



**DAILY MINUTES  
OF THE  
39<sup>TH</sup> CONVENTION OF THE  
SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT, LCMS**

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022 (IN-PERSON SESSION)**

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**On-site Registration Began at 3:00 PM  
Convention Hall Doors Opened at 5:00 PM**

**The 39th Convention of the Southeastern District reconvened at 6:00 PM.**

**Evening Devotions**

Rev. Dr. Greg Walton, Chaplain  
Music by Redeemer, Richmond, Virginia

**Introductions of Guests and Staff**

Dr. Jerry Kieschnick & wife, Terry, serving as Parliamentarian  
Former SED Presidents: Roy Maack, Jon Diefenthaler  
Other former District Presidents who live in the SED  
Staff of the SED were also introduced.  
Then Pres. Denninger introduced live virtually his three daughters,  
their husbands and their 10 grandchildren

**Report of Registration Committee**

Pastor Voting Delegates – 107  
Lay Voting Delegates – 120  
Total – 227 Voting Delegates  
Advisory Delegates – 30  
All Others – 45  
Total Attendance - 302

President Denninger declared that a quorum was present.

**Testing of the Voting System**

Trina Brown of Padgett Communications introduced voting delegates to the handheld devices they would be using to hold elections. She conducted two sample ballots and they were completed successfully.

**Convention Procedures**

**Adoption of Standing Rules** – The Secretary Pro Tem read the Standing Rules to the convention. When moved for adoption, the lay delegate from Grace, Woodbridge, VA, moved to amend Rule 11 by deleting the second sentence. The amendment was seconded and the delegate presented his reasoning. Rev. Tim Bohlmann, Chair of the Nominations Committee, presented reasoning for inclusion of the sentence.

The amendment was defeated: Yes - 63; No - 158  
The Standing Rules were then adopted: Yes - 209; No - 17

Before the adoption of the Convention Schedule, a motion was allowed which would remove Overture BL 04-22-15 from the Omnibus Resolution; it was seconded; and the reasoning was explained by the mover. The motion was accepted: Yes - 144; No – 75;  
OV-04-22-15 was read by the chair of the Bylaws Floor Committee, Beth Elgert.

**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**

**WHEREAS**, Earlier practice within the Southeastern District was to permit a District President to serve in a congregation while holding the office; and

**WHEREAS**, The current Synodical President models leadership serving in a parish while serving the larger church; and

**WHEREAS**, The number of pastors retiring from active ministry continues to increase and the number of seminary graduates continues to decrease; and

**WHEREAS**, The number of congregations that cannot afford a full time pastor continues to increase, and vacancies are becoming difficult to fill; and

**WHEREAS**, The COVID-19 pandemic caused many professional church workers, along with the Southeastern District President and staff, to effectively work remotely; and

**WHEREAS**, Today's technology allows the District President to meet with professional church workers and lay members, and to perform certain duties without having to travel; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That Article VI, Duties of Officers be amended as follows, to allow the District President to serve as a pastor of a congregation:

**PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING**

Article VI

1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the District and serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors. The President shall also perform the duties of a District President under the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod. ~~The President shall be a full-time, salaried official of the District, and the President (except one called to fill an unexpired term of less than 18 months) may not serve as a Pastor of a congregation.~~



The Parliamentarian ruled that the Bylaws prohibited this motion because it was not presented to the congregations thirty days prior to the Convention. The Chair ruled that the motion was out of order. That ruling was appealed. The Convention sustained the ruling of the President: Yes – 140; No - 85

### **Adoption of Convention Schedule**

President Denninger called for adoption of the Convention schedule.

The schedule was adopted: Yes - 216; No - 10

### **Approval of Minutes for Virtual Sessions**

President Denninger noted that the minutes for the first three Convention sessions had been posted to the SED App and had been reviewed by the Minute Review Committee and approved.

### **Open Nominations for President**

The Elections Committee brought forward one nomination, Rev. Dr. Bill Harmon, King of Glory, Williamsburg, VA. No other nominations came forward.

### **Prayer and Election of the SED President**

The chaplain prayed for the election of the President; President Denninger then called for a voice vote by acclamation and Bill Harmon was elected President of the SED.

### **Welcome and Acceptance of President Elect**

President Elect Bill Harmon then was introduced with his wife Gail. In accepting his election and call he addressed the Convention, calling on all members of the Southeastern District to depend on the gracious generosity of our Lord and to be known for our unity as children of God

Chair was turned over to VP Lloyd Gaines, who then called on Chair of Bylaws Floor Committee who presented Resolution **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.

The resolution was adopted by acclamation; the Doxology was sung and President Denninger and his wife, Connie, were acknowledged and applauded

### **Open & Close Nominations for Vice President**

#### **Nominated were:**

Northern VP: Teka Fogi, Lloyd Gaines, David Maack, Elliott Robertson

Central VP: Matthew Bean, Tim Bohlmann, Wayne Fredericksen

Southern VP: David Ziehr

### **Open & Close Nominations for Lay Members**

Nominated were: Ron Bostick, Joel Gast, Endy Kidenwold,  
Samuel Moore, Nancy Nolley, Judy Olver, and Hilary Tew,

### **Open and Close Nominations for the following offices:**

#### **Treasurer**

Nominated were Ronald Adolphi and Charlie Raphael

#### **Commissioned Worker**

Nominated were Teacher Susan Maack and DCE Paula Weiss

#### **District Nominations Committee**

Nominated were Ordained Member North – Rev. David Nuss

Commissioned Member Central – DCE Ronald Ronning

Lay Member South – Sarah Beyer

### **Prayer for Election of Vice-Presidents**

#### **Elections for Vice President**

##### **Northern Vice President –**

Lloyd Gaines – 114 (52%) **Elected**

David Maack – 52 (23%)

