

Convention Workbook - Part II



“Imagine ... Living as God’s Saved and Sent Servants”

**102nd Michigan District Convention
Concordia University Ann Arbor
June 24-26, 2018**

- Section 1: Convention Agenda (Cream)
- Section 2: 2018 Proposed Special Standing Rules (Gray)
- Section 3: Convention Nominations (Green)
- Section 4: District Reports (Yellow)
- Section 5: Resolutions (White)

AGENDA

Michigan District Convention

June 24–26, 2018



Sunday, June 24 – “*IMAGINE ... Living as God’s Saved and Sent Servants*”

Time	Activity	Location
1:00–7:00 p.m.	Registration (and after Opening Service until 10:00 p.m.)	Student Union
3:00–5:00	Floor Committee Open Hearings	Krieger Hall
3:00–6:30	Ministry Tent Open	West Campus Parking Lot
4:00–6:00	Music by <i>Vintage Gap</i> Picnic dinner available	Near Ministry Tent
	Sponsored by Lutheran Benefits Group and Lutheran Trust	
5:00–5:30	Delegate Orientation (Option I)	Convention Hall
7:00	Opening Service	Chapel of the Holy Trinity
	The Preacher: Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, LCMS President	
	<i>Reception following the service</i>	Lawn area outside chapel

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20–21).

Monday, June 25 – *IMAGINE ... For Those Near and Far, Access to the Father*

Ministry Tent Open 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Time	Activity	Location
7:00 a.m.	Morning Walk with Christie Hansard, Parish Nurse	Outside Chapel
7:00–8:00	Breakfast	Cafeteria
7:00–noon	Registration	Student Union
7:30–8:00	Delegate Orientation (Option II)	Convention Hall
8:15–9:00	Opening Devotions The Preacher: Rev. Brennan A. Woell, St. Luke, Nunica	Chapel of the Holy Trinity
9:15–9:30	Registration Report – Rev. David Reed Official Opening – Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier Introduction of Parliamentarian Hon. David W. McKeague – Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit Adoption of Agenda and Standing Rules Greetings and Welcome from Concordia University Ann Arbor Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry, Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor President Orientation – Rev. Dean Davenport, Convention Committee Chairman	Convention Hall
9:30–9:45	Committee on New & Revised Constitutions – Rev. Ted Voll Reception of Congregations, Ministers of Religion Ordained and Commissioned who have joined the Synod in the past triennium (printed report)	
9:45–10:20	District President’s Address Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier	
10:20–11:00	Nominations Committee – Mr. John Nutzmann, Chairman Elections Committee – Rev. Erik Cloeter, Chairman Elections of District President/Vice Presidents/Board/Committees, etc	
11:00–11:15	Break	
11:15–11:20	Michigan District Ministry – The Luke Project 52 Clinic	
11:20–12:10	Essay/Bible Study Rev. Michael W. Newman – Missions, Texas District	
12:10–12:15	Greetings from Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, Ind. Rev. Dr. Larry Rast, President Greetings from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis Dr. Kent Burreson, Assoc. Prof. of Systematic Theology/Dean of Chapel	
12:15–1:30 p.m.	Lunch/Ministry Tent ▪ Caucus for election of advisory ordained delegates to LCMS Convention	Cafeteria/Manor Tent Convention Hall

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20–21).

Monday, June 25 – *IMAGINE ... For Those Near and Far, Access to the Father*

Ministry Tent Open 9:00 a.m–5:00 p.m.

Time	Activity	Location
1:30–1:33	Opening Prayer Mr. George Locke, Former MI District Superintendent of Schools	Convention Hall
1:33–1:50	Wellspring Lutheran Services – Mr. David Gehm, President & CEO	
1:50–1:53	Ratify Circuit Visitors slate	
1:53–2:20	Elections continued	
2:20–2:40	Break	
2:40–2:43	Michigan District Ministry – Harbor Hope Ministries	
2:43–3:25	Floor Committee 2	
3:25–3:30	Current Ministry Information Lutherans for Life FiveTwo Network	
3:30–4:20	Essay/Bible Study Rev. Bill Woolsey – FiveTwo Network	
4:20–5:05	Floor Committee 1	
5:05–5:20	Break	
5:20–5:23	Michigan District Ministry – Schools	
5:23–5:40	Floor Committee 2	
5:40–5:45	Military Chaplains Presentation Chaplain Steve Hokana, LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces	
5:45–6:00	Concordia Plan Services Mr. James Sanft, President and CEO	
6:00–6:03	Closing Prayer Rev. C. William Hoesman, Former MI District President	
6:03–6:15	Closing Announcements (Rick Wolfram’s retirement)	
6:30	Dinner Entertainment	Manor Tent
8:00	Possible Evening Session for Floor Committees, <u>if needed</u> (8:00–9:30 pm)	Convention Hall

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20–21).

Tuesday, June 26 – *IMAGINE ... Signed (Baptism) Sealed (Holy Spirit) Delivered (Heaven)*

Ministry Tent Open 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Time	Activity	Location
7:00 a.m.	Morning Walk with Christie Hansard, Parish Nurse	Outside Chapel
7:00–8:00	Breakfast	Cafeteria
8:15–9:15	Memorial Service	Chapel of the Holy Trinity
	The Preacher: Rev. Donald O. Neuendorf, St. Paul, Ann Arbor	
	<i>Brunch following service for family members of those honored at the Memorial Service</i>	Earhart Manor living room
9:30–10:20	Essay/Bible Study	Convention Hall
	Mr. Gary Thies – Mission Central – LCMS World Mission	
10:20–10:23	Michigan District Ministry – Elli’s House	
10:23–10:45	Break	
10:45–10:50	Current Ministry Information from Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs)	
	MOST Ministries	
	Lutheran Heritage Foundation	
10:50–11:05	Here We Stand Presentation	
	Mr. Ray Zavada, Assistant to the President – Development	
11:05–11:30	Floor Committee 2	
11:30–11:50	Church Extension Fund – Mr. Jim Saalfeld, CEO	
11:50–12:05 p.m.	Concordia University Ann Arbor – Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry	
12:05–1:30	Lunch/Ministry Tent	Cafeteria/Manor Tent
1:30–1:33	Opening Prayer	Convention Hall
	Mr. Bruce Braun, Former MI District Superintendent of Schools	
1:33–1:38	Lutheran High Schools in Michigan Report	
	Mr. Steven Meseke, Superintendent, Lutheran High School Association	
1:38–1:42	Omnibus Resolutions	
1:42–1:45	Michigan District Ministry – Communications	
1:45–2:15	Presentation	
	Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President	
2:15–2:20	Michigan District Commission for Church Worker Care	
	Rev. Daniel Ramthun, Chairman	

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20–21).

Tuesday, June 26 – *IMAGINE ... Undying Love for Christ, Fearless Boldness to Speak*

Ministry Tent Open 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Time	Activity	Location
2:20–2:40	Break	
2:40–2:45	Current Ministry Information from Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) LAMP Ministries Ephphatha Mission Society	
2:45–3:30	Video and Q&A Time – Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, LCMS President	
3:30–3:33	Campus Ministry Report Rev. Benjamin Ulledalen, Zion, Mt. Pleasant and CMU Campus Ministries	
3:33–4:10	Floor Committee 1	
4:10–4:15	Orphan Grain Train Rev. Ralph Schmidt, Director of Development	
4:15–4:20	Michigan District Ministry – Franklin Avenue Mission	
4:20–4:25	Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Susan Gruber, Michigan District President	
4:25–4:30	Lutheran Laymen’s League Mr. Chuck Bennett, Michigan District President	
4:30–4:45	Floor Committee wrap-up, if needed	
4:45–5:00	Treasurer’s Report Mrs. Bonnie Mann, Treasurer Mr. Chad Woltemath, Assistant to the President – Business/Finance	
5:00–5:15	Closing of the Convention Final Registration Report – Rev. David Reed Ingathering Report – Rev. Dean Davenport Closing Convention Video Closing Comments	
5:15–5:20	Prayer & Adjournment – Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier	
5:30	Service of Sending and Installation The Preacher: Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier, Michigan District President	Chapel of the Holy Trinity
6:30	Dinner (on your own)	

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20–21).

Section 2 - 2018 Proposed Special Standing Rules

1. The Convention shall adopt the Tentative Daily Agenda printed in the Convention Workbook – Part II.
2. The chair shall see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible.
3. Resolutions of each floor committee shall be prioritized by number and shall normally be presented in the numerical sequence published in the Convention Workbook – Part II.
4. Each member of the convention, when recognized by the chair, shall (a) state his name, (b) the name of his congregation or administrative unit he represents, and (c) the city or town where it is located.
5. Any person eligible to speak is limited to one time on any given issue and to two minutes except for the person or committee who made the motion, who will be entitled to two minutes after debate is closed.
6. In order to ensure that Advisory Delegates have an opportunity to advise the convention on resolutions, when debate begins on a new or substitute resolution and an Advisory Delegate is at a microphone reserved for the Advisory Delegates, the Chairman of the Convention will call upon an Advisory Delegate to speak first to the issue at hand.
7. A delegate who speaks on an issue may not move to call the question at the close of his or her speech.
8. While any voting delegate may call the question at any time, after every 30 minutes of debate on any one motion there shall be an automatic call of the question by the chair.
9. Instead of only a voice vote on motions before the convention, the chair may also call for a keypad vote or raising of the right hand.
10. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter shall be offered two minutes to provide the rationale for offering it, and a member of the floor committee shall be offered two minutes to present rationale for not considering the proposed substitute, after which the convention shall decide by majority vote without further debate whether or not to consider the substitute.
 - If the decision is in the affirmative and if the substitute motion is subsequently adopted, the original motion fails.
 - If the substitute motion does not receive 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 addressing substitute motions used at the Synodical Convention.)
11. Whenever possible, substitute resolutions and amendments to proposed resolutions shall be submitted to the Secretary in advance of the proposed resolutions’ introduction to the convention. When this is not possible, a written copy of the proposed substitute motion or amendment shall be provided to the Secretary immediately after it is offered from the floor.
12. Any amendment exceeding ten (10) words must be submitted in writing to the chair.
13. A motion to close debate (“call the question”) shall apply only to the immediately pending question.
14. Questions of privilege shall be addressed in writing to the chair, or its appointee, instead of consuming convention time.

15. In the sessions of the last day, the chair shall have the privilege of calling up for action resolutions which, in his judgment, must be acted upon by the convention before adjournment.
16. Out of respect for others, and 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, laptops, tablets, cell phones, smart 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.** (NO personal extension cords will be allowed on the convention floor.) Please see chart below.

Attendees in Convention Hall	Type of Usage Permitted In Designated Area			
	Voice	Text Message	Laptop Computers for communication, e.g. e-mail or Internet, etc.	Laptop Computers—no communication, e.g. e-mail or Internet, etc.
Voting & Advisory Delegates	No	No	No	Yes
BOD & Special Guests	No	Yes, convention business only	Yes	Yes
All Other Guests	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Convention Staff	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

17. The Convention will be streamed via an online service that both broadcasts and archives the video and audio of the proceedings. Portions of the convention will be made available online for post-convention on-demand viewing. **Participant Release:** Participants who choose to engage in the proceedings of the convention give the Michigan District, LCMS implicit permission to record, broadcast, transcribe, and publish the audio and video. No releases are required.

- **Recording Authorization:** Unauthorized audio and/or video recordings of the Convention proceedings are strictly prohibited. Permission to record must be sought prior to the recording process. Private recording is not allowed without written permission. The Convention Chair is authorized to request that the recording be stopped.
- **Transcriptions:** Approval must be obtained from Convention Chair with the understanding that the recording is ONLY for transcription purposes unless otherwise cleared (as in the policy above).
- **Transcription Publication:** Publication of any record requires the approval of all participants whose material is represented in the record. Permission request and subsequent authorization is the exclusive responsibility of the requester.
- **Copyright:** The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod maintains ownership of the copyright.

18. No new business or motion for reconsideration may be offered in the afternoon of the last day of the Convention. New business includes, but not exhaustively, substitute motions and original overtures.
19. Unless covered by these Special Standing Rules, parliamentary procedure shall be governed by the most recent edition of *Robert's Rule of Order Newly Revised*.

Section 3 - 2018 Convention Nominations

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NOMINATIONS 2018

* Incumbent

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

(Vote for 1)

Dean M. Davenport

14175 Farmington Rd., Livonia MI 48154

Age: 53

Current Position: Senior Pastor, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livonia

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Michigan State University; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Trinity, Reed City; Senior Pastor, Livonia

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Chair, Professional Church Workers Conference; Chair, All Pastors' Conference Committee

Synod: Convention delegate (2007, 2010)

Other: President, Board of Directors, Lutheran High School Assoc. of Greater Detroit; Chaplain – LHM Men's Retreat

David A. Davis

3707 E. Hiawatha, Okemos MI 48864

Age: 60

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Meridian Twp. and Lansing

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Pastoral Leadership Institute; PLI Governance and Executive Training

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, St. Matthew, Spring Lake; Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton; Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids; Senior Pastor, St. Luke, Meridian Twp./Lansing

Circuit: Mission Coordinator; Church planter, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship, Ferrysburg and Grace, Coopersville; Chairman, Exploratory Committee, West Michigan Lutheran High School, Grand Rapids

District: Chairman, Board for Mission Development; Task Force on Reorganization; Ablaze Coordinator; Southwest Detroit Mission; Chairman, Lutheran Adult Gathering Committee; West Region Vice President; Chair, Michigan District Board of Directors

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Health Advisory Committee, Spring Lake; Downtown Pastors' Group, Grand Rapids

Other: LLL Retreat chaplain and CEF Representatives' Conference; Sectional Leader, Lutheran Adult Gathering; Participant, Mission Opportunities Short Term

* David P. E. Maier

6200 Meyer Ave, Brighton MI 48116

Age: 61

Current Position: District President

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Honorary Doctorates, St. Peter Confessional Lutheran Church of South Africa, Concordia University Ann Arbor; D.D., Concordia University Wisconsin

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Our Savior, Marlette; Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Arlington Heights Ill.; Administrative Pastor, Our Savior, Lansing

Circuit: Mission Representative; Circuit Visitor

District: President; Vice President; Family Life Board; Circuit Visitor Conference Chairman; Board of Directors; 125th Anniversary Steering Committee

Synod: Synod Convention Floor Committee on Worship Matters; Synod Convention Floor Committee on Seminary and University Education; Council of Presidents Vice-Chairman and Chairman; Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program Committee; Resolution #4-044 Task Force

Community: Kiwanis Club; Pregnancy Services of Michigan

Other: Wellspring Lutheran Services Task Force; Dean, Camp Arcadia

VICE PRESIDENT - Metro East Region
(Vote for 1)

*** John M. Duerr**

31415 Saratoga Ave., Warren MI 48093

Age: 62

Current Position: Pastor, Hope Lutheran Church, Warren

Education/Degrees/Honors: M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Mission Developer, Good Shepherd, Chiefland, Fla.; Pastor of Discipleship and Youth, St. Peter, Lodi, Calif.; Pastor, Concordia, Cerritos, Calif.; Pastor, Hope, Warren.

District: CNH District Board of Youth; District Youth Gathering chairman; program chair of CNH District Great Commission Convocation; Board of Stewardship, Continuing Education Committee; Metro-East Regional/Fourth Vice President, District Board of Directors; president's representative to CEF Board of Trustees.

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Warren Consolidated Schools Sex-Education Task Force; Warren National Day of Prayer Committee

Greg S. Griffith

39423 Baroque Blvd., Clinton Twp. MI 48038

Age: 40

Current Position: Lead Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Macomb

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia University, Irvine, Calif.; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Assistant/Associate/Senior Pastor – Immanuel, Macomb

Circuit: Here We Stand coordinator

District: District Convention Planning Team; All Pastors' Conference Planning Team

Community: Founder of Run the Plank, a non-profit supporting community charities

Other: Chair, Lutheran High School Assoc.; LWML Advisor; Thrivent Circuit Chair; Plenary speaker BPM

VICE PRESIDENT - Metro West Region
(Vote for 1)

Dean M. Davenport

14175 Farmington Rd., Livonia MI 48154

Age: 53

Current Position: Senior Pastor, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livonia

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Michigan State University; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Trinity, Reed City; Senior Pastor, Christ Our Savior, Livonia

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Chair, Professional Church Workers Conference; Chair, All Pastors' Conference Committee

Synod: Convention delegate (2007, 2010)

Other: President, Board of Directors, Lutheran High School Assoc. of Greater Detroit; Chaplain – LHM Men's Retreat

Justin P. Rossow

6844 Lakeway St., Ypsilanti MI 48197

Age: 46

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.;
Walther Faculty Development Fellow; Ph.D. in Theology and Culture, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Assoc. Pastor, Salem, Affton, Mo.; Pastor, Peace, Hurst, Texas; Pastor for Adult Discipleship, St. Luke, Ann Arbor; Senior Pastor, St. Luke, Ann Arbor

District: Chair, All Pastors' Conference Planning Committee; Trainer for Michigan District StartNew Incubator; Preaching Workshops for district pastors and deacons; Presenter, Michigan District Professional Church Workers' Conference.

Other: Research Supervisor, London School of Theology; Guest Instructor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

VICE PRESIDENT- North and East Region
(Vote for 1)

*** Mark D. Brandt**

9042 W. Tuscola, Frankenmuth MI 48734

Age: 63

Current Position: Lead Pastor, St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth

Education/Degrees/Honors: M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Outstanding Alumnus Award, Concordia University Ann Arbor

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor – St. John, Beemer, Neb.; Pastor, Trinity, Buchanan; Associate/Lead Pastor, St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Chairman, North and West Pastors' Conference; District Mission and Ministry Commission; Board of Directors; District Vice President

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Little League Coach; Rotary Club president

Other: LLL Zone Pastoral Advisor

Erik K. Cloeter

PO Box 10, 509 Butler St., Clio MI 48420

Age: 46

Current Position: Senior Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Clio

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn.; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Bethlehem, Wales, Wisc.; Assoc. Pastor, Messiah, Clio; Senior Pastor, Messiah, Clio

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Convention Floor Committee; Chair, Convention Elections Committee; Chair, North/East Pastors' Conference

Synod: Convention delegate (2010)

Community: Coach, girls' soccer and basketball

Other: Liaison to Miracle Connect, Muslim outreach

VICE PRESIDENT- West Region
(Vote for 1)

Craig L. Bickel

4675 Oakwright Dr. NE, Ada MI 49301

Age: 52

Current Position: Senior Administrative Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Pensacola, Fla.; Pastor, Peace, Shelby Twp.; Senior Administrative Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids

District: Youth and Family Ministry Board, Southern District; Michigan District Board of Directors

Community: Van Andel Research Institute – Institution Review Board and IBC committee

Other: Local chair, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

*** David A. Davis**

3707 E. Hiawatha, Okemos MI 48864

Age: 60

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Meridian Twp. and Lansing

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Pastoral Leadership Institute; PLI Governance and Executive Training

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, St. Matthew, Spring Lake; Pastor, St. Paul, Trenton; Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids; Senior Pastor, St. Luke, Meridian Twp./Lansing

Circuit: Mission Coordinator; Church planter, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship, Ferrysburg and Grace, Coopersville; Chairman, Exploratory Committee, West Michigan Lutheran High School, Grand Rapids

District: Chairman, Board for Mission Development; Task Force on Reorganization; Ablaze Coordinator; Southwest Detroit Mission; Chairman, Lutheran Adult Gathering Committee; West Region Vice President; Chair, Michigan District Board of Directors

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Health Advisory Committee, Spring Lake; Downtown Pastors' Group, Grand Rapids

Other: LLL Retreat chaplain and CEF Representatives' Conference; Sectional Leader, Lutheran Adult Gathering; Participant, Mission Opportunities Short Term.

