

Convention Announcements

- Dates:** February 16-18, 2025
- Location:** Sioux Falls Convention Center
- Theme:** “*God’s Gospel: Salvation Power*” Romans 1:16-17
- Registration:** \$200 per delegate paid in advance by mail. Receive badges and meal tickets at the Convention Center
- Convention Worship:** Worship Service with Holy Communion, 7:00 p.m. Sunday, February 16th, at Christ Lutheran Church, 4801 East 6th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Worship Service with Installation of Officers, 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 18th at the Convention Center
- Convention Preachers:** Opening Service: The Reverend Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Installation Service: The Reverend Dr. Scott C. Sailer, President of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
- Times of Sessions:**
- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 st Session | 10:00 – 12:00 p.m. Monday, February 17 |
| 2 nd Session | 1:15 - 3:00 p.m. Monday, February 17 |
| 3 rd Session | 3:30 – 6:15 p.m., Monday, February 17 |
| 4 th Session | 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 18 |
| 5 th Session | 10:30 – 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18 |
| 6 th Session | 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18 |
| 7 th Session | 3:30 – 5:15 p.m., Tuesday, February 18 |
- Synodical Representative:** The Reverend Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
- Convention Essayist:** The Reverend Dr. Jeffrey Oswald
Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri
- Convention Chaplain:** The Reverend Corey Aker, Senior Administrative Pastor
Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Convention Parliamentarian:** Mr. Matthew Naasz, Legal Counsel, The South Dakota District of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
- Convention Manager:** Mr. Chad Zinnel, Business Manager, The South Dakota District
of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
- Public Relations Director:** The Reverend Paul Winckler, Assistant to The President of The
South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
- Assistant Secretary:** Mrs. Krista Erickson, Lay Member
Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Convention Accompanist:** The Reverend Howard Shane, Emeritus Pastor
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Convention Committees

Committee 1:	Administration Work Assignment: Committee Members:	President's Report; Treasurer's Report; Board of Directors Minutes Reverend Steve Weispfennig, Chairman DCE Liz Peters Reverend David Otten Mr. Adam Schulz Mr. Scot Eisenbraun
Committee 2:	Mission and Ministry Work Assignment: Committee Members:	Mission and Ministry; Special Ministries Reverend Greg Lehr, Chairman Commissioned Minister Hope Genzlinger Reverend Chris Davis Mr. Dave Peterson Mr. Brad Schardin
Committee 3:	Registration, Credentials and Excuses Work Assignment: Committee Members:	Registration, Credentials and Excuses Reverend Dr. Brian Mosemann, Chairman Reverend Iver Possehl
Committee 4:	Nominations Work Assignment: Committee Members:	Develop Slates of Candidates for Offices to be filled by election, 2025 Convention Reverend Daniel Grimmer, Chairman Reverend Dr. Christopher Ascher Mrs. Jan Larson Mr. Rick Rathert Mr. James Schnaidt
Committee 5:	Elections Work Assignment: Committee Members:	As stipulated by District Handbook, Bylaw 5.21 District President will appoint the Chairman during the first session of the Convention

NOTE: Correspondence regarding resolutions proposed by Floor Committees should be addressed to committee chairmen as listed below. If requested, floor committees may hold hearings Monday morning, February 17, 2025, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. at the Convention Center.

Committee 1:

Administration

Reverend Steve Weispfennig, Chairman
St. John's Lutheran Church
1009 Jackson Street
Yankton, SD 57078
Telephone: (605) 665-7337
E-Mail: steve.stjohnsyankton@gmail.com

Committee 2:

Mission and Ministry

Reverend Greg Lehr, Chairman
Zion Lutheran Church
1400 South Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Telephone: (605) 338-5226
E-Mail: glehr@zionlutheransf.com

Special Standing Rules

(These rules are among those which prevail for Conventions of the Synod.)

