

1 **CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS**

2  
3 **Seventy-second Convention**  
4 **of the**  
5 **Minnesota South District**  
6 **The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

7  
8 **June 8-10, 2000**

9  
10 **Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota**

11 **Convention Theme**

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14 **"SEE THE FIELDS . . . REAP THE**  
15 **HARVEST"**

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18 **CONVENTION CHAIRMAN:**

The Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz  
President, Minnesota South District

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21 **CONVENTION SECRETARY:**

The Rev. Evan G. Schiller  
Secretary, Minnesota South District

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24 **SYNODICAL REPRESENTATIVE:**

The Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz  
Fifth Vice-President  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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28 **CONVENTION CHAPLAINS:**

Rev. Vic Meyr and Rev. Fred Miller  
St. Peter Lutheran Church, Edina, MN

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31 **CONVENTION SERVICE**  
32 **HOST CONGREGATION:**

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Watertown, MN  
The Rev. Paul Krentz, Pastor

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34  
35 **CONVENTION**  
36 **PARLIAMENTARIAN:**

Mrs. Charles (Darleen) Harens

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records.

2. It then goes on to describe the various methods used to collect and analyze data.

3. The results of the study are presented in the following section, showing a clear trend.

4. Finally, the document concludes with a summary of the findings and their implications.

5. The overall conclusion is that the data strongly supports the hypothesis.

6. This research provides valuable insights into the underlying mechanisms.

7. The findings have significant implications for future research in this field.

8. It is hoped that these results will contribute to a better understanding of the phenomenon.

9. The study was conducted over a period of six months, involving a large number of participants.

10. The data was collected using a combination of surveys and laboratory experiments.

11. The results were analyzed using advanced statistical techniques.

12. The findings are consistent with previous research in this area.

13. The study also identified several limitations and areas for further investigation.

14. In conclusion, the research provides a comprehensive overview of the topic.

15. The results are presented in detail in the accompanying report.

16. The document is intended for use by researchers and practitioners alike.

17. It is hoped that this work will be of great value to the community.

18. The authors would like to thank the funding agencies for their support.

19. The document is available for free download from the following website.

## CONVENTION COMMITTEES

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Arrangements Committee:

Mrs. Lu Clemmensen (Chair)

Registration and Credentials Committee:

Rev. James Bender (Chair)

Mr. Harold Kenow

Ms. Shirley McCourt

Ms. Sheila Moorhead

Ms. Bonnie Stoeckman

Ms. Lu Clemmensen (Advisory)

Nominations Committee:

Mr. Glen Meints (Chair)

Ms. Darlene Johnson (Secretary)

Rev. Evan Schiller (Advisory)

Mr. Clinton Baumgard

Rev. Jack Baumgard

Mr. John Bernhagen

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck

Rev. Robert Krueger

Mr. Arthur Plath

Rev. John Pless

Elections Committee:

Rev. John Rasmussen (Chair)

Ms. Cheryl Antl

Ms. Marlene Bartlett

Rev. John Dreyer

Rev. Jeffrey Grams

Mr. Gordon Gruenhagen

Rev. Eric Zacharias

Doctrine and Administration Floor Committee:

Rev. Daniel Siedenburg (Chair)

Rev. Armand Boehme

Rev. Greg Coop

Rev. Karl Galik

Mr. Newell Hoback

Ms. Lois Holtz

Rev. Mark Johnson

Mr. Jack Keers

Mr. Arlen Krienke

Rev. Thomas Trapp

Mr. Robert Trembath

Mr. Gerhard Wollenburg

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Missions Floor Committee:

- Rev. William Mueller (Chair)
- Rev. Steve Benson
- Rev. Robert Gardner
- Ms. Traci Kohls
- Mr. Richard Krahn
- Ms. Joy Rischer
- Mr. Gerald Zellar
- Mr. Wes Ziebell

Congregational Services Floor Committee:

- Rev. Robert Schulze (Chair)
- Mr. Ervin Arndt
- Mr. Paul Berg
- Mr. Paul Berndt
- Ms. Nancy Gavin
- Rev. John Perling
- Ms. Lucille Renneke
- Mr. Clair Sauer
- Rev. Michael Wallace

Ministerial Health Floor Committee:

- Rev. Tom Stoebig (Chair)
- Rev. Fred Buth
- Ms. Barbara Fallart
- Rev. Greg Heidorn
- Mr. Gary Moe
- Rev. Charles Ortloff
- Mr. Dan Utter

Finance Floor Committee:

- Rev. Donald Porter (Chair)
- Mr. Wilford Bartley
- Ms. Wendy Ewald
- Ms. Donna Fors
- Mr. Martin Kirsch
- Rev. Kurt Lemkuhl
- Rev. Robert Nowak
- Ms. Judy Reynolds
- Rev. Neil Ristow
- Mr. Douglas Wolfangle
- Mr. Al ZumHofe



1 **Minnesota South District Convention**  
2 **June 8-10, 2000**  
3 **Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota**

4  
5 **Thursday, June 7, 2000**

6  
7 7:00 p.m. Dr. Robert Holst, President of Concordia University, St. Paul, welcomed the  
8 convention delegates, and offered the services of the college and wished God's  
9 blessings upon the gathering.

10  
11 **Opening Service and Commemorations**

12  
13 Liturgist ..... Rev. Paul Krentz  
14 Preacher ..... Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz  
15 Organist ..... Ruth Mackie  
16 Host Congregation ..... St. Paul Lutheran Church, Watertown

17  
18 **COMMEMORATIONS**

19 **Pastors**

20 Rev. Luther H. Anderson November 9, 1998  
21 Rev. Gary W. Berlinski June 18, 1998  
22 Rev. Herbert L. Bussman August 10, 1997  
23 Rev. Emil E. Geistfeld June 3, 1999  
24 Rev. Herbert J. Hafner September 5, 1999  
25 Rev. Robert E. Hintz August 7, 1999  
26 Rev. Adolph C. Leimer June 17, 1997  
27 Rev. Bernhardt F. Meschke January 1, 2000  
28 Rev. Walter R. Mueller April 21, 1997  
29 Rev. Hilton C. Oswald March 10, 1998  
30 Rev. Fred J. Pfothhauer January 18, 1998  
31 Rev. Arthur C. Streufert October 19, 1997  
32 Rev. Leonard C. Thaemert November 12, 1997  
33 Rev. Glenn W. Wiechmann October 31, 1997

34  
35 **TEACHERS**

36 Harold W. Banke June 11, 1998  
37 Waldemar D. Block April 14, 1999  
38 Walter H. Engelhardt June 29, 1999  
39 Curtis L. Hagen November 15, 1998  
40 Arnold W. Lohse March 13, 1997

1 Raymond E. Maag  
2 William F. Witmer  
3

October 16, 1997  
February 24, 2000

4 A reception was held after the service, hosted by Concordia University, St. Paul, in  
5 honor of Rev. Donald Taylor, Assistant to the President, on the occasion of his  
6 retirement.  
7  
8

9 **Friday, June 8, 8:00 a.m.**  
10

11  
12 **CALL TO ORDER**

13 President Lane Seitz called the convention to order in the Name of the Father,  
14 and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
15  
16

17 **OPENING DEVOTION**

18 Rev. Victor Meyr and Rev. Fred Miller, serving as chaplains for this convention,  
19 led the opening devotion. We began with the singing of "Fear Not...Go Forward." Rev.  
20 Victor Meyr read from John 4 and noted that Jesus was the weary one and the woman  
21 was the needy one. The need for earthly water is evident on hot days like this, but the  
22 refreshment is only temporary; the spiritual water of God's Word has eternal benefits.  
23 Rev. Fred Miller led the opening prayer asking God's blessing upon the convention and  
24 those present that God's Kingdom may be advanced by what is done here.  
25  
26

27 **REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

28 Rev. James Bender, chairman of the Registration and Credentials Committee,  
29 was called forward to report. He reported that 182 voting lay delegates and 153 voting  
30 pastors were present for a total of 335 voting delegates. A quorum was declared  
31 present to conduct business.

32 M/S/C to adopt the report of the committee.  
33  
34

35 **READING OF CONVENTION RULES**

36 Mrs. Darleen Harens, Convention Parliamentarian, was introduced to the  
37 convention. She read the Convention Rules as found on pages A-11 and A-12 in the  
38 Convention Manual.

39 M/S/C to adopt the convention rules.  
40  
41  
42  
43

1 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

2 The Revised Convention Schedule - pages A-18 through A-21 - was placed before  
3 the body.

4 M/S/C to adopt the Revised Convention Agenda.  
5  
6

7 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8 Convention Manager Lu Clemmensen was introduced to the body.

9 If scheduled to be on stage, be certain to come into staging area in plenty of time  
10 to be called forward.

11 Floor Committees will be seated on stage when they are making presentations.

12 All voting delegates must be seated in the proper section and have the proper  
13 identification - a gold badge.  
14  
15

16 **DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY - PART I**

17 President Seitz introduced the Bible Study leader, Rev. Monte Meyer,  
18 Missionary-at-large at Minnesota State University, Mankato. "See the Fields ... Reap the  
19 Harvest," John 4:35, is the theme for the convention and was used by Rev. Monte Meyer  
20 as the thrust for the study to be divided into the following three parts:

21 I - Connection from Mind to Heart

22 II - Connection from Heart to Action

23 III - Connection from Action to Attitude  
24

25 John 4:1-6 reminds us that there was a separation at the time of Jesus between  
26 Jews and Samaritans. However, Jesus rose above that separation as he reached out to  
27 the woman at the well to begin the conversation that brought her the spiritual water of  
28 life.  
29

30 John 4:7-15 records Jesus making the connection that the Samaritans were in  
31 need of the love of God and the blessing of eternal hope. As Jesus did, so must we see  
32 the fields and make the connection from mind to heart that these are the ones who need  
33 the good news of salvation. The fields are right where we are and we need the fuel and  
34 power of God's love to see the fields.  
35

36 John 4:1-3 was explored as background information. The Pharisees were after  
37 Jesus to get Him out of their way. However, Jesus stayed at the task that was before  
38 Him and was not swayed from what He had come into the world to do. Let us debate  
39 and disagree quietly but let us praise God loudly that the world looking at us may be  
40 led to seek and adore Him.  
41  
42  
43

1 CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

2 Rev. David Winter, Chairman of the Committee, came forward to present the  
3 report of the committee. A printed copy of the report is attached to these minutes.  
4

5  
6 APPEAL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECISION REGARDING APPLICATION  
7 FOR MEMBERSHIP BY HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HASTINGS, MN

8 President Seitz reported the action of the MNS Board of Directors relative to the  
9 application for membership by Hope Lutheran Church of Hastings, MN.

10 Dr. James Pragman, Executive Assistant, read the President's report to the  
11 convention on the Board's decision to deny membership to Hope Lutheran Church.

12 M/S to affirm the Board of Directors decision to deny membership to Hope  
13 Lutheran Church of Hastings, MN

14 Dr. Seitz granted a "point of privilege" to Mr. Bob Neujahr to present the  
15 position of Hope Lutheran Church. He stated that Hope Lutheran Church does not  
16 consider the issue in Hastings to be a doctrinal question.

17 Discussion was allowed from the floor.  
18

19 M/S to amend the motion as follows;

20 "to uphold the current decision of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota South  
21 District while at the same time expressing our love for our brothers and sisters in both  
22 groups, Shepherd of the Valley and Hope Lutheran Churches, and encourage the Board  
23 of Directors to continue to listen to and work with both groups toward a peaceful  
24 resolution."  
25

26 A motion was made to call the question on the amendment and the main motion.

27 A vote was taken and the assembly approved ceasing debate.

28 The amendment was defeated.

29 Original motion to affirm the Board of Directors decision was adopted.  
30  
31

32 RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS AND CONGREGATIONS

33 President Seitz directed the delegates to pages E-1 through E-4 and E-10 through  
34 E-14 and read the names of new members of the synod: ordained ministers,  
35 commissioned ministers, and two congregations - Bethlehem Lutheran of Dayton, MN,  
36 and Holy Trinity Lutheran of Lakefield, MN. Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz was called  
37 forward to extend words of greetings to these new members of Synod.

38 The assembly welcomed them with applause.  
39  
40

41 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

42 President Seitz addressed the convention, reviewing the last triennium and  
43 sharing his hopes for the future.

1           *Note: The complete text of the President's Address is appended to these minutes.*  
2  
3

4           COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

5           Mr. Glen Meints, chairman of the Committee on Nominations, was introduced to  
6 give his report.

7           He thanked the members of the committee and explained certain portions of the  
8 functions of the committee. He then placed before the convention the names of those  
9 nominated for District President:

10           Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz

11           Rev. Steven C. Briel

12           Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin  
13  
14

15           ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

16           Rev. John Rasmussen explained the function of the Swank Response System for  
17 voting. Several test votes were taken to familiarize the body with the working of this  
18 technology.

19           Chaplain Vic Meyr was called forward to offer a prayer before the voting for  
20 President began.

21           Rev. James Bender gave an updated registration report: 196 lay voting delegates  
22 and 168 voting pastoral delegates for a total of 364 voting delegates.  
23

24           The Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz was declared elected on the first ballot.

25           *(Note: a complete accounting of all votes can be found at the end of these proceedings showing*  
26 *the votes cast for each candidate on each ballot)*  
27

28           The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for  
29 Vice-president, Region I:

30           Rev. Randolph Sherren

31           Rev. Steven Briel

32           Rev. Daniel Jastram

33           Rev. James Markworth

34           Rev. Klemet Preus

35           Rev. Steven Briel withdrew his name from consideration.

36           Rev. Randolph Sherren was declared elected as Vice-president for Region I on  
37 the third ballot.  
38

39           The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for  
40 Vice-president, Region II:

41           Rev. Peter Meier

42           Rev. Harvey Kath

43           Rev. Thomas Queck

1 Rev. Peter Meier was declared elected as Vice-president for Region II on the first  
2 ballot.

3  
4 The Chairman of the Committee on Nominations presented the slate of candidates for  
5 Vice-president Region III:

6 Rev. William Natzke

7 Rev. Armand Boehme

8 Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck

9 Rev. James Heining

10 Rev. Lyle Kath

11 Because of time constraints the vote was delayed until later.

12  
13  
14 **SYNODICAL REPORT - PART I**

15 Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz, Fifth Vice-president of LCMS, representing Synodical  
16 President A. L. Barry, was welcomed to the podium to present the first part of the  
17 synodical report. Rev. Schulz spoke briefly about synodical work and then presented a  
18 video report from Dr. A. L. Barry.

19  
20  
21 **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

22 Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin and Rev. Gerald Coleman were asked to come forward.  
23 They were presented plaques for their faithful service as vice-presidents of the District.

24  
25  
26 **GREETINGS**

27 Video-taped greetings were received from Mr. Glenn Thiel and Mrs. Pam  
28 Moksnes, Gift Planning Counselors for MNS District.

29  
30  
31 **RESOLUTIONS**

32 Resolutions A, B, C and D were placed before the convention for action with the  
33 following results:

34 A - No memorials; therefore, no action.

35 B - (F-32)

36 M/S Amendment that resolution 1-07 be added to Resolution B

37 Adopted 194 yes - 147 no

38 M/S Amendment that Memorial 1-10 be removed from  
39 Resolution B and considered by the convention.

40 Defeated 167 yes / 178 no

41 Amended Resolution B was voted on. Adopted 252 yes / 97 no

42  
43 C - (F-33)

1 M/S Amendment that Memorial A-5 be removed from Resolution C  
2 and be considered by the convention.

3 Defeated Yes - 167 / No - 187

4 Vote on Resolution C - Adopted Yes - 303 / No 51

5  
6 D - (F-34)

7 Adopted Yes - 340 / No - 12

8  
9 *Note: Each resolution and the Convention Action regarding that Resolution may be found at the*  
10 *end of these proceedings.*

11  
12  
13 **GREETINGS FROM FORMER PRESIDENT**

14 Rev. Dr. O. H. Cloeter was welcomed to the podium together with his wife, Elsie,  
15 to bring greetings to the convention.

16 Dr. Cloeter served as president 1978 - 1991. He was thanked by President Seitz  
17 for his faithful service and Mrs. Cloeter was presented a bouquet of flowers.

18 The District conferred on Dr. Cloeter the honorary title of "President Emeritus of  
19 the Minnesota South District." Dr. Cloeter spoke briefly to the assembly.

20  
21  
22 **DOCTRINE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

23 The Committee was called to the stage and the Rev. Dan Siedenbug, chairman  
24 of the committee, began to introduce the resolutions.

25 Page F-1 / Resolution 1-01 To Change The Articles of Incorporation of the  
26 Minnesota South District.

27 Action: Adopted Yes - 336 / No - 12

28  
29 Page F-2 / Resolution 1-02 To Approve Changes To The Bylaws

30 Action: M/S Amend Bylaw 2.34 as suggested to vote individually  
31 to determine the rank of vice-presidents.

32 Amendment adopted Yes - 299 / No 51

33 Vote on Resolution: Adopted Yes - 342 / No - 10

34  
35 Page F-6 / Resolution 1-03 To Correct and Clarify District Handbook Bylaws  
36 1.04, 1.14, and 2.28

37 Action: Adopted Yes - 337 / No - 14

38  
39 Page F-7 / Resolution 1-04 To Replace "Layman" and "Laymen" in District  
40 Handbook.

41 Action: Adopted Yes - 289 / No - 64

1 Page F-8 / Resolution 1-05 To Accept the Board of Directors Report and the  
2 Communications Committee's Report

3 Action: Adopted Yes - 345 / No - 6  
4

5 CLOSING PRAYER FOR NOON MEAL

6 Rev. Fred Miller led the convention in a table prayer.  
7

8 During the lunch break caucuses were held by those circuits which needed to  
9 elect Circuit Counselors.  
10

11  
12 OPENING DEVOTION

13 President Seitz called the session to order and made some brief announcements.  
14 Since there was a question as to whether nominations had been closed earlier, President  
15 Seitz asked if there were further nominations for Vice-president of Region III. There  
16 were no further nominations and the nominations were declared closed.

