

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-01**
2
3 **REFERENCE:** Overture 1-01, pp. 301-302
4
5 **SUBJECT: TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN**
6 **CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA THROUGH LCMS WORLD MISSION**
7
8 **WHEREAS,** The Southern Illinois District welcomes Bishop David Tswaedi and Mr.
9 Mpolaise Masibi, lay delegate from the Northwest Diocese of the
10 Lutheran Church in Southern Africa to our district convention and to visit
11 congregations, schools, and missions of The Southern Illinois District over
12 the next three weeks, AND
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14 **WHEREAS,** the Lord Jesus commands His redeemed people to go into all the world
15 and preach the Gospel to all creation (Mark 16:15); AND

16 **WHEREAS:** the Board for Mission Services of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
17 provides the opportunity for districts of the Synod to enter into and
18 maintain mission partnerships with various mission fields of the Synod;
19 AND

20 **WHEREAS:** both the people of the Southern Illinois District and the people of the
21 Lutheran Church in Southern Africa have been blessed by this mission
22 partnership and new friendships have arisen between us; AND

23 **WHEREAS:** members of the Mission Partnership Task Force and others from the
24 Southern Illinois District have visited the churches and seminary of the
25 Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, and their leaders (Bishop David
26 Tswaedi and Dr. Wilhelm Weber, Seminary Rector) have visited our
27 churches and district; AND

28 **WHEREAS:** the relationship between the Southern Illinois District and the Lutheran
29 Church in Southern Africa has by God's grace been strengthened by
30 further contacts, for instance, Mr. Jacob Mueller of St. John's, New
31 Minden, spent six months in 2008 at Lutheran Theological Seminary
32 Tshwane (Pretoria) and Lee and Pat Hoffmeier of Good Shepherd,
33 Collinsville, spent six months in 2007-2008, and presently are serving
34 three months in 2009, as volunteer missionaries doing maintenance work
35 at the seminary and serving as good will ambassadors; AND

36 **WHEREAS:** the people and congregations of the Southern Illinois District continue to
37 keep the members and pastors of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa
38 in prayer, as they also do for us; AND

39 **WHEREAS:** the congregations of the Southern Illinois District have contributed nearly
40 \$200,000.00 over and above regular mission offerings through the nine
41 years of our partnership in support of the various projects of the
42 partnership; AND

43 **WHEREAS:** the need for our help continues to be great, particularly for the projects we
44 have agreed upon with our partners in Southern Africa – seminary

- 1 scholarships, lay leadership training, church planting, gathering and
2 sending books for pastors, and HIV/AIDS workshops; THEREFORE BE
3 IT
- 4 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention give thanks to God for our
5 mission partnership with the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa; AND BE
6 IT FURTHER
- 7 RESOLVED, that this 55th Regular Convention of the Southern Illinois District renew
8 our partnership with the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, direct the
9 Southern Africa Mission Partnership Task Force to continue its work of
10 implementing and strengthening the partnership and also maintain our
11 goal of \$40,000.00 per year; AND BE IT FURTHER
- 12 RESOLVED, that the congregations of the Southern Illinois District continue to commit
13 themselves to public and personal prayer for this mission, advertise this
14 mission partnership in bulletins, newsletters, and invite members of the
15 Southern African Mission Partnership Task Force to speak at
16 congregational mission festivals, and other events; AND BE IT FINALLY
- 17 RESOLVED, that the Board of Missions of the Southern Illinois District and the SID
18 Southern Africa Mission Partnership Task Force be commended for their
19 work under God's grace to strengthen this partnership in the past
20 triennium, and be encouraged to continue to share the message of what
21 God is doing through this partnership with Southern Illinois District
22 congregations through various communications media.

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-02**

2
3 **REFERENCE: Overture 1-02, p. 303**

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5 **SUBJECT: TO SUPPORT UNITY LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY**
6 **SCHOOL THROUGH FINANCES, PRAYERS, AND MISSION WORK**

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8 WHEREAS, the Lord of the Church told His disciples, “Go into all the world and preach
9 the good news to all creation” and “Let the little children come to me, and
10 do not hinder them” (Mark 16:15; 10:14); AND

11
12 WHEREAS, Unity Lutheran Christian Elementary School in East Saint Louis – the
13 Southern Illinois District mission school – has 88 students enrolled in
14 classes K-5 for the 2008-2009 school year, and under the blessing of
15 God, will continue its expansion by one grade each year through grade
16 eight; AND

17
18 WHEREAS, the congregation adopted, “A Vision for Mission and Ministry in East St.
19 Louis,” and it is the intention and goal, under the blessing of God, that the
20 mission school will help Unity Lutheran Church grow as it reaches out
21 with the Gospel, both to the parents and children involved in the Unity
22 Lutheran Christian Elementary School and parents and children in the
23 surrounding area; AND

24
25 WHEREAS, many of the families sending their children to the mission school have
26 limited finances and need tuition assistance; THEREFORE BE IT

27
28 RESOLVED, that individuals, congregations, the Board of Missions, and the Southern
29 Illinois District continue to support Unity Lutheran Christian Elementary
30 School financially and through public and personal prayer; AND BE IT
31 FURTHER

