



Convention Proceedings 2022

LCMS Northern Illinois District
March 11 and 12, 2022
Concordia University Chicago
River Forest, IL

1 **VOTING PROCEDURES**

2 The assembly received an orientation of the voting devices from the Elections Committee
3 (Committee 4) chairperson Eric Kennaugh.

4
5 **DISTRICT VIDEO**

6 A welcome video was shown to the convention.

7
8 **NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

9 First Vice-President Cory Estby assumed the chair. He announced that one individual had been
10 nominated in advance of the convention: Allan Buss. There were no nominations from the
11 floor. A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to ratify the ballot for president.

12
13 After prayer led by Eric Kennaugh for all the elections, the ballot was presented to the
14 convention. Elected was Allan Buss:

15		
16	Allan Buss	233
17	“No”	0

18
19 As re-elected President, Allan Buss addressed the assembly.

20
21 **NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARY**

22 President Buss resumed chairing the assembly. It was noted that the following individuals had
23 been nominated to serve as vice-presidents:

- 24 North Region: Michael Brown
- 25 South Region: Cory Estby
- 26 East Region: Steven Anderson
- 27 West Region: Caleb Schauer

28
29 No nominations were made from the floor. Nominations were closed.

30
31 By direction of the Committee for Convention Nominations, Mark Bestul nominated James
32 Kellerman and Kevin Koester for secretary. No nominations were made from the floor.

33 Nominations were closed.

34
35 **ELECTION AND RANKING OF VICE-PRESIDENTS, ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

36 Elected Vice-President for the North Region was Michael Brown.

37	Michael Brown	<u>218</u>
38	“No”	4

39
40 Elected Vice-President for the South Region was Cory Estby.

41	Cory Estby	<u>224</u>
42	“No”	0

43
44

1 Elected Vice-President for the East Region was Steven Anderson.

2 Steven Anderson 218

3 "No" 7

4

5 Elected Vice-President for the West Region was Caleb Schauer.

6 Caleb Schauer 218

7 "No" 10

8

9 Ranking of the Vice-Presidents:

	For 1 st VP	For 2 nd VP	For 3 rd VP
10 Steven Anderson	31	58	100
11 Michael Brown	41 41	68 89	<u>132</u>
12 Cory Estby	113 <u>147</u>		
13 Caleb Schauer	46 47	102 <u>141</u>	

15

16 The Vice-Presidents were ranked as follows:

17 1st Vice-President: Cory Estby (on the second ballot for 1st Vice-President)

18 2nd Vice-President: Caleb Schauer (on the second ballot for 2nd Vice-President)

19 3rd Vice-President: Michael Brown (on the first ballot for 3rd Vice-President)

20 4th Vice-President: Steven Anderson

21

22 Elected secretary was James Kellerman:

23 James Kellerman 206

24 Kevin Koester 27

25

26 **NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

27 Vice-President Brown took over chairing the convention. Nominations were made by Mark

28 Bestul by direction of the Committee on Convention Nominations.

29

30 From the North Region: Micah Greiner and Jorge Mazariegos were nominated for Ordained

31 Minister. Matthew Gutzler and Ardelle Pate were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Dori

32 Chianakas, Melvin Faulkner, Jeff Heller, Paul Pasche, and Chuck Traugott were nominated for

33 Layperson. There were no floor nominations. Nominations were closed.

34

35 From the South Region. Seth Clemmer and Ron Rock were nominated for Ordained Minister.

36 Chad Baganz and Sarah Gaffney were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Reid Brownfield,

37 David DeYoung, Erich Keller, and Brian Noffke were nominated for Layperson. There were no

38 floor nominations. Nominations were closed.

39

40 From the East Region: Mark Duer, Joel Hess, and Stephen Heuser were nominated for Ordained

41 Minister. Ruth Otten and Mark Trapp were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Dan Karnatz,

42 Glenda Liner, Daniel Sedory, and Matt Struve were nominated for Layperson. There were no

43 floor nominations. Nominations were closed.

44

1 From the West Region: Patrick Galligar, Paul Mumme, and Willis Schwichtenberg were
2 nominated for Ordained Minister. Carol Brown and John Crowe were nominated for
3 Commissioned Minister. Sudhir Kalapala, David Laabs, Carol-Joy Motisi, and Lori Solyom were
4 nominated for Layperson. There were no floor nominations. Nominations were closed.

5

6 **NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 NID COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS**

7 Vice-President Brown continued chairing the convention. Nominations were made by Mark
8 Bestul by direction of the Committee on Convention Nominations.

9

10 From the North Region: Michael Brown and Jorge Mazariegos were nominated for Ordained
11 Minister. Joel Moritz and Ardelle Pate were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Brian
12 Lohmeier and Laura Schmuldt were nominated for Layperson. There were no floor
13 nominations. Nominations were closed.

14

15 From the South Region: Christopher Antonetti and Julian LaMie were nominated for Ordained
16 Minister. Adam Francisco and Sarah Gaffney were nominated for Commissioned Minister.
17 Christa Childers and Scott Collins were nominated for Layperson. There were no floor
18 nominations. Nominations were closed.

19

20 From the East Region: Stephen Heuser and Kevin Koester were nominated for Ordained
21 Minister. Ruth Otten and Mark Trapp were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Christopher
22 Krohe and Matt Struve were nominated for Layperson. There were no floor nominations.
23 Nominations were closed.

24

25 From the West Region: David Andermann, Phillip Fischaber, and Paul Mumme were nominated
26 for Ordained Minister. Carol Brown and John Crowe were nominated for Commissioned
27 Minister. Lori Solyom and Michael Woolery were nominated for Layperson. There were no floor
28 nominations. Nominations were closed.

29

30 **NOMINATIONS FOR CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO BOARD OF REGENTS**

31 Vice-President Brown continued chairing the convention. Nominations were made by Mark
32 Bestul by direction of the Committee on Convention Nominations.

33

34 Brian Davies, Paul Pfothenauer, and Matthew Zickler were nominated for Ordained Minister.
35 LaDonna Hoffman and Virginia Terrell were nominated for Commissioned Minister. Aaron
36 Doehring, Christopher Krohe, Dominic Salvino, and Michael Woolery were nominated for
37 Layperson. There were no floor nominations. Nominations were closed.

38

39 **NOMINATIONS FOR 2023 SYNOD COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS**

40 Vice-President Brown continued chairing the convention. Nominations were made by Mark
41 Bestul by direction of the Committee on Convention Nominations.

42

43 Aaron Doehring and Mark Stern were nominated for Layperson. There were no floor
44 nominations. Nominations were closed.

1 President Buss resumed the chair.

2

3 **ADJOURNMENT**

4 Following prayer led by chaplain David Fleming, the convention adjourned for lunch at 11:35
5 a.m.

6

7 **CALL TO ORDER**

8 President Buss called the convention to order at 12:37 p.m. The session opened with a prayer
9 and devotion by the Rev. Michael Stein.

10

11 **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

12 Secretary James Kellerman presented the Credentials Report with delegates from 145
13 congregations: 129 pastoral voting delegates, 125 lay voting delegates, 48 advisory delegates,
14 and 11 guests. It was noted that the report given at the start of the convention had contained
15 some errors. The report was accepted by unanimous consent.

16

17 **RECOGNITION OF STAFF**

18 The staff were recognized and thanked.

19

20 **VIDEO**

21 A second video was shown, this time on the emphasis “Word.”

22

23 **CONVENTION ESSAY**

24 The Rev. Dr. Scott Bruzek and the Rev. Dr. William Yonker presented the first part of the
25 convention essay, “Let the Word Dwell.”

26

27 **LWML VIDEO**

28 A brief video produced by the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League was shown.

29

30 **OMNIBUS RESOLUTIONS**

31 Secretary Kellerman moved to adopt Omnibus A (to decline Overture 2-01, *To Protect the*
32 *People’s Offerings Given to Concordia University Schools*, and refer the matter to the LCMS
33 Board of Directors and Concordia University System, and to decline Overture 3–03, *NID W10*
34 *Pastors Concerning the Closure of Concordia College, New York*, and refer the matter to the
35 LCMS Board of Directors). Voting delegates adopted Omnibus A with 202 yes votes, and 20 no
36 votes.

37

38 Secretary Kellerman moved to adopt Omnibus B (to decline Overture 1–03, *To Allow Fall*
39 *Pastoral Conferences to Submit Overtures to the District Convention*, and Overture 1–05, *To*
40 *Rejoice in the Proclamation of God’s Word by His Called and Ordained Servants*, because they
41 had been addressed by the 2019 LCMS Convention, Resolution 5–10, and the 1989 LCMS
42 Convention, Resolution 3–14, respectively). Voting delegates adopted Omnibus B with 215 yes
43 votes, and 21 no votes.

44

1 **ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2 Vice-President Anderson took over chairing the convention, with Elections Committee
3 chairperson Eric Kennaugh and vice-chairperson Julian LaMie assisting.