17 Rev. Vic Meyr asked the assembly to join in singing, "Hark, the Voice of Jesus  
18 Calling." Rev. Fred Miller spoke of the insufficiency of the well water which quenches  
19 thirst only temporarily. The "Living Water" of which Jesus spoke satisfies to eternity.  
20 The "Living Water" is the only thing which can create life. We are to use this living  
21 water to bring into God's family "newborn" Christians as we "reap the harvest."  
22

23  
24 CONVENTION ESSAY - PART I

25 Rev. Gerhard Bode was called forward to lead the discussion on "The Lutheran  
26 Understanding of Church Fellowship." He reviewed the outline of the document which  
27 the CTCR has prepared and briefly explained the procedure which will be followed as  
28 we discuss this topic. During this first period he instructed the assembly to look at the  
29 introduction with its basic assumptions and then to work on Part 1 during the  
30 remainder of the time allotted to him.  
31

32  
33 ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

34 Voting for Vice-president Region III;

35 Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck was declared elected as Vice-president for Region III on  
36 the fourth ballot.  
37

38 The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for  
39 Vice-president Region IV;

40 Rev. Gerald Menk

41 Rev. Roger Abernathy

42 Rev. Gerald Menk was declared elected as Vice-president for Region IV on the  
43 first ballot.



1 The convention viewed a video-taped greeting from Mrs. Joyce Swedean, President of  
2 the Minnesota South District Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

3  
4 Voting proceeded for the ranking of the Vice-presidents with the following results;

5 First Vice-president -

6 Rev. Peter Meier

7 Second Vice-president -

8 Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck

9 Third Vice-president -

10 Rev. Gerald Menk

11 Fourth Vice-president -

12 Rev. Randolph Sherren

13  
14 The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates  
15 for the office of District Secretary;

16 Rev. Armand Boehme

17 Rev. Eugene Chase

18 Rev. Daryl Gehlbach

19 The president called for additional nominations.

20 Rev. David Preuss was nominated from the floor.

21  
22  
23 **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

24 Rev. Donald Porter was called forward to present the resolutions from the  
25 Finance Committee. Mr. Kurt Fuhr, LCEF Vice-president, was asked to make a  
26 presentation relative to finances prior to the consideration of the resolutions.

27 Mr. Fuhr presented a graphic report on the financial status of congregational  
28 contributions to the district and to other purposes. He also showed comparisons of the  
29 amount of contributions which congregations have kept for home purposes and how  
30 this amount has increased while the contributions sent to the District have not increased  
31 in a comparable manner.

32 While congregation income has kept pace with inflation, the amount received by  
33 the district has not. This results in a very real decrease in the amount available to carry  
34 out the work of the district. If this trend continues, reductions in work and services  
35 which the district will be able to do in the future will become necessary.

36 Page F-18 / Resolution 3-01 To Share District Offering Receipts With The Synod  
37 On A 50%-50% Basis.

38 A motion was made to amend the resolution by deleting the second resolve. The  
39 motion was seconded.

40 The motion to amend was defeated 92 yes / 225 no  
41 Order of the day required moving on to next Agenda item.

1 DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY - PART II

2 Rev. Monte Meyer came forward to continue his Bible Study on sharing the  
3 Good News in Jesus Christ. The connection discussed in this section is "From Heart to  
4 Action." We don't have the skills that the Lord Jesus had as He spoke to people like the  
5 woman at the well; however, we do have the powerful alliance of Jesus and His Word.  
6 Rev. Meyer suggested the following three-point evangelism strategy; (1) Pray for an  
7 opportunity to tell someone about Christ; (2) Look for an opportunity to tell someone  
8 about Christ; (3) Act upon the opportunity that God gives.

9  
10 The Convention paused to stretch and to sing, "Let Freedom Ring."  
11

12  
13 ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

14 Voting proceeded for the office of District Secretary:  
15 Rev. Daryl Gehlbach was declared elected.  
16

17 The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for the  
18 Board of Directors.  
19

20 After nominations from the floor and withdrawals for various reasons the slate is  
21 as follows:  
22

23 Region I - Pastor

24 Rev. Klemet Preus  
25 Rev. Robert Krueger  
26 Rev. Thomas Stoebig

27 Region II - Pastor

28 Rev. Thomas Braun  
29 Rev. Harold Storm  
30 Rev. Thomas Queck  
31 Rev. David Winter  
32 Rev. Karl Galik

33 Region III - Pastor

34 Rev. David Hodel  
35 Rev. Robert Lentz  
36 Rev. Ronald Stehr

37 Region IV - Pastor

38 Rev. Paul Woebbeking  
39 Rev. Roger Abernathy

40 Region I - Layperson (Capitol Conference)

41 Doris Gadow  
42 Robert Van Gundy

43 Region I - Layperson (Minneapolis Conference)

1 Roger Prigge  
2 Carol Brekke  
3 Glenn Meints  
4 Region II - Layperson (Crow River Conference)  
5 John Bernhagen  
6 Nancy Bynum  
7 Region II - Layperson (Minnetonka Conference)  
8 David Hubert  
9 Gary Moe  
10 Region III - Layperson (Owatonna Conference)  
11 Len Marquardt  
12 Ken Lenz  
13 Region III - Layperson (Whitewater Conference)  
14 Ray Mussell, Jr.  
15 Ted Tews  
16 Region IV - Layperson (South Central Conference)  
17 Connie Markquart  
18 Robert Hall  
19 Region IV - Layperson (Southwest Conference)  
20 Del Schwieger  
21 Martin Fabrizius  
22 Teachers  
23 Randall Ash  
24 Paul Puckett  
25 Ron Royuk  
26 Curt Stoltenow

27  
28  
29 **GREETINGS FROM MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT**

30 Rev. David Bode, president of the Minnesota North District, was welcomed to  
31 the podium to bring greetings. Rev. Bode was congratulated on his re-election as  
32 president of the Minnesota North District.  
33

34  
35 **MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

36 Rev. William Mueller, chairman of the committee, introduced the members of the  
37 committee and spoke briefly of deaf ministry before presenting the resolutions.

38 Page F-16 / Resolution 2-01 To Give Thanks For and To Support Campus  
39 Ministries of The Minnesota South District.

40 Action:

41 Substitute motion to adopt Memorial B-2 on page C-38

42 "Behnken Rule" applied. Assembly voted as follows;

43 Yes - 157 / No - 165 The motion is defeated.

1 M/S amend by putting LCMS at beginning of first whereas. Adopted as a  
2 friendly amendment.

3 M/S amend by adding the first Whereas of Memorial B-1 as the final Whereas of  
4 Resolution 2-01

5 Amendment adopted: Yes - 282 / No - 37

6 Action on amended resolution: Adopted Yes - 314 / No - 5

7  
8 Page F-17 / Resolution 2-02 To Reaffirm the Rights and Responsibilities of  
9 District Subsidized Congregations

10 Action: Yes - 269 / No - 49 Adopted

11  
12 The Committee was thanked for completing its work.

13  
14  
15 CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

16 Rev. Robert Schulze and his committee were welcomed to the podium  
17 to present their resolutions.

18 Page F-21 / Resolution 4-01 To Encourage Discipleship in the District

19 Action;

20 M/S to amend by adding "disciple" in place of "seek" and "lack a  
21 committed relationship to Jesus Christ." after "who" in third line of first WHEREAS.

22 Defeated; Yes - 80 / No - 239

23 M/S to amend by striking line 17 from the words "who have..."

24 change to "to disciple" Defeated Yes - 54 / No - 265

25 Action on Resolution: Adopted Yes 292 / No 31

26  
27 Page F-22 / Resolution 4-02 To Organize Forums on Lay Participation in  
28 Worship

29 Action: Adopted Yes - 229 / No - 96

30  
31 Page F-23 / Resolution 4-03 To Make the Lutheran Education Volunteer Network  
32 (LEVN) a District Recognized Organization

33 Signe Carlson was called forward to present the "Volunteer Teacher of the Year-  
34 2000" award to Jacalyn Yernberg of St. Stephanus, St. Paul.

35 Action: Adopted Yes - 310 / No - 8

36  
37 Page F-24 - Resolution 4-04 To Encourage LCMS Certification of Pre-school,  
38 Elementary, and Secondary Teachers

39 Action: Adopted Yes - 308 / No - 11

40  
41 Page F-25 / Resolution 4-05 To Commend Lutheran Education on the Occasion  
42 of the Fortieth Anniversary of the Lutheran High School in Mayer, Minnesota

43 Action: Adopted Yes - 319 / No - 3

1  
2 The Committee was thanked for completing its work.  
3  
4

5 **DOCTRINE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

6 Rev. Siedenburg and his committee were welcomed back.

7 Page F-9 / Resolution 1-06 To Commend and Encourage LCMS President Alvin  
8 Barry

9 Action: Adopted Yes - 219 / No - 107  
10

11 Page F-11 / Resolution 1-08 To Ask the District to Set Up Forums for Discussion  
12 of Article VII of the Synodical Constitution and Bylaw 2.39b

13 Action:

14 By consensus, "c" was inserted at the end of the title and in line 11.

15 M/S/C to add a final resolve which states:

16 RESOLVED, That the MNS District memorialize The Lutheran  
17 Church - Missouri Synod to do the same thing synodwide.

18 Amendment adopted Yes - 223 / No - 97

19 Action on amended resolution: Adopted Yes - 257 / No - 68  
20

21 Page F-12 / Resolution 1-09 To Study The Basis For Church Fellowship

22 Action:

23 M/S add after that in line 19 the words "the Holy Scriptures"

24 Amendment adopted Yes - 311 / No - 16

25 Amended resolution adopted Yes - 294 / No - 32  
26

27 Resolution 1-10A To Encourage Love and Respect Toward Fellow Christians

28 Return to the Orders of the Day meant that action would be deferred to another  
29 time.  
30

31  
32 **CLOSING DEVOTION**

33 Announcements were made and Rev. Vic Meyr led the assembly in the table  
34 prayer.  
35  
36

37 **Friday, June 9, 7:00 p.m.**  
38  
39

40 **CALL TO ORDER**

41 President Seitz called the assembly to order and asked the chaplain to come forward.  
42  
43

1 OPENING DEVOTION

2 Rev. Vic Meyr led the group in an opening prayer of thanks for God's blessing in the  
3 past and asking continued blessings upon our evening session. Rev. Paul Pfothenauer's  
4 family was upheld in prayer because of the recent death of his mother.  
5  
6

7 ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

8 Voting resulted in the following elections:

9 Board of Directors - Region I Pastor

10 Rev. Klemet Preus declared elected

11 Board of Directors - Region II Pastor

12 Rev. David Winter declared elected.

13 Board of Directors - Region III Pastor

14 Rev. David Hodel declared elected.

15 Board of Directors - Region IV Pastor

16 Rev. Paul Woebeking declared elected.

17 Board of Directors - Region I Lay

18 Doris Gadow declared elected for Capitol Conference

19 Roger Prigge declared elected for Minneapolis Conference

20 Board of Directors - Region II Lay

21 Nancy Bynum declared elected for Crow River Conference

22 Gary Moe declared elected for Minnetonka Conference

23 Board of Directors - Region III Lay

24 Leonard Marquardt declared elected for Owatonna Conference

25 Raymond Mussell Jr. declared elected for Whitewater Conference

26 Board of Directors - Region IV Lay

27 Connie Markquart declared elected for South Central Conference

28 Delbert Schwieger declared elected for Southwest Conference

29 Board of Directors - Teacher  
30  
31

32 The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for  
33 District Convention Nominating Committee. After nominations from the floor and  
34 withdrawals the resulting slate is:

35 Pastors -

36 Rev. Roger Abernathy

37 Rev. Steven Briel

38 Rev. Larry Griffin

39 Rev. James Markworth

40 Rev. William Natzke

41 Rev. Bryon Northwick

42 Rev. David Preuss

43 Rev. James Heining

1 Rev. Neal Ristow  
2 Laypersons -  
3 Raymond Brockberg  
4 Ken Lenz  
5 Howard Luehmann  
6 William Michaelis  
7 Jim Slater  
8 Robert Van Gundy  
9 Leonard Marquardt  
10 Lee Priebe-Spomer  
11 Commissioned Ministers -  
12 David Kleimola  
13 Dave Polzin

14  
15 The Chairman of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of candidates for the  
16 Board of Regents - Concordia University, St. Paul. After nominations from the floor  
17 and withdrawals the resulting slate is:

18 Pastors -  
19 Rev. Eugene Chase  
20 Rev. Victor Fry  
21 Rev. George Krueger  
22 Rev. Gerald Coleman  
23 Rev. Evan Schiller  
24 Commissioned Ministers -  
25 Rev. David Kleimola  
26 Ron Royuk  
27 Dr. Loma Meyer

28  
29 Laypersons -  
30 Monica Eden  
31 Marilyn Siefert  
32 Nancy Gavin  
33 Donald Schneewind

34  
35 Their work being completed, the Nominations Committee was excused with thanks.  
36  
37

38 **GREETINGS FROM FORMER DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

39 President Seitz called former District President, Dr. Martin Lieske and his wife, Lucille,  
40 to the stage to bring words of greeting to the convention delegates. The title of  
41 President Emeritus was conferred upon Dr. Lieske. President Emeritus Lieske spoke  
42 words of greeting.  
43

1 **CONVENTION ESSAY - PART II**

2 Rev. Gerhard Bode took the podium to continue his presentation on the CTCR  
3 document, "The Lutheran Understanding of Church Fellowship."

4 The assembly was directed regarding which sections to discuss during the  
5 allotted time. The assembly formed into groups and was given time for discussion.  
6

7  
8 **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

9 The Elections Committee instructed the convention in the voting process and the  
10 following elections were made:  
11

12 Board of Directors - Teacher

13 Curt Stoltenow

14 Randy Ash  
15

16 Nominations Committee - Pastors

17 Rev. Larry Griffin

18 Rev. David Preuss

19 Rev. Steven Briel

20 Rev. William Natzke  
21

22 Nominations Committee - Laypersons

23 Howard Luehmann

24 Leonard Marquardt

25 Lee Priebe-Spomer

26 Jim Slater  
27

28 Nominations Committee - Commissioned Minister

29 David Kleimola  
30  
31

32 **SYNODICAL REPORT - PART II**

33 Rev. Wallace Schulz continued his report. He presented another portion of the  
34 video-taped presentation by Dr. A. L. Barry.  
35

36  
37 **CLOSING DEVOTION**

38 Rev. Vic Meyr led the closing devotion. We sang, "Sent Forth By God's Blessing,"  
39 and prayed for God's blessing for a restful night.  
40  
41  
42  
43



1 **Saturday, June 10, 2000 - 8:00 a.m.**  
2  
3

4 **OPENING DEVOTION**

5 Rev. Vic Meyr and Rev. Fred Miller led the opening devotion. We began with the  
6 singing of "Spread the Reign of God the Lord." Jesus came into the world that the  
7 saving Gospel might be proclaimed to a dying world. Every day we come to a "well  
8 site" - a place where there is someone in need of the Word which bring results. We  
9 prayed that God would help us to recognize the needs and that God's blessings would  
10 be with us this day.  
11

12  
13 **DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY - PART III**

14 Rev. Monte Meyer continued with the Bible Study on John 4. This morning's focus was  
15 on Reaping the Harvest. Making the connection from action to attitude is the business  
16 of the Christian church. Verses 31-34 were the section applied to this theme. Three tips  
17 that can help us to make the connection are; (1) Pray for the opportunity, (2) Be  
18 intentionally friendly, and (3) Do whatever we do (preaching, worship, teaching, etc.)  
19 with quality.  
20

21  
22 **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

23 Elections for the Board of Regents - Concordia University, St. Paul were held  
24 with the following results;

25 Rev. Gerald Coleman - Pastor  
26 Dr. Loma Meyer - Commissioned Minister  
27 Monica Eden - Layperson  
28

29 The Elections Committee was thanked for completing its work.  
30  
31

32 **MINISTERIAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

33 Rev. Tom Stoebig, chairman of the Ministerial Health Committee, was  
34 introduced as he and the committee came to the podium. He presented the resolutions  
35 of this committee.

36 Page F-26 / Resolution 5-01 To Emphasize Personal Care For Professional  
37 Church Workers and Their Families

38 Action:

39 The resolution was adopted Yes - 256 / No - 22  
40

41 A motion was made to read only the "Resolved" clauses of future resolutions.  
42 The motion was seconded.

43 Adopted Yes - 215 / No - 68

1  
2 Page F-27 / Resolution 5-02 To Produce Devotional Resources For Pastors

3 Action:

4 Adopted Yes - 243 / No - 42

5  
6 Page F-28 / Resolution 5-03 To Uplift the Role of Emeriti In the Service to Synod  
7 and The Church

8 Action:

9 Adopted Yes - 276 / No - 12

10  
11 Page F-29 / Resolution 5-04 To Commend Lutheran Counseling Center on the  
12 Occasion of its Tenth Anniversary

13 Action:

14 Adopted Yes - 267 / No - 21

15  
16 Page F-30 / Resolution 5-05 To Give Thanks for the Service of Rev. Don Taylor  
17 to the Minnesota South District

18 Action:

19 Adopted by rising and singing the common doxology.

20  
21 The committee was thanked for its work and dismissed.

22  
23  
24 **DOCTRINE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

25 Continuing 1-10A

26 Action:

27 M/S Amend to insert the word perceived prior to the word unloving.

28 Adopted Yes - 151 / No - 131

29 A substitute motion was made from the floor and the matter was set aside by the  
30 chair until delegates had copies of the substitute motion.