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33 RESOLVED, that the members of our district congregations be encouraged to visit
34 Unity and personally see this ministry being accomplished here in the
35 Southern Illinois District; AND BE IT FURTHER

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37 RESOLVED, that our district congregations be encouraged to allow the leadership of
38 Unity and the Southern Illinois District to utilize congregational mailing
39 lists for sharing information, Annual Fund contributions, and invitations to
40 future events or gatherings for the purpose of supporting this ministry;
41 AND BE IT FURTHER

42
43 RESOLVED, that the Board of Missions, Unity’s Board of Directors, and Unity Working
44 Group (i.e., building group) continue their plans for finding the right
45 location and right building plan for church and school to work together in
46 this new century with the task of reaching children and their parents in
47 East Saint Louis, AND BE IT FINALLY

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2 RESOLVED, that individuals and congregations of the Southern Illinois District pray for
3 the Board of Missions, Unity's Board of Directors and Unity Working
4 Group as they continue to seek God's guidance for the further
5 development of the school.
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10 **RESOLUTION: 1-03**
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12 **REFERENCE:** Overture 1-03, p. 304
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14 **SUBJECT: TO ENCOURAGE CONGREGATIONS TO INTENTIONALLY REACH**
15 **HISPANIC FAMILIES THROUGH LUTHERAN SUNDAY AND DAY**
16 **SCHOOLS, VBS, AND OTHER CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES.**
17
18 WHEREAS, the Hispanic population is the fastest growing ethnic group in the United
19 States; AND
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21 WHEREAS, Hispanic families have moved into the communities of the Southern
22 Illinois District; AND
23
24 WHEREAS, the Lord has blessed many of our congregations with Lutheran Sunday
25 and Day Schools as well as other educational agencies; AND
26
27 WHEREAS, these agencies offer opportunities, under God's blessing, to reach this
28 growing segment of our population; AND
29
30 WHEREAS, this renewed Gospel concern from our congregations, schools and other
31 educational agencies will be noticed and help open doors to the gospel
32 and let us reach the present and future generation of immigrants;
33 THEREFORE BE IT
34
35 RESOLVED, the convention of the Southern Illinois District direct the Board of Missions
36 to continue to seek advice from the Center for Hispanic Studies at
37 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, to assist us in reaching Hispanic families
38 with the Gospel; AND BE IT FINALLY
39
40 RESOLVED, the convention of the Southern Illinois District encourage our laity,
41 pastors, principals and teachers to bring Hispanic families into our
42 ministries, particularly our educational agencies.
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1 **RESOLUTION: 1-04**

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3 **REFERENCE: Overture 1-04, pp. 305-306**

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5 **SUBJECT: TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED PRISON MINISTRY SUPPORT**

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7 WHEREAS, the Bible states that Jesus said, "*I was in prison and you visited Me.*"

8 (Matthew 25: 36). Jesus also said, "*As you did it to the least of these, you*

9 *did it to Me.*" (Matthew 25: 40). The Southern Illinois District has sought

10 to be faithful to our Lord's mandate to visit those in prison by its support of

11 Prison Ministry for the past one hundred years; AND

12

13 WHEREAS, the Southern Illinois District regularly reaches out to 26 prison/jail settings

14 on a weekly basis by way of 28 ministry servants providing weekly

15 visitation, Bible Study and, or worship leadership; AND

16

17 WHEREAS, there continues to be a dramatic increase in the number of prisons and

18 jails over the last years, and the Southern Illinois District has many of

19 these prisons, city and county jails in its region, in addition to some prison

20 work camps, a boot camp, and Job Corp Training Center; AND

21

22 WHEREAS, the past conventions of the Southern Illinois District acknowledged the

23 need to support prison ministry in the Southern Illinois District and provide

24 special training and materials for clergy and lay people desiring to visit the

25 incarcerated; AND

26

27 WHEREAS, individual members of the Southern Illinois District congregations may

28 require information and care as families of inmates and/or victims of

29 crime; AND

30

31 WHEREAS, the Southern Illinois District will be introducing the Freed in Christ

32 Program, for nonviolent ex-offenders, so that they hear the Good News of

33 Christ and will provide information that may help them from returning to

34 prison. THEREFORE BE IT

35

36 RESOLVED, that the Mission Board be directed to allocate ever increasing support of

37 Prison and Jail Ministry within the Southern Illinois District in view of ever

38 increasing demands; AND BE IT FURTHER

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40 RESOLVED, that clergy and lay persons who have an interest in prison and jail ministry

41 be encouraged to take advantage of training offered through the district;

42 AND BE IT FURTHER

43

44 RESOLVED, that congregations be encouraged to continue to support prison and jail

45 ministry by support of the Southern Illinois District Prison and Jail Ministry

