

1 61st Convention of the Northern Illinois District
2 of
3 The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
4 March 7-8, 2025
5

6 Minutes

7 The 61st Convention of the Northern Illinois District [NID] of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
8 [LCMS] was called to order by the President, the Rev. Dr. Allan Buss, in the name of the Father, and the Son,
9 and the Holy Spirit.

10
11 President Buss introduced Dr. Russell Dawn, president of Concordia University Chicago, who welcomed
12 the assembly to the campus. He highlighted the positive report of the LCMS visitation team and noted
13 Concordia Chicago’s tuition program for church workers
14

15 Following the welcome video, President Buss addressed the assembly. He highlighted the importance of all,
16 as all are precious to the Lord, emphasizing the Church as a communion of saints. He highlighted:

- 17 • the Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support [PALS] program
- 18 • visitation to churches, schools, Winkels
- 19 • Partnership Gatherings
- 20 • Lay Leadership Summit (next one Aug 23rd)
- 21 • Circuits 8W and N3 All Staff Conference
- 22 • LCMS COP meeting hosted at CUC (Urban Ministries Panel)
- 23 • Peace Lutheran Church, Beecher formation from 3 Beecher congregations, following the fire at
24 one
- 25 • closing of Calvary Wooddale
- 26 • SHINE! Program
- 27 • NID Vacancy Report
- 28 • 19 sole pastors
- 29 • 1 senior pastors
- 30 • 4 associate or assistant pastors
- 31 • Action on the NID 2022 Conv. Res 1-03

32
33 Introductions and Announcements

34 President Buss introduced the individuals as the table on the dais – the District Secretary, the Reverend
35 David Totsky, assistant, the Reverend Donald Stein, and the Reverend Dr. John Sias, LCMS Secretary, who
36 was serving as Parliamentarian.

37
38 He also introduced the NID presidents emeriti, as well as the Reverend Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS
39 President, and the LCMS Regional Vice President, the Reverend Dr. John Wohlrabe. District Presidents,
40 the Reverend Lee Hagan (Missouri District and chairman of the LCMS Council of Presidents [COP]), the
41 Reverend Wally Vinovskis (SELC District); the Reverend Jeffrey Miskus (English District), the Reverend
42 Dwayne Lueck (North Wisconsin District) were introduced and welcomed. The Reverend Dr. Jamison
43 Hardy, President of the Concordia University System [CUS]
44

45 The Reverend David Fleming, Executive Director for Spiritual Care at DOXOLOGY, was introduced and
46 will serve as the Convention Chaplain. He would be available throughout the convention for pastoral care,
47 and individual confess and absolution. Along this line, Rev Whitby was called upon to explain the Prayer
48 App that would be available throughout the convention, assuring attendees that all prayer requests will be
49 prayed over privately.
50

51 President Buss requested the Credentials Report. Secretary Totsky reported that as of 10:45 a.m. there are:
52 136 congregations are represented
53 114 voting ordained delegates
54 117 voting lay delegates
55 33 advisory delegates
56 21 guests
57 20 staff and volunteers

58 The delegates present constitute a quorum. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the credentials report.
59 Motion carried

60
61 Secretary Totsky was recognized and called upon to read the Standing Rules. A motion was made and
62 seconded to adopt the Standing Rules. Motion carried.

63
64 The Agenda as presented in *Today's Business*, March 4th was presented. A motion was made and seconded
65 to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

66
67 The Reverend Julian LaMie, Elections Floor Committee chair, was called upon to introduce and explain the
68 electronic voting system. He led the assembly through an intro of electronic keypads and practice voting

69
70 Word Video presented

71
72 **Election of District President**

73 President Buss relinquished the chair to 1st Vice President the Reverend Cory Estby. Rev. Estby presented
74 the ballot for the office of District President. In the congregational nomination process according to the
75 district bylaws, the Reverend Dr. Allan Buss is the sole name included on ballot. Rev. Estby called for
76 further floor nominations. There were none. Rev. Estby called on Rev. LaMie to offer prayer prior to voting.

77
78 Ballot:
79 **Allan Buss 214**
80 Votes cast 214

81
82 President Buss was declared elected. Rev Buss briefly addressed the assembly.

83
84 The Reverend Michael Gudgel, Wellness Floor Committee chair, was introduced.