DISTRICT SECRETARY

(Vote for 1)

Michael M. Goers

300 Visser St., Spring Lake MI 49456

Age: 38

Current Position: Pastor, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Spring Lake

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia, Mequon; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Spring Lake

District: Circuit Visitor

Other: LWML Zone Pastoral Counselor

Paul M. Moldenhauer

2020 S. Commerce Rd., Walled Lake MI 48390

Age: 63

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Walled Lake

Education/Degrees/Honors: A.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; B.A., Concordia Senior College, Ft. Wayne; M.Div.,
Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, First, Charlotte; Senior Pastor, St. Matthew, Walled Lake

Circuit: Program Director, Evangelism Representative

District: Evangelism Board, Mission & Ministry Commission, Michigan District Board of Directors

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Rotary Club, Citizens Advisory School Board

Other: Lutherans for Life Pastoral Advisor

Justin P. Rossow

6844 Lakeway Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Age: 46

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.;
Ph.D., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Assistant Pastor, Salem, Affton, Mo.; Associate Pastor, Peace, Hurst, Texas; Senior Pastor, St.
Luke, Ann Arbor

District: All Pastors' Conference Planning Committee Chairman

Synod: Occasional Guest Instructor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Other: Speaker/Presenter at various District/Synod Events; Research Supervisor, London School of
Theology; Writer of several books/articles published in recent years; Podcast interview with Rick
Lawrence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Metro East Region

Ordained Ministers (Vote for 1)

* **Norman Koy**

44750 Brockton Avenue, Sterling Heights MI 48314

Age: 66

Current Position: Intentional Interim Pastor, Crown of Life Lutheran Church, Rochester Hills

Education/Degrees/Honors: Walther Lutheran HS, Melrose Park, Ill.; B.A., Concordia, River Forest; M.Div.,
Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Additional Training: Intentional Interim Ministry; Critical Incident Stress Debriefing

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, St. John, Cleveland, Ohio; Senior Pastor, St. Paul, Napoleon, Ohio; Senior Pastor, Trinity, Utica; IIP, Crown of Life, Rochester Hills

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Youth Board; Continuing Education Committee; S&E Pastors' Conference Chairman; Michigan District Board of Directors

Synod: National Youth Gathering Community Life Builder; Theological Review Editor for Publications; Convention delegate

Community: City of Utica Fire Department Chaplain;

Other: LWML Zone Pastoral Counselor

Gary Rohwer

3670 Pierce Drive, Shelby Twp. MI 48316

Age: 60

Current Position: Pastor, Atonement Lutheran Church, Dearborn

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Christ College, Irvine, Calif.; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Ph.D., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Missionary to Nigeria; POBLO District Missionary to Muslims, Sherman Oaks, Calif.; Good News for All Nations District Missionary, Sherman Oaks, Calif.; POBLO Director for Education, Ministry & Mission, Troy; Pastor, Atonement, Dearborn

Synod: Muslim Task Force

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

* **Natalie Haupt**

16890 25 Mile Road, Macomb MI 48042

Age: 38

Current Position: Teacher at Lutheran High School North, Macomb

Home Congregation: St. Luke Lutheran Church, Clinton Twp.

Education/Degrees/Honors: Grand Haven Public School; B.A., Concordia University Ann Arbor; M.A.T., Saginaw Valley State University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Stephen's Ministry; Choir member; various boards and certification teams (Youth, Church Council, Education); Confirmation mentor

District: Volunteer Coordinator for Youth Gatherings; Board of Directors

Community: Compassion Pregnancy Center and Abigayle Ministry

Other: Participated in mission trips to Brazil and Haiti with LCMS congregations and LEAD; Women of the Pearl Mission Trip to Uganda

Layperson (Vote for 2)

*** Stephen Boergert**

5439 Bristol Parke, Clarkston MI 48348

Age: 59

Current Position: Business owner, Engineering Consulting Firm

Home Congregation: Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills

Education: Additional Training in Organizational Behavior, Certified Welding Engineer, Industrial Hygienist

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Congregational Chairman, Board of Elders Chairman

District/Synod: Michigan District Board of Directors Chairman; LCMS Convention delegate;

Community: Board Member US Selective Service System

Other: US Navy 1975–1992

*** Willard Ducharme**

12959 LaSalle Lane, Huntington Woods MI 48070

Age: 68

Current Position: Attorney

Home Congregation: Huntington Woods Lutheran Church, Huntington Woods

Education: Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo; Detroit College of Law, Detroit

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Finance Committee Chairman; President; Preschool Board of Directors

Circuit: Congregation representative to Circuit

District/Synod: District and Synod Convention delegate; Michigan District Board of Directors

Richard Stathakis

13883 Timberview Drive, Shelby Twp. MI 48315

Age: 61

Current Position: Supervisor of Shelby Township

Home Congregation: Peace Lutheran Church, Shelby Twp.

Education: University of Detroit

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Elder, Finance Committee member, Board of Education Chairman

Community: Shelby Twp. Downtown Development member, Trinity Community Care-Executive Committee, Homeowners Association Chairman

Other: As Supervisor of Shelby Twp, initiated and continued prayer before all biweekly televised Board of Trustee meetings since 2008. Initiated National Day of Prayer in Shelby Twp in 2010; Wife, Carol, is Peace, Shelby Twp. Principal

Alicia Winget

1849 Fox Knoll, Leonard MI 48367

Age: 75

Current Position: Retired

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church, Romeo

Education: Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, Concordia, St. Paul, Minn.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: LifeLight Bible Study leader, Bell Choir

Other: Board of Regents, President's Advisory Council, & Presidential Search Committee at Concordia, St. Paul, Minn.; Board of Directors at Wellspring Lutheran Services; Board of Directors at POBLO International; Thrivent Member Network Board; Board of Directors at Samaritan House

West Region

Ordained Ministers (Vote for 1)

*** Craig Bickel**

4675 Oakwright Dr. NE, Ada MI 49301

Age: 52

Current Position: Senior Administrative Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia, Ann Arbor; M.Div., Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Pensacola, Fla.; Pastor, Peace, Shelby Twp.; Senior Administrative Pastor, Immanuel, Grand Rapids

District: Youth and Family Ministry Board, Southern District; Michigan District Board of Directors

Community: Van Andel Research Institute – Institution Review Board and IBC committee

Other: Local Chair, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Bradley Hubbard

12886 Silver Springs Ln., Battle Creek MI 49104

Age: 42

Current Position: Lead Pastor, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Battle Creek

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.S., Indiana University; M.S. in Counseling, Indiana University; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Associate Pastor, Mt. Olive, Weston, Wisc.; Lead Pastor, St. Mark, Battle Creek

District: Secretary - NWD Convention; District Conference Planning Committee; Here We Stand Reformation Worship Planning Team

Community: School District Crisis Counselor; Pastoral Advisor, Pregnancy Resource Center; Reproductive Health Team Advisor; Youth Coach

Other: Board of Directors, Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School; Chaplain, Calhoun County Sheriff's Dept.

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

Craig Oldenburg

13400 Pinewood St. NE, Gowen MI 49326

Age: 59

Current Position: Executive Director, Camp Concordia

Home Congregation: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

Education: Concordia University Chicago; Concordia University Nebraska; George Fox University Portland

Additional Training: Love and Logic Parent Facilitator; PREP (Marriage and Relationship) Facilitator

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Other: National Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Association Board of Directors

Lori Wieneke

7487 Emerald Woods Dr. SE, Byron Center MI 49315

Age: 42

Current Position: Director of Family Ministries & Church Organist

Home Congregation: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

Education: Lutheran High Westland, Concordia University Ann Arbor, some graduate work at U of M Dearborn,

3 yrs. of FFPN training with Ben Freudenberg

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Worship Arts Director in addition to current position

Layperson (Vote for 2)

Heather Bigelow

8494 Warbler Drive, Portage MI 49009

Age: 42

Current Position: Art Teacher/Therapeutic Art Special Needs-At Risk Youth

Home Congregation: St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Portage

Education: Concordia University Ann Arbor; Continual training through KRESA

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Youth Board; Sunday School; Stephen Minister Leader; Program Manager Covenant Adult Daycare

Other: Specializes in work with Special Needs/At Risk Youth, currently teaches in two schools

Dennis Sohn

7550 Roxborough Lane, Grand Ledge MI 48837

Age: 62

Current Position: Registered Pharmacist - Retired

Home Congregation: Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lansing

Education: Walled Lake Central High School; University of Detroit; University of Michigan

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Chairman of the Board of Directors; Board of Elders, Michigan District Convention lay delegate

District/Synod: LCMS Convention lay delegate; Lutheran Adult Gathering Committee member

Community: Little League Football Coach

CHURCH EXTENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LCMS Rostered persons (Vote for 1)

James Chinery

906 West Genesee, Frankenmuth MI 48734

Age: 48

Current Position: Senior Pastor, St. Martin Lutheran Church, Birch Run

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.S., Alma College; M.S., Eastern Illinois University; M.Div., Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.; Colloquy, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Additional Training: Currently enrolled at Concordia University Wisconsin in the online graduate counseling program

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Youth Director, St. Luke, Bloomington, Minn. (ELCA); Pastoral Assistant, St. Michael, Roseville Minn. (ELCA); Pastor, First, Iron Mountain, Mich. (ELCA); Senior Pastor, St. Martin, Birch Run

Circuit: Circuit Program Coordinator; Here We Stand Circuit Coordinator

Erik K. Cloeter

PO Box 10, 509 Butler St., Clio MI 48420

Age: 46

Current Position: Senior Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Clio

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, St. Paul; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Bethlehem, Wales, Wisc.; Assoc. Pastor, Messiah, Clio; Senior Pastor, Messiah, Clio

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Convention Floor Committee; Chair, Convention Elections Committee; Chair, North/East Pastors' Conference

Synod: Convention delegate (2010)

Community: Coach, girls' soccer and basketball

Other: Liaison to Miracle Connect, Muslim outreach

Aaron Roggow

8278 South Warwick Court, Ypsilanti MI 48198

Age: 35

Current Position: Associate Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia University, Ann Arbor; M.Div. and S.T.M., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Additional Training: Westfield House of Theological Studies, Cambridge, England; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Associate Pastor, St. Peter, Arlington Heights, Ill.; Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Ann Arbor

Other: Camp Arcadia Alpha Retreat Counselor; Seminary Chorus Business Manager

Laypersons (Vote for 3)

*** David Eberhard**

28790 Coleridge, Harrison Township MI 48045

Age: 49

Current Position: Attorney and Co-chair of the firm's Construction law Practice Group focusing on areas of business, construction, financial services, and real estate law

Home Congregation: Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, Detroit

Education: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; University of Detroit Law School

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Vestry member

District/Synod: Church Extension Board of Trustees

Community: Urban Land Institute; Advisory Board for the Macomb-Oakland Incubator; Member of International Council of Shopping Centers; Member of American Bar Association

Other: Secretary and Board Member of Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF)

Randall George

809 Thompson Court, Belding MI 48809

Age: 71

Current Position: Retired Auditor and Risk Management Specialist

Home Congregation: Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Greenville

Education: M.S. & B.S. Saginaw Valley State University, Saginaw

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Recording Treasurer, Finance Committee, Elder, Vice-President, President; assisted in developing the Endowment Fund

Community: Adjunct Faculty – School of Business, Delta Community College, University Center, Mich.; Chairman of the “River of Time” by the Bay County Historical Society; Volunteer at the Meijer Classic Simply Give; Volunteer at WGLM Radio, Greenville as morning co-host

***Tim Haberling**

3418 Nobb Hill Drive, Hudsonville MI 49426

Age: 45

Current Position: Loan Officer at Fifth Third Bank

Home Congregation: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids

Education: B.A., Central Michigan University; M.B.A., Western Michigan University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Congregation President, Elder, Treasurer, Pastoral Vacancy Committee Chairman, Stephen Minister

District/Synod: Church Extension Board of Trustees

Community: Provides support for the homeless and plays a role in city community

Kenneth Palka

1925 Ashstan Drive, Walled Lake MI 48390

Age: 56

Current Position: Partner at a CPA Firm

Home Congregation: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Walled Lake

Education: B.A., Lake Superior State University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Treasurer, Volunteer at St. Matthew Lutheran School

Community: Ashley Oaks Homeowners Association Treasurer

Other: Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Michigan Institute of Certified Public Accountants

***Jeffrey Roscoe**

1620 Freeland Road, Bay City MI 48706

Age: 61

Current Position: Chief Financial Officer for the Jim White Group, Inc.

Home Congregation: Faith Lutheran Church, Bay City

Education: Saginaw Valley State University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Treasurer, Chairman of Salary & Benefits Committee, Member of Endowment Committee, Budget Committee, Board of Education Chairman, Youth Committee, Board of Elders

District/Synod: Church Extension Board of Trustees Treasurer

Community: Allocation Committee United Way Bay County, Valley Lutheran High School Board of Directors, Annual VLHS Golf Outing Chairman

Other: Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Michigan Institute of Certified Public Accountants

David Yohe

808 East Barrington Circle, Jackson MI 49203

Age: 74

Current Position: Retired from Consumers Energy – Manager of IT

Home Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church, Jackson

Education: B.B.A. and M.B.A., University of Michigan; Thomas M. Cooley Law School

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Treasurer, Usher, School Scholarship Committee, School Board

District/Synod: CEF Representative for Trinity

Community: VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) volunteer for low-income and elderly taxpayers

Other: Registered CPA in Michigan, Member of State Bar of Michigan, MOST Mission trip participant, CEF Representative for Trinity, Jackson

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - 2018 MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONVENTION

Metro East Region

Ordained Minister (Vote for 1)

* **Thomas Fischer**

2930 Hessel Avenue, Rochester Hills MI 48307

Age: 60

Current Position: Pastor, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Rochester Hills

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Ann Arbor; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Additional Training: Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Associate Pastor; Zion, Omaha, Neb.; Pastor, Our Savior, Midland; Pastor, Lord of New Life, Midland; Pastor, Gethsemane, Rochester Hills

Circuit: Secretary, Mission Coordinator

District: Michigan District Nominating Committee

Community: Right to Life

Other: GoodLife Community Partnership Director, First Responder Chaplain

Farrukh Khan

2022 Denise Drive, Sterling Heights MI 48310

Age: 64

Current Position: Director of Development, POBLO International

Education/Degrees/Honors: Hailey College of Commerce; University of the Punjab, Pakistan; EIIT, Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Additional Training: Church Planting Training, Center for U.S. Missions

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Missionary, POBLO International in Toronto, Canada; Director of Development, POBLO International

Other: Speaker at congregations about the rise of Islam in the US and the work of POBLO

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

Matthew Tschudy

1000 Bagley, Rochester Hills MI 48309

Age: 35

Current Position: Principal, Lutheran High School Northwest, Rochester Hills

Home Congregation: St. John, Rochester

Education/Degrees/Honors: Milwaukee Lutheran High School; Concordia University Wisconsin

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

High Schools: Assistant Principal/Teacher, Metro-East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville, Ill.; Principal, Lutheran High School Northwest, Rochester Hills

Layperson (Vote for 1)

* **Laura Davis**

555 Brush #2710, Detroit MI 48226

Age: 34

Current Position: Attorney

Home Congregation: Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, Detroit

Education: University of Michigan Law School

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Actively forming Bible study groups at Historic Trinity, Detroit; University Lutheran Chapel, Ann Arbor; Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Washington D.C.

District/Synod: Michigan District Nominating Committee; Teach English as a Second Language in Macau through LCMS World Mission

Other: Volunteer to Guatemala with MOST Ministries; wrote a blog for Lutheran Heritage Foundation during an internship in Istanbul, Turkey

Karen Reincke

362 Cambridge Drive, Mt. Clemens MI 48043

Age: 48

Current Position: Lead Family Life Minister, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Macomb

Home Congregation: Immanuel Lutheran Church & School, Macomb

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Chicago

Additional Training: Coaching Specific Training; Crossways International biblical Studies Leadership Training; Pampered Chef International Leadership Training

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Teacher, Confirmation and Communications Director, Family Life Minister, Women’s Bible Study leader, VBS Coordinator

District: Co-Chair for Task Force regarding Sexuality; Jr. High Youth Gathering Planning Committee; Youth Summit Committee member; 500th Anniversary Reformation Service Planning Committee

Community: Chamber of Commerce Support Staff, Leadership Macomb Class

Other: Participated in mission trips to Brazil and Haiti with LCMS congregations and LEAD; Women of the Pearl Mission Trip to Uganda

Metro West Region

Ordained Minister (Vote for 1)

*** Andrew Gruenhagen**

38580 Shelby Drive, Westland MI 48186

Age: 43

Current Position: Pastor, St. Michael Lutheran Church, Wayne

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Chicago; Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor; Hope, St. Helen; Pastor, St. Michael, Wayne

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Michigan District Nominating Committee

Community: Richmond Township Library Board Member, City of Wayne Police Chaplain

Other: Congregation Coordinator for Thrivent Chapter, Board of Directors for MOST Ministries, INC.

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

*** Matthew Dummann**

164 Berkley, Dearborn MI 48124

Age: 35

Current Position: Principal, Guardian Lutheran School, Dearborn

Home Congregation: Guardian, Dearborn

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Wisconsin

Additional Training: Graduate of SLED

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Principal and Teacher, Our Saviour, Bronx, N.Y.

