

REGARDING THE LETTERING AND NUMBERING OF RESOLUTIONS

The reason for the two letters and three pairs of numbers, i.e. BL 04-22-01: the letters are an abbreviation of the floor committee name (Bylaws in this example), the first pair of numbers refers to the floor committee number, the second to the year, and the third to the number of the resolution.

If a Floor Committee has sent a resolution to the floor of the Convention and it has been returned to the Floor Committee for revision, the numbering will reflect an A at the end, i.e. BL 04-22-01A, to signify a revision by the Floor Committee.

What you see printed in this section of the workbook are the initial resolutions drafted by the Floor Committees during their work this winter.

Mission Development – 01

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| MD 01-22-01 | To Declare A Year Of Jubilee |
| MD 01-22-02 | To Expand Partnerships Among English-Speaking and Interethnic Congregations |
| MD 01-22-03 | To Conduct a Southeastern District Staffing and Facility Study |

Congregational Outreach – 02

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|-------------|--|
| CO 02-22-01 | Towards Racial Justice and the Great Commission |
| CO 02-22-02 | To Address the Lutheran Teacher Shortage and Low Teacher Salaries by Initiating a Student Debt Assistance Program for LCMS Commissioned Minister - Teacher |
| CO 02-22-03 | To Give Thanks for Concordia College - New York and Explore Future Lutheran Higher Education Opportunities in the East Coast Region |
| CO 02-22-04 | To Provide Disaster Response Training for Every Circuit of the Southeastern District |
| CO 02-22-05 | To Promote and Support Bringing Called Church Workers to the Southeastern District |

Stewardship & Finance – 03

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|-------------|--|
| SF 03-22-01 | To Enable the Sharing of Best Practices and Lessons Learned among the Southeastern District Churches, Schools, and Early Childhood Centers |
| SF 03-22-02 | To Form a Partnership between the Southeastern District and the LCMS Foundation to Establish a Full-time Estate and Endowment Planning Support |
| SF 03-22-03 | Omnibus C |



Bylaws – 04

BL 04-22-01	To Confer Emeritus Status
BL 04-22-02	To Ratify the Action of the Board of Directors Regarding the Southeastern District's Articles of Incorporation
BL 04-22-03	To Bring Southeastern District Bylaws into Harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of the Synod
BL 04-22-04	To Ratify the Reassignment of Certain Congregations to Circuits
BL 04-22-05	On Changing the Size Requirements for Electoral Circuits in the Synod
BL 04-22-06	To Strengthen the Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation at Conventions
BL 04-22-07	To Change to a Four-Year Convention Cycle
BL 04-22-08	To Amend Synod Constitution to Grant Lay Vote to Every Congregation
BL 04-22-09	To Develop an Ethics Policy for the Southeastern District When Dealing with the Disposition of a Congregation's Property
BL 04-22-10	Omnibus A

Theology & Practice – 05

TP 05-22-01	To Support The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's Specific Ministry Pastor Program
TP 05-22-02	To the Use of the Koinonia Project Process to Resolve Conflict Due to Differences in Ministry and Practice
TP 05-22-03	To Explore Non-Residential Opportunities for Pastoral Education

Nominations & Elections – 06

NE 06-22-01	To Ratify the Selection of Circuit Visitors
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FLOOR COMMITTEE 01: MISSION DEVELOPMENT(MD)

Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS

1 **MD 01-22-01 To Declare a Year of Jubilee**

2 (*Overtures: MD 01-22-01; MD 01-22-02*)

3

4 **WHEREAS**, The priesthood of all believers have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit to
5 carry out the Great Commission to go into all the world; and

6

7 **WHEREAS**, The vision of the Southeastern District (SED) is to connect our neighbors to
8 Jesus so that lives are transformed and God's Kingdom grows; and

9

10 **WHEREAS**, The SED has made available through book and video means the published
11 resource The Great Sending – God's Heart Beating Through You; and

12

13 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Convention in 2019
14 established seven mission priorities; therefore be it

15

16 **RESOLVED**, The SED continue to support the seven priorities identified at the 2019
17 LCMS Convention:

- 18 1. Plant, sustain, and revitalize Lutheran churches;
- 19 2. Support and expand theological education;
- 20 3. Perform human care in close proximity to Word and Sacrament ministries;
- 21 4. Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical wellbeing
22 of pastors and professional church workers;
- 23 5. Collaborate with the Synod's members and partners to enhance mission
24 effectiveness;
- 25 6. Enhance early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, and
26 youth ministry; and
- 27 7. Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design; and be
28 it further

29

30 **RESOLVED**, That the SED in Convention declares the 85th anniversary of the District as
31 a year of Jubilee where congregations, schools, and service organizations focus on the
32 Great Sending; and be it finally

33

34 **RESOLVED**, That the President of the SED work with congregations to provide resources
35 and guidance for the Jubilee.

36



37 **MD 01-22-02 To Expand Partnerships Among English-Speaking and**
38 **Interethnic Congregations**

39
40 **WHEREAS**, The Southeastern District (SED) has experienced considerable growth
41 among ethnic ministries; and
42

43 **WHEREAS**, Interethnic ministries have an opportunity to give witness to the Gospel to
44 non-Christians and unchurched communities; and
45

46 **WHEREAS**, There is an opportunity for English-speaking congregations and interethnic
47 specific missions to learn from and support each other with emphasis on generational
48 language barriers and equipping second-generations with the Gospel; and
49

50 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in partnership with the SED
51 is supporting a national missionary for Spanish-speaking people and establishing a
52 National Missionary Training Center within the SED; therefore be it
53

54 **RESOLVED**, That the SED President work with congregations and ethnic ministries
55 within the SED to create paths for partnership; and be it finally
56

57 **RESOLVED**, That new ways of connecting with new people groups for the sake of the
58 Gospel be established.
59