31  
32 Resolution 1-11A (printed substitute by committee) To Encourage God-Pleasing  
33 Resolutions to Conflict

34 Action:

35 M/S to substitute Memorial A-13 / Page C-19.

36 Vote on considering substitute motion was passed.

37 Yes - 174 / No - 118

38 The chair ended the debate because of time constraints and returned to the  
39 Orders of the Day.

1 FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 Continue 3-01 / Page F-18

3 Debate was continued beginning with those who were at the microphones when  
4 debate was ceased.

5 A motion to add an amendment to the third resolve (Finance Ex A) died for lack  
6 of second.

7 The Question was Called. Yes - 222 / No 64

8 Adopted Yes - 185 / No - 104

9  
10 Page F-19 / Resolution 3-02 To Maintain the Number of Assistants to the  
11 Minnesota South District President

12 Action:

13 M/S to substitute Memorial C-5 / Page C-46.

14 Vote to consider substitute motion (Behnken Rule). Yes - 173 / No - 125

15 Debate on Memorial C-5 followed.

16 M/S To call the Question. Yes - 234 / No - 58

17 Vote on Memorial C-5 Defeated Yes - 99 / No - 197

18 The Convention returned to debate on 3-02.

19 Action on resolution: Adopted Yes - 214 / No - 78

20  
21  
22 Page F-20 / Resolution 3-03 To Support "For the Sake of the Church" On Behalf  
23 of Concordia University, St. Paul

24 Action:

25 Adopted Yes - 256 / No - 21

26  
27 The work of the Finance Committee was completed and it was dismissed with  
28 thanks.

29  
30  
31 SYNODICAL REPORT - PART III (including Q and A)

32 Dr. Wallace Schulz returned to the podium to continue his report as  
33 representative to President A. L. Barry.

34 After a few opening remarks an open forum was declared and Dr. Schulz  
35 answered questions from the floor.

36 Dr. Schulz asked the assembly to join him in singing, "The Lord's My Shepherd."  
37 He spoke Amen and God Bless You!

38 The chair thanked Rev. Schulz for his presence and involvement in our  
39 convention and wished him continued blessings on his ministry in service to God and  
40 His church.

1 CONVENTION ESSAY - PART III

2 Rev. Gerhard Bode continue the presentation of "The Lutheran Understanding of  
3 Church Fellowship." Pastor Bode presented several examples of when the  
4 understanding of fellowship requires some very careful examination if we would be  
5 true to our confession at the same time we are pastoral and loving in our ministry.

6 The assembly was encouraged to form into small groups and spend some time in  
7 discussion of the case studies and to fill out the response forms which were distributed  
8 earlier.

9  
10  
11 DOCTRINE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

12 The chairman and committee returned to the podium to continue their work.

13 Continued debate on Memorial A-13 / Page C-19

14 President called for a vote to cease debate.

15 Vote results Yes - 182 / No - 45

16 The chair called for a vote on Memorial A-13 Yes - 103 / No - 153 The Memorial  
17 was defeated.

18 A vote was cast on Resolution 1-11A Yes - 211 / No - 43 The Resolution was  
19 adopted.

20  
21 The Substitute Motion for Resolution 1-10A, To Uphold God Given  
22 Responsibility as Members of The Body of Christ, was put to a vote to be considered,  
23 with this result: Yes -139 / No - 109

24 Debate followed on the substitute motion.

25 The substitute motion was defeated by the vote: Yes - 112 / No - 145

26 The convention returned to 1-10A for further debate.

27 M/S to amend the resolution. The amendment was adopted. Yes - 187 / No - 79

28 The amended Resolution 1-10A was adopted. Yes - 180 / No - 87

29  
30 Page F-15 / Resolution 1-12 To Allow for the Ongoing Re-election of Circuit  
31 Counselors.

32 Adopted. Yes - 155 / No - 105

33  
34 The work of the Committee was completed and it was dismissed with thanks.  
35

36  
37 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

38  
39 CIRCUIT COUNSELORS

40 M/S to ratify the slate of Circuit Counselors. Yes - 254 / No - 5

41 Adopted

42 REGION I (CAPITOL CONFERENCE)

43 Northeast Minneapolis (1)

Rev. Jeffrey Lee

1 Concordia (2) Rev. J. David Wende  
2 East St. Paul (3) Rev. Jonathan Marxhausen  
3 Lyndale East (4) Rev. James Markworth  
4

5 REGION I (MINNEAPOLIS CONFERENCE)

6 Hennepin North (5) Rev. John M. Dreyer  
7 Minneapolis (6) Rev. DeLloyd Wippich  
8 Hennepin south (7) Rev. Mark Johnson  
9 Lyndale West (8) Rev. Robert Nowak  
10

11 REGION II (MINNETONKA CONFERENCE)

12 Suburban Lakes (9) Rev. Tom Evans  
13 Carver County (10) Rev. Thomas Braun  
14

15 REGION II (CROW RIVER CONFERENCE)

16 Glencoe (11) Rev. Vance Becker  
17 Hutchinson (12) Rev. Gerald Schwanke  
18 Litchfield (13) Rev. Michael Nirva  
19

20 REGION III (WHITEWATER CONFERENCE)

21 Hiawatha (14) Rev. David Frederickson  
22 Winona (15) Rev. William Mueller  
23 Rochester (16) Rev. Lyle Kath  
24

25 REGION III (OWATONNA CONFERENCE)

26 Faribault (17) Rev. Giles Zimmer  
27 Austin (18) Rev. Paul Aldrich  
28 Waseca (19) Rev. Eugene Chase  
29

30 REGION IV (SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE)

31 Blue Earth (20) Rev. Karl Hollibaugh  
32 Mankato (21) Rev. Gregory Coop  
33 Truman (22) Rev. Lyle Rusert  
34 Fairmont (23) Rev. Russell Reimers  
35

36 REGION IV (SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE)

37 Pipestone (24) Rev. Iver Possehl  
38 Worthington (25) Rev. Kevin Werner  
39 Windom (26) Rev. Robert Gardner  
40

41  
42 **SYNODICAL CONVENTION ADVISORY DELEGATES**

43 M/S to ratify the slate of Advisory Delegates to the Synodical Convention

1 Advisory Pastors:

2 Rev. Robert Benke

3 Rev. Michael Dorner

4 Yes - 244 / No - 7

5 Advisory Ministers of Religion, Commissioned

6 Richard Eyerly

7 Robin Kurth

8 Craig McCourt

9 Karl Schmidt

10 Jim Spitzack

11 Ron Royuk

12 Yes - 243 / No - 7

13 Youth Delegates

14 Michael Lein

15 Jessie Brunken (Alternate)

16 Yes - 251 / No - 1

17  
18 The President directed the attention of the assembly to page A-47 and reminded  
19 that thanks are due to many people for the success of this convention.

20 President Seitz offered special thanks to Lu Clemmensen, Darleen Harens, and  
21 Rev. Evan Schiller for their work.

22  
23  
24 **TELL THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS**

25 Rev. John Perling was allowed a brief time to encourage participation in the "Tell  
26 The Good News About Jesus" emphasis.

27  
28  
29 **REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

30 Rev. James Bender, chairman of the Registration and Credentials Committee,  
31 gave this final report;

32	VOTING LAY DELEGATES	197
33	VOTING PASTORS	<u>173</u>
34	TOTAL VOTING DELEGATES	370
35	ASSOCIATE/ASSISTANT PASTORS	14
36	CHAPLAINS	1
37	EMERITI PASTORS	27
38	C.R.M.	1
39	VICARS	2
40	DCE	11
41	CONCORDIA FACULTY	7
42	TEACHERS	23
43	EMERITI TEACHERS	15

1	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	11
2	DISTRICT STAFF	10
3	YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES	5
4	SYNODICAL REPRESENTATIVES	1
5	GUESTS	23
6	DE	2
7	DEACONESS	<u>1</u>
8	TOTAL ADVISORY DELEGATES	154
9	TOTAL REGISTERED	524

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**CLOSING DEVOTION**

Rev. Fred Miller and Rev. Victor Meyr came forward to receive the thanks of the convention and to lead the closing devotion. We spoke the table prayers and sang, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rev. Dr. Lane Seitz declared the convention adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Rev. Evan G. Schiller, Secretary





## President's Address



72<sup>nd</sup> Convention  
Minnesota South District  
June 8-10, 2000

The Theme of our convention this year is: "See the Fields . . .  
Reap the Harvest."

## John 4:35

“Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”



It is based on the words of Jesus in John 4:35: “Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”

Jesus spoke those words following His encounter with a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well, which was located just outside the town of Sychar. Following her conversation with Jesus, the woman left her water jar at the well and ran back to the town of Sychar, to tell the people there what had happened to her out at the well. The result was, a group of people headed out to the well to meet Jesus. The disciples, it seems, didn’t see the OPPORTUNITY that existed that day as all of those people were heading toward them from the town of Sychar. It was in that context, then, that Jesus told his disciples, “. . . open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”

## The Disciples Were Distracted!

- Didn't see the OPPORTUNITY as people made their way to the well to see Jesus.
- Questioned why Jesus wouldn't eat the food they had purchased.
- Missed seeing what Jesus saw – fields (people) which were ripe for harvest.

The reason the disciples didn't see the OPPORTUNITY that existed that day is because they were distracted!

They were talking to each other about who could have brought Jesus something to eat, since He wasn't interested in eating the food they had purchased while they were in town.

They missed seeing what Jesus saw - blood-bought people who were ripe for harvest - who were ready to be brought into the kingdom of God.

## The Distractions TODAY

- Status Quo
- Resistance to change
- Apathy
- Affluence/Greed
- Conflict

Like those disciples, we too can be distracted – we can lose sight of what Jesus sees today – what He wants US to see – blood-bought people who are desperately in need of hearing about the forgiveness and eternal life which come only through Him.

The distractions today can be many and subtle.

This morning, I'll mention only a few:

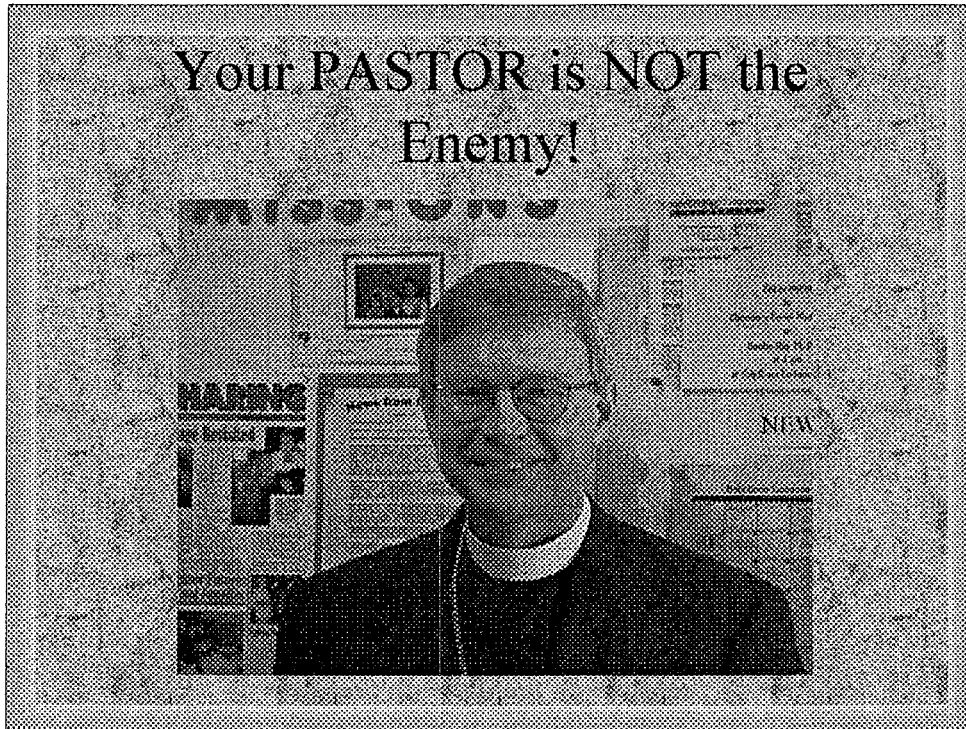
Status quo – being satisfied with things just the way they are

Resistance to change – refusing to look at change as a good thing, especially if it helps us to reach more people for Christ.

Apathy – not being interested or concerned about all those within our reach and around the world who will spend eternity in hell if they do not hear and believe in Christ.

Affluence/Greed – having so many material blessings today that we think we don't need God, and yet we still want more.

And last, but certainly not least, is conflict. At this point, it seems as though we have lost sight of our REAL ENEMY. Just so we're clear,



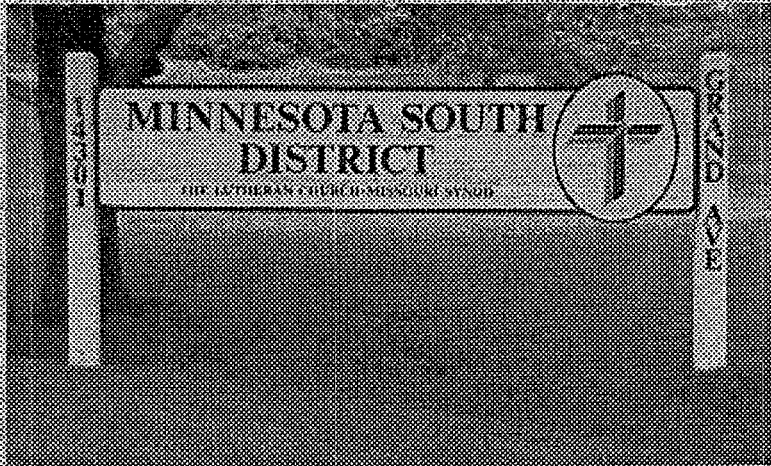
Your pastor is NOT the enemy!

Your MEMBERS are NOT the  
Enemy!



The members of your congregation are NOT the enemy!

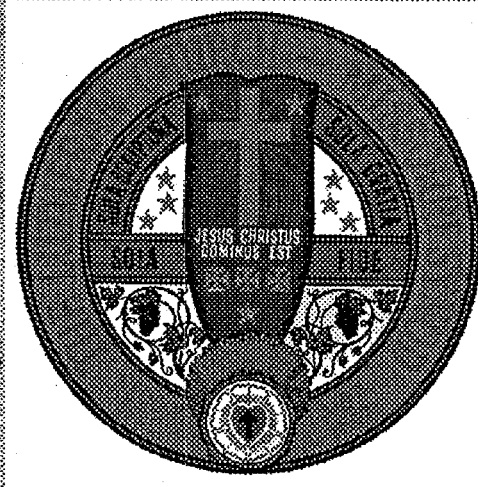
The "DISTRICT" is NOT the  
Enemy!



The "District" is NOT the enemy either!



The "SYNOD" is NOT the  
Enemy!



Nor is the "SYNOD" the enemy!



## The REAL Enemy!



Here is the REAL ENEMY: SATAN!

And, he is alive and well today.

When it comes to Satan, we would do well to pay attention to the words of I Peter 5:8.

## God's Advice!



"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

## Satan Works Through People!

- Satisfaction with the status quo
- The desire for control
- Selfishness
- Lack of vision
- Lack of commitment to mission
- "Biting and devouring one another" (Gal. 5:15) (conflict/infighting)

Don't be mistaken - Satan works to distract US today, just like the disciples were distracted that day outside the town of Sychar at Jacobs well.

The last thing Satan wants is for us to see what Jesus sees today and to be serious about the mission He has given us.

We see the success of Satan's efforts in our lives:

When we are satisfied with things just the way they are in our congregation (satisfaction with the status quo)

When we want things our way in the congregation (The desire for control)

When we think only of our own spiritual needs (selfishness)

When we fail to see those who need to hear the Gospel (Lack of vision)

When we give only lip service to outreach (Lack of commitment to mission)

And, when we fight with one another (conflict/infighting), which is a enormous problem for us today, to the extent that the ministry of our congregations is being effected for decades to come.

## We need to REPENT!

- Because we have sinned in allowing Satan to gain a foothold in our lives
- So that we are capable of seeing the fields and reaping the harvest.

Without question, we need to repent:

Because we have sinned in allowing Satan to gain a foothold in our lives, and

We need to repent so that we are capable of seeing the fields and reaping the harvest that exists today.

## Issues Which Need Attention

- Close Communion
- The Role of Women
- Worship Styles
- Inter-Christian relationships
- Lack of collegiality/trust
- Matthew 18

As we look to the future, we need to acknowledge that there ARE issues which need our serious attention, if we are going to continue "walking together."

They include:

Close communion

The role of women

Worship styles

Inter-Christian relationships

The lack of collegiality/trust among us

And, the failure to follow Matthew 18 as the God-pleasing approach to solving our differences.

## Issues Which Need Attention

- Fewer people in rural areas
- Fewer pastors
  - 35-40 vacancies presently in MNS
  - 75 vacancies by 2005 (1/3 of congregations)
- Fewer synodically-trained educators
- Weary church workers
  - Beaten down, tired, frustrated, depressed

In addition, we are going to have to address the fact that there are going to be fewer and fewer people in the rural areas of our District, which will make it difficult for many of our congregations to continue to exist.

There is also the problem of the diminishing number of pastors who will be available in the coming years to conduct a Word and Sacrament ministry to the people of our District.

In this regard, it is projected that the number of pastoral vacancies in the Minnesota South District will continue to grow, reaching possibly 75 vacancies by 2005. That would mean that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of our congregations would be vacant at any one point in time.

There is also a growing shortage of synodically-trained educators to serve in our congregations and schools.

And, on top of those issues, there is the fact that many of our professional church workers have grown weary in their service to the Lord and His people. They are beaten down, tired, frustrated, and depressed.



## The Mission is God's Mission

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

In acknowledging those issues, however, we dare not get distracted by thinking that our mission or purpose is simply to address our internal problems.