District: Michigan District Nominating Committee; Atlantic District Board of Directors; Atlantic District Floor Committee for the District Convention

Layperson (Vote for 1)

*** Philip Krauss II**

32223 Bertram, Westland MI 48185

Age: 57

Current Position: Higher Education Administration

Home Congregation: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Livonia

Education: Adrian College, Marygrove College

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Chairman/President, Vice-President, Church Council, Personnel Committee, Elder, Usher, Bible Study and Small Group Leader

District/Synod: Michigan District Nominating Committee

Other: Board of Directors' Chairman and other various positions, Lutheran Laymen's League and Lutheran Hour Ministries

North & East Region

Ordained Minister (Vote for 1)

Derek Riddle

2036 White Birch Lane, Rogers City MI 49779

Age: 46

Current Position: Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church, Rogers City

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Wisconsin; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Additional Training: Doxology Program Graduate; Pastoral Leadership Institute participant

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Immanuel, Lindenwood, Ill.; Pastor, Christ, Delavan, Ill./St. Luke's, San Jose, Ill.; Pastor, Peace, Rogers City

Circuit: Secretary, Here We Stand Circuit Coordinator

District: Northern Illinois District Pastors' Conference & Regional Pastors' Conference Program Committees

Community: 4-H Expansion Committee, Rogers City Area Ministerial Association, Salvation Army Volunteer Service Co-Representative for Presque Isle County, Rogers City Area Schools Sex Education Curriculum Review Committee, Presque Isle County Suicide Prevention Team, Presque Isle Basketball Association Volunteer Coach

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

***Stephanie Baarck**

932 Eastgate Court, Frankenmuth MI 48734

Age: 49

Current Position: Teacher and Instructional Tech Coach, St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth

Home Congregation: St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Chicago

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Teacher, Sunday school office

District: Michigan District Nominating Committee

Community: Sports Coach, Girl Scout Leader

Layperson (Vote for 1)

*** John Nutzmann**

11878 Parklane, Mt. Morris MI 48458

Age: 69

Current Position: Retired Teacher, Clio Area Schools

Home Congregation: Messiah Lutheran Church, Clio

Education: Central Michigan University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Congregational Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Financial Secretary, Stewardship Disciple, Elder, Confirmation teacher, Building Committee, Pastoral Call Committee, 50th Anniversary Committee

Circuit: Member of the Mission Action Council, Flint Tri-Circuits

District/Synod: Michigan District Nominating Committee Chairman; Michigan District Convention Lay Delegate; LCMS Convention Lay Delegate

Community: School Improvement Committee, Vice-President of AAL Branch, Thrivent Congregational Advocate and Branch Coordinator, School Negotiations Committee, Mt. Morris Athletic Boosters, Mt. Morris Football Announcer, Mt. Morris Basketball time-keeper

West Region

Ordained Minister (Vote for 1)

Robert Riggs

220 South 7th Street, Carson City MI 48811

Age: 60

Current Position: Pastor, Calvary Lutheran Church, Carson City

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Ann Arbor; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Additional Training: Pastoral Leadership Institute (PLI); National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors Training

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor; Faith, Silver Bay, Minn./Hope, Two Harbors, Minn.; Pastor, Lord of the Lakes, Chicago City, Minn.; Pastor, Hope, Condit, Ohio; Pastor, Calvary, Carson City

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Board of Missions, Minnesota North District; Registrar, Ohio District

Community: Board member for Friends Who Share

Thomas W. Vanderbilt

2689 Valdez Dr., Lansing MI 48911

Age: 46

Current Position: Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Holt

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia University, River Forest, Ill.; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Bronze Star for Meritorious Service (U.S. Army)

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Assistant Pastor, St. Martin, Clintonville, Wisc.; Assoc. Pastor, St. Paul, Sheboygan Falls, Wisc.; Army Chaplain; Pastor, Ascension, Madison, Tenn.; Pastor, Messiah, Holt

District: Deacon Advisory Board, MSD; Youth Ministry Board, SWD

Other: Secretary, Mid-Michigan Lutheran High School Assoc.; American Legion

Commissioned Minister (Vote for 1)

Thomas Chester

5555 Van Atta Rd, Haslett MI 48840

Age: 53

Current Position: Youth Director, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Haslett

Home Congregation: St. Luke Lutheran Church, Haslett

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Ann Arbor

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Youth Director, Teacher/Mentor of students

Luke Esselman

305 Cleveland Street E, Coopersville MI 49404

Age: 31

Current Position: Director of Youth and Family Life, Grace Lutheran Church, Coopersville

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church, Coopersville

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia University Chicago

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Director of Youth and Family Life

District/Synod: Michigan District Jr. High Youth Gathering Planning Committee Chairman

Other: Camp Concordia Board of Directors Vice-President

Layperson (Vote for 1)

*** William Boice**

17371 Lake Beach Drive, Spring Lake MI 49456

Age: 75

Current Position: Retired Manufacturing Engineer

Home Congregation: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Spring Lake

Education: Michigan State University

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Congregation: Elder, Chairman of Elders, Bible study leader, Chairman of Call Committee

District/Synod: Michigan District Nominating Committee; Michigan District Convention Lay Delegate

Other: John E. Herrmann Michigan District Stewardship Award recipient; Siberian Lutheran Mission Society Board of Directors; Camp Arcadia Staff Volunteer

LCMS COMMITTEE FOR CONVENTION NOMINATIONS

Professional Church Worker (Vote for 1, then vote for 1 alternate)

Mark Brandt

9042 W. Tuscola, Frankenmuth MI 48734

Age: 63

Current Position: Lead Pastor, St. Lorenz Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth

Education/Degrees/Honors: M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.; Outstanding Alumnus Award, Concordia University Ann Arbor

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor – St. John, Beemer, Neb.; Pastor, Trinity, Buchanan; Associate/Lead Pastor, St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Chairman, North and West Pastors' Conference; District Mission and Ministry Commission; Board of Directors; District Vice President

Synod: Convention delegate

Community: Little League Coach; Rotary Club president

Other: LLL Zone Pastoral Advisor

Erik Cloeter

PO Box 10, 509 Butler St., Clio MI 48420

Age: 46

Current Position: Senior Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Clio

Education/Degrees/Honors: B.A., Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn.; M.Div., Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Bethlehem, Wales, Wisc.; Assoc. Pastor, Messiah, Clio; Senior Pastor, Messiah, Clio

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Convention Floor Committee; Chair, Convention Elections Committee; Chair, North/East Pastors' Conference

Synod: Convention delegate (2010)

Community: Coach, girls' soccer and basketball

Other: Liaison to Miracle Connect, Muslim outreach

Michael Lutz

8665 Elizabeth Ann Street, Shelby Twp. MI 48317

Age: 72

Current Position: Emeritus Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Macomb

Education/Degrees/Honors: Concordia College, Ann Arbor; Concordia Senior College Ft. Wayne; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

HISTORY OF SERVICE – PAST AND CURRENT

Service: Pastor, Trinity, Jasper, Minn.; Pastor, St. John, Northbrook, Ill.; Senior Pastor, Immanuel, Macomb

Circuit: Circuit Visitor

District: Evangelism Board Chairman; Program Committee of Pastoral Conference; Evangelism and Church Growth Board; Mission and Ministry Commission Chairman

Synod: Synod Task Force on Evangelism through Christian Day School; Synod Great Commission Convocation presenter; Pastoral Leadership Institute Mentor; Michigan Church Extension Board; Synod's PALS Program Leader

Community: St. John Hospital Community Advisory Committee

Section 4 - District Reports

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102nd Convention of the Michigan District – Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

June 24–26, 2018

Ann Arbor, Michigan

DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The theme for the 2018 Convention of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod completes our emphasis on Synod's 3 foci (*Witness, Mercy, Life Together*) with *Witness*, under the theme of **"IMAGINE ... Living as God's Saved and Sent Servants."** This theme recognizes, encourages, and highlights our **life** and **ministry** as "Witness," that is, testimony and demonstration of the reality of God's saving love and power ... inside, but especially outside, the walls of our congregations. As we discover in Holy Scriptures, "Witness" is a part of our DNA. Jesus states, "*you are the salt of the earth*" (Mt. 5:13) and "*you are the light of the world*" (Mt. 5:14); and the Holy Spirit inspired the great Apostle to write to us in *Philippians 2:15*: "*shine as lights in the world,*" as "*blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation.*" The 2018 convention theme, like the previous two Michigan District Convention themes (2012 and 2015), is undergirded and based on *Ephesians 3:20–21*: "*Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*"

To more fully understand the fullness and direction of the 2018 Michigan District Convention theme, it would be good to review the last two convention themes. The theme of the Michigan District 2012 Convention—"IMAGINE...Living as God's Forgiven and Forgiving Family"—emphasized "Life Together," a fellowship of the saints here below but also with those above in heaven. We are at our best when we live in the strength of the Lord and share His forgiveness with one another. That forgiveness and fellowship serve as a marvelous witness to a watching world. **"IMAGINE ... Living as God's Loved and Compassionate Community"** was the theme for

the 2015 Convention of the Michigan District. We are not only to show **"Mercy"** to one another within the body of Christ, but also to those who are not yet a part of our congregations. We demonstrate and share mercy; we invite and welcome through acts of mercy because Christ extends Himself through us by revealing and demonstrating His love.

This report is presented with the hopeful, prayerful outcome that we *IMAGINE* what our congregations and members would look like if they deliberately live and act in faith as God's "Saved and Sent Servants." May our faith and attitude reflect the vision of a "People of Hope" inspired by our dependence on, devotion to, and commitment to the Word of God, worship, prayer, and each other that moves us to share the love of Christ with our family, friends, neighbors, communities, and the world.

District Ministry Direction



This past triennium began with the Michigan District Board of Directors reviewing the Board Policy Manual. We thank God for this guidance and direction as the board, made up of elected members—one pastor, one commissioned worker, and two lay people from each of the District's four regions, met to look over the Michigan District Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and the Critical Targets. The **Mission Statement**, reflecting the Synod Mission Statement, is: "*In grateful response to God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, the mission of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is vigorously to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches (congregations), communities, and world*" which fits perfectly with our 2018 Convention theme.

Our District **Vision Statement** is one of confident, hope-filled direction that comes from faith in Jesus Christ. It reads, "*Our congregations are filled to overflowing with people of HOPE! Our living hope, indeed our joyful and confident life and witness to the world, comes from the transforming power of the Gospel and the resurrected Christ who has graced us with an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for ALL who believe*

in Him as Savior and Lord (1 Peter 1:4). This living hope inspires our dependence on, devotion to, and commitment to the Word of God, worship, prayer, and each other that moves us to share the love of Christ with our family, friends, neighbors, communities, and the world in word and deed.”

These Mission and Vision Statements guided the direction of our planning and activities as we prepared for, and executed, ministry. Striving to take the love of Christ into the world, our ministry direction is also framed by four **Critical Targets**, which were established by the Board of Directors. “Critical Targets” inform our District staff as to what the Board would like accomplished and established. They also serve as one tool for monitoring and measuring staff ministry.

The first Critical Target is **Great Commission Ministry**. Being *People of Hope*, Michigan District congregations and ministries will share the Good News of Jesus with people who do not know him.

The second Critical Target recognizes the importance of living out the Great Commission through **Great Compassion Ministry**. This Critical Target specifically reads: Being *People of Hope*, Michigan District congregations and ministries will seek out and compassionately attend to people in need.

In the third Critical Target, **Healthy Congregations** are the focus. Healthy congregations intentionally bring Jesus to their communities and beyond and then bring their communities to Jesus in their congregations, especially through Word and Sacrament ministries. The third Critical Target reads: Being *People of Hope*, Michigan District congregations have Christ-centered ministries, loving and joyful atmospheres, and sustainable organizational systems.

The fourth and final Critical Target, **Healthy Church Workers**, recognizes and encourages the God-pleasing efforts of our professional church workers as we thank and praise God for them! Being *People of Hope*, Michigan District church workers have Christ-centered lives, loving and joyful spirits, and stable family and professional systems.

District Organization and Structure

As the District staff focuses upon the four Critical Targets and works to accomplish them, the Board of Directors uses a series of outcomes to monitor District ministry and, where possible, to measure it. Reports on the Critical Targets are presented at each Board of Directors’ meeting.

In addition to the ecclesiastical supervision and administration of the President’s office, there are

five other departments that are overseen. The five departments are:

- **Congregation Mission and Ministries**
- **Lutheran Day Schools**
- **Communications**
- **Development**
- **Business/Finance**

Reports from each of these departments are included in Workbooks I and II. We thank God for the men and women who lead these departments and for the privilege of serving the Michigan District together in ministry. However, please allow me to share a few particular highlights:

The **Here We Stand** ministry campaign—which recognizes the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and Martin Luther’s God-given love for, and bold defense of the Good

News of the Gospel, and the future of those bold proclamations for generations to come—was passed at our last District Convention in 2015. **Here We Stand** will continue as a major emphasis within the Michigan District. Mr. Ray Zavada, who heads up this ministry effort, is as tireless in his hard work as he is creative in his encouragements and motivations for all to experience the blessing of participation. Who can forget the **Here We Stand** 500th Anniversary Service at the Breslin Center: the different choirs that supplied special music before and during the service; President Patrick Ferry’s inspiring message: “Here We Stand; And Here We Go;” our little South African friend’s big “sending” words; the singing of “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” by more than 13,000 brothers and sisters in Christ which still echoes in our hearts and minds; and the regional ingathering of goods to bless numerous ministries in the greater Lansing area? (Special thanks to Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper and his team for this amazing service.) Together, may we continue to thank the Lord and look forward to other such occasions for worship and celebration. To date, about one third of all congregations of the District are participating in the campaign. We look forward to all congregations participating in whatever way God inspires them to do so.



Here We Stand

Recognizing that ministry is accomplished at the congregational level, our Congregation Mission and Ministry Facilitators (CMMFs) continue to work in geographical zones to strengthen faith-filled ministry efforts among local congregations in their zones. They pray for, look for, and encourage creative, cooperative, and coordinated ministry efforts among their congregations which reach the

lost and disciple the saved. **Recognizing the vital importance of our mission and evangelism efforts in all of our congregations**, Rev. Bill Woolsey and the FiveTwo Network were contracted to help us see, and prayerfully discover and develop, unique ministry opportunities—and even find the resources to begin and accomplish them—that would facilitate new relationships with as many individuals as possible wherever God has “planted” us. Serving others in love as God served and saved us in His perfect love is what He called us to do wherever we are living. These new relationships prayerfully allow a sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ—crucified and risen for the sins of the world—with those that God allows us to serve. How blessed are we that the Holy Spirit has gifted ALL His children—laity and church workers alike—with particular gifts, aptitudes, and abilities that He desires to use so that we may “*shine as lights (stars) in the world*” (Phil.2:15)—a lost and dying world.

Rev. Todd Jones, called from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, not only continues the efforts of Rev. Bill Woolsey, but is charged with Mission Education and Support in the District, helping us to discover, develop, expand, and educate the District about relevant, sustainable, and exciting mission, outreach, and evangelism opportunities. Having joined us in July of 2017, what a tremendous blessing he has already been to the Michigan District!

During the past triennium, a task force/study group known as the **Youth Summit** was put together to examine youth ministry in the present and especially, where possible, for the future. The dominant question was, “What would be needed and what would we like Youth Ministry to look like in the year 2030 if we had opportunity to influence a preferred outcome and future?” Inevitably, the Youth Summit tasked itself with determining both (a) a clearly defined preferred future for youth and youth ministry in our congregations and District; and (b) a clear path on how to get there. Members and contributors for the Summit came not only from District congregations but also from around Synod. We hope to both share and implement the outcomes that were determined. There is the possibility that this could take place at our District Convention, and certainly will be shared in the near future.

Other Thoughts and Considerations...

During the past three years, God has been gracious in His leading of the Michigan District in many different ways. He continues to bless us under the direction and encouragement found in *Psalms 9 verse 1*: “*I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.*” The following is a brief, but not exhaustive, review of a number of those

“*wonderful deeds*” and blessings. Please join me in giving thanks to the Lord for ...

Our **Michigan District congregations, their lay leaders and members**, who regularly come together to worship our Lord and Savior, celebrate the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, and continue to be equipped to carry on the work of ministry and service, “*so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ*” (Ephesians 4:12, 13). Having been in many of our congregations over the past three years, I continually give thanks to the Lord for their unique characteristics, their diversity of gifts and assets, and particularly for their individual beauty as “the bride of Christ.” Yet, I am also grateful for our common confession of faith, our unity in the Gospel, and our Holy-Spirit-wrought conviction in the power of its proclamation and administration as current members are disciplined and new members are won by the Holy Spirit.

- ALL our **District Pastors**, especially those called here from outside the District or assigned here from one of our seminaries, who continue to carry on vital and vibrant Gospel ministry in challenging times. Many of them have also, at their monthly Circuit Meetings or Winkels, graciously welcomed the CMMFs and me as we shared in Bible study and worship. In addition, we were often asked to give a report on the continuing work of our Lord in and through the ministries of the District.
- **All church workers** – Principals, teachers, and preschool directors; DCEs (Directors of Christian Education); DCOs (Directors of Christian Outreach); DFLs (Directors of Family Life), church musicians and the like, who train our children, enhance our lives with sound, Biblical teaching, and who continually work to remove any obstacles from the clear proclamation of the Gospel, and enrich our worship experience. I also count it a privilege to be in ministry with you, and to attend your conferences when possible.
- His goodness as seen in the vibrant presence and assured hope-filled future of **Concordia University Ann Arbor (CUAA)** through the partnership with Concordia University Wisconsin (CUW). We are blessed especially with the outstanding leadership of President Patrick Ferry; Mr. Curt Gielow, Campus Executive; Rev. John Rathje, Dean of Students; and Dr. Ryan Peterson, Campus Pastor. With the addition of the



North Building off of Plymouth Rd., which houses the School of Nursing, and other medical science majors like Physical Therapy, Athletic Training, and the like, our university continues to grow, and has many more opportunities of witnessing to a loving Creator and Savior.

- The willing spirit of the **Registered Service Organizations** (RSOs) in the Michigan District to meet together as *Michigan Lutheran Leaders and Ministries (MLLM)*. As they meet to discuss the role that each organization has in contributing to the health and continuing vitality of God’s Kingdom and then discover what we can do better **TOGETHER** than we could ever imagine doing separately, we are reminded that God “... is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to *His* power that is at work within *us*” (Ephesians 3:20).
- In particular, the leadership of Mr. Dave Gehm at **Wellspring Lutheran Services**, a dynamic social ministry (a combination of the former *Lutheran Child and Family Service and Lutheran Homes of Michigan*). In addition to the many services they provide around the state, they have been most gracious in supplying quality child care for our pastors’ families at our All Pastors’ Conferences (APCs) in the fall. We pray for, and anticipate, God’s continued working through the influence and efforts of Wellspring Lutheran Services for everyone in the State of Michigan.



- The many people working tirelessly through the Michigan District’s Acts 2 Enterprise (A2E) and the Franklin Avenue Mission in Flint. Although any **urban ministry** is full of unique challenges, I am grateful for those who, with the help of God, see beyond the obstacles and challenges to the **possibili-**

ties. I especially thank God for Rev. Christopher Bodley, Dr. Ingrid Draper, Rev. Steven Essenburg, Rev. James Hill, Ms. Michele Jones, and Rev. Dr. Bradley Yops, and his team, along with numerous others who seek out and compassionately attend to people in need as *People of Hope*.

- Mr. James Saalfeld—the new CEO of the Michigan District **Church Extension Fund** (CEF), Mr. John Bates, Mr. Paul Wills, and the rest of the CEF team and their Board of Directors. Jim Saalfeld’s new vision and leadership, his entire team’s and Board’s



expertise in running CEF, and their resultant success under God’s watchful eye, is—without reservation—one of the Michigan District’s foremost blessings. Their combined wisdom during times of economic uncertainty and adversity is only exceeded by their ministry heart and vision for the expansion of God’s Kingdom in the District.