60 **MD 01-22-03 To Conduct a Southeastern District Staffing and Facility Study**
61 *(Overture MD-01-22-03)*

62
63 **WHEREAS**, The harvest is plentiful as 10% of the nation’s population lives within the
64 borders of the Southeastern District (SED); and

65
66 **WHEREAS**, The COVID-19 Pandemic has provided churches and schools unique
67 opportunities to utilize technologies and resources in different ways in order to do
68 ministries; and

69
70 **WHEREAS**, The use of technology may allow the SED to reach and expand in new ways
71 across a geographically, ethnically, and culturally diverse District; therefore be it

72
73 **RESOLVED**, That the SED Board of Directors appoint a task force to conduct a study of
74 district staffing and facility needs in order to promote the vision of the SED and support
75 and empower congregations, schools and other ministries; and be it further

76
77 **RESOLVED**, That the task force present the SED Board of Directors with its findings
78 before the next SED Convention; and be it finally

79
80 **RESOLVED**, That the SED President present findings of the report and any action taken
81 from the report to the next convention.

82
83
84



85 FLOOR COMMITTEE 02: CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH(CO)

86 *Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS*

87
88 **CO 02-22-01 Towards Racial Justice and the Great Commission**

89 *(Overture CO 02-22-01, CO 02-22-02)*

90
91 **WHEREAS**, Racial injustice is a shameful sin, as well as an obstacle to the Great
92 Commission, it would be irresponsible of us not to examine our human failings with
93 respect both to the Great Commandment of love and the Great Commission to make
94 disciples of all people; and

95
96 **WHEREAS**, Racial injustice remains a severe obstacle to carrying out the Great
97 Commission of making disciples of all tribes, languages, and nations through the Gospel
98 and drawing them into the body of Christ; and

99
100 **WHEREAS**, Martin Luther taught, and we confess, that the Fifth Commandment, You
101 shall not murder, means we should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our
102 neighbors, but help and defend them in every physical need, which most of us have
103 shamefully failed to do especially regarding our fellow Americans who are Black; and

104
105 **WHEREAS**, The picture of Christians that we have often given others is not that of
106 compassionate people, but instead of people whose faith is without much love when it
107 comes to racial injustices, an offense that has kept many people, Black and White, and
108 people of other ethnic groups from joining our church; and

109
110 **WHEREAS**, We lament the widespread silence of Christians in the face of slavery and
111 other racial injustices; and

112
113 **WHEREAS**, The impact of slavery is deeply embedded in our nation's culture - enforced
114 by law, custom, and habits, including extreme racist laws and lynching that terrorize Black
115 people, especially in the South, as well as discrimination throughout the nation in jobs,
116 housing, education, and other areas that enforced preferential treatment of Whites and
117 pushed a great many Black and people of other ethnic groups into absolute or relative
118 poverty, doing significant damage to families; and

119
120 **WHEREAS**, Racial injustices, past and present, cause great suffering to many Americans
121 and harm our entire nation; and

122
123 **WHEREAS**, Past discrimination leaves in place economic and social liabilities that would
124 persist even if racial prejudice suddenly disappeared; and

125
126 **WHEREAS**, Racial justice, for which all of us are responsible, does not depend only on
127 our kindness toward others (essential as that is), but on just laws, institutions, and
128 practices that are genuinely fair and reflect action to repair unfairness that has
129 accumulated over centuries of racial injustices and oppression; and

130



131 **WHEREAS**, Many LCMS convention resolutions on the issue of race have asserted the
132 clear biblical teaching that all humans, whatever the color of their skin, have been created
133 in the image of God and redeemed through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus; yet
134 we continue to lag in mission outreach that crosses racial lines, and in addressing racial
135 injustices that divide our nation – offenses that put us in need of God's mercy and call us
136 to action; and

137
138 **WHEREAS**, The report of Synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations
139 (Racism and the Church 1994) documents a disturbing pattern in The Lutheran Church—
140 Missouri Synod of following the path of our surrounding culture regarding slavery and
141 other racial injustices, thus conforming to the world rather than being transformed in Christ
142 (Romans 12:2); and

143
144 **WHEREAS**, Our former policy of having racially segregated churches and schools
145 resulted in turning people of color and other ethnic groups away from our church doors
146 and in fewer new members of color, yet these habits and attitudes of old sins persist,
147 making our outreach across racial lines more difficult now than it should be; and

148
149 **WHEREAS**, Despite some commendable exceptions, too few Lutheran Church—
150 Missouri Synod members have been active or vocal in protesting racial injustices, a
151 silence that is seen as consent; and

152
153 **WHEREAS**, We give thanks to God for courageous leaders among us, Black and White,
154 along with the thousands of people of color forgiven and filled with the merciful love of
155 Christ, who over the years have overcome racial barriers and do so even today, we still
156 have much to learn about how to be racially inclusive; for all of which we seek the grace
157 of God to find more faithful ways of reflecting God's love and our unity in Christ; and

158
159 **WHEREAS**, To reach deeply into the life of our congregations, an unprecedented church-
160 wide campaign that is truly filled with the love and joy of the Holy Spirit cries out for our
161 response; therefore be it

162
163 **RESOLVED**, That by the next Synod Convention, the President of Synod and its district
164 presidents designate a specified Sunday as "A Day of Repentance and Prayer for Racial
165 Justice and Healing" in our land, perhaps on the first Sunday of February or the Sunday
166 closest to the Juneteenth celebration, urging all LCMS pastors and congregations and
167 other affiliates of Synod to participate. Preparation for this Day should include simple but
168 starkly honest background material, highlighting racial injustices in the nation's history,
169 and even in its Christian churches, including our own Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod;
170 and be it finally