Elliott Robertson – 37 (17%)

Teka Fogi – 17 (8%)

##### **Central Vice President**

First ballot – Timothy Bohlmann – 91 (43%)

Matthew Bean – 75 (35%)

Wayne Fredericksen – 46 (22%)

Second ballot – Timothy Bohlmann – 124 (58%) **Elected**

Matthew Bean – 90 (42%)

**Southern Vice President** – David Zeihr was elected by acclamation



## Ranking of Vice-Presidents

First Ballot – Lloyd Gaines - 120 (55%) First VP

Timothy Bohlmann - 50 (23%)

David Ziehr – 49 (22%)

Second Ballot – Timothy Bohlmann – 121 (58%) Second VP

David Ziehr – 91 (42%) Third VP

## Open and Close Nominations for Secretary

Nominated were David Maack and Blaise Sedney

## Elections: Treasurer, Lay Members, Commissioned Workers, Secretary

### Prayer by the Chaplain

**Treasurer** – Ronald Adolphi - 113 (54%) **Elected**

Charlie Raphael – 96 (46%)

### Lay Members – (Five)

1	Mr. Ron Bostick	172	80.00 %
5	Mrs. Nancy Nolley	164	76.28 %
3	Dr. Endy Kidenwold	157	73.02 %
2	Mr. Joel Gast	154	71.63 %
7	Mrs. Hilary Tew	147	68.37 %
4	Mr. Samuel Moore	120	55.81 %
6	Mrs. Judy Olver	120	55.81 %

Ron Bostick, Nancy Nolley, Endy Kidenwold, Joel Gast, Hilary Tew were elected.

### Commissioned Workers

Teacher Susan Maack, St. Paul's, Glen Burnie, MD  
and DCE Paula Weiss were elected by Acclamation

### District Nominations Committee

The following were elected by acclamation:

Ordained Member North – Rev. David Nuss

Commissioned Member Central – DCE Ronald Ronning

Lay Member South – Sarah Beyer

### Secretary

David Maack - 118 (54%) **Elected**

Blaise Sedney - 99 (46%)



**Floor Committee 06 moved and seconded:**  
**Resolution NE 06-22-01 To Ratify the Selection of Circuit Visitors**  
(Overture BL 04-22-14)

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

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

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

Circuit 1	Rev. David Nuss
Circuit 2	Rev. Dr. James Banach
Circuit 3	Rev. Thomas Foelber
Circuit 4	Rev. Matthew Hilpert
Circuit 5	Rev. Andrew Okai
Circuit 6	Rev. Kenneth Stottlemyer
Circuit 7	Rev. Peter Schiebel
Circuit 8	Rev. Jim Kent
Circuit 9.0	Rev. Andrew Jagow
Circuit 9.5	Rev. Mark Shaltanis
Circuit 10	Rev. Dr. Roy Minnix
Circuit 11	Rev. Wallace Shifflett
Circuit 12	Rev. Larry McReynolds
Circuit 13E	Rev. Ronald Fletcher
Circuit 13W	Rev. Michael Merker
Circuit 14	Rev. Elliott Lutz
Circuit 15	Rev. Ron Wiese
Circuit 16	Rev. Anton Lagoutine
Circuit 17	Rev. Dennis Quakenboss
Circuit 18	Rev. John Engwall
Circuit 19	Rev. Howard Jones

Adopted: Yes - 219 (97%); No - 5 (3%)



### **Presentation by Christopher Esget, 5<sup>th</sup> Vice-President, LCMS**

Pastor Esget brought greetings from The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod focusing on King David and his neglect of his vocation by not going out to battle; we need to stay focused on the Word and our vocation; temptation overcame David; our desires cannot justify us, we must repent and listen to words of John the Baptist, "Behold the Lamb of God." Things are not going well in the church according to its numbers but things are going well when the Spirit is working through his means of grace. It's tempting to tone down the preaching of repentance, but we cannot. We must be faithful to what God has called us to do. Let's be faithful to God's call. Time for us to repent and remain faithful to Word of God. That's all our Synod has. Only Jesus.

**Deaconess Robie Hillhouse updated delegates on the work of Mid-Atlantic Lutherans in Mission (MALIM).** Established in 2017 as a funding source for SED mission activities. MALIM depends on mission minded people for its funding so that grants can be given to those congregations, schools and workers who are seeking to do outreach. Over \$1M given and distributed. Recipients of those grants were invited to stand and a large number of delegates rose. Video thanks shared by Principal of Catonsville Lutheran School. Art Scherer Memorial Fund produced many crisis grants to congregations. Peace Lutheran Church shared a video of how they used their funds, and other groups also shared their thanks with videos.

### **Presentation from Broom Tree Fellows, Joe Carlin**

Broom Tree is working to help called workers pay off student loans; Broom Tree has made over \$500,000 for this purpose; SED branch has given many dollars to SED called workers. A resolution will be presented tomorrow. Pray for continuing help for called workers who are burdened with student loan debt.

### **Closing Prayer and Benediction**

### **Convention was adjourned at 8:55 PM until Friday**

Respectfully submitted,

Gary D. Rueter, Secretary Pro Tem  
(Reviewed by Beth Elgert, Rev. Dr. Roy Minnix, & Donna Roye)