No, our real mission is spelled out by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20. There he says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

## The Challenge of Generations

- GI (23,000,000) (1901-1925) (75-99)
- Silent (29,000,000) (1925-1942) (57-74)
- Boomer (65,000,000) (1943-1960) (39-56)
- Buster/Gen X (80,000,000) (1961-1981) (18-38)
- Millennial (69,000,000) (born since 1982) (0-17)

The size of that challenge becomes obvious when we realize that for the first time in history, there are five different generations of people which we need to reach:

The GI Generation, which has 23,000,000 people (born 1901-1925) (75-99)

The Silent Generation, which has 29,000,000 people (born 1925-1942) (57-74)

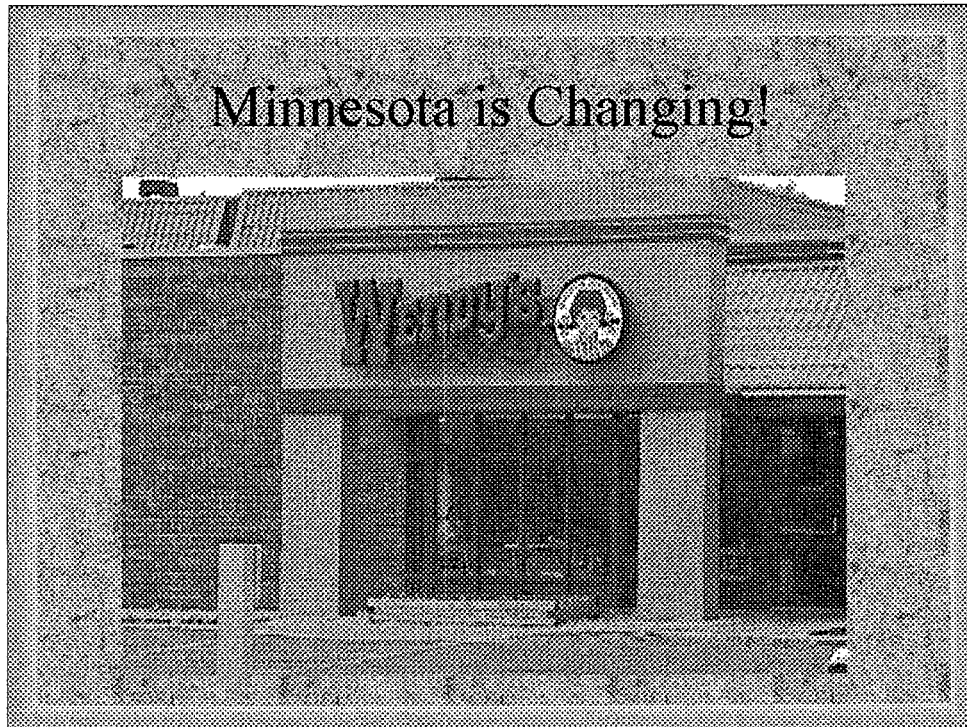
The Boomer Generation, which has 65,000,000 people (born 1943-1960) (39-56)

The Buster or Gen X Generation, which has a whopping 80,000,000 people (born 1961-1981) (18-38)

The Millennial Generation, which currently has 69,000,000 people (born since 1982) (0-17)

Each of those generations have their own characteristics and present their own challenges in reaching them with the unchanging Gospel of Jesus Christ.





In the Bob Dylan song, "Blowin' in the Wind," it says, "The times they are a changin'." And they are, especially here in Minnesota.

I first realized how much they are changing about three years ago when I stopped into this restaurant in Eden Prairie for lunch one day.

All of a sudden, as I looked around the restaurant, I realized I was the only Caucasian person there. Everyone else – all of the other customers and restaurant personnel – were a different race.

## Minnesota is Growing!

- 650,000 new people within the next 15 years
- 80% of them will settle in southern Minnesota

Statisticians tell us that Minnesota is going to continue to change - that 650,000 new people will move to Minnesota in the next 15 years, and that 80% of them will move within the boundaries of the Minnesota South District.

## Ethnic Groups in Minnesota\*

- 95,000 Hispanics (97% unchurched)
- 51,000 African Immigrants (95% unchurched)
- 178,000 Southeast Asians (95% unchurched)
- 13,000 International students (97% unchurched)

At the present time, there are:

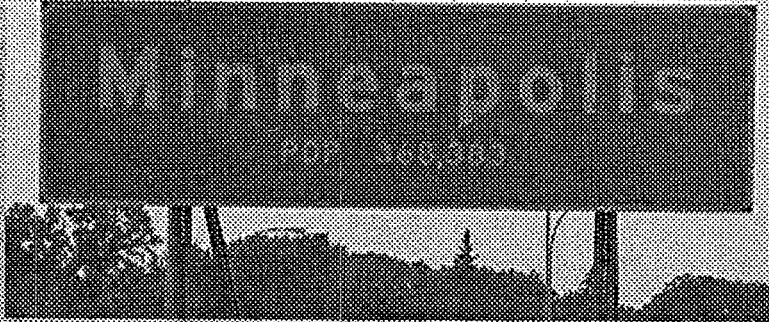
95,000 Hispanics (97% unchurched)

51,000 African Immigrants (95% unchurched)

178,000 Southeast Asians (95% unchurched)

13,000 International students (97% unchurched)

## The Challenge in Minneapolis

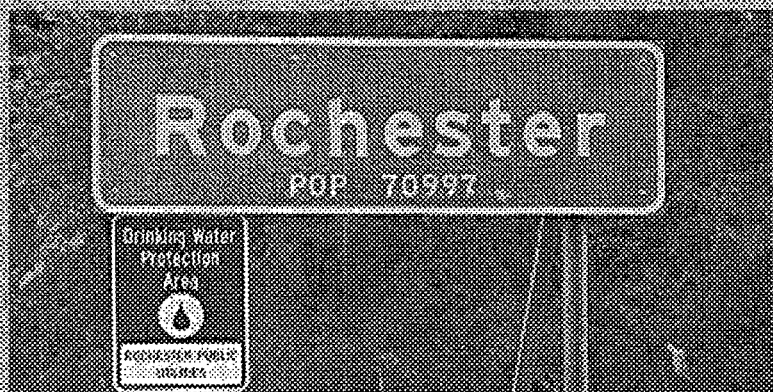


- 86 different languages are spoken in the Minneapolis School District

You can get a sense of the cross-cultural challenge which is before us today simply by recognizing how many different languages are spoken in school systems around our District.

For example, 86 different languages are spoken in the Minneapolis School District.

## The Challenge in Rochester



57 different languages are spoken in the Rochester School District

57 different languages are spoken in the Rochester School District.

## The Challenge in Worthington

Worthington

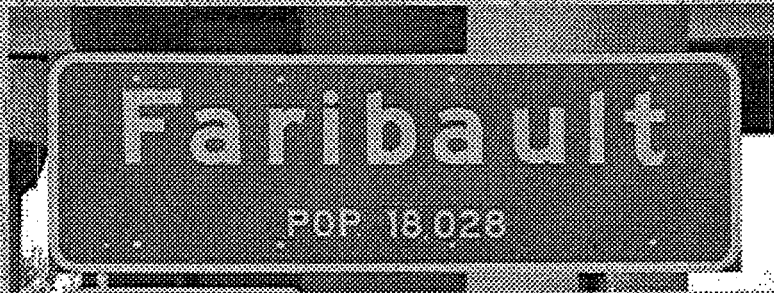
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HOME OF MARY BETH BLEGEN  
1996 NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

- 50 different languages are spoken in the Worthington School District

50 different languages are spoken in the Worthington School District.

## The Challenge in Faribault



- 30 different languages are spoken in the Faribault School District

And, 30 different languages are spoken in the Faribault School District.



## A Threat?

- Some see these new people to be a threat!
  - Foreign languages
  - Different traditions
  - Crime
  - Loss of jobs
  - Increase in welfare cost
  - Refuse to become “like us”

Unfortunately, not all of us see these new people as OPPORTUNITIES to share the Gospel.

For many they are a threat:

They speak foreign languages which we can't understand.

They have different traditions which are strange to us.

It is perceived that they cause an increase in the crime rate.

Their presence can mean the loss of jobs for our own people.

They can cause an increase in welfare costs.

And, for the most part, they refuse to become “like us.”



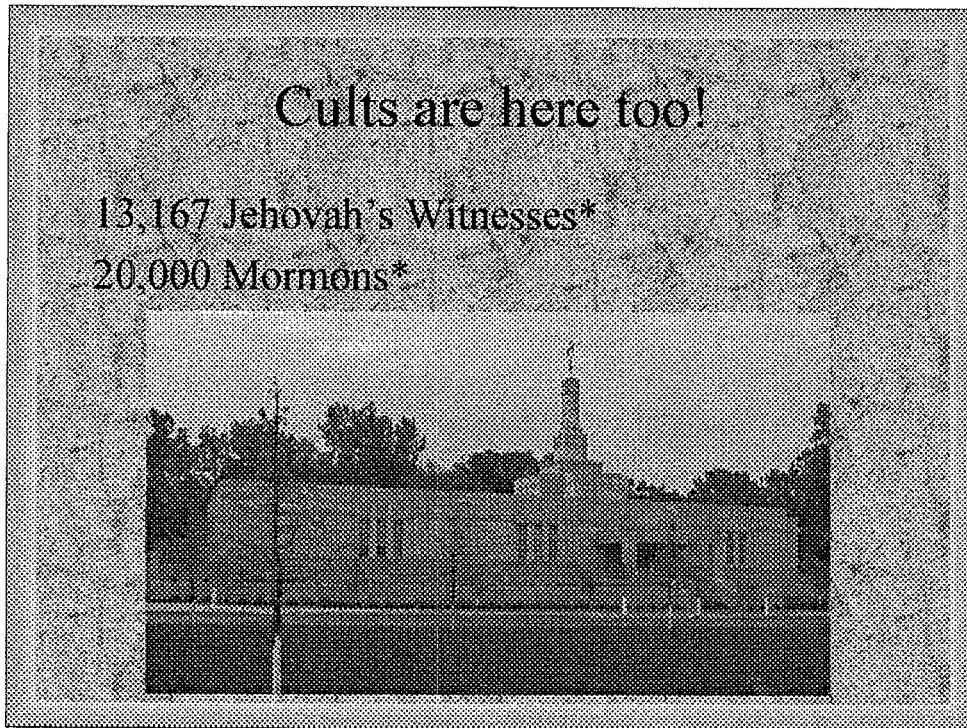
## World Religions Are Coming to Minnesota

- 127,750 people practice world religions in the Twin Cities alone!\*
- 45,000 who practice Judaism (37 different synagogues)
- 47,000 Muslims (39 different mosques)
- 20,000 Buddhists (34 different temples)
- 15,750 Hindus (16 different temples)

The influx of people from foreign countries also means the influx of world religions.

At the present time, for example, 127,750 people practice world religions in the Twin Cities alone! There are:

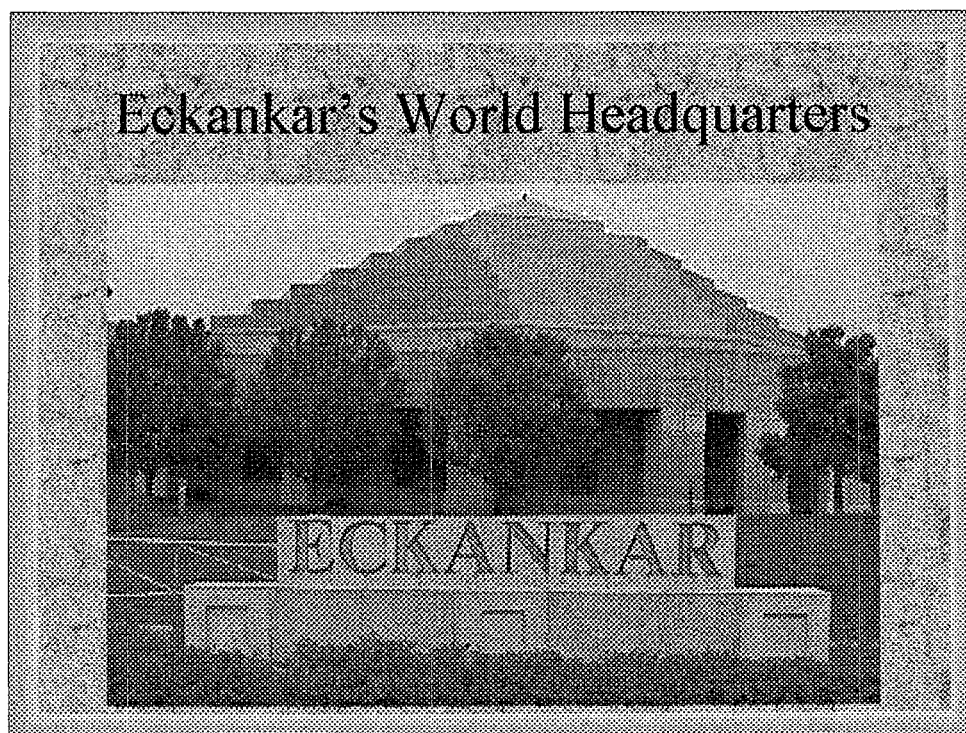
- 45,000 who practice Judaism (37 different synagogues)
- 47,000 Muslims (39 different mosques)
- 20,000 Buddhists (34 different temples)
- 15,750 Hindus (16 different temples)



Cults are also present within the District.

At the present time, there are 13,167 Jehovah's Witnesses, and 20,000 Mormons.

The Mormons have indicated their intentions to be serious about outreach in this area by recently building this Mormon Temple on the east side of the Twin Cities.



Chanhasen is also the world headquarters for Eckankar – a new age religion.

## The Occult is Growing!

- 10,000 Witches/Satanists\*
- 379 cult/occult churches with over 86,000 followers\*



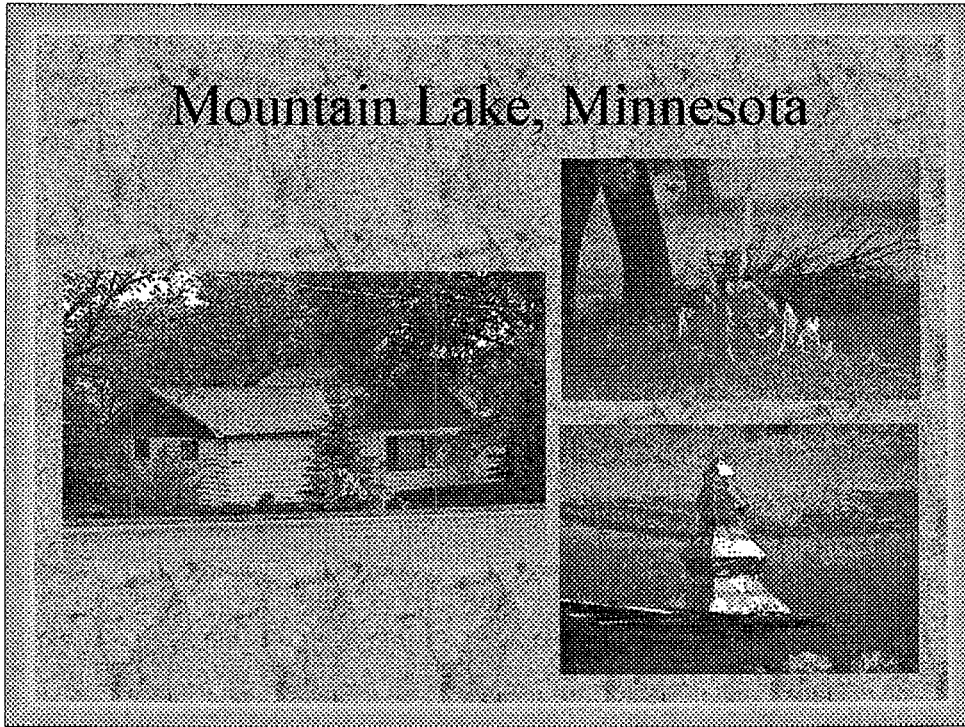
And, let's not underestimate the influence of Satan in a direct and powerful way.

Today, it is estimated that there are 10,000 witches and Satanists in Minnesota, which is one of the highest concentrations in the entire U.S.

There are also 379 cult/occult churches which have over 86,000 followers.

And, satanic material is readily available in bookstores like this one.

## Mountain Lake, Minnesota



And, just to prove that what I'm talking about extends far beyond the Twin Cities, here is a Buddhist Temple in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, a town of some 1,200 people, which is located about 150 miles southwest of here.

## Two Shoe Salesmen in Africa

- “Don’t send any more shoes. Nobody wears shoes here.”
- “Send more shoes. Nobody wears shoes here!”
- Unprecedented opportunities to share the Good News!

As I reflect on all of these statistics, I am reminded of a story which I heard a number of years ago about two shoe salesmen who were sent to Africa to sell shoes to the people there.

A week after he arrived, one salesman sent a message back to his boss which said, “Don’t send any more shoes. Nobody wears shoes here!”

Several days later, the other shoe salesman also sent a message to his boss. It said, “Send more shoes. Nobody wears shoes here!”

The point is, we either see the OPPORTUNITIES which are before us or we don’t.

I personally believe that God is giving us UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITIES here in southern Minnesota to share the Good News of our salvation in Jesus Christ with people from all over the world.

And, we have been seizing those OPPORTUNITIES.

For example,



## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- Sudanese Immigrants
  - St. Matthew's, Columbia Heights
  - Trinity, Faribault
  - Bethel, St. Paul
  - Faith, Minneapolis
  - St. Stephanus, St. Paul
  - St. John's, Chaska



Rev. Keith Brutlag

There is our work among Sudanese Immigrants.

During the last decade, hundreds of people fled the Sudan in search of a new home and a new life. Many of them have settled in Anoka County. Rev. Keith Brutlag and the members of St. Matthew's, Columbia Heights have sought to reach them with the Gospel.

Other congregations have joined hands with them in trying to reach the Sudanese in their communities, congregations like: Trinity, Faribault - Bethel, St. Paul - Faith, Minneapolis - St. Stephanus, St. Paul - and St. John's, Chaska.



Over 15 years ago, we began work among the Hmong people who were emigrating to the U.S. and the Twin Cities. Rev. Steve Kosberg began that work while serving as the pastor of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. The result is, our Hmong Lutheran Church in St. Paul, which is currently being served by Deacon Chang Tao Vang, is one of the largest Hmong congregations in the U.S. today.