46 Fund; AND BE IT FURTHER

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1 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District continue to recruit and support both lay
2 persons and clergy volunteers who have an interest in prison and jail
3 ministry; AND BE IT FURTHER
4
5 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District expand its Prison and Jail Ministries
6 outreach by way of information and care with both families and inmates
7 and with victims of crime; AND BE IT FINALLY
8
9 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District congregations be strongly encouraged to
10 have regular prayer in behalf of prison ministry realizing that only God the
11 Holy Spirit effects change in the hearts and lives of people.
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15 **RESOLUTION: 1-05**
16
17 **REFERENCE:** Report of the Deaconess in Prison Ministry, p. 147
18
19 **SUBJECT: TO ENCOURAGE SUPPORT FOR THE SID "FREED IN CHRIST"**
20 **INITIATIVE**
21
22 WHEREAS, Deaconess Sandy Bowers has, with the assistance of other District
23 Prison and Jail Ministry workers developed the "Freed in Christ" initiative
24 to connect non-violent ex-offenders with local LCMS congregations for re-
25 entry into society; AND
26
27 WHEREAS, this "Freed in Christ" initiative will need both congregations and
28 volunteers to receive ex-offenders, as well as financial resources and
29 prayer support for administration and expansion of the initiative.
30 THEREFORE BE IT
31
32 RESOLVED, that individuals, congregations and church workers lift up this initiative in
33 prayer and consider involvement in the initiative in receiving and
34 ministering to ex-offenders; AND BE IT FURTHER
35
36 RESOLVED, that financial support for the initiative be sought from individuals,
37 congregations, Lutheran social service agencies and the Southern Illinois
38 District Mission Board; AND BE IT FINALLY
39
40 RESOLVED, that Deaconess Sandy Bowers and the Southern Illinois District Prison
41 Ministry Committee be commended for the development of this salutary
42 initiative.
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RESOLUTION: 1-06

REFERENCE: Prison Ministry and Church Plant Report, p. 142

**SUBJECT: TO REJOICE IN AND ENCOURAGE CHURCH PLANTING EFFORTS
IN HARRISBURG AND ELDORADO, ILLINOIS**

WHEREAS, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Golconda, voted in 2008 to begin a church planting effort in Saline County, southeastern Illinois, an area without an LCMS presence for many years; AND

WHEREAS, Our Redeemer, Golconda, received a vicar in August 2008, Terry O'Brien, who moved to Harrisburg to begin full time canvassing and development work, with support from the Southern Illinois District Mission Board; AND

WHEREAS, weekly bible classes began in Harrisburg on September 18, 2008, and worship services began on November 16, 2008, with an attendance of 11 people; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District give thanks and praise to God for this work well begun; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District congregations and church members be requested to lift up this church planting effort in their weekly prayers; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District congregations and church members consider financial support through Our Redeemer, Golconda, for this church planting effort.

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-07**

2

3 **REFERENCE:** Overture 1-05, p. 307

4

5 **SUBJECT: TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE PARTNERSHIP**
6 **BETWEEN THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT AND LCEF**
7 **AND TO ENCOURAGE USE OF LCEF BY CONGREGATIONS**
8 **AND THEIR MEMBERS**

9

10 **WHEREAS:** the mission of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) is to
11 support the Church in fulfilling its mission of sharing the Gospel of
12 Jesus Christ by being a Christ-centered servant partner of The
13 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS); AND

14

15 **WHEREAS:** The Southern Illinois District has been a partner with LCEF since
16 November 15, 1981; AND

17

18 **WHEREAS:** LCEF has increased its commitment to serving The Southern
19 Illinois District during the past triennium through the hiring of a part-
20 time LCEF Area Vice-President and District Promotion Director,
21 **THEREFORE BE IT**

22

23 **RESOLVED:** that the Southern Illinois District, in convention, give thanks to God
24 for the long-standing partnership between the Southern Illinois
25 District and LCEF; AND BE IT FURTHER

26

27 **RESOLVED:** that congregations of The Southern Illinois District be encouraged
28 to make use of the loans and services offered through LCEF in
29 order to support the ministry of the congregation; AND BE IT
30 **FINALLY**

31

32 **RESOLVED:** that congregations of The Southern Illinois District and their
33 members be encouraged to invest funds with LCEF in order to
34 provide resources for LCEF to accomplish its mission.

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1 **RESOLUTION: 1-08**
2
3 **REFERENCE:** Overtures 1-06 and 1-07, pp. 308-309
4
5 **SUBJECT: TO CELEBRATE OVER 30 YEARS OF PASTOR MAURICE ALMS'**
6 **INVOLVEMENT IN PRISON MINISTRY**
7
8 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Maurice Alms was introduced to Prison Ministry during his field
9 work at Concordia Seminary and continued this work during his vicarage;
10 **AND**
11
12 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Alms was called in 1978 to serve a shared ministry at Our
13 Redeemer in Golconda and Shawnee Prison; **AND**
14
15 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Alms was called in 1987 to serve a shared ministry at Holy Cross
16 in Livingston and Graham Prison; **AND**
17
18 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Alms was also called in 1987 to serve as Coordinator of Prison
19 Ministry for the Southern Illinois District; **AND**
20
21 **WHEREAS,** during his time of service as Coordinator of Prison Ministry for the
22 Southern Illinois District and by the power of the Holy Spirit and God's
23 Holy Word and Sacrament, Pastor Alms assisted in the establishment of
24 over 20 prison and jail ministries; **AND**
25
26 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Alms helped plan and coordinate "Catch the Vision", the LCMS's
27 first Prison and Jail Ministry Conference in 2005, and also served as a
28 presenter for the conference; **AND**
29
30 **WHEREAS,** Pastor Alms provided direction and advice in 2008 for the restructuring of
31 the Southern Illinois District Prison Ministry as it will continue following his
32 retirement; **THEREFORE BE IT**
33
34 **RESOLVED,** that the congregations of the Southern Illinois District be encouraged to
35 continue to support the mission of Prison Ministry with devoted prayer,
36 encouragement of clergy and lay volunteers, and with monetary support
37 by way of the Southern Illinois District mission offerings and of the
38 Southern Illinois District Prison and Jail Ministry Fund; **AND BE IT**
39 **FURTHER**
40
41 **RESOLVED,** that the Southern Illinois District congregations and schools intentionally
42 seek to minister to the families of the incarcerated, to prison staff workers,
43 and to victims of crime within their congregation and within the
44 community; **AND BE IT FINALLY**
45
46 **RESOLVED,** that the Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
47 rise and sing the doxology, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow",
48 as we give thanks for over 30 years of dedication and service to Prison
49 Ministry by Pastor Maurice Alms.
50