171
172 **RESOLVED**, That we see this day of corporate and individual repentance and prayer as
173 a long-overdue confession of sins against people of color, which most of us, by our
174 silence, have mainly kept hidden even from ourselves, and for which we truly apologize,
175 seek their forgiveness, and beg for God's great mercy that sets all of us free. Therefore,
176 it should be a joyous, Spirit-filled day that can deepen our faith in Christ, empower us to



177 seek racial justice, and help us eagerly to welcome people across all racial and ethnic
178 groups into fellowship with us through our Lord and Savior.
179
180



181 **CO 02-22-02 To Address the Lutheran Teacher Shortage and Low Teacher**
182 **Salaries by Initiating a Student Debt Assistance Program for**
183 **LCMS Commissioned Minister - Teacher**

184 *(Overture CO 02-22-04)*
185

186 **WHEREAS**, Our Lutheran Schools struggle to find rostered teachers to serve in the
187 classrooms of our High Schools, Middle Schools, Elementary Schools, Pre-schools and
188 Child Development Centers¹; and
189

190 **WHEREAS**, Research has shown that a primary reason for this struggle is the lower
191 salary offered for teachers within the Lutheran school systems^{2,3}; and
192

193 **WHEREAS**, Concordia Plans reported in 2021 that 27% of LCMS workers have student
194 debt that averages \$46,000 per student; and
195

196 **WHEREAS**, The reality of student loan debt is an important part of the decision to seek
197 employment outside the Lutheran school; and
198

199 **WHEREAS**, It is a value that we fill our schools with rostered workers⁴; therefore be it
200

201 **RESOLVED**, That a National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program be
202 developed that recognizes the service of Lutheran Teachers through student loan debt
203 forgiveness; and be it further
204

205 **RESOLVED**, That a committee comprised of members of the Education Department of
206 the Concordia University System, LCMS School Ministry, Concordia Plans, The
207 Foundation, and the Council of Presidents develops the loan forgiveness process; and
208 be it further
209

210 **RESOLVED**, That a special, designated offering to establish this program be taken during
211 the National Lutheran Schools Weeks of 2024, 2025, and 2026; and be it further
212

213 **RESOLVED**, That reports of this work be provided through regular communications of
214 the Synod; and be it finally
215

216 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District, LCMS memorialize the Synod in Convention
217 to adopt National Lutheran Teacher Student Debt Assistance Program.
218

219 Footnotes:

220 1. The number of new commissioned teachers has steadily declined since 2005
221 (Concordia University System [CUS] Board for University Education [BUE]
222 statistics); and
223

224 The fulfillment rate of requests for first-year Synod-trained candidates to LCMS
225 calling entities has declined from 63 percent in 2010 to 30 percent in 2018 because
226 of the lack of available Synod-trained candidates (CUS BUE statistics);



- 227
228 The CUS only graduated 23 early childhood educators, 39 elementary educators,
229 and 32 secondary educators in 2018 (CUS BUE statistics); (2019 Resolution 12:02A,
230 p.222 of 2019 LCMS Convention Proceedings)
231
232 2. Theme 8 of Office of National Mission’s “LCMS Church Worker Wellness Insights,”
233 presentation by Rev. Robert Zagore, Office of National Mission to Gospel 2019
234
235 ❖ Financial wellbeing is unique among worker needs in that the major problems
236 are beyond the worker’s ability to change – most often the problem is that the
237 workers are in a mathematically impossible situation
238 ○ Workers are under-paid for their skill level and workload
239 ○ Costs for health care are being pushed to the workers
240 ○ Young workers are burdened with significant student debt
241
242 ❖ Many calling bodies are unable to pay their workers what is necessary
243 ○ *“The toughest work is being done in the places that can pay the least”* (i.e.
244 dying congregations, inner-city churches, immigrant ministries, etc.)
245
246 3. Note: Conclusion of Final Report of the Blue-Ribbon Committee on Lutheran Schools
247 (2019 R.63)
248
249 “Lutheran education is a noble calling, yet it is facing significant challenges. Data
250 support a real need for synodical entities to bring resolution to indebtedness for church
251 workers. With the impending retirement of many teachers and administrators coupled
252 with the diminishing numbers of Lutheran Teacher Diploma (LTD) candidates enrolling
253 in the Concordia University System, there is an increased sense of urgency to recruit
254 and retain qualified young people in the Lutheran teaching ministry. The desire to enter
255 the vocation of education is lessening due to several factors including classroom
256 management issues, public perception of the profession and state regulations.
257 Additionally, many students are coming out of college with significant debt and are paid
258 salaries below recommended levels. The trendline on debt and salary must change or
259 the teacher shortage will likely continue. Teachers and administrators are in a great
260 position to influence current and future students about the joys and rewards of church
261 work and need to be intentional in their efforts to help recruit new students for the
262 Concordia University System.” (2019 LCMS Convention Workbook, p.344-348.)
263
264 4. The 2016 Synod Convention Res. 8-01A, “To Encourage and Strengthen the Lutheran
265 Ethos of Our LCMS Early Childhood Centers, Elementary Schools, and High Schools”
266 specifically identified that a characteristic of a Lutheran school with a strong Lutheran
267 ethos has “LCMS-trained Lutheran teachers ... who know and are committed to the
268 truths of the Scriptures as confessed in our Lutheran Confessions (2019 LCMS
269 Convention Proceedings, Resolution 12-02 A, p.221)”
270
271



272 **CO 02-22-03 To Give Thanks for Concordia College - New York and Explore**
273 **Future Lutheran Higher Education Opportunities in the East**
274 **Coast Region**

275 *(Overture CO 02-22-05)*
276

277 **WHEREAS**, Concordia College - New York served as an institution of higher education
278 for over 140 years; and
279

280 **WHEREAS**, Through the Concordia University System, countless women and men
281 receive a quality, Christian education to be sent out to live their vocations in the name of
282 Jesus; and
283