4
5 For Ordained Minister from the North Region, Micah Greiner was elected:

6 Micah Greiner **113**
7 Jorge Mazariegos 110

8
9 For Commissioned Minister from the North Region, Matthew Gutzler was elected:

10 Matthew Gutzler **143**
11 Ardelle Pate 72

12
13 For Layperson from the North Region Paul Pasche and Dori Chianakas were elected:

14 Dori Chianakas 86 102 **131**
15 Melvin Faulkner 49
16 Jeff Heller 67 44
17 Paul Pasche **140**
18 Chuck Traugott 77 71 92

19
20 For Ordained Minister from the South Region, Ron Rock was elected:

21 Seth Clemmer 82
22 Ron Rock **142**

23
24 For Commissioned Minister from the South Region, Sarah Gaffney was elected:

25 Chad Baganz 53
26 Sarah Gaffney **166**

27
28 For Layperson from the South Region, David DeYoung and Erich Keller were elected:

29 Reid Brownfield 58
30 David DeYoung **157**
31 Erich Keller **120**
32 Brian Noffke 87

33
34 For Ordained Minister from the East Region, Joel Hess was elected:

35 Mark Duer 35
36 Joel Hess 109 **138**
37 Stephen Heuser 76 91

38
39 For Commissioned Minister from the East Region, Mark Trapp was elected:

40 Ruth Otten 91
41 Mark Trapp **132**

42
43

1 For Layperson from the East Region, Daniel Sedory and Matt Struve were elected:
2 Dan Karnatz 59
3 Glenda Liner 81
4 Daniel Sedory 127
5 Matt Struve 156
6

7 For Ordained Minister from the West Region, Paul Mumme was elected:
8 Patrick Galligar 52
9 Paul Mumme 102 142
10 Willis Schwichtenberg 66 79
11

12 For Commissioned Minister from the West Region, Carol Brown was elected:
13 Carol Brown 137
14 John Crowe 80
15

16 For Layperson from the West Region, Carol-Joy Motisi and Lori Solyom were elected:
17 Sudhir Kalapala 81
18 David Laabs 66
19 Carol-Joy Motisi 143
20 Lori Solyom 145
21

22 **ELECTION OF 2025 NID COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS**

23 Vice-President Anderson continued chairing the convention, with Elections Committee
24 chairperson Eric Kennaugh and vice-chair Julian LaMie assisting.
25

26 For Ordained Minister from the North Region, Jorge Mazariegos was elected:
27 Michael Brown 84
28 Jorge Mazariegos 134
29

30 For Commissioned Minister from the North Region, Ardelle Pate was elected:
31 Joel Moritz 68
32 Ardelle Pate 144
33

34 For Layperson from the North Region, Laura Schmuldt was elected:
35 Brian Lohmeier 62
36 Laura Schmuldt 146
37

38 For Ordained Minister from the South Region, Christopher Antonetti was elected:
39 Christopher Antonetti 124
40 Julian LaMie 87
41

42 For Commissioned Minister from the South Region, Adam Francisco was elected:
43 Adam Francisco 128
44 Sarah Gaffney 83

- 1 For Layperson from the South Region, Christa Childers was elected:
 2 Christa Childers **105**
 3 Scott Collins 103
 4
- 5 For Ordained Minister from the East Region, Stephen Heuser was elected:
 6 Stephen Heuser **129**
 7 Kevin Koester 81
 8
- 9 For Commissioned Minister from the East Region, Ruth Otten was elected:
 10 Ruth Otten **126**
 11 Mark Trapp 86
 12
- 13 For Layperson from the East Region, Matt Struve was elected:
 14 Christopher Krohe 98
 15 Matt Struve **107**
 16
- 17 For Ordained Minister from the West Region, Paul Mumme was elected:
 18 David Andermann 59 76
 19 Phillip Fischaber 51
 20 Paul Mumme 102 **141**
 21
- 22 For Commissioned Minister from the West Region, Carol Brown was elected:
 23 Carol Brown **110**
 24 John Crowe 102
 25
- 26 For Layperson from the West Region, Michael Woolery was elected:
 27 Lori Solyom 82
 28 Michael Woolery **128**
 29

30 **ELECTION OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO BOARD OF REGENTS**

31 Vice-President Anderson continued chairing the convention, with Elections Committee
 32 chairperson Eric Kennaugh and Julian LaMie assisting.
 33

34 For Ordained Minister, Matthew Zickler was elected.

- 35 Brian Davies 69 90
 36 Paul Pfothenhauer 59
 37 Matthew Zickler 93 **132**
 38

39 For Commissioned Minister, Virginia Terrell was elected.

- 40 LaDonna Hoffman 65
 41 Virginia Terrell **153**
 42
 43

1 For Layperson, Christopher Krohe and Dominic Salvino were elected:

2	Aaron Doehring	73
3	Christopher Krohe	<u>116</u>
4	Dominic Salvino	<u>157</u>
5	Michael Woolery	78

6

7 **ELECTION OF SYNOD COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS**

8 Vice-president Steven Anderson continued chairing the convention, with Elections Committee
9 chairperson Eric Kennaugh assisting.

10

11 For Layperson, Mark Stern was elected:

12	Aaron Doehring	86
13	Mark Stern	<u>128</u>

14

15 President Buss resumed chairing the district.

16

17 **INTRODUCTION OF SELC DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

18 The Rev. Wally Vinovskis, President of the SELC District, was introduced and greeted the
19 assembly.

20

21 **RECESS**

22 The assembly recessed at 2:30 p.m. The assembly reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

23

24 **DISTRICT MINISTRY PRESENTATIONS**

25 Members of the district staff explained work carried out by the district.

26

27 **COMMITTEE I RESOLUTIONS**

28 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 1–01, *Adoption of “Word, Wellness,*
29 *Witness” as the Northern Illinois District’s Focus*. A motion was made to amend the resolution
30 by changing the second resolved from “commend” to “recommend” and the third resolve from
31 “our Savior” to “our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” The amendment passed with 170 delegates
32 voting in favor and 45 against. The amended resolution went before the assembly. Advisory
33 delegates voted 25 yes and 1 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 1–01 with 211 yes votes,
34 and 7 no votes.

35

36 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 1–02, *To Commemorate the 500th*
37 *Anniversary of Luther’s New Testament Translation by Encouraging Bible Reading*. Advisory
38 delegates voted 28 yes and 0 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 1–02 with 223 yes votes,
39 and 3 no votes.

40

41 Vice-president Schauer took over chairing the meeting.

42

43 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 1–03, *To Cultivate Visitation to Build up*
44 *the Body of Christ, Encourage the Faithful, and Bring about Harmony*. An amendment was

1 proposed to strike the second resolve. Advisory delegates voted 12 yes and 17 no. Voting
2 delegates rejected the amendment with 69 yes votes, and 155 no votes. The original resolution
3 went before the convention. Advisory delegates voted 23 yes and 7 no. Voting delegates
4 adopted Resolution 1–03 with 172 yes votes, and 51 no votes.

5
6 President Buss resumed chairing the meeting.

7
8 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 1–04A, *To Study Triangular Fellowship*.
9 Advisory delegates voted 24 yes and 4 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 1–04 with 197
10 yes votes, and 26 no votes.

11
12 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 1–05A, *To Affirm the Church’s Essential*
13 *Nature and Duty to Call upon the Name of the Lord*.

14
15 President Buss called the orders of the day.

16
17 **GREETINGS FROM LCEF**

18 The Rev. Bart Day, the President and CEO of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, greeted the
19 assembly.

20
21 **COMMITTEE III RESOLUTIONS**

22 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 3–01, *Congregations Can Have a Greater*
23 *Impact for the Gospel by Working Closely Together*. Advisory delegates voted 25 yes and 1 no.
24 Voting delegates adopted Resolution 3–01 with 198 yes votes, and 8 no votes.

25
26 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 3–02, *Adoption of Belize as the Northern*
27 *Illinois District’s International Mission Focus*. Advisory delegates voted 26 yes and 0 no. Voting
28 delegates adopted Resolution 3–02 with 202 yes votes, and 4 no votes.

29
30 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 3–03A, *To Study the Northern Illinois*
31 *District’s Ministry with Multiethnic Communities and Grow in our Understanding That Actions of*
32 *Racial Reconciliation Clearly Affirm Biblical Truth*. An amendment was proposed to insert in line
33 49 the following words after “twelve months”: “; this study will acknowledge the racism in our
34 district’s history and the need for this work of justice so that we might better make confession
35 of our failures and recognize where God has granted growth to His church.” After a period of
36 discussion, a motion was introduced to close the debate. The assembly voted 179 to 31 to do
37 so. The amendment then went before the delegates. Advisory delegates voted 13 yes and 13
38 no. Pastor Marty Marks prayed. Voting delegates rejected the amendment with 66 yes votes,
39 and 149 no votes.

40
41 The president called the orders of the day.

42
43 **CONVENTION PRESENTATION**

44 The Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the Synod, gave the first part of his presentation.

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ADJOURNMENT

Following prayer led by Pastor Jeffrey Howell, the assembly adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

The delegates were invited to enjoy some light refreshments and meet with the district and Synod president.

