) consecutive terms after which a period of six (6) years shall elapse before such person is again eligible for election to the same board, unless otherwise provided by these Bylaws. A board member, elected or appointed to fill an unexpired term, who served four (4) or more years, shall be considered to have completed one (1) term.
  - c. The president may be elected to succeed himself in office no more than three (3) times.

d. The board of directors shall be composed of four (4) ordained ministers, four (4) commissioned ministers, and eight (8) laypersons with equal representation from each region of the District. The size of the Church Extension Board of Trustees shall be determined by its bylaws.

e. District board members who move inter-regionally may complete their term of office.

#### 5.4 Salaried Executives without Vote.

Executive level staff of the district and the chief executive officer for the Church Extension Board of Trustees are not eligible for voting membership on any board of the district. They shall not at the same time hold an executive position to which they have been called and the office of president, vice-president, Secretary, or treasurer of the district. If such staff is elected by the convention to one of these positions, he must resign his executive office to accept such an election.

#### 5.5 If President is Unable to Serve.

The duties and responsibilities of the office of president shall be assumed by the first vice-president whenever the board of directors determines that the president is unable to serve in that capacity because of his prolonged illness or disability, and the first vice-president shall remain as the acting president until the board of directors determines such illness or disability has been removed.

#### 5.6 Vacancies.

- a. A vacancy in the office of vice-president shall be filled by advancing the lower ranking vice-presidents. An acting vice president for the resulting vacancy may be appointed by the president, with the advice and consent of the board of directors, until the elections at the next district convention.
- b. A vacancy in the board of directors shall be filled by the board unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws or the Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The appointee shall serve the unexpired term.
- c. A vacancy in any other elective office (secretary, treasurer, etc.) shall be filled by appointment by the board of directors. The appointee shall serve the unexpired term to which he is appointed.
- d. The Church Extension Board of Trustees will fill vacancies in accordance with its own Bylaws.

#### 5.7 Time of Elections.

- a. The election of the president, the vice-presidents, the secretary, the treasurer, the district elected members of the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, approximately one-half of the board of directors members and the ratification of the circuit counselors shall take place at each district convention. At alternate conventions there shall also be elected a district member to serve on the LCMS Committee for Convention Nominations.
- b. Regional assemblies shall nominate for all positions with the exception of district president, district secretary, district treasurer, Church Extension Board of Trustees, and the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor.
- c. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in even-years, the Metro-East Region and the West Region shall nominate for the board of directors.
- d. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in odd-years, the Metro-West Region and the North and East Region shall nominate for the board of Directors.

#### 5.8 Committee on Nominations.

- a. The district convention shall elect a 12-member nominating committee consisting of one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister, and one (1) layperson from each region of the district and the president shall designate the chairman thereof. The three committee members from each region shall serve as the regional nominating committee.
- b. The Committee on Nominations shall meet at the call of the president of the district.
- c. The regional nominating committee shall draw up from its region a list of candidates and alternates for the board of directors and the nominating committee in accordance with the provisions of Michigan District Bylaws 5.8 and 5.9 and

the Schedule of Elections. The regional nominating committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, as well as biographical data, and supply the regional assembly with this information. Following the regional nominations, the biographical data of persons nominated shall be transferred to the district nominating committee so that the district ballot may be drawn up.

- d. The district nominating committee shall draw up a list of candidates and alternates for all other district offices, namely, the district secretary, treasurer, Church Extension Board of Trustees, and the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor. The nominating committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, and transmit its final report to the secretary of the district in ample time to provide for its publication in a pre-convention issue of the district's official publication and also in the official Convention Book of Reports and Overtures. This report shall contain the occupation or profession, residency, and specific experience and qualifications for the proposed office.
- e. The chairman or his designate shall submit the committee's report to the district convention.
- f. If between the regional assembly and the district convention a nominee becomes ineligible for election, the nominating committee will fill the slate with a qualified candidate.
- g. The convention shall have the right to alter the ballot by amendment. The amendment procedure shall include a motion, a second, and a majority vote on the amendment. Any delegate making a nomination for the floor shall have secured prior written consent and biographical data from the candidate whom he wishes to nominate as detailed in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8 c., d. This material shall then be submitted to the district secretary.
- h. The chairman shall have on hand at the convention a reserve list of nominees, approved by his committee, for use if required if a new board is to be elected. Whenever possible, however, the committee on nominations should be informed in advance if any new board is likely to be elected at a District convention, so that it may have a slate of candidates in readiness.