284 **WHEREAS**, Concordia College - New York continues to have a significant impact on the
285 church at large through the witness of the priesthood of believers who attended the
286 college; and
287

288 **WHEREAS**, With the closure of Concordia College - New York, The Lutheran Church—
289 Missouri Synod has no Higher Education learning center on the East Coast of the United
290 States; therefore be it
291

292 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District gives thanks to God for Concordia College -
293 New York and its contribution to the wider church and society; and be it further
294

295 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District gives thanks to God for the Care and Comfort
296 Committee that raised dollars to support the staff members of Concordia College – New
297 York who were losing jobs due to the closure of the school; and be it finally
298

299 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention instructs the District President
300 to work with other District Presidents in the East Coast Region and the Lutheran Church—
301 Missouri Synod, in identifying opportunities for the establishment of a new higher
302 education learning center, either physically or virtually, based in the East Coast Region.
303
304



305 **CO 02-22-04 To Provide Disaster Response Training for Every Circuit of**
306 **the Southeastern District**

307 *(Overture CO 02-22-06)*
308

309 **WHEREAS**, Natural and man-made disasters have caused devastation in the Southeastern
310 District in recent years; and

311
312 **WHEREAS**, Our District and Synod have been actively involved in disaster response
313 ministry, working with local congregations to serve hurting neighbors and give witness to
314 the Gospel; and

315
316 **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Disaster Response office has created a national organization of
317 over 20,000 Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) volunteers, and an excellent LERT
318 basic training course; and

319
320 **WHEREAS**, The ministry of SED congregations will be well-served when local leaders
321 are knowledgeable about LCMS disaster response ministry options; therefore be it

322
323 **RESOLVED**, That the Circuit Visitors of the Southeastern District, or their designee,
324 participate in a LERT basic training course prior to the end of 2023; and be it finally

325
326 **RESOLVED**, That congregations of the SED be encouraged to host a LERT basic training
327 course during the next triennium.

328
329



330 **CO 02-22-05 To Promote and Support Bringing Called Church Workers to**
331 **the Southeastern District**

332 *(Overture CO 02-22-03)*
333

334 **WHEREAS**, Overall enrollment in the church worker programs in the Concordia
335 University System is declining; and
336

337 **WHEREAS**, It is very difficult for churches to find qualified candidates to fill vacancies for
338 ordained and commissioned positions; and
339

340 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has already made a
341 financial reduction in the cost of tuition for individuals going into the pastoral ministry;
342 therefore be it
343

344 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District continue to place an emphasis on bringing
345 Called Church Workers into the District; and be it further
346

347 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District make every effort to promote and support
348 individual congregations in their efforts to encourage our youth and any other
349 interested individuals in the ministry of the Church; and be it further
350

351 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District continue to encourage congregations to
352 establish a salary scale that provides for the financial viability of its church workers;
353 and be it finally
354

355 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District continue to seek to help candidates for the
356 ministry by providing tuition financial support not only for pastoral candidates but to
357 include all Call-eligible candidates attending the Concordia University System.
358
359
360



361 FLOOR COMMITTEE 03: STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE(SF)

362 *Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS*

363
364 **SF 03-22-01 To Enable the Sharing of Best Practices and Lessons Learned**
365 **among the Southeastern District Churches, Schools, and**
366 **Early Childhood Centers**

367 *(Overture SF 03-22-01)*

368
369 **WHEREAS**, The Southeastern District is comprised of many churches, schools, and early
370 childhood centers; and

371
372 **WHEREAS**, Southeastern District churches, schools, and early childhood centers
373 operate in diverse communities; and

374
375 **WHEREAS**, The Southeastern District's churches, schools, and early childhood centers
376 benefit from the collaboration of best practices; and

377
378 **WHEREAS**, To many churches, schools, and early childhood centers in the Southeastern
379 District this support was critical during these last few years; and

380
381 **WHEREAS**, This support will be even more critical in the future; and

382
383 **WHEREAS**, We as churches can collectively benefit from the lessons learned from the
384 many churches of the Southeastern District; now, therefore be it

385
386 **RESOLVED**, That each church commit to share individual lessons learned dealing with
387 the financial and operational burdens; and be it further

388
389 **RESOLVED**, That each church share best practices and lessons learned of delivering the
390 message of Jesus Christ to its congregation and community; and be it finally

391
392 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District establish the means and methods to
393 efficiently and effectively share these across the District.



398 **SF 03-22-02 To Form a Partnership between the Southeastern District and**
399 **the LCMS Foundation to Establish a Full-time Estate and**
400 **Endowment Planning Support**
401

402 **WHEREAS**, The members of the churches of the Southeastern District are looking to
403 optimize their estate planning in a charitable way; and
404

405 **WHEREAS**, The Southeastern District has over 10% of the nation's population and does
406 not have a dedicated LCMS Foundation representative; and
407

408 **WHEREAS**, The LCMS Foundation provides estate planning and endowment support;
409 and
410

411 **WHEREAS**, The churches, schools and childcare centers of the Southeastern District
412 could be benefactors of these services; be it therefore
413

414 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District form a partnership with the LCMS Foundation
415 so that there would be at least one full time worker making presentations and developing
416 gift plans throughout the Southeastern District; and be it further
417

418 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District encourage congregations, schools and
419 ministries to engage in gift planning in their congregations.
420



421 **SF 03-22-03 Omnibus C**
422 *(Overtures: SF 03-22-02, SF 03-22-04)*

423
424 **WHEREAS**, Requests for recognition of noteworthy actions and labors of love are brought
425 to the Southeastern District’s attention at every convention; therefore be it
426

427 **RESOLVED**, That the following overtures be received as expressions of encouragement
428 and gratitude:
429
430