CALL TO ORDER Saturday, March 12, 2022

President Buss called the assembly to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Alex Merlo led the opening devotion.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Secretary Kellerman presented the Credentials Report with delegates registered from 147 congregations: 131 pastoral voting delegates, 128 lay voting delegates were registered, 50 advisory delegates and 26 guests. The report was adopted by unanimous consent.

ELECTION OF CIRCUIT VISITORS

The list of 2022-2025 Circuit Visitors as printed on page 5 of Section III of the Workbook, with Karl Fay’s name added for Circuit 2 and Eric Brown’s name added for Circuit 18, was ratified viva voce. The list is attached as Appendix C.

COMMITTEE II RESOLUTIONS

A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–01, *To Thank God and Congregations, Ministries, and Individuals for their Financial Support of District and Synod*. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 2–01 viva voce, followed by the singing of the doxology.

A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–02, *To Affirm the Sanctity of Life*. Advisory delegates voted 22 yes and 0 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 2–02 with 195 yes votes, and 1 no votes.

A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–04, *To Reduce the Number of Required Meetings of the District Board of Directors*. Advisory delegates voted 23 yes and 0 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 2–04 with 180 yes votes, and 8 no votes.

A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–03, *To Permit Electronic Board and Committee Meetings*. An amendment was proposed to add the following as a final resolved: “Resolved, the NID memorialize the 2023 LCMS Convention to commission the CTCR and CCM to study the socio-psychological dynamics of varying forms of media technology for communication and its impact on meetings of the church in light of Christian doctrine.” Advisory delegates voted 11 yes and 12 no. Voting delegates rejected the amendment with 98 yes votes, and 105 no votes. The assembly agreed by common consensus to substitute “members” for “directors” in line 57. The original resolution went before the assembly.

1 Advisory delegates voted 25 yes and 0 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 2–03 with 188
2 yes votes, and 14 no votes.

3
4 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–05, *To Change Procedures Regarding*
5 *Induction of Office*. Advisory delegates voted 24 yes and 0 no. Voting delegates adopted
6 Resolution 2–05 with 199 yes votes, and 2 no votes.

7
8 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–06, *To Amend the Northern Illinois*
9 *District Bylaws for Clarity*. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 2–06 viva voce.

10
11 The president called the orders of the day.

12
13 **VIDEO**

14 A third video was show with the emphasis on “Wellness.”

15
16 **CONVENTION ESSAY**

17 The Rev. Dr. Scott Bruzek and the Rev. Dr. William Yonker presented the second part of the
18 convention essay, “Let the Word Dwell.”

19
20 **RECESS**

21 The assembly recessed at 10:26 a.m. The assembly reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

22
23 **FURTHER COMMITTEE WORK**

24 Resolution 3–03A, *To Study the Northern Illinois District’s Ministry with Multiethnic*
25 *Communities and Grow in our Understanding That Actions of Racial Reconciliation Clearly Affirm*
26 *Biblical Truth*, was brought before the convention again. An amendment was proposed to add
27 the following words after “multiethnic communities” in line 48: “in light of the Scriptural
28 foundation of law and gospel which reveal and give the *dikaio syne* which is in Jesus alone.”
29 Advisory delegates voted 13 yes and 19 no. Voting delegates rejected the amendment with 83
30 yes votes and 115 no votes. The original motion went before the assembly. After a period of
31 discussion, a motion was introduced to close debate. The motion was adopted by a vote of 140
32 yes and 63 no. Debate was closed and the original motion went before the assembly. Advisory
33 delegates voted 24 yes and 8 no. Voting delegates adopted Resolution 3–03A with 162 yes
34 votes and 44 no votes.

35
36 The Rev. Jim Buckman prayed on behalf of the district as the resolution is implemented.

37
38 **REMEMBRANCE OF THE FAITHFULLY DEPARTED**

39 Church workers who were called to glory since the last convention were commemorated.

40
41 **RECESS**

42 After a prayer led by the Rev. David Fleming, the assembly recessed at 11:37 a.m.

43
44 The assembly reconvened at 12:37 p.m. with a devotion led by the Rev. Andy Hatesohl.

1 **FURTHER COMMITTEE WORK**

2 Resolution 1–05A, *To Affirm the Church’s Essential Nature and Duty to Call upon the Name of*
3 *the Lord*, was brought before the convention again. It was noted that the biblical reference at
4 the very end of the resolution should read “Acts 5:29” instead of “Acts 5:2.” An amendment
5 was proposed to strike lines 73 through 85. Advisory delegates voted 6 yes and 12 no. Voting
6 delegates rejected the amendment with 37 yes votes and 137 no votes. Another amendment
7 was proposed to change “men” to “people” in line 91 and to change “functions” to
8 “commands” in line 93. Voting delegates rejected the amendment with 81 yes votes and 96 no
9 votes. The assembly returned to the main motion. Advisory delegates voted 16 yes and 6 no.
10 Voting delegates adopted Resolution 1–05A with 154 yes votes, and 30 no votes.

11
12 Vice-president Anderson took the chair.

13
14 A committee member moved adoption of Resolution 2–07, *To Add a Fourth Three-Year Term to*
15 *the District President of the Northern Illinois District LCMS*. After a period of discussion, a
16 motion was made to end debate. The motion was carried with 156 voting yes and 26 no. The
17 resolution was brought to a vote. Advisory delegates voted 13 yes and 10 no. Voting delegates
18 adopted Resolution 2–07 with 107 yes votes, and 75 no votes.

19
20 President Buss resumed chairing the meeting.

21
22 **VIDEO**

23 A fourth video was show with the emphasis on “Witness.”

24
25 Vice-President Estby chaired the meeting.

26
27 **SYNOD Q & A**

28 Synod Vice-President Wohlrabe briefly addressed the convention. President Harrison then
29 answered questions.

30
31 President Buss resumed chairing the meeting.

32
33 **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

34 Secretary Kellerman presented the Credentials Report with delegates registered from 147
35 congregations: 131 pastoral voting delegates, 12 lay voting delegates were registered, 50
36 advisory delegates and 47 guests. The report was adopted by unanimous consent.

37
38 **CLOSING REMARKS**

39 President Buss addressed the assembly with closing remarks.

40
41 **ADJOURNMENT**

42 Following prayer led by President Buss, the singing of the doxology, and the benediction, the
43 convention adjourned sine die at 2:44 p.m.

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Soli Deo Gloria

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James A. Kellerman
Secretary, Northern Illinois District

1 **Appendix A: Proposed STANDING RULES of the 2022 NID Convention**

- 2 1. ELECTRONIC DEVICES. Only recording devices approved by the president shall be permitted.
3 Mobile phones and pagers shall be kept in non-audible mode; vocal phone conversations
4 shall not be permitted.
- 5 2. CREDENTIALS. Delegates, guests and staff shall wear official badges during all convention
6 functions.
- 7 3. VOTING. Votes will normally be made with electronic keypads. At the discretion of the chair,
8 votes may be taken by voice, rising vote, voting cards, or standing counted vote.
- 9 4. Nominations from the floor shall be seconded and a majority vote shall add the nominee to
10 ballot.
- 11 5. MOTIONS - RESOLUTIONS - OVERTURES
- 12 a. Motions to amend a resolution or to offer a substitute resolution shall be submitted in
13 writing in triplicate.¹
- 14 b. Only voting delegates may make or second motions.
- 15 c. Floor Committee Resolutions
- 16 1. Omnibus A, B and C² resolutions shall be disposed of before taking up Floor
17 Committee resolutions.
- 18 2. Floor Committee representatives shall read only an *overture's resolving clauses*
19 unless, in the judgment of the committee, each *whereas clause* should also be read.
- 20 3. Floor Committee resolutions not taken up during the convention fall to the ground
- 21 4. In connection with resolutions adopted during the convention, the Constitution
22 Committee shall be authorized to correct punctuation and grammar and to make
23 other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of
24 the delegates, including applicable modifications to section designations and cross
25 references in the bylaws.
- 26 6. DEBATE - DISCUSSION
- 27 a. Motions may be made from any microphone, however those speaking in favor of a
28 motion shall do so at the odd numbered microphones and those opposed shall speak at
29 the even numbered microphones.
- 30 b. Members seconding a motion need not go to the microphone nor be recognized by the
31 chair.

¹ One copy each for the presiding officer, secretary, and parliamentarian.

² Prior to the convention, Floor Committees submitted certain overtures for Omnibus A, B and C consideration. The secretary consolidated them into one resolution for each category. The Floor Committees used Synod rules: A – when certain overtures should be presented first to a District Board or Committee (before asking the District Convention to take action); B – when certain overtures have been given adequate and appropriate response by a previous District or Synodical Convention, and C – when the Floor Committee chooses to decline the overture.

