



Today's Business

Of the 60th Southern Illinois District Convention
Preconvention Issue January 31, 2025

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CHANGES FROM THE WORKBOOK

Page 4 Schedule, See below for an updated schedule.

Page 16 R-04 Treasurer's Report; In the Fiscal Year chart breakdown, the expense number should be \$980,000 (not \$998,000 as it was printed.)

Page 99 Ordained Minister Roster Changes; Christopher Urquhart was called to glory January 18, 2025

Page 101 Commissioned Minister Roster Changes; Katherine Rutowicz entered into the Southern Illinois District on 08-11-2024 with a commission and install at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Hamel by Rev. Rene Castellero.

Page 102 Commissioned Minister Roster Changes; Zachariah Schnare was reported to have transferred to Missouri District, but he remains part of Southern Illinois District.

SCHEDULE OF THE CONVENTION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025

4 – 6:00 p.m.	Registration (<i>In lobby of the Regency Conference Center</i>)
6 – 7:30 p.m.	The Divine Service (<i>Separate Worship Book will be Provided</i>) Preacher: Rev. Peter Lange Host Pastors: Rev. Chris Spelbring and Rev. Josh Kintz Host Congregation: Zion, Belleville
7:30 – 8 p.m.	Fellowship/Break
8:00 p.m.	Convention Business Begins Floor Committee Two - Convention Arrangements and Registration Call to Order: Rev. Timothy J. Scharr
8:10 p.m.	President's Address: Rev. Timothy J. Scharr
8:25 p.m.	<i>Floor Committee Three – Nominations and Elections*</i> Balloting for President-preceded with prayer by Chaplain 1 st Balloting for Vice-Presidents
8:45 p.m.	Closing Devotions

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025

Breakfast (*On Your Own*)

8:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion
8:20 a.m.	<i>Floor Committee Two - Convention Arrangements and Registration</i> Call to Order: Rev. Timothy J. Scharr
8:25 a.m.	Business Floor Committee Three – Nominations and Elections (Balloting for Vice Presidents, continued)
8:45 a.m.	Synodical Report: Rev. Peter Lange <i>LCMS First Vice-President</i>
9:45 a.m.	Business* Floor Committee One – Resolutions
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Advisory Delegates (Pastoral and Commissioned) Caucus to select delegates to the 2026 Synod Convention in Phoenix, AZ
10:30 a.m.	Welcome New Members of Synod and Theological Study with Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders <i>Iowa East District President</i>
11:30 a.m.	Synodical Report Q & A: Rev. Peter Lange <i>LCMS First Vice-President</i>
11:55 a.m.	Noonday Prayer
12:00 p.m.	Lunch (<i>Meal #1 – <u>MUST</u> have a #1 on Name Tag to be Served</i>)
1:00 p.m.	Convention Resumes with Responsive Prayer
1:15 p.m.	Set Apart to Serve: Rev. Dr. James Baneck

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2025 *(Continued)*

2:00 p.m.	Business* Floor Committee Three – Nominations and Elections (with prayer for guidance by the Chaplain)
2:20 p.m.	Business* Presentation from Eve's Restoration House Floor Committee One – Resolutions
2:55 p.m.	Greetings from LWML
3:00 p.m.	Break
3:15 p.m.	Reports* Report of the Schools and General Executive Report of the Treasurer Report of the Mission Board Report of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund Report of the LCMS Foundation
4:00 p.m.	Business* Floor Committee One – Resolutions
5:00 p.m.	Greetings from Seminaries and Universities
5:45 p.m.	Closing Devotions
6:00 p.m.	Evening Meal/Fellowship (<i>Meal #2 – <u>MUST</u> have a #2 on Name Tag to be Served</i>)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

Breakfast (*On Your Own*)

8:00 a.m.	Morning Devotions
8:20 a.m.	Floor Committee Two – Convention Arrangements and Registration Call to Order: Rev. Timothy J. Scharr Theological Study – Part II: Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders <i>Iowa East District President</i>
9:00 a.m.	Business Floor Committee Three – Nominations and Elections
9:10 a.m.	Business* Floor Committee One – Resolutions
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Business* Floor Committee One – Resolutions
11:00 a.m.	Closing Service and Installation of Officers and Board Members
12:00 p.m.	Homeward Bound – May God protect and keep us all!

**Note: Floor Committee – Nominations and Elections, will have the floor at times as necessary to complete elections.*

See you at the next District Convention tentatively set for February 17–19, 2028.

PROPOSED STANDING RULES

1. The Chair shall see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible. However, the District President shall have the privilege of calling up for action those resolutions, which in his judgement, are of special importance.
2. If any resolution is not acted upon by the convention before adjournment, it dies and the subject matter may be reintroduced for possible consideration by an overture at the next convention.
3. The minutes will be approved by the District Board of Directors at its first meeting following the convention.

Introduction of Resolutions and Debate

4. The preface, preamble, rationale, and whereas sections shall be regarded as integral parts of resolutions and therefore subject to the same consideration and adoption as the main motion.
5. Except in unusual circumstances where the reading of the whereas sections of a resolution is necessary due to their technical nature, these whereas sections of resolutions from floor committees that are printed in Today's Business will not be read by the chairman or presenting member of the floor committee.
6. The chair of the convention is not required to read each resolution as he states the questions and then as he takes the vote.
7. Delegates wishing to address the convention shall state their name and the name of the congregation or entity of the Synod that they represent when recognized by the Chair.
8. No delegate may speak in debate for longer than two (2) minutes per speech. The Chair shall have discretion to make exceptions to this rule. When a floor committee is called on to answer a question or to give information, this rule shall not apply.
9. A delegate who speaks on an issue may not move to call the question at the close of his or her speech.
10. While any voting delegate may move to close debate (call the question) at any time, a vote on closing debate (two-thirds vote required) on a pending motion shall be put by the Chair after every twenty (20) minutes of debate. The chair may also call for a vote on closing debate (two-thirds vote required) when, in his judgment, the assembly has heard sufficient speaking from both sides of the issue.
11. A motion to close debate ("call the question") shall apply only to the immediately pending question.

Voting

12. An electronic response system shall ordinarily be used to register votes. If the system is not available, the Chair shall take votes by voice, by show of hands, or by a rising vote. The Chair may order a count if any voice, show of hands, or rising vote seems inconclusive.

13. The privilege of granting delegates the right to record their votes in the minutes with respect to a particular resolution shall be granted by the assembly by a two-thirds (2/3) vote without debate. If such privilege is granted, the votes of the record shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary within 30 minutes after the close of the day's business on which such privilege was granted.

Amendments and Substitute Resolutions

14. Substitute resolutions shall be printed and distributed to the delegates prior to convention consideration of the resolutions to which they pertain.

15. Generally, a written copy of proposed amendments shall be provided to the secretary prior to its being offered from the floor.

16. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter shall be offered two (2) minutes to provide the rationale for offering it and a member of the floor committee shall be offered two (2) minutes to present rationale for not considering the proposed substitute, after which the convention shall decide by majority vote without further debate whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and if the substitute motion is adopted, the original motion fails. If the substitute motion does not receive favorable action either to consider or to adopt, the original motion again considered. (This is an adaptation of the so-called "Behnken Rule" for addressing substitute motions.)

17. If, in the opinion of the chair, a proposed and seconded amendment essentially changes a resolution that has been proposed by a floor committee, the chair may rule that this is, in effect, a substitute resolution, and the process in item 16 above shall be followed.

Amendments of Ballots and Floor Nominations

18. Floor nominations require a second, and must be voted on individually before they are placed on the ballot. Floor nominations cannot be made for district president, circuit visitor, or district vice presidents.

19. The ballot for district president and circuit visitor can only be altered by amendment. Following the primary ballot, the ballot for district vice-president may not be amended.

Parliamentary Procedure

20. Unless covered by these Standing Rules, parliamentary procedure shall be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

PRESIDENT REPORT, PART II

“For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people” (Titus 3:3-8).

Heirs of Eternal Life is the theme for this 60th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod’s Southern Illinois District. You are an heir of eternal life. An heir is one who is entitled to receive a share of a person’s property or estate. We have this privilege solely because of Jesus Christ. Jesus, true God from all eternity, became man through the Virgin Mary. We sing at Christmas what is true eternally. It can rightly be sung year-round. *“Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as Man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!”* (LSB 380:2).

Jesus came to die and give His life as a ransom for your sins. As Titus reminds us, we too were once foolish, disobedient, led astray and slaves to various passions and pleasures. The works of the flesh are deadly as Paul writes elsewhere, “I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:21). We are conceived and born in sin which makes us ineligible to inherit the kingdom God. The Lord does not want this for anyone which is why Jesus came in human flesh. He perfectly obeyed the law of God. He took our iniquities upon Himself. He died for you. Now we have a different future. It is the Lord who qualifies you to be an heir of eternal life. Holy Scripture says: “Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:12-14).

The Lord Himself qualifies you to share in His inheritance with all believers. Don’t worry that your share will be miniscule. The Lord is the God of abundance. His love knows no limits. He is greater than the universe and all that is visible and invisible. In His presence forever you will never lack or want again. The old things have gone, behold new things have come in Christ Jesus.

Faith receives this gracious gift of God. For many of us it was bestowed in baptism as infants. Infant baptism is a beautiful reminder that it is God who saves us. We are never saved by work done by us in righteousness. As Titus reminds us, He saved us, according to His mercy through the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit whom He poured out richly upon us in Jesus Christ (Titus 3:4-5). Baptism now saves you (1 Peter 3:20). It is not the external washing but the power of God at work with the water and the Word that creates a new and clean heart

within you. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned (Mark 16:16).

Peter reminds us that we who are born from above are born into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. He describes what we inherit. "To an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:4-7). As a believer, this inheritance is yours. It doesn't matter if you are male or female, Jew or Gentile, slave or free, for you are all one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:27-28). You are an heir according to the promise of God Himself.

Titus reminds us that this is a trustworthy saying that he wants us to insist upon so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. This applies to how we conduct ministry within the Southern Illinois District and beyond through The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We have abundant opportunities wherever the Lord has placed you. It is easy to lament the decline of congregations and the challenges that it brings. But the Lord has not called us to a spirit of fear and timidity but to one of power and love and self-control (2 Timothy 1:7).

Above all we have the living and abiding Word of God. It is a powerful Word that accomplishes the purpose for which God sends it (Isaiah 55:11). It is a Word that kills and makes alive (Hosea 6:1-2). It is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, able to pierce the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account (Hebrews 4:12-13). Jesus is the Word made flesh. The Holy Scripture is His testimony to the truth, for He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one goes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6). He who had the first word in creation has the final word on Judgment Day. Jesus says: "Fear not, I am the first and the last, the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades" (Revelation 1:17b-18).

Fear not! We are heirs of eternal life. Sons and daughters of the King of kings and Lord of lords. The Triune God is the Pantocrator. There is nothing in all creation, visible or invisible greater than Him. If God is for us, who can be against us? Let's go and get on with the work of the Lord in our congregations, schools, and communities.

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of others? "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. So far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved never avenge yourselves but leave it to the wrath of God (Romans 12:14-15; 18). "Bear with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all this put-on love, which binds everything

together in perfect harmony” (Colossians 3:13-14). These things are radically countercultural to the world in which we live. Practice these things and you will be the light of Christ shining in a dark place, the city set on a hill that cannot be hidden (Matthew 5:14-16).

Throughout the business of the Convention, you will hear reports of the work of your district and Synod. You will consider resolutions and elect officers for the next triennium. There is a wide-open world before us. Many of whom have never heard the truth about the Triune God and our Savior Jesus Christ. There are others who have strayed away, uncertain about life, eternity, or God. Many people are confused, hurting, broken or suffering. As an heir of eternal life, share Jesus. Tell them what He has done for them, for you and for our broken dying world. As heirs of eternal life, you have the greatest treasure of all. You are baptized and redeemed. You have the forgiveness of sins. You have Jesus to believe, give, and share.

May the Lord richly bless this 60th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod’s Southern Illinois District. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Rev. Timothy J. Scharr, President
Southern Illinois District – LCMS

SLATE OF ELECTIONS

The slate of candidates and biographies of candidates are below. If a candidate is standing for more than one office, they may only serve one office. (The Commissions on Nominations for the 2028 District Convention and the 2026 Synod Convention are exceptions to this rule.)

Note “*” designates an incumbent.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

- Rev. Heath Curtis
- Rev. Dr. Stephen Krenz
- Rev. Christen Prumm
- Rev. Timothy Scharr*

FIRST AND SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

- Candidates for these positions will be nominated at the Convention.