- Those who planned, hosted, and participated in the Michigan District **Theological Conferences**. As we continue to respond to requests of laity and clergy within the District, we look forward to sponsoring future Theological Conferences on helpful topics. We especially thank God for the excellent speakers that have traveled to Michigan to present on the topics of *Let’s Talk Life; Let’s Talk Male and Female; and Take Heart, Take Action*. We look forward to sponsoring future Theological Conferences on helpful topics, including next year’s conference at Our Savior Lutheran Church and School in Lansing once again. This Theological Conference, scheduled for February 2, 2019, will be on the topic of **Prayer**. Please join us and bring your congregation, family, and friends.
- The commitment, dedication, and hard work of those **who have served on the various conference committees**. You continue to challenge us with helpful conference topics that also direct us to Calvary’s bloodstained cross and Easter’s open tomb. I am also thankful for Mrs. Debra Hughes, the District’s Event Coordinator, who helps with the planning, and contributes to the overall blessing of these conferences in an efficient and effective manner.
- Our **Communications Department**, whose tireless efforts to promote the events and ministries of the District through webinars, Enews, Social Media, blogging, and the *Michigan In Touch*, are a wonderful blessing to the Michigan District and exemplary to many. They strive to share “Hope” stories from congregations, promote helpful resources, and brainstorm with other District leaders for continued effective communication avenues. I am grateful for the joyful service of Mrs. Debby Fall, Mr. Seth Hinz, Mrs. Linda Ekong, Mrs. Elisa Schulz, and Mrs. Jenna Szpara.
- The particular blessing, partnership, and friendship that I’ve shared throughout this past triennium with the **Vice-Presidents** of the Michigan District: First Vice-President Mark Brandt, Second Vice-President Donald Neuendorf, Third Vice-President David Davis and Fourth Vice-President John Duerr. These are wonderful men of God through whom the Church is very well served. I count it a



distinct privilege and blessing to serve with them and greatly anticipate our time and discussions together along with their “always wise” counsel. The District has been greatly blessed by their service both regionally and collectively. I especially want to recognize Rev. Don Neuendorf, who chose not to let his name stand in nomination for Metro-West Regional Vice President. A contemplative, godly, and prayerful brother and friend, his guidance will be missed on the praesidium but still appreciated through other deliberate get-togethers.

- The **Michigan District Board of Directors**, for their leadership in the District and their hard work. Mr. Steve Boergert has served admirably as Chairman of the Board for the past three years. We also thank God for Rev. David Reed’s twelve years of service as Board Secretary, and Mrs. Bonnie Mann who ably accomplished her duties as Treasurer of the District with the help of Mr. Chad Woltemath.
- For all our **Circuit Visitors**, who diligently work behind the scenes to facilitate the healthy ministries of local congregations and the continued well-being of the church workers in their circuit. For the many other individuals who, although unelected, volunteer their time and talents to serve others within the District on many of the **task forces and committees of the district**. As God has blessed our efforts in His Name in the past, He will surely continue His work through us in the future.
- All of the **District Staff**, many of whom have not yet been mentioned. They are a remarkable group of individuals who begin each work day with devotions that include daily prayers for a congregation or ministry in the District, four District church workers, and any special requests for personal concerns and joys. Through the adopted *Holy Manners* covenant, we enjoy working together motivated by excellence in serving the Lord Jesus Christ, congregations, and professional church workers. I cannot thank God enough for the privilege of working with such committed and dedicated brothers and sisters in Christ. In particular, I would invite you to join me in giving special gratitude to God for the service of Mrs. Julie Strobl (and her sidekick, Mrs. Laurie Brown), Executive Assistant to the President. She is God’s special servant, a prayer warrior, and loves serving whoever is in the President’s Office. Without her professional service, joyful demeanor, leadership, prayers, and attention to details, the ministry in the President’s Office would not only be ‘unending,’ but impossible.
- Last but not least, **my wife Pat**. I can’t write or say enough about her. She is a wonder! In ways that can’t be described, she stalwartly remains

an amazing support, my best friend, and a wonderful ministry partner. She loves all our pastors’ wives and prays for them. Her understanding of the role they can play in their husband’s ministry, and the difficult demands that can be placed on them, has proved invaluable. The Katie Conference, the conference for pastors’ wives, has received her special attention and is something near and dear to her heart. I ask and pray that you make it possible for your pastors’ wife (maybe your wife) to attend this excellent opportunity for Bible Study, fellowship, a unique strengthening of the body of Christ, and fun. I am thankful for Pat, and I continue to be energized by her faith, her commitment, and her love.

In the years that lie ahead, before our next District Convention in 2021, may we make a special effort to **read, meditate upon, and study the Word of God**. There, in the Holy Scriptures, we will continue to find God’s truth, a truth that will expose our sin and selfishness, and a truth that will show us the Savior who forgives our sin, gives us the Holy Spirit, and strengthens us to walk with the Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to see and confess our sin and selfishness and also to see, in the ever-changing landscape, the almost innumerable opportunities to serve God and others. The world may be changing around us but the Word of God—and the attendant Holy Spirit—will anchor us in truth but allow us to appropriately adapt to, and communicate with our family, our friends, our neighbors, and the world, the saving message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

May we pray that as we carry on ministry to the present generation and the generations yet to come, that God will not only bless our efforts, but that we will humble ourselves before His throne of mercy and grace, that we may know and do what God wants to bless. As we give witness to one another and to a world desperate to know His Way, His Truth, and His Love in Christ Jesus our Lord, may we, as *People of Hope*, joyfully, expectantly, **IMAGINE ... Living As God’s Saved and Sent Servants**, and know that because of Jesus, the BEST is ALWAYS yet to come!

To God be all the glory. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

DISTRICT SECRETARY REPORT

Nominations to 2018 Michigan District Convention May 5, 2018

The following nominations were received from congregations of the Michigan District for consideration by the District Convention.

District President

Paul M. Clark	1	Declined
Dean M. Davenport	3	Accepted
David A. Davis	3	Accepted
David P.E. Maier	63	Accepted
Donald O. Neuendorf	2	Declined
David H. Reed	1	Declined

Regional Vice Presidents

North and East Region

George S. Bagnall	1	Accepted
Jonathon J. Bakker	2	Accepted
* Mark D. Brandt	9	Accepted
Daniel G. Burhop	1	Accepted
* Erik K. Cloeter	11	Accepted
J. Derek Riddle	1	Accepted

Metro East Region

* John M. Duerr	7	Accepted
* Greg S. Griffith	3	Accepted
Kenneth M. Wise	2	Accepted

Metro West Region

* Dean M. Davenport	5	Accepted
Donald O. Neuendorf	9	Declined
* Justin P. Rossow	1	Accepted

West Region

* Craig L. Bickel	1	Accepted
* David A. Davis	10	Accepted
David C. Fleming	1	Declined
Bradley B. Hubbard	3	Accepted
Michael J. Roth	1	Accepted
Thomas W. Vanderbilt	1	Accepted

Total Congregations Submitting Nominations

For President - 73

For Regional Vice-President

North/East - 25

Metro East - 12

Metro West - 15

West - 17

* Regional nominees selected by nominating ballot according to Bylaw 5.10e at the regional pre-convention meetings for submission to the convention for final election.

Respectfully submitted,



David H. Reed, Michigan District Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“People of Hope”

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance” (Eph. 1:18).

Because of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection for the whole world, we are people who have the greatest and most certain hope, Christ Himself!

Your Michigan District Board of Directors (BOD) meets five times each calendar year for day-long, face-to-face meetings. The normal rhythm of our meetings is a time to hear and focus on God’s Word, hear the President’s report on the state of the District and the Synod, monitor the work of our wonderful district staff, receive and review financial statements and the annual audit report, address property items before us, discuss books and other materials appropriate for our growth, and review our Policy Manual and its work for guiding and supporting the District President.

Your BOD is made up of four Directors from each of the four regions of our District: two lay members, one commissioned minister, and one ordained minister. These members, along with the District President, Vice Presidents, Circuit Visitor Chairman, and District Secretary make up the BOD.

Over the last triennium, we were able to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation together at the Breslin Center in East Lansing. This was a wonderful time to hear God’s Word and to celebrate the work of our Savior Jesus Christ. Having over 13,000 of God’s people together in one place was, for many, a once-in-a-lifetime celebration. We give thanks for the Holy Spirit’s work among our churches; we give thanks for the staff’s work in organizing this worship time; and we give thanks for CEF’s support of this event. To God be the glory!

The four Critical Targets focus our district work on Great Commission Ministry, Great Compassion Ministry, Healthy Congregations, and Healthy Church Workers. By Great Commission Ministry, the BOD means letting the light of Jesus’ love shine through our congregations as we “Go and Make Disciples...” by the power and blessing of the Holy Spirit. Great Compassion Ministry means the work of caring for God’s people, putting our love into action, and blessing those whom Jesus loves. We mean by Healthy Congregations that each distinct congregation has a unique ministry and a different community to minister in, yet there are some

common items that allow ministry to go forth. A focus on the Word of God, unity and love among God’s people, the blessing of God’s people working together and the financial resources to carry out the ministry are some of the major aspects that make up healthy congregations. By Healthy Church Workers we mean that we long for our church workers to be strong in the Lord, spiritually healthy, emotionally supported when the challenges of life and ministry overwhelm them, and physically healthy so that they have the energy and physical strength to carry out their callings. The BOD monitors, prays, and works to be improving in these four areas.

Over the past three years, we have seen our Concordia University Ann Arbor’s ministry grow in its work and influence in our region of the LCMS. We give thanks for Dr. Ferry and CUW’s leadership and partnership and look forward to the years to come.

We have celebrated the new key staff additions in our District of Rev. Todd Jones as an Assistant to the President in the area of Mission Development. We have also welcomed Mr. Travis Grulke as the new Superintendent of our Schools. All the staff are a great blessing to our walking together as the LCMS here in the Michigan District.

We have also had some good dialogues with the CCM about bylaw items that are before our church body. The issues before our whole church are different than they were twenty years ago in our country. How do we navigate those changes? The District also functions as Synod in this place and how do we best serve the congregations and called workers of the Michigan District? These discussions and work will continue in the next few years.

Our Fiduciary responsibilities make up a big part of our work. Reviewing our financial records, discussion around our financial policies, and making sure that the properties of the District are administered wisely are all things we discuss. We spend time almost every meeting looking at the properties the District holds and making sure that when properties need to be sold, it is done wisely, fairly, and in accord with good business practices.

At the end of this Convention, we will say goodbye to many faithful servants on our Board. The positions are limited to two six-year terms. We have seen God’s faithfulness in bringing new Directors with their unique gifts onto the Board. God is faithful, and God’s people who serve in our Michigan District

are wonderfully faithful also! To those elected to serve on the BOD, welcome. To those coming off the Board, we will miss you and we give thanks to God for your service!

In the busyness and business of the District, items are always before us. Yet Jesus has called us out of darkness. And because Jesus laid down His life for His sheep, because Jesus has conquered the grave, because Jesus has given us the keys to the kingdom, because Jesus partners with us and has called us to take His love out to the people of Michigan and beyond, we are empowered to be People of Hope! May we live, celebrate, and share the hope that lies within us!

To God be the glory,

The Michigan District Board of Directors

BUSINESS/FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod continues to be blessed with financial resources to carry out mission and ministry. The district maintains a strong financial position due to congregations continuing to support their collective work through the district, partnerships with Church Extension Fund (CEF) and other entities, and the continuing development of individual donors.

The district's net assets (equity) increased \$4,549,336 from \$12,242,958 to \$16,792,294 over the past triennium. While the District doesn't exist to build stronger financial statements, several items contribute to this increase, including the following. Approximately \$1,811,000 of the increase is the net change in assets (cash and pledges) from *The Future is Now* and **Here We Stand** capital campaigns for mission and ministry over the next several years. In addition, the District Endowment Fund increased \$866,000, including **Here We Stand** gifts of \$747,000. The District paid down long-term debt by \$926,000, much of that relating to the \$1.2 million loan from CEF for the District's participation the prior triennium in the combining of Concordia University Ann Arbor and Concordia University Wisconsin. The District introduced a Returnable Funding model of supporting new mission and ministry endeavors, where all or half of the mission advance is repaid (interest free) over 20 years, providing another source of cash flow for New Start endeavors in the future. Under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, the District must record the net present value of these repayments as assets on its books. In effect, \$559,000 that previously would have been expensed under traditional mission support programs is no longer expensed and increases net assets.

Actual unrestricted cash receipts from congregations averaged \$4.7 million the past 3 years, down approximately \$175,000 from the prior triennium, and off the high of \$6.4 million in 2001. (Note the Statement of Activities shows bigger swings due to the timing of receipt of congregation commitment forms.) As is done each triennium, a detailed report of this giving is attached to this report.

During the years ending 1/31/16 and 1/31/17, the district sent 39.5% of the District/Synod congregation offerings on to Synod for national and international ministry. The district sent 35% for

the year ending 1/31/18. Over the triennium, the district directly allocated over \$4.5 million in mission work (new mission starts, urban and cross-cultural, campus ministry, world missions, etc.), including the returnable portion of support discussed above.

Following is the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities as included in the Annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for the year ended January 31, 2018. The statement of cash flows and the notes are an integral part of the financial statements, but are not presented here. A complete copy of the financial statements is available from the District Office by calling 888.225.2111.

Michigan District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Statement of Financial Position
January 31, 2018
(With Comparative Information for 2017 and 2016)

	January 31, 2018			January 31, 2017	January 31, 2016
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted		
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 208,735	\$ 181,833	\$ -	\$ 458,350	\$ 497,100
Investments	3,843,337	5,722,171	1,213,309	9,018,055	7,449,800
Accounts receivable - net	16,216	-	-	18,520	6,136
Contributions and grants receivable	-	4,038,355	-	4,117,939	3,500,195
Prepaid expenses	97,321	-	-	83,745	99,015
Notes and loans receivable	2,664,120	325,151	-	2,383,058	2,994,624
Funds held in custody by others	70,020	-	249,356	287,000	277,835
Property and equipment - net	3,457,019	-	-	3,802,562	3,952,581
Property held for sale - net	60,000	-	-	60,000	60,000
Total assets	\$ 10,416,768	\$ 10,267,510	\$ 1,462,665	\$ 20,229,229	\$ 18,837,286
Liabilities and Net Assets					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	128,716	-	-	84,957	107,225
Due to affiliated organizations	218,232	-	-	251,216	248,836
Deferred revenue	61,345	-	-	73,084	53,857
Synodical pledge	1,522,500	-	-	1,522,500	1,718,250
Grants payable	348,542	-	-	138,387	10,000
Notes payable	2,559,354	-	-	2,451,103	3,119,295
Funds held for other entities	-	515,960	-	486,916	465,803
Total liabilities	4,838,689	515,960	-	5,008,163	5,723,266
Net assets					
Unrestricted	5,578,079	-	-	5,161,531	4,937,249
Temporarily restricted	-	9,751,550	-	8,629,294	6,753,757
Permanently restricted	-	-	1,462,665	1,430,241	1,423,014
Total net assets	5,578,079	9,751,550	1,462,665	15,221,066	13,114,020
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 10,416,768	\$ 10,267,510	\$ 1,462,665	\$ 20,229,229	\$ 18,837,286

Michigan District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended January 31, 2018

(With Comparative Information for 2017 and 2016)

	January 31, 2018				Total	January 31, 2017		January 31, 2016	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted		Permanently Restricted		2017	2016		
		\$	\$					\$	\$
Support, Revenues and Gains									
Support									
District congregation - District and Synod	351,545	4,262,488	-	-	4,614,033	4,265,188	-	4,575,019	
District congregation - District only	25,370	280,706	-	-	306,076	195,184	-	312,067	
Other gifts and grants	14,410	2,184,251	6,918	-	2,205,579	3,113,074	-	1,486,165	
Revenues and gains									
Publications	48,597	-	-	-	48,597	47,971	-	48,468	
Program fees	819,966	-	-	-	819,966	395,506	-	434,734	
Convention registration and combined assessment	151,443	-	-	-	151,443	153,758	-	185,134	
Investment income	126,672	449,290	25,506	-	601,468	392,182	-	94,515	
Gain (loss) on sale of assets	(10,747)	-	-	-	(10,747)	6,060	-	313,846	
Other	46,700	-	-	-	46,700	49,500	-	48,509	
Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center income	59,788	-	-	-	59,788	89,124	-	97,318	
Net assets released from restrictions	6,054,479	(6,054,479)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total support, revenues and gains	<u>7,688,223</u>	<u>1,122,256</u>	<u>32,424</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,842,903</u>	<u>8,707,547</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,595,775</u>	
Expenses									
Synodical budget	1,559,996	-	-	-	1,559,996	1,531,999	-	1,788,300	
Program services									
Missions	1,631,000	-	-	-	1,631,000	1,267,960	-	1,124,593	
Congregation ministry facilitators	590,334	-	-	-	590,334	576,143	-	571,895	
Christian care	115,079	-	-	-	115,079	119,347	-	108,748	
Lutheran schools	317,909	-	-	-	317,909	274,087	-	266,015	
Youth ministry	400,098	-	-	-	400,098	82,472	-	47,973	
Loon Lake Lutheran Retreat Center expenses	97,095	-	-	-	97,095	94,188	-	87,573	
Other congregation program services	320,455	-	-	-	320,455	148,210	-	106,687	
Communications	310,623	-	-	-	310,623	296,562	-	308,839	
Student aid	224,544	-	-	-	224,544	240,054	-	225,652	
Development	235,366	-	-	-	235,366	243,135	-	243,188	
Worker care	413,663	-	-	-	413,663	458,517	-	470,504	
Ecclesiastical and program administration									
Administration	823,299	-	-	-	823,299	793,522	-	802,682	
Convention	(8,306)	-	-	-	(8,306)	247,880	-	157,667	
District properties and depreciation	240,520	-	-	-	240,520	226,425	-	414,397	
Total expenses	<u>7,271,675</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,271,675</u>	<u>6,600,501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,724,713</u>	
Change in net assets	416,548	1,122,256	32,424	-	1,571,228	2,107,046	-	871,062	
Net assets - beginning of year	5,161,531	8,629,294	1,430,241	-	15,221,066	13,114,020	-	12,242,958	
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 5,578,079</u>	<u>\$ 9,751,550</u>	<u>\$ 1,462,665</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 16,792,294</u>	<u>\$ 15,221,066</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,114,020</u>	