- 1 c. After recognition, a delegate shall state his or her name, congregation and location or
2 the administrative unit represented. If applicable, members shall preface remarks with
3 “I speak for/against the motion.”
- 4 d. Debate shall be limited to two (2) minutes per speech and twice to each motion, the
5 second time only after all who wish to speak have done so, except that Floor Committee
6 members have unlimited time provided Rule 6e does not apply. Extension of these limits
7 shall require a two-thirds vote.
- 8 e. If a substitute motion is moved and seconded, the framer shall have two (2) minutes to
9 speak for consideration and a Floor Committee member shall have two (2) minutes to
10 speak against consideration. Without further debate, delegates shall vote whether to
11 consider the substitute; a majority is required to adopt. If the substitute is subsequently
12 adopted, the original motion is not considered. If the substitute motion is (a) not
13 considered or (b) is considered and not adopted, the original motion is then
14 considered.³
- 15 f. The *previous question* (call the question) may only be made by a delegate who rises
16 solely for this purpose.
- 17 7. THE PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY AND A HIGHER AUTHORITY. The rules contained in the
18 current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the convention in all
19 cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the
20 Constitution and Bylaws of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, the Bylaws of the
21 Northern Illinois District, and these convention standing rules. Above all, the rules of
22 Christian love shall govern the convention.
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28

³ This procedure is an adaptation of the “Behnken Rule” for substitute motions.

APPENDIX B: Adopted Agenda**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022****DAY ONE***Pastoral care will be available during the convention; please see NID Staff for details.*

7:00 – 8:15 AM	Delegate/Vendor Registration <i>Continental Breakfast Served</i>		Geiseman Gymnasium (South)
8:15 – 8:30 AM - Dismiss to Chapel of Our Lord for Opening Worship			
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Opening Worship <i>Recognition of New Congregations Anniversary Recognition Newly Ordained/Commissioned</i>	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison <i>LCMS President</i> Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Chapel of Our Lord
9:30 – 9:45 AM - Dismiss to Geiseman Gymnasium (North)			
9:45 – 9:50 AM	Call to Order	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:50 – 9:55 AM	Greetings	Dr. Russell P. Dawn <i>President of Concordia University Chicago</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:55 – 10:15 AM	NID President's Address	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
10:15 – 10:25 AM	Introductions Announcements	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022
DAY ONE**

**11:30 – 12:30 PM – A BOXED LUNCH will be served in Crossroads Cafeteria
located in Koehneke Community Center**

During this time, the Caucus of Advisory Ordained Ministers of Religion will meet in the front of the Convention Hall with Rev. John Prohl to elect advisory delegates to the Synod's 2023 Convention

12:20 – 12:30 PM	Hymn Sing	Rev. Caleb Schauer <i>West Region Vice President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
12:30 – 12:45 PM	Prayer/Devotion	Rev. Michael Stein <i>St. Paul Lutheran Church Beecher, Illinois</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
12:45 – 12:50 PM	Call to Order	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
12:55 – 1:00 PM	Credentials Report	Rev. Dr. James Kellerman <i>NID District Secretary</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:00 – 1:05 PM	VIDEO Presentation TWO		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022
DAY ONE**

1:05 – 1:35 PM	Presentation: “Let the Word Dwell” PART ONE	Rev. Dr. Scott Bruzek <i>St. John Lutheran Church Wheaton, Illinois</i> Rev. William Yonker <i>Immanuel Lutheran Church East Dundee, Illinois</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:35 – 1:40 PM	VIDEO Presentation LWML		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:40 – 1:50 PM	Omnibus ABC Resolutions	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:50 – 2:45 PM	Committee NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS Present Slate of Nominations Floor Nominations Begin Elections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board of Directors • 2025 NID Convention Nominations Committee • CUC Board of Regents • LCMS 2023 Convention Rep 	Rev. Mark Bestul <i>Nominations Chair</i> Rev. Dr. Eric Kennaugh <i>Committee Chair</i> Rev. Julian LaMie <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
2:45 – 2:50 PM	Greetings	Rev. Wally Vinovskis <i>SELC District President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
2:50 – 3:05 PM – BREAK			

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022
DAY ONE**

3:05 – 3:35 PM	District Ministry Presentations	<p>Rev. Dr. Tom Johnson <i>Ethnic Ministries Development</i></p> <p>Rev. John Prohl <i>Assistant to the President</i></p> <p>Lois Stewart <i>Mission Facilitator for Schools</i></p> <p>Rev. Kris Whitby <i>Assistant to the President Mission & Ministry</i></p>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
3:35 – 4:05 PM	Committee – I WORD	<p>Rev. Paul Mumme <i>Committee Chair</i></p> <p>Rev. Jonathan Petzold <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i></p>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
4:05– 4:10 PM	Greetings	<p>Rev. Bart Day <i>LCEF President & CEO</i></p>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
4:10 – 4:25 PM	Committee – IV ELECTIONS <i>...continued</i>	<p>Rev. Dr. Eric Kennaugh <i>Committee Chair</i></p> <p>Rev. Julian LaMie <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i></p>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
4:25 – 4:55 PM	Committee – III WITNESS	<p>Rev. James Buckman <i>Committee Chair</i></p> <p>Rev. David Andermann <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i></p>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022 DAY
ONE**

4:55 – 5:35 PM	LCMS Convention Presentation PART ONE	Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison <i>LCMS President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
5:35 – 5:50 PM	Closing Devotion	SMP Rev. Jeffrey Howell <i>St. Paul Lutheran Church Chicago, Illinois</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
5:50 PM	Adjourn for Evening	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
5:50 PM	Floor Committee Meetings <i>as Needed</i>		
6:00 – 7:15 PM	Mingle with the Presidents <i>(Light refreshments served)</i>		Geiseman Gymnasium (South)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022
DAY TWO**

7:00 – 8:45 AM	<i>Continental Breakfast Served</i>		Geiseman Gymnasium (South)
8:45 – 9:00 AM	Hymn Sing	Rev. Steven Anderson <i>East Region Vice President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Convention Devotion	Rev. Alex Merlo <i>Iglesia Luterana San Pablo Aurora, Illinois</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:15 – 9:20 AM	Call to Order	Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss NID President	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:20 – 9:25 AM	Credentials Report	Rev. Dr. James Kellerman <i>NID District Secretary</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:25 – 9:50 AM	Committee – II WELLNESS	Rev. Michael Gudgel <i>Committee Chair</i> Rev. Matthew Troester <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
9:50 – 9:55 AM	VIDEO Presentation THREE		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022 DAY
TWO**

9:55 – 10:25 AM	<p align="center">Presentation: <i>“Let the Word Dwell”</i> PART TWO</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Scott Bruzek <i>St. John Lutheran Church Wheaton, Illinois</i></p> <p>Rev. William Yonker <i>Immanuel Lutheran Church East Dundee, Illinois</i></p>	<p align="center">Geiseman Gymnasium (North)</p>
10:25 – 10:40 AM – BREAK			
10:40 – 11:15 AM	<p align="center">Committee IV – ELECTIONS ...<i>continued</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NID Board of Directors • East Region • North Region • South Region • West Region • Ratification – Circuit • Visitor □ 2025 NID Convention • Nominations Committee • CUC Board of Regents 	<p>Rev. Dr. Eric Kennaugh <i>Committee Chair</i></p> <p>Rev. Julian LaMie <i>Committee Vice-Chair</i></p>	<p align="center">Geiseman Gymnasium (North)</p>
11:15 – 11:30 AM	<p align="center"><i>Remembrance of Departed</i></p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss <i>NID President</i></p>	<p align="center">Geiseman Gymnasium (North)</p>
11:30 – 11:35 AM	<p align="center">Lunch Prayer</p>	<p>Rev. David Fleming <i>Chaplain</i></p>	<p align="center">Geiseman Gymnasium (North)</p>
11:35 – 12:30 PM – A BOXED LUNCH will be served in Crossroads Cafeteria located in Koehneke Community Center			

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022 DAY TWO			
12:20 – 12:30 PM	Hymn Sing	Rev. Michael Brown <i>North Region Vice President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
12:30 – 12:45 PM	Devotion	Rev. Andy Hatesohl <i>Trinity Lutheran Church Huntley, Illinois</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
12:45 – 1:45 PM	Floor Committee Work ... <i>continued</i>		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:45 – 1:50 PM	VIDEO Presentation FOUR		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
1:50 – 2:30 PM	LCMS Convention Presentation w/Q & A PART TWO	Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison <i>LCMS President</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
2:30 – 2:50 PM	Floor Committee Meetings <i>as needed</i>		Geiseman Gymnasium (North)
2:50 – 2:55 PM	Credentials Report <i>(Final Report)</i>	Rev. Dr. James Kellerman <i>NID District Secretary</i>	Geiseman Gymnasium (North)

APPENDIX C
2022-2025 Circuit Visitors

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 **Circuit N1:** Rev. Ed Blonski
- 5 **Circuit N2:** Karl Fay
- 6 **Circuit N3:** Rev. Steve Maske
- 7 **Circuit N4:** Rev. Dr. Larry Tieman
- 8 **Circuit N5:** Rev. Jerry Hays
- 9
- 10 **Circuit W6:** Rev. Jay Klein
- 11 **Circuit W7:** Rev. Ray Krueger
- 12 **Circuit W8:** Rev. Patrick Pinion
- 13 **Circuit W9:** Rev. Robert H. Rub
- 14 **Circuit W10:** Rev. David Andermann
- 15
- 16 **Circuit E11:** Rev. Philip Robarge
- 17 **Circuit E12:** Rev. Ralph Tausz
- 18 **Circuit E13 (A):** Rev. Dr. Valdas Ausra
- 19 **Circuit E13 (B):** Rev. Matthew Zickler
- 20 **Circuit E14:** Rev. Elstner Lewis
- 21
- 22 **Circuit S15:** Rev. Dr. David Balla
- 23 **Circuit S16:** Rev. Richard Schauer
- 24 **Circuit S17:** Rev. David Daniel
- 25 **Circuit S18:** Eric Brown
- 26 **Circuit S19:** Rev. John Holyer
- 27
- 28
- 29