85 **RES 2-02A To Align the Term Limits of District President and Vice Presidents**
86 Rev. Gudgel presented Resolution 2-02A.

87
88 A motion was made and seconded to adopt Res. 2-02A. Discussion

89 **Yes 199**
90 No 20

91 Motion carried

92
93 Secretary Totsky reported that in the congregational nomination process according to the district bylaws, the
94 Reverend Steven Anderson received the required nominations for inclusion on the ballot, but was not
95 included because of the bylaw term limitations for vice president. However, due to convention action, his
96 name will now be included on the ballot for the East Region,

97
98 **Nominations for VP**

99 President Buss called for Floor Nominations for the position of Regional Vice President
100 North – None offered

101 South – None offered
102 East – None offered
103 West – None offered

104

Election of Regional Vice Presidents

106 North Region

107 **Michael Brown** **203**
108 Total votes 203

109

110 South Region

111 **Cory Estby** **209**
112 Total votes 209

113

114 East Region

115 **Steven Anderson** **123**
116 Ralph Tausz 72
117 Total votes 195

118

119 West Region

120 **Caleb Schauer** **205**
121 Total votes 205

122

Ranking of Vice Presidents

124 First Vice President Ballot 1 Ballot 2

125 Steven Anderson 44 41

126 Michael Brown 33

127 **Cory Estby** **85** **109**

128 Caleb Schauer 52 64

129 Total votes 214 214

130

131

132 Second Vice President Ballot 1 Ballot 2

133 Steven Anderson 71 84

134 Michael Brown 38

135 **Caleb Schauer** **101** **131**

136 Total votes 210 215

137

138 Third Vice President

139 **Steven Anderson** **133**

140 Michael Brown 82

141 Total votes 215

142

143 Michael Brown declared elected 4th Vice President

144

Election of District Secretary

146 The Chair called on the Reverend Paul Mumme, Committee for Convention Nominations chair, to present
147 the slate for the office of District Secretary. Call for Floor nominations. None offered

148 Kevin Koester 55

149 **David Totsky** **154**

150 Total votes 209

151 **Floor Nominations for the NID Board of Directors, the NID Committee for Convention Nominations,**
152 **and CUC Board of Regents CUC**

153 President Buss called on Vice President Brown to assume the chair

154

155 Rev. Mumme presented the slate for the remaining positions

156 **NID Board of Directors**

157 N - Ordained

158 Micah Greiner

159

160 N – Commissioned

161 Matthew Gutler

162

163 N – Lay

164 Dori Chianakas

165 David Laabs

166 Paul Pasche

167

168 S – Ordained

169 Benjamin Hayter

170

171 S – Commissioned

172 Michael Butterfield

173 Jonathan Swett

174

175 S - Lay

176 David DeYoung

177 Erich Keller

178 Brian Popadowski

179

180 E – Ordained

181 Joel Hess

182 Edward Naumann

183

184 E – Commissioned

185 Sonja Przybylski

186

187 E – Lay

188 Michael Cacicio

189 Scott Gercken

190 Emily Pacyga

191

192 W – Ordained

193 Paul Mumme

194

195 W – Commissioned

196 Carol Brown

197

198 W – Lay

199 Craig Peterson

200 Lori Solyom

201 Emilia Waugh

202

203 **NID Committee for Convention Nominations**

204 N – Ordained

205 Aaron Levenhagen

206

207 N – Commissioned

208 Ardelle Pate

209

210 N – Lay

211 Laura Schmuldt

212 Dean Spacone

213

214 S – Ordained

215 Christopher Antonetti

216 Charles Sampson

217

218 S – Commissioned

219 Michael Butterfield

220 Jonathan Swett

221

222 S – Lay

223 Christa Childers

224 Dominic Salvino

225

226 E – Ordained

227 Steven Anderson

228 Edward Naumann

229

230 E – Commissioned

231 Ruth Otten

232

233 E – Lay

234 Matthew Struve

235

236 W – Ordained

237 James Barbey

238 Matthew Rosebrock

239

240 W – Commissioned

241 Carol Brown

242

243 W – Lay

244 Lori Solyom

245 Michael Woolery

246

247 Motion was made and seconded to add Carol Joy Motisi to ballot

248 Motion carried by voice vote

249

250 **Board of Regents Concordia University Chicago**

251 Ordained
252 Matthew Zickler
253
254 Commissioned
255 Virginia Terrell
256
257 Lay
258 Kyle Knoepfel
259 Gerhard Munding
260
261 Having completed all nominations the slates were declared to be closed
262
263 President Buss resumed chair
264 Fleming spoke of DOXOLOGY and offered luncheon prayer.
265
266 The Convention recessed for lunch.