Michigan District, LCMS
Unrestricted Cash Received From Congregations

ID	City, Congregation	2016 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			Average Per Year Per Confirmed*
			FYE 1/31/2016	FYE 1/31/2017	FYE 1/31/2018	
Circuit 1 - Mackinaw Straits						
500101	Cheboygan, St. John	187	4,000.00	4,800.00	5,975.00	26.34
500102	De Tour Village, Redeemer	9	250.00	500.00	750.00	55.56
500103	Drummond Island, Drummond Island	100	3,375.00	4,500.00	3,375.00	37.50
500104	Engadine, Bethlehem	123	6,347.26	6,392.88	6,035.20	50.88
500105	Curtis, Grace	94	4,246.00	5,412.24	4,865.08	51.50
500106	Hawks, Faith	92	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	65.22
500107	Kincheloe, St. Paul	15	900.00	750.00	150.00	40.00
500108	Rogers City, Immanuel	180	6,400.00	6,779.50	7,000.00	37.37
500109	Newberry, Trinity	112	750.00	1,000.00	1,375.00	9.30
500110	Onaway, Holy Cross	128	1,833.33	-	500.00	6.08
500111	Rogers City, Peace	367	6,356.00	7,233.30	6,743.70	18.47
500112	Rogers City, St. John	282	6,702.00	7,656.50	8,039.00	26.47
500113	Rogers City, St. Michael	256	5,757.55	6,245.25	6,346.50	23.89
500114	Sault Sainte Marie, Saint Barnabas	62	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	64.52
800116	Trout Lake, Trout Lake	Closed	687.41	-	-	
510117	Manistique, Victory	Mission	-	762.00	893.00	
500118	Saint Ignace, Hope	18	-	1,047.11	2,325.92	62.46
Circuit 2 - Alpena						
500201	Alpena, Immanuel	1209	15,000.00	20,000.70	20,004.00	15.17
500202	Harrisville, Faith	20	-	-	-	0.00
500203	Hubbard Lake, St. Paul	243	10,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	30.18
500204	Hillman, St. John	470	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,833.29	21.87
500205	Lewiston, Bethlehem	232	14,476.41	13,813.05	16,337.96	64.12
500206	Ossineke, Good Shepherd	64	100.00	-	50.00	0.78
500207	Alpena, St. Paul	17	600.00	600.00	600.00	35.29
500209	Mio, Living Water	49	2,718.00	2,906.00	2,775.32	57.14
Circuit 3 - Timberline						
500301	Au Gres, St. John	256	6,014.30	7,030.53	6,400.00	25.32
500302	Glennie, Our Savior	30	-	-	-	0.00
500303	Hale, St. Paul	350	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,375.00	17.50
500304	Oscoda, Trinity	316	6,401.07	5,977.74	5,993.20	19.38
500305	Prescott, Faith	275	11,625.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	55.30
500307	Tawas City, Zion	304	6,000.00	5,400.00	6,200.00	19.30
500308	Whittemore, Good News Ministries	71	2,496.10	2,835.18	2,112.12	34.95
Circuit 4 - Gladwin						
500401	Clare, Prince Of Peace	61	3,900.00	3,600.00	3,660.00	60.98
500402	Gladwin, Our Savior	700	12,570.74	10,000.02	10,000.10	15.51
500403	Harrison, St. Luke	171	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	46.78
500404	Houghton Lake, St. John	409	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,600.00	23.47
500405	Saint Helen, Hope	112	900.00	900.00	600.00	7.14
500406	West Branch, St. John	148	6,000.00	2,500.00	3,500.00	27.03
500407	Standish, Bethlehem	177	3,780.00	4,868.00	4,517.00	24.79
Circuit 5 - Midland						
500501	Alma, Peace	112	-	-	-	0.00
500502	Auburn, Grace	303	36,000.00	36,000.00	35,000.00	117.71
500503	Auburn, Zion	855	54,947.08	57,867.97	59,587.58	67.21
500504	Midland, Messiah	1068	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	4.68
500505	Midland, Our Savior	85	4,903.20	5,629.00	2,817.00	52.35
500506	Midland, St. John's	978	66,304.02	76,870.98	65,100.00	70.99
500507	Mount Pleasant, Zion	454	9,999.96	9,999.96	10,833.29	22.64
500509	Sanford, St. Paul	343	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2.92
500510	Wheeler, Immanuel	412	9,000.00	12,000.00	13,000.00	27.51
500511	Midland, Lord Of New Life	123	1,800.00	1,500.00	-	8.94
500512	Brant, St. John	103	1,200.00	2,400.00	1,200.00	15.53
Circuit 6 - Bay City						
500601	Bay City, Faith	878	51,400.00	46,500.00	53,620.00	57.52
500602	Bay City, Immanuel	1050	13,504.78	14,250.00	17,400.00	14.33
500603	Bay City, St. John	383	8,286.30	9,644.30	9,633.50	23.99
500604	Bay City, Trinity	597	6,870.00	26,361.20	12,530.93	25.55
500605	Bay City, Zion	961	22,158.27	2,732.67	40,760.83	22.77
500606	Essexville, Pilgrim	293	1,000.00	1,200.00	1,100.00	3.75
500607	Bay City, St. Paul	770	36,430.67	40,755.62	32,925.73	47.67
500608	Pinconning, St. John	346	16,250.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	44.56
Circuit 7 - Thumb East						
500701	Bad Axe, Our Savior	552	10,189.80	10,424.06	10,567.62	18.83
500702	Kinde, St. Peter	58	4,737.07	5,050.05	5,545.97	88.12
500703	Minden City, Trinity	113	1,232.00	1,158.00	1,594.00	11.75
500704	Harbor Beach, Zion	488	12,738.28	12,538.20	12,797.20	26.01
500705	Palms, St. John	77	295.00	470.00	735.00	6.49
500706	Port Hope, St. John	544	5,031.00	4,703.00	7,280.00	10.43
500707	Port Sanilac, St. John	128	-	7,282.32	2,765.00	26.16
500708	Sandusky, Peace	324	1,000.00	1,033.37	1,350.00	3.48
500709	Marlette, Our Savior	224	6,000.00	5,500.00	4,500.00	23.81

Michigan District, LCMS
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Circuit 8 - Thumb West						
500801	Sebewaing, St. Peter	74	4,795.00	2,703.00	2,653.00	45.73
500802	Pigeon, Good Shepherd	90	4,169.28	4,000.00	3,600.00	43.59
500803	Cass City, Good Shepherd	379	4,875.75	3,689.75	3,277.51	10.42
500805	Sebewaing, St. John	186	4,220.50	3,609.50	4,617.00	22.31
500806	Pigeon, St. Paul	372	2,682.00	2,656.00	4,588.00	8.89
500807	Sebewaing, Immanuel	825	45,034.75	30,100.59	28,019.56	41.68
500808	Unionville, St. Paul	399	13,526.83	14,543.08	12,246.16	33.68
500809	Fairgrove, Grace	142	5,600.00	3,600.00	5,600.00	34.74
Circuit 9 - Frankenmuth						
500901	Caro, St. Paul	635	37,637.29	36,698.02	37,682.19	58.80
500903	Frankenmuth, St. Lorenz	4068	360,000.00	335,000.00	385,000.00	88.50
500904	Millington, St. Paul	1611	19,088.96	14,860.98	16,853.56	10.51
500905	Munger, Trinity-St. James	514	3,000.00	-	1,837.31	3.14
500906	Reese, Trinity	844	17,670.00	15,415.17	18,381.11	20.33
500907	Richville, St. Michael's	1154	66,249.73	66,108.00	57,606.84	54.87
500908	Saginaw, Immanuel	506	21,838.94	20,536.35	19,589.99	40.82
Circuit 10 - Saginaw						
501001	Bridgeport, Faith	496	28,115.28	34,672.24	47,234.65	73.94
501002	Hemlock, St. Peter	1072	36,591.00	36,766.00	27,729.07	31.43
501003	Hemlock, Zion	386	19,223.48	21,396.13	20,220.92	52.54
501004	Owosso, St. Philip	105	2,125.00	2,400.00	2,200.00	21.35
501005	Saginaw, Bethlehem	890	14,178.60	1,338.28	1,848.45	6.50
501006	Saginaw, Good Shepherd	773	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	31.05
501007	Saginaw, Messiah	172	5,000.00	6,500.00	7,000.00	35.85
501008	Saginaw, Peace	1698	72,000.00	69,669.00	62,331.00	40.05
501009	Saginaw, Holy Cross	463	11,050.00	16,000.00	11,055.00	27.43
501011	Saint Charles, Nativity	87	873.00	2,746.00	3,574.05	27.56
501012	Saginaw, St. Mark	472	20,000.00	20,033.38	19,920.00	42.34
511013	Saint Charles, Chesaning Lutheran Mission	Mission	456.06	386.90	11.20	
Circuit 11 - Flint North						
501102	Birch Run, St. Martin	535	3,414.50	2,757.50	2,439.00	5.37
501103	Clio, Messiah	1426	57,750.00	63,000.00	64,000.00	43.19
501104	Flint, Christ The King	31	240.00	250.00	-	5.27
501105	Flint, United in Christ	118	-	-	-	0.00
501106	Flint, Our Savior	200	7,197.67	6,574.37	3,318.36	28.48
501108	Flint, St. Paul	707	2,082.79	15,000.00	-	8.05
501109	Flushing, Holy Cross	271	2,600.00	8,800.00	12,250.00	29.09
Circuit 12 - Flint South						
501201	Burton, Pilgrim	154	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	7.79
501202	Fenton, Trinity	466	15,067.33	9,999.96	10,000.00	25.08
501205	Goodrich, Christ	189	-	-	-	0.00
501206	Grand Blanc, Faith	1323	83,075.00	83,067.42	83,064.00	62.79
501208	Linden, Hope	278	3,100.00	5,410.00	3,996.46	15.00
501210	Swartz Creek, NewLife Community	202	5,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	25.41
501211	Flint, Lamb of God	175	6,000.00	6,000.00	1,000.00	24.76
Circuit 13 - Lapeer						
501301	Davison, Trinity	613	8,000.00	3,450.00	2,928.80	7.82
501302	Dryden, Holy Redeemer	200	12,609.33	12,276.68	12,073.59	61.60
501304	Flint, St. Mark	623	27,000.00	27,000.00	27,000.00	43.34
501305	Lapeer, St. Paul	1056	15,304.25	17,200.00	16,000.00	15.31
501307	North Branch, New Life In Christ	88	-	-	110.00	0.42
501308	Otisville, St. Timothy	219	17,172.00	13,155.00	15,853.00	70.29
501310	Imlay City, Family of Christ	46	366.84	481.28	486.07	9.67
Circuit 14 - Port Huron						
501401	Algonac, First	110	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,000.00	10.61
501402	Armada, Our Saviour	205	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4.88
501403	Fair Haven, St. Peter	154	222.00	-	702.00	2.00
501404	Goodells, Hope	18	-	-	-	0.00
501405	Lexington, St. Matthew	567	2,166.66	1,999.93	-	2.45
501406	Port Huron, Faith	319	18,660.00	18,660.00	19,279.00	59.14
501407	Port Huron, Trinity	885	416.66	4,997.84	5,392.83	4.07
501408	Richmond, St. Peter's	1106	4,447.06	4,864.57	3,673.77	3.91
501409	Saint Clair, Immanuel	654	16,133.25	14,910.00	15,000.00	23.47
501410	Memphis, St. Andrew	157	-	-	-	0.00
501411	Marine City, Living Faith	40	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	37.50
501412	Ray, Living Hope of the Bay	80	20,915.60	1,875.20	-	94.96
501413	Marysville, Light of Christ	60	11,150.62	10,702.32	8,952.37	171.14
Circuit 15 - Macomb North						
501501	Clinton Township, St. Luke	672	-	-	-	0.00
501502	Clinton Township, Trinity	2042	35,000.04	35,000.04	37,083.34	17.48
501503	Macomb, Immanuel	3092	36,980.47	-	-	3.99
501504	Macomb, St. Peter	2992	42,504.00	42,504.00	43,154.00	14.28
501505	Chesterfield, Good Shepherd	78	300.00	300.00	450.00	4.49
501506	New Baltimore, Christ	87	-	-	-	0.00
501507	Ray, St. John	140	1,350.00	750.00	1,500.00	8.57

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Circuit 16 - Macomb Northwest						
501601	Bruce Township, Grace	553	20,000.00	22,370.00	19,430.00	37.25
501602	Shelby Township, Peace	401	3,950.00	4,900.00	5,750.00	12.14
501603	Sterling Heights, Redemption	95	-	-	-	0.00
501604	Sterling Heights, St. Paul	204	700.00	700.00	700.00	3.43
501605	Troy, Faith	2743	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	5.47
501606	Utica, Trinity	2771	48,000.00	48,000.00	45,000.00	16.96
501607	Washington, Our Redeemer	405	8,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	26.34
501608	Shelby Township, Shepherd's Gate	953	48,000.00	48,000.00	53,000.00	52.12
501609	Sterling Heights, All Nations	72	-	44.67	-	0.21
501611	Troy, Faith Tamil	51	-	-	-	0.00
Circuit 17 - Oakland North						
501701	Clarkston, St. Trinity	403	25,675.00	21,725.00	21,000.00	56.58
501702	Lake Orion, Good Shepherd	226	11,469.18	12,146.47	10,274.01	49.98
501703	Oxford, Holy Cross	150	2,000.00	2,000.00	3,554.00	16.79
501705	Rochester Hills, Crown Of Life	79	2,200.00	-	1,000.00	13.50
501706	Rochester Hills, Gethsemane	132	1,325.00	3,900.00	955.00	15.61
501707	Rochester, Living Word	322	1,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	9.32
501708	Rochester, St. John	1829	82,710.42	64,750.89	74,140.03	40.39
501709	Waterford, St. Stephen	601	6,879.00	5,343.00	4,497.00	9.27
501710	Rochester, Incarnate Word	27	-	-	-	0.00
501712	Pontiac, St. Paul Community	53	1,974.03	-	-	12.42
501713	Ortonville, Prince Of Peace	71	-	324.00	1,001.00	6.22
811714	Clarkston, The Gathering Place	Closed	3,757.80	-	-	-
Circuit 18 - Birmingham						
501802	Birmingham, Our Shepherd	1413	41,605.00	34,427.00	39,424.00	27.24
501803	Birmingham, Redeemer	1344	63,947.00	66,601.25	66,343.20	48.83
501804	Bloomfield Hills, Cross Of Christ	432	86,431.58	54,999.98	75,000.00	167.00
501806	Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods	398	20,148.98	15,207.98	5,305.25	34.06
501807	Birmingham, Our Savior Deaf	38	-	-	-	0.00
501808	Royal Oak, St. Paul	828	25,697.26	19,790.35	20,192.30	26.44
501809	Troy, St. Augustine	210	7,391.00	5,004.00	5,004.00	27.62
501810	Warren, Holy Cross	326	23,833.81	21,833.30	20,000.00	67.14
Circuit 19 - Macomb South						
501901	Eastpointe, St. Peter's	1143	392.00	4,133.65	3,148.33	2.24
501902	Eastpointe, St. Thomas	448	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	6.70
501903	Fraser, St. John	950	63,602.71	65,442.62	58,940.31	65.96
501904	Roseville, Bethlehem	241	-	-	1,500.00	2.07
501906	Warren, Hope	841	43,200.00	43,200.00	43,200.00	51.37
501907	Warren, Peace	218	-	-	-	0.00
501908	Warren, Trinity	320	-	-	-	0.00
521909	Eastpointe, Genesis Center	Mission	8.00	-	-	-
Circuit 20 - Detroit East						
502001	Detroit, Bethany	98	7,931.50	4,498.00	3,500.00	54.18
502002	Detroit, East Bethlehem	63	1,825.00	2,150.00	2,500.00	34.26
502003	Detroit, Charity	58	-	-	304.00	1.75
502005	Detroit, Mount Calvary	110	-	510.00	205.00	2.17
502007	Detroit, Peace	108	-	-	-	0.00
502010	Detroit, Historic Trinity	1039	-	452.50	-	0.15
Circuit 21 - Detroit West						
502101	Detroit, St. Philips	132	191.00	662.33	2,608.68	8.74
502104	Detroit, Pan De Vida	45	-	1,000.00	3,000.00	29.63
502105	Detroit, Nazareth	38	-	-	-	0.00
502106	Detroit, St. John	63	-	-	-	0.00
502107	Detroit, St. Stephen	80	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	25.00
502109	Detroit, Evergreen	50	-	-	-	0.00
502112	Detroit, Outer Drive Faith	145	-	-	-	0.00
502113	Detroit, Redford	55	-	317.00	-	1.92
502114	Dearborn, Atonement	75	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	20.00
502115	Detroit, Faith	148	-	-	250.00	17.37
802103	Detroit, Berea	Merged	1,000.00	750.00	500.00	Included Above
802110	Detroit, Greenfield Peace	Merged	2,966.35	1,355.38	892.42	Included Above
Circuit 23 - Down River						
502302	Flat Rock, Community	344	-	-	500.00	0.48
502303	Southgate, Christ The King	1534	183,000.00	181,800.00	178,800.00	118.12
502304	Taylor, Our Redeemer	84	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	21.43
502305	Taylor, St. John's	283	5,200.00	4,400.00	5,200.00	17.43
502306	Trenton, St. Paul	1044	43,700.00	37,166.44	41,157.00	38.96
502307	Wyandotte, Trinity	387	11,223.00	10,665.00	11,478.70	28.74
502308	Allen Park, Mount Hope	97	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	17.18
502309	Lincoln Park, Calvary	250	-	-	2,317.40	3.09