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-09**
2
3 **SUBJECT: TO CELEBRATE 9 YEARS OF PASTOR KEN YOUNG’S SERVICE AS**
4 **PART-TIME MISSION ASSISTANT**
5
6 WHEREAS, Pastor Ken Young served for 11 years as a Pastor in Urban Ministry;
7 AND
8
9 WHEREAS, Pastor Young then served for 27 years as District Mission Executive in
10 the Northern Illinois District; AND
11
12 WHEREAS, Pastor Young has served for 9 years as Part-Time Mission Assistant in
13 the Southern Illinois District; AND
14
15 WHEREAS, the Southern Illinois District Mission Board has benefitted greatly from his
16 expertise; AND
17
18 WHEREAS, Pastor Young has visited and encouraged pastors and congregations
19 involved in the mission efforts of the Southern Illinois District; AND
20
21 WHEREAS, Pastor Young has been instrumental in encouraging the Southern Illinois
22 District to be involved in Hispanic Ministry; AND
23
24 WHEREAS, Pastor Young has been an effective encourager of various mission
25 workers, and of the Southern Illinois District Mission Board; AND
26
27 WHEREAS, Pastor Young has helped establish cooperative contacts with the Missouri
28 District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; THEREFORE BE IT
29
30 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District continue in the work that has been
31 undertaken in these past 9 years; AND BE IT FINALLY
32
33 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
34 rise and sing the doxology, “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow,”
35 as we give thanks for Pastor Young’s dedication and faithfulness to the
36 Lord and for his 9 years of service in the Southern Illinois District.
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39 **RESOLUTION: 1-10**
40
41 **SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**
42
43 WHEREAS, Floor Committee #1 has examined the Mission Board Report and other
44 reports assigned to it and found everything to be in order; THEREFORE
45 BE IT
46
47 RESOLVED, that these reports be received with thanks.
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RESOLUTION: 2-01

REFERENCE: President's Report, pp. 109-132

SUBJECT: CONGREGATIONAL REVITALIZATION PROCESS

WHEREAS, Our Lord's mission is to extend the Kingdom of Jesus, "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mt. 16:16) through the proclaiming of "repentance and the forgiveness of sins" (Lk. 24:47); AND

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has set a goal of "revitalizing" 2000 parishes by 2017; AND

WHEREAS, All Christians are called to live the Baptismal life of repentance and forgiveness of sins; AND

WHEREAS, Many temptations exist to seek solutions apart from the Word of God, "which will stand forever" (Is. 40:8); AND

WHEREAS, This remains an ongoing challenge within the Southern Illinois District; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Southern Illinois District implement the Revitalization Process as outlined in the President's Report (Convention Workbook, pp. 109-132); AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the District Board for Spiritual Care & Supervision be directed to develop and assemble the resources necessary to implement this Revitalization Process; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That the Congregations of the Southern Illinois District are hereby encouraged to prayerfully consider this voluntary Revitalization Process.

RESOLUTION: 2-02

REFERENCE: Overtures 2-01 & 2-02, pp. 310-313

SUBJECT: SPECIFIC MINISTRY PASTORS

WHEREAS, in certain situations today, the Synod approves of preaching and administration of the sacraments by men who have not been publicly called to and placed in the office of the ministry (this position is expressed, e.g., in 1989 Resolution 3-05B, ..."when no pastor is available, and in the absence of any specific Scriptural directives to the contrary, congregations may arrange for the performance of these distinctive functions [preaching and administering the sacraments] by qualified individuals"); AND

1 WHEREAS, the Augsburg Confession’s fourteenth article reads, “Concerning church
2 government it is taught that no one should publicly teach, preach, or
3 administer the sacraments without a proper [public] call” (KW p. 46);
4 AND
5