267 61st Convention of
268 The Northern Illinois District of
269 The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
270

271 Minutes

272 The Rev. Elstner Lewis led the assembly in devotion around the theme of “Transitions” based on Luke 6:12-
273 16

274
275 The second session of the 61st Convention of The Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri
276 Synod was called to order by the President, the Rev. Dr. Allan Buss.
277

278 President Buss requested the Credentials Report. Secretary Totsky reported that as of 1:30 p.m. there are:
279 136 congregations are represented
280 115 voting ordained delegates
281 118 voting lay delegates
282 33 advisory delegates
283 21 guests
284 20 staff and volunteers

285 Report accepted
286

287 President Buss introduced and extended thanks to the NID staff
288

289 Wellness video
290

291 The Rev Dr. Robert Lee Hagan IV, President of the LCMS Missouri District and chairman of the LCMS
292 COP, was introduced. He led the assembly in a bible study on Col 4:11-12.
293

294 President Buss introduced the NID LWML President, Gayle Thanepolen, and the LWML video
295

296 **Omnibus Resolutions**

297 President Buss requested Secretary Totsky, on behalf of the floor committees, present Omnibus Resolution
298 A. A motion was made to adopt Omnibus A.
299 Motion carried by voice vote.
300

301 Secretary Totsky, on behalf of the floor committees, presented Omnibus Resolution B. A motion was made
302 to adopt Omnibus B
303

304 A motion was made and seconded to remove Overture 1-22.

305 Yes 78

306 **No 128**

307 Motion failed
308

309 A motion and seconded to place 1-04A in Omnibus B

310 Yes 80

311 **No 126**

312 Motion failed
313

314 Omnibus B, unamended was put to the assembly

315 **Yes 190**

316 No 24

317 Motion carried
318
319 Secretary Totsky, on behalf of the floor committees, presented Omnibus Resolution C. A motion was made
320 to adopt Omnibus C
321 Motion carried by voice vote
322
323 Secretary Totsky, on behalf of the floor committees, presented Omnibus Resolution D. A motion was made
324 to adopt Omnibus D
325 Motion carried by voice vote
326
327 **Elections**
328 President Buss relinquished the chair to Vice President Anderson, who chaired the elections.
329 **NID Board of Directors**
330 N - Ordained
331 **Micah Greiner 195**
332 Total votes 195
333
334 N – Commissioned
335 **Matthew Gutler 207**
336 Total votes 207
337
338 N – Lay
339 **Dori Chianakas 155**
340 David Laabs 114
341 **Paul Pasche 134**
342 Total votes 209
343
344 S – Ordained
345 **Benjamin Hayter 207**
346 Total votes 207
347
348 S – Commissioned
349 **Michael Butterfield 116**
350 Jonathan Swett 76
351 Total votes 192
352
353 S - Lay
354 **David DeYoung 153**
355 **Erich Keller 149**
356 Brian Popadowski 88
357 Total votes 198
358
359 E – Ordained
360 **Joel Hess 143**
361 Edward Naumann 64
362 Total votes 207
363
364 E – Commissioned
365 **Sonja Przybylski 196**
366 Total votes 196

367 E – Lay
 368 Michael Cacicio 118
 369 **Scott Gercken 132**
 370 **Emily Pacyga 125**
 371 Total votes 196

372
 373 W – Ordained
 374 **Paul Mumme 208**
 375 Total votes 208

376
 377 W – Commissioned
 378 **Carol Brown 203**
 379 Total votes 203

380
 381 W – Lay
 382 **Craig Peterson 119**
 383 **Lori Solyom 151**
 384 Emilia Waugh 114
 385 Total votes 198

386
 387 **Committee for Convention Nominations**

388 N – Ordained
 389 **Aaron Levenhagen 203**
 390 Total votes 203

391
 392 N – Commissioned
 393 **Ardelle Pate 199**
 394 Total votes 199

395
 396 N – Lay
 397 **Laura Schmuldt 133**
 398 Dean Spacone 71
 399 Total votes 204