DISTRICT SECRETARY (ordained)

- Rev. Lyle Buettner
- Rev. Gunnar Campbell
- Rev. Dr. George Gude

DISTRICT TREASURER (lay)

- Gary Hemmer*
- Kevin Koenigstein

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LAY (elect 8)

- Larry Barringer*
- Paul Bertels*
- Matt Bierman*
- Larry Erdmann
- Randy Gindler
- Curtis Grote
- Gary Hemmer
- Don Hutchinson
- Kevin Koenigstein
- Kurt Johnson*
- Jerry Mueller
- Dr. James Munden
- Mark Peterson
- Deveron Reising
- Brad Rider
- Don Stallman*
- George Trammel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMISSIONED (elect 3)

- William Becker*
- Edith Laufer
- Elizabeth Koester
- Ken Krueger
- Joseph Meador
- John Schaff*

BOARD OF MISSIONS, CHAIR (elect 1)

- Nominees drawn from the ordained electees of the Board of Missions

BOARD OF MISSIONS, ORDAINED (elect 3)

- Rev. James King
- Rev. David Otten
- Rev. Andrew Packer
- Rev. Scott Schilbe
- Rev. Dr. David Schultz
- Rev. John Sedwick

BOARD OF MISSIONS, COMMISSIONED (elect 1)

- Hannah Gruben
- Edith Laufer
- Joseph Meador

BOARD OF MISSIONS, LAY (elect 4)

- Walter Blotevogel
- Alice Decker
- Frank Glaub
- Hans Gruben
- Janet Kahre
- Sara Manley
- Elaine Muskopf
- Mark Schoenleber

BOARD ON NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS FOR 2028

(elect 1 for each circuit, elect 2 commissioned)

Circuit 1 (Lay)

- Bill Hoff
- Derek Johnson

Circuit 2 (Ordained)

- Rev. David Otten
- Rev. Dr. David Schultz

Circuit 3 (Lay)

- Jonathon Lindsey
- Mark Schoenleber

Circuit 4 (Ordained)

- Rev. Andrew Packer
- Rev. Scott Schilbe

Circuit 5 (Lay)

- Don Hutchinson
- Sara Manley

Circuit 6 (Lay)

- Jerry Mueller
- Dr. James Munden

Circuit 7 (Ordained)

- Rev. James Hennig
- Rev. Joe Nehring

Circuit 8 (Lay)

- Matt Bierman
- Jeff Obermeier

Circuit 9 (Ordained)

- Rev. Mark Harriss
- Rev. John Sedwick

Circuit 10 (Lay)

- Ray Kaaz
- Jeff Mueller

Circuit 11 (Ordained)

- Rev. Matt Christian
- Rev. Jay Holden

Commissioned

- Elizabeth Koester
- Ken Krueger
- Edith Laufer
- Joseph Meador

BOARD OF SPIRITUAL CARE, CHAIR (elect 1)

- Nominations drawn from slate of circuit visitors

LAY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE 2026 SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(elect 1 representative and 1 alternate)

- Frank Glaub
- Zach Stegman
- Jeff Schwarz

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE CANDIDATES

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Rev. Heath Curtis *Presidential Candidate*

Birthdate: 07/07/1977

Education:

Concordia University, Nebraska (BA, 2000)
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2004)
Washington University, St. Louis, MO (MA Classics, 2004)

Pastorates:

Trinity, Burr Ridge, IL (Asst. Pastor, 2004-05)
Trinity & Zion, Worden & Carpenter, IL (Pastor, 2005-Present)

District and Synod Service:

CPH Author, Editor, Translator (Luther's Works; Five Things You Can Do to Lead a Jesus-Centered Life; Ordering Our Days in His Peace; Gerhard's Theological Commonplaces)
Regular Contributor to Issues, Etc.
Visiting Lecturer, Exegetical Theology Dept., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2003-04)
Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Theology, Philosophy & Languages, Concordia University – Chicago (2005 & 2022-23)
SID General Pastors' Conference Committee (2007-10)
Instructor for Latin & Greek, Wittenberg Academy (2012-Present)
Manager of Stewardship Ministry – LCMS (2013-Present)

Personal Statement Regarding the Office of District President:

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Ps. 119:105). The Office of District President exists to serve the congregations, schools, pastors, and commissioned ministers of the district so that their ministries may excel: this can only happen by the power of God's Word. Therefore, the District President should provide value to the congregations and schools of the district by helping them to apply the Word of God to the problems they actually face today. The District President should be oriented toward the question, “How can I help each and every congregation and school be a thriving, healthy outpost of the Gospel in a fallen world?” This only happens through the Word, and I am thankful that I see a strong love for the Word and faithfulness to it across the SID! This faithfulness to the Word is especially needed today in our stewardship and finances. For the past 11 years I've served the Synod as Manager for Stewardship. I got into this work through my experience as pastor at Trinity-Worden. When I arrived in Worden 19 years ago, our congregation was in financial crisis. We had a budget that was 42% in the red and the bank had just canceled our line of credit. It was a time of stress and worry. We didn't know how we would pay the bills. Financial stress, budgets in the red, and a

lack of transparency resulted in a reluctance to give on the part of the people. So I got some good advice about applying the Word of God to this problem and the elders and I got to work. We put the Word first, enlisted the membership to work with us, restored trust through transparency and openness, and in 18 months our budget was in the black and has been ever since. But more than this, the whole experience brought the congregation together and strengthened us for renewed ministry because we had seen the Word do its work! As Manager of Stewardship Ministry for the LCMS, for the past 11 years it's been my joy to help other congregations, schools, and institutions apply the Word to their financial woes and come out on the other side with a renewed vigor for Gospel ministry.

If elected, what would be your chief priority in fulfilling the office of District President?

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17). If entrusted with this office, I would seek to help pastors, lay leaders, and commissioned workers apply the Word of God to the challenges we face with energy and confidence. Every challenge and problem in the Church must find its solution in the Word of God. My work as a parish pastor, combined with my work for the past decade as the Synod’s Manager for Stewardship, has allowed me to gain some perspective on the challenges we face. In my work with Synod I hear about the same challenges over and over: membership is declining and growing older, finances are shaky (or worse), many members are inactive, and it’s getting harder and harder to fill volunteer positions. During my pastorate and in my service to Synod, I have seen that there are answers to each of these challenges to be found in the Word of God. If your congregation faces these challenges, know that your church can be a thriving, healthy place for active ministry! The prescription is to actively, vigorously, and wisely apply the Word of God to these challenges. That’s what I’ve spent the last 19 years doing in Worden & Carpenter and the past decade for congregations across the Synod. If I am entrusted with this office, I would seek to help pastors and lay leaders wisely and vigorously apply the Word to these challenges in their churches and schools as well. This will require a personal visitation to each congregation and school, a listening ear, a collaborative work ethic, and a dedication to work long hours and put in thousands of miles behind the wheel each year. The churches and schools of our district deserve nothing less.

What do you most want to see happen within the congregations of the SID over the next decade, and what would you do to assist congregations to fulfill that vision?

“If you abide in My Word, you are truly My disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31-32). I want each and every congregation and school of the SID to be a healthy, thriving outpost of the Gospel in a fallen world that reaches in to build up disciples and reaches out to call new disciples to the faith. The four challenges I mentioned above must be confronted with the Word of God for this to happen. Fortunately, various people in our Synod have developed wise, practical, and faithful ways to apply the Word to all these challenges. If

entrusted with this office, during the first triennium I would strive to meet with the pastor and lay leaders of each of our 96 congregations and the principal and board of our 39 schools to learn about their ministry setting and then help them develop a plan to use these ministry tools to energetically apply the Word of God to their challenges (these include the COMPASS tool developed by the Mid-South district, Stewardship Under the Cross from my work with the Office of National Mission, and the evangelism resources from the Synod's God's Mission Here emphasis). Our joint mission endeavors (Unity Lutheran Christian School, prison ministry, campus ministries, support of the seminary in the Dominican Republic, etc.) must continue to be supported all while seeking to plant at least one new church as a district project, as our district contains the largest population center in Illinois without an LCMS church. Again, this will require long hours, many miles traveled, and hard work from the District President; and again, the congregations and schools of our district deserve nothing less. It will also require a steadfast faith in the Word of God and a strong work ethic from the pastors, commissioned workers, and lay leaders of our district. Everything I've seen in my 19 years in the SID leads me to believe that this already exists and is ready to go forth in faith and boldness!

Rev. Dr. Stephen Krenz *Presidential Candidate*

Birthdate: 05/12/1968

Education:

Concordia College, St. Paul, MN (BA, 1990)
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 1994)
Clinical Pastoral Education at Laclede Groves, St. Louis, MO (Certification 1995)
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (DMin 2013)

Pastorates:

Grace Lutheran Church, Holts Summit, MO (1995-2002)
Trinity Lutheran Church, Hoffman, IL (2002-2018)
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Columbia, IL (2018-present)

District and Synod Service:

Circuit Counselor, SID Circuit 7 (2004-2010)
Circuit 7 Pastoral Delegate to the LCMS Convention (2013)
Circuit Visitor, SID Circuit 7 (2018)
Concordia Seminary Field Education Supervisor (2018-present)
SID LWML Pastoral Advisor (2019-2023)
SID Conference Committee (2023-present)

Personal Statement Regarding the Office of District President:

It has been a tremendous honor to work as an under-shepherd in Christ's church for almost 30 years. I have served in a small mission congregation, a mid-size congregation with a school, and now a suburban congregation. Each of these experiences has given me a broad perspective on pastoral and congregational life. The Office of District President exists to promote unity in the faith among our congregations, church workers, and schools. If elected, I would visit, encourage, and assist in making sure that the pure Word of God is taught and shared within our congregational settings and beyond.

If elected, what would be your chief priority in fulfilling the office of District President?

If elected to this position, I would seek to further enhance our unity as members in this district by individually meeting with pastors and congregations to encourage, listen, and provide resources that would support them in carrying out God's mission. With the help of our Lord, I would seek to remind the saints in our district of the great privilege we have in bringing God's law and gospel to the lost and broken in this fallen world.

What do you most want to see happen within the congregations of the SID over the next decade, and what would you do to assist congregations to fulfill that vision?

It is well known that the church is declining in membership, attendance, and influence in our culture. Yet, as long as the Word and Sacraments are faithfully distributed and believers are formed, the church always has more going for it than against it. Rather than looking inward, I hope that our congregations and church workers would, by the grace and mercy of Christ, set a course to look up in faith and out to our neighbors in love. To assist in this process, I would seek to support numerous online and in person resources for pastors, teachers, and lay people to better serve those God has called them to serve. This ongoing interaction would assist us in walking together as His church in our district.

Rev. Christen Edward Prumm *Presidential Candidate*

Birthdate: 11/13/1970

Education:

Aeronautical Flight/Maintenance, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (AS, 1999)
Aeronautical Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (BS, 2000)
Exegetical Emphasis, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (MDiv, 2006)

Pastorates:

Vicarage, Coldwater & Quincy, MI (Dual Parish Vicar, 2005-2006)
Britton & Hecla, SD (Dual Parish Pastor, 2006-2012)
Columbia, SD (Vacancy Pastor, 2012)
St. Paul's, Nokomis, IL (Pastor, 2012-present)
Trinity, Girard, IL (Vacancy Pastor, 2015-2016)
Trinity, Harvel, IL (Vacancy Pastor, 2017-2018)
Trinity, Girard, IL (Vacancy Pastor, 2018-2021)
Trinity, Nokomis, IL (Vacancy Pastor, 2020-2023)
Trinity, Harvel, IL (Vacancy Pastor, 2023-present)

District and Synod Service:

Convention Delegation (2016, 2019)
Vicarage Supervisor (2018-2019)
Circuit Visitor (2020-present)
SID Convention Floor Committee Chairman (2022)
SID Convention Nominations Committee (2025)

Personal Statement Regarding the Office of District President:

I agree with the Synodical bylaws that the office of the District President includes visiting each congregation of the district and supervising the doctrine and practice of its members as we all walk together in the common confession of our Lord Jesus Christ. With a pre-pastorate background of supervision, training, and compliance auditing with multiple agencies (including ISO, FAA, and OSHA), coupled with the experience of serving multiple congregations as Pastor, vacancy Pastor, Circuit Visitor, and Vicarage Supervisor, I realize the stresses of maintaining operating procedures as well as defending the pure confession of faith of the Scriptures and Confessions. It is inspiring to have labored alongside many congregations in their various practices and witnessed how God is faithfully working through His people. I appreciate how the District President is a position of sacrifice that also leads by serving, as Christ our Lord, the Head of the Church, led by giving Himself up for His bride that she may be without spot or blemish. The District President also encourages and assists the called church workers and congregations of his district, as they, too, serve their congregations and communities. Together, we all serve God in spreading the Gospel of Christ's life, death, and resurrection for the salvation of the world.

If elected, what would be your chief priority in fulfilling the office of District President?

My chief priority would be to visit every congregation of the district in order to know every pastor and congregation and gather information of their particular needs from a district level and answer any questions or concerns they may have. These visits would also give each pastor and congregation the opportunity to know their district president personally, that we may strengthen the bonds of Christian fellowship between church and district, and truly walk together in increasing our Lutheran identity in this sinful world. For we, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod have the truth of God's Word in Christ that this darkened world so desperately needs to hear for eternal life, and we need to encourage one another in our calling to make disciples of all nations.

What do you most want to see happen within the congregations of the SID over the next decade, and what would you do to assist congregations to fulfill that vision?

In a rapidly changing world characterized by technological advancement, demographic shifts, and evolving social dynamics, the necessity for revitalization, community engagement, and spiritual growth has never been more pressing. Over the next ten years, I hope to see the congregations of the Southern Illinois District become the foremost centers of faith, fellowship, and service that not only nourish their members but also are held in the highest regard in their communities.

Many congregations face challenges related to aging memberships, declining attendance, and dwindling resources. To address these issues, I would advocate for more opportunities of leadership in the congregations, particularly among its younger members. I would encourage highly useful workshops, seminars, and pastors' conferences that not only excite pastors to attend, but conferences that include building skills directly relatable to the work being done in the congregations.

Another desire would be fostering an intentional commitment of our congregations to be as consistent in doctrinal practices across the district as possible so that all pastors can stand united with one another in our efforts against the rulers, powers, and spiritual forces that continue to grow in its opposition to us. To assist in fulfilling this vision, I would support circuit-wide procedures or resources that could also be implemented across the district addressing many of the casuistry items every pastor faces regularly, including but not limited to the proper or effective use of technology, congregational enthusiasm, stewardship, and membership retention.

As our congregations engage in renewal, community outreach, and spiritual growth, they will not only enhance their own vitality but also make a lasting impact in the world around them. I would like the Southern Illinois District to be where every church continues to stand strong in the faith, firmly grounded pure preaching and the administration of the sacraments, and where every pastor desires to serve.

Rev. Timothy Scharr* *Presidential Candidate*

Birthdate: 02/11/1958

Education:

Concordia College, Ann Arbor, MI (BA, 1980)

Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN (M.Div., 1984)

Many extension classes from both LCMS seminaries plus numerous seminars, symposiums and conferences.