6 WHEREAS, the systematic theology faculties of both seminaries, acting jointly, have
7 published a detailed statement on “The Office of the Holy Ministry”
8 (*Concordia Journal* 33.3 [July 2007]: 242-255) which states in part,
9 “The Confessions never use the truth that the whole church
10 possesses the power of the Keys to make the office of the holy
11 ministry unnecessary or merely useful. On the contrary, this truth
12 serves as the basis for the church’s right to call, choose, and ordain
13 ministers...The point is that The Treatise [on the Power and
14 Primacy of the Pope] does not imagine churches without ordained
15 ministers of some kind, even in emergency situations or when no
16 one else will call and ordain men for the office. As confessors of
17 the same doctrine, neither should we...
18 “First, it shows that ‘call and ordination’ are essential for conduct of
19 the ministry. Ministers do things in the place of Christ... What is
20 the sign of authority for ministers today? It is their call and
21 ordination, which assure that they act by divine right and on the
22 authority of Christ. This truth makes such ideas as “lay ministers”
23 invitations for difficulties and troubles to ministers whose authority
24 is doubtful and to laypersons whose assurance of God’s grace may
25 be questioned.” (pp. 253-254, 255);
26 AND
27

28 WHEREAS, the Board of Pastoral Education and the two seminaries are now
29 implementing the Specific Ministry Pastor Program mandated by the
30 2007 Synodical Convention; AND
31

32 WHEREAS, the Board for Pastoral Education and the Council of Presidents are due
33 to report to the 2010 Synodical Convention concerning “situations
34 currently served by licensed lay deacons” (2007 Res. 5-02);
35 THEREFORE BE IT
36

37 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention express its regret at the
38 current situation in the Synod at large concerning men who are
39 conducting Word and Sacrament ministry without being publicly called to
40 and placed in the office of the ministry; AND BE IT FINALLY
41

42 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention memorialize the Synod in
43 convention to direct the Board for Pastoral Education and the Council of
44 Presidents to develop a plan and lay out procedures:
45 A) So that all men who are currently engaged in Word and
46 Sacrament ministry without being publicly called to and placed in
47 the office of the ministry may either be enrolled in the SMP
48 program or cease from all forms of Word and Sacrament ministry
49 by the end of 2016, and

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- B) So that all current Synod and District tracks, programs, licensing procedures etc. which train men for Word and Sacrament ministry without benefit of being publicly called to and placed in the office of the ministry can be phased out in favor of SMP by the end of 2016; and
- C) So that the Board for Pastoral Education will report on this plan to the 2013 Synod in Convention for approval, emendation, and adoption.

RESOLUTION: 2-03

REFERENCE: Circuit Counselor Reports, pp. 161-185

SUBJECT: CIRCUIT COUNSELOR REPORTS

WHEREAS, Floor Committee #2 has examined the reports of the Circuit Counselors assigned to it and has found everything to be in order; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That these reports be received with thanks.

1 **RESOLUTION: 3-01**
2
3 **REFERENCE: Overture 3-01, pp 314-315**
4
5 **SUBJECT: TO PARTICIPATE IN THE “FAN INTO FLAME” APPEAL**
6
7 WHEREAS, Our Lord Jesus commanded His disciples to “make disciples of all
8 nations” by baptizing them “in the name of the Father and of the Son and
9 of the Holy Spirit” and teaching them “to observe everything He had
10 commanded” them (Matthew 28:19-20); AND
11
12 WHEREAS, Only 49% of the adults in the United States belong to a Christian Church
13 and approximately 149 million unchurched Americans await the Good
14 News of Jesus Christ; AND
15
16 WHEREAS, Two out of three people in the world do not have saving faith in Jesus
17 Christ; AND
18
19 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod World Mission Department has
20 active work and mission relationships in 84 countries world wide and
21 plans to increase the current number of professional, trained and
22 deployed missionaries from 65 to 100 by 2013; AND
23
24 WHEREAS, The Southern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod is
25 presently undertaking a number of dynamic mission projects with the
26 potential for an ever increasing number of mission projects; AND
27
28 WHEREAS, In celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, The
29 Lutheran Church Missouri Synod has organized “Fan into Flame,” a
30 financial campaign within the *Ablaze!* movement created to support
31 mission work in congregations, districts, the national Synod and around
32 the world (15% of donations are to go to the donor’s congregation, 15% to
33 the donor’s district, 20% to the national Synod/districts, and 50% to World
34 Mission); THEREFORE BE IT
35
36 RESOLVED, That the Southern Illinois District in convention assembled commit to
37 participate in the “Fan into Flame” appeal; AND BE IT FURTHER
38
39 RESOLVED, That a committee of Southern Illinois District pastors and lay people be
40 appointed by the President and Board of Directors of the Southern Illinois
41 District to organize the appeal, determine new district mission projects to
42 be funded by the appeal, and encourage congregations in the district to
43 participate in “Fan into Flame”; AND BE IT FURTHER
44
45 RESOLVED, That the SID Board of Mission report to the next District Convention how
46 the money raised by this appeal is spent by the mission projects within
47 the District and its Congregations, AND BE IT FINALLY
48

1 RESOLVED, That the congregations of the Southern Illinois District pray fervently that
2 our Lord will bless this appeal and all Lutheran mission efforts in this
3 country and around the world.
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7 **RESOLUTION: 3-02**

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9 **REFERENCE:** Overture 3-02, p. 316

10
11 **SUBJECT: TO FORM A STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STEWARDSHIP**
12 **IN THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT OF THE LCMS**