Overture Number	Title	Encouragement/Thanks
SF 03 22 02	To Recognize and Thank the LCMS and LCEF for the Strengthened and Expanded “Soldiers of the Cross” COVID-19 Response Initiative	To thank you to LCMS, LCEF, and LHHF who provided care for SED workers during COVID-19.
CO 03 22 04	To Thank the Southeastern District, Its Churches and Congregants for the Support to the Concordia College – New York Employees Care and Comfort Fund	In appreciation for support from SED congregations, schools, and members to the Concordia College – New York Care and Comfort Fund

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FLOOR COMMITTEE 04: BYLAWS(BL)

Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS

BL 04-22-01 To Confer Emeritus Status

(Overture BL 04-22-13)

WHEREAS, The Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been blessed by the servant leadership of the Rev. Dr. John R. Denninger, who has led this District as President for the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, The Southeastern District recognizes the spiritual leadership of one who has dedicated countless hours in raising up the mission and ministry opportunities before us both within this District and at national levels, and beyond in this time which has been impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic and cultural change; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the congregations of the Southeastern District and their members express their gratitude for his service and leadership; and be it

RESOLVED, That the Southeastern District in Convention officially confer the title of President Emeritus upon the Rev. Dr. John R. Denninger; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the delegates rise in affirmation by singing The Doxology.



458 **BL 04-22-02 To Ratify the Action of the Board of Directors Regarding the**
459 **Southeastern District’s Articles of Incorporation**

460 *(Overture BL 04-22-01)*
461

462 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 3.9.2.2.3 states “The Commission on Constitutional Matters
463 shall examine the articles of incorporation, bylaws, and policy manuals of every agency
464 of the Synod to ascertain whether they are in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and
465 resolutions of the Synod”; and
466

467 **WHEREAS**, This review of the Second Amended And Restated Articles of Incorporation
468 of the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was completed
469 after the 2018 District Convention; and
470

471 **WHEREAS**, The Board of Directors of the District received the approved document and
472 accepted it at their December 5, 2019 regular meeting (SED Bylaws X.3); therefore be it
473

474 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention ratify the decision of the Board
475 of Directors that approved the Second Amended And Restated Articles of Incorporation
476 of the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod as approved by
477 the Synod’s Committee on Constitutional Matters.
478
479



480 **BL 04-22-03 To Bring Southeastern District Bylaws into Harmony with the**
481 **Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of the Synod**

482 (*Overture BL 04-22-03*)
483

484 **WHEREAS**, The 2019 Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod made
485 several changes to the Synod’s Constitution and Bylaws which were subsequently ratified
486 by the congregations of the Synod; and
487

488 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 4.1.1.2 (a) requires that the Bylaws of the districts of the Synod
489 not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod; and
490

491 **WHEREAS**, A review of the Southeastern District, LCMS (SED) Bylaws by the District
492 Board of Directors (BOD) disclosed several instances where the District’s Bylaws needed
493 to be brought into harmony with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod; and
494

495 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaws 3.9.2.2.3 and 4.1.1.2 (b) require districts of the Synod to
496 submit all changes to the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) for examination
497 to ascertain that they are in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the
498 Synod; and
499

500 **WHEREAS**, In response to the SED BOD submission of proposed changes in
501 accordance with Synod Bylaws 3.9.2.2.3 and 4.1.1.2 (b), the CCM issued its Opinion
502 (*date*) recommending that certain further changes be made to bring the SED Bylaws into
503 harmony; therefore be it
504

505 **RESOLVED**, That Article V.2.a of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:
506

- 507 a. Each voting congregation of the District shall be entitled to nominate from the
508 minister of religion-ordained roster of the Synod two (2) persons for the office
509 of District President. Congregations shall also be entitled to nominate two (2)
510 persons for all other positions to be filled. Nominations for offices designated
511 for ministers of religion-ordained or ministers of religion-commissioned must be
512 made from the appropriate roster and according to ~~residence~~ **their**
513 **congregational membership** within the District or region as required. Lay
514 nominations must also be made according to ~~residence~~ **their congregational**
515 **membership** within the District or region as required. **Mid-term board**
516 **members selected regionally, who find themselves residing in a**
517 **designated region other than that of their election because regional**
518 **designation was changed by the District may finish out their current**
519 **terms of office.**

520 and be it,
521

522 **RESOLVED**, That Article V.3.a of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:
523

- 524 a. Vice Presidents shall be nominated by congregations within the defined District
525 region in which they ~~will reside and~~ serve, if elected. In addition, nominees will



526 be from among those on the minister of religion-ordained roster of the
527 respective District region.

528 and be it

529

530 **RESOLVED**, That Article VII.4 of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

531 1. Each member congregation of a Circuit shall be entitled to notice of and representation
532 at a meeting of its Circuit, ~~Multi-congregation parishes are represented by one~~
533 **voting pastoral delegate (if not vacant) and one voting lay delegate, plus**
534 **advisory delegates for each congregation that does not supply a voting**
535 **delegate.** ~~but~~ **Each** Circuit shall establish its own organization to achieve its
536 objectives and to meet its responsibilities in and to the Circuit, the District, and the
537 Synod.

538 and be it finally

539

540 **RESOLVED**, That Article X of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows, a new X.4
541 is added and then current X.4 is renumbered to X.5.
542

543 1. These Bylaws may be amended at a District Convention by the majority vote of
544 those members present at a regular session, provided there is written notice to
545 congregations concerning the proposed amendment 30 days in advance of the
546 Convention.

547 2. The Board of Directors shall submit proposed amendments to the Synod's
548 Commission on Constitutional Matters to ensure they are not inconsistent with the
549 Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod prior to consideration by the District
550 Convention. The Board of Directors will also obtain legal guidance to ensure that
551 any proposed amendments are not inconsistent with the laws of the District of
552 Columbia.