Pastorates:

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Indianola, IA (Sole Pastor, 1984-1994)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wenatchee, WA (Sole Pastor, 1994-2001)

Trinity Lutheran Church, Nashville, IL (Senior Pastor, 2001-2010)

Southern IL District, Belleville, IL (President, 2010-present)

Messiah Lutheran Church, Carlyle, IL (Assistant Pastor, 2020-present)

District and Synod Service:

Iowa District West - Student Scholarship Committee (1987); District Stewardship Board (1987-1994); Circuit Visitor (1991-1994); Board of Directors (1994)

Northwest District - Circuit Visitor (1997-2001); Washington-Alaska LWML Pastoral Counselor (1997-2001)

Southern Illinois District - Mission Board (2003-2006); 2nd Vice-President (2006-2009); 1st Vice-President (2009-2010); District President (2010-present)

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod - LCMS Dialog Team with Renewal in Missouri (1995-2000); Convention Delegate (1998, 2010); Colloquy Committee for Pastoral Ministry (2012-present); Co-Chairman of University & Seminary Education Floor Committee (2013); Chairman of University Education Floor Committee (2016, 2019); Chairman of Structure and Administration Floor Committee (2023); President's liaison to Lutheran Hour Ministries (2011-2016); Council of Presidents (2010-present).

Personal Statement Regarding the Office of District President:

I see the role of district president primarily as one of service to the congregations and church workers of Southern Illinois. Here I am ably assisted by the School and General Executive with the ongoing service and care to our schools and commissioned ministers. The district president has ecclesiastical supervision responsibilities for all workers, congregations, schools and other district entities. This helps to ensure that we walk together in doctrine and practice with the Synod. The district president is a resource for assisting congregations with calling church workers, especially pastors. He is a resource for churches with various questions and needs. He advises congregations as a whole or in part through the church council and/or the board of elders. He is to protect the "rights" of congregations, schools and workers should difficulties arise that everything may be done decently and in order according to the Holy Scriptures, Confessions and bylaws of the Synod to which we voluntarily belong.

If elected, what would be your chief priority in fulfilling the office of District President?

By the grace of God, I would strive to faithfully serve the workers, congregations and schools in the district to the best of my ability. As I continue to practice the art and skills of working with people and organizations, to improve in every aspect of my service to them. The fulfilling of the responsibilities assigned to this office are ongoing and never complete this side of heaven. I am energized by serving people that they may grow in the knowledge of salvation in Jesus Christ and declare His name to everyone where the Lord has located them.

What do you most want to see happen within the congregations of the SID over the next decade, and what would you do to assist congregations to fulfill that vision?

The decline of participation in worship, Bible study and Sunday School impacts everyone. Likewise, the role of service within the congregation and to the community suffers with fewer people willing to volunteer and be involved. The danger for the church is to forget who she is as the bride of Christ and become increasingly like the culture that has little use for Jesus or denies Him outright. I believe the Triune God has given us a wonderful opportunity to be the church. That is to proclaim that God has not abandoned the world but that He has chosen to redeem and save this world through His Son Jesus Christ. The answer to society's pressing issues begins with repentance and forgiveness of sins won for us through Jesus Christ, the crucified, risen, ascended and returning One. This present world is passing away. Even now the Lord Jesus is preparing for us a better place (John 14:1-6). There will be a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. In Jesus, we have both a hope and a future. What Jesus did, he did for every man, woman and child from all times and places. The Lord God has entrusted us with the message to boldly proclaim and live out in our present age. We are called to be faithful unto death and thus conquer in Christ. I would love to assist our people, workers, congregations and schools to boldly recapture this vision and live it out daily. The fields are ripe unto harvest, let's go!

DISTRICT SECRETARY

Rev. Lyle Buettner *District Secretary Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, New Athens

Years at Present Congregation: 5

Years as an LCMS Member: 55

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Leadership and Service: Pastor, St. Paul New Athens / Trinity Darmstadt (5 years); Elder, Good Shepherd, Collinsville (over 10 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Service: SID Board of Congregational Support

Skills, Abilities, and Interests:

Education and Degrees:

German, Pre-Seminary Studies, Concordia Nebraska (BA, 1999)

Information Science & Learning Technology, University of Missouri Columbia (MA, 2010)

Exegetical Theology, Concordia Seminary St. Louis (MA, 2014)

Pastoral Studies, Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne (MA, 2019)

Rev. Gunnar Campbell *District Secretary Candidate*

Present Congregation: Christ Lutheran Church, Jacob

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 28

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Leadership and Service: Pastor (2023 to present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

Skills, Abilities, and Interests: Timely, Detail oriented, Technologically proficient

Education and Degrees:

Medieval Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL (BA, 2019)

Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN (MDiv, 2023)

Rev. Dr. George Gude *District Secretary Candidate*

Present Congregation: Emmaus, Dorsey IL

Years at Present Congregation: 44

Years as an LCMS Member: 83

Occupation: Retired Pastor. (Previously served as pastor 1967-2010)

Congregational Leadership and Service: Pastor

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

District Commission of Adjudication (1988-1991)

Circuit Visitor (Feb 1991- June 1991)

District Secretary (June, 1991-1994; 2000- 2006; 2012-2018)

District Vice President (1994-2000; 2006-2012)

Synod reconciler and Hearing Facilitator (1992-2023)

Synod Commission on Structure (2001-2007), chairman (2004-2007)

Synod Commission on Constitutional Matters (2010-2023), chairman (2015-2023)

Skills, Abilities, and Interests:

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Senior College (BA, 1963)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 1967)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (STM, 1986)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (ThD, 1991)

DISTRICT TREASURER

Gary Hemmer* *District Treasurer Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion Lutheran, Belleville

Years at Present Congregation: 71

Years as an LCMS Member: 71

Occupation: retired banker

Congregational Experience: Past Chairman (9 years), Vice Chairman (6 years), Personnel Co (6 years), Elder (6 years), Endowment Co (6 years), Chaired Capital Campaign, served on Ministry Leadership Group/Church Council (12 years).

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Treasurer (9 years), Fund Advisory Co (20 years), Finance Co (9 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I have degrees in finance, as a banker I understand financial statements, loans and investments, have leadership skills, have done strategic planning, have served many boards and chaired many civic organizations.

Education and Degrees:

University of Illinois, IL (BS)

St. Louis University, MO (MBA)

Graduate degree in banking from Stonier Graduate School of Banking

Kevin Koenigstein *District Treasurer Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul's - Columbia

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 59

Occupation: Treasurer, Monroe County

Congregational Experience:

Congregational President (16 Years)

Sunday School Teacher (10 Years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Delegate for St. Paul's Columbia (2019, 2022)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Treasurer, Monroe County

Education and Degrees:

Southern IL University at Carbondale in Agriculture Business Economics (BS)

University of Illinois in Agriculture Economics (MS)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LAY

Larry Barringer* *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Edwardsville

Years at Present Congregation: 54

Years as an LCMS Member: 56

Occupation: Chemical Engineer Phillips 66.

Congregational Experience: President (6 years), Board of Elders (14 years), Stewardship Board (6 years), Council Member at-large (4 years), SID convention representative (4 times)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Board of Directors (3 years), National Convention Floor Committee (2019)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Strategic planning team leader

Education and Degrees:

Chemical Engineering, Missouri S&T (BS)

Paul Bertels* *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Emmaus, Dorsey

Years at Present Congregation: 60

Years as an LCMS Member: 60

Occupation: Self employed, consultant

Congregational Experience: Trustee (4 years), Elder (2 years), Cemetery Committee (6 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

District Board of Directors, Finance Committee (2022-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: previously employed by a trade association and worked with a diverse board of directors.

Education and Degrees:

Animal Sciences (BS)

Agricultural Economics (MS)

Matthew Bierman* *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Nashville

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 20

Occupation: Emergency Manager of Washington County

Congregational Experience:

Elder, Head Elder (11 years, 5 years)

Vice President of Congregation (3 years)

Board of membership (3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Board of Directors, elected (4 years)

Board of Directors, appointed (2 years)

District Disaster Coordinator (10 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Planning, Emergency Management, Computer

Education and Degrees: Certificate in Paramedicine

Larry Erdmann *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Red Bud

Years at Present Congregation: 25

Years as an LCMS Member: 66.5

Occupation: Maintenance Manager

Congregational Experience:

Elder, Trinity (2 years)

Stewardship, St. John, Baldwin (3 years)

Chairman, St. John, Baldwin (2 years)

Elder, St. John, Baldwin (6 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

- Have made and ran a budget.

- Use information, logic and God given knowledge, ability to identify and solve problems and look to the future.
- I went to Riga Latvia with LHM to work on the seminary house in 1992 where I did electrical work and witnessed to the people.
- was one of the original board member of Christ our Savior Lutheran High School, Evansville IL. That got the school started.
- Member of LERT

Education and Degrees:

Industrial Electricity- Belleville Community (AS.S)
 Industrial Technology SIU Carbondale (BS)

Randy Gindler *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 11

Years as an LCMS Member: 15

Occupation: Teacher

Congregational Experience: Elder (2022-present), Musician (2013-present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees: Music Education (BA and MA)

Curtis Grote *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Hoyleton

Years at Present Congregation: 72

Years as an LCMS Member: 72

Occupation: Retired, computer systems support

Congregational Experience: Elder (6 years), Board of Education (3 years), President (2 years), mixed choir (50 years), men's choir (50 years), grade school golf coach (2 years), congregational representative to District convention.

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Twice served as a district representative to national LCMS Convention.

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Majored in accounting. Spent career in information systems. Have spent quite a few years coaching softball, baseball, and golf.

Education and Degrees: MacMurray College (BS)

Gary Hemmer *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion, Belleville

Years at Present Congregation: 71

Years as an LCMS Member: 71

Occupation: retired banker

Congregational Experience: Past Chairman (9 years), Vice Chairman (6 years), Personnel Co (6 years), Elder (6 years), Endowment Co (6 years), Chaired Capital Campaign, served on Ministry Leadership Group/Church Council (12 years).

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Treasurer (9 years), Fund Advisory Co (20 years), Finance Co (9 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I have degrees in finance, as a banker I understand financial statements, loans and investments, have leadership skills, have done strategic planning, have served many boards and chaired many civic organizations.

Education and Degrees:

University of Illinois, IL (BS)

St. Louis University, MO (MBA)

Graduate degree in banking from Stonier Graduate School of Banking

Donald Hutchinson *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Messiah, Lebanon

Years at Present Congregation: 17

Years as an LCMS Member: 17

Occupation: Chemist (retired)

Congregational Experience: Elder, Board of Education

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Circuit Representative to Synodical Convention (2013, 2016, 2023)
District Board of Directors (2009 - 2010, 2018 - 2025)
District Board of Missions (2010 - 2018)
District Member Commission on Nominations (2016, 2019)
District Meeting Floor Committee (2013, 2016)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Business administration, Systematic and historical theology

Education and Degrees: BS and PHd in Chemistry, MBA, MA in Systematic Theology

Kevin Koenigstein *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul's, Columbia

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 59

Occupation: Treasurer, Monroe County

Congregational Experience:

Congregational President (16 Years)
Sunday School Teacher (10 Years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Delegate for St. Paul's Columbia 2019 and 2022

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Treasurer - Monroe County

Education and Degrees:

Southern IL University at Carbondale in Agriculture Business Economics (BS)
University of Illinois in Agriculture Economics (MS)

Kurt Johnson* *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Hamel

Years at Present Congregation: 26

Years as an LCMS Member: 64

Occupation: Recovering lawyer and president of several entities

Congregational Experience: Elder- 19 years in total, Chairman-4 years

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Synodical Convention Delegate (2003, 2007)

SID Board of Directors (2022-present)

SID Convention delegate at several conventions (2025)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I have a background in accounting, 20 years as a corporate attorney and chief executive of 6 companies primarily providing bulk handling and transportation services.

Education and Degrees: Accounting (BS), Juris Doctorate

Jerry Mueller *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Christ Our Savior, Freeburg

Years at Present Congregation: 19

Years as an LCMS Member: 19

Occupation: Sales manager

Congregational Experience: Council President (3 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Member of Board of Directors (2018-2020)

Education and Degrees:

Dr. James Munden *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Holy Cross, Sugarloaf

Years at Present Congregation: 42

Years as an LCMS Member: 42

Occupation: Dean

Congregational Experience: Holy Cross: President, Vice President

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: My experience as an academic dean has equipped me with a diverse skillset that I believe would be valuable to the district. I'm proficient in strategic planning, financial management, policy development, and leadership—all crucial for effective governance.

I'm a strong communicator, skilled at building consensus and fostering collaboration. Moreover, I'm deeply committed to serving my community.

Specifically, my skills and abilities align with the needs of the district in the following ways:

Strategic Planning & Vision: As an academic dean, I'm involved in long-term planning, resource allocation, and setting a vision for my department.

Financial Management: I have extensive experience with budgeting, financial oversight, and ensuring accountability.

Policy Development & Implementation: My experience with education policy has prepared me to understand, develop, and implement policies.

Leadership & Teamwork: Leading a department requires strong leadership, teamwork, and the ability to build consensus.

Problem-Solving & Decision-Making: As a dean, I regularly face complex situations requiring sound judgment.

Communication & Interpersonal Skills: Effective communication is essential in both academia and church leadership. I am confident in my ability to communicate clearly, listen actively, and foster positive relationships.

Education and Degrees: Mathematics, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO (Ph.D., 2015)

Mark Peterson *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Marion

Years at Present Congregation: 22

Years as an LCMS Member: 59

Occupation: Professor

Congregational Experience: Board of Elders (20 years), Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Board of Directors, Southern Illinois District-LCMS, (2012-2015), Finance Committee, BoD, Southern Illinois District-LCMS (2012-2015)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am interested in assisting in the promotion of the Gospel through SID-LCMS congregations.