#### 5.9 Floor Committee on Elections.

- a. Elections shall be conducted by a floor committee on elections, appointed by the president before the convention. The secretary of the district shall furnish the committee a copy of suggested election procedures.
- b. The committee shall consist of one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister and two (2) laypersons.
- c. The committee may appoint tellers, who need not be voting delegates, to assist in conducting the elections. The chairman shall give the list of tellers to the secretary of the district, who shall announce them to the convention.
- d. A regional floor committee on elections shall be appointed by the vice-president of that region to conduct the nominating elections at the regional assemblies and whose duties shall be consistent with the district floor committee on elections.

#### 5.10 Majority and Plurality of Votes.

A majority of all votes cast shall be required to elect.

#### 5.11 Election of the President.

- a. The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod shall elect a president from among the clergy of the synod.
- b. Every voting member congregation of the Michigan District may nominate one pastor as a candidate for the office of district president.
- c. The nomination of each member congregation shall be submitted to the district secretary by a time determined by the district secretary to meet deadlines for publication to the district before the convention.
- d. Candidates for the office of president shall be the five (5) persons receiving the largest number of nominations in this congregational action.
- e. The district secretary shall notify each candidate and shall secure his approval in writing for inclusion of his name on the convention ballot.

- f. The district secretary shall prepare biographical information on the five candidates, which is to be published in district periodicals no later than May 1, and in the Convention Book of Reports and Memorials.
- g. The district secretary shall submit the names of the five candidates for election of district president to the district convention.
- h. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate by majority amendment.
- i. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the name of the candidate who receives the smallest number of votes shall be dropped from the list and a new ballot taken. The procedure shall be continued until one (1) candidate has received a majority of the votes cast.

#### 5.12 Nominations and Elections of Vice Presidents.

- a. The Michigan District shall elect four (4) regional vice-presidents from the clergy roster of the synod.
- b. Every voting congregation of a region may nominate one pastor from its region as a regional candidate for the office of vice-president for its region.
- c. The nomination shall be submitted to the district secretary no later than four (4) months prior to the opening of the district convention.
- d. The district secretary shall notify each nominee, secure his approval in writing, and secure biographical information for the inclusion of the five (5) names receiving the most nominations on the regional nominating ballot.
- e. At the regional assemblies each region shall choose by ballot two (2) pastors as nominees for election by the district convention to the office of regional Vice-President.
- f. Each voting delegate in the region may vote for two (2) nominees for vice-president, indicating his first and second choice. The tellers, appointed by the chairman, shall score two (2) points for each first choice and one (1) point for each second choice. The two (2) nominees receiving the largest number of points shall be candidates. The tellers shall report the results of the meeting to the Chairman.
- g. The chairman of the regional assemblies shall report to the secretary of the district the names of the persons nominated for the office of vice-president along with the biographical data. The district secretary shall transmit such names to the floor committee on elections.
- h. The committee on elections shall recap the information provided on qualifications and experience for each candidate and shall submit such information together with the ballot on which such election is to take place.
- i. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate at the proper time by majority amendment as outlined in Michigan District Bylaw 5.8g.
- j. The convention shall elect one vice-president from each region.

5.13 Ranking of Vice-Presidents. After the regional vice-presidents have been elected, balloting will continue to determine their rank. The names of all four (4) vice-presidents will constitute the ballot for the first vice-president, and voting continues until one is elected by majority vote. (If one is not elected on the first ballot, the name of the candidate who receives the smallest number of votes shall be dropped, and the balloting continues in this fashion until one is elected by majority vote.) The remaining three names constitute the ballot for second vice-president and the balloting continues as above. The two remaining names constitute the ballot for third vice-president, and the one not elected becomes fourth vice-president.

5.14 Election of Circuit Counselors. The convention shall elect the circuit counselors as provided by the Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

5.15 The convention shall elect one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister, and two (2) laypersons to the board of regents of Concordia University, Ann Arbor, as provided by the Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

5.16 Election of Other Officers.

- a. Election of all officers other than the president and vice-presidents will be held at a special period of the convention session determined and announced by the president in advance.
- b. The committee on elections shall submit one (1) ballot containing the nominees furnished by the committee on nominations for all elective offices.
- c. The list of nominees for each respective office, together with their experience and qualifications, shall be distributed.