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Circuit 24 - Monroe						
502401	New Boston, St. John	910	43,719.00	41,734.00	41,792.00	46.61
502402	Newport, Christ Our Shepherd	82	8,000.81	6,637.00	6,801.33	87.15
502403	Monroe, Grace	406	30,489.43	28,902.52	32,441.71	75.40
502404	Monroe, Holy Ghost	607	17,453.23	20,668.62	5,050.00	23.71
502405	Monroe, Immanuel	378	12,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	19.40
502406	Monroe, Trinity	1046	83,832.03	70,736.32	66,039.37	70.30
502407	Lambertville, Christ The King	151	4,424.74	2,666.64	4,323.85	25.20
502408	Petersburg, St. Peter	202	1,336.47	1,530.00	426.98	5.43
Circuit 25 - Dearborn						
502502	Dearborn, Emmanuel	320	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	6.25
502503	Dearborn, Guardian	995	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15.08
502504	Dearborn, Our Redeemer	73	-	-	-	0.00
502506	Wayne, St. Michael	475	2,599.92	2,599.92	2,600.08	5.47
502508	Westland, Our Saviour	18	50.00	-	-	0.93
502509	Westland, St. Matthew	575	-	502.86	1,478.20	1.15
502510	Plymouth, Living Word	194	-	1,200.00	2,000.00	5.50
Circuit 26 - Kensington						
502601	Brighton, Shepherd Of The Lakes	1107	40,949.34	39,723.59	39,924.79	36.31
502602	Highland, Faith	454	23,200.00	23,400.00	23,325.00	51.34
502603	Milford, Christ	394	14,242.49	15,703.68	19,858.07	42.14
502604	South Lyon, Cross of Christ	288	-	-	-	0.00
502605	White Lake, Cedar Crest	69	300.00	360.00	360.00	4.93
502606	West Bloomfield, St. Mark's	100	186.07	500.00	500.00	3.95
502607	Walled Lake, St. Matthew	1320	154,989.26	154,200.17	163,750.25	140.03
522609	Walled Lake, St. Matthew (Wixom Site)	Multi-Site	23,911.80	27,361.50	30,287.22	Included Above
502608	Waterford, Peace	247	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	2.70
Circuit 27 - Livonia						
502701	Westland, Salem National	95	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	14.04
502702	Farmington Hills, St. Paul's	335	-	-	-	0.00
502703	Farmington Hills, Prince Of Peace	234	30,605.85	27,249.57	29,628.49	124.62
502704	Northville, St. Paul	425	14,000.04	14,000.04	12,000.00	31.37
502705	Livonia, Christ Our Savior	1312	43,625.00	47,500.00	75,416.67	42.31
502706	Redford, Hosanna-Tabor	324	600.00	550.00	650.00	1.85
502707	Dearborn Heights, Immanuel	65	-	-	250.00	1.28
502709	Canton, Grace	65	375.00	600.00	600.00	8.08
Circuit 28 - Milan						
502801	Britton, Emmanuel	212	12,900.00	5,100.00	2,600.00	32.39
502802	Saline, Christ Our King	479	46,411.31	54,036.19	53,997.25	107.48
502804	Ypsilanti, Faith	87	-	250.00	-	0.96
502805	Milan, St. Paul	211	14,506.50	12,203.76	13,073.39	62.85
502806	New Boston, St. Paul's	257	4,583.26	5,000.00	5,000.00	18.91
502807	Ann Arbor, St. Thomas	60	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	60.00
502808	Belleville, Open Arms	208	20,144.49	17,827.53	19,089.74	91.45
502809	Romulus, Tabernacle of Praise	18	-	-	-	0.00
Circuit 29 - Ann Arbor						
802901	Ann Arbor, Divine Shepherd	Closed	50.00	-	-	-
502902	Ann Arbor, St. Luke	977	56,250.00	29,166.69	30,833.31	39.66
502903	Ann Arbor, Peace	271	27,500.00	28,254.70	10,000.00	80.88
502904	Ann Arbor, St. Paul	671	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,177.00	52.25
502905	Ann Arbor, ULC	104	-	8,000.00	6,500.00	46.47
502906	Chelsea, Our Savior	214	20,160.21	21,008.12	22,408.97	99.03
502907	Hamburg, St. Paul	573	28,835.00	32,726.00	33,180.00	55.11
502908	Pinckney, Trinity	122	-	-	-	0.00
502910	Whitmore Lake, Living Water	40	-	-	11,935.00	99.46
502911	Ypsilanti, Cross & Resurrection	130	12,833.38	10,083.37	11,000.04	86.97
Circuit 30 - Jackson						
503001	Adrian, Hope	186	11,000.00	9,000.00	350.00	36.47
503002	Adrian, St. John's	547	21,412.00	21,500.00	21,516.00	39.26
503003	Brooklyn, St. Mark	163	4,858.33	5,500.00	5,678.67	32.80
503004	Hudson, Our Saviour	124	1,543.90	868.00	557.00	7.98
503005	Jackson, Redeemer	566	24,690.42	24,744.72	26,041.92	44.45
503006	Jackson, Trinity	802	14,250.00	9,000.00	4,500.00	11.53
503007	Addison, Lutheran Church Of The Lakes	403	14,366.66	19,103.25	15,097.38	40.17
503008	Adrian, St. Matthew's	104	-	-	-	0.00
813009	Grass Lake, Grass Lake	Closed	3,089.30	-	-	-
503010	Blissfield, Blessed Savior	13	180.00	200.00	260.00	16.41
Circuit 31 - Petoskey						
503101	Bellaire, Hope	54	-	-	-	0.00
503102	Boyne City, Christ	368	15,924.37	14,819.26	16,523.06	42.81
503103	Charlevoix, Bethany	54	3,940.00	2,730.00	2,820.00	58.58
503104	Gaylord, Trinity	184	10,314.00	19,487.00	9,328.00	70.89
503105	Grayling, Mount Hope	100	9,709.00	13,200.00	16,850.00	132.53
503106	Kalkaska, St. Paul	227	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	13.22
503107	Mancelona, St. Matthew	81	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	12.35
503108	Petoskey, Zion	401	21,721.00	16,600.00	16,600.00	45.65

Michigan District, LCMS
Unrestricted Cash Received From Congregations

ID	City, Congregation	2016 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			Average Per Year Per Confirmed*
			FYE 1/31/2016	FYE 1/31/2017	FYE 1/31/2018	
Circuit 32 - Traverse City						
503201	Benzonia, Our Savior	96	-	-	-	0.00
503202	Elk Rapids, Grace	79	499.99	456.64	195.00	4.86
503203	Cedar, St. Pauls	57	310.00	870.00	385.00	9.15
503204	Glen Arbor, Bethlehem	72	9,000.00	9,000.00	10,000.00	129.63
503205	Interlochen, Redeemer	282	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	5.32
503206	Leland, Immanuel	156	11,749.92	16,447.50	15,477.35	93.32
503207	Traverse City, St. Michael's & All Angels	226	4,000.00	4,835.00	6,530.00	22.66
503208	Traverse City, Trinity	1313	33,508.22	35,681.47	35,581.21	26.60
Circuit 33 - Manistee						
503301	Arcadia, Trinity	248	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,500.00	22.18
503302	Cadillac, Emmanuel	439	5,340.28	5,958.33	5,500.67	12.76
503304	Ludington, Peace	29	1,800.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	68.97
503305	Manistee, Trinity	539	1,749.96	2,137.46	2,016.65	3.65
503306	Mesick, Faith	28	1,500.00	1,875.00	1,500.00	58.04
503307	Manistee, Norwalk	67	100.00	200.00	100.00	1.99
503308	Onekama, Trinity	175	5,564.15	5,262.34	4,990.19	30.13
503309	Scottville, Our Savior	491	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	24.44
503310	Wellston, Beautiful Savior	13	-	-	200.00	5.13
503311	Ludington, St. John's	177	5,535.72	5,376.21	5,984.60	31.82
503312	Pentwater, Lighthouse	57	1,800.00	1,500.00	900.00	24.56
Circuit 34 - Big Rapids						
503401	Baldwin, Grace	48	200.00	200.00	200.00	4.17
503402	Big Rapids, St. Peter's	666	37,713.45	29,703.89	30,557.01	49.04
503404	Fremont, Redeemer	105	-	1,979.00	563.00	8.07
503405	Mecosta, Chapel Of The Lakes	207	11,367.00	6,514.00	5,989.37	38.44
503406	Reed City, Trinity	454	5,000.00	4,583.26	4,583.42	10.40
503407	White Cloud, Christ	125	4,725.00	4,725.00	4,331.25	36.75
Circuit 35 - Capitol						
503501	Charlotte, First	412	13,996.26	14,258.64	14,309.00	34.44
503505	Holt, Messiah	247	7,994.48	24,137.61	14,995.82	63.60
503506	Holt, St. Matthew	197	5,090.04	5,345.02	4,800.00	25.78
503507	Lansing, Our Savior	900	4,908.30	3,749.98	4,999.96	5.06
503508	Lansing, Trinity	95	-	-	-	0.00
503509	Leslie, Grace	94	7,733.00	5,329.00	2,254.00	54.31
503511	Lansing, Living Word	16	-	-	-	0.00
503512	Howell, Heart of the Shepherd	447	24,835.74	22,384.00	21,466.00	51.22
503516	Lansing, Good Shepherd	149	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	40.27
Circuit 36 - St. Johns						
503601	Carson City, Calvary	64	1,900.00	2,170.00	2,210.00	32.71
503602	DeWitt, Hope	192	1,300.00	1,100.00	1,200.00	6.25
503603	Fowler, St. Paul	124	-	-	-	0.00
503604	Portland, St. Andrew	202	5,282.03	5,015.95	7,150.03	28.79
503605	Saint Johns, St. John	316	6,000.00	7,267.00	6,503.00	20.85
503606	Saint Johns, St. Peter	379	17,262.88	20,734.60	15,620.04	47.16
503608	East Lansing, Ascension	265	3,996.00	5,788.11	5,445.00	19.16
503609	Haslett, St. Luke	579	61,075.00	63,290.00	77,727.00	116.35
Circuit 37 - Tri-River						
503701	Belding, Holy Cross	74	1,000.00	1,347.00	1,207.00	16.01
503702	Greenville, Mount Calvary	167	15,000.00	14,450.00	15,000.00	88.72
503703	Howard City, Bethel	142	2,000.00	2,200.00	2,500.00	15.73
503704	Ionia, St. John	122	500.00	450.00	-	2.60
503705	Lowell, Good Shepherd	92	4,746.82	5,119.55	4,680.71	52.71
503706	Sand Lake, Resurrection	105	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	11.43
503707	Stanton, Hope	38	-	1,200.00	1,400.00	22.81
Circuit 38 - Muskegon						
503801	Conklin, Trinity	499	18,000.00	16,500.00	20,000.00	36.41
503802	Montague, St. James	510	11,000.00	11,000.00	13,000.00	22.88
503803	Muskegon, Our Redeemer	267	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,166.65	13.94
503804	Norton Shores, St. Mark	480	14,300.00	9,900.00	8,800.00	22.92
503805	Muskegon, Trinity	399	6,070.00	14,500.00	24,000.00	37.23
503806	Nunica, St. Luke	161	7,326.00	8,666.58	7,999.26	49.67
503807	Shelby, St. Stephen's	53	-	-	-	0.00
503808	Whitehall, Faith	186	12,250.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	64.96
Circuit 39 - Holland						
503901	Coopersville, Grace	278	19,703.70	26,348.13	20,403.00	79.68
503902	Spring Lake, Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship	270	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	37.04
503903	Grand Haven, St. John's	466	55,607.83	53,932.85	39,482.75	106.60
503904	Holland, Christ Our Savior	250	16,371.12	16,235.79	15,181.12	63.72
503905	Holland, Zion	369	41,240.39	41,278.47	47,911.63	117.82
503907	Spring Lake, St. Matthew	168	8,000.00	8,000.00	5,340.00	42.34
503909	West Olive, United	165	1,288.00	1,000.00	1,763.00	8.18

Michigan District, LCMS
Unrestricted Cash Received From Congregations

ID	City, Congregation	2016 Confirmed Membership*	Unrestricted Cash Contributions*			Average Per Year Per Confirmed*
			FYE 1/31/2016	FYE 1/31/2017	FYE 1/31/2018	
Circuit 40 - Grand Rapids North-Central						
504001	Grand Rapids, St. Matthew	476	58,651.00	60,500.00	61,425.00	126.45
504002	Grand Rapids, Immanuel	486	27,585.93	29,066.67	32,057.96	60.84
504003	Grand Rapids, Messiah	267	18,635.86	18,424.44	18,774.99	69.71
504004	Grand Rapids, Mount Olive	79	-	-	-	0.00
504005	Grand Rapids, Our Savior	256	-	500.00	500.00	1.30
504007	Grand Rapids, St. James	430	2,499.96	2,500.00	2,500.00	5.81
504008	Rockford, St. Peter's	199	13,721.98	13,051.19	13,547.25	67.54
504009	Comstock Park, Family of Christ	66	5,000.00	2,500.00	2,708.33	51.56
Circuit 41 - Grand Rapids Southwest						
504101	Caledonia, St. Paul	649	13,424.29	14,199.20	15,066.69	21.93
504102	Grandville, Bethel	62	1,300.38	1,600.02	1,600.00	24.20
504103	Hudsonville, New Hope	158	11,336.21	12,777.61	13,090.15	78.49
504104	Jenison, Holy Cross	1336	23,300.00	23,630.00	22,320.00	17.28
504105	Jenison, St. John	160	1,905.00	2,100.00	2,462.00	13.47
504106	Kentwood, St. Mark	303	2,499.96	2,652.88	4,734.00	10.88
504107	Middleville, Good Shepherd	43	2,000.04	2,000.04	2,000.04	46.51
504108	Byron Center, Journey of Faith	81	-	-	-	0.00
Circuit 42 - Battle Creek						
504201	Albion, St. Paul	257	18,501.40	19,920.40	20,187.79	76.02
504202	Battle Creek, St. Mark	441	8,566.55	8,508.36	9,024.68	19.73
504203	Battle Creek, Redemption	231	-	-	-	0.00
504204	Battle Creek, St. Paul	163	-	-	-	0.00
504205	Kalamazoo, Immanuel	180	4,312.50	3,000.00	3,000.00	19.10
504206	Kalamazoo, Zion	550	11,961.41	13,047.83	13,384.82	23.27
504208	Marshall, Christ	218	10,205.75	9,926.85	5,305.66	38.90
804209	Marshall, Zion	No longer LCMS	9,357.14	9,021.13	-	-
504211	Paw Paw, Trinity	706	15,416.80	15,416.85	20,041.66	24.02
504212	Portage, St. Michael	670	25,200.00	25,350.00	25,800.00	37.99
504213	Three Rivers, St. Peter	134	2,310.00	-	2,400.00	11.72
Circuit 43 - St. Joseph						
504301	Berrien Springs, Trinity	377	4,000.00	7,150.00	3,500.00	12.95
504302	Bridgman, Immanuel	561	15,000.00	15,000.00	7,500.00	22.28
504303	Buchanan, St. Paul	74	50.00	-	-	0.23
504304	Cassopolis, St. Paul	92	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	32.61
504305	Coloma, Salem	275	3,000.00	-	-	3.64
504306	Buchanan, Trinity	336	9,159.75	8,807.50	10,299.00	28.04
504308	Niles, St. Paul's	375	15,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	26.67
504309	Saint Joseph, Trinity	1322	13,250.00	14,000.00	12,000.00	9.90
504310	Sawyer, Trinity	335	7,355.83	8,549.47	11,098.35	26.87
504311	Stevensville, Christ	1203	6,321.00	5,265.00	5,250.00	4.67
Circuit 44 - South Central						
504401	Burr Oak, St. John	146	4,014.00	4,550.00	4,200.00	29.14
504402	Centreville, St. Paul's	64	-	1,133.37	1,633.26	14.41
504403	Sturgis, Salem	41	120.00	150.00	150.00	3.41
504404	Coldwater, St. Paul	148	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	24.32
504405	Colon, St. Paul's	56	-	1,300.00	750.00	12.20
504406	Hillsdale, St. Paul's	336	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	5.95
504407	Quincy, Prince Of Peace	24	750.00	750.00	450.00	27.08
504408	Sturgis, Trinity	466	3,000.00	5,243.00	16,000.00	17.34
504409	Union City, Our Savior	141	380.00	650.00	1,130.00	5.11

GRAND TOTALS 142,081 4,781,523.37 4,630,546.20 4,691,741.89 33.09

* Notes All member congregations of the District as of May 1, 2018 are included as well as mission and closed congregations that have made contributions. Contribution amounts include gifts given for Synod/District ministries and those given for Michigan District only ministries. Does not include restricted giving in support of the *Here We Stand* campaign or a particular program, agency, or ministry. Confirmed Member numbers compiled from 2016 statistical report filed with Synod, or most recent data available.

CIRCUIT VISITORS RATIFICATION

WHEREAS, the following ordained ministers of religion have been nominated by their respective circuits according to Bylaw 5.2.2 of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following slate of nominees be ratified by the Michigan District in convention to constitute election.

#1 – Mackinaw Straits	Charles Burhop – St. Barnabas, Sault Ste. Marie
#2 – Alpena	Jason Mandley – St. John, Hillman
#3 – Timberline	Timothy Azzam – Trinity, Oscoda
#4 – Gladwin	William Winter – Emeritus
#5 – Midland	Samuel Reith – St. Paul, Sanford
#6 – Bay	Erwin Hutter – Pilgrim, Essexville
#7 – Thumb East	Kenneth Lueke – Our Savior, Bad Axe
#8 – Thumb West	Steven Bagnall – Good Shepherd, Cass City
#9 – Frankenmuth	Gary Bender – St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth
#10 – Saginaw	William Hessler – Faith, Bridgeport
#11 – Flint North	Erik Cloeter – Messiah, Clio
#12 – Flint South	Daniel Wonderly – Pilgrim, Burton
#13 – Lapeer	Gary Beck – St. Mark, Flint
#14 – Port Huron	Gerhardt Doroh – Emeritus
#15 – Macomb North	Barry Mueller – Christ, New Baltimore
#16 – Macomb Northwest	Craig Meyer – Shepherd’s Gate, Shelby Twp.
#17 – Oakland	Matthew Schuler – Holy Cross, Oxford
#18 – Birmingham	Peter Nickel – Huntington Woods, Huntington Woods
#19 – Macomb South	John Merrill – Emeritus
#20 – Detroit East	Steven Essenburg – Missionary at Large in Detroit
#21 – Detroit Central	Eddie Morales – Outer Drive Faith, Detroit
#23 – Down River	Erik Schmidt – Community, Flat Rock
#24 – Monroe	Jeffrey Heimsoth – Trinity, Monroe
#25 – Dearborn	Andrew Gruenhagen – St. Michael, Wayne
#26 – Kensington	Terry Nelson – Cross of Christ, South Lyon
#27 – Livonia	Dean Davenport – Christ Our Savior, Livonia
#28 – Milan	Thomas Schroeder – Christ Our King, Saline
#29 – Ann Arbor	Donald Neuendorf – St. Paul, Ann Arbor
#30 – Jackson	Joel Sarrault – St. John’s, Adrian
#31 – Petoskey	Matthew Peters – Zion, Petoskey
#32 – Traverse City	Charles Webb – Trinity, Traverse City
#33 – Manistee	Joel Hess – Emmanuel, Cadillac
#34 – Big Rapids	John Bookshaw – St. Peter, Big Rapids
#35 – Capitol	G. Travis Downs – Trinity, Lansing
#36 – St. Johns	Edward Filter – St. Andrew, Portland
#37 – Tri-River	Jeffrey Wilhelm – Mt. Calvary, Greenville
#38 – Muskegon	Dennis Lassanske – Emeritus
#39 – Holland	Michael Goers – St. Matthew, Spring Lake
#40 – Grand Rapids N. Central	Jason Peterson – St. Peter, Rockford
#41 – Grand Rapids Southwest	David Rufner – New Hope, Hudsonville
#42 – Battle Creek	Karl Strenge – Redeemer, Battle Creek
#43 – St. Joseph	Michael Roth – Trinity, St. Joseph
#44 – South Central	Aaron Chittick – St. Paul, Coldwater

2018 CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Chairman	Rev. Dean Davenport
Vice Chair	Julie Strobl
Convention Manager	Chad Woltemath
Secretary/Publicity	Deb Fall
Worship Chair	Rev. Bradley Smith
Worship	Rev. Mark Milatz
Elections	Rev. Erik Cloeter
Housing/Convention Arrangements	Barb Walther
Technology/Social Media	Seth Hinz
Presentations	Linda Ekong
Ministry Tent/Arrangements	Debra Hughes
District President	Rev. David Maier

2018 FLOOR COMMITTEES

Floor Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry

Ordained:

Rev. Paul Moldenhauer
2020 S Commerce Road
Walled Lake MI 48390

Rev. David C. Winningham
82 Tobico Beach
Bay City MI 48706-1197

Commissioned:

Ms. Natalie A. Haupt
16890 25 Mile Rd
Macomb MI 48042-1704

Mr. Randall J. Bickel
9449 Block Rd
Birch Run MI 48415-9719

Lay:

Mr. Gaylord Kleuckling
1719 S Crystal Cove Dr
Haslett MI 48840-8233

Mr. Bill Knudson
2308 Woodview Dr
Lansing MI 48911

Advisory:

District Staff:

Rev. Todd Jones, Rev. Robert Kasper, Rev. Galan Walther

Rev. Don Neuendorf, Co-Chmn.
St. Paul Lutheran Church
420 West Liberty Street
Ann Arbor MI 48103

Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chmn.
Hope Lutheran Church
32400 Hoover Road
Warren MI 48093

Floor Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters

Ordained:

Rev. Matthew Hein
6745 Crane Road
Ypsilanti MI 48197-8852

Rev. Matthew Schuler
81 Dayton St
Oxford MI 48371-4628

Commissioned:

Mrs. Amy Weston
1715 Paramount Street
Novi MI 48377

Mr. Steven Meseke
37228 Ingleside St
Clinton Twp MI 48036

Lay:

Ms. Willie Marie Henry
8704 Westfield St
Detroit MI 48204-2622

Mr. Jeffrey Ritthaler
23984 Gibraltar Road
Flat Rock MI 48134

Advisory:

District Staff:

Mr. Travis Grulke, Mr. Jim Saalfeld, Mr. Chad Woltemath

Rev. Mark Brandt, Co-Chmn.
St. Lorenz Lutheran Church
140 Churchgrove Road
Frankenmuth MI 48734-1097

Rev. David Davis, Co-Chmn.
St. Luke Lutheran Church
5589 Van Atta Road
Haslett MI 48840

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Officially becoming members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by the Signing of the Constitution

CONGREGATIONS

Saint Ignace, Hope – 6/25/2017

MINISTERS OF RELIGION ORDAINED

Black, Eric S.	Hoffmeyer, Alex W.	Schuler, Matthew G.
Burgess, Jeffrey S.	Huff, Mark L.	Starner, Matthew L.
Carter, Tyler D.	Kral, John T.	Suggitt, Christopher S.
Chaffee, Phillip W.	Kuehl, Kyle I.	Troxel, Christopher D.
Dockery, Daniel L.	Martin, Gabriel J.	Ulledalen, Benjamin J.
Garber, Alexander C.	McCarty, David J.	Walworth, Tyler A.
Gibbons, Nikolai J.	Mews, David M.	Watters, Samuel P.
Grunewald, Richard J.	Parsons, Joshua J.	Woell, Brennan A.
Hall, Matthew A.	Phillips, Michael G.	Wollberg, Trenton N.
Haller, Joshua T.	Polzin, Joseph W.B.	Yeager, Christopher J.
Hauser, Matthew J.	Pronsati, Andrew M.	

MINISTERS OF RELIGION COMMISSIONED

Armbrecht, Louis W.	Hiddings, Michael	Neumeyer, Amanda J.
Bakker, Anne E. K.	Hire, Matthew J.	Neumeyer, Paul L.
Bartels, Elizabeth R.	Hoepfner, Carrie E. Severin	Noack, Chelsea M.
Brink, Yvette M. Healy	Hoerner, Miriam J. Stock	Ostrander, Christy L. Clark
Brown, Samantha M.	Howe, Emilie R.	Polk, Norma P.
Bruce, Lawrence J.	Jahnke, Lisa K. Turner	Preuss, Micah D.
Carver, Logan J.	Kaniuk, Taylor N.	Prisby, Kelly R. Knight
Dent, Andrea J. Guse'	Kelso, Corey L.	Pyscher, Beth A. Kah
DeYarmond, Sara M.	Kelso, Nicole J. Zehnder	Rich, Mary B. Aufdemberge
Benington	Kosciuk, Sarah D.	Rynearson, Abigail G.
Drinan, MacKenzie W.	Lauterbach, Emily M.	Schank, Hannah M. Kaltz
Eifert, Rebecca J.	Manack	Schmidt, Alison J.
Findlay, Jessica R. Helwig	Lindhurst, Katryne M.	Sharman, Ian M.
Finkel, Melinda L. Geer	Loucks, Autumn M. Hyder	Shirk, Cassandra E.
Frisco, Alexandra N.	Lower, Joseph W.	Stephens, Elizabeth A.
Frisco, Eric R.	Lynch, Andrea M.	Trent, Keith
Gansberg, Christine A.	MacKinnon, Kasey R. Gugel	Walsh, Hannah R.
Gehm, Rachel K.	Martinal, Rebekah E. Wrase	Wenzelburger, Garrett
Grimm, Timothy A.	Massey, Elizabeth K.	Wilke, Christian T.
Hans, Emily E.	Millen, Jai D.	Wilson, Brenda S. Frank
Harbaugh, Kara E. Garvelink	Milroy, Lori J. Pless	Wright, David M.
Heinlein, Ruth J.	Morden, Karen T. Walleman	
Heins, Joseph M.	Mossner, LeRae	

Section 5 - Resolutions

Resolution	Title	Page
1-01	To Affirm the Priesthood of All Believers in Christ and Therefore Their Call as Missionaries	1
1-02	To Encourage Modeling of Personal Evangelism	3
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1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-01
3 SUBJECT: To Affirm the Priesthood of All Believers in Christ and
4 Therefore Their Call as Missionaries
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-01
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Luther’s Small Catechism affirms that no one can “by their own reason or strength
8 believe in Jesus Christ, or come to Him,” but rather “the Holy Spirit calls (each) through the Gospel,
9 enlightens (each) with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps (each) in the true faith,” and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope states, “Here the words of Christ apply
12 which testify that the keys were given to the church and not merely to certain individuals: ‘Where two
13 or three are gathered in my name, there I am in their midst’” [Matthew 18:20] (Tappert, 331), and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the Holy Spirit through St. Peter in 1 Peter 2:9 states that all true believers in Christ are
16 “a royal Priesthood” and again, through St. John in Revelation 5:9–10, that “He (Christ) purchased
17 men (people) for God from every nation and made them a kingdom and priests to serve our God,” in
18 fulfillment of His intent as stated in Exodus 19:5–6 (NIV), “Although the whole earth is mine, you will
19 become a kingdom of priests and a holy nation,” and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, papers have been circulated in our Synod discouraging and prohibiting our laity from
22 witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but rather leave that to the ordained, thereby hindering the
23 Holy and Royal Priesthood of God from carrying out their divine mandate and privilege (Matthew
24 28:19, 1 Peter 2:4–10), and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the CTCR opinion (*Is the Gospel Effective When Spoken by a Layperson*, May 2016) is
27 that “The Scriptures are replete with examples of Christian men and women—lay people—who share
28 the saving truths of God’s Word with others;” and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, our Lutheran Confessions (AP XIII), when speaking about the Sacraments, also affirm that
31 the priesthood of the Church is not a ministry of “sacrifice” but rather of “proclamation,” and further
32 states that the “Priesthood of the New Testament is a ministry of the Spirit” (AP XXIV), and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, the stated purpose of the Holy and Royal Priesthood is “... that you (we) may declare the
35 praises of Him who called you (us) out of darkness into his marvelous light,” therefore be it
36

37 **Resolved**, that every baptized believer in Christ be encouraged to fulfill his priestly office and mission
38 of prayer for others and proclamation of the Gospel in their own context, and be it further
39

40 **Resolved**, that those uniquely called to the Office of the Holy Ministry, who serve as pastors in their
41 respective congregations, be encouraged to intentionally seek to train, equip, encourage, and
42 motivate the entire “Priesthood” under their care to more effectively and eagerly serve as a
43 “Kingdom of Priests” in their community and world, and be it further
44

45 **Resolved**, that our congregations and church workers be encouraged to share strategies and best
46 practices of evangelism and contextualized Kingdom expressions of the Gospel through God’s
47 priests (e.g. through submissions to the Michigan District’s “Story Bucket”), in order to encourage
48 and train others; and be it further
49

1 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District provide online and in-person training opportunities for use in
2 congregations throughout the District, as well as providing access to synodical and other
3 recommended resources, and be it finally
4

5 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District LCMS in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an
6 overture with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the first three RESOLUTION statements.
7

8 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
9 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-02
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Modeling of Personal Evangelism
4 REFERENCE: Overture 1-02
5
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Jesus sent his disciples into the world be his witnesses (Luke 24:48-49); and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, Jesus declared that His followers would be His witness to “Jerusalem and in all Judea and
10 Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8); and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul reminds us that we cannot believe in Him whom we’ve not heard. We cannot
13 hear unless someone is sent out to proclaim (Romans 10:14-17); and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Synod in convention has repeatedly encouraged congregations to place evangelism of the
16 lost as a top priority (1989-To Intensify and Prioritize Mission, RESOLUTION 1-01; 1992-To Accept
17 and Apply Mission Blueprint for the Nineties, RESOLUTION 1-01; 2004-To Affirm Mission 21st
18 Century Response to Great Commission, RESOLUTION 1-01A; 2004-To Promote “Mission Outpost”
19 Attitude, RESOLUTION 1-02); and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, called workers set the example for personal witnessing; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, congregations can anticipate an increase in guests to their worship services when their
24 staff and members consistently spend time each week cultivating relationships and sharing the faith
25 in the community; and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, pastors and called workers are often limited in their opportunity for personal witnessing
28 by finances and time constraints due to expectations of their ministry; therefore be it
29

30 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention affirms the importance of personal witnessing for
31 the salvation of the lost and participation in the Gospel; and be it further
32

33 **Resolved**, that the District provide training and resources to assist called workers and lay leaders in
34 personal witnessing and the promotion of personal witnessing among the members of our
35 congregations; and be it further
36

37 **Resolved**, that congregations be encouraged to demonstrate the priority of personal witnessing by
38 enabling their workers to spend time on a weekly basis in the community; and be it finally
39

40 **Resolved**, That congregations be encouraged to facilitate their pastor’s leadership in witnessing by
41 including funds in their budget to be used at the discretion of the pastor, and when possible, all
42 called workers, to support their efforts for personal witnessing in the community.
43

44 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
45 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
46

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-03
3 SUBJECT: To Affirm the Validity of the Word and Sacraments
4 REFERENCE: Overture 1-03
5

6 **WHEREAS**, for thirty years, concerns have been voiced over the service of Licensed Lay Deacons,
7 whether the Sacrament of the Altar or the public administration of the Sacrament of Baptism
8 administered by a Licensed Lay Deacon (non-ordained) was “valid”, and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the 2016 Synodical Resolution 6-02 defined a “regular call,” AC XIV, as examination, call,
11 and ordination, and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the 2016 Synodical Resolution 13-02A authorized Licensed Lay Deacons to consecrate
14 and to distribute the Lord’s Supper under the authority of the royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9) in the
15 local congregation, and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, Licensed Lay Deacons are authorized at the request of the local congregation through the
18 office of the District President and sanctioned by the Council of Presidents, and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, AC VIII states that “the Sacraments are efficacious even if the priests who administer
21 them are wicked men, for as Christ himself indicated, ‘The Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat’” (Matthew
22 23:2); and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, many hearts of faithful believers have been burdened or held hostage by the false
25 teaching that ordination adds anything to the preached Word or the Sacraments; therefore be it
26

27 **Resolved**, that we affirm the validity of the sacraments when administered by Licensed Lay Deacons
28 serving in our district, under the supervision of an ordained pastor at the request of the
29 congregation; and
30

31 **Resolved**, that we affirm the validity of God’s Word and Sacraments because they are the Means of
32 God’s Grace among us through which His Spirit alone works saving faith and the forgiveness of sins
33 through Christ Jesus, quite apart from the character or position of the man administrating them so
34 long as they have been appointed (called) to do so by the gathered saints of God in Christ; and be it
35 further
36

37 **Resolved**, that in the rare instances when the administration of the Word and Sacraments is not
38 done by an ordained pastor, for the sake of good order in the church, communication and counsel
39 should be made with the District President and the Circuit Visitor; and be it further
40

41 **Resolved**, that we affirm and give thanks for the divine institution of the Office of the Holy Ministry
42 and give hearty thanks and honor for those who have been ordained (set apart) to serve in that Holy
43 Office; and be it finally
44

45 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an overture
46 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statements:
47

48 **Resolved**, that we affirm the validity of the sacraments when administered by Licensed Lay
49 Deacons, under the supervision of an ordained pastor at the request of the congregation;
50 and
51

1 **Resolved**, that we affirm the validity of God’s Word and Sacraments because they are the
2 Means of God’s Grace among us through which His Spirit alone works saving faith and the
3 forgiveness of sins through Christ Jesus, quite apart from the character or position of the
4 man administrating them so long as they have been appointed (called) to do so by the
5 gathered saints of God in Christ; and be it further
6
7 **Resolved**, that in the rare instances when the administration of the Word and Sacraments is
8 not done by an ordained pastor, for the sake of good order in the church, communication and
9 counsel should be made with the District President and the Circuit Visitor; and be it further
10
11 **Resolved**, that we affirm and give thanks for the divine institution of the Office of the Holy
12 Ministry and give hearty thanks and honor for those who have been ordained (set apart) to
13 serve in that Holy Office.
14
15 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
16 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
17

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-04
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Building Bridges to the Community Through
4 Contextualization
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-04
6
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Jesus sent his disciples into the world be His witnesses (Luke 24:48–49); and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Jesus declared that His followers would be His witness to “Jerusalem and in all Judea and
11 Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8); and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul reminds us that faith comes from hearing the Word of the Lord (Romans 10:17);
14 and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, Martin Luther, in the *Freedom of the Christian* (1520), called for us to “give ourselves as
17 a Christ” to our neighbor, just as Christ gave himself to us; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the Formula of Concord in article X affirms the congregation’s right to adapt its practices
20 “as at any time may seem to be most profitable, beneficial, and salutary for good order, Christian
21 discipline, evangelical decorum, and the edification of the church” and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul teaches us that for the lost to hear the Word of the Lord it must be spoken in a
24 manner that is consistent with their cultural context: “For though I am free from all, I have made
25 myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win
26 Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law)
27 that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not
28 being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To
29 the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all
30 means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its
31 blessings” (1 Corinthians 9:19–23); and
32

33 **WHEREAS**, to be effective communicators of the Gospel, we need to be aware of our cultural biases
34 and those of our listener, and be able to adapt method and medium through which the Gospel is
35 shared without changing the content of the message; therefore be it
36

37 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District continue to encourage the use of demographic resources (such
38 as the online tool MissionInsite) to aid ministries in understanding their community’s culture; and be
39 it further
40

41 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District offer training opportunities for professional workers and lay
42 members to increase their ability to bridge the cultural divide between their ministry and their
43 community without compromising God’s Word; and be it further
44

45 **Resolved**, that congregations be encouraged to better understand their communities so that they
46 may adapt their methods of outreach to better present the Gospel in its purity; and be it further
47

48 **Resolved**, that pastors, professional church workers, and laity get involved in their local communities
49 to build relational and ministry bridges that will support efforts to share the Gospel; and be it finally
50

1 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District LCMS in convention memorialize this resolution in its entirety to
2 the Synod for consideration in its 2019 convention.

3

4 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
5 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen

6

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-05
3 SUBJECT: To Affirm the Tension Between Unity in Theology and Mission
4 and Diversity in Practice
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-05
6

7 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul affirms the need for the Gospel to remain unaltered and uncompromised in 1
8 Corinthians 15 and Galatians 1:9; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, our church body was organized around the common confession of faith from Scripture as
11 it has been articulated in the Unaltered Book of Concord; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul reminds us that faith comes from hearing the Word of the Lord (Romans 10:17);
14 and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, St. Paul teaches us by His example to proclaim the Word of the Lord in a manner
17 consistent with the cultural context of the lost, saying in 1 Corinthians 9:19–23: “For though I am
18 free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I
19 became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law
20 (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the
21 law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ)
22 that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have
23 become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the
24 gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings “; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, our Lutheran Confessions’ affirmed true unity in theology is not dependent upon unity in
27 practice: “It is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian church that the Gospel be preached in
28 conformity with a pure understanding of it and that the sacraments be administered in accordance
29 with the divine Word. It is not necessary for the true unity of the Christian church that ceremonies,
30 instituted by men, should be observed uniformly in all places” (AC VII); and
31

32 **WHEREAS**, our Lutheran Confessions also affirm the congregation’s right to adapt its practices “as at
33 any time may seem to be most profitable, beneficial, and salutary for good order, Christian discipline,
34 evangelical decorum, and the edification of the church” (SD X); and
35

36 **WHEREAS**, our church body has debated numerous resolutions in convention that have sought to
37 reconcile the tension between maintaining purity of doctrine and Christian freedom of practice;
38 therefore be it
39

40 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention affirms the value of living in a healthy tension
41 between maintaining purity of doctrine and Christian freedom of practice; and be it further
42

43 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention affirms the importance of maintaining unity among
44 us by being diligent to hold steadfast to Scriptures and the Confessions; and be it further
45

46 **Resolved**, that we affirm the need and right for each congregation and school to adapt outreach
47 techniques and teaching styles to most effectively communicate the unchanging Gospel message
48 within its cultural context without compromising purity of doctrine; and be it further
49

1 **Resolved**, that we affirm the freedom that is ours in Christ for each congregation to adapt the music
2 and liturgy in worship without compromising purity of doctrine to fit the culture of the saints who
3 gather for worship; and be it further
4
5 **Resolved**, that we celebrate the unity that is ours by the Holy Spirit through a common confession
6 and encourage, support, and celebrate the freedom in practice that is ours in Christ Jesus; and be it
7 finally
8
9 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an overture
10 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statements:
11
12 **Resolved**, that the LCMS in convention affirm the value of living in a healthy tension between
13 maintaining purity of doctrine and Christian freedom of practice; and be it further
14
15 **Resolved**, that the LCMS in convention affirm the importance of maintaining unity among us
16 by being diligent to hold steadfast to Scriptures and the Confessions; and be it further
17
18 **Resolved**, that we affirm the need and right for each congregation and school to adapt
19 outreach techniques and teaching styles to most effectively communicate the unchanging
20 Gospel message within its cultural context without compromising purity of doctrine; and be it
21 further
22
23 **Resolved**, that we affirm the freedom that is ours in Christ for each congregation to adapt the
24 music and liturgy in worship without compromising purity of doctrine to fit the culture of the
25 saints who gather for worship; and be it further
26
27 **Resolved**, that we celebrate the unity that is ours by the Holy Spirit through a common
28 confession and encourage, support, and celebrate the freedom in practice that is ours in
29 Christ Jesus.
30
31 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
32 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
33

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-06
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage the Congregations and Pastors of the Michigan District
4 in the Faithful Practice of Admission to the Lord's Supper
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-06
6

7 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) at its most recent Convention addressed
8 concerns regarding the Sacrament of the Altar (*To Address Questions re: the Sacrament of the Altar*,
9 2016 Res. 5-15), including encouraging right practice of the Lord's Supper; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, in the same resolution, the LCMS stated the Scriptural and Confessional basis of its
12 teaching and practice, affirming its previous statements and resolutions, including reports and
13 opinions of The Commission on Theology and Church Relations, especially in regard to close(d)
14 communion (see also LCMS 1998 Res. 3-28); and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, questions and concerns continue to be raised about the lack of uniformity of Communion
17 practice among the congregations of the Michigan District, particularly in regard to admission to the
18 Lord's Supper; therefore be it
19

20 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District affirm the Scriptural and Confessional basis of our Synod's
21 teaching on the Lord's Supper as stated in LCMS 2016 Res. 5-15, and particularly on the practice of
22 close(d) communion; and be it further

23 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District commend to its members the above mentioned resolution for
24 study and discussion; and be it further

25 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District "encourage proper oversight in administration of [the] Lord's
26 Supper by visitation from ecclesiastical supervisors" (2016 Res. 5-15, 2nd Resolved; see also 2013
27 Res. 4-10); and be it finally

28 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District continue to encourage faithful practice in accordance to
29 Scripture, the Confessions, and the doctrinal affirmations of the LCMS in the practice of admission to
30 the Lord's Supper among its congregations.

