

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-01**

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4 **SUBJECT: TO CELEBRATE AND LIVE OUT THE “GOD’S GOSPEL: SALVATION POWER” THEME**

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** The theme of this 63<sup>RD</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church –  
7 Missouri Synod – *God’s Gospel: Salvation Power* (Romans 1:16-17) -- has been chosen to  
8 highlight that we, as a District comprised of 105 congregations, have the blessed status as God’s  
9 redeemed people only by the power of the Gospel; AND

10  
11 **WHEREAS,** The Word of God makes it clear that it is the work of the Holy Spirit to turn unregenerate people  
12 from their sin and to bring them to faith through the Gospel (2 Thess. 2:14, Rom. 1:17; Rom.  
13 10:17; I Pet. 1:23, 25; Eph. 1:13, et al.); AND

14  
15 **WHEREAS,** Our Savior spoke of His disciples of every age as people whom He would employ as His  
16 “witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8);  
17 AND

18  
19 **WHEREAS,** God’s Word continues to impress upon His Church that “now is the favorable time; behold, now  
20 is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2); AND

21  
22 **WHEREAS,** There are countless opportunities in the rural, small town, and city settings of South Dakota to  
23 impact our neighbors through words of Gospel witness and deeds of love; AND

24  
25 **WHEREAS,** According to the U.S. Religion Census website ([www.usreligioncensus.org](http://www.usreligioncensus.org)), that of the 886,667  
26 residents of South Dakota (2020 Census), 55.38% (or 491,026 people) are “adherents” of a  
27 religion, while 395,641 South Dakotans have no religious affiliation; AND

28  
29 **WHEREAS,** The “Objectives” of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as stated in its Constitution (Article  
30 III. 1-2) recognizes the priorities of: 1) conserving and promoting the unity of the true faith; and,  
31 2) strengthening congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to  
32 the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extending that Gospel witness  
33 into all the world; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

34  
35 **RESOLVED:** That every congregation, ministry, and school of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran  
36 Church—Missouri Synod emphasize, on the basis of God’s inspired Word, that being witnesses  
37 is not something we must do under the Law of God, but rather being witnesses is a matter of  
38 who we are under the Gospel and the Grace of God; AND BE IT FURTHER

39  
40 **RESOLVED:** That every congregation, ministry, and school of the District be encouraged to explore various  
41 ways that congregations, ministries, schools, and individuals may be more intentional in their  
42 lives as witnesses (with the help of such resources as the Synod’s *Every One His Witness*  
43 materials, e.g.), AND BE IT FINALLY

44  
45 **RESOLVED:** That The South Dakota District, through its Mission and Ministry Council and District staff, and  
46 led by the *God’s Gospel: Salvation Power* theme, provide encouragement and resources that  
47 will better equip congregations, ministries, schools and individuals in their lives and service as  
48 bold, unashamed witnesses.

49  
50 Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

To the 63<sup>rd</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod  
February 16-18, 2025

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

To the 63<sup>rd</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
February 16-18, 2025

**RESOLUTION: 1-02**

**SUBJECT: TO RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUALS AND WELCOME THEM INTO THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD**

**WHEREAS,** During the triennium following the 2021 62<sup>nd</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District, the following individuals became rostered members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod – Ministers of Religion – Ordained;

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Ray Anderson Thomas Mueller	Dennis Mercer	Joseph Greenmyer	Thomas Penrod

AND

**WHEREAS,** During the same triennium, the following individuals became rostered members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Ministers of Religion – Commissioned:

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Michael Leapley Leanne Holdorf	Sierra Geistfeld	Kristi Prouty Jade Fjelstad	

AND

**WHEREAS,** The membership of the above individuals is held in The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That this 63<sup>rd</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District recognize and welcome the above individuals as partners in the Gospel; AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** That we pray God’s richest blessings upon these workers that the Holy Spirit would use them to extend God’s kingdom here on earth.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-03**

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3 **SUBJECT: TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT**  
4 **OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD CONCERNING THE EXECUTIVE**  
5 **OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT**