Today, the opportunities to reach the Hmong people are even greater than they were 15 years ago. Today, for example, were told that 25% of the children in the St. Paul School District are Hmong.

Our newest effort to reach the Hmong is Grace Hmong Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

And, St. Stephanus, St. Paul and Bethlehem, St. Paul are also discovering that the fields indeed are ripe for harvest among the Hmong people.



## Southeast Asian Outreach

- Trinity, Mountain Lake (400 Laotians)



Mr. Don Arehart

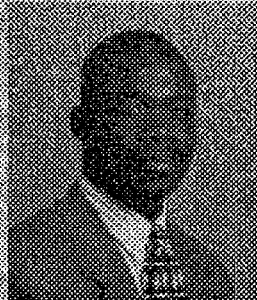


Rev. Bob Gardner

One of the newest OPPORTUNITIES we are seizing is the opportunity to reach Southeast Asian people in outstate Minnesota. We have partnered with the members of Trinity, Mountain Lake to provide for a vicar, Mr. Don Arehart, who will be responsible for working with the pastor of the congregation, Rev. Bob Gardner, and the members, to try to reach these people for Jesus Christ.

## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- African Immigrant Ministry
  - Grace International, Columbia Heights
  - Grace, Brooklyn Park
  - Eastern Heights, St. Paul
  - Bethel, St. Paul



Kennedy Gee

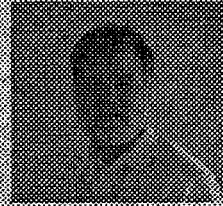
There are also some 10,000 African Immigrants in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area alone.

Several years ago, a student from Concordia, St. Paul, Mr. Kennedy Gee, formed a congregation - Grace International Lutheran Church - in hopes of reaching some of these African Immigrants.

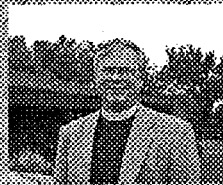
Today, others have joined Kennedy in reaching out with the news of forgiveness in Jesus Christ to these African Immigrants - congregations like: Grace, Brooklyn, Park - Eastern Heights, St. Paul - and Bethel, St. Paul.

## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- Hispanic Outreach
  - Cristo el Redentor, St. Paul
  - Southwestern Minnesota
  - Salem, Madelia
  - Immanuel, Gaylord
  - First, Glencoe
  - St. Paul, Waseca



Rev. Larry Miller



Rev. Martin Teigen

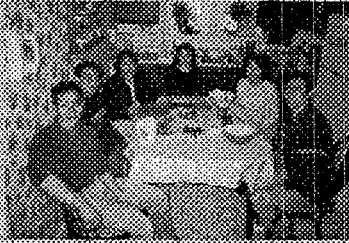
For over 20 years, our District has been involved in outreach to Hispanics in the St. Paul area through the work of Rev. Larry Miller and the members of Cristo el Redentor Lutheran Church. In recent years, however, there has been an influx of Hispanics who have settled in many of the small towns in southern Minnesota. We are aggressively seeking to share the Gospel with them.

Rev. Martin Teigen serves as our Missionary to Hispanics in southern Minnesota.

Through his efforts, congregations like Salem, Madelia - Immanuel, Gaylord - First, Glencoe - and St. Paul, Waseca are now involved in outreach to Hispanics.

## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- Campus Ministry
  - Minnesota State, Mankato
  - U of M, Minneapolis
  - Southwest State, Marshall
  - Winona State, Winona
  - Ridgewater Comm. College, Hutchinson



The campuses of the colleges and universities in southern Minnesota are also a ripe harvest field today.

Today, there are 13,000 students from foreign countries studying on the campuses of our colleges and universities. What an opportunity we have to share the Gospel with these students, who will hopefully carry that Good News back to their homeland and to their own people.

Today, we are seeking to share the Gospel with these international students on the campuses of:

Minnesota State University in Mankato

The University of Minnesota in Minneapolis

Southwest State University in Marshall

Winona State University in Winona, and

Ridgewater Community College in Hutchinson

## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- Urban Missions

- Trinity First Lutheran Church and School,  
Minneapolis



Rev. Del Wippich

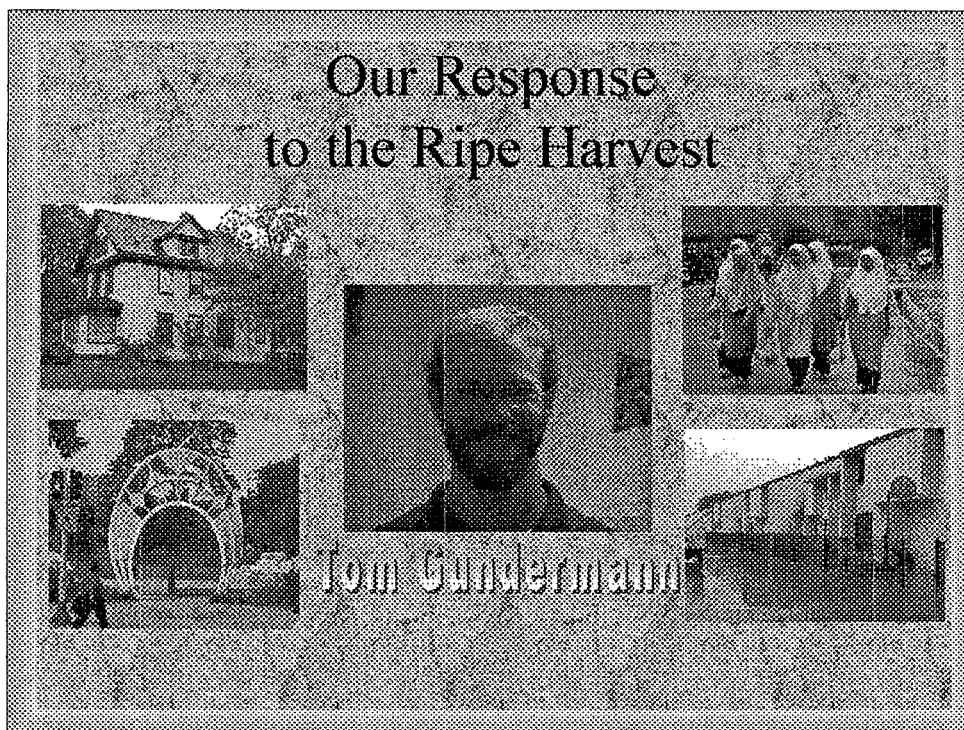


The Philips Neighborhood in Minneapolis is one of the most poverty-stricken communities in the state of Minnesota. The Philips Neighborhood also has one of the highest crimes rates in all of Minnesota. Over 55% of the people who live there are people from other countries – Somalia, Liberia, Ghana, Laos, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Mexico and several South American countries.

The Philips Neighborhood is where Trinity First Lutheran Church and School are located.

Under the leadership of Rev. Del Wippich, the congregation is attempting to maintain its Gospel presence in one of the toughest places to do ministry in Minnesota today.

This picture of some of the students at Trinity First Lutheran School gives you a glimpse of some of the cross cultural challenges facing one of the oldest congregations in Minnesota today.



One of our most unique attempts to reach people for Jesus Christ is through the ministry of Mr. Tom Gundermann. Tom, working out of Trinity First in Minneapolis, serves as a street evangelist in the Philips Neighborhood. He is a man who has a passion second to none in reaching the people of the Philips Neighborhood, especially the children, with the news of Jesus Christ.

His mission field includes one of the largest Native American populations and housing complexes in the United States, drug dealers, prostitutes, and liquor stores which do millions upon millions of dollars of business a year, people of all nationalities, and blocks of substandard housing. What's so surprising about Tom is that even in the midst of such challenging circumstances, you will always find him with a smile on his face. It is obvious that he loves the opportunity that the Lord is giving Him to tell people about Jesus Christ and how He makes a lasting difference in people's lives.



## Our Response to the Ripe Harvest

- The unchurched in rural areas
  - One out of every three people Minnesota is unchurched
- Rural congregations are making it possible to carry on Christ's mission here and throughout the world through their generous mission offerings

In talking about our response to the ripe harvest which exists in the Minnesota South District today, we dare not forget the faithful efforts of congregations all across our District, especially in rural areas, to reach the unchurched. Today, one out of every three people in Minnesota is unchurched. So, no matter where we live, there are people who need to hear the Gospel and get connected to a congregation.

One of the real strengths of our District has been the commitment of our rural congregations to support our mission efforts with their financial gifts. They have made it possible for us to respond to the call of Christ in areas which are booming with new people. Without their financial support, we would not be able to reap the harvest that exists today.

## The NEED!

- Men, women, and children who have a passion to reach the lost and unchurched!

“When he [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said, to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest fields.” (Matthew 9:37-38)

Once again, God is giving us incredible opportunities to share the Gospel with people from all over the world, without ever leaving southern Minnesota.

What we really need today are men, women and children who have a passion to reach the lost and the unchurched!

As I reflect on what I see happening in southern Minnesota today, I can't help but think of what we're told in Matthew 9:37-38. There it says, “When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said, to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest fields.”



## The Model of the Early Church

- Peter as he stood before the Sanhedrin after he healed a beggar – “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

The members of the Early Church took up that challenge. They seized the opportunities that the Lord gave them, always striving to be faithful to the mission which was given to them, even in difficult circumstances, like Peter as he stood before the Sanhedrin after he healed a beggar. In a situation where the temptation might have been to give in, Peter stated boldly, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

## The Reaction

- “When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.” (Acts 4:13)

In Acts 4:13, we're told what the reaction was to Peter's confession. There it states, “When they saw the **courage** of Peter and John and realized that they were **unschooled, ordinary** men, they were **astonished** and they **took note** that these men had been with Jesus.”

The point is, when we share the Word, people take note of what we say. Through our witness, the Holy Spirit, can reap the harvest that exists right here in southern Minnesota today. The joy is that we can be partners with Him in that wonderful work.

## Revelation 7

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9)

In Revelation 7, the Apostle John had a vision one day of what you and I will someday be privileged to see. There John states, "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb."

## The Bottom Line

Some day, by the grace of God, you and I will be standing in that crowd -- before the throne -- in front of the Lamb -- wearing robes made white in the blood of the Lamb. And as a result of the Holy Spirit working through our sometimes feeble efforts many of those in the multitude standing before the throne of the Lamb will be from the Minnesota South District!!!

The bottom line, then, is that some day, by the grace of God, you and I will be standing in that crowd -- before the throne - - in front of the Lamb -- wearing robes made white in the blood of the Lamb. And, as a result of the Holy Spirit working through our sometimes feeble efforts, many of those in the multitude standing before the throne of the Lamb will be from the Minnesota South District!

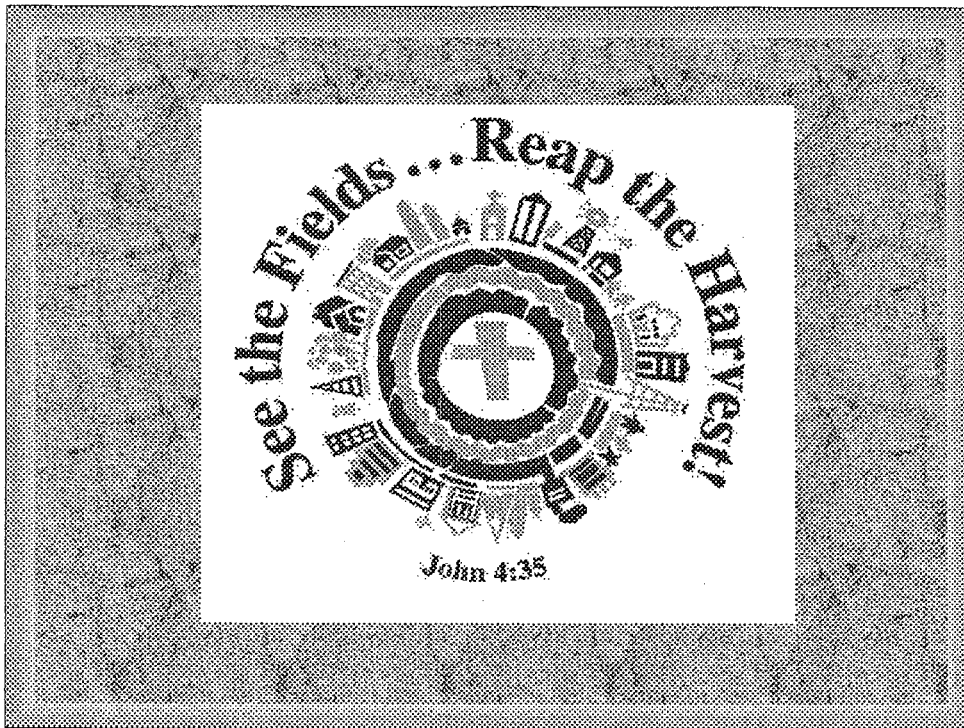
## Challenges and Opportunities

- Such are our CHALLENGES!
- Such are our OPPORTUNITIES!
- NOW is the time to

Such are our CHALLENGES!

Such are our OPPORTUNITIES!

NOW is the time to



See the Fields and Reap the Harvest

## Acknowledgments

\* Various statistics in this presentation were provided by Religion Information Resources of Minneapolis, MN. Used by permission.





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# Convention Greetings

Rev. Dr. O. H. Cloeter, President Emeritus  
June 9, 2000

“Grace, mercy, and peace be yours in Christ, our risen and ascended Lord.

“My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

“First of all, thank you for the honor of conferring on me the title of President Emeritus. I don’t know what this means. I’m sure it doesn’t pay anything. Still it serves to tickle the ego. So, thank you.

“Permit me also to extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes to you, President Seitz, upon your re-election. I pray that God may continue to bless you, not only with health and strength, but also with the wisdom and understanding necessary to carry out the difficult duties of your office.

“It seems to me that, for a variety of reasons, the work of a District President is becoming more difficult all the time. I hope you won’t take it amiss if I speak from the heart about something that really concerns me.

“Sitting on the sidelines, just watching and listening these past nine years, I have come to the conclusion that there is a reason to be concerned about the future of our church body. It is troubling to see the extremes which are pulling us in opposite directions, while those who represent the extremes hardly talk with one another. In fact, instead of talking, a barrage of cannon shots are fired. Bitter invectives are hurled from one side to the other.

“On the one hand, there are those who seem to have little regard for our confessional position. They are willing to fellowship with almost anyone; their Communion practice is wide open; they are pushing for the ordination of women; and some are already practicing selective fellowship with those who are of a different confession. And more things could be mentioned.

“And then there is the other side represented by those who have adopted a rather sacerdotal or hierarchical view of the Holy Ministry. They insist that in preaching the Word and administering the Sacraments they are Christ (not that they represent Christ, but that they are Christ), and who therefore tend to be very rigid in their practice. They insist that there is only one way to worship and that only those hymns that are in a synodically approved hymnal may be used. Some of them even insist that it is wrong to use girls for acolytes and women for ushers. More examples could be listed of things that would bind us to the shackles of human tradition and authority.

1 "My heart aches when I think of where all this is leading us. Do you realize what is  
2 happening? There are pastors and congregations who want no part of either extreme  
3 and who finally reach the point where they say, 'A plague on both your houses.' We  
4 see it happening already that pastors and congregations lose all interest in synodical  
5 matters, they withdraw from synodical meetings, they send their mission money to  
6 other agencies, and they decide to go their own way. How can we as a synodical entity  
7 long endure when these two extremes threaten to tear us apart? The Lord never  
8 promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against The Lutheran Church—  
9 Missouri Synod. That is a promise given only to the Holy Christian and Apostolic  
10 Church. With due respect to Barry Goldwater, I shall amend his quip of some thirty  
11 years ago: I shall invert it and say, 'Extremism in theology is never a virtue.'

12  
13 "Brothers and sisters, all this need not be so, and I pray that all of us will determine that  
14 it shall not be so. Yes, through the power of the Word and by the grace of God we can  
15 be of one heart and speak with one voice. With the help of God we can be what we  
16 have always claimed to be, a truly evangelical, Gospel-centered church where the truth  
17 of the Word prevails (yes, let's never give an inch where God's Word has clearly  
18 spoken), but at the same time a church in which love, God's kind of love, prevails in all  
19 its fullness and gentleness and sweetness.

20  
21 "I love The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod. She is my spiritual mother. Lord, don't  
22 let her go astray in any direction. Keep her in your way, the strait and narrow way. Let  
23 the prayer of St. Paul be our prayer: 'May the God who gives endurance and  
24 encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus,  
25 so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus  
26 Christ' (Romans 15:5).

27  
28 "Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,  
29 according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the Church and in  
30 Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen' (Ephesians 3:20-21).

31  
32 "God bless you all."

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# Convention Greetings

Rev. Dr. Martin Lieske, President Emeritus  
June 9, 2000

Dr. Wallace Schulz, Dr. Lane Seitz, Reverend Brothers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

I whole heartedly endorse what Dr. O. H. Cloeter, my successor as President of our District, said about the disturbing and alarming anger and hatred so evident among fellow-redeemed believers in Christ in our Synod. We seem to have forgotten "That they will know we are Christians by our Love."

Then I would like to congratulate Dr. Lane Seitz upon his reelection as President of the Minnesota South District. Our prayers and well wishes go out to him.

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ," (Ephesians 1:2) St. Paul reminds us of our Mission in II Corinthians 2:14-15 with these inspired words: "Thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumph, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere for we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing." (RSV)

We pray for a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit so that we in this Convention may be "The aroma of Christ." That our actions and resolutions will effectively carry out our top priority of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in our community and world.

We preach, we communicate, we share a changeless Christ with a changing world. I have personally experienced much change in this constantly changing world. I was born in the horse and buggy age. World War I came to a close when I was six years old. From the horse and buggy age we went quickly to the Machine Age. Then came the stark depression of the thirties, Pearl Harbor, World War II, the Atomic Age, the Cold War, the Korean and Viet Nam Wars, the Space Age, the Moon Landing, Drug addiction, and now the Computer Age. In all these changes Jesus Christ did not change. Hebrews 13:8 states: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Here are some starting changes that will take place in the future. U.S. Government statistics reveal that by the 2030:

- The number of Minnesotans over 65 will double by 23% and total 1.2 million.
- Older women will out number older men by 130,000 or double that of the men. Limited incomes will be a problem.
- One in four Minnesotans will be over 65.