5.17 Order of Names on the Ballot. The names of all candidates in all elections shall be placed on the ballot regionally and in alphabetical order but without any distinctive mark, unless otherwise stipulated by these Bylaws.

5.18 Notifications of Election to Office. At the close of the convention, the secretary of the district shall notify every officer and board member in writing of election.

5.19 Exception of Church Extension Board of Trustees. Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of these Bylaws, the Church Extension Fund being a separate corporation created by the district, members of the Church Extension Board of Trustees shall be elected as provided by the bylaws of the said Church Extension Fund and not by the provisions of these Bylaws.

5.20 Induction and Beginning of Term of Office.

- a. All officers elected at the convention shall be inducted into their respective offices in an installation ceremony (service) at the convention.
- b. All officers shall begin their terms of office on October 1.

**ARTICLE VI - SUCCESSION IN OFFICE**

6.1 In the event that the office of president of the district becomes vacant, the first vice-president shall succeed to the office of president and shall serve until the district convention.

6.2 The successor need not terminate his position as pastor of the congregation while completing the unexpired term unless and until he is elected president by a convention.

6.3 Any vice-president, who by the terms of this article succeeds to the office of president, may decline such office; in which event:

- a. The next ranking vice-president shall become president of the district.
- b. All other vice-presidents shall move up one rank.
- c. The declining vice-president shall fill the last ranking vacant vice-presidency.

**ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

7.1 The board of directors shall carry into execution the policies adopted by the district in convention with full authority to carry them out and shall create and monitor compliance to policies which govern the district and the performance of the district president who shall be in charge of all district operations and staff. The board of directors shall carry out its functions as described by Synod Bylaw 4.5.1.

7.2 The board of directors is authorized to elect from its membership a chairman, vice chairman and secretary and to appoint such committees as needed to carry out its work.

7.3 The board of directors is authorized to extend calls on behalf of the district.

7.4 The membership of the board of directors shall be divided into two classes, the voting members and advisory members:

- a. The voting members of the board of directors shall consist of one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister and two (2) laypersons elected from each of the regions within the district.
- b. The Advisory members shall consist of the president, regional vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, and the chairman of the circuit counselors.

7.5 The board of directors shall meet at least five (5) times per year.

7.6 Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by the president of the district, the chairman of the board or any three (3) voting members of the board upon written notice to all voting and advisory members.

7.7 A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members and the majority of those present and voting shall be sufficient to carry a motion or resolution.

7.8 All commissions and committees of the district shall report regularly to the board of directors. Such report may be made in writing or by a representative in person, provided, however, that the board of directors may require the report to be made by a representative in person.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION**

8.1 President. The president shall be the chief executive officer of the district, and between conventions and in the recess of the board of directors, shall have the general control and management of its business and affairs, subject to these Bylaws. He shall preside at all district conventions. The president shall carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to his office by the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod. He shall be an ex-officio member of all commissions or committees in the district with the right to speak but not to vote. He shall have the right to designate any one of the vice-presidents to sit in his place at meetings of the board of directors or any of the district's commissions or committees. As the chief executive officer, he shall manage and supervise the district staff. The office of district president shall be full-time. He shall not be in charge of a congregation, nor hold a chair at any educational institution or fill any other full-time executive office of the district. This prohibition does not apply when a vice president assumes the office of district president to complete an unexpired term.

8.2 Vice Presidents. In the event that the office of president shall become vacant or in the event of the absence of the president or his disability to discharge the duties of his office, such duties shall for the time being devolve upon the vice-presidents in order according to their ranking as further provided in these Bylaws. The vice-presidents shall also do and perform such other acts as the president may from time to time authorize them to do.

8.3 Secretary. The secretary of the district shall keep the minutes of the conventions of the district in books provided for that purpose; he shall attend to the giving and receiving of all notices of the district; he shall sign, with the president or a vice-president, in the name of the district, all contracts authorized by the board of directors, and when necessary shall fix the corporate seal of the district thereto; and his minutes and records shall be opened to examination to any member of the district at all reasonable times; and he shall have such additional duties as may be delegated to him by the convention or the board of directors.

8.4 Assistant Secretaries. The board of directors may appoint assistant secretaries who shall have the authority of the secretary when delegated by the secretary or the board of directors, or when the secretary is unavailable due to disability or absence from the district.