Education and Degrees:

Electrical Engineering, University of Nebraska (BS, 1987)

Electrical Engineering, The Johns Hopkins University (MS, 1990)

Business Administration, Pennsylvania State University (Ph.D. 1996)

Deveron Reising *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Worden

Years at Present Congregation: 16

Years as an LCMS Member: 38

Occupation: Retired

Congregational Experience: Board of Church property Trinity Edwardsville (4 years), Trustee Trinity Worden (8 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Maintenance supervisor, Production supervisor

Education and Degrees: Accounting (BS)

Brad Rider *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 20

Occupation: pharmacist

Congregational Experience: Altar guild (2 years), Sunday School teacher, 5th grade (2 years), Choir (1 year), Men's ministry (2 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: none

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Good typing skills, good with computers and technology, good with Excel and Word, proof-reading, willingness to take on new challenges and serve where needed

Education and Degrees: Registered pharmacist in Missouri, pharmacy degree (BS)

Donald Stallman* *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. John, Chester

Years at Present Congregation: 79

Years as an LCMS Member: 79

Occupation: Retired

Congregational Experience: President (10 years), Vice-President (10 years), Elders (12 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: District Board (2022-2025)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Currently serving on finance committee

Education and Degrees: 14 years

George Trammell *Lay Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Marion

Years at Present Congregation: 31

Years as an LCMS Member: 38

Occupation: Retired - Director Marion Chamber of Commerce

Congregational Experience: Elder (6 years), Vice-President (4 years), President of the Congregation (4 years), Treasurer (16 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Board of Missions (3 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I have served on numerous boards and currently serve as President of the Board of Trustees for the Marion Carnegie Library.

Education and Degrees: Education, Workforce Education and Development (MS)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COMMISSIONED

William Becker* *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. John's, Red Bud

Years at Present Congregation: 26

Years as an LCMS Member: 52

Occupation: DCE

Congregational Experience:

Voters Assembly member

Men's Club member

Adult choir & Summer Singers

Co director VBS

Director LEGO/STEAM summer Camp

Member PTL

Attendee/fill in leader Men's Bible study and breakfast

Advisory leader Junior & Senior Youth Groups

Leader Sunday School teachers and Summer Sunday School

Leader Adult/High School Sunday Bible Class

Attendee/advisory Board for Parish Education

Coordinator Lenten meals & senior to go meals

Coordinator Eighth grade trip

Leader Children's messages two services each month

Lector Bible readings at one service each weekend

Sixth & Eighth grade Public School Confirmation

Worship leader Chapel services for daycare-second grade & grades three-eight

Served on local Accreditation Visiting Teams

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

SID Constitution Committee

SID NLSA Committee

SID Convention Committee

SID Finance Committee

SID Board of Directors

Nominations and Elections 2025 Commissioned At Large

Co District Coordinator for Youth Gathering 2025

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am a humble servant of God. I am organized and reliable.

Education and Degrees:

Elementary Education, Concordia University River Forest, IL (BA, 1994)

Curriculum and Instruction Concordia University River Forest, IL (MA, 2002)

Edith Laufer *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Holy Cross East Carondelet

Years at Present Congregation: 5

Years as an LCMS Member: 60

Occupation: Teacher

Congregational Experience: VBS music leader and teacher (15 years), Sunday School teacher (5 years), LWML treasurer (15 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Nominations Committee, one year

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am good at synthesizing information and considering multiple viewpoints. I understand the teachings of the LCMS and seek to serve in a manner consistent with God's Word. I am interested in Lutheran education, the nourishment of the saints and the work of the church.

Education and Degrees: Education, St. John's College, Winfield, KS (BS)

Elizabeth Koester *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 26

Occupation: Deaconess/Kindergarten and 1st Grade Teacher

Congregational Experience:

Deaconess Intern, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2020)

Deaconess, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020-2023)

Preschool Teacher; Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020-2021)

Preschool Director, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2021-2023)

Sunday School Teacher, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2023)

Youth Group Leader, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2023)

VBS Director, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020, 2021, 2023)

Teacher at St. Paul, Hamel (2023-Present)

Handbells at previous and current congregation (2012-present)

Choir at previous and current congregation (2012-present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and hobbies: As an LCMS deaconess, I have been trained in spiritual care, works of mercy, and teaching the faith. I gained experience in each of those areas through one-on-one interaction with congregation members at my first call. I have continued to gain experience in all three of those areas in my current call as a Kindergarten and 1st Grade Teacher as well. I have experience in an Administrator's position through my time as a Preschool Director and I understand the responsibilities and social skills needed to do that job successfully. As far as other abilities, I offer a good listening ear and strive to keep peace in all situations while hearing both arguments. I enjoy serving the church through music whether that be through choir, handbell choir, or solo ensembles.

Education and Degrees:

Deaconess Program, summa cum laude, Concordia University Chicago (BA 2020)
Earned an Administrators Credential through Camp Fire First Texas (2021)

Kenneth Krueger *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Edwardsville

Years at Present Congregation: 3.5

Years as an LCMS Member: 42

Occupation: School Principal (Called to Trinity, Edwardsville)

Congregational Experience:

President, Men's Ministry and leader for Men's Bible Study (2 years)
VBS Lead teacher, substitute elder, Sunday School teacher, and usher (over 3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

SID Dominican Seminary Task Force (2 years)
SID NLSA Visiting Team Member (3 years)
LESA Educational Board Member (2 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: As Christ-centered as possible, LCMS doctrinally focused, trustworthy, conversational, diligent, and willing to learn

Education and Degrees:

Elementary Education, Concordia University Wisconsin (BA, 2005)
Educational administration and curriculum development (MA, 2014)
Van Lunen Fellow, hosted at Calvin University (2020)

Joseph Meador *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Wood River

Years at Present Congregation: 3

Years as an LCMS Member: 28

Occupation: Teacher/Music Director at Metro East Lutheran High School

Congregational Experience:

Organist (2022-Present)

Choir Director (2022-Present)

Handbell (2023-Present)

Board of Elders (2023-Present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I grew up in a church work household (My Dad being an LCMS pastor, and my mom being an LCMS School Teacher) and as a result have been enveloped in the life of the church since before I can even remember. I have seen the role that an LCMS district can play within the church at large. I have served within many different LCMS congregations both as a commissioned school teacher, and as church musician. Each church has its parts that make it unique, but we all strive to serve the one purpose of furthering the Gospel.

Education and Degrees:

Choral and Instrumental Music Education, Concordia University Wisconsin (BA, 2018)

Lutheran Teacher Diploma, Concordia University Wisconsin (2018)

John Schaff* *Commissioned Board of Directors Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Hoyleton

Years at Present Congregation: 3

Years as an LCMS Member: 50

Occupation: Principal

Congregational Experience: Elder 6, Teacher 33, Principal 15, Stewardship 2, Mission 2

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: BOD - 1

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I enjoy helping our fellow churches and schools.

Education and Degrees: Elementary Education, SLED

BOARD OF MISSIONS, CHAIR

Nominees drawn from the ordained electees of the Board of Missions.

BOARD OF MISSIONS, ORDAINED

Rev. James King *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion Lutheran - Bunker Hill

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 50

Occupation: Ordained Minister

Congregational Experience: As Pastor I serve the congregation in many and various ways - teaching, preaching and administration of the Gifts of God, including Missionary-at-Large Northern Illinois District, starting River of Life Lutheran Church, Channahon, IL (1997-2000); Mission Trip to Cambodia, China and Hong Kong (2013); Partnered with Central American Lutheran Mission Society, with three trips to Guatemala (2016-2022)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Northern Illinois District - Southern Pastors Conference Registrar (1998-2000)

Missouri District Circuit Visitor (2014-2015)

Missouri District Mission Board Member

Missouri District Jr. High Youth Retreat Event Planner (2001-2012)

Keynote speaker for Junior High

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: As a pastor I have dealt with all the aspects of shepherding a congregation from budgets to building funds. I recently retired after 20 years from the Fire Service where I served as a volunteer fire-fighter and as Assistant Chief for two years. Served on the Gaylord, MN Library Board as President for 4 years and was a member of Gaylord Sertoma Club where I was president for three terms.

Education and Degrees:

Education (Geography, English, and Coaching Endorsement) Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE (BS, 1991)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO - Master of Divinity (MDiv, 1997)

Rev. David Otten *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Hope, Jerseyville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 66

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Served as a missionary to the Gutnius Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea, Navy Chaplain for 26 years (retired 2020) volunteer prison ministry in SID (2010 to 2022)

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (M.Div., 1984)

Rev. Andrew Packer *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 17

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor for 12 years (2012-Present). Also served as Headmaster and Latin Teacher while being sole pastor (2015-2018).

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Biblical Studies, Simpson University, CA (BA, 2002)

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (M.Div., 2012)

Rev. Scott Schilbe *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 44

Occupation: Theology Teacher, Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville

Congregational Experience:

Christ Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN, Pastor (2004-2018)

Messiah Lutheran Church, Carlyle, IL, Pastor (2018-2023)

Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville, IL Theology Teacher (2023-present)

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Overland, MO, Assistant Pastor--Minister of Music (2023-present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Communications Commission

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Attention to Detail, Takes Initiative, Proactive, Team player

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2003)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, (STM, 2010)

Rev. Dr. David Schultz *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Wood River

Years at Present Congregation: 6.5

Years as an LCMS Member: 35

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Board of Directors of MELHS (2019-2021)

Vacancy Pastor at Faith Godfrey (2020-2022)

LCMS Sent to Serve Committee (2023-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Organized. Good Communicator. People person. Heart for the unchurched.

Education and Degrees:

Theology Major, Concordia University Chicago (BA, 2011)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2015)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (DMin, 2021)

Rev. John Sedwick *Ordained Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Immanuel and St. Paul's Steeleville (dual parish)

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 45

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience:

US Army active duty Chaplain, Retired June 2023 (17 years)

Hispanic Missionary/Church Planter (3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Fluent Spanish speaker

Education and Degrees:

Applied Behavioral Science, National Louis University (BA, 1988)

Concordia Theological Seminary (MDiv, 2004)

BOARD OF MISSIONS, COMMISSIONED

Hannah Gruben *Commissioned Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 23

Occupation: Third grade teacher

Congregational Experience:

Pastoral Call Committee (2024)

Young Adult Group (present)

Adult choir (present)

Play trumpet and cello for church services (present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Called teacher at an LCMS school (1 year)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am very organized, enjoy planning things, and have high expectations. I have grown up in a family of Lutheran teachers, and I am passionate about having good Lutheran schools, churches, and workers.

Education and Degrees:

Elementary Education with Music Minor, Concordia University Nebraska (BS, 2023)

Lutheran Teachers Diploma, Concordia University Nebraska (2023)

Edith Laufer *Commissioned Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Holy Cross, East Carondelet

Years at Present Congregation: 5

Years as an LCMS Member: 60

Occupation: teacher

Congregational Experience:

VBS music leader and teacher (15 years)

Sunday School teacher (5 years)

LWML treasurer (15 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Nominations Committee, one year

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am good at synthesizing information and considering multiple viewpoints. I understand the teachings of the LCMS and seek to serve in a manner consistent

with God's Word. I am interested in Lutheran education, the nourishment of the saints and the work of the church.

Education and Degrees:

Education, St. John's College, Winfield, KS (BS)

Joseph Meador *Commissioned Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Wood River

Years at Present Congregation: 3

Years as an LCMS Member: 28

Occupation: Teacher/Music Director at Metro East Lutheran High School

Congregational Experience:

Organist (2022-Present)

Choir Director (2022-Present)

Handbell (2023-Present)

Board of Elders (2023-Present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I grew up in a church work household (My Dad being an LCMS pastor, and my mom being an LCMS School Teacher) and as a result have been enveloped in the life of the church since before I can even remember. I have seen the role that an LCMS district can play within the church at large. I have served within many different LCMS congregations both as a commissioned school teacher, and as church musician. Each church has its parts that make it unique, but we all strive to serve the one purpose of furthering the Gospel.

Education and Degrees:

Choral and Instrumental Music Education, Concordia University Wisconsin (BA, 2018)

Lutheran Teacher Diploma, Concordia University Wisconsin (2018)

BOARD OF MISSIONS, LAY

Walter Blotevogel *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Worden

Years at Present Congregation: 60

Years as an LCMS Member: 79

Occupation: Civil Engineer, Professional Land Surveyor

Congregational Experience:

Trinity, Springfield, IL Chairman Board of Mission and Worship (1974-1978)

Trinity, Edwardsville, IL -Elder (1980-1988), Cong. Chairman (1988-1992)

Trinity, Worden, IL-Elder-1992 to Present

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Delegate to National Convention (2010)

Delegate to National Convention (2016)

SID Board of Directors (2018-2025)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Business Owner for 35 years. Served the Lord in many capacities at my congregation.

Active in my community as a Rotarian, Village Trustee and multiple volunteer projects.

Education and Degrees: Bachelor of Science-Civil Engineering

Alice Decker *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. John, Chester

Years at Present Congregation: 39

Years as an LCMS Member: 52

Occupation: Retired; Teacher - Spanish & English Language Learner

Congregational Experience: St. John Mission Committee (8 years), LWML (25 years), Sunday School teacher (2 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Task Force supporting Concordia the Reformer Seminary in the Dominican Republic (1-1/2 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Fluent in Spanish. Missionary service in Guatemala (2 years); short-term mission trips to Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Belize, Dominican Republic.

Education and Degrees:

Social Work, Minor in Theology (BS)
Alternate Route to Teacher Certification

Frank Glaub *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Marion

Years at Present Congregation: 34

Years as an LCMS Member: 34

Occupation: Retired from being a mechanic. Currently a standardized patient for the SIU School of Medicine among other things.

Congregational Experience:

Church Elder (25 years)
Head Elder/ Vice President of the Congregation (12 years)
Served on local nomination committee (3 or more times)
Served as Building Committee Chairman when we expanded our building.
Member of LERT, Chainsaw Certified
Started and served on our Safety / Security Team (3 years)
Led Work Day at our Church numerous times

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Secretary for Circuit Forum (5 years)
Served on District Board of Congregational Support one term (and then testified the need to abolish it because of it no longer being useful)
Served one year on a resolution floor committee.

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I love the LCMS and I am aware of its history, theology and traditions. I have attended all of the District Conventions from 1992 to the present and the 2010 Synodical Convention so I have an understanding of how things should work. Because of my mechanic background, I can look at situations and assess the pragmatic and the functional components.