- 1 • The number of persons with disabilities will double.
- 2 • The number of minorities will continue with fact growth among Hispanics,
- 3 Asians, African Americans and American Indians.
- 4 • There will be a severe labor shortage.
- 5 • The tax base will shrink with fewer workers.
- 6 • Technology will prosper with increased reliance on the internet.

7  
8 To help pastors and congregations to carry out our God-given mission of sharing the  
9 Good News of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord to this changing world the Older Adult  
10 Ministry Committee of our District and S.A.G.E.S., our District Older Adult  
11 organization, are conducting seminars in the four regions of our District.

12  
13 Region I - at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Columbia Heights, September 20<sup>th</sup> from  
14 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

15  
16 Region II - at Peace Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30  
17 p.m.

18  
19 Region III & Region IV Seminars are planned for next year.

20  
21 Brochures are available at the S.A.G.E.S. Display. Our Theme is "Engaging the Aging."  
22 Psalm 92:13-14 reminds us that these Senior Saints are "Planted in the house of the  
23 Lord. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green." Involving this  
24 ever-growing number of older adults in Kingdom Work is vital in the future. I am glad  
25 you realize this. By adopting the Encourage Resolutions D you have promised to  
26 Engage the Aging, who are ever growing in numbers in Mission and Ministry.

27  
28 Thank you and God Bless you!

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## RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1-01 [Memorial A-1; CW, p. C-1]

RE: TO CHANGE THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE  
MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Resolution 1-02 of the 1994 Convention of the Minnesota South District changed the method of election for the Office of District Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, That change has not yet been reflected in the Articles of Incorporation of the Minnesota South District; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the present wording of Article III, Section 1, a, of the Articles of Incorporation [reprinted in the column on the left, below] be replaced with the proposed wording [printed in the column on the right, below]:

Present Wording

The number and official title of the officers of this corporation by and through whom this corporation shall act, shall be: A president, vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, and they, together with the persons elected thereto by the voting members, as provided in the by-laws of this corporation, shall constitute the Board of Directors. The officers and directors shall be elected by the voting members at any meeting of the corporation.

Proposed Wording [The change is printed in italics]

The number and official title of the officers of this corporation by and through whom this corporation shall act, shall be: A president, vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, and they, together with the persons elected thereto by the voting members, as provided in the by-laws of this corporation, shall constitute the Board of Directors. The officers and directors, *except for the treasurer who shall be elected by the Board of Directors*, shall be elected by the voting members at any meeting of the corporation.

*Convention action:*

*The resolution was adopted by the vote 336 Yes - 12 No*

1 RESOLUTION 1-02 [Memorial A-2; CW, pp. C-2 to C-5]  
2 RE: TO APPROVE CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS

3  
4 RATIONALE

5  
6 The following Bylaw changes are submitted to:

- 7 1. remove inconsistencies in the Bylaws,  
8 2. apply correct titles to current District committees and organizations, and  
9 3. provide clarification in light of the Bylaw changes made at the 1994 and  
10 1997 District conventions.

11  
12 Therefore, be it

13  
14 *RESOLVED*, That the District Convention approve the following changes to  
15 the Bylaws of the District, noted specifically in the column on the right, under  
16 Proposed Wording and printed in *italics*:

17  
Present Wording

1. **Bylaw 2.20. Committee on Housing**

The Committee on Housing shall provide comfortable housing facilities (including meals) for the delegates and guests. It shall also prepare the assembly hall. . . .

2. **Bylaw 2.24, b. Appointments to be Made by the President**

b) Committee on Housing

3. **Bylaw 2.22, g. Officers and Committees to be Elected**

Members of the Board of Regents, Concordia College, St. Paul, MN as specified in the Synodical Handbook.

4. **Bylaw 2.40, e. Committee on Nominations**

. . .and Board of Regents of Concordia College, St. Paul. . . .

Proposed Wording

1. **Bylaw 2.20. Convention Arrangements Committee**

The *Convention Arrangements Committee* shall provide comfortable housing facilities (including meals) for the delegates and guests. It shall also prepare the assembly hall. . . .

2. **Bylaw 2.24, b. Appointments to be Made by the President**

b) *Convention Arrangements Committee*

3. **Bylaw 2.22, g. Officers and Committees to be Elected**

Members of the Board of Regents, Concordia *University*, St. Paul, MN, as specified in the Synodical Handbook.

4. **Bylaw 2.40, e. Committee on Nominations**

. . .and Board of Regents of Concordia *University*, St. Paul. . . .

**5. Bylaw 2.28, b, 1. Term of Office and Successive Terms**

The offices of President and Treasurer of the District shall be without limitation as to reelection.

**6. Bylaw 2.34. Ranking of Vice-Presidents**

A separate ballot shall be cast to determine the rank of the Vice-Presidents. Each voting delegate shall write the name of one of the elected Vice-Presidents on the ballot. Rank shall be determined by the number of votes received.

**7. Bylaw 3.08. Treasurer**

a) The Treasurer shall be a layman elected by the Board of Directors.

b) The Treasurer shall administer his office in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the District and as directed by the District Board of Directors. He shall receive and disburse the District's monies and keep an accurate account of the finances and property and business of the said Corporation.

j) The Treasurer shall perform such additional duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

**8. Bylaw 4.10. Meetings**

The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least quarterly, and whenever the District President or three members of the Board deem it necessary.

**5. Bylaw 2.28, b, 1. Term of Office and Successive Terms**

The office of President of the District shall be without limitation as to reelection [delete "and Treasurer"].

**6. Bylaw 2.34. Ranking of Vice-Presidents**

Separate ballots shall be cast to rank each of the Vice-Presidents.

**7. Bylaw 3.08. Treasurer**

a) The Treasurer shall be a *lay person* elected by the Board of Directors.

b) The Treasurer shall administer *the* office in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the District and as directed by the Board of Directors. *The Treasurer* shall receive and disburse the District's monies and keep an accurate account of the finances and property and business of the said Corporation.

j) The Treasurer shall perform such additional duties as may be assigned [deleted: to him] by the Board of Directors.

**8. Bylaw 4.10. Meetings**

The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least *four times each year*, and whenever the District President or three members of the Board deem it necessary.

**9. Bylaw 4.14, i. Duties and Functions of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors as the Trustees and Custodians of Property shall hold and manage. . . .

**10. Bylaw 6.02. Circuit Counselors**

Circuit Counselors are Assistants to the President in their respective Circuits.

**11. Bylaw 7.00. MISSION ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**12. Bylaw 7.06. Consideration of Calls**

In all matters pertaining to the calling of missionaries, the President shall consult with the Mission Administration Committee of the Board of Directors.

**13. Bylaw 7.12. Missionaries' Conferences**

The Board of Directors, through its Mission Administration Committee, may arrange. . . .

**14. Bylaw 7.18, d. Requests for Subsidy**

All subsidy requests for all, or any part, of the parish program shall be reviewed by the Mission Administration Committee of the Board of Directors. . . . The Mission Administration Committee in turn shall make the necessary recommendations to the Board of Directors.

**9. Bylaw 4.14, i. Duties and Functions of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors as the *Trustee* and *Custodian* of Property shall hold and manage. . . .

**10. Bylaw 6.02. Circuit Counselors**

Circuit Counselors *shall assist* the President in their respective Circuits.

**11. Bylaw 7.00. MISSION COMMITTEE**

**12. Bylaw 7.06. Consideration of Calls**

In all matters pertaining to the calling of missionaries, the President shall consult with the *Mission Committee* of the Board of Directors.

**13. Bylaw 7.12. Missionaries' Conferences**

The Board of Directors, through its *Mission Committee*, may arrange. . . .

**14. Bylaw 7.18, d. Requests for Subsidy**

All subsidy requests for all, or any part, of the parish program shall be reviewed by the *Mission Committee* of the Board of Directors. . . . The *Mission Committee* in turn shall make the necessary recommendations to the Board of Directors.



**15. Bylaw 7.20. Reports**

Pastors and teachers of subsidized congregations shall make regular activity reports to the Board of Directors through the Mission Administration Committee. Such reports shall be made at intervals and in such manner as shall be determined from time to time by the Mission Administration Committee.

**17. Bylaw 8.00. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

A detail of the major responsibilities of the Committee is as follows:

*Convention action:*

*A motion was made, seconded and carried to amend Bylaw 2.34 to read, "Separate ballots shall be cast to rank each of the vice-presidents." The vote to adopt the amendment was 299 yes - 51 no*

*The amended resolution was adopted by the vote 342 yes - 10 no*

**15. Bylaw 7.20. Reports**

Pastors and teachers of subsidized congregations shall make regular activity reports to the Board of Directors through the *Mission Committee*. Such reports shall be made at intervals and in such manner as shall be determined from time to time by the *Mission Committee*.

**17. Bylaw 8.00. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

*[Delete this unnecessary last sentence.]*



1 RESOLUTION 1-03 [Memorial A-3; CW, p. C-6]  
2 RE: TO CORRECT AND CLARIFY DISTRICT HANDBOOK BYLAWS 1.04, 1.14,  
3 AND 2.28  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Synod has raised questions and suggested  
7 corrections for several of the Bylaws in the *Handbook* of the Minnesota South District so  
8 that the District *Handbook* conforms to related Bylaws in the *Handbook* of The Lutheran  
9 Church-Missouri Synod and, therefore, does not appear to be in conflict with the  
10 Synod's *Handbook*; therefore, be it

11  
12 RESOLVED, That District Bylaw 1.04, "Application and Reception," be replaced  
13 with language that conforms to the intent of Synodical Bylaw 2.01 a, to wit:

14  
15 Replace District Bylaw 1.04, "Applications for membership in THE  
16 LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD may be acted upon in the  
17 convention of the Synod or of this District," with this new wording: "*Each*  
18 *application for membership in the Synod by a congregation shall be submitted to*  
19 *the District President and acted upon by the Board of Directors of the District at*  
20 *any regular meeting.*"

21  
22 And be it further

23  
24 RESOLVED, That District Bylaw 1.14, "Duties of Advisory Members," be  
25 modified by the removal of the third sentence in that Bylaw (i.e., "Former pastors and  
26 teachers who are regularly engaged in a secular calling shall not be considered advisory  
27 members.") because "former" indicates that those individuals have been removed from  
28 the rosters of the Synod and, therefore, they are no longer qualified to serve as advisory  
29 members of the District; and be it finally

30  
31 RESOLVED, That District Bylaw 2.28 b 4 be clarified by the insertion of the word  
32 "served" in the following way: "One-half or more of a term *served* shall be regarded as  
33 a complete term."

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36 *Convention action:*

37 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 337 yes - 14 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-04 [Memorial A-4; CW, p. C-7]  
2 RE: TO REPLACE "LAYMAN" AND "LAYMEN" IN DISTRICT HANDBOOK  
3  
4

5 WHEREAS, The term "layman," used in the current edition of the Minnesota  
6 South District *Handbook* to refer to members of the laity when they serve in elected or  
7 appointed positions of service within the District, does not reflect the fact that members  
8 of the laity, both men and women, may serve in those capacity; therefore, be it  
9

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the District is hereby authorized to edit the  
11 Minnesota South District *Handbook* by using the terms "lay" or "lay person" or "lay  
12 persons" to replace "layman" or "laymen" in those places where such an editorial  
13 change would be appropriate; and be it finally  
14

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the District report the editorial changes he  
16 makes to the District's Board of Directors for comment and approval.  
17  
18

19 *Convention action:*

20 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 289 yes - 64 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-05 [Board of Directors' Report, Communications Committee  
2 Report; CW, pp. B-1 to B-3; B-18]  
3 RE: TO ACCEPT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT AND THE  
4 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT  
5  
6

7 WHEREAS, The report submitted by the Board of Directors reflects accurately  
8 the work of the Board during the past triennium; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, The report submitted by the Communications Committee reflects  
11 accurately the work of the Committee during the past triennium; therefore, be it  
12

13 RESOLVED, That the report of the Board of Directors and the report of the  
14 Communications Committee be accepted.  
15

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17 *Convention action:*

18 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 345 yes - 6 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-06 [Memorials A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9; CW, pp. C-9 to C-12]  
2 RE: TO COMMEND AND ENCOURAGE LCMS PRESIDENT ALVIN BARRY  
3  
4

5 WHEREAS, The Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in  
6 Article II, Rights and Duties of Officers, states: “The President has and always shall  
7 have the power to advise, admonish, and reprove. He shall conscientiously use all  
8 means at his command to promote and maintain unity of doctrine and practice in all the  
9 Districts of Synod”; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, The Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in  
12 Article II, Rights and Duties of Officers, states: “The President shall perform all  
13 additional duties assigned to him by the bylaws or by special resolution of the Synod in  
14 convention”; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, The Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Bylaw  
17 3.101 Officers of the Synod, The President, Powers and Duties: “The President...A.5. be  
18 the chief ecumenical officer of the Synod. He or his representative shall represent the  
19 Synod in official contacts with other church bodies”; therefore be it  
20

21 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church—  
22 Missouri Synod commend President Alvin Barry for his faithful service to the Synod;  
23 and be it further  
24

25 RESOLVED, That President Barry be encouraged to continue to provide  
26 guidance and leadership to our Synod by carrying out the responsibilities assigned to  
27 him through the Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.  
28  
29

30 *Convention action:*

31 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 219 yes - 107 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1--07 [Memorial A--19; CW, p. C--29]

2 RE: TO HAVE DISTRICT-WIDE DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN  
3 LAY POSITIONS IN CONGREGATIONS  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed all His children with spiritual gifts, and called  
7 them to varying aspects of service in His Church (Romans 12:4ff, 1 Corinthians 12:4ff);  
8 and  
9

10 WHEREAS, The free gift of God's salvation is offered to His creation without  
11 partiality (Galatians 3:26-28); and  
12

13 WHEREAS, The Lord of the Church has used women as well as men to be agents  
14 of ministry, such as Deborah (Judges 4 & 5), Huldah (2 Kings 22:14ff), Anna (Luke  
15 2:36ff), and Priscilla (Acts 18:26...Romans 16:3); and  
16

17 WHEREAS, The greatest Christian truth of all, i.e., that Jesus rose on the third  
18 day, was first entrusted to women to share with the eleven disciples (Matthew 28:5ff,  
19 Mark 16:1ff, Luke 24:1ff, John 20:10ff); therefore be it  
20

21 RESOLVED, That we give great thanksgiving to our gracious God for the gift of  
22 women in His Christian Church; and be it further  
23

24 RESOLVED, That we ask the Minnesota South District of the LCMS to organize  
25 forums to discuss the role of Christian women in serving alongside their Christian  
26 brothers in positions of service in their local Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod  
27 congregations in all lay positions; and be it further  
28

29 RESOLVED, that we encourage congregations of the District to share their views  
30 on these matters with the CTCR (1995 Synodical Convention Proceedings Resolution  
31 3.06A); and be it finally  
32

33 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District ask the CTCR to report to the  
34 congregations on its mandate from the 1995 Synodical Convention (Convention  
35 Proceedings Resolution 3.06A) to give guidance on these issues.  
36  
37

38 *Convention action:*

39 *This resolution was added to Resolution B by the vote 194 yes - 147 no*  
40  
41  
42

1 RESOLUTION 1--08 [Memorials A--11 and A--14; CW, p. C--14 and C--15; C--21  
2 and C--22]

3 RE: TO ASK THE DISTRICT TO SET UP FORUMS FOR DISCUSSION OF  
4 ARTICLE VII OF THE SYNODICAL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW 2.39b-c.  
5  
6

7 WHEREAS, There continues to be considerable discussion of the relationship  
8 between the Synod, District, and individual congregations; therefore be it  
9

10 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District of the LCMS be asked to organize  
11 forums to discuss Article VII of the Synodical Constitution and Bylaw 2.39b-c  
12 concerning the issue of how Synod, District, and individual congregations relate to one  
13 another in matters of doctrine and practice; and be it finally  
14

15 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District memorialize The Lutheran  
16 Church--Missouri Synod to do the same thing synodwide.  
17

18  
19 *Convention action:*

20 *By consensus, "c" was inserted at the end of the title and in line 11.*

21 *A motion was made, seconded and carried to add the following:*

22 *RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District memorialize The Lutheran*  
23 *Church -- Missouri Synod to do the same thing synodwide.*

24 *The vote to adopt the amendment was 223 yes - 97 no*

25 *The amended resolution was adopted by the vote 257 yes - 68 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-09 [Memorial A-20; CW, p. 30]  
2 RE: TO STUDY THE BASIS FOR CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

3  
4  
5 WHEREAS, The study of church fellowship and practice has been mandated by  
6 the 1998 Synodical Convention; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, The document The Lutheran Understanding of Fellowship will be  
9 studied at our convention; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, The discussion of fellowship is to continue on a circuit and  
12 congregational level and will be studied again at the Synod's 2001 convention; therefore  
13 be it

14  
15 RESOLVED, That these discussions include a careful examination of whether  
16 church fellowship should be determined on a local or denominational level; and be it  
17 further

18  
19 RESOLVED, That the Holy Scriptures, previous CTCR documents, as well as  
20 other relevant documents be used in this examination; and be it finally

21  
22 RESOLVED, That the results of this examination be forwarded to the Synodical  
23 President's office.