553 3. In the event an amendment is approved by the District in Convention without prior
554 approval of the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters, such amendment
555 will be contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The
556 amended articles or bylaws shall become effective immediately upon, and only
557 upon, approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. Should the
558 Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted changes, the
559 District Board of Directors may modify the amendments to comply with the
560 Commission on Constitutional Matters' requirements upon their two-thirds vote.

561 4. **When necessitated by amendments to the Synod Constitution or Bylaws or**
562 **otherwise expressly directed by a resolution of the Synod in convention,**
563 **amendments may be made by a two-thirds majority of the District Board of**
564 **Directors. Such amendment shall be drafted by the Board of Directors Policy**
565 **Committee and shall be reviewed in advance by the LCMS Commission on**
566 **Constitutional Matters.**

567 5. Amendments to the District Articles of Incorporation shall be approved by a District
568 Convention. The provisions and processes for such amendments shall be the
569 same as for amendments to the Bylaws.

570



571 **BL 04-22-04 To Ratify the Reassignment of Certain Congregations to**
572 **Circuits**

573 *(Overture BL 04-22-02)*
574

575 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 5.1.2 empowers districts to establish visitation circuits; and
576

577 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 3.1.2 (a) states the “an electoral circuit shall consist either of
578 one or two adjacent visitation circuits, as shall be determined by the district board of
579 directors on the basis of the following requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent
580 7 to 20 member congregations, involving an aggregate confirmed membership ranging
581 from 1,500 to 10,000,” and
582

583 **WHEREAS**, District Bylaw VII, 1 empowers the District Board of Directors to assign
584 congregations to circuits and requires that such assignments be ratified by the District in
585 Convention; and
586

587 **WHEREAS**, The District Board of Directors appointed a Task Force in Fall 2019 to study
588 the current grouping of congregations so that each Circuit would qualify as an electoral
589 circuit; and
590

591 **WHEREAS**, The Task Force completed their work, congregations were consulted, results
592 were shared with Circuit Visitors, and presentations were made during webinars to
593 professional church workers; and
594

595 **WHEREAS**, Every Southeastern District congregation impacted by the Task Force’s
596 recommendations was given an opportunity to make the final decision on whether or not
597 they wished to move to a new electoral circuit and this overture reflects the final decision
598 of each impacted congregation; and
599

600 **WHEREAS**, The Southeastern District Board of Directors received this report and
601 approved it at their regular meeting on February 11, 2022; therefore be it
602

603 **RESOLVED**, That the following congregations are moved to new circuits:

604 Southern Region Recommendation:

605 Grace by-the-Sea, Nags Head NC moves to Circuit (C)13E from C12
606

607 Central Region Recommendations:

608 Redeemer, Fredericksburg VA moves to C8 from C9.0

609 Living Hope, Stafford VA moves to C8 from C9.0
610

610 Northern Region recommendations:

611 St. Paul’s, Glen Burnie MD moves to C3 from C4

612 Galilee, Chester MD moves to C4 from C1

613 Trinity, Chesterton MD moves to C4 from C1

614 First Lutheran, Towson MD moves to C3 from C2

615 Holy Cross, Towson MD moves to C3 from C2

616 Pilgrim, Bethesda, MD moves to C7 from C6

617 Calvary, Silver Spring MD moves to C7 from C6



618 Christ Deaf, Silver Spring MD moves to C7 from C6
619 and, be it finally

620
621 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention ratify the work of the Board of
622 Directors.
623

624



625 **BL 04-22-05 On Changing the Size Requirements for Electoral Circuits**
626 **in the Synod**

627 *(Overtures: BL 04-22-04, BL 04-22-11, BL 04-22-12)*

628
629 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (Synod) had a million more members
630 (35% more) during the time when our current electoral circuit minimum size requirements
631 were set; and

632
633 **WHEREAS**, An increasingly large number of circuits ask for exceptions to the current
634 rules for valid electoral circuits; and

635
636 **WHEREAS**, Our Synod leaders have let it be known the number of exceptions has grown
637 excessive and needs to change downward; and

638
639 **WHEREAS**, The recent COVID-19 pandemic has decreased attendance and
640 membership in many congregations of Synod; and

641
642 **WHEREAS**, Within the Southeastern District we have experienced the increased need
643 for exemptions; therefore, be it

644
645 **RESOLVED**, The Southeastern District at its 2022 Convention submit a resolution to the
646 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Convention that the number of communicant
647 numbers for an electoral circuit be lowered; and be it finally

648
649 **RESOLVED**, That the required number of communicant members reflect the change in
650 our Synod membership.

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657 **BL 04-22-06 To Strengthen the Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation**
658 **at Conventions**

659 *(Overture BL 04-22-10)*
660

661 **WHEREAS**, Currently, there are 12,010 Ministers of Religion – Commissioned (Church
662 Worker Update System - March 2021) who serve the mission and ministry of
663 congregations, schools, child development centers, camps, compassion centers, and
664 mission work throughout the national and global mission fields; and
665

666 **WHEREAS**, The current structure of the Synod does not allow for a third category of
667 voting delegates at district and Synod conventions (Synod Handbook: Article IX, Article
668 XII.10.b); and
669

670 **WHEREAS**, The Synod highly values Ministers of Religion – Commissioned for their
671 eagerness to serve the Lord and His Church (2019 Resolution. 9-17, “To Study Voting
672 Privilege in the LCMS” p.201 of 2019 LCMS Convention Proceedings); and
673

674 **WHEREAS**, Ministers of Religion – Commissioned are considered Advisory Members
675 with representation, voice, but no vote at conventions of districts and Synod, along with
676 “those ordained ministers not eligible for election as a voting delegate” under Bylaw
677 3.1.2.1(d) ... (p,101 Handbook 2019) with representation, voice, but no vote at
678 conventions of districts and Synod; and
679