APPENDIX D
Adopted Resolutions

1
2
3
4 RESOLUTION: 1–01: ADOPTION OF “WORD, WELLNESS, WITNESS” AS THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS
5 DISTRICT’S MINISTRY FOCUS

6 Referencing Overture 1–06

7
8 **WHEREAS**, our Lord has given us His inspired Word to make us wise for salvation through faith
9 in Christ Jesus and to equip us for every good work [II Timothy 3:14–17], and

10
11 **WHEREAS**, our Lord has blessed us in wellness, giving us our very lives and richly and daily
12 providing us with all we need to support this body and life. [Luther’s Small Catechism, The
13 Creed, The First Article Explanation], and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, our Lord has called us to witness the gift of His grace to the world, proclaiming the
16 excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. [I Peter 2:9], and

17
18 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Illinois District has a history of selecting a thematic focus for our
19 service to Christ which has reflected our values and set general direction for our work as synod
20 in this place, and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, prayerful consideration has been given by leaders in our district to utilize the theme
23 of “Word, Wellness, Witness” at this time, including at the Vision Workshops held throughout
24 our district with participants from nearly half of our congregations, therefore be it

25
26 **RESOLVED**, that The Northern Illinois District adopt the theme of “Word, Wellness, Witness,”
27 for its ongoing work together, and be it further

28
29 **RESOLVED**, that this theme be recommended to the congregations, schools and ministries of
30 The Northern Illinois District for its use in shaping their own local ministries, and be it finally

31
32 **RESOLVED**, that we continue to lift up our prayers to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, asking
33 Him to bless our service together under “Word, Wellness, Witness” with the fruit of faith,
34 according to His will.

35
36 *Action: An amendment was proposed to change the second resolved from “commend” to*
37 *“recommend” and the third resolve from “our Savior” to “our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” The*
38 *amendment was adopted. The amended resolution was adopted.*
39
40

1 RESOLUTION 1–02: TO COMMEMORATE THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF LUTHER’S NEW
2 TESTAMENT TRANSLATION BY ENCOURAGING BIBLE READING
3 Referencing Overtures 1–01 and 1–02
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Bible is the only infallible rule of faith and practice, and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, God has promised through the prophet Isaiah that his word “shall not return empty,
8 but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it”
9 (Isaiah 55:11), and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the promises of God concerning his will are manifold and include especially unity of
12 pure doctrine, a zeal for missions, steadfastness, and wisdom, and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, Martin Luther encouraged pastors and teachers to read the Bible twice each year
15 for the strengthening of their faith and an increase in zeal and knowledge (Luther’s Works,
16 AE:54.165), and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, September 2022 marks the 500th anniversary of Luther’s translation of the New
19 Testament from the original Greek into the language of the people, and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, the translation of the Bible into the languages of the people from the original
22 languages is one of the greatest gifts God gave the Church through the Reformation, therefore
23 be it
24

25 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District commemorate this most blessed anniversary with
26 a renewed focus on Bible reading, and be it further
27

28 **RESOLVED**, that all Christians also be encouraged to read the Bible with pious diligence, and be
29 it finally
30

31 **RESOLVED**, that the pastors, commissioned church workers, and lay leaders of the district work
32 together in their circuits to encourage one another in their Bible reading, serving as pious
33 examples of diligent study and godly love of Scripture.
34

35 *Action: Adopted.*
36
37

1 RESOLUTION 1–03: TO CULTIVATE VISITATION TO BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST, ENCOURAGE
2 THE FAITHFUL, AND BRING ABOUT HARMONY
3 Referencing Overture 1–04
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod direct the district president to “supervise
6 the doctrine, the life, and the official administration on the part of the ordained or
7 commissioned ministers who are members of his district or are subject to his ecclesiastical
8 supervision” (Bylaw 4.4.5); and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod make provision for official congregational
11 visits by the respective district president or his representative; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the Bylaws of the Synod state that “He shall conduct his official visits in an
14 evangelical manner” (Bylaw 4.4.4[c]) and “come to the pastor and the congregation as a
15 brotherly advisor” (Bylaw 4.4.4[d]); and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the 2013 convention passed Resolution 4–10, “To Encourage Proper Oversight in the
18 Administration of Lord’s Supper by Visitation from Ecclesiastical Supervisors”; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, Pastors are called to be faithful in their stewardship of the mysteries of God (1 Cor.
21 4:1–2; 2 Tim. 4:3–4) and need encouragement to carry out this important stewardship;
22 therefore, be it
23

24 **RESOLVED**, that the District President (or his representative) visit each congregation during the
25 triennium to build up the body of Christ, encourage the congregation in the faithful
26 proclamation of the Word and administration of the Sacraments, and commend both existing
27 and new outreach efforts to reach the surrounding the community; and be it further
28

29 **RESOLVED**, that this visit include a discussion, among other things, of the congregation’s
30 administration of the Lord’s Supper, including the Synod’s position on “closed communion”;
31 and be it finally
32

33 **RESOLVED**, that any practices not in accord with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions
34 be addressed fraternally and evangelically with the goal of bringing about harmony and
35 consistent practice.
36

37 *Action: An amendment was proposed to strike the second resolve. The amendment failed. The*
38 *original resolution was adopted.*
39
40

1 RESOLUTION 1–04: TO STUDY TRIANGULAR FELLOWSHIP

2 Referencing Overture 1–07

3

4 **WHEREAS**, Altar and pulpit fellowship, as understood in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
5 “allows the pastors of one church to preach and celebrate Holy Communion in the church of
6 another. Similarly, when altar and pulpit fellowship exists the laity of one church may receive
7 Holy Communion from the other church’s pastors. Churches in altar and pulpit fellowship share
8 all spiritual things including a joint responsibility in maintaining a common confession of faith.”;
9 and

10

11 **WHEREAS**, confusion has arisen because the Synod has declared altar and pulpit fellowship
12 with various partner church bodies that in turn share altar and pulpit fellowship with other
13 church bodies with which the Synod is not in altar and pulpit fellowship (“triangular
14 fellowship”); and

15

16 **WHEREAS**, although 2019 Convention Resolution 5–07 directed the Office of the President of
17 Synod to report to the 2022 (now, 2023) Synod convention with recommendations on
18 addressing the relationship between partner churches and the LWF as one example of being
19 unequally yoked, that Resolution did not address the “triangular fellowship” problem;
20 therefore, be it

21

22 **RESOLVED**, that this District memorialize the 2023 Synod convention to have the President of
23 the Synod and his synodical representatives research the parameters of triangular fellowship
24 and report its findings to the 2026 Synod convention.

25

26 *Action: Adopted.*

27

28

1 RESOLUTION 1–05A: TO AFFIRM THE CHURCH’S ESSENTIAL NATURE AND DUTY TO CALL UPON
2 THE NAME OF THE LORD
3 Referencing Overture 1–08
4

5 **OVERVIEW:** Throughout the months of the Coronavirus pandemic the Church has at times been
6 declared “non-essential” by the government, which created a hindrance to gathering for public
7 worship. This has, in some cases, allowed the government to dictate when and how the Church
8 calls upon the name of the Lord. This must be addressed properly, lest an incorrect precedent
9 be set for the future.

10
11 **WHEREAS,** to obtain saving faith God has given the Word and Sacraments and instituted the
12 Office of the Ministry to administer these gifts (Matthew 28:18–20; John 20:21–23; AC V.1–3;
13 AC XIV), and
14

15 **WHEREAS,** the Church is the assembly of all believers among whom the Gospel is purely
16 preached and the holy Sacraments are administered according the Gospel (AC VII.1), and God
17 has commanded His people to gather to hear His Word and receive His Sacraments (Acts 2:42; 1
18 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Corinthians 11:24–25), just as the Lutheran Church confesses
19 that the Sacrament of the Altar is celebrated every Lord’s day (Ap. XXIV.1), and
20

21 **WHEREAS,** this is the essential function which only the Church fulfills as God brings salvation to
22 the whole person, body and soul (Romans 5:1; Philippians 1:23; John 11:25–26; Philippians
23 3:21), and
24

25 **WHEREAS,** God has designed His creation with three estates—the Family, the Church, and the
26 Government, and
27

28 **WHEREAS,** these Three Estates remain (and continue their defining functions) until the end of
29 time, even during pandemic, famine, war, etc., and
30

31 **WHEREAS,** the authority of the Government in relation to the Fourth Commandment is derived
32 from the estate of the Family, “For all other authority is derived and developed out of the
33 authority of parents” (LC I.141), and
34