13
14 WHEREAS, the Southern Illinois District in its 2006 Convention directed the Board for
15 Congregational Support to form a Stewardship Task Force to define
16 stewardship, hold events targeted to stewardship education, survey the
17 needs of district congregations in the area of stewardship education and
18 gather and publish lists of resources for stewardship to district
19 congregations; AND

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21 WHEREAS, through events such as the Carload Conference and regional stewardship
22 events held in the years 2007 and 2008 it was learned that this was a
23 valuable endeavor in the eyes of participants and much information and
24 many resources were assembled and shared; AND

25
26 WHEREAS, there was a desire expressed by those in attendance that similar events
27 should be provided in the future; THEREFORE BE IT

28
29 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention direct the Board for
30 Congregational Support (BCS) to form by appointment a standing
31 advisory committee on Stewardship Education; AND BE IT FURTHER

32
33 RESOLVED, that this standing advisory committee would report directly to the BCS
34 and will consist of at least ONE member from the BCS and an equal
35 number of additional clergy and non-clergy, with the District President and
36 Schools and General Executive serving as ex officio members; AND BE
37 IT FINALLY

38
39 RESOLVED, that the Advisory Committee for Stewardship Education would continue to
40 gather stewardship resources to be made available to the district,
41 coordinate the training of stewardship leaders and sponsor district
42 stewardship education events regionally throughout the district.
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45

1 **RESOLUTION: 3-03**
2
3 **REFERENCE: Overture 3-03, p. 317**
4
5 **SUBJECT: TO ENCOURAGE INTENTIONAL STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION IN THE**
6 **SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT**
7
8 WHEREAS, there is a call from many corners of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
9 for a “Stewardship Renaissance”; AND
10
11 WHEREAS, a number of congregations of the SID have used programs such as The
12 Lutheran Church Extension Fund’s *Consecrated Stewards* as part of their
13 attempt to raise stewardship awareness with a high degree of faithfulness
14 and success; AND
15
16 WHEREAS, LCMS stewardship leaders speak of a unique “Stewardship Culture” in
17 each of the congregations of our synod; AND
18
19 WHEREAS, on-going stewardship education programs such as the Missouri District’s
20 Stewardship 360 gather congregational stewardship leaders in a retreat
21 setting, followed by monthly discussion groups called “Stewardship
22 Learning Communities”; AND
23
24 WHEREAS, these leaders are equipped to convey the call of our Lord for His church
25 to be faithful stewards in all aspects of life; THEREFORE BE IT
26
27 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in Convention direct the Board of
28 Congregational Support to continue the identification and training of a
29 sufficient number of guest leaders to meet the needs for Consecrated
30 Stewards in the SID; AND BE IT FURTHER
31
32 RESOLVED, that the Board of Congregational Support seek to implement an on-going
33 stewardship education program similar to the Stewardship 360 program
34 developed by the Missouri District; AND BE IT FINALLY
35
36 RESOLVED, that the congregations of the SID be encouraged to make use of these
37 stewardship resources in their endeavor to raise Lutheran Christian
38 Stewards who will sacrificially support the mission of Christ’s Church in
39 the local congregation, the district and throughout the Lord’s Kingdom.
40
41 **RESOLUTION: 3-04**
42
43 **SUBJECT: TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS AS PRESENTED UNDER TABS 7**
44 **& 8**
45
46 WHEREAS, The various Boards and Individual reports as presented under tabs 7 & 8,
47 pp. 191-209, concerning their activities during the last triennium,
48 THEREFORE BE IT
49 RESOLVED, That the Southern Illinois District Convention (2009) receive these reports
50 with thanksgiving.

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-01**

2
3 **REFERENCE:** Overture 4-01, pp. 318-320

4
5 **SUBJECT: TO DELETE THE COMMISSION ON SCHOOL MATTERS AND GIVE**
6 **ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL**
7 **SUPPORT**

8
9 **WHEREAS:** It has not been deemed necessary, due to changing conditions, for a
10 Commission on School Matters to meet during the past triennium; AND

11
12 **WHEREAS:** The responsibilities of this commission may be carried out by the Schools
13 and General Executive working with the School Principals and the Board
14 of Congregational Support; AND

15
16 **WHEREAS:** The Commission on School Matters is required by the SID Bylaws,
17 necessitating a change in the bylaws if the commission is to be deleted;
18 **THEREFORE BE IT**

19
20 **RESOLVED:** That Bylaw 2.05 be amended by striking the reference to A Commission
21 on School Matters, as follows:

22
23 2.05 Boards

24 The boards, commissions, committees, and executives of the
25 District shall be:

26 a. Elected by the convention of the District:

27 A Board of Directors

28 A Board of Circuit Counselors (Board of
29 Spiritual Care and Supervision).

30 A Board of Missions

31 A Board of Congregational Support

32 A Commission of Nominations and

33 Elections

34 A Chairman of the Board of Missions and
35 the Board of Congregational Support

36 b. Appointed by the Board of Directors:

37 A Schools and General Executive

38 A Part-time Mission Executive

39 A Commission of Communications

40 ~~A Commission on School Matters~~

41 An Office and Personnel Committee

42 Four District Reconcilers

43 A Fund Advisory Committee

44 A Lutheran Church Extension Fund Area

45 Vice President

46 Other Part-Time Staff

47 **AND BE IT FURTHER**

48
49 **RESOLVED,** That Bylaws 2.105-2.109 be amended by striking the entire bylaw, as
50 follows:

1
2 O. THE COMMISSION ON SCHOOL MATTERS
3

4 2.105 Membership

5 The Commission on School Matters shall consist of seven
6 persons, (one ordained minister, four commissioned
7 ministers and two lay persons), appointed by the Board of
8 Directors in consultation with the Schools and General
9 Executive and the District President. The Schools and
10 General Executive will be an advisory member of this
11 Commission. The commission will elect its own chairman,
12 and is responsible to the Board of Directors.
13

14 2.107 Purpose

15 a. The purpose of this commission is to assist
16 congregations, school boards, and principals in the
17 promotion, operation, and expansion of Christian day
18 schools, pre-schools, and high schools. This might include
19 areas such as: legal matters, educational resources,
20 accreditation, funding, starting a new school, leadership
21 training, etc.

22 b. To accomplish its purpose the commission may adopt
23 any goals, policies, procedures, and guidelines it deems
24 necessary. These are subject to the approval of the Board
25 of Directors.

26 c. The commission shall develop and submit its annual
27 budget request at the time requested by the finance
28 committee of the Board of Directors.
29

30 2.109 Meetings

31 The Commission may meet as often as it deems
32 necessary to accomplish its purpose.
33

34 AND BE IT FINALLY

35
36 RESOLVED, that Bylaw 7.03 be amended by adding a new paragraph b (in italics
37 below) and by re-lettering the subsequent paragraphs:
38

39 7.03 Purpose

40 a. The purpose of this board shall be to work in support of
41 congregations as it provides services to the congregations,
42 helping equip them meet the various needs expressed. The areas
43 identified in which these services may fall include: Administration,
44 Education, Evangelism, Family Life, Human Care, Stewardship,
45 and Youth.

46 *b. This board will also assist the Schools and General Executive*
47 *in providing support for congregations, school boards, and*
48 *principals in the promotion, operation, and expansion of Christian*
49 *day schools, pre-schools, and high schools. This might include*
50 *areas such as: legal matters, educational resources, accreditation,*

1 *funding, starting a new school, leadership training, etc.*
2 *bc.* To accomplish its purpose the board may adopt any goals,
3 policies, procedures, and guidelines it deems necessary. These
4 are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
5 *ed.* Should it desire to do so, the board may also form various sub
6 committees, task forces to focus on specific areas or issues, or
7 assign specific members of the board to concentrate on a
8 designated area.
9 *de.* The board shall develop and submit its annual budget request
10 at the time designated by the finance committee of the Board of
11 Directors.

12
13
14 **RESOLUTION: 4-02**

15
16 **REFERENCE:** Overture 4-02, p. 321

17
18 **SUBJECT: TO RETAIN THE PRESENT DISTRICT STRUCTURE OF SYNOD**

19
20 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has
21 raised the possibility of significantly increasing or significantly decreasing
22 the number of districts, and,

23
24 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has
25 presented little detailed analysis of the strong points and the weak points
26 of each suggestion, and

27
28 WHEREAS, the geographical diversity of the Synod makes establishing a single
29 pattern which would function best everywhere impossible, and

30
31 WHEREAS, the suggestion to do this restructuring has not come from the
32 congregations of the districts themselves, therefore be it

33
34 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention request the Blue Ribbon
35 Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance to leave the current
36 number of districts as they are, and be it finally

37
38 RESOLVED, that if the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance is
39 convinced that a change to district structure is necessary, that they
40 present a detailed analysis of the strong and weak points of the proposed
41 change.

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-03**
2
3 **REFERENCE:** Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance Report
4
5 **SUBJECT: TO RETAIN VOTING DELEGATES AS LAY AND PASTORAL**
6
7 **WHEREAS:** One of the basic foundations of the structure of the LCMS was a balance
8 of power between the laity and the clergy, and
9
10 **WHEREAS:** This is maintained by having voting representation at conventions consist
11 of one pastor and one lay delegate from each parish or electoral circuit,
12 and
13
14 **WHEREAS:** The change suggested by Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure
15 and Governance making voting representation one ordained and one
16 non-ordained, which allows commissioned ministers to replace a lay
17 delegate, is an essential change of this basic foundation of a balance of
18 power between the laity and the clergy, and would give professional
19 church workers a preponderance of voting power, and
20
21 **WHEREAS:** The Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has
22 not demonstrated why maintaining this balance of power is no longer
23 important, and
24
25 **WHEREAS:** The only justification given by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod
26 Structure and Governance is that it would enfranchise commissioned
27 ministers, and
28
29 **WHEREAS:** If it is deemed necessary that commissioned ministers be eligible to
30 become voting delegates, there are other ways by which this could be
31 accomplished, such as by changing the category of “pastors” to “rostered
32 church workers”, which includes commissioned ministers, and which
33 would still maintain the balance between professional church workers and
34 laity, therefore be it
35
36 **RESOLVED,** that the Southern Illinois District in convention request the Blue Ribbon
37 Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance to abandon the proposal
38 of changing voting categories to ordained and non-ordained.
39