680 **WHEREAS**, At least one other district (Northern Illinois) utilizes the voice and guidance
681 of their Ministers of Religion – Commissioned in district convention through a non-counted
682 advisory member vote; and
683

684 **WHEREAS**, This honors the bylaw and structure of the Convention while allowing the
685 Nonvoting Advisory Delegate voice to be heard and their vote recognized; therefore, be
686 it
687

688 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District enable Nonvoting Advisory Delegates to
689 provide a preliminary vote during its regular convention, and be it further
690

691 **RESOLVED**, That the results of the advisory vote be published prior to the delegate vote;
692 and be it further
693

694 **RESOLVED**, That this become effective with the next District Convention in 2025, and be
695 it finally
696

697 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention memorialize the Lutheran
698 Church—Missouri Synod in Convention to pass a like-minded resolution.
699



700 **BL 04-22-07 To Change to a Four-Year Convention Cycle**

701 *(Overtures: BL 04 -22-08, BL 04-22-09)*

702

703 **WHEREAS**, It has been studied and discussed for several years to move from a three-
704 year district and national convention cycle to a four-year cycle; and

705

706 **WHEREAS**, Such a change would save millions of dollars in district and national
707 convention expenses; and

708

709 **WHEREAS**, Moving to a four-year convention cycle would demonstrate a sensitivity to
710 the financial challenges facing many congregations and a commitment to practice wise
711 stewardship; and

712

713 **WHEREAS**, In response to the COVID-19 pandemic the Synod and many Districts
714 pivoted temporarily to a four-year convention cycle without great difficulty; therefore be it

715

716 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention memorialize the Synod to
717 adopt a four-year convention cycle, effective upon completion of the 2023 national
718 convention.

719



720 **BL 04-22-08 To Amend Synod Constitution to Grant Lay Vote to Every**
721 **Congregation**

722 *(Overture BL 04-22-07)*

723

724 **WHEREAS**, The Constitution of the Synod Article V.A. deals with voting members of the
725 Synod and states: "All organized congregations that have joined the Synod hold voting
726 membership.," and

727

728 **WHEREAS**, "Multi-congregation parishes" are allowed to send a single lay delegate to
729 the district convention (ByLaw 3.1.2.1.c); and

730

731 **WHEREAS**, Each individual congregation is a member of the Synod and should be
732 entitled to a lay vote; therefore be it

733

734 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention memorialize the Lutheran
735 Church—Missouri Synod at its 2023 convention to

736

737 1. Give all organized congregations that hold membership in the Synod the
738 opportunity to be represented by a lay delegate and a pastoral delegate at district
739 conventions.

740 2. Retain a single vote for a pastor who represents more than one congregation.

741 3. Amend ByLaw 3.1.2.1.c of the Synod Constitution as follows:

742

743 "All organized congregations that have joined the Synod holding voting
744 membership. At the meetings of the districts of the Synod every congregation or
745 parish is entitled to two votes, one of which is to be cast by the pastor and the other
746 by the lay delegate. In the case of a single pastor representing two or more
747 congregations, no individual shall cast more than one vote."
748



749 **BL 04-22-09 To Develop an Ethics Policy for the Southeastern District When**
750 **Dealing with the Disposition of a Congregation's Property**

751 *(Overture BL 04-22-05)*
752

753 **WHEREAS**, Congregations, in the course of writing Constitutions and Bylaws, specify
754 where their assets should go in the case of dissolution; and
755

756 **WHEREAS**, These documents, or copies thereof, are reviewed by the Constitution
757 Review Task Force, approved by the Southeastern District Board of Directors, and kept
758 on file at the District Office; and
759

760 **WHEREAS**, In the course of resourcing congregations, the Southeastern District may
761 counsel a congregation on the disposition of church property; therefore be it
762

763 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention direct the District Board of
764 Directors to develop a policy statement that advises District officials working with a
765 congregation involving the distribution of property; and be it
766

767 **RESOLVED**, That the policy includes disclosure of the District's interest in the disposition
768 of the congregation's property and that the congregation controls the disposition of their
769 property.
770

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773



774 **BL 04-22-10 Omnibus A**
775 (*Overture BL 04-22-06, BL 04-22-15*)

776
777 **WHEREAS**, The Floor Committee has considered all overtures assigned to it and has
778 concluded, for various reasons, that certain overtures should be declined; therefore be it
779

780 **RESOLVED**, That the following overtures be referred to
781

Number	Title	Reason
OV BL 04- 22- 06	To Give Thanks for a New Partnership Qualifying Electoral Circuit 3, Baltimore East to Vote	Referred back to Circuit Realignment Committee for further conversation.
OV BL 04- 22 -15	To Amend Southeastern District Bylaw, Article VI, Duties of Officers re Allowing the District President to Serve as a Pastor of a Congregation	Referred back to Board of Directors to direct the Committee on Staffing to include this consideration in their work on staffing.

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FLOOR COMMITTEE 05: THEOLOGY & PRACTICE(TP)

Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS

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TP 05-22-01 To Support the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Specific Ministry Pastor Program

(Overture TP 05-22-01)

WHEREAS, There is a severe shortage of pastors and church workers anticipated in the near future; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), gathered in Convention in 2007, created another path to ordination with the Specific Ministry Pastor Program (SMP) thus enabling more men to become ordained as Specific Ministry Pastors; and

WHEREAS, The SMP program has already enabled several Circuits of the Southeastern District (SED) to benefit from the SMP program including twenty-seven SMP pastors currently serving congregations, and eight other students are currently enrolled in the program; and

WHEREAS, There are not enough eligible students preparing for church work in the current Seminary program to meet the current, much less future needs of the church; and

WHEREAS, Many congregations are currently without pastors or other needed church workers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the SED provide increased funding for SMP students to encourage enrollment and completion of the SMP program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the SED form a strategic partnership with the Ft. Wayne and St. Louis Seminaries to enroll sixteen students in the SMP program within the SED over the next triennium: and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the SED memorialize the 2023 Convention of the LCMS for Synod to expand its current support of the SMP program by increasing funding and enrollment.