Education and Degrees: I have some college but did not finish.

Hans Gruben *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 21

Occupation: Undergraduate Student - Mechanical Engineering

Congregational Experience: Audio/video recording at Trinity, Sheboygan (2016-2021)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Janet Kahre *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Messiah, Carlyle

Years at Present Congregation: 55

Years as an LCMS Member: 65

Occupation: Preschool Director

Congregational Experience: Preschool Director/"In Christ's Care" latchkey Director, Sunday School teacher, youth coordinator, Call Committee, led Ladies Bible studies

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Convention Delegate (2023)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: "Big picture " thinker, developed preschool/latchkey community from conception of program, created many events including yearly Festival of Trees, wrote curriculum for Concordia Publishing House, management experience for 20+ years

Education and Degrees:

Undergraduate at Concordia, River Forest

Early Childhood Certificate, Kaskaskia College

Sara Manley *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Bethany, Fairview Heights

Years at Present Congregation: 15

Years as an LCMS Member: 27

Occupation: Retired teacher

Congregational Experience:

Treasurer (2020-present)

Organist (2010-present)

President, Bethany Preschool Board of Education (2015-2016)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

McKendree College (BA, 1977)

Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (MS, 1993)

Elaine Muskopf *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Christ Our Savior, Freeburg

Years at Present Congregation: 30

Years as an LCMS Member: 84

Occupation: Teacher

Congregational Experience:

Sunday school teacher

LWML member (30 years)

LWML secretary/treasurer

LWML tied quilts

Organize funeral lunches

Congregation collecting prison ministry materials

Congregation bell choir member

Congregation church council

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

President Metro East LFL chapter - chapter charter to 1995

SID Prison ministry member (2 terms)

SID Interview committee for prospective seminary students

SID South Africa Task Force member

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees: BA, MA

Mark Schoenleber *Lay Board of Missions Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion, Carpenter

Years at Present Congregation: 67

Years as an LCMS Member: 67

Occupation: Project Safety

Congregational Experience: President- present, Elder-present

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Floor committee on payroll - 1999

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Willing to help.

Education and Degrees:

BOARD ON NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS FOR 2028

CIRCUIT 1 (LAY MEMBER)

Bill Hoff *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion, Carlinville

Years at Present Congregation: 40

Years as an LCMS Member: 70

Occupation: Financial advisor

Congregational Experience:

President of congregation (2 years-present)

Board of elders (2 years)

Preschool board (12 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Derek Johnson *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity Evangelical, Nokomis

Years at Present Congregation: 37

Years as an LCMS Member: 37

Occupation: Farmer

Congregational Experience:

Chairman (1 year)

Secretary (8 years)

Elder (9 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Willing to help district

Education and Degrees: Bachelors

CIRCUIT 2 (ORDAINED)

Rev. David Otten *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Hope, Jerseyville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 66

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Served as a missionary to the Gutnius Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea, Navy Chaplain for 26 years (retired 2020) volunteer prison ministry in SID from (2010 to 2022)

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 1984)

Rev. Dr. David Schultz *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Wood River

Years at Present Congregation: 6.5

Years as an LCMS Member: 35

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Board of Directors of MELHS (2019-2021)

Vacancy Pastor at Faith Godfrey (2020-2022)

LCMS Sent to Serve Committee (2023-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Organized. Good Communicator. People person. Heart for the unchurched.

Education and Degrees:

Theology Major, Concordia University Chicago (BA, 2011)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2015)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (DMin, 2021)

CIRCUIT 3 (LAY)

Jonathon Lindsey *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Worden

Years at Present Congregation: 9

Years as an LCMS Member: 43

Occupation: software developer

Congregational Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I possess good interpersonal communication, attention to detail, and the ability to motivate others to remain focused and efficient during collaborative efforts.

Education and Degrees:

Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, UIUC (BS, 2005)

Health Science, Bellarmine University (BS, 2015)

Mark Schoenleber *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Zion, Carpenter

Years at Present Congregation: 67

Years as an LCMS Member: 67

Occupation: Project Safety

Congregational Experience: President (present), Elder (present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Floor committee on payroll (1999)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Willing to help.

Education and Degrees:

CIRCUIT 4 (ORDAINED)

Rev. Andrew Packer *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 17

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor for 12 years (2012-Present). Also served as Headmaster and Latin Teacher while being sole pastor (2015-2018).

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Biblical Studies, Simpson University (BA, 2002)

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (MDiv, 2012)

Rev. Scott Schilbe *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 44

Occupation: Theology Teacher, Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville

Congregational Experience:

Christ Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN, Pastor (2004-2018)

Messiah Lutheran Church, Carlyle, IL, Pastor (2018-2023)

Metro East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville, IL Theology Teacher (2023-present)

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Overland, MO, Assistant Pastor--Minister of Music (2023-present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Communications Commission

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Attention to Detail, Takes Initiative, Proactive, Team player

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2003)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, (STM, 2010)

CIRCUIT 5 (LAY)

Donald Hutchinson *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Messiah, Lebanon

Years at Present Congregation: 17

Years as an LCMS Member: 17

Occupation: Chemist (retired)

Congregational Experience: Elder, Board of Education

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Circuit Representative to Synodical Convention (2013, 2016, 2023)

District Board of Directors (2009 - 2010, 2018 - 2025)

District Board of Missions (2010 - 2018)

District Member Commission on Nominations (2016, 2019)

District Meeting Floor Committee (2013, 2016)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Business administration, Systematic and historical theology

Education and Degrees:

BS and PhD in Chemistry, MBA, MA in Systematic Theology

Sara Manley *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Bethany, Fairview Heights

Years at Present Congregation: 15

Years as an LCMS Member: 27

Occupation: Retired teacher

Congregational Experience:

Treasurer (2020-present)

Organist (2010-present)

President, Bethany Preschool Board of Education (2015-2016)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

McKendree College (BA, 1977)

Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (MS, 1993)

CIRCUIT 6 (LAY MEMBER)

Jerry Mueller *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Christ Our Savior, Freeburg

Years at Present Congregation: 19

Years as an LCMS Member: 19

Occupation: Sales manager

Congregational Experience: Council President (3 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Member of Board of Directors (2018-2020)

Education and Degrees:

Dr. James Munden *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Holy Cross, Sugarloaf, IL

Years at Present Congregation: 42

Years as an LCMS Member: 42

Occupation: Dean

Congregational Experience: Holy Cross: President, Vice President

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: My experience as an academic dean has equipped me with a diverse skillset that I believe would be valuable to the district. I'm proficient in strategic planning, financial management, policy development, and leadership—all crucial for effective governance. I'm a strong communicator, skilled at building consensus and fostering collaboration. Moreover, I'm deeply committed to serving my community.

Specifically, my skills and abilities align with the needs of the district in the following ways: *Strategic Planning & Vision:* As an academic dean, I'm involved in long-term planning, resource allocation, and setting a vision for my department. *Financial Management:* I have extensive experience with budgeting, financial oversight, and ensuring accountability. *Policy Development & Implementation:* My experience with education policy has prepared me to understand, develop, and implement policies. *Leadership & Teamwork:* Leading a department requires strong leadership, teamwork, and the ability to build consensus. *Problem-Solving & Decision-Making:* As a dean, I regularly face complex situations requiring sound judgment. *Communication & Interpersonal Skills:* Effective communication is essential in both academia and church leadership. I am confident in my ability to communicate clearly, listen actively, and foster positive relationships.

Education and Degrees:

Mathematics, Saint Louis Univ.(Ph.D., 2015)

CIRCUIT 7 (ORDAINED)

Rev. James Hennig *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Centralia

Years at Present Congregation: 2.5

Years as an LCMS Member: 60.5

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Since August of 2022 I have been the Pastor of Trinity Lutheran, Centralia.

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

Chairman for Committee for Youth, Wyoming District (1995-97)

Joint Youth Gathering Committee CID/SID (1998-99)

Task Force for Mission Partnership of SID/LCSA (from its inception-2005)

Constitutional Review Committee in CID (2019-2022)

Circuit Visitor, Completing Vacated Term (2023 to present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seward Nebraska (BS, 1987)

Concordia Seminary St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 1993)

Rev. Joseph Nehring *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Faith, Mount Vernon

Years at Present Congregation: .5

Years as an LCMS Member: 40

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: President, Elder, Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher, Property Care/Trustee at St. Peter's, Spanish Lake, MO, Immanuel Lutheran Chapel, St. Louis, MO, and Hope, Granite City

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

District Commission on Communication (2022-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (Alt. Route Pastoral Certification, 2020)

Systems and Data Processing, Washington University, St. Louis, MO (BA)

CIRCUIT 8 (LAY MEMBER)

Matthew Bierman* *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Nashville

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 20

Occupation: Emergency Manager of Washington County

Congregational Experience:

Elder, Head Elder (11 years, 5 years)

Vice President of Congregation (3 years)

Board of membership (3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Board of Directors, elected (4 years)

Board of Directors, appointed (2 years)

District Disaster Coordinator (10 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Planning, Emergency Management, Computer

Education and Degrees: Certificate in Paramedicine

Jeff Obermeier *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Immanuel, Okawville

Years at Present Congregation: 60

Years as an LCMS Member: 60

Occupation: Controller

Congregational Experience:

School Board (8 years)

Elder (8 years)

Finance (8 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Strong computer skills, Large social network

Education and Degrees: Bachelor in Accounting, CPA

CIRCUIT 9 (ORDAINED)

Rev. Mark Harriss *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Mark's, Steeleville

Years at Present Congregation: 5

Years as an LCMS member: 42

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience:

Pastor at St. Mark's Steeleville, IL (5 years)

Pastor at Zion Hillsboro, MO (3.5 years)

Trustee at St. Salvator, Venedy, IL (6 plus years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Service: LWML Lower Kaskaskia Pastoral Counselor (2 Terms)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Second Career Pastor, Was a Project Estimator/Manager for Commercial Construction, Served as a County Commissioner, and was Lieutenant on Fire Department as well as a Medical First Responder.

Education and Degrees:

Construction Management (Associate)

Industrial Technology-Engineering (BS)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2016)

Firefighter Journeyman Certificate

Rev. John Sedwick *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Immanuel and St. Paul's Steeleville (dual parish)

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 45

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience:

US Army active duty Chaplain, Retired June 2023 (17 years)

Hispanic Missionary/Church Planter (3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Fluent Spanish speaker

Education and Degrees:

Applied Behavioral Science, National Louis University (BA, 1988)

Concordia Theological Seminary (MDiv, 2004)

CIRCUIT 10 (LAY MEMBER)

Raymond Kaaz *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. John's, Red Bud

Years at Present Congregation: 26

Years as an LCMS Member: 69

Occupation: Retired stockroom/janitorial

Congregational Experience:

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: LCMS teacher (1977-2005)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Parish organist

Education and Degrees:

Bachelor of Arts 1977

Master of Arts 1982

Jeff Mueller *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul's - New Athens, IL

Years at Present Congregation: 29

Years as an LCMS Member: 62

Occupation: Chemical Engineer

Congregational Experience:

Elder (20 years)

Chairman (1 year)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: Congregational Support Committee (3 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Experience in participating in organized meetings, committees and similar bodies.

Education and Degrees: BSChE

CIRCUIT 11 (ORDAINED)

Rev. Matthew Christian *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Immanuel Evangelical, Murphysboro

Years at Present Congregation: 2

Years as an LCMS Member: 31

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience: Pastor (2 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Organization, Problem Solving, Attention to Detail

Education and Degrees:

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (MDiv, 2022)

Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne, IN (BA 2016)

Rev. Jay Holden *2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Our Savior, Carbondale

Years at Present Congregation: 12

Years as an LCMS Member: 38

Occupation: Pastor

Congregational Experience:

Circuit, District, and Synod Service:

District LWML Pastoral Counselor (2014-2018)

Circuit Visitor (2021-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies:

Education and Degrees:

Bradley University, Peoria, IL (BA, 1996)

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO (MDiv, 2012)

COMMISSIONED

Elizabeth Koester *Commissioned 2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel

Years at Present Congregation: 1

Years as an LCMS Member: 26

Occupation: Deaconess/Kindergarten and 1st Grade Teacher

Congregational Experience:

Deaconess Intern, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2020)

Deaconess, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020-2023)

Preschool Teacher; Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020-2021)

Preschool Director, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2021-2023)

Sunday School Teacher, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2023)

Youth Group Leader, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2019-2023)

VBS Director, Holy Shepherd, Haslet, TX (2020, 2021, 2023)

Teacher at St. Paul, Hamel (2023-Present)

Handbells at previous and current congregation (2012-present)

Choir at previous and current congregation (2012-present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Skills, Interests, and hobbies: As an LCMS deaconess, I have been trained in spiritual care, works of mercy, and teaching the faith. I gained experience in each of those areas through one-on-one interaction with congregation members at my first call. I have continued to gain experience in all three of those areas in my current call as a Kindergarten and 1st Grade Teacher as well. I have experience in an Administrator's position through my time as a Preschool Director and I understand the responsibilities and social skills needed to do that job successfully. As far as other abilities, I offer a good listening ear and strive to keep peace in all situations while hearing both arguments. I enjoy serving the church through music whether that be through choir, handbell choir, or solo ensembles.