8.5 Treasurer. The treasurer shall have oversight of all funds and securities of the district and shall report to the board of directors and the district convention the financial status of the district. The treasurer, the president of the district and/or the president's designated staff persons shall have authority to sign on behalf of the district all checks, notes, or other official documents. The treasurer shall also require on behalf of the board of directors the annual audit of all district funds. He shall be bonded for the discharge of all his duties as treasurer, the bond being of such character, form and in such amount as the board of directors may require.

8.6 Circuit Counselors. Circuit Counselors shall serve in accordance with the duties assigned to this position as provided by the By-laws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. During the year when there is no synod or district convention, circuit convocations will be held under the leadership of the circuit counselors and members of the circuit forum.

## **ARTICLE IX - FISCAL AND AUDITING**

- 9.1 District Budget. The district budget shall be determined by the board of directors through its policies, but no budget shall be approved which allows for expenditures greater than receipts and other funds projected to be available in any given year.
- 9.2 Auditing. All the district's financial accounts shall be audited at least once every year by a firm of certified public accountants designated by the board of directors.
- 9.3 No commission or committee of the district except the Church Extension Fund which is a subsidiary corporation of the district shall maintain a separate bank account without the consent of the board of directors. In the event such consent is given by the board of directors, such account or accounts shall be audited at the same time and in the same manner as heretofore provided.
- 9.4 The board of directors shall develop its own board policy manual for proper governance of the district.
- 9.5 Those directors duly elected or appointed to the board of directors who do not receive anything of value from this corporation for serving as a director other than reasonable per diem compensation and/or reimbursement for actual, reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by such director in service of the capacity as a director shall be deemed a "volunteer director" for all purposes hereunder.
- 9.6 A volunteer director shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its membership and/or members for monetary damages for any breach of the director's fiduciary duty except for liability arising from or relating to:
- a. A breach of director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its members;
  - b. Actual omissions not in good faith or the involvement of intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
  - c. An act in violation of the provisions of Michigan law, specifically MCLA 450.2551 (1);
  - d. Any transaction from which a director derives an improper personal benefit.
  - e. Any act or omission resulting in liability occurring before January 1, 1988;
  - f. Any act or omission that is grossly negligent.
- 9.7 The corporation shall assume all liability to any person or entity other than the corporation or its members for all acts or omissions of a volunteer director occurring on or after January 1, 1988.
- 9.8 The corporation, by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1986, shall have the power to indemnify those persons serving in the position of, or at the request of the corporation as director, officer, trustee, employee or agent against expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits or proceedings, formal or informal, relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the corporation if such person acted in good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation or its members, or with respect to any criminal action or proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct engaged in was unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of Directors, shall have such further or other authority to indemnify directors, officers, employees or agents consistent with the provisions of Public Acts 170, Michigan Public Acts of 1987.

## **ARTICLE X - THE CHURCH EXTENSION FUND**

- 10.1 The Church Extension Fund shall adopt rules to govern its proceedings not inconsistent with these Bylaws. (See Bylaws of the Church Extension Fund attached to Bylaws of the Michigan District.)

## **ARTICLE XI - RECONCILIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 11.1 The district shall follow the principles, structures, procedures, and membership described in Synod Bylaw 1.10 with regard to reconciliation and dispute resolution.

## **ARTICLE XII – COMMITTEES**

- 12.1 The district convention and board of directors may create special committees or task forces in order to carry out their responsibilities or for special purposes.
- 12.2 Standing committees are sub-units of and are appointed by their governing board; the three-year appointments are limited to three consecutive terms.

## **ARTICLE XIII - COMMISSIONS**

- 13.1 The convention by resolution may from time to time create commissions for special purposes.
- 13.2 The commissions existing at the time of the adoption of these Bylaws shall continue their powers, duties and jurisdiction until further resolution of the convention.
- 13.3 The convention resolution creating a commission shall define its powers, duties and jurisdiction and establish its budget.
- 13.4 A commission shall make a report of their activities to the convention and between conventions to the board of directors upon request.
- 13.5 Members of commissions shall be members in good standing of congregations which are members of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

## **ARTICLE XIV - REGIONS**

- 14.1 The convention by resolution shall establish no less than four (4) regions within the Michigan District.
- 14.2 Regions shall consist of circuits designated by the enabling resolution.
- 14.3 Regions existing at the time of the adoption of these Bylaws shall continue until further resolution of the convention.
- 14.4 Circuits are created, aligned, and/or realigned by convention resolution.