835 **TP 05-22-02 To the Use of the Koinonia Project Process to Resolve Conflict**
836 **Due to Differences in Ministry and Practice**

837 *(Overture TP 05-22-02)*
838

839 **WHEREAS**, The Scriptures teach us to love one another and seek unity (1 Peter 1:3-8,
840 Colossians 3:12-14, Ephesians 4:3); and

841
842 **WHEREAS**, In a fractured society, where division and discord are celebrated and
843 encouraged, the church has an opportunity for witness; and
844

845 **WHEREAS**, The members of the church, including the workers, are to be the light of
846 Christ and the example of forgiveness, restoration, and love; and
847

848 **WHEREAS**, The Koinonia Project materials were written by Rev. Dr. Herbert Mueller, are
849 available for review [<https://www.lcms.org/about/leadership/president/koinonia-project>],
850 is approved for use by the Synod Council of Presidents, is currently being used
851 successfully by the Synod Council of Presidents; and
852

853 **WHEREAS**, This conflict resolution process is preferred to bringing formal charges
854 against another in the Southeastern District and promotes harmony; therefore be it
855

856 **RESOLVED**, That the members of the Southeastern District commit to seeking unity with
857 each other, bearing with each other, putting the best construction on every situation, and
858 offering the benefit of the doubt to each other; and be it further
859

860 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District leadership provide training for all
861 Professional Church Workers and others across the Southeastern District in the Koinonia
862 Project during the next triennium; and be it further
863

864 **RESOLVED**, That the members of the Southeastern District affirm and engage in the
865 Koinonia Project prior to and as part of the dispute resolution process; and be it finally
866

867 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District memorialize the 2023 Convention of the
868 LCMS to follow a similar pattern for conflict resolution.
869
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871



872 **TP 05-22-03 To Explore Non-Residential Opportunities for Pastoral Education**

873 *(Overture TP 05-22-03)*

874

875 **WHEREAS**, Our Lord invites us, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
876 therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.
877 (Matthew 9:37-38)"; and

878

879 **WHEREAS**, The call throughout the generations for churches to be led by pastors trained
880 and equipped for Biblically grounded, Confessionally sound, and Contextually appropriate
881 ministry; and

882

883 **WHEREAS**, The need to raise up new pastors in a time when current pastors are retiring,
884 and residential enrollment is decreasing at our Seminaries; and

885

886 **WHEREAS**, The challenge of residential education in the 21st century includes the
887 financial costs, not only of tuition, but also housing and basic living expenses such as
888 food and clothing, the length of study while living with these burdens, and the challenges
889 of these transitions in various life stages all limiting the opportunities for men to answer
890 the call to service; and

891

892 **WHEREAS**, The opportunity of life and ministry in the 21st century, including
893 technological advances for communication and learning, mid-life career changes, and the
894 potential to recruit men whose life situations may limit the possibility of residential
895 formation; and

896

897 **WHEREAS**, The adaptability of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to send workers
898 for the harvest, even in an age before our current technology: "More than half of those
899 who graduated from the seminary in Fort Wayne during the first nine years of the school's
900 existence attended from one to two years: about one third of them, two to three years.
901 The aim was to provide men with the most practical instructions so that they would enter
902 the work as early as possible. (Carl S. Meyer, *Moving Frontiers*, p. 217)"; and

903

904 **WHEREAS**, The history of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to provide training in our
905 present context, including the decision to create seminaries in North America, rather than
906 returning to Germany for pastoral education; therefore, be it

907

908 **RESOLVED**, The Southeastern District in convention encourage the District Leadership
909 and Synod to explore further non-residential opportunities for pastoral education and
910 ordination, for the sake of the church.

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919 FLOOR COMMITTEE 06: NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS(NE)

920 *Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS*

921
922 **NE 06-22-01 To Ratify the Selection of Circuit Visitors**

923 *(Overture BL 04-22-14)*

924
925 **WHEREAS**, The circuits have selected Circuit Visitors for the next triennium in
926 accordance with Synod Bylaw 5.2.2.; and

927
928 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 5.2.2. requires that the District in Convention ratify those
929 selections; therefore be it

930
931 **RESOLVED**, That the District in Convention ratifies the selection of Circuit Visitor in the
932 circuits of the district as follows:

933

934	Circuit 1	Rev. David Nuss
935	Circuit 2	Rev. Dr. James Banach
936	Circuit 3	Rev. Thomas Foelber
937	Circuit 4	Rev. Matthew Hilpert
938	Circuit 5	Rev. Andrew Okai
939	Circuit 6	Rev. Kenneth Stottlemeyer
940	Circuit 7	Rev. Peter Schiebel
941	Circuit 8	Rev. Jim Kent
942	Circuit 9.0	Rev. Andrew Jagow
943	Circuit 9.5	Rev. Mark Shaltanis
944	Circuit 10	Rev. Dr. Roy Minnix
945	Circuit 11	Rev. Wallace Shifflett
946	Circuit 12	Rev. Larry McReynolds
947	Circuit 13E	Rev. Ronald Fletcher
948	Circuit 13W	Rev. Michael Merker
949	Circuit 14	Rev. Elliott Lutz
950	Circuit 15	Rev. Ron Wiese
951	Circuit 16	Rev. Anton Lagoutine
952	Circuit 17	Rev. Dennis Quakenboss
953	Circuit 18	Rev. John Engwall
954	Circuit 19	Rev. Howard Jones