400
 401 S – Ordained
 402 **Christopher Antonetti 131**
 403 Charles Sampson 64
 404 Total votes 195

405
 406 S – Commissioned
 407 Michael Butterfield 94
 408 **Jonathan Swett 103**
 409 Total votes 197

410
 411 S – Lay
 412 **Christa Childers 106**
 413 Dominic Salvino 92
 414 Total votes 198

415
 416 E – Ordained

417	Steven Anderson	108	
418	Edward Naumann	96	
419	Total votes	204	
420			
421	E – Commissioned		
422	Ruth Otten	192	
423	Total votes	192	
424			
425	E – Lay		
426	Matthew Struve	198	
427	Total votes	198	
428			
429	W – Ordained		
430	James Barbey	93	
431	Matthew Rosebrock	103	
432	Total votes	196	
433			
434	W – Commissioned		
435	Carol Brown	196	
436	Total votes	196	
437			
438	W – Lay	Ballot 1	Ballot 2
439	Carol Joy Motisi		35
440	Lori Solyom	67	83
441	Michael Woolery	91	123
442	Total votes	193	206

Board of Regents Concordia University Chicago

444	Ordained		
445	Matthew Zickler	204	
446	Total votes	204	
447			
448	Commissioned		
449	Virginia Terrell	190	
450	Total votes	190	
451			
452	Lay		
453	Kyle Knoepfel	193	
454	Gerhard Munding	187	
455	Total votes	199	
456			

Greetings

457
458
459 Greetings were extended to the delegates from the Reverend Wally Vinovskis, SELC District President and
460 the Reverend Jeffery Miskus, English District President

461
462 District Ministry Presentations by the Reverend John Prohl, Lois Stewart, the Reverend Kris Whitby, and
463 LeeAnn Acosta

Ratification of the Election of the Circuit Visitors

464
465
466 A motion was made and seconded to ratify the election of the Circuit Visitors

467	<u>Cir#</u>	<u>Visitor</u>
468	1	Rev. Edward Blonski
469	2	Rev. Karl Fay
470	3	Rev. Mark Bestul
471	4	Rev. Jeremy Latzke
472	5	Rev. Stephen Kass
473	6	Rev. Christopher James
474	7	Rev. Erik Gauss
475	8	Rev. Patrick Pinion
476	9	Rev. Matthew Rosebrock
477	10	Rev. Philip Fischaber
478	11	Rev. Henry Biar
479	12	Rev. Leonard Payton
480	13A	Rev. Valdas Ausra
481	13B	Rev. Mark Duer
482	14	Rev. Elstner Lewis
483	15	Rev. David Balla
484	16	Rev. Richard Schauer
485	17	Rev. Christopher Antonetti
486	18	Rev. Eric Brown
487	19	Rev. Julian LaMie

488

Motion carried by voice vote

489

Committee II – Wellness

490

Reverend Gudgel was called to present Resolutions from Floor Committee 2 – Wellness

491

492 **Res 2-01 To Encourage Congregations to Seek Wellness for Their Church Workers** was presented and
 493 moved. Discussion

494

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Yes	10	196
No	1	6
Total:	11	202

495

496

497

498

499

500

501 **Res 2-03 To Encourage Congregations to Complete Annual Reports and Review Governing Documents**
 502 was presented and moved. Discussion

503

	<u>Voting</u>
Yes	184
No	22
Total:	206

504

505

506

507

508 **Res 2-04A To Recognize and Honor Church Workers and Their Spouses** was presented and moved.
 509 Discussion

510

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
Yes	13	202
No	1	12
Total:	14	214

511

512

513

514

515 **Res 2-05A To Clarify the Prior Approval Process for Theological Faculty and Presidential**
 516 **Appointments** was presented and moved. Discussion

517		<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
518	Yes	15	186
519	No	0	24
520	Total:	15	210

521

Res 2-06 To Modernize the Nominations and Elections Procedures of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod was presented and moved. Discussion

524		<u>Voting</u>
525	Yes	76
526	No	129
527	Total:	205

528

529 President Buss introduced the Reverend Dr. Gregory Walton, Vice President, Ministry Solutions of Grace
 530 Place Wellness, who spoke of the work/ministry of Grace Place Wellness, which strives to provide tools and
 531 strategies for the support and encouragement of church workers as a means to prevent church worker
 532 burnout. He spoke of the importance of congregations to consider putting together policies and procedures
 533 for “Ministry Sabbaticals” – not simply vacations – as a means for worker rest and refreshment.