1. The Chair shall see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible.
2. Delegates wishing to address the Convention, when recognized by the Chair, shall state their name, and the name and location of the congregation, or of the administrative unit that they represent.
3. No delegate may speak in debate for longer than two (2) minutes per speech. No delegate may speak more than twice on the same motion on the same day and may not speak the second time until all delegates desiring to speak the first time have had the opportunity. 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.
4. A delegate who speaks on an issue may not move to call the question at the close of his/her speech. Any other voting delegate may call the question at any time.
5. Most votes will be taken by electronic key pad ballot. The Chair shall have discretion, however, to call for a vote other than by electronic key pad ballot. Instead of only a voice vote on such motions before the Convention, the Chair shall ordinarily also call for the raising of the right hand.
6. 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 the substitute motion is adopted, the original motion fails. If the substitute motion does not receive a favorable action either to consider or to adopt, the original motion is again considered. (This is an adaptation of the so-called "Behnken rule" for dealing with substitute motions, as observed by the Synod.)
7. The presenter of any Resolution from a Floor Committee shall move adoption of the Resolution. Because it is understood that there is support from other members of the Floor Committee, a second shall not be required.
8. 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.
9. Whenever possible, amendments to proposed Resolutions and substitute Resolutions shall be submitted to the District Office or Convention Office for publication in *Today's Business* prior to Convention consideration of the resolutions to which they pertain. When this is not possible, as in the course of a discussion, a written copy of proposed amendments shall be provided to the Secretary either before or immediately after being offered from the floor.
10. Whenever an amendment is offered from the floor that seeks to make editorial or other helpful suggestions to a pending resolution coming from a Floor Committee, the Chair of the Floor Committee shall have the option of accepting such an amendment. If it is accepted, then the amendment is made without further debate or formal vote of the assembly.
11. In order to promote an orderly and non-distracting convention atmosphere, the following guidance shall apply to the use, and area of use, of electronic equipment, including wired and wireless communication devices, including laptops, cell phones, pagers, PDAs, or other similar devices. In all cases where use is permitted, the sound-producing capabilities of such

devices shall not be used. Except as approved by convention staff, personal extension cords shall not be allowed on the convention floor.

Seating Area of Convention Hall	Type of Use Permitted			Laptop Computers (no communication, e.g. e-mail or Internet)
	Voice	Text Messages	Other Electronic Communications, including laptops	
Voting Delegate	No	No	No	Yes
BOD, Special Guests	No	Yes	Yes	---
Advisory Delegate	No	Yes	Yes	---
Visitors	No	Yes	Yes	---

12. At such time as “pro-con” discussion is occurring, the front microphone will be designated the “pro” microphone and the back microphone will be designated as the “con” microphone. Motions or questions may be made from any microphone.
13. No motion to reconsider or rescind shall be made or called up during the last day of the Convention.
14. Resolutions prepared by the Floor Committees, which are not acted upon by the Convention before adjournment, die.
15. Unless covered by these standing rules of the Convention, parliamentary procedure shall be governed by the most recent edition of Roberts *Rules of Order Newly Revised*. Above all, the rules of Christian love and behavior shall apply.

Parliamentary Procedure

A. Purpose of Parliamentary Law and Procedure

The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to carry out the aims of the assembly in an orderly and fair manner, to expedite business, and to ensure justice and fairness to all, both the majority and the minority.

B. Basic Steps of Parliamentary Procedure

The Chairman and members of the assembly should be acquainted with and observe nine basic, essential parliamentary steps to take care of Convention business in an orderly and fair manner. They are:

Members:

1. Address the Chair. "Mr. Chairman" (or Mr. President)
2. Await recognition by the Chair
3. Identify yourself thus: "I am a pastoral/lay delegate from _____ congregation, city."
4. Make the motion. "I move that..."
5. Second the motion. (Unless not required)

Chair:

6. States the motion. (Or rules it out of order)
7. Calls for discussion. (Unless motion is undebatable)
8. Take the vote. (Or "Puts the Question")
9. States the results.
"The 'yesses' have it and the motion is carried." Or, "the 'noes' have it and the motion is lost." The vote does not go into effect until the results are announced.

A PRIMER OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

A. PURPOSE OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to carry out the aims of the assembly in an orderly and fair manner, to expedite business, to insure justice and fairness to all, both the majority and the minority.