Education and Degrees:

Deaconess Program, summa cum laude, Concordia University Chicago (BA 2020)

Earned an Administrators Credential through Camp Fire First Texas (2021)

Kenneth Krueger *Commissioned 2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Trinity, Edwardsville

Years at Present Congregation: 3.5

Years as an LCMS Member: 42

Occupation: School Principal (Called to Trinity, Edwardsville)

Congregational Experience:

President, Men's Ministry and leader for Men's Bible Study (2 years)

VBS Lead teacher, substitute elder, Sunday School teacher, and usher (over 3 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

SID Dominican Seminary Task Force (2 years)

SID NLSA Visiting Team Member (3 years)

LESA Educational Board Member (2 years)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: As Christ-centered as possible, LCMS doctrinally focused, trustworthy, conversational, diligent, and willing to learn

Education and Degrees:

Elementary Education, Concordia University Wisconsin (BA, 2005)

Educational administration and curriculum development (MA, 2014)

Van Lunen Fellow, hosted at Calvin University (2020)

Edith Laufer* *Commissioned 2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: Holy Cross, East Carondelet

Years at Present Congregation: 5

Years as an LCMS Member: 60

Occupation: teacher

Congregational Experience:

VBS music leader and teacher (15 years)

Sunday School teacher (5 years)

LWML treasurer (15 years)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: SID Nominations Committee, one year

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I am good at synthesizing information and considering multiple viewpoints. I understand the teachings of the LCMS and seek to serve in a manner consistent

with God's Word. I am interested in Lutheran education, the nourishment of the saints and the work of the church.

Education and Degrees:

Education, St. John's College, Winfield, KS (BS)

Joseph Meador *Commissioned 2028 Board of Nominations Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Wood River

Years at Present Congregation: 3

Years as an LCMS Member: 28

Occupation: Teacher/Music Director at Metro East Lutheran High School

Congregational Experience:

Organist (2022-Present)

Choir Director (2022-Present)

Handbell (2023-Present)

Board of Elders (2023-Present)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience: None

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I grew up in a church work household (my dad being an LCMS pastor and my mom being an LCMS school teacher) and as a result have been enveloped in the life of the church since before I can even remember. I have seen the role that an LCMS district can play within the church at large. I have served within many different LCMS congregations both as a commissioned school teacher, and as church musician. Each church has its parts that make it unique, but we all strive to serve the one purpose of furthering the Gospel.

Education and Degrees:

Choral and Instrumental Music Education, Concordia University Wisconsin (BA, 2018)

Lutheran Teacher Diploma, Concordia University Wisconsin (2018)

BOARD OF SPIRITUAL CARE, CHAIR (elect 1)

Nominations drawn from slate of circuit visitors

SLATE OF CIRCUIT VISITORS

*(One shall be elected as the Chair of the Board of Spiritual Care.
This elected chairman sits on the Board of Directors.)*

Circuit 1: Rev. Christen Prumm

Circuit 2: Rev. Timothy Appel

Circuit 3: Rev. Scott Busacker

Circuit 4: Rev. Kyle Wright

Circuit 5: Rev. Chris Spelbring

Circuit 6: Rev. Dr. Stephen Krenz

Circuit 7: Rev. James Hennig

Circuit 8: Rev. Eric Wood

Circuit 9: Rev. David Kollmeyer

Circuit 10: Rev. Scott Hojnacki

Circuit 11: Rev. Jay Holden

LAY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE 2026 SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Frank Glaub *2026 Lay Representative Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Marion

Years at Present Congregation: 34

Years as an LCMS Member: 34

Occupation: Retired from being a mechanic. Currently a standardized patient for the SIU School of Medicine among other things.

Congregational Experience:

Church Elder (25 years)

Head Elder/ Vice President of the Congregation (12 years)

Served on local nomination committee (3 or more times)

Served as Building Committee Chairman (during building expansion)

Member of LERT and Chainsaw Certified

Started and served on our Safety / Security Team (3 years)

Lead work Day at our Church (numerous times)

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Secretary for Circuit Forum (5 years)

Served on District Board of Congregational Support (1 term)

Served on a resolution floor committee (1 year)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I love the LCMS and I am aware of its history, theology and traditions. I have attended all of the District Conventions from 1992 to the present and the 2010 Synodical Convention so I have an understanding of how things should work. Because of my mechanic background, I can look at situations and assess the pragmatic and the functional components.

Education and Degrees:

I have some college, but did not finish.

Jeff Schwarz *2026 Lay Representative Candidate*

Present Congregation: St. Paul, Hamel

Years at Present Congregation: 20

Years as an LCMS Member: 46

Occupation: General Manager, Lutheran Public Radio

Congregational Experience:

Board of Elders
School Board
School Board Chairman
Metro East Lutheran High School Board

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Commission on Theology & Church Relations (2010-2016)
Concordia University Chicago Board of Regents (2017-present)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: I have an extensive background serving Lutheran churches and schools and synodical entities.

Education and Degrees:

School of Journalism, cum laude graduate at University of Missouri-Columbia

Zachary Stegman *2026 Lay Representative Candidate*

Present Congregation: Good Shepherd, Collinsville

Years at Present Congregation: 13

Years as an LCMS Member: 37

Occupation: Church and School Music Teacher

Congregational Experience:

Sunday School Teacher (2011-present)
Pastoral Call Committees (2013, 2022, 2024)
Director of Adult Choir and School Choirs (2013-present)
Organist (2011-present)
Higher Things Youth Trip Coordinator (2010-2023)
Vacation Bible School Volunteer

Circuit, District, and Synod Experience:

Organ substitution at 25 SID congregations
Lay Member SID Board of Directors (2015-2022)
SID Constitution Review Committee (2015-present)
SID Lay Delegate to Synod Convention (2019)
Sectional Presenter at LCMS Institute on Liturgy, Preaching, & Church Music (2024)

Skills, Interests, and Hobbies: Church Music skills, March for Life STL Participant, experience in Lutheran Day School

Education and Degrees:

Music Education and Music History, SIUE (BM and BA, 2010)

LATE OVERTURES

LO 1-06 TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED PRISON MINISTRY SUPPORT

WHEREAS, The Bible states that Jesus said, “*I was in prison, you visited Me.*” Jesus also said, “*As you did it to the least of these, you did it to Me.*” The Southern Illinois District has sought to be faithful to our Lord’s mandate to visit those in Prison by its support of Prison since 1901; and

WHEREAS, The District regularly reaches out to 8 Prison/Jail setting on a weekly basis by way of 6 ministry servants providing weekly visitation, Bible Study and, or worship leadership; and

WHEREAS, The past conventions of our District acknowledged the need to support prison ministry in our District and provide special training and materials for clergy and lay people desiring to visit the incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, Individual members of district Congregations may require information and care as families of inmates and /or victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, The District continues to promote Freed in Christ to as a tool for Christian re-entry throughout the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The District has worked with the office of National Mission to host a prison ministry conference in 2024 to share practices and experiences to promote and encourage prison ministry throughout the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The District has implemented the Reaching In program at the Greenville Federal Correctional Institute to allow for one-on-one Christ-focused correspondence mentorship; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Mission board be directed to allocate support to congregations who dedicate the time of their staff and membership to prison ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That clergy and lay persons who have an interest in prison and jail ministry be encouraged to take advantage of training offered through the District: and be it further

Resolved, That congregations of the District be encouraged to continue to support prison and jail ministry through regular corporate prayer for prison ministry, hosting mission speakers to hear about what is going on in the district and synod, and considering prison ministry for mission offerings; and be it further

Resolved, That the congregations of the District prayerfully consider providing volunteers to serve in prison ministry as opportunities become available with facilities, at the county, state, and federal levels, across the District; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the membership of the District, lay, commissioned and clergy, prayerfully
2 consider to support the Reaching In initiative by corresponding with inmates as the District
3 expands the program to other facilities in the District; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the District continues to work with the Specialized Spiritual Care Ministry
5 office of the Synod to promote prison ministry throughout the Synod and share/develop
6 resources to be used; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District expand its prison ministry outreach by way of
8 information and care with both families and inmates and with victims of crime; and be it
9 finally

10 *Resolved*, That thanks be given to God that the District has been blessed with many who
11 use their gifts and talents to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who are
12 incarcerated, their families, returning citizens and victims of crime.

1 **LO 1-07 Building a Culture of Church Work Formation and Recruitment**

2 WHEREAS, Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray
3 earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest (Matt. 9:37–38);
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1847 to the present day, the LCMS adopted resolutions in nearly every
6 convention to form and recruit pastors, teachers and other commissioned church workers
7 to preach, teach and share the Gospel of Jesus for eternal salvation in these full-time
8 vocations; and

9 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged that church worker formation and
10 recruitment intentionally take place in every LCMS congregation and school by pastors,
11 teachers, commissioned church workers and laity; and

12 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged *districts and congregations* to have an
13 active committee focused on forming and recruiting our youth and adults to consider full-
14 time church work; and

15 WHEREAS, The pastoral office is the one divinely mandated office by our Lord (John
16 20:19–23; Rom. 10:14–15; Eph. 4:11–16) and the seven LCMS commissioned church
17 work vocations have been established in love to support the Office of the Holy Ministry
18 (Lutheran school teachers, directors of Christian education, directors of family life
19 ministry, deaconesses, directors of parish music, directors of church ministries, directors
20 of Christian outreach) (*Lutheran Service Book: Agenda*, p. 210 and 218); and

21 WHEREAS, In the last five years, approximately twice as many LCMS pastors are exiting
22 the pastoral office (retirement or death) as there are newly called and ordained pastors;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, In April 2024, there were 51 unfilled calls of congregations calling a seminary
25 candidate, 406 congregations calling a sole pastor, 56 congregations calling a senior
26 pastor, 67 congregations calling an associate pastor, and 529 non-calling congregations
27 for various reasons; and

28 WHEREAS, In 2023 our LCMS schools requested 455 new teachers from our Concordia
29 universities, but only 84 students were graduating with teaching degrees; furthermore,
30 LCMS congregations, schools and entities requested 79 other LCMS commissioned
31 workers for placements, but only 64 church work students were graduating from the
32 Concordia universities; and

33 WHEREAS, *Set Apart to Serve* began with the 2019 LCMS Convention (Resolution 6-01)
34 with the overarching goal of developing a culture of church work formation and
35 recruitment in every LCMS congregation, school and entity; and

1 WHEREAS, *Set Apart to Serve* is in full partnership and collaboration across all Synod
2 entities, including our two seminaries (and their Christ Academy and Vocatio programs),
3 all the Concordia universities, all 35 districts of the LCMS, Concordia Publishing House,
4 Lutheran Church Extension Fund, LCMS Youth Ministry, LCMS School Ministry, LCMS
5 Church Worker Wellness, LCMS colloquy programs, Lutheran Women’s Missionary
6 League, Higher Things, Lutheran Educators’ Association, National Association of DCEs,
7 Black Clergy Caucus, Hispanic Missionary League, Chinese Lutherans in Mission
8 Building (CLiMB), Concordia Plan Services, LCMS Foundation and more; therefore be it

9

10 *Resolved*, That the LCMS _____ District establish a *Set Apart to Serve* church
11 work recruitment committee (working group, task force), to lead and assist their
12 congregations, schools and church workers in intentional church work formation and
13 recruitment; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That all congregations establish a *Set Apart to Serve* committee (working
15 group, task force) to intentionally form, recruit and encourage their youth (from conception
16 to grade 12) and adults to consider a full-time church work vocation; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That all pastors, Lutheran teachers, commissioned church workers and laity
18 intentionally form, recruit and encourage youth to consider a full-time church work
19 vocation; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That LCMS congregations, schools and entities make use of the tried and
21 tested, high quality, and robust SAS resources (found at lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve) and
22 the SAS church work recruitment curriculum (produced by Concordia Publishing and
23 available for download at cph.org/set-apart-to-serve-school-resource-kit); and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That both district and congregation leaders and committees enhance their
25 financial support of individuals who are enrolled in LCMS church work programs at our
26 Concordia universities and seminaries; and be it finally

27 *Resolved*, That both district and congregation leaders intentionally address the
28 compensation of church workers, foster church worker wellness, and encourage love and
29 appreciation for all ordained and commissioned church workers in their district’s
30 congregations, schools and entities.

1 **LO 1-08 To Combine the Finance Committee and the Fund Advisory Committee**

2 **Rationale**

3 For a number of years, the Southern Illinois District has been served by both a Finance
4 Committee, a subcommittee of the Board of Directors, as well as a Fund Advisory
5 Committee appointed by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee's main work is
6 to assist in preparing the annual budget and monitor the financial situation of the District
7 (SID Bylaw I.247.8 and I.253.c.3) The Finance Committee is composed of the District
8 Treasurer, one ordained or commissioned minister from the Board of Directors, and three
9 at large members of the Board of Directors.

10 The Fund Advisory Committee is appointed by the District Board of Directors to manage
11 the District's Endowment Fund, gifts and bequests, and function under a set of guidelines
12 adopted by the Board of Directors. (SID Bylaws IX.9.05-15)

13 Because the work of the Finance Committee and the Fund Advisory Committee requires
14 an overlapping set of skills of members and because some individuals are appointed to
15 both boards, it would be efficient to combine the work of the Finance Committee and the
16 Fund Advisory Committee into a singular "Finance and Fund Advisory Committee" with
17 combined duties.

18

19 Therefore be it

20 *Resolved*, That Bylaw II.A.205 be amended as follows:

21 PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

22

23 II.A.205 The boards, commissions, committees, and executives of the District shall be:

24

a. Elected by the convention of the District:

25

A Board of Directors

26

A Board of Circuit Visitors (Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision).

27

A Board of Missions

28

A Commission of Nominations and Elections

29

A Chairman of the Board of Missions

30

b. Appointed by the Board of Directors:

31

A Schools and General Executive

32

A Commission of Communications

33

An Office and Personnel Committee

34

Four District Reconcilers

35

A Finance and Fund Advisory Committee

36

Other Part-Time Staff

37

38

and be it further

39

Resolved, That Bylaw section II.O.2.103 and following be added:

40

PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

41

1 O. The Finance and Fund Advisory Committee

2 2.103 Membership

3 a. The membership of the Finance and Fund Advisory Committee shall be one ordained or
4 commissioned minister from the Board of Directors, three additional at large members of the Board of
5 Directors, one ordained or commissioned minister from the District (not on the Board of Directors) and one
6 at large lay member of a District congregation (not on the Board of Directors). These members shall be
7 appointed by the Board of Directors. The District Treasurer is also a voting member of the Committee. The
8 District President and Schools and General Executive shall be advisory members of this Committee. The
9 Committee shall select its own chairman.