534

535 President Buss introduced Joe Willmann, LCEF VP who extended greetings from LCEF and spoke of the
 536 work of LCEF

537

538 President Buss called on the Reverend Phillip Allman, vice chair of Floor Committee 3 – Witness, to present
 539 the resolutions of the Floor Committee.

540

Res 3-01 To Reaffirm “Word, Wellness, Witness” as the Northern Illinois District ‘s Ministry Focus
 542 was presented and moved. Discussion

543

544 A motion was made and seconded to add “Lord and” at ln 38 so as to read “RESOLVED, That we continue
 545 to lift up our prayers to our Lord and Savior, asking . . . “

546

Accepted by common consent

547

548		<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
549	Yes	14	191
550	No	0	8
551	Total:	14	199

552

**Res 3-02A To Encourage Congregations and School of the Northern Illinois District to Work Together
 554 in Mission and Ministry** was presented and moved. Discussion

555

556 A motion was made and seconded to add at ln 34, “WHEREAS, for over 60 years Walcamp Outdoor
 557 Ministries has amplified the ministry reach of Northern Illinois District congregations, served as the
 558 formative training ground for countless Pastors, Teachers, DCEs, and other lay leaders, continues to serve
 559 those with developmental disabilities, and effectively shares the Gospel with unchurched youth and families
 560 through innovative programming; and”

561

562 The amendment was referred back to committee for consideration prior to Saturday’s business session.

563

Res 3-04A To Offer Thanks to God for Our Life Together was presented and moved.

564

565		<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
566	Yes	12	180

567 No 1 16
 568 Total: 13 196

569
 570 **Res 3-03A To Give Thanks to God and Encourage Lutheran Schools and Congregations to Continue**
 571 **Working in Partnership** was presented and moved. Discussion

572
 573 A motion was made and seconded to add “CUS” to line 15, so as to read “Congregations of The Lutheran
 574 Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) have established early childhood centers, day schools, high schools, and
 575 CUS . . .” and to insert an additional resolved starting at line 49, “Resolved, That young adults be encouraged
 576 to continue their education at a CUS Institution, and be it further.” Accepted by floor committee

577
 578 Motion as amended carried by voice vote

579
 580 **Res 3-05A To Give Thanks to God for 150 Years of Black Ministry** was presented and moved. Discussion

581		<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
582	Yes	15	177
583	No	2	27
584	Total:	17	204

585
 586 **Res 3-06A To Give Thanks for 90 Years of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League in the LCMS**
 587 **Northern Illinois District** was presented and moved.

588 Motion carried by voice vote

589
 590 **Res 3-07A To Reaffirm *Kirche und Amt* as Official Doctrine of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod**
 591 **and Rebuke Pastors Who Interfere with the Internal Affairs of a Congregation** was presented and
 592 moved. Discussion

593		<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
594	Yes	15	173
595	No	2	29
596	Total:	17	202

597
 598 Chair passed to Vice President Estby

599
 600 Rev. Estby introduced Pres. Harrison who offered the Synod Report Part 1. He looked at the Augsburg
 601 Confession as an example of the joy and certainty of what it means to be a “Book of Concord Lutheran.”
 602 The Article of Justification is the heart of our Lutheran teaching. If there is an attack on justification and
 603 the *Book of Concord*, an attack on Scripture will surely follow.

604
 605 Additionally, he spoke briefly about recent LCMS church plants (~70), life ministry and the Million Dollar
 606 Life Match, outreach, and the necessity of discipleship and retention of members. He spoke about the
 607 importance of worker wellness, noting that healthy congregation and institution have healthy workers. There
 608 has been a tremendous need and response for disaster relief and response, especially with circumstances the
 609 past year.

610
 611 Closing Prayer and Devotion based on Luke 8:1-3 by Rev Michael Duffy.

612
 613 The convention was recessed.