6  
7 **RATIONALE:**

8 In 2022, during a time of vacancy in the Executive Secretary’s position, the District’s Board  
9 of Directors divided the former Executive Secretary’s position into the District’s two current  
10 Executive Officer positions: one is full-time (the Assistant to the President), and the other  
11 is part-time (the Education Executive). The ministry descriptions for these two current  
12 positions are included in the Administration section of the Convention Workbook. But, in  
13 summary, these officers assist the District President in the District’s work in areas such as  
14 subsidized ministries, missions, stewardship, and education. The current Executive Office  
15 known as “Assistant to the President” replaces most of the duties of the former position in  
16 the District known as “Executive Secretary.” The current Executive Office titled “Education  
17 Executive” is new. This office is responsible for providing resources, direction, and  
18 encouragement to the faculties and staffs of the LCMS schools in the South Dakota District.  
19 Having the knowledge and ability to assist in the calling of commissioned ministers and  
20 being well-versed in school legislation and regulations makes the Education Executive  
21 position in the District extremely valuable to our schools and their leaders.

22  
23 This change in District administration, implemented by the Board of Directors, has led to  
24 the necessity of updating certain Bylaws of the District. The amendments being proposed  
25 here will allow for greater flexibility in staffing in the District. And they will allow for greater  
26 attention to areas calling for greater expertise, such as is being done with the current  
27 Education Executive position.

28  
29 **WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the Synod, Article XII (Districts of the Synod and Their Regulation),  
30 says in section 12, “The districts are independent in the administration of affairs which concern  
31 their district only, it being understood, however, that such administration shall always serve the  
32 interests of the Synod.”; AND

33  
34 **WHEREAS,** The District’s Board of Directors has found it beneficial to serve the interests of the Synod  
35 in this place by employing up to two Executive Officers to assist the District President in  
36 his work, especially in the areas of subsidized ministries, missions, and education; AND

37  
38 **WHEREAS,** Assigning an Executive Officer the added responsibility of ensuring that “Biblical principles  
39 of stewardship are promoted throughout the District,” fulfills Synod Bylaw 4.6.1, which says  
40 that “each district shall elect or appoint a committee, board, or individual responsible for  
41 stewardship.”; THEREFORE BE IT

42  
43 **RESOLVED:** That the Bylaws of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be  
44 amended and adopted as follows, contingent on approval by the Synod’s Commission on  
45 Constitutional Matters:

46 [PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING]

47  
48 [BRACKETS ARE USED FOR EXPLANATIONS ONLY; THIS MATERIAL IS NOT PART OF THE  
49 AMENDMENTS.]

50  
51 1.25 Responsibility [of the Board of Directors]

- 52 a. The Board of Directors shall be responsible to the District for its official actions and shall  
53 render a report of its activities to the District Convention or as often as the District may call  
54 upon it to do so.
- 55 b. The Board of Directors shall consult and plan with the ~~Executive Secretary~~ Executive  
56 Officers regarding all matters of program development, especially in the areas of District  
57 subsidized ministries, missions, stewardship and education, and with the Business  
58 Manager regarding financial development.
- 59 c. The setting of the budget shall be done by the Board of Directors taking into consideration  
60 the recommendations of the Planning Process of the District.

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62 **III. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

63 3.01 Appointment and ~~Responsibility~~ Accountability

- 64 a. Executive Officers may be appointed by the Board of Directors to assist the District  
65 President in the work of the District, particularly in the areas of District subsidized ministries,  
66 missions, stewardship, and education. These Executive Officers shall be accountable to  
67 the Board and supervised by the District President. ~~The Executive Secretary of the Board~~  
68 is appointed by the Board of Directors with the approval of the then District President, to be  
69 its Executive Officer, and as such shall be under its supervision. The Board of Directors  
70 shall provide ~~him~~ them with a job descriptions and guidelines of his their duties.