10 b. In case of resignation, transfer, or incapacity, the Board of Directors shall fill the unexpired term by
11 appointment.

12 c. The committee shall be responsible to the Board of Directors.

13 2.105 Purposes

14 The purposes of this committee are to:

15 a. Develop a proposed annual budget to present to the Board of Directors.

16 b. Monitor the financial situation of the District.

17 c. Manage the Endowment Fund of the District in accordance with the written Endowment Fund
18 Guidelines approved by the Board of Directors

19 d. At least annually, make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding distribution of the
20 income and/or principal of the Endowment Fund. The Committee may solicit input from District
21 Boards and Committees before making their recommendations. None of the income or principal
22 from unrestricted gifts shall be distributed for the District's general operating expenses. The
23 distribution of the income and/or principal from unrestricted gifts shall be determined by the Board
24 of Directors.

25 e. When gifts or bequests are made with restrictions, special terms or conditions or containing
26 limitations or directions as to the investment or use of the substance of the gift, or the use of
27 accumulation of the income; make a recommendation to the Board of Directors regarding the
28 acceptability of that gift or bequest. The decision to accept such gift shall be made by the Board of
29 Directors.

30 f. At least annually, make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the assets of the
31 Endowment Funds to be invested as the Board of Directors determines.

32 2.107 Meetings

33 The Finance and Fund Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly;

34
35 and be it finally

36 *Resolved*, That the District Bylaws Article IX be amended as follows:

IX. ENDOWMENT FUNDS

9.01 The District shall have special funds designated as Endowment Funds. They shall be funds of the District.

9.03 The purpose of the Endowment Funds is to receive gifts and bequests and to use them for the mission and ministry of the Southern Illinois District and The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, including, but not limited to, its seminaries, colleges, institutions or agencies.

9.05 The Endowment Funds shall be managed by a the Finance and Fund Advisory Committee, which shall serve at the pleasure, and under the authority of, The Southern Illinois District Board of Directors. The duties and authorities of the Fund Advisory Committee shall be conducted according to written guidelines approved by a majority of the District Board of Directors, and shall not be inconsistent with this Article. described earlier in these Bylaws.

~~9.07 Both the principal and income from unrestricted gifts and bequests to the Endowment Funds are to be used for the purposes, projects and programs recommended by the Fund Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Directors, provided that the purposes, projects and programs shall be consistent with the general reason for which these Endowment Funds have been established. This list of approved purposes, projects and programs shall be appended to the written guidelines of the Fund Advisory Committee and shall be distributed to the members of the Board of Directors.~~

~~9.09 At least annually, the Fund Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding distribution of the income and/or principal of the fund. The Committee may solicit input from District Boards and Committees before making their recommendations. None of the income or principal from unrestricted gifts shall be distributed for the District's general operating expenses. The distribution of the income and/or principal from unrestricted gifts shall be determined by the Board of Directors.~~

~~9.11 Restricted gifts and bequests (those with special terms or conditions or containing limitations or directions as to the investment or use of the substance of the gift, or the use of accumulation of the income) may be made provided that such are approved in the following manner. The Fund Advisory Committee shall submit at the next meeting of the Board of Directors (or request an emergency meeting), its recommendation on the acceptability of such a gift or bequest. The decision to accept such gift shall be made by the Board of Directors.~~

~~9.13 The Fund Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the assets of the Endowment Funds to be invested as the Board of Directors determines.~~

9.15 .07 The Southern Illinois District Endowment Funds shall continue in existence and be used as hereinabove provided, unless earlier revoked, so long as the Southern Illinois District shall continue to exist. If the Southern Illinois District should cease to exist, then the assets constituting the Endowment Funds shall become the property of a successor district or, if no successor district, then it shall become the property of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod Foundation (except that any and all properties held by the Fund with special conditions, restrictions or limitations shall continue to be subject to the reasonable conditions, restrictions or limitations upon which such property are held.) If the Southern Illinois District should cease to exist, it shall execute the necessary documents to effect the transfer of all applicable property of the Endowment Funds to a successor district or, if no successor district, then to The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod Foundation.

The Southern Illinois District Commission on Constitutional Matters

1 **RESOLUTIONS**

2 **Resolution 1-01: To Empower the Southern Illinois District Board of Directors**
3 **Authority to Determine Campus Ministry Funding**

4 Overture 1-01, *Workbook* page 88

5 **Preamble**

6 **Rationale**

7 The Southern Illinois District has a long history of supporting campus ministries at the
8 Universities within the District. Both Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and
9 Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville have received support from the District for many
10 years. For a time, there has been an understanding of a precedent set by authorizing
11 funding for campus ministries by the Southern Illinois District in convention.

12 Southern Illinois District Bylaw 2.47 establishes the duties of the Board of Directors as,
13 “The Board of Directors shall function as the executive administrative body of the District
14 between conventions, acting in behalf of the District, and such actions shall be subject, if
15 challenged, to ratification by the convention.” District Bylaw 2.47.j also prescribes that
16 the Board of Directors, “Set the annual budget for the District.” As the Board of Directors
17 serves the needs of the District with full financial and mission-based reports, they are the
18 most equipped to make annual decisions regarding the budgeting of campus ministry.

19
20 Therefore be it

21 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District in convention give thanks to God for the
22 faithful ministries at university campuses; and be it further

23 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District Board of Directors, acting as the executive
24 administrative body between conventions, set the budget regarding campus ministry
25 resources; and be it finally

26 *Resolved*, That the convention chaplain offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the campus
27 ministries in Southern Illinois.

1 **Resolution 1-02: Concerning the Lack of Use of the Name Lutheran by**
2 **Congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**

3 Overture 1-02, *Workbook* page 89-91

4 **Preamble**

5 WHEREAS, At its 1995 Convention, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod passed:
6 Resolution 3-13A stating

7
8 “WHEREAS, We have been called Lutheran since the formation of our Synod
9 (and since Reformation times) and are thankful for our doctrinal background
10 and heritage; and

11 WHEREAS, The name Lutheran clearly identifies what the member
12 congregations and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod believe, teach
13 and confess; and

14 WHEREAS, Basic Christian honesty and integrity require that no deception of
15 any sort be used in declaring the truth of the Gospel before all the world, as
16 St. Paul declares: “Rather we have renounced secret and shameful ways;
17 we do not use deception, nor do we distort the Word of God. On the
18 contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every
19 man’s conscience in the sight of God” (2 Cor. 4:2); therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That all congregations and mission stations in our Synod boldly
21 profess in their official title and/or name that they are “Lutheran”; and be it
22 further

23 RESOLVED, That all congregations and mission stations of our Synod state
24 in their materials (bulletins, newsletters, etc.) that they belong to The
25 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and be it finally

26 RESOLVED, That all LCMS congregations gladly proclaim our great doctrinal
27 heritage to a world that needs the clear proclamation of the truth.” and

28
29 WHEREAS, CFW Walther wrote, “Concerning the Name Lutheran” (*Der Lutheraner* 1,
30 1844, translated by Mark Nispel) concluding,

31 “1 - It was Luther and no other through whom God in these last times has
32 brought the pure clear doctrine of the Word of God together with the right
33 use of the Sacraments again into the day and onto the plain and,

34 2 - The communion of those who have confessed this pure doctrine of the
35 Word of God with heart and mouth is therefore named and known by every
36 Lutheran by this name; we can only confess the faith which is in our hearts
37 purely and completely with the name Lutheran.

38 If we would get rid of the name Lutheran the highest suspicion would be
39 aroused that either we are ashamed of the old Lutheran doctrine, or that we
40 no longer consider it to be the only true doctrine agreeing with God’s clear

1 Word and that a new false doctrine is in our hearts. As dear, therefore, as
2 the truth is to us, as dear as God's honor and the salvation of our souls is
3 to us, so little can we, especially in this time of widespread error, give up
4 the name Lutheran. By this name we separate ourselves from all the
5 unorthodox of all times and publicly confess the right faith of all time.

6 Because of this, the most serious accusation is made against us that by
7 doing this we tear apart the body of Christ, disassociate ourselves from
8 brothers, wield the sword against heirs of the same inheritance, and declare
9 them to be our enemies. But those who say this are wrong. We disassociate
10 ourselves only from the errors in which so many of our brothers are
11 captured. And we would act without love towards them if we would not
12 loudly witness against that which keeps them in such danger of souls. It is
13 and remains impossible that this action which is in accordance with God's
14 express command can lead to the ruin of God's kingdom. This fact can and
15 must cancel out all other thoughts for a Christian, when it is asked what he
16 should do in any particular circumstance.

17 But the divine command stands clear that we must not just keep our faith in
18 our heart but must confess it also with the mouth. And so, St. Paul says in
19 Rom. 10:10: "One believes with the heart, and becomes righteous; and one
20 confesses with his mouth and is saved." And so says Christ: "He who
21 confesses me before men, he will I confess before my Father in heaven."
22 Matt. 10:32-33. So, if we have the Lutheran faith in our hearts, so we must,
23 if we want to be saved and not be eternally damned, confess it with our
24 mouths." and

25 WHEREAS, There are several member congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri
26 Synod who are out of compliance with 1995 Resolution 3-13A, and the spirit and letter of
27 Dr. Walther's argument in retaining the name Lutheran, therefore let it be; therefore be it

28

29 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District Convention reaffirm 1995 Resolution 3-13A,
30 and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That That the Southern Illinois District meeting in convention agrees with Dr.
32 Walther's statement that,

33 "1 - It was Luther and no other through whom God in these last times has
34 brought the pure clear doctrine of the Word of God together with the right
35 use of the Sacraments again into the day and onto the plain and,

36

37 2 - The communion of those who have confessed this pure doctrine of the
38 Word of God with heart and mouth is therefore named and known by every
39 Lutheran by this name; we can only confess the faith which is in our hearts
40 purely and completely with the name Lutheran.

1 If we would get rid of the name Lutheran the highest suspicion would be
2 aroused that either we are ashamed of the old Lutheran doctrine, or that we
3 no longer consider it to be the only true doctrine agreeing with God's clear
4 Word and that a new false doctrine is in our hearts. As dear, therefore, as
5 the truth is to us, as dear as God's honor and the salvation of our souls is
6 to us, so little can we, especially in this time of widespread error, give up
7 the name Lutheran. By this name we separate ourselves from all the
8 unorthodox of all times and publicly confess the right faith of all time"

9 and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the President and District Presidents of the LCMS enforce 1995
11 Resolution 3-13A and exercise appropriate ecclesiastical supervision for those out of
12 compliance, encouraging those who are unwilling to comply to leave our Lutheran Synod
13 in their own freedom, and be it finally

14 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District send this resolution to the 2026 LCMS
15 convention.

1 **Resolution 1-03: To Provide Reimbursement to Circuit Visitors**

2 Overture 1-03, *Workbook* page 92

3 **Preamble**

4 WHEREAS, The Circuit Visitor (hereafter, CV) serves as a vital liaison between each
5 congregation of the circuit and the District President, fulfilling many duties as outlined in
6 the LCMS Handbook (Bylaw 5.2), including leadership in call processes, support, care,
7 encouragement, resource, and counsel to each congregation and pastor within his circuit;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The CV often is asked by the District President to assist congregations within
10 the circuit in many of the areas listed above; and

11 WHEREAS, It is often desired, even necessary for the CV to perform these duties in person,
12 often traveling many miles to do so; and

13 WHEREAS, The CV is also expected to attend quarterly meetings at the District office; and

14 WHEREAS, It places an unfair burden on the CV, or his congregation, to cover the cost of
15 the mileage and/or meals incurred in the performance of his duties; therefore be it

16
17 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District publicize the reimbursement policy to each
18 CV at the first CV quarterly meeting to outline the process and procedure of
19 reimbursement; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That vacant congregations receive the District reimbursement policy that
21 outlines the vacant congregations' responsibilities and expectations concerning
22 reimbursing CV mileage and other expenses while officially assisting these
23 congregations; and be it finally

24 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District cover the expenses the CV incurs while
25 officially doing the work of a CV that are not covered elsewhere.

26

1 **Resolution 1-04: To Amend the SID Salary Scale Regarding Pulpit Supply**

2 Overture 1-04, *Workbook* page 93

3 **Preamble**

4 WHEREAS, The current scale for minimum remuneration for guest pulpit supply in our
5 district's salary guidelines is \$75 for one service, \$125 for two services and \$50 an hour
6 for Bible study; and

7 WHEREAS, These amounts have been in place since at least 2006; and

8 WHEREAS, Inflation over that time has lowered the value of these reimbursements;
9 therefore be it

10

11 *Resolved*, That Appendix B – Pulpit Supply of the SID Salary Guidelines be amended as
12 follows: \$125 for one service, \$200 for two services, and \$75 for one hour of Bible study;
13 and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the mileage reimbursement reflect the then current IRS rate; and be it
15 finally

16 *Resolved*, That the Office and Personnel Committee annually review Appendix B – Pulpit
17 Supply of the SID Salary Guidelines and make recommendation to the Board of Directors
18 for changes to the stated Appendix.

Note: The floor committee declined to bring Overture 1-05 to Convention.