## **ARTICLE XV - HANDBOOK**

- 15.1 The board of directors shall cause to be prepared, within three (3) months after the adjournment of each district convention, a district handbook.
- 15.2 The handbook shall include:
- a. The current Bylaws of the district as they may be amended.
  - b. The names of all officers and board members.
  - c. Such other information as the convention and/or the board of directors may direct.
- 15.3 A copy of the handbook shall be furnished to:
- a. Each member congregation of the district.
  - b. Each officer and board member..
  - c. Such other persons as the convention and/or the board of directors may direct.

## **ARTICLE XVI - REPEAL AND SAVING CLAUSE**

16.1 Any and all Bylaws previously adopted by the convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are hereby repealed.

16.2 If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of these Bylaws or any amendments thereto, shall be held invalid under the Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, or under the laws of the State of Michigan, the invalidity of such paragraph, section, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of these Bylaws or Amendments thereto.

16.3 All acts, resolutions or orders or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of these Bylaws, and any amendments thereto, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed and all other acts, resolutions or orders or parts thereof not in conflict with the provisions of these Bylaws, or amendments thereto, shall continue in full force and effect.

## **ARTICLE XVII - AMENDMENTS**

17.1 Amendments may be made to the Bylaws by the district in convention providing they are not contrary to the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod.

17.2 Proposed amendments shall be presented in writing to a convention of the district.

17.3 Proposed amendments shall be specified as bylaws amendments.

17.4 Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the district committee on new and revised constitutions and they shall report to a convention floor committee.

17.5 Proposed amendments to the Bylaws may be adopted by an affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting.

17.6 All proposed amendments to these Bylaws, before they are given effect, shall first be submitted to the Synod Commission on Constitutional Matters for review and the approval of that commission obtained as provided in the Bylaws of Synod.

# **Bylaws**

## **CHURCH EXTENSION FUND OF THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Church Extension Fund is to administer a fund and acquire assets to assist by loans, grants, or otherwise, primarily to the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, congregations of the Michigan District, individuals serving as professional church workers within the Michigan District, LCMS schools and colleges, entities and associations qualifying as Michigan District recognized service organizations, entities and associations qualifying as The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod recognized service organizations, and entities owned and/or operated by member congregations. The Church Extension Fund may also assist other LCMS Districts, through their respective Church Extension Funds, by purchasing or participating, in whole or in part, in loans or investments of other LCMS Districts or the Lutheran Church Extension Fund of the LCMS. The purpose for which funds and assistance may be provided shall include, but not limited to, acquiring property, erecting buildings, purchasing equipment, acquiring housing and supporting projects and the operations of the above. The primary purpose, however, of the Church Extension Fund shall be to contribute to the ministry and purposes of the Michigan District and its member congregations.

### **II. MEMBERSHIP**

The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall consist of nine (9) elected trustees.

1. The elected trustees shall consist of three (3) persons duly rostered in the LCMS through the Michigan District, and six (6) laypersons. Trustees shall be elected by the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod at its regular Convention in the following manner:
  - a. The District Nominating Committee shall draw up a list of candidates and alternates for the Church Extension Board of Trustees. The Nominating Committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate and prepare biographical data, including occupation or profession, residency, and specific experience and qualifications for the proposed office, for each candidate. Board of Trustee candidates shall have an understanding of the Church Extension program and/or demonstrate expertise in fields or areas closely related to Church Extension activities, such as knowledge of banking, investments, accounting, law, real estate, business management and financial planning.
  - b. Trustees must be members in good standing of congregations in the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod. No congregation of the District shall have more than one (1) member [including ordained, commissioned or layperson] from its congregation as a voting member of the Board of Trustees.
2. Elections of trustees to fill the places of those whose terms of office expire shall take place at the last regular convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, occurring prior to the expiration of the terms of their predecessors. Approximately one-half of the trustees will be elected at each convention of the Michigan District.
3. The trustees shall be elected for a term of six (6) years. They may be elected for two (2) consecutive terms, after which a period of three (3) years shall elapse before they are again eligible for election as trustees.
4. Vacancies caused by death, resignation, removal, declination to serve or otherwise, may be filled by the remaining trustees, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.
5. All trustees elected at the Convention shall be inducted into office in an installation ceremony at the Convention and shall begin their terms of office on the first of October following induction.