71 3.03 ~~Term of Office~~ Terms of Office

- 72 a. His Their terms of office shall be for three years, reckoned from the time of the meeting of  
73 the Board of Directors at which they are appointed. The appointments are to be made within  
74 six months ~~the first regular meeting of the Board of Directors, following an election~~ a regular  
75 Convention of the District.
- 76 b. There are no term limits for the Executive Officers, but they are to go through the process  
77 of re-appointment each triennium following their initial appointment.
- 78 c. If there are vacancies in these offices, the Board of Directors may fill them as they see fit.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

To the 63<sup>rd</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
February 16-18, 2025

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

1   **RESOLUTION: 1-04**

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3   **SUBJECT:       TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT**  
4                   **OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD CONCERNING ELECTIONS HELD**  
5                   **AT THE DISTRICT CONVENTION**

6

7   **RATIONALE:** At the 2021 District Convention, some changes were made to the Bylaws of the District  
8                   reflecting the policy of the Synod that women may serve on Boards of Directors of Districts  
9                   and the Synod (2021 District Res. 1-05). Simple amendments, such as changing “layman”  
10                  to “layperson,” were made to the Bylaws in order to use language that makes this more  
11                  clear. But in the Election Procedure section of the Bylaws, it was discovered that two  
12                  references to this layman/layperson or laymen/lapeople distinction were missed by the  
13                  last convention. The adoption of this resolution will correct those errors.

14

15                   Additionally, at the last Synod Convention (2023), clarity was given to election procedures  
16                   for District offices, including for elections other than for President, Vice-Presidents, and  
17                   Circuit Visitors (2023 Synod Res. 9-02, Section H). That proposed clarification is found in  
18                   the 5.09 section of the District's Bylaws (found on the second page of this resolution).

19

20   **WHEREAS,**     It is the desire and the obligation of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—  
21                   Missouri Synod to honor LC-MS convention resolutions and the resulting changes to the  
22                   *Handbook of the Synod*, including those that pertain to the governing documents of LCMS  
23                   entities (LCMS Bylaw 1.3.6, 2<sup>nd</sup> Restated Articles of Incorporation of The South Dakota  
24                   District, Article III.C); AND

25

26   **WHEREAS,**     Where errors are discovered, they should be corrected, since we are to conduct ourselves  
27                   “decently and in order” (1 Cor. 14:40); THEREFORE BE IT

28

29   **RESOLVED:**   That the Bylaws of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be  
30                   amended and adopted as follows, contingent on approval by the Synod's Commission on  
31                   Constitutional Matters:

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33   [PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING]

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35   [BRACKETS ARE USED FOR EXPLANATIONS ONLY; THIS MATERIAL IS NOT PART OF THE  
36   AMENDMENTS.]

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39                   **V. ELECTION PROCEDURE**

40                   5.01 Time of Election and Term of Office

41                   a. The President, Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the two ~~laymen~~  
42                   laypeople on the Board of Directors shall be elected in the District Convention.

43                   b. All officers and members of the Board of Directors shall serve for terms of three years  
44                   or until their successors shall have qualified.

45 [There is no 5.02.]

46 5.03 Order of Election

47 a. The order for electing District officers shall be as follows:

48 1. President

49 2. Vice-Presidents

50 3. Secretary

51 4. Treasurer

52 5. Two ~~Laymen~~ Laypeople for Board of Directors

53 6. Circuit Visitors

54 7. District Member of Synodical Nominating Committee (as required)

55 8. Other committees (as necessary).

56

57 [The other bylaws in this section concern the nomination and election of the President, Vice-  
58 Presidents, and Circuit Visitors, which bylaws require no changes.]

59

60 5.09 Elections of Other Officers

61 a. Elections of all officers other than District President, Vice-Presidents, and Circuit  
62 Visitors shall be from the slate of candidates developed by the Committee on  
63 Nominations or as otherwise specified.

64 b. Names of candidates are to be placed on the slate in alphabetical order without  
65 distinctive marks, subject to approval by the Convention. Additional candidates may  
66 be placed in nomination by the Convention, such nominations to include the written  
67 consent of the nominee to serve.

68 c. A majority of all votes cast (disregarding voided ballots) shall be required to elect.

69 ~~d. In the event that no candidate receives the required majority vote, balloting shall~~  
70 ~~continue until there is an election, in which case the candidate(s) receiving the smallest~~  
71 ~~number of votes shall be eliminated from the balloting in each instance.~~

72 d. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving  
73 the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15 percent of the votes cast  
74 shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15 percent  
75 or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute  
76 the ballot.