614 61st Convention of
615 The Northern Illinois District of
616 The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

617
618 Minutes

619 The Reverend Jesus Morales led the assembly in a devotion with a theme of “Carrying Crosses” based on
620 Luke 9:23-27
621

622
623 The third session of the 61st Convention of the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri
624 Synod was called to order by the President, the Rev. Dr. Allan Buss.
625

626 President Buss requested the Credentials Report. Secretary Totsky reported that as of 9:00 a.m., March 8,
627 there are:

628 136 congregations are represented
629 119 voting ordained delegates
630 117 voting lay delegates
631 36 advisory delegates
632 30 guests
633 21 staff and volunteers
634

635 Report accepted
636

637 Lois Stewart spoke to the convention about the convention offering and the wooden offering boxes.
638

639 President Buss called on the Reverend Jonathan Petzold, chair of Floor Committee 1 – Word, to present the
640 overtures for the committee
641

642 **Res 1-01 To Give Thanks to God for Franz Pieper and F.C.D. Wynecken** was presented and moved

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
643 Yes	9	170
644 No	1	6
645 Total	10	176

646
647
648 **Res 1-03A Addressing Christian Nationalism in the American Context** was presented and moved

649 Discussion

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
650 Yes	11	145
651 No	2	48
652 Total	13	193

653
654
655 **Res 1-02B To State Religious Objection to Government Interference of Parents’ Duty** was presented
656 and moved. Discussion
657

658 A question was raised as to whether the wording of this resolution is such that it would be sufficient to be
659 forwarded for LCMS Convention attention. Dr. Sias answered in the affirmative.
660

661 It was noted that the current Illinois HB 2827, currently in committee, would significantly impact
662 schools/education as well as rights of parents to be responsible for the home schooling of their children.
663

664 After extended discussion and debate, the question was called.

665

666 **Yes 128**

667 No 60

668 Total 188

669

670 Debate closed, the motion was presented to the delegates

671 Advisory Voting

672 **Yes 12 175**

673 No 3 36

674 Total 15 211

675

676 **RES 1-04A To Champion God’s Good Gifts of Sexuality and Marriage** was presented and moved

677

678 Orders of the Day are called

679

680 Witness Video

681

682 **Presentation: Conversation Between Seasoned Worker and New Worker**

683 Commissioned workers

684 Donna Laughlin (principal, Immanuel, Batavia)

685 Ben Fluga (Religion instructor, Walther, Melrose Park)

686

687 Ordained workers

688 Bill Younker (Immanuel, East Dundee)

689 Andy Hatesohl (Trinity, Huntley)

690

691 **Bishop Torkild Masvie, Bishop, Lutheran Church of Norway and Iceland**

692 Bishop Torkild Masvie, Bishop, Lutheran Church of Norway and Iceland was introduced to the delegates.

693 He spoke about the work being carried out by his church and the commitment they have to mission outreach.

694 He thanked the delegates for the support and encouragement that the Northern Illinois District has shown over the past years,

695

696 President Buss recalled Rev Petzold and Floor Committee 1 to continue their work.

697

698 **RES 1-04A**

699 Floor Committee 1 resumed discussion of Res 1-04A

700

701 A motion was made and seconded to strike lines 44-46 “all sins” to the end and replace that section with “*the truth of God’s design for marriage and sexuality in a way that calls people to repentance and points them to the grace and mercy of Christ.*” Discussion

702

703 Vote on the Amendment

704 Advisory Voting

705 Yes 10 100

706 **No 4 103**

707 Total 14 203

708 Motion to amend fails

709

710 A motion was made and seconded to replace “to faith” with “physically, relationally, and spiritually” in line

711

714 45, so as to now read “*are destructive physically, relationally, and spiritually, and deserving . . .*” **AND** add
715 “to care for victims of sexual sins” after “sexuality and marriage” in line 51 so as to now read “*gifts of*
716 *sexuality and marriage, to care for victims of sexual sins, and urge . . .*” **AND** add “care for the victims of
717 sexual sins and” after “boldly” in line 54, so as to now read “*the pastoral office clearly and boldly care for*
718 *the victims of sexual sins, and call. . .*”

719 Amendment is accepted by the floor committee. Discussion.

720

721 Question is called

722 **Yes 166**

723 No 36

724

725 Voting on the friendly amended RES 1-04A

726

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
--	-----------------	---------------