1 **Resolution 1-05: To Encourage Continued Prison Ministry Support**

2 Overture LO 1-06, *Today's Business* page 65

3 **Preamble**

4 WHEREAS, The Bible states that Jesus said, "*I was in prison, you visited Me.*" Jesus also
5 said, "*As you did it to the least of these, you did it to Me.*" The Southern Illinois District
6 has sought to be faithful to our Lord's mandate to visit those in Prison by its support of
7 Prison since 1901; and

8 WHEREAS, The District regularly reaches out to 8 Prison/Jail settings on a weekly basis
9 by way of 6 ministry servants providing weekly visitation, Bible Study, and worship
10 leadership]; and

11 WHEREAS, The past conventions of our District acknowledged the need to support prison
12 ministry in our District and provide special training and materials for clergy and lay people
13 desiring to visit the incarcerated; and

14 WHEREAS , Individual members of District congregations may require information and
15 care as families of inmates and/or victims of crime; and

16 WHEREAS, The District continues to promote Freed in Christ as a tool for Christian re-entry
17 throughout the Synod; and

18 WHEREAS, The District has worked with the office of National Mission to host a prison
19 ministry conference in 2024 to share practices and experiences to promote and
20 encourage prison ministry throughout the Synod; and

21 WHEREAS, the District has implemented the Reaching In program at the Greenville
22 Federal Correctional Institute to allow for one-on-one Christ-focused correspondence
23 mentorship; therefore be it

24
25 *Resolved*, That the Mission board be directed to allocate support to congregations who
26 dedicate the time of their staff and membership to prison ministry; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That clergy and lay persons who have an interest in prison and jail ministry be
28 encouraged to take advantage of training offered through the District; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That congregations of the District be encouraged to continue to support prison
30 and jail ministry through regular corporate prayer for prison ministry, hosting mission
31 speakers to hear about what is going on in the district and synod, and considering prison
32 ministry for mission offerings; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the congregations of the District prayerfully consider providing volunteers
2 to serve in prison ministry as opportunities become available with facilities, at the county,
3 state, and federal levels, across the District; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That the membership of the District, lay, commissioned and clergy, prayerfully
5 consider supporting the Reaching In initiative by corresponding with inmates as the
6 District expands the program to other facilities in the District; and be it further
- 7 *Resolved*, That the District continues to work with the Specialized Spiritual Care Ministry
8 office of the Synod to promote prison ministry throughout the Synod and share/develop
9 resources to be used; and be it further
- 10 *Resolved*, That the Southern Illinois District expand its prison ministry outreach by way of
11 information and care with both families and inmates and with victims of crime; and be it
12 finally
- 13 *Resolved*, that thanks be given to God that the District has been blessed with many who
14 use their gifts and talents to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who are
15 incarcerated, their families, returning citizens, and victims of crime.

1 **Resolution 1-06: To Build a Culture of Church Work Formation and Recruitment**

2 Overture LO 1-07, *Today's Business* page 67

3 **Preamble**

4 WHEREAS, Jesus said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray
5 earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest (Matt. 9:37–38);
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Since 1847 to the present day, the LCMS adopted resolutions in nearly every
8 convention to form and recruit pastors, teachers and other commissioned church workers
9 to preach, teach and share the Gospel of Jesus for eternal salvation in these full-time
10 vocations; and

11 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged that church worker formation and
12 recruitment intentionally take place in every LCMS congregation and school by pastors,
13 teachers, commissioned church workers and laity; and

14 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged districts and congregations to have an
15 active committee focused on forming and recruiting our youth and adults to consider full-
16 time church work;; and

17 WHEREAS, The pastoral office is the one divinely mandated office by our Lord (John
18 20:19–23; Rom. 10:14–15; Eph. 4:11–16) and the seven LCMS commissioned church
19 work vocations have been established in love to support the Office of the Holy Ministry
20 (Lutheran school teachers, directors of Christian education, directors of family life
21 ministry, deaconesses, directors of parish music, directors of church ministries, directors
22 of Christian outreach) (*Lutheran Service Book: Agenda*, p. 210 and 218); and

23 WHEREAS, In the last five years, approximately twice as many LCMS pastors are exiting
24 the pastoral office (retirement or death) as there are newly called and ordained pastors;;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, In April 2024, there were 51 unfilled calls of congregations calling a seminary
27 candidate, 406 congregations calling a sole pastor, 56 congregations calling a senior
28 pastor, 67 congregations calling an associate pastor, and 529 non-calling congregations
29 for various reasons; and

30 WHEREAS, In 2023 our LCMS schools requested 455 new teachers from our Concordia
31 universities, but only 84 students were graduating with teaching degrees; furthermore,
32 LCMS congregations, schools and entities requested 79 other LCMS commissioned
33 workers for placements, but only 64 church work students were graduating from the
34 Concordia universities; and

1 WHEREAS, *Set Apart to Serve* began with the 2019 LCMS Convention (Resolution 6-01)
2 with the overarching goal of developing a culture of church work formation and
3 recruitment in every LCMS congregation, school and entity; and

4 WHEREAS, *Set Apart to Serve* is in full partnership and collaboration across all Synod
5 entities, including our two seminaries (and their Christ Academy and *Vocatio* programs),
6 all the Concordia universities, all 35 districts of the LCMS, Concordia Publishing House,
7 Lutheran Church Extension Fund, LCMS Youth Ministry, LCMS School Ministry, LCMS
8 Church Worker Wellness, LCMS colloquy programs, Lutheran Women’s Missionary
9 League, Higher Things, Lutheran Educators’ Association, National Association of DCEs,
10 Black Clergy Caucus, Hispanic Missionary League, Chinese Lutherans in Mission
11 Building (CLiMB), Concordia Plan Services, LCMS Foundation and more; therefore be it
12

13 *Resolved*, That the LCMS Southern Illinois District establish a *Set Apart to Serve* church
14 work recruitment committee, to lead and assist their congregations, schools and church
15 workers in intentional church work formation and recruitment; and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That That all congregations are encouraged to establish a *Set Apart to Serve*
17 committee to intentionally form, recruit and encourage their youth (from conception to
18 grade 12) and adults to consider a full-time church work vocation; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That That all pastors, Lutheran teachers, commissioned church workers and
20 laity intentionally form, recruit and encourage youth to consider a full-time church work
21 vocation;; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That LCMS congregations, schools and entities make use of the tried and
23 tested, high quality, and robust SAS resources (found at lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve) and
24 the SAS church work recruitment curriculum (produced by Concordia Publishing and
25 available for download at cph.org/set-apart-to-serve-school-resource-kit); and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That both district and congregation leaders and committees enhance their
27 financial support of individuals who are enrolled in LCMS church work programs at our
28 Concordia universities and seminaries; and be it finally

29 *Resolved*, Both district and congregation leaders intentionally address the compensation
30 of church workers, foster church worker wellness, and encourage love and appreciation
31 for all ordained and commissioned church workers in their district’s congregations,
32 schools and entities.

1 **Resolution 1-07:To Combine the Finance Committee and the Fund Advisory Committee**

2 Overture LO 1-08, *Today's Business* page 69

3 **Rationale**

4 For a number of years, the Southern Illinois District has been served by both a Finance
5 Committee, a subcommittee of the Board of Directors, as well as a Fund Advisory
6 Committee appointed by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee's main work is
7 to assist in preparing the annual budget and monitor the financial situation of the District
8 (SID Bylaw I.247.8 and I.253.c.3) The Finance Committee is composed of the District
9 Treasurer, one ordained or commissioned minister from the Board of Directors, and three
10 at large members of the Board of Directors.

11 The Fund Advisory Committee is appointed by the District Board of Directors to manage
12 the District's Endowment Fund, gifts and bequests, and function under a set of guidelines
13 adopted by the Board of Directors. (SID Bylaws IX.9.05-15)

14 Because the work of the Finance Committee and the Fund Advisory Committee requires
15 an overlapping set of skills of members and because some individuals are appointed to
16 both boards, it would be efficient to combine the work of the Finance Committee and the
17 Fund Advisory Committee into a singular "Finance and Fund Advisory Committee" with
18 combined duties.

19
20 Therefore be it

21 *Resolved*, That Bylaw II.A.205 be amended as follows:

22 PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

23
24 II.A.205 The boards, commissions, committees, and executives of the District shall be:

- 25 a. Elected by the convention of the District:
 - 26 A Board of Directors
 - 27 A Board of Circuit Visitors (Board of Spiritual Care and Supervision).
 - 28 A Board of Missions
 - 29 A Commission of Nominations and Elections
 - 30 A Chairman of the Board of Missions
- 31
32 b. Appointed by the Board of Directors:
 - 33 A Schools and General Executive
 - 34 A Commission of Communications
 - 35 An Office and Personnel Committee
 - 36 Four District Reconcilers
 - 37 A Finance and Fund Advisory Committee
 - 38 Other Part-Time Staff

39 and be it further

40 *Resolved*, That Bylaw section II.O.2.103 and following be added:

1 PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING

3 O. The Finance and Fund Advisory Committee

4 2.103 Membership

5 a. The membership of the Finance and Fund Advisory Committee shall be one ordained or
6 commissioned minister from the Board of Directors, three additional at large members of the Board of
7 Directors, one ordained or commissioned minister from the District (not on the Board of Directors) and one
8 at large lay member of a District congregation (not on the Board of Directors). These members shall be
9 appointed by the Board of Directors. The District Treasurer is also a voting member of the Committee. The
10 District President and Schools and General Executive shall be advisory members of this Committee. The
11 Committee shall select its own chairman.

12 b. In case of resignation, transfer, or incapacity, the Board of Directors shall fill the unexpired term by
13 appointment.

14 c. The committee shall be responsible to the Board of Directors.

15 2.105 Purposes

16 The purposes of this committee are to:

17 g. Develop a proposed annual budget to present to the Board of Directors.

18 h. Monitor the financial situation of the District.

19 i. Manage the Endowment Fund of the District in accordance with the written Endowment Fund
20 Guidelines approved by the Board of Directors

21 j. At least annually, make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding distribution of the
22 income and/or principal of the Endowment Fund. The Committee may solicit input from District
23 Boards and Committees before making their recommendations. The distribution of the income
24 and/or principal from unrestricted gifts shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

25 k. When gifts or bequests are made with restrictions, special terms or conditions or containing
26 limitations or directions as to the investment or use of the substance of the gift, or the use of
27 accumulation of the income; make a recommendation to the Board of Directors regarding the
28 acceptability of that gift or bequest. The decision to accept such gift shall be made by the Board of
29 Directors.

30 l. At least annually, make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the assets of the
31 Endowment Funds to be invested as the Board of Directors determines.

32 2.107 Meetings

33 The Finance and Fund Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly;

34
35 and be it finally

36 *Resolved*, That the District Bylaws Article IX be amended as follows:

37
38 IX. ENDOWMENT FUNDS

39
40 9.01 The District shall have special funds designated as Endowment Funds. They shall be funds of the
41 District.

1 9.03 The purpose of the Endowment Funds is to receive gifts and bequests and to use them for the mission
2 and ministry of the Southern Illinois District and The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, including, but not
3 limited to, its seminaries, colleges, institutions or agencies.

4 9.05 The Endowment Funds shall be managed by a the Finance and Fund Advisory Committee, which
5 ~~shall serve at the pleasure, and under the authority of, The Southern Illinois District Board of Directors. The~~
6 ~~duties and authorities of the Fund Advisory Committee shall be conducted according to written guidelines~~
7 ~~approved by a majority of the District Board of Directors, and shall not be inconsistent with this Article. as~~
8 ~~described earlier in these Bylaws.~~

9 ~~9.07 Both the principal and income from unrestricted gifts and bequests to the Endowment Funds are to~~
10 ~~be used for the purposes, projects and programs recommended by the Fund Advisory Committee and~~
11 ~~approved by the Board of Directors, provided that the purposes, projects and programs shall be consistent~~
12 ~~with the general reason for which these Endowment Funds have been established. This list of approved~~
13 ~~purposes, projects and programs shall be appended to the written guidelines of the Fund Advisory~~
14 ~~Committee and shall be distributed to the members of the Board of Directors.~~

15 ~~9.09 At least annually, the Fund Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors~~
16 ~~regarding distribution of the income and/or principal of the fund. The Committee may solicit input from~~
17 ~~District Boards and Committees before making their recommendations. None of the income or principal~~
18 ~~from unrestricted gifts shall be distributed for the District's general operating expenses. The distribution of~~
19 ~~the income and/or principal from unrestricted gifts shall be determined by the Board of Directors.~~

20 ~~9.11 Restricted gifts and bequests (those with special terms or conditions or containing limitations or~~
21 ~~directions as to the investment or use of the substance of the gift, or the use of accumulation of the income)~~
22 ~~may be made provided that such are approved in the following manner. The Fund Advisory Committee~~
23 ~~shall submit at the next meeting of the Board of Directors (or request an emergency meeting), its~~
24 ~~recommendation on the acceptability of such a gift or bequest. The decision to accept such gift shall be~~
25 ~~made by the Board of Directors.~~

26 ~~9.13 The Fund Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the~~
27 ~~assets of the Endowment Funds to be invested as the Board of Directors determines.~~

28 9.15 .07 The Southern Illinois District Endowment Funds shall continue in existence and be used as
29 hereinabove provided, unless earlier revoked, so long as the Southern Illinois District shall continue to exist.
30 If the Southern Illinois District should cease to exist, then the assets constituting the Endowment Funds
31 shall become the property of a successor district or, if no successor district, then it shall become the property
32 of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod Foundation (except that any and all properties held by the Fund
33 with special conditions, restrictions or limitations shall continue to be subject to the reasonable conditions,
34 restrictions or limitations upon which such property are held.) If the Southern Illinois District should cease
35 to exist, it shall execute the necessary documents to effect the transfer of all applicable property of the
36 Endowment Funds to a successor district or, if no successor district, then to The Lutheran Church--Missouri
37 Synod Foundation.

FLOOR NOMINATION FORM

Southern Illinois District Convention 2025

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Address*: _____

City, State and ZIP Code*: _____

Nominee email address*: _____

Nominee phone number*: _____

Nominee is a (check one)

- Ordained minister
- Commissioned Minister
- Lay member of a District congregation

Position nominated for:

Questions for the Nominee:

What congregation (including city/state) are you a member of?

How many years have you been a member there?

How many years have you been a member of an LCMS congregation?

Occupation?

Congregational Leadership and Service (please list positions at your congregation, including the years you served in that position):

Circuit, District, and Synod Service (please list positions in your circuit, district, and for the LCMS, including the years that you served):

Skills, Abilities, and Interests that will be helpful if elected:

Education and Degrees Awarded:

This following signature serves as my consent to publish the information without an "*" for the information of the delegates, and grants my consent to serve in the mentioned position if elected. (The fields marked with an asterisk are for contact information if you are elected.)

Nominee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominee's Name (please print): _____