35 **WHEREAS,** the government is given by God to reward good and punish evil and maintain order
36 as defined by God’s holy will (Romans 13; AC XVI.1–2), and deals with bodies and goods, not
37 spiritual matters (AC XXVIII.11), and
38

39 **WHEREAS,** the Church rightfully operates in God’s right-hand rule through the Gospel as she
40 seeks to bring forgiveness and salvation through Christ’s Means of Grace, and
41

42 **WHEREAS,** the Government rightfully operates in God’s left-hand rule, as it works through the
43 Law to maintain order and restrain sin, and
44

1 **WHEREAS**, the Church is not entirely independent of the Government’s left-hand rule as she
2 deals with non-spiritual matters of operation (zoning laws, building permits, occupancy permits,
3 etc.), and
4
5 **WHEREAS**, the Government has no God given authority over the spiritual matters of the
6 Church’s administration of the Means of Grace as they take place in the Divine Service;
7 therefore be it
8
9 **RESOLVED**, that we affirm the Church’s essential nature, purpose, and ongoing function in this
10 world until Christ comes again in His glory, and be it further
11
12 **RESOLVED**, that we affirm the Church’s and Family’s status as having their Godgiven role in
13 caring for both body and soul, and be it further
14
15 **RESOLVED**, that we confess that the Government has no God given authority to place
16 restrictions on the Church’s ability to celebrate the Divine Service, and on God’s people who
17 wish to attend and receive the Means of Grace, and be it further
18
19 **RESOLVED**, that we affirm that in time of pandemic or public crisis the Church in Christian
20 freedom should seek to implement measures that serve the public good while continuing to
21 carry out her essential role of offering the Word and the Sacraments in the Divine Service, and
22 be it further
23
24 **RESOLVED**, that we exhort and encourage one another to confess boldly the essential nature
25 and function of the Church, especially in the event of future government mandated shutdowns
26 or restrictions to the celebration of the Divine Service, and be it further
27
28 **RESOLVED**, that congregations are encouraged to reflect upon the public confession made and
29 the actions taken during the pandemic, understanding that our actions may have either
30 compromised our witness or put our neighbors in danger, and be it further
31
32 **RESOLVED**, that, if our confession or actions fell short of God’s Word and will for His Church (as
33 we confess in Compline, “some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I
34 am ashamed—but some is known only to You [God]”), we trust in God’s forgiveness so that we
35 can continue boldly to move forward in proclaiming the Gospel, and be it further
36
37 **RESOLVED**, that we commend congregations for their faithfulness in conducting Word and
38 Sacrament ministry throughout the pandemic, and be it further
39
40 **RESOLVED**, that we confess to the world that only the Gospel of the death and resurrection of
41 the Lord Jesus Christ can provide final victory over sin, sickness, and death; and be it finally
42
43 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the NID will take notice of all government actions
44 regarding public health and while seeking to live at peace with all men the Church will

1 implement those actions that in her own judgment do not interfere with her God-given
2 functions, as “we must obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

3

4 *Action: The biblical reference at the very end of the resolution was corrected to read “Acts 5:29”*
5 *instead of “Acts 5:2.” An amendment was proposed to strike the sixth, seventh and eighth*
6 *resolveds. The amendment failed. Another amendment was proposed to change “men” to*
7 *“people” and to change “functions” to “commands” in the final resolved. The amendment failed.*
8 *The resolution with the corrected biblical reference was adopted.*

9

10

1 RESOLUTION 2–01: TO THANK GOD AND CONGREGATIONS, MINISTRIES, AND INDIVIDUALS FOR
2 THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF DISTRICT AND SYNOD
3 Referencing Overture 2–06
4

5 **WHEREAS**, The Apostle Paul frequently gives thanks to God for congregations and individuals in
6 their faithful service to our Lord in partnership in the Gospel [Romans 1:8; I Corinthians 1:4;
7 Ephesians 1:15–16; Philippians 1:3–5; Colossians 1:3–5; II Timothy 1:3; etc.] and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Our confessions encourage us always to receive the Lord’s blessings with
10 thanksgiving [Luther’s Small Catechism, Lord’s Prayer, the Fourth Petition] and,
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Congregations, ministries, and individuals within the Northern Illinois District, even
13 amid the uncertain days of the pandemic, faithfully responded to Christ’s grace in their
14 unwavering support for our collective work in God’s kingdom through their offerings and
15 financial gifts to the Northern Illinois District and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,
16 therefore, be it
17

18 **RESOLVED**, That the 60th Convention of the Northern Illinois District of the Lutheran Church—
19 Missouri Synod thank our faithful partners in Gospel for their continued financial support of our
20 work together, and be it finally
21

22 **RESOLVED**, That the assembled convention rise and give thanks to God for the fruit of faith He
23 has graciously worked in these partners in the Gospel by singing the doxology.
24

25 *Action: Adopted.*
26
27

1 RESOLUTION 2–02: TO AFFIRM THE SANCTITY OF LIFE
2 Referencing Overtures 2–04 and 3–04
3
4 **WHEREAS**, life is a gift from God sacrosanct from conception to natural death (Genesis 1:26–27;
5 Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13; Psalm 139:13–16), and
6
7 **WHEREAS**, attacks on human life within our country have resulted in the loss of 62 million
8 people through abortion on demand, and
9
10 **WHEREAS**, attacks on human life continue to accelerate through the promotion of assisted
11 suicide and euthanasia; therefore, be it
12
13 **RESOLVED**, that congregations continue to support ministries that support and witness to the
14 sanctity of human life such as Lutherans For Life, Redeeming Life Outreach Ministry NID
15 Expansion, pregnancy resource centers, and the NID-Life Task Force, and be it further
16
17 **RESOLVED**, that pastors, teachers, DCEs, deaconesses, and other synodically trained
18 professional church workers actively seek ways to educate members of their churches on the
19 scriptural basis of the sanctity of human life and its life applications, and be it further
20
21 **RESOLVED**, that congregational members be encouraged to serve in activities promoting life
22 within their communities, and be it finally
23
24 **RESOLVED**, that congregations be encouraged to designate one or more Sundays a year to
25 focus on the confession of God’s gift of life, as it confronts contemporary beliefs and practices
26 against it, through corporate worship, educational opportunities, service activities, and other
27 events.
28
29 *Action: Adopted.*
30
31

1 RESOLUTION 2–03: TO PERMIT ELECTRONIC BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
2 Referencing Overture 2–05

3
4 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 1.5.3 permits every agency of the Synod to “select a manner of
5 meeting, consistent with [Synod’s] Board of Directors policy, that best enhances its ability to
6 accomplish its mission, taking into consideration fostering the open exchange of ideas,
7 availability of technology to all members, stewardship of resources, perception of fairness,
8 controversial nature of agenda items, and whether secret ballots might be used”; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the district’s current bylaws do not note that the district’s board of directors,
11 commissions, and committees have this authority, and this fact might lead people to the
12 mistaken conclusion that these agencies do not have such an ability; therefore, be it

13
14 **RESOLVED**, that the following changes be made to Article I.E of the district’s bylaws (additions
15 in **bold underline**; deletions in ~~striketrough~~):

16
17 I. ADMINISTRATION

18 E. Principles Governing the Organization and Activities of the Board of Directors.

- 19 1. The Board of Directors shall meet at least six times a year.
20 2. Special meetings of the board may be called by the chairperson or upon
21 the request of four members unless otherwise specified in these bylaws.
22 **3. The Board of Directors has the authority to establish its policies to**
23 **govern when, where, and how its meetings will be conducted. The**
24 **board shall establish its policies for the triennium at its first meeting but**
25 **may amend them in subsequent meetings. Meetings may be held in**
26 **person, by electronic means (e.g., teleconference or videoconference),**
27 **or in any other manner that allows for the open exchange of ideas, uses**
28 **technology available to all directors, and meets the criteria set forth in**
29 **the Synod Bylaw 1.5.3.**
30 ~~34.~~ A majority of the total voting membership of the board shall constitute a
31 quorum.
32 ~~45.~~ The board may form standing committees. At least one member of the
33 board shall serve on each committee. Subject to the provision of Section I
34 B.1. of these Bylaws, a standing committee may be empowered to act in
35 accordance with its assignment.
36 ~~56.~~ The board shall be ready to advise and cooperate with all auxiliary and
37 recognized service organizations of the Synod.
38 ~~67.~~ The board shall actively seek opportunities to provide and receive
39 information, resources, and reports from conferences of professional
40 church workers regarding ministry needs and opportunities in the district.