### **III. ORGANIZATION**

1. The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers and subcommittees as it considers necessary for the efficient conduct of its business.
2. The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer, elected by the Church Extension Board of Trustees at the October meeting following the Convention of the Michigan District shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Church Extension Fund.
3. Legal documents executed in the name of the Church Extension Fund shall bear the signatures of any two members of the Executive Committee or such officer or officers as the trustees shall authorize by resolution duly adopted in accordance with these Bylaws.
4. The trustees may appoint task-oriented committees to assist the Board in carrying out its responsibilities.

### **IV. MEETINGS**

1. The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall schedule regular meetings as the business of the Board shall require, but not less than six times per year.
2. Special meetings may be called by the chairman of the Board or by any four (4) trustees.
3. A majority of the trustees of the Church Extension Board of Trustees shall constitute a legal quorum at all regular and special meetings of the Board.
4. The Executive Committee of the Church Extension Board of Trustees shall meet at the call of the Chairman to conduct and act on matters of business requiring attention between regular meetings of the Church Extension Board of Trustees. A majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee shall be required to take any action. All such actions of the Executive Committee shall be subject to the approval of the Church Extension Board of Trustees.

### **V. ADMINISTRATION**

1. The Church Extension Fund may, in its corporate name, take, hold and manage all property, real and personal, notes, bonds, mortgages, land contracts, leases, evidences of indebtedness, loans and property and assets devised, bequeathed, transferred, leased, or conveyed to them absolutely or in trust for the use and benefit of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod by whose representative body they are elected.
2. The Church Extension Fund may, in its corporate name, invest and reinvest the personal property and assets in its hands and under its control as trustees; and sell, convey by deed, land contract or lease, mortgage or hold in trust and manage any real estate held by them as such trustees; all in accordance with the manner and as specified in the Statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided.
3. The Church Extension Fund may accept gifts or bequests in trust or otherwise, and employ, manage or retain such property, real or personal, devised or bequeathed, on such terms, conditions, or policies approved by the Board of Trustees.
4. The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall adopt rules and regulations in the interest of the orderly administration of its objectives.
5. The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall employ and appoint a Chief Executive Officer, employ and appoint any other such officers or employees deemed necessary to conduct its business affairs in an orderly manner, at a rate of compensation as deemed proper and fair by the Church Extension Board of Trustees.

6. Those trustees duly-elected or appointed to the Board of Trustees who do not receive anything of value from this corporation for serving as a trustee other than reasonable per diem compensation and/or reimbursement for actual reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by such trustee in service of the capacity as a trustee shall be deemed a "volunteer trustee" for all purposes hereunder (being deemed and defined as a "volunteer director" for all purposes under Michigan law and statutes).
7. A volunteer trustee shall not be personally liable to the corporation or its membership and/or members for monetary damages for any breach of the trustee's fiduciary duty except for liability arising from or relating to:
  - a. A breach of trustee's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its members;
  - b. Actual omissions not in good faith or the involvement of intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
  - c. An act in violation of the provisions of Michigan law, specifically MCLA 450.2551(1);
  - d. Any transaction from which a trustee derives an improper personal benefit;
  - e. Any act or omission resulting in liability occurring before January 1, 1988;
  - f. Any act or omission that is grossly negligent.
8. The corporation shall assume all liability to any person or entity other than the corporation or its members for all acts or omissions of a volunteer trustee occurring on or after January 1, 1988.
9. The corporation, by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1987, shall have the power to indemnify those persons serving in the position of, or at the request of the corporation, as director, officer, trustee, employee, or agent against expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits, or proceedings, formal or informal, relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the corporation if such person acted in good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation or its members, or with respect to any criminal action or proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct engaged in was unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of Trustees, shall have such further or other authority to indemnify trustees, officers, employees, or agents consistent with the provisions of Michigan law and specifically consistent with the provisions of Public Act 170, Michigan Public Acts of 1987.

## **VI. RELATIONSHIP TO THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT**

1. The Church Extension Fund shall be subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod insofar as said Constitution and Bylaws do not conflict with the laws of the State of Michigan.
2. In the event of the dissolution of the Church Extension Fund as a Michigan Church Trustee Corporation, all property and assets to which it holds title, or over which it has control, shall be transferred forthwith to the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod or to its nominee.

## **VII. AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws of the Church Extension Fund may be amended by a majority vote of those entitled to vote at the Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.