It is not the purpose of parliamentary procedure to make the conduct of business in an assembly difficult, or to entangle an assembly in technicalities, or to provide a channel for individuals to flaunt their parliamentary knowledge. The purpose is to make business flow more smoothly and make it easier for everyone.

Above all, there should be a spirit of Christian love and trust.

B. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

The motions or points listed below, 1 through 9, are in order of precedence. In other words:

A. When any of them is pending, you may not introduce one listed below it.

B. You may introduce one that is listed above it.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	May Speaker Be Interrupted To Make this Motion?	Is Second Required?	Is Motion Debatable?	Can This Motion Be Amended?	Is Vote Required? What%Required?
1. Adjourn	I move we adjourn.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
2. Recess	I move we recess.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
3. Raise a question of privilege	Question of privilege Mr. Chairman. . .	Yes	No	No	No	No vote required
4. Lay on the table	I move to table this matter.	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
5. Previous question	I move the previous question.	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 vote
6. Postpone definitely or to a certain time	I move we postpone this matter until. . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
7. Commit or refer	I move we refer this matter to a committee.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
8. Amend a motion	I move this be amended to read. . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
9. Main motion	I move that. . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The items listed below are general points, proposals, and motions, and they have no order of procedure over one another. You may introduce any one of them at any time, except:

- A. When a motion to adjourn is pending;
- B. When a motion to recess is pending;
- C. When a question of privilege is pending.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	May Speaker Be Interrupted To Make this Motion?	Is Second Required?	Is Motion Debatable?	Can This Motion Be Amended?	Is Vote Required? What%Required?
1. Object to error in procedure due to a personal affront	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	No
2. Request for Information	Request for Information	Yes, if urgent	No	No	No	No
3. Verify voice vote by taking actual count	I call for a division of the house	No	No	No	No	No, unless someone objects then majority
4. Object to consider a matter you think improper	I object to consideration of this question	Yes	No	No	No	Yes - 2/3
5. Take up a matter which has been tabled	I move we take from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Yes majority
6. Reconsider matter already disposed of	I move we reconsider our action relative to	Yes	Yes	Yes, if original motion was debatable	No	Majority
7. Consider matter out of scheduled order	I move we suspend rules & consider	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
8. Vote on a ruling of the chair	I appeal the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Yes, if original motion was debatable	No	Majority

C. SUBSTITUTE MOTION

In the case of a substitute motion we shall follow an adaptation of the so-called "Behnken Rule." See page 4, point 6 for more information.

Convention Agenda

Sunday, February 16, 2025

- 4:30-6:00 p.m. Delegate Registration, Convention Center, Sioux Falls, Exhibit Hall #2
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. Opening Service – Christ Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls
Synod President, The Reverend Dr. Matthew C. Harrison – Preacher

Monday, February 17, 2025

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:00-9:00 a.m. Floor committee hearings – Convention Center, Ballroom A
- 9:15-9:45 Orientation of Delegates – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
(Due to the introduction and practice of the electronic voting system, all delegates are expected to participate in the Orientation Session.)
- 9:00-5:00 p.m. Exhibits – Convention Center Ballroom A
- 10:00-Noon First Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- Noon-1:15 p.m. Recess/Noon Meal (meal ticket required) – Convention Center, Ballroom A
- 1:15-3:00 p.m. Second Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- 3:00-3:30 p.m. Recess/Coffee Break #1–Convention Center, Ballroom A
- 3:30-6:15 p.m. Third Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- 6:15 p.m. Recess/Dinner On Your Own

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

- 7:00-8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet (meal ticket required) - Convention Center
- 8:00-3:30 p.m. Exhibits – Convention Center Ballroom A
- 8:00-10:00 a.m. Fourth Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- 10:00-10:30 a.m. Recess/Coffee Break #2
- 10:30-Noon Fifth Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Recess/Noon Meal (meal ticket required)
- 1:30-3:00 p.m. Sixth Session – Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #2
- 3:00-3:30 p.m. Recess/Coffee Break #3 – Convention Center
- 3:30-5:15 p.m. Seventh Session – Convention Center
- 3:50 p.m. Adjournment
- 4:00 p.m. Closing Worship