24  
25  
26 *Convention action:*

27 *A motion was made, seconded and carried to amend the second RESOLVED by adding the*  
28 *words "the Holy Scriptures" after the word "That." The vote to adopt the amendment*  
29 *was 311 yes - 16 no*

30 *The amended resolution was adopted by the vote 294 yes - 32 no*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-10a [Memorial A-23; CW, p. 34]  
2 RE: TO ENCOURAGE LOVE AND RESPECT TOWARD FELLOW CHRISTIANS

3  
4  
5 WHEREAS, There is increasing conversation among us concerning a tendency on  
6 the part of some in our Synod and District to treat in an unloving manner those in the  
7 Body of Christ who differ from us confessionally or denominationally; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, Perceived unloving treatment of fellow Christians with whom we  
10 may have theological disagreement has no place among the followers of the Prince of  
11 Peace and King of Love; therefore be it

12  
13 RESOLVED, That we encourage the members of our Synod to treat all people  
14 with love and respect, especially those of the household of faith, as we seek to confess  
15 the truth of our Christian faith which we believe, teach and confess in our Lutheran  
16 Confessions.

17  
18  
19 *Convention action:*

20 *A motion was made, seconded and carried to insert the word "perceived" prior to the word*  
21 *"unloving" in the second WHEREAS. The vote to adopt was 151 yes - 131 no.*

22 *A substitute motion was made from the floor and the matter was set aside by the chair until*  
23 *the delegates had copies of the substitute.*

24 *After the delegates had received printed copies of the substitute motion, a vote was taken in*  
25 *regard to considering the substitute. The vote was favorable 139 yes - 109 no.*

26 *After debate the question of the substitute motion was put before the convention and the*  
27 *substitute motion was defeated by the vote 112 yes - 145 no.*

28 *A motion was made, seconded and carried to amend the resolution by changing the*  
29 *RESOLVED to:*

30 *RESOLVED, that we encourage the members of our Synod to treat all people*  
31 *with love and respect, especially those of the household of faith, as we seek to confess the*  
32 *truth of our Christian faith which we believe, teach and confess in our Lutheran*  
33 *Confessions.*

34 *The amendment was adopted by the vote 187 yes - 79 no.*

35 *The amended resolution was adopted by the vote 180 yes - 87 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-11A [Memorials A-12, A-13, and A-24; CW, pp. C-16 to C-18,  
2 C-19 to C-20, and C-35 to C-36  
3 RE: TO ENCOURAGE GOD-PLEASING RESOLUTIONS TO CONFLICT  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, Members of the LCMS do at times disagree with others in matters of  
7 doctrine and practice, and  
8

9 WHEREAS, We are encouraged by our Lord to deal with fellow members  
10 (individuals or congregations) of the Body of Christ with love and concern; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, The goal of admonition is for building up the Body of Christ and for  
13 carrying out the Great Commission; therefore be it  
14

15 RESOLVED, That any member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod who is  
16 made aware that "a brother (or sister) has something against him (or her)" (Matthew  
17 5:23) in matters of doctrine and practice make every effort to go and be reconciled with  
18 that brother or sister.  
19

20 RESOLVED, That those who are troubled in any way about another servant or  
21 congregation in the church be encouraged to act in humility and proceed in love and  
22 concern (Matt. 18) in seeking to resolve such issues before charges are filed (Synodical  
23 Bylaw 2.27) against another member of the Body of Christ.  
24  
25

26 *Convention action:*

27 *A motion was made and seconded to substitute Memorial A-13 / Page C-19. The vote to*  
28 *consider the substitution was favorable 174 yes - 118 no.*

29 *After debate was ceased by vote of 182 yes - 45 no, the question on the substitute motion*  
30 *was called.*

31 *The vote resulted in the defeat of Memorial A-13 103 yes - 153 no.*

32 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 211 yes - 43 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 1-12 [Memorial A-22; CW, p. 33]  
2 RE: TO ALLOW FOR THE ONGOING RE-ELECTION OF CIRCUIT  
3 COUNSELORS  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The current language of District Bylaw 2.28 limits the office of  
7 Circuit Counselor to two complete successive terms; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Some have expressed the desire that their Circuit Counselor serve  
10 more than two terms; therefore be it  
11

12 RESOLVED, That the District Bylaw 2.28.b.2, which sets the number of times a  
13 Circuit Counselor may be re-elected, shall be removed from the District Handbook; and  
14 be it finally  
15

16 RESOLVED, That the District Handbook be revised accordingly.  
17  
18

19 *Convention action:*

20 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 155 yes - 105 no.*  
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1 **RESOLUTION 2-01 [Memorials B-1 and B-2; CW, p. C-37 to C-39]**  
2 **RE: TO GIVE THANKS FOR AND TO SUPPORT CAMPUS MINISTRIES OF**  
3 **THE MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT**  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, LCMS University campus ministries are a spiritual home for LCMS  
7 students, sustaining and nurturing them in the saving faith of the Word and  
8 Sacraments; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, University campuses are often the breeding grounds of humanistic  
11 worldly views and cults; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, University campuses present a mission field that is ripe for harvest;  
14 and  
15

16 WHEREAS, Our Synod is committed to reaching out with the saving Gospel  
17 message to the unchurched on university campuses, and the Minnesota South District  
18 sees its campus ministry as an essential mission outreach; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, God has richly blessed the work of Campus Lutheran Chapel at  
21 Minnesota State University and University Lutheran Chapel at the University of  
22 Minnesota, and many have been prepared for fruitful service within the church as  
23 professional church workers and lay leaders; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, Modern university campuses are often spiritual wastelands due to  
26 humanistic, post-modern world views, and non-Christian cults; therefore be it  
27

28 *RESOLVED*, That the Minnesota South District give thanks to our Lord for the  
29 many blessings He has bestowed on our campus ministries; and be it finally  
30

31 *RESOLVED*, That the Minnesota South District continue it's commitment to  
32 ongoing financial support of it's campus mission ministries.  
33  
34

35 *Convention action:*

36 *A motion was made to adopt Memorial B-2 on page C-38 as a substitute motion; however,*  
37 *the convention defeated this action by the vote 157 yes - 165 no.*

38 *By consensus, "LCMS" was placed at the beginning of the first WHEREAS.*

39 *A motion was made, seconded and carried to amend by adding the first WHEREAS of*  
40 *Memorial B-1 as the final WHEREAS of Resolution 2-01. The vote to adopt the*  
41 *amendment was 282 yes - 37 no.*

42 *The amended resolution was adopted by the vote 314 yes - 5 no.*  
43

1 RESOLUTION 2-02 [Memorial B-3; CW, p. C-40]  
2 RE: TO REAFFIRM THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DISTRICT  
3 SUBSIDIZED CONGREGATIONS.  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, Each congregation has and retains the right to call its professional  
7 church workers; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, District Bylaw 7.06 says in part, "Subsidized congregations shall  
10 consult the President when a vacancy has occurred and shall apply to him for a list of  
11 candidates. In all matters pertaining to the calling of missionaries, the President shall  
12 consult with the Mission Committee of the Board of Directors"; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, The Minnesota South District Bylaw 7.06 is intended to foster the  
15 cooperative effort between subsidized congregations and the District in the call process;  
16 and  
17

18 WHEREAS, Certain questions still remain as to the scope and process of this  
19 cooperative effort; therefore be it  
20

21 RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the Minnesota South District evaluate  
22 its current and long term structure of District subsidized campus ministries; and be it  
23 further  
24

25 RESOLVED, That District subsidized congregations and the District work  
26 cooperatively in the calling process of professional church workers; and be it finally  
27

28 RESOLVED, That the District Board of Directors consider reviewing its current  
29 calling policy, passed by the Board of Directors on November 2, 1999, regarding  
30 subsidized congregations and missions.  
31

32  
33 *Convention action:*

34 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 269 yes - 49 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 3-01 [Memorials C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4; CW, pp. C-41 to C-45]  
2 RE: TO SHARE DISTRICT OFFERING RECEIPTS WITH THE SYNOD ON A  
3 50%/50% BASIS  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, There is tremendously increasing mission opportunity in the MNS  
7 as the Lord continues to call more and more unchurched nations to our state and cities;  
8 and  
9

10 WHEREAS, There is increasing need for encouragement and contact with pastors  
11 and congregations, greater staffing/leadership needs at the district level; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, There is increasing difficult financial means to accomplish the Lord's  
14 mission that is directly before us; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, The MNS has maintained a history of directing 65% of its mission  
17 dollars to the national church body; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, The district office is attempting to staff for growth and missions in a  
20 positive and proactive fashion; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, The world of today is changing so rapidly thereby providing a more  
23 compelling need for regional resources which can adapt quickly to changing needs; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, The average gift from the districts was 32.8% in 1998; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, Our continued contribution to synod would still be substantial and  
28 indicate our support, desire and willingness to "walk together"; therefore be it  
29

30 RESOLVED, We give thanks to God for the many years of "over and above"  
31 support, which the MNS has been privileged to provide; and be it further  
32

33 RESOLVED, That we encourage the MNS District President, its staff and  
34 leadership to move forward aggressively with plans to seek and save the lost and  
35 minister to the needs of its professional and lay leadership in God-pleasing Great  
36 Commission fashion; and be it further  
37

38 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District share its offering receipts with  
39 the Synod on a 50%/50% basis, (i.e., 50% to the Synod and 50% to remain with the  
40 District) beginning with the 2001 budget; and be it finally  
41

42 RESOLVED, that we promote firstfruits, proportionate giving at the  
43 congregational level.

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*Convention action:*

*A motion was made, seconded and defeated to amend the resolution by deleting the second  
resolve. The vote to defeat the amendment was 92 yes - 225 no.*

*The vote to call the question was 222 yes - 64 no.*

*The resolution was adopted by the vote 185 yes - 104 no.*



1 RESOLUTION 3--02 [Memorial C-5; CW, p. C-46]  
2 RE: TO MAINTAIN THE NUMBER OF ASSISTANTS TO THE MINNESOTA  
3 SOUTH DISTRICT PRESIDENT  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The opportunities for various forms and styles of mission and  
7 ministry have presented and will continue to present themselves to our Minnesota  
8 South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, Meaningful and creative leadership is necessary to meet those  
11 opportunities; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, Our district officials have and continue to provide leaders, both  
14 clergy and otherwise, to facilitate such ministry; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, Our district staff and congregations have an excellent perspective of  
17 both geographical and spiritual areas that need to be addressed through Christian  
18 ministry; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, Expectations of district staff & services continue to increase from  
21 congregations, schools, and early childhood centers; therefore be it  
22

23 RESOLVED, that the number of Assistants to the Minnesota South District  
24 President be maintained.  
25  
26

27 *Convention action:*

28 *A motion was made and seconded to substitute Memorial C-5 / Page C-46.*

29 *The vote cast to consider the substitute motion was 173 yes - 125 no.*

30 *After debate the question was called by the vote 234 yes - 58 no.*

31 *The substitute motion failed by the vote 99 yes - 197 no.*

32 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 214 yes - 78 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 3-03 [Late Memorial]

2 RE: TO SUPPORT "FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHURCH" ON BEHALF OF  
3 CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ST. PAUL  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, A Christ-centered higher education provides the strongest  
7 foundation for a life of service to the Church and the community; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, There is a demonstrated shortage of pastors, teachers, and other  
10 church workers to carry out the Church's mission of proclaiming the Good News of  
11 Jesus Christ; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, Many young Lutherans, who may be interested in pursuing a  
14 Lutheran Christian education, cannot afford to attend our Synod's colleges and  
15 universities, including Concordia University, St. Paul; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, Many who do attend Concordia University, St. Paul, graduate with a  
18 heavy debt, then move into the parish and receive below average salaries, resulting in  
19 great personal financial hardship; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, The Synod has initiated "*For the Sake of the Church*" as an endowment  
22 campaign that seeks to double the number of Missouri Synod graduates from our  
23 Synod's colleges and universities by establishing endowment resources that are capable  
24 of reducing graduates' personal financial burdens; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, Concordia University, St. Paul, is enthusiastically participating in  
27 "*For the Sake of the Church*" so that it can greatly increase scholarship support for  
28 Missouri Synod students and assist in eliminating the shortage of church workers; and  
29

30 WHEREAS, In order for this endowment campaign to be successful, Concordia  
31 University, St. Paul, seeks the leadership and spiritual and financial support of its home  
32 District, the Minnesota South District; therefore be it  
33

34 RESOLVED, That member congregations of the Minnesota South District of The  
35 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be strongly encouraged to participate in "*For the*  
36 *Sake of the Church*"; and be it finally  
37

38 RESOLVED, That congregations of the Minnesota South District of The Lutheran  
39 Church—Missouri Synod work with Concordia University, St. Paul, to advance "*For the*  
40 *Sake of the Church*" and promote it within the District.  
41

42 Convention action:

43 *The resolution was adopted by the vote yes 256 - 21 no.*

1 RESOLUTION 4-01 [Memorial D-2; CW, p. C-48]  
2 RE: TO ENCOURAGE DISCIPLESHIP IN THE DISTRICT

3  
4  
5 WHEREAS, Our Synodical Convention in 1998 adopted the "Tell the Good  
6 News About Jesus" outreach emphasis (Acts 8:35); and

7  
8 WHEREAS, The Synodical Convention states "that this emphasis be designed  
9 with the view of fully involving the congregation, Districts, and other entities of the  
10 Synod in light of the respective needs and challenges they face"; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Our Lord commissions us saying "Go and make disciples of all  
13 nations baptizing them . . . and teaching them . . ." (Matthew 28:19-20); therefore be it

14  
15 RESOLVED, That we urge our District congregations to pray each Sunday  
16 (beginning next Sunday) that all of our members seek individuals in our communities  
17 who have not been baptized and lead them to baptism; and be it further

18  
19 RESOLVED, That every congregation be urged to pray for and set dates for  
20 regular adult instruction to teach basic Christian doctrine, and that the members be  
21 urged to invite people in our communities to come to that class, encouraging members  
22 to attend the class as a review; and be it finally

23  
24 RESOLVED, That when a class is completed, the congregation praise the Lord for  
25 salvation in Christ and for those who have come to faith through the power of the Holy  
26 Spirit .

27  
28  
29 *Convention action:*

30 *A motion was made, seconded and defeated to amend by adding "disciple" in place of "seek"*  
31 *and "lack a committed relationship to Jesus Christ." after "who" in the third line of the*  
32 *first WHEREAS. The vote to defeat was 80 yes - 239 no.*

33 *A motion was made, seconded and defeated to amend by striking line 17 from the words*  
34 *"who have. . ." The vote to defeat was 54 yes - 265 no.*

35 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 292 yes - 31 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 4-02 [Memorial D-5; CW, p. C-51]  
2 RE: TO ORGANIZE FORUMS ON LAY PARTICIPATION IN WORSHIP  
3

4 WHEREAS, Great joy is found in carrying out Christ's Commission with women  
5 and men working side by side; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, Christians learning to serve together, male and female, according to  
8 Christ's model, we long to serve our Lord with the talents God has given us; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, There is a need to promote understanding between congregations  
11 that have a difference in practice; therefore be it  
12

13 RESOLVED, That the Congregational Services Sub-committee of the Minnesota  
14 South District organize forums to promote discussion of the issues of lay participation  
15 in worship; and be it finally  
16

17 RESOLVED, That the forum organizers request scriptural guidance from the  
18 Commission on Theology and Church Relations and from the Commission on Worship  
19 on lay participation, both male and female, in worship (e.g. reading lessons, serving as  
20 assistant ministers, ushering and singing in the choir).  
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23 *Convention action:*

24 *The resolution was adopted by the vote yes 229 - 96 no.*  
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1 **RESOLUTION 4-03 [Memorial D-1; CW, p. C-47]**  
2 **RE: TO MAKE THE LUTHERAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEER NETWORK**  
3 **(LEVN) A DISTRICT RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION**  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, Volunteer educators provide an important service in the education  
7 program of the congregations; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Volunteer teachers often serve without prior training in use of  
10 classroom equipment and education methods; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, The volunteers seek training, fellowship, encouragement and  
13 counsel of Synodical trained educators in the District; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, The District has pastors and other professionals with knowledge and  
16 abilities to provide training in large and small group settings; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, The MNS District has supported the development of LEVN by  
19 encouragement, participation and start up funds; therefore be it  
20

21 **RESOLVED**, That the LUTHERAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEER NETWORK  
22 (LEVN) be a recognized organization for volunteer educators in MNS District; and be it  
23 finally  
24

25 **RESOLVED**, That the District promote LEVN as a volunteer educators  
26 organization in the District.  
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29 *Convention action:*

30 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 310 yes - 8 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 4-04 [Memorial D-4; CW, p. C-50]  
2 RE: TO ENCOURAGE LCMS CERTIFICATION OF PRE-SCHOOL,  
3 ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY TEACHERS  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The number of Synodically trained and certified teachers is steadily  
7 declining throughout the Synod; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, In early 1998-1999, the LCMS Board for Congregational Ministry  
10 showed 86% of Early Childhood teachers, 39% of Elementary, and 41% of Secondary  
11 teachers as non-Synodically certified; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, In 1998-1999, 24% of those who teach in Lutheran Schools do not  
14 hold membership in a congregation of the LCMS; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, Congregations have fewer Synodically trained and certified teachers  
17 to draw upon for serving in our Lutheran Schools; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, The net result is that the unique witness and ministry of these  
20 schools could change if our congregations and school associations are not careful to  
21 foster the Lutheran character of our schools; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, The Concordia University System is working to assist non-  
24 Synodically certified teachers to obtain certification in the most efficient and cost  
25 effective way; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, Congregations can help their teachers achieve the desired  
28 certification by (1) offering financial assistance to their teachers (2) allowing them the  
29 needed time to complete their coursework, and (3) providing the necessary technology  
30 for teachers to do work on-line; therefore be it  
31

32 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District encourage our congregations and  
33 schools to call Synodically certified teachers when adding or replacing staff; and be it  
34 finally  
35

36 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District encourage congregations and  
37 schools to provide the needed funding, time and technology to help their teachers  
38 complete the colloquy.  
39

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41 *Convention action:*

42 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 308 yes - 11 no.*  
43

1 RESOLUTION 4-05 [Memorials D-3; CW, p. C-49]  
2 RE: TO COMMEND LUTHERAN EDUCATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
3 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL IN MAYER,  
4 MINNESOTA  
5  
6