77 e. There shall be no balloting during recess or after adjournment.

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79 Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman



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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-05**

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3 **SUBJECT: SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT TO RATIFY CONGREGATIONAL VOTE TO RESCIND**  
4 **1976 DISTRICT CONVENTION RES. 3-03 REGARDING THE *LUTHERAN WITNESS***

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6 **RATIONALE:** A 1976 District Convention resolution (3-03) required that "...each congregation should be  
7 billed for its share of the *Lutheran Witness* blanket subscription" and that "the blanket  
8 subscription of our entire District be continued until a District Convention declines to  
9 continue it." The congregations of The South Dakota District have dutifully provided the  
10 *Lutheran Witness* to their households since that time. However, the cost for a subscription  
11 to the *Lutheran Witness* has risen dramatically in recent years, from \$11.25/subscription  
12 for 2022, to \$17.21/subscription for 2023, and close to \$20/subscription for 2024. The  
13 District's Board of Directors regard this increase as a financial challenge for many  
14 congregations. And they felt there was too much time until the next District Convention to  
15 change the policy by means of the usual method of conducting business: by convention  
16 action. Therefore, in their September 2023 meeting, the Board asked the District President  
17 to request a vote by the congregations of the District on whether to rescind the blanket  
18 subscription policy. This novel action of putting such a matter to a vote of congregations  
19 was based on Articles XII.2, XII.6, and XI.B.8 of the Synod's Constitution.  
20

21 After District President Sailer put the vote to the congregations in the last quarter of 2023,  
22 seventy-five of the District's one hundred and six congregations participated in the vote,  
23 with fifty-four congregations voting "yes" (to rescind 1976 Convention Res. 3-03) and with  
24 twenty-one congregations voting "no." The vote to rescind passed by a seventy two %  
25 majority.  
26

27 In addition to that strong congregational vote to rescind the 1976 resolution, the Board of  
28 Directors believes that the adoption of this resolution will officially uphold the requirement  
29 of 1976 Convention Res. 3-03 that "the blanket subscription of our entire District be  
30 continued until a District Convention declines to continue it."  
31

32 **WHEREAS,** The 1976 South Dakota District Convention (Res. 3-03) had required that each District  
33 congregation should be billed for its share of the *Lutheran Witness* subscription; AND

34 **WHEREAS,** The same resolution also required that this "blanket subscription" policy was to continue  
35 until "a District Convention declined to continue it"; AND

36 **WHEREAS,** A congregational vote in 2023, put forward by the District President between District  
37 conventions (per Synod Constitution Articles XI and XII), determined that the policy should  
38 be rescinded, having passed by a 72% majority; THEREFORE BE IT

39 **RESOLVED:** That the South Dakota District in convention ratify the congregational vote of 2023 to  
40 rescind the blanket subscription, thus honoring the decline-to-continue clause of 1976  
41 District Convention Res. 3-03; AND BE IT FURTHER

42 **RESOLVED:** That the congregations of the District encourage their members to subscribe on their own  
43 to the *Lutheran Witness*, the "official periodical of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,"  
44 or to otherwise make the *Lutheran Witness* available to their members; AND BE IT  
45 FINALLY

46 **RESOLVED:** That the congregations of the District be thanked and commended for having provided the  
47 *Lutheran Witness* to their member households for nearly fifty years.  
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To the 63<sup>rd</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
February 16-18, 2025

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

**RESOLUTION: 1-06**

**SUBJECT: TO RESCIND 2003 DISTRICT CONVENTION RESOLUTION 1-04 CONCERNING THE TRIENNIAL DISTRICT PLANNING CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS,** The Annual Planning Conference of the South Dakota District was instituted by the 54<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the District, in 1997, via adoption of Resolution 2-02, to assist the Board of Directors in planning the ministries of the District; AND

**WHEREAS,** 1997 Convention Resolution 2-02 also specified that the Annual Planning Conference was to involve the members of the Board of Directors of the District, the Circuit Counselors, a lay representative from each circuit, the Chairman of each ministry area, the District LWML President, the District LLL President, the District Personal Stewardship Counselor, and the District Executive Staff; AND