41
42 And be it finally
43

1 **RESOLVED**, that the following changes be made to Article I.F.4 of the district’s bylaws (additions
2 in **bold underline**; deletions in ~~striketrough~~):

3 F. Principles Governing the Organization and Activities of Appointed Commissions
4 and Committees

- 5 4. Each commission or committee shall meet at least four times a year. **Each**
6 **commission or committee has the authority to establish its policies to**
7 **govern when, where, and how it will meet. Each commission or**
8 **committee shall establish its policies for the triennium at its first**
9 **meeting but may amend them in subsequent meetings. Meetings may**
10 **be held in person, by electronic means (e.g., teleconference or**
11 **videoconference), or in any other manner that allows for the open**
12 **exchange of ideas, uses technology available to all members, and meets**
13 **the criteria set forth in the Synod Bylaw 1.5.3.**

14
15 *Action: An amendment was proposed to add the following as a final resolved: “Resolved, the*
16 *NID memorialize the 2023 LCMS Convention to commission the CTCR and CCM to study the*
17 *socio-psychological dynamics of varying forms of media technology for communication and its*
18 *impact on meetings of the church in light of Christian doctrine.” The amendment failed. The*
19 *assembly agreed by common consensus to substitute “members” for “directors” in the final*
20 *resolved. The amended resolution was adopted.*

1 RESOLUTION 2–04: TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF REQUIRED MEETINGS OF THE DISTRICT
2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
3 Referencing Overture 2–02
4

5 RATIONALE: At present, the bylaws of the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—
6 Missouri Synod requires the Board of Directors to meet at least six times a year (Bylaw I.E.1),
7 but all other committees and commissions are required to meet only four times a year (Bylaw
8 I.F.4). This requirement made sense for many decades when the budget process was long and
9 laborious. Until roughly twenty years ago, the district had several boards, each of which
10 negotiated its budget with the Board of Directors; in addition, the district also directly
11 subsidized over a dozen local missions. All of this required much time and effort to process,
12 especially before today’s sophisticated financial software became available. Typically, four of
13 the six meetings of the Board of Directors were spent primarily on the budget process from
14 September through January. The other two meetings (usually in March and June) handled
15 general business. However, today there are no other boards besides the Board of Directors, and
16 the district no longer directly subsidizes church plants. This change has made the budget
17 process much more straightforward. Often now, the budget proposed in early fall is the same
18 as what is adopted in January, with a handful of tweaks. Congregations and other organizations
19 have found that having fewer but more focused meetings is better. The business of the district
20 could easily be handled in quarterly meetings. Furthermore, if some urgent item of business
21 arises, special meetings can be easily called. Having fewer meetings might also encourage a
22 greater variety of people to serve on the board. It is easier for people to take off four days from
23 work a year rather than six, especially if they know that emergency meetings could be handled
24 electronically on an evening. Therefore, be it
25

26 **RESOLVED**, that the following changes be made to Article I.E of the district’s bylaws (additions
27 in **bold underline**; deletions in ~~strike through~~):
28

29 I. ADMINISTRATION

30 E. Principles Governing the Organization and Activities of the Board of Directors.

31 1. The Board of Directors shall meet at least ~~six~~ **four** times a year.
32

33 *Action: Adopted.*
34
35

1 RESOLUTION 2-05: TO CHANGE PROCEDURES REGARDING INDUCTION OF OFFICE Referencing
2 Overture 2-03

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Synod, in its 2019 convention, amended Bylaw 3.2.4.a to standardize when
5 district-elected regents of universities in the Concordia University System would take office,
6 and this new practice is at variance with the district's current bylaws; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the current provisions for when the service of induction is held require that all those
9 elected be inducted into office on the same day, which is to be after those elected assume
10 office, and this means that the service will typically take place at a hot time of the year; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, total attendance is likely to be better if the services of induction are held when the
13 weather is still comfortable and if multiple services are held rather than one centralized service;
14 and

15
16 **WHEREAS**, the bylaws expect, but do not absolutely require, that the initial meeting of all
17 boards and committees follow the service, a practice that has not been observed for several
18 terms; therefore, be it

19
20 **RESOLVED**, that the following changes be made to Article V.F of the district's bylaws (additions
21 in **bold underline**; deletions in ~~striketrough~~):

22
23 V. ELECTION PROCEDURES

24 F. Induction into Office

- 25 1. **Members of the Board of Regents for Concordia University Chicago shall**
26 **assume office upon the close of the district convention in conformity with**
27 **Synod Bylaw, 3.2.4.a.** All those ~~others~~ elected into office at the Northern Illinois
28 District Convention shall assume office as of the first day of the third month,
29 subsequent to the convention.
30 2. Induction into office of those elected at the Northern Illinois District Convention
31 shall be on a date ~~on or subsequent to the first day of the third month~~
32 ~~subsequent to the district convention.~~ **or dates chosen by the newly elected**
33 **President. It may be before or after the assumption of duties.**
34 3. ~~The initial meeting of the boards and commissions shall ordinarily be held in~~
35 ~~association with the induction and shall begin with a combined orientation~~
36 ~~program conducted under the direction of the President.~~

37
38 *Action: Adopted.*
39
40

1 RESOLUTION 2–06: TO AMEND THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT BYLAWS FOR CLARITY
2 Referencing Late Overture

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters has proposed a few amendments
5 to the district bylaws for clarity’s sake, therefore, be it

6
7 **RESOLVED**, that the following changes be made to the district’s bylaws (additions in **bold**
8 **underline**; deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

9
10 To Bylaw I.D.2:

11 The Board of Directors may ~~elect~~ **appoint** such assistant secretaries and assistant
12 treasurers as it shall deem necessary for the efficient operation of the district.

13
14 To Bylaw I.E.5:

15 The board may form standing committees. At least one member of the board shall serve
16 on each committee. Subject to the provisions **of Synod Bylaw 1.5.3.4 and** Section I B.1
17 of these Bylaws, a standing committee may be empowered to act in accordance with its
18 assignment.

19
20 To Bylaw II.B.1.a:

21 He shall be the chief executive ~~officer~~ of the district (**Synod Bylaw 4.4.1**). As such he is
22 responsible for managing the affairs of the district, and for administering the district
23 office, including his executive staff and all other staff members.

24
25 To Bylaw II.B.4.d:

26 The Treasurer shall be ~~elected~~ **a layperson appointed** by the Board of Directors
27 following each district convention and may serve on a full-time or part-time, salaried or
28 volunteer basis, as determined by the Board of Directors.

29
30 To Bylaw V.A.1.d:

31 One ordained minister, one commissioned minister, and two laypersons to the Board of
32 Regents, Concordia University Chicago. **All nominees for the Board of Regents must be**
33 **screened for qualification as prescribed by Synod Bylaw 3.10.6.2.**

34
35 To Bylaw V.B.4.a:

36 Each voting congregation shall be entitled to nominate from the ordained minister
37 roster of the Synod one ordained minister as candidate for President and one ordained
38 minister as candidate for vice-president. **Each nominee for vice-president must hold**
39 **membership in a congregation in the region for which he is nominated (Synod Bylaw**
40 **4.3.1).** A congregation may nominate only an ordained minister from its own region for
41 the office of vice-president.

42
43 *Action: Adopted.*
44

1 RESOLUTION 2-07: TO ADD A FOURTH THREE-YEAR TERM TO THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT OF THE
2 NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT LCMS
3 Referencing Overture 2-08
4

5 **WHEREAS**, in the recent past, the District President of the Northern Illinois District was allowed
6 to stand for election for four consecutive three-year terms, and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, this proved to be a God-pleasing and successful way for consistent direction,
9 oversight, and guidance from the president's office, and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, we, the church, are now coming clear from a most unprecedented time of social
12 uncertainty, fear, and national government inconsistency due to the pandemic, and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the vast majority of districts in the LCMS see the value and have set precedent of
15 the District President having at least four three-year terms; therefore, be it
16

17 **RESOLVED**, that the Northern Illinois District would again allow a man to run for four
18 consecutive three-year terms to be President of the Northern Illinois District, and be it further
19

20 **RESOLVED**, that this resolution would go into effect under the present President's
21 administration.
22

23 *Action: Adopted.*
24
25

1 RESOLUTION 3–01: CONGREGATIONS CAN HAVE A GREATER IMPACT FOR THE GOSPEL BY
2 WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER

3 Referencing Overture 2–01 and 3–06
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Illinois District consists of 200+ congregations in northern Illinois with
6 over 97,000 members, and not just the office in Hillside, and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the responsibility of carrying out the mission of the church belongs to each
9 congregation in which pastors are called to prepare God’s people for the work of the church as
10 it says in Ephesians 4:11–13: “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets,
11 some to evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works
12 of service so that the body of Christ may be built up ...”, and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, each and every congregation is filled with disciples—not mere “members”—whom
15 the Holy Spirit has equipped with gifts to carry out the work of the church as it says in 1
16 Corinthians 12, Romans and Ephesians 4, and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod follows in the tradition of Martin Luther who
19 restored to the Church and championed the priesthood of all believers as expressed in
20 Scripture, “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging
21 to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his
22 wonderful light (1 Peter 2:9); and as Luther explained, “For in Baptism none of us is born an
23 apostle, preacher, teacher, pastor; but there all of us are born solely priests” (What Luther Says,
24 1140:3646), and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, in the geographic area of the Northern Illinois District there exists an enormous
27 mission field that includes prisoners, the sick, the elderly, the developmentally disabled, college
28 students, homeless, orphans, the hungry, immigrants, the unborn, the unemployed and
29 underemployed, unbelievers..., and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, Jesus said in Matthew 25, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I
32 was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I
33 needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you
34 came to visit me” (vs. 35–36) And
35