7 Rationale  
8

9 The LCMS began by being a church body dedicated to Christian education. The  
10 Christian education programs of congregations and groups of congregations in the  
11 LCMS range from pre-school to post-graduate. Christian secondary education is an  
12 important facet in the educational opportunities offered through the LCMS and its  
13 congregations. The congregations of the Minnesota South District support five  
14 Lutheran High Schools: Concordia Academy of Roseville begun in 1949, Martin Luther  
15 High School of Northrop begun in 1983, Lutheran High School of Greater Minneapolis  
16 of Bloomington begun in 1963, Lutheran High School of Mayer begun in 1961, and  
17 Cannon Valley Lutheran High School of Morristown which is scheduled to open in the  
18 fall of 2000. 2001 will be the fortieth anniversary of the Lutheran High School in Mayer,  
19 the first rural Lutheran High School in the LCMS.  
20

21 Therefore, be it

22  
23 *RESOLVED*, That in assisting those connected with the Lutheran High School in  
24 Mayer, the Minnesota South District in convention encourage prayers of thanksgiving  
25 be said for all aspects of Lutheran Christian education and for Lutheran High Schools in  
26 particular; and be it further  
27

28 *RESOLVED*, That congregations be encouraged to offer financial support for  
29 students desiring to attend Lutheran High Schools; and be it finally  
30

31 *RESOLVED*, That the Minnesota South District, in convention, commend the  
32 programs of Christian education offered by its Lutheran High Schools.  
33  
34

35 *Convention action:*

36 *By consensus, "four" was changed to "five" in line 13 and Cannon Valley Lutheran High*  
37 *School of Morristown, scheduled to open in the fall of 2000, was added to the listing.*

38 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 319 yes - 3 no.*  
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1 **RESOLUTION 5--01 [Ministerial Health Committee Report; CW, pp. B-15 to B-17]**  
2 **RE: TO EMPHASIZE PERSONAL CARE FOR PROFESSIONAL CHURCH**  
3 **WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The report of the Ministerial Health Committee shows that much  
7 has been done to support professional church workers; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Professional church workers face challenges in all areas of their  
10 lives, these concerns must be addressed by the church; therefore be it  
11

12 *RESOLVED*, That the Ministerial Health Committee be encouraged to continue  
13 their work ; and be it finally  
14

15 *RESOLVED*, That there be additional emphasis on providing pastoral care to  
16 professional church workers and their families.  
17

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19 *Convention action:*

20 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 256 yes - 22 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 5--02 [Memorial E-1; CW, p. C-54]  
2 RE: TO PRODUCE DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES FOR PASTORS

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4  
5 WHEREAS, Pastors have spiritual and devotional needs as their parishioners do;  
6 and

7  
8 WHEREAS, Our Synod produces many devotional helps for her lay people; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, Our Synod no longer produces any devotional helps for parish  
11 pastors; therefore be it

12  
13 *RESOLVED*, That the Minnesota South District in convention memorializes the  
14 Synod to produce devotional helps for parish Pastors that are tied to the new hymnal  
15 which will appear in 2007; and be it finally

16  
17 *RESOLVED*, That the District memorialize the Synod to keep these devotional  
18 helps in print as long as the new hymnal is in print.

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21 *Convention action:*

22 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 243 yes - 42 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 5--03 [Memorial E-2; CW, p. C-55]  
2 RE: TO UPLIFT THE ROLE OF EMERITI IN THE SERVICE TO SYNOD AND  
3 THE CHURCH  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, The Lord has, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in every century,  
7 raised up valuable called workers to minister to His flock; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Our century of change has been particularly blessed by such  
10 workers whose time of service and experience has accumulated into a wealth of  
11 information; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, The Lord has seen fit to grant His gift of increasing longevity to  
14 many of those who have been involved in such service; therefore be it  
15

16 RESOLVED, That congregations and the District give thanks to God for these  
17 individuals and their gifts; and be it further  
18

19 RESOLVED, That congregations and the District encourage emeriti to use their  
20 gifts in continued ministry, and be it finally  
21

22 RESOLVED, That congregations and the District give increasing opportunities  
23 for service to these individuals whose work of service to the Lord does not terminate  
24 with their formal retirement.  
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26  
27 *Convention action:*

28 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 276 yes - 12 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 5--04 [Late Memorial]  
2 RE: TO COMMEND LUTHERAN COUNSELING CENTER (FORMERLY  
3 LUTHERAN COUNSELING AND FAMILY SERVICES) ON THE OCCASION  
4 OF ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY.  
5  
6

7 WHEREAS, Lutheran Counseling Center (formerly Lutheran Counseling and  
8 Family Services) was formed to provide Christ-centered mental health services to the  
9 Minnesota South District in 1990, and  
10

11 WHEREAS, Lutheran Counseling Center has provided Christ-centered mental  
12 health services and witnessed through Christ-centered counseling, and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Lutheran Counseling Center is celebrating its tenth anniversary in  
15 the year 2000; therefore be it  
16

17 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District in convention recognizes the  
18 contribution of Lutheran Counseling Center to God's people in the Minnesota South  
19 District; and be it finally  
20

21 RESOLVED, That the Minnesota South District in convention give thanks to God  
22 for His abundant blessings on the continued existence and operation of Lutheran  
23 Counseling Center.  
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26 *Convention action:*

27 *The resolution was adopted by the vote 267 yes - 21 no.*  
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1 RESOLUTION 5--05 [Late Memorial]

2 RE: TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE SERVICE OF REV. DON TAYLOR TO THE  
3 MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT  
4  
5

6 WHEREAS, Rev. Don Taylor has served with distinction the Minnesota South  
7 District as an Assistant to the President since 1985; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, Rev. Don Taylor will retire as an Assistant to the President for  
10 Ministerial Health and Congregational Services on June 30, 2000; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, Under his guidance the Minnesota South District has emerged as a  
13 leader in developing programs in ministerial health for the benefit of the congregations  
14 and professional church workers of the District; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, God has blessed the Minnesota South District richly through the  
17 ministry of Rev. Don Taylor; therefore be it  
18

19 RESOLVED, That this convention on behalf of the Minnesota South District give  
20 thanks to God for the ministry of Rev. Don Taylor; and be it further  
21

22 RESOLVED, That this convention on behalf of the Minnesota South District  
23 commend Rev. Don Taylor and his family to the care of our loving God; and be it finally  
24

25 RESOLVED, That this convention on behalf of the Minnesota South District join  
26 together in singing the common doxology to express its thanks to God for Rev. Don  
27 Taylor's ministry.  
28

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30 *Convention action:*

31 *The resolution was adopted by the convention rising and singing the Common Doxology.*  
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1 RESOLUTION B

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WHEREAS, The District/Synod in convention has already spoken to certain proposals addressed to this convention; and

WHEREAS, There is no compelling reason to amplify or to revise previous convention action(s) relating to these proposals; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That in the following instances the petitioners be referred to previous convention action(s) as indicated:

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
A-10	To have all congregations with approved constitutions	1991 District Resolution 1-01
Res. 1-07 (Memorial A-19)	To have District-wide Discussion on the Role of Women in Lay Positions in Congregations	1995 Synodical Resolution 3-10, 1998 Synodical Resolution 3-22 and continuing studies led by the CTCR.

*Convention action:*

*A motion was made, seconded and carried that Resolution 1-07 (Memorial A-19) be added to Resolution B. The vote for adoption was 194 yes - 147 no.*

*A motion was made, seconded, and defeated that Memorial A-10 be removed from Resolution B and considered by the convention. The vote to defeat was 167 yes - 178 no.*

*The amended Resolution B was adopted by the vote 252 yes - 97 no.*

1 RESOLUTION C

2  
3 WHEREAS, The floor committee has considered all memorials assigned to it and  
4 has concluded, for various reasons, that certain memorials should be declined; therefore  
5 be it

6  
7 RESOLVED, That the following memorials be respectfully declined for the  
8 reasons given:

9	10 <u>Memorial</u>	11 <u>Title</u>	12 <u>Reason</u>
13	A-15	To Maintain Supreme Voters' Assemblies	Because congregations retain the right of self-governance, the District cannot make the decisions for congregations asked for in the resolved clauses
14	A-16	To allow commissioned ministers and certified lay workers to serve in absence of clergy delegates	Matter is currently under study [Resolution 7-02A of the 1998 Synodical Convention proceedings]
15	A-18		
16	A-25		
17	A-17	To discontinue gender discrimination in the Pastoral office	Matter is under discussion by the CTCR Resolution 3-10 1995 Synodical Convention Proceedings, Resolution 3-22 1998 Synodical Convention proceedings, Resolution 3-25A 1998 Synodical Convention proceedings
18			
19	A-21	To reorganize LCMS and District Presidents	The relationship of the Council of Presidents to the Synod is already being addressed by a Synodical task force.
20			
21	A-5	To declare synodical bylaws 1.09b and 1.09c6 unconstitutional	Doctrinal resolutions adopted by the Synod are based on the Word of God [Bylaw 1.09a and Bylaw 1.09b] and the 1998 Synodical Handbook allows for dissent [Bylaw 2.39]
22			
23	E-3	To express appreciation for the ministry of Rev. Steve Delzer	President Seitz has met personally with Rev. Delzer and also addressed a letter to the members of Trinity, Northfield

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47 *Convention action:*

48 *A motion was made, seconded and defeated that Memorial A-5 be removed from Resolution*  
49 *C and be considered by the convention. The vote to defeat was 167 yes - 187 no.*  
50 *Resolution C was adopted by the vote 303 yes - 51 no.*

1 RESOLUTION D

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WHEREAS, The following memorials place before the convention items which are the normal responsibility of God's people; and

WHEREAS, The actions requested in the these memorials are an acceptable approach in dealing with such matters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the following memorials be received as resolutions of encouragement:

<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Reason</u>
D-6	To encourage congregations to honor older adults in a worship service	Accepted as written
D-7	To use older adults in evangelism	Accepted as written

*Convention action:*  
*Resolution D was adopted by the vote 340 yes - 12 no.*



## ELECTION RESULTS

	<u>FIRST</u>	<u>SECOND</u>	<u>THIRD</u>	<u>FOURTH</u>	
1					
2					
3					
4	<b>PRESIDENT</b>				
5	Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz	239			
6	Rev. Steven Briel	78			
7	Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin	42			
8					
9	<b>REGION I - VICE-PRESIDENT</b>				
10	Rev. Randolph Sherren	135	163	198	
11	Rev. Daniel Jastram	93	65		
12	Rev. James Markworth	69			
13	Rev. Klemet Preus	57	125	161	
14					
15	<b>REGION II - VICE-PRESIDENT</b>				
16	Rev. Peter Meier	204			
17	Rev. Harvey Kath	95			
18	Rev. Thomas Queck	61			
19					
20	<b>REGION III - VICE-PRESIDENT</b>				
21	Rev. William Natzke	85	92	117	150
22	Rev. Armand Boehme	83	52		
23	Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck	96	119	156	185
24	Rev. James Heining	59	73	61	
25	Rev. Lyle Kath	14			
26					
27	<b>REGION IV - VICE-PRESIDENT</b>				
28	Rev. Gerald Menk	229			
29	Rev. Roger Abernathy	111			
30					
31	<b>RANKING OF VICE-PRESIDENTS</b>				
32	Rev. Peter Meier	1st after three ballots			
33	Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck	2nd after five ballots			
34	Rev. Gerald Menk	3rd after six ballots			
35	Rev. Randolph Sherren	4th after six ballots			
36					
37	<b>SECRETARY</b>				
38	Rev. Armand Boehme	68	56		
39	Rev. Eugene Chase	31			
40	Rev. Daryl Gehlbach	99	147	190	
41	Rev. David Preuss	96	120	135	
42					
43					

1	<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS:</b>				
2					
3	<b>REGION I - PASTOR</b>				
4	Rev. Klemet Preus	121	154		
5	Rev. Robert Krueger	77			
6	Rev. Thomas Stoebig	82	137		
7					
8	<b>REGION II - PASTOR</b>				
9	Rev. Thomas Braun	60	55		
10	Rev. Harold Storm	31			
11	Rev. Thomas Queck	65	77	89	110
12	Rev. David Winter	71	88	127	190
13	Rev. Karl Galik	68	78	86	
14					
15	<b>REGION III - PASTOR</b>				
16	Rev. David Hodel	120	174		
17	Rev. Robert Lentz	73			
18	Rev. Ronald Stehr	101	128		
19					
20	<b>REGION IV - PASTOR</b>				
21	Rev. Paul Woebbeking	175			
22	Rev. Roger Abernathy	123			
23					
24	<b>REGION I - LAY (CAPITOL)</b>				
25	Doris Gadow	208			
26	Robert Van Gundy	91			
27					
28	<b>REGION I - LAY (MINNEAPOLIS)</b>				
29	Roger Prigge	138	192		
30	Carol Brekke	73			
31	Glenn Meints	98	112		
32					
33	<b>REGION II - LAY (CROW RIVER)</b>				
34	John Bernhagen	136			
35	Nancy Bynum	172			
36					
37	<b>REGION II - LAY (MINNETONKA)</b>				
38	David Hubert	128			
39	Gary Moe	170			
40					
41	<b>REGION III - LAY (OWATONNA)</b>				
42	Len Marquardt	239			
43	Ken Lenz	59			

1 REGION III - LAY (WHITEWATER)

2 Ray Mussell, Jr. 172  
3 Ted Tews 132

5 REGION IV - LAY (SOUTH CENTRAL)

6 Connie Markquart 180  
7 Robert Hall 126

9 REGION IV - LAY (SOUTHWEST)

10 Del Schweiger 179  
11 Martin Fabrizius 124

13 TEACHER

14 Randall Ash 97 122 146 163  
15 Paul Puckett 74 74 1 109  
16 Ron Royuk 28 22  
17 Curt Stoltenow 78 100 150

20 DISTRICT CONVENTION NOMINATING COMMITTEE

22 PASTORS

23 Rev. Roger Abernathy 33-24-23-51-43  
24 Rev. Steven Briel 73-140-122-149-143-143-157  
25 Rev. Larry Griffin 65-151  
26 Rev. James Markworth 11-20-27-60-101  
27 Rev. William Natzke 28-31-54-143-128-158  
28 Rev. Byron Northwick 10-6-8-16  
29 Rev. David Preuss 38-65-149-158  
30 Rev. James Heining 24-22-34-35  
31 Rev. Neil Ristow 19-12-13-10

33 LAYPERSONS

34 Raymond Brockberg 28-21-30-55-61  
35 Ken Lenz 15-14-20-34  
36 Howard Luehmann 92-154  
37 William Michaelis 5-7-13-24  
38 Jim Slater 10-6-46-112-120-185  
39 Robert Van Gundy 21-16-40-50-43  
40 Leonard Marquardt 49-53-127-183  
41 Lee Priebe-Spomer 71-88-106-112-145-178

1 **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS**

2 David Kleimola 163  
3 Dave Polzin 130

4  
5

6 **BOARD OF REGENTS - CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ST. PAUL**

7

8 **PASTORS**

9 Rev. Eugene Chase 78 123  
10 Rev. Victor Fry 37  
11 Rev. George Krueger 22  
12 Rev. Gerald Coleman 97 169  
13 Rev. Evan Schiller 41

14

15 **COMMISSIONED MINISTERS**

16 David Kleimola 106 137  
17 Ron Royuk 48  
18 Dr. Loma Meyer 136 154

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20 **LAYPERSONS**

21 Monica Eden 106 145  
22 Marilyn Siefert 54 50  
23 Nancy Gavin 58  
24 Donald Schneewind 72 94

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1 OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT

- 2
- 3 President - Rev. Dr. Lane R. Seitz
- 4 First Vice President - Rev. Peter Meier
- 5 Second Vice President - Rev. Dr. Benjamin Buck
- 6 Third Vice President- Rev. Gerald Menk
- 7 Fourth Vice President - Rev. Randolph Sherren
- 8 Secretary - Rev. Daryl Gehlbach
- 9 Treasurer - Mrs. Lucille Clemmensen

10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

11

12

13 Rev. Klemet Preus, Rev. David Winter, Rev. David Hodel, Rev. Paul Woebbecking,  
 14 Mrs. Doris Gadow, Mr. Roger Prigge, Mrs. Nancy Bynum, Mr. Gary Moe,  
 15 Mr. Leonard Marquardt, Mr. Raymond Mussell Jr., Mrs. Connie Markquart,  
 16 Mr. Delbert Schwieger, Mr. Curtis Stoltenow, Mr. Randall Ash.

17 DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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19

20 Rev. Steven Briel, Rev. Dr. Larry Griffin, Rev. William Natzke, Rev. David Preuss,  
 21 Mr. Howard Luehmann, Mr. Leonard Marquardt, Mr. Jim Slater,  
 22 Mrs. Leatta Priebe Spomer, Mr. David Kleimola.

23 BOARD OF REGENTS, CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, ST. PAUL

24

25

26 Rev. Gerald Coleman, Dr. Loma Meyer, Dr. Monica Eden.

27 CIRCUIT COUNSELORS

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Northeast (1)	Jeffrey Lee	Hiawatha (14)	David Frederickson
Concordia (2)	J. David Wende	Winona (15)	William Mueller
East St. Paul (3)	Jonathan Marxhausen	Rochester (16)	Lyle Kath
Lyndale East (4)	James Markworth	Faribault (17)	Giles Zimmer
Hennepin North (5)	John Dreyer	Austin (18)	Paul Aldrich
Minneapolis (6)	DeLloyd Wippich	Waseca (19)	Eugene Chase
Hennepin South (7)	Mark Johnson	Blue Earth (20)	Karl Hollibaugh
Lyndale West (8)	Robert Nowak	Mankato (21)	Greggory Coop
Suburban Lakes (9)	Thomas Evans	Truman (22)	Matthew Rusert
Carver County (10)	Thomas Braun	Fairmont (23)	Russell Reimers
Glencoe (11)	Vance Becker	Pipestone (24)	Iver Possehl
Hutchinson (12)	Gerald Schwanke	Worthington (25)	Kevin Werner
Litchfield (13)	Michael Nirva	Windom (26)	Robert Gardner