**WHEREAS,** The 56<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of the District (2003 Res. 1-04) changed the frequency of the Planning Conference from being an annual event to a triennial event; AND

**WHEREAS,** 2003 District Convention Resolution 1-04 also mandated that the Triennial Planning Conferences are to be conducted in the “year when the Circuit Convocations are to be held,” that is, in the non-Convention year of the triennium (cf. Synod Bylaw 5.4.1); AND

**WHEREAS,** The same 2003 resolution stated in one of the resolved’s that “in the other two years conferences, circuits, congregations and individuals be encouraged to submit to our Board of Directors and/or the Program Area Chairmen mission and ministry opportunities”; AND

**WHEREAS,** Input into the planning and work of the ministries of the District can be sought from those entities in a variety of ways, including by the District staff, by Circuit Visitors in Winkels and in visits to congregations, and by committees established by the District (including the current Mission and Ministry Council); THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That the requirement of conducting a Triennial Planning Conference in the non-Convention year, from the 2003 District Convention Res. 1-04, be rescinded. AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** The District Board of Directors may call a Planning Conference as it sees fit.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

**RESOLUTION: 1-07A (Overtures 1-08, 1-09)**

**SUBJECT: DISTRICT OFFICERS SERVING CONGREGATIONS AS ASSISTING PASTORS**

**WHEREAS,** In keeping with Article VII of the Augsburg Confession, where the Church is defined as “the congregation of saints, in which the Gospel is rightly taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered;” AND

**WHEREAS,** The Church faces an urgent need for qualified men to serve congregations in accordance with Article XIV of the Augsburg Confession which states: “no one should publicly teach in the Church or administer the Sacraments unless he be regularly called;” AND

**WHEREAS,** There are offices of the South Dakota District that are filled by ordained men; AND

**WHEREAS,** Prior to 1974 the District President served a congregation and was District President. Since 1974 the District President has served full time; AND

**WHEREAS,** The District bylaws 2.05 e. is the only restriction to the District President; AND

**WHEREAS,** The call to serve in the pastoral office is the primary and most essential office in the church, and service to the Synod in administrative offices are established to support the work of the pastoral office; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That the Bylaws of the South Dakota District of the LCMS be amended to allow any ordained men serving in offices of the District to also accept a call to serve a congregation as an assisting Pastor AND BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED:** That given the gravity of the Office of Holy Ministry and the necessity of the effective support from the District officers, serving a congregational call may be a voluntary choice for ordained men serving in a District Office. AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** That the Bylaw 2.05 e., which reads “*He shall not serve a congregation as its Vacancy Pastor,*” be changed to “*He may serve as an assisting pastor, contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters.*”

Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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DCE Liz Peters

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Reverend David Otten

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

**RESOLUTION: 1-10**

**SUBJECT: TO CONSIDER HOLDING FUTURE DISTRICT EVENTS SUCH AS CONVENTIONS, PASTORS CONFERENCES AND PLANNING CONFERENCES IN LCMS CHURCHES OR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS,** The South Dakota District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LCMS) values the importance of fostering a strong sense of community and fellowship among its members; AND

**WHEREAS,** Holding District Conventions in churches or Lutheran schools can provide a more spiritually enriching environment, conducive to worship, prayer, and theological reflection; AND

**WHEREAS,** Utilizing church and school facilities can help strengthen the connection between the district's administrative activities and its congregational and educational ministries; AND

**WHEREAS,** Gathering in churches or Lutheran schools can serve as a witness to the broader community, showcasing the vibrant faith and commitment of the LCMS; AND

**WHEREAS,** Significant cost savings can be achieved by using church and school facilities, allowing for better allocation of District funds towards mission and ministry initiatives; AND

**WHEREAS,** Hosting District events in these settings can promote stewardship by making use of existing resources within the LCMS community, potentially reducing costs associated with external venues; AND

**WHEREAS,** Many existing church and school facilities have ample space to accommodate large gatherings, ensuring that the needs of all attendees are met; AND