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-04**

2
3 **REFERENCE:** Overture 4-02, p. 321

4
5 **SUBJECT: ELECTION OF DELEGATE PAIRS TO SYNODICAL CONVENTIONS**

6
7 **WHEREAS,** one of the circuits of the Southern Illinois District submitted to the 2007
8 LCMS National Convention a suggestion similar to the Blue Ribbon Task
9 Force on Synod Structure and Governance for congregational
10 representation at national conventions, tying the number of pairs of
11 delegates to a national convention with a formula based on the number of
12 congregations and communicant members of a district, which would
13 eliminate all exceptions, and

14
15 **WHEREAS,** it is critical that these delegate pairs be chosen in a uniform way
16 throughout the synod, and

17
18 **WHEREAS,** it is critical that the process of choosing these pairs not be open to the
19 possibility of eliminating views differing from the majority, such as by
20 electing all delegate pairs at large, therefore be it

21
22 **RESOLVED,** that the Southern Illinois District encourage the Blue Ribbon Task Force
23 on Synod Structure and Governance to pursue the proposal to assign
24 delegate pairs to districts based on a formula of number of congregations
25 and number of communicant membership, and be it further

26
27 **RESOLVED,** that in the proposal the delegate pairs be elected by region within a
28 district, the regions being established by district convention action, and be
29 it further

30
31 **RESOLVED,** that in the proposal the actual selection of the delegates be done by the
32 congregations of the region, with a pastor and a lay delegate of each
33 congregation voting, and be it finally

34
35 **RESOLVED,** that in the event either the delegate or alternate delegate is unable to
36 serve, the District President appoint a replacement in consultation with
37 the circuit counselor(s) of that region.

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-05**

2
3 **REFERENCE:** Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance Report

4
5 **SUBJECT: TO RETAIN PROGRAM BOARDS AS MORE THAN ADVISORY**

6
7 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has
8 proposed that all program boards on the national level would be advisory
9 and function to encourage and support a ministry rather than have any
10 administrative role, and

11
12 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has
13 proposed that all executive staff at the national level would report directly
14 to the president of the Synod, and

15
16 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance has not
17 indicated how these executive staff would be chosen, presumably by the
18 president, and

19
20 WHEREAS, this proposal would be a significant centralization of power, therefore be it

21
22 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention request the synod in
23 convention to reject this proposal.

24
25
26
27 **RESOLUTION: 4-06**

28
29 **REFERENCE:** Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance Report

30
31 **SUBJECT: TO RETAIN CURRENT CONGREGATIONAL REPRESENTATION**

32
33 WHEREAS, from its inception the LCMS has been an organization of equal
34 congregations, and

35
36 WHEREAS, there have been significant differences in the sizes of member
37 congregations from the very beginning of the history of the synod, and

38
39 WHEREAS, the proposal of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and
40 Governance to give larger congregations more votes at district
41 conventions changes a foundational assumption of the synod, and

42
43 WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance does
44 not explain the implications of this change to the nature of the synod or
45 what the benefits would be for the synod as a whole, therefore be it

46
47 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District in convention urge the Blue Ribbon Task
48 Force on Synod Structure and Governance to retain equal representation
49 for all parishes at District conventions.

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-07**

2
3 **REFERENCE:** Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance Report

4
5 **SUBJECT: TO EXERCISE APPROPRIATE CARE IN CONSIDERING STRUCTURE**
6 **CHANGES**

7
8 WHEREAS, in 2005 President Gerald Kieschnick appointed a Blue Ribbon Task Force
9 on Synod Structure and Governance; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the Task Force's preliminary proposals of August, 2008 were far-reaching
12 in scope and significant in import; and

13
14 WHEREAS, experience teaches that maximum attention must be given to detail and
15 wording in making adjustments or changes that impinge on structure; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the Synod would do well to proceed with prayerful and appropriate care in
18 considering any changes; therefore be it

19
20 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District recommend to the Synod in convention
21 that the Synod not adopt any of the Task Force's proposals unless the
22 Task Force has made available for public study the precise language it
23 proposes for any and all Constitution and Bylaw changes, as well as the
24 complete text of any enabling resolutions that the Task Force might
25 propose to help implement the changes it advocates; and be it finally

26
27 RESOLVED, that the Southern Illinois District respectfully request that the Task Force's
28 final report be published and posted on the Synod's website at the same
29 time that the Task Force submits it for inclusion in the 2010 Convention
30 Workbook, so that the final form of this important report can be available
31 for maximum study throughout the Synod prior to the convention.

32
33
34
35
36
37 **RESOLUTION: 4-08**

38
39 **REFERENCE:** Reports, pp. 201-209

40
41 **SUBJECT: TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

42
43 RESOLVED, that Floor Committee Four accept reports assigned to it with thanksgiving.
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

1 **RESOLUTION: 4-09**

2

3 **REFERENCE:** Overture 4-03, p. 322

4

5 **SUBJECT: TO RESPECTFULLY DECLINE OVERTURE 4-03**

6

7 RESOLVED, that for reasons of impracticality and lack of clarity Overture 4-03 be
8 respectfully declined.

9