36 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the Northern Illinois District is to be “Filled with living hope in Christ,
37 Confessing, Praising, and Advancing His Kingdom” which has a 3-part vision:
38

- 39 1. WORD: Helping congregations be more centered on a rich life of Word and Sacrament,
40 with congregational support in transitions as well as time of joys and sorrows,
- 41 2. WELLNESS: Promoting and encouraging health and vitality in congregations, schools,
42 ministries, professional workers and Lay-leaders

1 3. WITNESS: Encouraging personal witnessing, congregational engagement with their
2 community, support of our NID partnerships and missions and sharing a world mission
3 field together,
4

5 Therefore be it...

6
7 **RESOLVED**, that pastors, circuit visitors, and congregations work together with community
8 leaders to identify local and regional mission fields, including jails, prisons, and detention
9 centers, using their composite talents and resources to help those having physical needs and
10 spread the light of the Gospel to a world in need of salvation and be it further
11

12 **RESOLVED**, that the work of identifying and owning the mission would be incorporated into the
13 regular and on-going agenda at each level of district—utilizing the current structures of circuits,
14 regions, and district, to share and communicate active ministries and be it further
15

16 **RESOLVED**, that every pastor would be encouraged to continue nurturing and equipping God’s
17 people for works of service through Word and Sacrament ministry, as well as, training toward
18 specific ministries, and be it finally
19

20 **RESOLVED**, that the staff of the Northern Illinois District provide encouragement, support, and
21 tools as we all work together to accomplish the Lord’s mission.
22

23 *Action: Adopted.*
24
25

1 RESOLUTION 3–02: ADOPTION OF BELIZE AS THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT’S
2 INTERNATIONAL MISSION FOCUS
3 Referencing Overture 3–02
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Christ Jesus has blessed His Church to be His witnesses “to the ends of the earth”
6 [Acts 1:8], and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is in partnership with other Lutheran
9 Churches and missions throughout the world, serving in the joyful work our Savior has given us,
10 and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the Rocky Mountain, Missouri, and Texas Districts have participated in mission work
13 in Belize and been financial supporters of this ministry, and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, having an international mission focus provides the chance to combine efforts in
16 bringing the Gospel to the ends of the earth through their prayers, financial support, and direct
17 participation through short-term mission trips, and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the Belize Mission Society, located here in the Northern Illinois District, is a
20 Recognized Service Organization which has assisted in establishing a Lutheran confession and
21 church in Belize, and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, the Office of International Mission called synod’s first full-time missionary to the
24 Belize Mission for the LCMS in 2016, and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, a mission partnership in Belize has advantages for short-term mission trips for
27 congregations as the country’s official language is English and being located in the northern
28 hemisphere, allows for easier and cheaper travel than a more distant partnership, thus allowing
29 for more efficient use of mission dollars, and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the Northern Illinois District’s Board of Directors has endorsed Belize as our mission
32 partner for a three year commitment at their January 2020 meeting, therefore be it
33

34 **RESOLVED**, that the leadership of the Northern Illinois District work with congregations to send
35 short-term mission teams to Belize to further the work of the Gospel there, to further educate
36 congregations on our Lord’s work in the mission field through post-trip presentations, and to
37 help foster a mission-mindedness within our own local communities, and be it finally
38

39 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations, schools and ministries of the Northern Illinois District be
40 commended to regularly remember Mission Belize in their prayers and graciously to support
41 this work of our Lord through our offerings.
42

43 *Action: Adopted.*
44

1 RESOLUTION 3–03A: TO STUDY THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT’S MINISTRY WITH
2 MULTIETHNIC COMMUNITIES AND GROW IN OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ACTIONS OF RACIAL
3 RECONCILIATION CLEARLY AFFIRM BIBLICAL TRUTH.

4 Referencing Overtures 3–05 and 3–07

5

6 **WHEREAS**, the Synod in convention (2019 Resolution 11–04A, “To Affirm the Common
7 Humanity of All People and Ethnicities”) resolved “that the members of the congregations of
8 the Synod be encouraged to work toward racial reconciliation and equality within the Church
9 and within society-at-large”; and

10

11 **WHEREAS**, racism was defined in the 2019 Resolution as “a belief that race is the primary
12 determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent
13 superiority of a particular race”; and

14

15 **WHEREAS**, the 2019 Resolution said, “Racism has no basis in Scripture or the Lutheran
16 Confessions, but rather is consistent with atheistic evolutionary ideologies and movements that
17 claim the supremacy of one people group over another”; and

18

19 **WHEREAS**, racism “manifests itself in actions that adversely affect the lives of others...especially
20 when those who are in a position to enforce their prejudices use their influence to harm others
21 regarded as inferior, and even to exploit them” (“Racism and the Church”, CTCR 1994, p. 11);
22 and

23

24 **WHEREAS**, the Church is called to confess clearly and boldly Biblical Truth, repudiating and
25 confessing unscriptural falsehoods, even when such confession is unpopular before the world,
26 and

27

28 **WHEREAS**, Paul exhorts Christians to “take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but
29 instead expose them” (Ephesians 5:11), and

30

31 **WHEREAS**, the CTCR states, “racism must be regarded among the ‘works of darkness’ that
32 produce nothing of any value to anyone. The church, aware of its history in the United States,
33 must continually employ methods grounded in the Word and sacraments and in the proper
34 distinction between Law and Gospel—to expose, condemn, and remove [racism]” (“Racism and
35 the Church”, CTCR 1994, p. 39); and

36

37 **WHEREAS**, the people of God are striving to live faithfully, but still participate in sinful thoughts,
38 words, and deeds in what they do and leave undone (1 John 1:8–10), which can and has
39 included the sin of racism; and

40

41 **WHEREAS**, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandments are to love God and love your
42 neighbor (Mark 12:30–31); and Jesus illustrates for his disciples that they are to treat all
43 persons as neighbor (Luke 10:29–37); and Paul exhorts us to show the love of Christ as we
44 “bear one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2); and ‘He has told you, O man, what is good; and

1 what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly
2 with your God?’ (Micah 6:8) and Martin Luther, in his explanations of the fifth and seventh
3 commandments, extolls us to show that love as we care for our neighbors as we support them
4 in their needs, well-being, income, and property; therefore be it
5

6 **RESOLVED**, that we as the Northern Illinois District affirm the importance of discussion and
7 study of sensitive issues, including race relations, through District sponsored forums, Circuit led
8 conversations and Bible studies, and be it further
9

10 **RESOLVED**, that, the District President will commission an ethnically diverse task force,
11 including professional church workers, laypeople with background in such work, and young
12 adults, to study the Northern Illinois District’s history of mission, ministry, and education within
13 multiethnic communities, to be completed within twelve months, and be it further
14

15 **RESOLVED**, that the results of this task force’s study would also provide us with tangible ways
16 to move forward in our present and future outreach efforts in multiethnic communities; and be
17 it further
18

19 **RESOLVED**, that the study will be distributed to all congregations in the Northern Illinois District
20 and made available on the district website; and be it further
21

22 **RESOLVED**, that we encourage the congregations of the Northern Illinois District to address the
23 results of this study which exemplifies the ministry of reconciliation which Christ has given to us
24 (2 Corinthians 5:11–21); and be it further
25

26 **RESOLVED**, that we as the Northern Illinois District confess and affirm the following Biblical
27 Truths:
28

- 29 • That all people are created by God and are children of Adam and Noah, so that there is
30 truly one human race.
- 31 • That the Christ was sent to die for the sins of the whole world, as St John says, “and not
32 our sins only, but for the sins of the whole world,” for “God so loved the world that He
33 gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have
34 everlasting life.” And be it finally
35

36 **RESOLVED**, that all members of NID congregations be encouraged to implement the LCMS 2019
37 resolution (11–04A)
38

39 *Action: An amendment was proposed to insert the following words after “twelve months” in the*
40 *second resolve: “; this study will acknowledge the racism in our district’s history and the need*
41 *for this work of justice so that we might better make confession of our failures and recognize*
42 *where God has granted growth to His church.” The amendment failed. Another amendment was*
43 *proposed to add the following words after “multiethnic communities” in the second resolve: “in*

- 1 *light of the Scriptural foundation of law and gospel which reveal and give the dikaiosyne which*
- 2 *is in Jesus alone.” The amendment failed. The original motion was adopted.*
- 3
- 4

1 **OMNIBUS A:**

2 Overture 2-01: TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE'S OFFERINGS GIVEN TO CONCORDIA UNIVERTISTY
3 SCHOOLS (Refer to LCMS Board of Directors and Concordia University System)

4

5 Overture 3:03: NID W10 Pastors Concerning the Closure of Concordia College, New York (Refer
6 to LCMS Board of Directors)

7

8 **OMNIBUS B:**

9 Overture 1-03: TO GIVE A CLEAR CONFESSION OF THE RESURRECTION IN OUR FUNERAL
10 PRACTICES (Previous Action: 2019 LCMS Convention, Resolution 5-10)

11

12 Overture 1-05: TO REJOICE IN THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD BY HIS CALLED AND
13 ORDAINED SERVANTS (Previous Action: 1989 LCMS Convention, Resolution 3-14)

14

15