**WHEREAS,** It was the example of our Synod to hold national conventions in churches until the conventions grew too large, but our district conventions can still be held in such facilities; AND

**WHEREAS,** Potential challenges such as accessibility, capacity, and technological requirements can be addressed by working closely with host sites to ensure that all logistical needs are met, THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That the South Dakota District Board of Directors will consider holding future District events such as conventions, pastors' conferences and planning conferences in LCMS Churches or Lutheran schools whenever feasible; AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** That the District will work collaboratively with District congregations and District schools to identify suitable locations and ensure that the necessary logistical arrangements are made.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun

**RESOLUTION: 1-11**

**SUBJECT: TO STABILIZE THE COST OF BENEFITS OFFERED BY CONCORDIA PLAN SERVICES**

**WHEREAS,** Concordia Plan Services (CPS) provides significant blessings to workers enrolled in their health, retirement, and disability plans; AND

**WHEREAS,** The cost of the Concordia Health Plan, Retirement Plan, and Disability Plan offered by CPS is a substantial expense borne by congregations, schools, and other ministries of the LCMS; AND

**WHEREAS,** The pool of workers available to enroll in the CPS benefit plans is relatively small; AND

**WHEREAS,** A larger pool of workers contributing to the health plan, retirement plan, and disability plan would provide the opportunity to spread expenses over a larger membership base and would increase the ability of Concordia Plan Services to negotiate with vendors; AND

**WHEREAS,** There are other church bodies with whom we agree in biblical morality and medical ethics; AND

**WHEREAS,** Our doctrine permits us to cooperate in externals with other church bodies in non-doctrinal matters; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That the Synod in convention would amend the Synod's Bylaws so that Concordia Plan Services can serve a wider population, by working with other church bodies to increase collective worker enrollment, in order to stabilize the overall cost of the benefits offered by CPS.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reverend Steven Weispfennig, Chairman

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Reverend David Otten

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DCE Elizabeth Peters

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Mr. Adam Schulz

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Mr. Scot Eisenbraun



1 **RESOLUTION: 1-12**

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3 **SUBJECT: TO THANK THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT AND TO CONFER**  
4 **THE TITLE OF “PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT”**

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** The Reverend Dr. Scott C. Sailer has provided our District with faithful pastoral  
7 leadership as District President for the past ten years; AND

8  
9 **WHEREAS,** The District President has reflected upon the “God’s Gospel: Salvation Power” theme in  
10 his convention report; AND

11  
12 **WHEREAS,** The District President has provided invaluable pastoral leadership in his articles in the  
13 Lutheran Witness and the District President’s E-Mail Newsletter, in his visitations and  
14 preaching in many congregations for special occasions, and in his presence and  
15 participation in many District functions; AND

16  
17 **WHEREAS,** President Sailer has announced his retirement following the installation of our next  
18 District President; THEREFORE BE IT

19  
20 **RESOLVED:** That we thank the Reverend Dr. Scott C. Sailer for his faithful pastoral leadership; AND  
21 BE IT FURTHER

22  
23 **RESOLVED:** That this convention confer upon the Reverend Dr. Scott C. Sailer the title of “President  
24 Emeritus of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod”; AND  
25 BE IT FURTHER

26  
27 **RESOLVED:** That we give thanks to God for His servant the Reverend Dr. Scott C. Sailer; AND BE IT  
28 FINALLY

29  
30 **RESOLVED:** That following the adoption of this Resolution the assembly will rise and sing the last  
31 verse of the hymn, “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” (LSB#563)

32  
33 “Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,  
34 Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
35 For me, and all Thy hands have made,  
36 An everlasting ransom paid.”

37  
38 Respectfully Submitted,

39  
40 \_\_\_\_\_  
41 Reverend Steve Weispfennig, Chairman

42  
43 \_\_\_\_\_  
44 DCE Liz Peters

45  
46 \_\_\_\_\_  
47 Reverend David Otten

48  
49 \_\_\_\_\_  
50 Mr. Adam Schulz

51  
52 \_\_\_\_\_  
53 Mr. Scot Eisenbraun