727

Yes	14	195
------------	-----------	------------

728

No	3	15
----	---	----

729

Total	17	210
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730

731 **Res 1-05 To Affirm the Need for Open Churches During Times of Plague, Pestilence, and Pandemic**
732 was presented and moved

733

734 Motion and second for a proposed substitute resolution

735

736 Orders of the day are called.

737

738 The Remembrance of the Faithful Departed during the last triennium was presented.

739

740 Chaplain Fleming offered a prayer and meal prayer.

741

742 The convention was recessed.

743 61st Convention of
744 the Northern Illinois District
745 The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

746
747 **Minutes**

748
749 The Reverend Brian Mayo led the assembly in a devotion based on Luke 24:36-49.

750
751 The fourth session of the 61st Convention of the Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri
752 Synod was called to order by the President, the Rev. Dr. Allan Buss.

753
754 Deaconess Dr, Tiffany Manor, Director of LCMS Life Ministry spoke regarding LCMS Church Worker
755 Wellness

756
757 President Buss asked Vice President Brown to assume the chair

758
759 Floor Committee 3 – Witness was recalled

760
761 **RES 3-02A To Encourage Congregations and School of the Northern Illinois District to Work Together**
762 **in Mission and Ministry**

763
764 Res 3-02A was brought back to the floor. The Reverend Donald Stein, Vice Chair of Committee 3, informed
765 the assembly that Res 3-02A is being brought back without amendment, and an additional resolution,
766 focusing on Walcamp Outdoor Ministries will be offered instead.

767
768 **Yes 179**
769 No 4
770 183

771
772 **RES 3-08 To Give Thanks to God for 60 Years of Ministry Partnerships with Walcamp Outdoor**
773 **Ministries** was presented and moved.

774
775 **Yes 176**
776 No 10
777 186

778
779 Vice President Brown yielded the chair to President Buss

780
781 **Res 1-05 To Affirm the Need for Open Churches During Times of Plague, Pestilence, and Pandemic**

782
783 A motion and second was made to consider a substitute motion.

784
785 The procedure for consideration of a substitute motion was explained to the delegates. After rationale for
786 the substitute and response by the committee the question was placed before the delegates

787
788 To consider substitute resolution
789

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
790 Yes	8	52
791 No	7	143
792 Total	15	195

793 Debate in pro/con mode

794

795 Motion to close debate

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
797	Yes 15	159
798	No 3	34
799	Total 18	193

800

801 Voting on the original RES 1-05

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
803	Yes 10	148
804	No 7	46
805	Total 17	194

806

807 President Buss recalled Rev. Gudgel and Committee 2 to complete their work.

808

809 **Res 2-07 To Encourage the Mission and Ministry of the Church Through the Visitation of**
810 **Ecclesiastical Supervisors** was presented and moved. Discussion.

811

	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Voting</u>
813	Yes 10	109
814	No 8	81
815	Total 18	190

816

817 President Buss thanked all the Floor Committees for their hard work.

818

819 President Buss yielded chair to Vice President Estby

820

821 Vice President Estby introduced President Harrison for the second portion of his report.

822

823 President Harrison highlighted:

- 824 • Bolivia church partnership in process
- 825 • Latvian seminary “SMP” program accredited by EU
- 826 • 34 enrolled, 3 to be ordained in Rome
- 827 • Australians moved to ordain woman Lutheran Mission Australia has been formed
- 828 • SELK is on the verge of ordaining women which will fracture the body. LCMS will continue to
- 829 stand with the faithful.
- 830 • Madagascar to talk fellowship
- 831 • Foros moving forward
- 832 • CUS stronger than ever
- 833 • CUWAA situation

834

835 A period of Q&A followed

836

837 President Buss resumed the chair.

838

839 President Buss requested the Final Credentials Report. Secretary Totsky reported that as of 2:50 p.m. there
840 are:

841 136 congregations are represented

842 119 voting ordained delegates

843 118 voting lay delegates
844 36 advisory delegates
845 35 guests
846 24 Honored Luncheon Guests
847 22 staff and volunteers

848 Report accepted

849
850 President Buss thanked everyone for their commitment and hard work. He offered closing prayer.

851
852 Motion to adjourn at 2:57 p.m.