31 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
32 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
33

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-07
3 SUBJECT: To Encourage Reading of the Bible
4 REFERENCE: Overture 1-07
5

6 **WHEREAS**, Scripture teaches us the way of salvation (John 20:30–31) and unleashes God’s power
7 (Romans 1:16; Isaiah 55:10–11), and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the entirety of the Bible is valuable for Christian growth (2 Timothy 3:16–17), and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the recent *Here We Stand* campaign provided a fruitful call to Bible reading through the
12 Reformation Reading Plan as part of the celebration of our Reformation heritage, and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, Bible reading is essential for developing Christian discipleship and a zeal to reach others
15 with the Gospel, and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the discipline of reading through the Bible is best established at a young age, therefore be
18 it
19

20 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in Convention gives thanks to God for the Scriptures and the
21 increased reading of them through the efforts of the *Here We Stand* Campaign, and be it further

22 **Resolved**, that all congregations are called upon to make reading through the Scriptures a central
23 accent of their congregation’s discipleship training, and be it further

24 **Resolved**, that our congregations are encouraged to concentrate on making reading through the
25 Scriptures a key aspect of their youth and family ministries, and be it finally

26 **Resolved**, that our congregations are encouraged to use the Reformation Reading Plan provided
27 through YouVersion.
28

29 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
30 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
31

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-08
3 SUBJECT: To Foster Relationships Among Congregations and the Families in
4 Their Lutheran Schools
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-08
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Scripture is full of examples of the blessings of children, and tells us that the Kingdom of
8 heaven belongs to such as these (Matthew 19:14); and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, in the Great Commission, Christ reminds the church to teach Scripture to all nations;
11 Matthew 28:19–20: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,
12 and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you;”
13 and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, in Acts 2:39, Peter reminds the church that the gift of the Holy Spirit and forgiveness is
16 “for you and your children;” and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, many congregations of the Michigan District have had Lutheran schools that have been
19 involved in teaching children about Christ for well over 100 years, and all of our schools have
20 developed faithful lay people, dedicated church workers, and leaders; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, these same schools seek to develop Christian disciples by integrating faith development
23 into all academic disciplines, encouraging Lutheran teachers to be role models, praying for the
24 students and families they serve, and teaching a biblical worldview that stands in sharp contrast to
25 the culture and secular worldview taught in society; and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the wide variety of our 144 schools throughout the District serve over 16,700 students
28 and their families; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, hundreds of families who need to hear the Gospel message are on our campuses every
31 day, making it essential that our congregations be intentional about building relationships with the
32 families in their schools in order to reach the next generation of young people; therefore be it
33

34 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in its 2018 convention thank God for the congregational ministry
35 accomplished through Lutheran schools; and be it further
36

37 **Resolved**, that congregations without a school ministry pray for their neighboring Lutheran schools
38 and investigate how they might encourage parents in their communities to consider enrolling their
39 children in a Lutheran school; and be it further
40

41 **Resolved**, that congregations consider forming associations and collaborating together to increase
42 the mission impact of Michigan District Lutheran Schools; and be it further
43

44 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District LCMS encourage “People of Hope” to help Lutheran schools to
45 continue to grow in academic excellence, community connectedness, and spiritual effectiveness in
46 preparing future citizens of our country and heaven; and be it finally
47

48 **Resolved**, that the congregations and schools in the Michigan District LCMS be encouraged to make
49 it their priority to share powerful practices and develop new, creative initiatives to foster relationships
50 among their congregations and the families in their schools.
51

52 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
53 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
54

1 COMMITTEE NAME: MICHIGAN DISTRICT TARGETS IN MINISTRY
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-09
3 SUBJECT: To Commend the Lutheran Heritage Foundation on its 25th
4 Anniversary
5 REFERENCE: Overture 1-09
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF) is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of
8 the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) founded on November 10, 1992; and,
9

10 **WHEREAS**, many Lutheran churches around the world do not have the books vital to understanding
11 the Lutheran faith because no one had translated them into their language. LHF is working to
12 change that; and,
13

14 **WHEREAS**, in more than 90 countries and 100 languages, thousands of people have come to faith in
15 Christ because they have been able to read books that include the *Book of Concord* (12
16 translations), Luther’s *Small Catechism* (86 translations), and *A Child’s Garden of Bible Stories* (29
17 translations) in their own language; and,
18

19 **WHEREAS**, in the past decade, LHF has published and distributed more than 925 titles in 102
20 languages with many more in progress; and,
21

22 **WHEREAS**, over 3 million Lutheran books have been distributed to pastors, seminary students,
23 missionaries and churches—at no cost to them; therefore be it
24

25 **Resolved**, that congregations join in giving thanks and celebrating what the Lord has done, from the
26 humble beginnings in Dr. Robert Rahn’s basement to its worldwide expansion; and be it further
27

28 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District encourage congregations of the district to set aside November
29 10, 2018 to celebrate the work of LHF by offering prayers and financial support; and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that the convention memorialize Synod in 2019 to give thanks for the ministry of LHF and
32 encourage support; and be it finally
33

34 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention with thanksgiving to God for the ministry of LHF
35 stand and sing the Common Doxology.
36

37 Submitted by: Committee #1 – Michigan District Targets in Ministry
38 Rev. Don Neuendorf and Rev. John Duerr, Co-Chairmen
39

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-01
3 SUBJECT: To Affirm the Renaming and Encourage the Continued Work
4 of the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support
5 REFERENCE: Overture 2-02
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support (CMGS) was established to serve as
8 an extension of the Office of the District President; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the CMGS was so named to be in alignment with a similar commission under the
11 President of Synod; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the synodical Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support has disbanded and its
14 responsibilities have been absorbed into the Office of National Mission; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the CMGS in the Michigan District continues to serve the important function of
17 encouraging and educating both congregations and church workers toward greater spiritual,
18 emotional, relational, physical, and financial health, and interacts with synod-wide health and
19 wellness programs and coordinates with other districts of Synod; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, congregations and ministries of the Michigan District have a wide variety of ordained,
22 commissioned, and lay workers who serve faithfully and need encouragement and education for
23 greater overall health; and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, an appropriate name change for the Commission would better describe its task and the
26 scope of its task; therefore be it
27

28 **Resolved**, that the Commission on Ministerial Growth and Support be renamed as the Commission
29 for Church Worker Care; and be it further
30

31 **Resolved**, that the Commission for Church Worker Care be commended for its faithful work of
32 encouragement and education toward greater overall health of church workers, whatever their role in
33 ministry; and be it finally
34

35 **Resolved**, that congregations and ministries of the Michigan District be encouraged to establish their
36 own committee for church worker care and make use of the educational materials and programs
37 provided through the Michigan District's Commission for Church Worker Care in an effort to
38 encourage and increase the overall health of all those who serve as workers in their midst.
39

40 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
41 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
42
43

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-02
3 SUBJECT: To Revoke Bylaw 2.14.5 on Ecclesiastical Supervision
4 REFERENCE: Overtures 2-04, 2-05
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the Synod indicates: “The officers of the Synod must assume only
7 such rights as have been expressly conferred upon them by the Synod” (Art. XI A1); and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the Synod defines the scope of the ecclesiastical supervision of the
10 President of the Synod as the officers of the Synod, all such as are employed by the Synod, the
11 individual districts of the Synod, and all district presidents (Art. XI B1); and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the Synod defines the scope of the ecclesiastical supervision of
14 district presidents as the ordained and commissioned ministers of their districts (Art. XII 7) and
15 entrusts them with the power to suspend ordained and commissioned members from membership in
16 the Synod (Art. XII 8); and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) has affirmed the sole responsibility of
19 the District Presidents for ecclesiastical supervision of members in their respective districts
20 (Opinions Ag. 1970, 13-2669); and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the 2004 LCMS Convention amended the bylaws to eliminate the possibility of an
23 accuser appealing a complaint that has been terminated by a district president to the Praesidium of
24 the Synod; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS Board of Directors, following the 66th Regular LCMS Convention held in
27 Milwaukee, Wisc., amended the bylaws to provide opportunity for an accuser to appeal to the
28 President of the Synod if the District President does not suspend a member of Synod; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, Bylaw 2.14.5 was added outside of a Synod Convention, contrary to Article XIV of the
31 Synod’s Constitution which provides that “The Synod in convention may adopt bylaws that are
32 consistent with and do not contradict the Constitution of the Synod, which controls and supersedes
33 such bylaws and other rules and regulations of the Synod;” and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, Article XIV of the Synod’s Constitution makes binding only those bylaws “adopted,
36 revised, or eliminated by a simple majority vote of a national convention” and not bylaws adopted by
37 any subset of the Synod, such as the Board of Directors of the Synod; and
38

39 **WHEREAS**, Bylaw 2.14.5 is in conflict with the Constitution of the Synod Article XI B1; and
40

41 **WHEREAS**, the existing LCMS Handbook now exposes the accused worker to the undue burden of
42 defending himself/herself repeatedly; therefore be it
43

44 **Resolved**, that the 2019 LCMS Convention be memorialized to remove Bylaw 2.14.5; and be it
45 further
46

47 **Resolved**, that the 2019 LCMS Convention reaffirm the method of ecclesiastical supervision adopted
48 in the Bylaw changes by the 2004 convention.
49

50 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
51 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-03
3 SUBJECT: To Revoke the Requirement that District Presidents Acquire
4 Approval of the Council of Presidents to License new Licensed
5 Lay Deacons
6 REFERENCE: Overture 2-06
7

8 **WHEREAS**, 2016 Synod Convention Resolution 13-02A enabled many Licensed Lay Deacons (LLD) to
9 become Specific Ministry Pastors by colloquy, and removed the LLD designation from many who did
10 not fit the description, and allowed LLDs to continue to be licensed and deployed when the needs of
11 congregations and availability of men to serve them requires it; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Res. 13-02A requires that district presidents license men as LLDs only with the approval
14 of the national body of the Council of Presidents (COP); and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, this new requirement adds an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and increases the
17 volume of paperwork and meeting time for individual district presidents as well as the COP; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, this requirement moves ministry decisions further from local congregation ministry than
20 necessary or desirable; therefore be it
21

22 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an overture
23 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statement:
24

25 **Resolved**, that the 2019 Synodical Convention revoke the Res. 13-02A requirement that
26 district presidents must acquire the approval of the Council of Presidents to license new
27 Licensed Lay Deacons.
28

29 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
30 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
31
32

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-04
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Church Extension Fund Bylaws to Clarify
4 Commencement of Board Member’s Terms, to Reduce the
5 Required Number of Board Meetings, and to Allow Use of
6 Remote Communication at Meetings
7 REFERENCE: 2-07

8
9 **WHEREAS**, the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri
10 Synod (“CEF”) is governed by a Board of Trustees (the “Board”) comprised of nine elected members
11 (the “Trustees”); and

12
13 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to modify or clarify provisions of its Bylaws to increase interest in service as a
14 Trustee of the Board, and to enhance participation in Board meetings; and

15
16 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to clarify that Trustees elected at a Michigan District Convention are not
17 required to attend an installation ceremony at such Convention as the elected Trustees may not be
18 present at such Convention; and

19
20 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to reduce the number of mandated annual Board meetings from six to four to
21 better address the actual operational needs of CEF; and

22
23 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to allow Trustees or members of a committee designated by the Board (a
24 “Committee”) to participate in meetings by way of telephone conference or other means of remote
25 communication; therefore be it

26
27 **Resolved**, that the “Membership” and “Meetings” sections of CEF’s Bylaws be amended in the
28 following manner [deleted words stricken and new language underlined for reference]:

29
30 **II. MEMBERSHIP**

31
32 The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall consist of nine (9) elected trustees.

- 33
34 5. All trustees elected at the Convention ~~shall be inducted into office in an installation~~
35 ~~ceremony at the Convention and~~ shall begin their terms of office on the first of October
36 following ~~induction~~ election.

37
38 **IV. MEETINGS**

- 39
40 1. The Church Extension Board of Trustees shall schedule regular meetings as the business of
41 the Board shall require, but not less than ~~six~~ four times per year.

42
43 * * *

- 44
45 5. A member of the Church Extension Board of Trustees or of a committee designated by said
46 board may participate in a meeting by means of telephone conference or other means of
47 remote communication if all individuals who are participating in the meeting can
48 communicate with the other participants.

49
50 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
51 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-05
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Michigan District Bylaws to Clarify
4 Commencement of Board Member's Terms
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan District in convention desires to clarify that Officers and Directors elected at
7 a Michigan District Convention are not required to attend an installation ceremony at such
8 Convention as the elected Officers and Directors may not be present at such Convention; therefore
9 be it

10
11 **Resolved**, that the "Elections" section of the Michigan District's Bylaws be amended in the following
12 manner [deleted words stricken and new language underlined for reference]:
13

14 **Article V - ELECTIONS**
15

16 5.18 a. All officers and directors elected at the convention shall be inducted into their respective
17 offices in an installation ceremony (service) at the convention. Failure to hold the ceremony or the
18 unavailability of inductees to attend the ceremony in person does not affect the time at which the
19 inductees assume office.
20

21 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
22 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
23

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-06
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Church Extension Fund Bylaws to Clarify the
4 Purpose and Scope of Entities that CEF May Serve, and to
5 Afford Standard Indemnification to All Persons Serving CEF
6 REFERENCE: 2-08

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri
9 Synod (“CEF”) has been blessed with financial resources to be used to extend the Kingdom to many
10 organizations as outlined in the “Purpose” section of CEF’s Bylaws; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to clarify the “Administration” section of its Bylaws to ensure that there is no
13 confusion regarding the purpose and scope of entities that CEF may serve; and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, CEF’s purpose is described in Section 1 of its Bylaws, which states: “The purpose of the
16 Church Extension Fund is to administer a fund and acquire assets to assist by loans, grants, or
17 otherwise, primarily to the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, congregations of
18 the Michigan District, individuals serving as professional church workers within the Michigan District,
19 LCMS schools and colleges, entities and associations qualifying as Michigan District recognized
20 service organizations, entities and associations qualifying as Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
21 recognized service organizations, and entities owned and/or operated by member congregations.
22 The Church Extension Fund may also assist other LCMS Districts, through their respective Church
23 Extension Funds, by purchasing or participating, in whole or in part, in loans or investments, of other
24 LCMS Districts or the Lutheran Church Extension Fund of the LCMS. The purpose for which funds
25 and assistance may be provided shall include, but not limited to, acquiring property, erecting
26 buildings, purchasing equipment, acquiring housing and supporting projects and the operations of
27 the above. The primary purpose, however, of the Church Extension Fund shall be to contribute to the
28 ministry and purposes of the Michigan District and its member congregations,” and

29
30 **WHEREAS**, CEF also desires to clarify that all persons serving CEF (trustees, officers, employees,
31 volunteers, etc.) are afforded the standard legal protection of indemnification consistent with
32 Michigan law; therefore be it

33
34 **Resolved**, that the “Administration” section of CEF’s Bylaws is hereby amended as follows [deleted
35 words stricken and new language underlined for reference]:

36
37 **V. ADMINISTRATION**

38
39 1. The Church Extension Fund may, in its corporate name, take, hold and manage all property,
40 real and personal, notes, bonds, mortgages, land contracts, leases, evidences of
41 indebtedness, loans and property and assets devised, bequeathed, transferred, leased, or
42 conveyed to ~~them~~ the Church Extension Fund absolutely or in trust for the use and benefit of
43 ~~the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod by whose representative body~~
44 ~~they are elected~~ for the purposes outlined in Section 1 of these Bylaws.

45
46 * * *

47
48 9. The corporation, ~~by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation~~
49 ~~and Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of~~
50 ~~1987, shall, to the fullest extent permitted under Michigan law, have the power to indemnify~~
51 those persons serving in the position of, or at the request of the corporation, as director,

1 officer, trustee, committee member, employee, or agent against expenses, including attorney
2 fees, judgments, penalties, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably
3 incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits, or proceedings, formal or informal,
4 relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the corporation if such person acted in
5 good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to
6 the best interest of the corporation or its members, or with respect to any criminal action or
7 proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to believe that the conduct engaged in
8 was unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of Trustees, shall have such further or other
9 authority to indemnify trustees, officers, employees, or agents consistent with the provisions
10 of Michigan law ~~and specifically consistent with the provisions of Public Act 170, Michigan~~
11 ~~Public Acts of 1987.~~

12
13 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
14 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
15

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-07
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Michigan District Bylaws to Afford Standard
4 Indemnification to all Persons Serving the Michigan District
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan District in convention desires to clarify that all persons serving the Michigan
7 District (directors, officers, employees, volunteers, etc.) are afforded the standard legal protection of
8 indemnification consistent with Michigan law; therefore be it
9

10 **Resolved**, that the "Indemnification" section of the Michigan District's Bylaws is hereby amended as
11 follows [deleted words stricken and new language underlined for reference]:
12

13 **ARTICLE XV – INDEMNIFICATION**
14

15
16 15.4 The corporation, ~~by adoption of a resolution in accordance with its Articles of Incorporation~~
17 ~~and Bylaws, and pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 170 of the Michigan Public Acts of~~
18 ~~1986, shall, to the fullest extent permitted under Michigan law, have the power to indemnify~~
19 those persons serving in the position of, or at the request of the corporation as director,
20 officer, trustee, committee member, commission member, employee, or agent against
21 expenses, including attorney fees, judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in
22 settlement actually and reasonably incurred by a person in connection with any actions, suits
23 or proceedings, formal or informal, relating to the service of said individual on behalf of the
24 corporation if such person acted in good faith and in a manner that the person reasonably
25 believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation or its members, or
26 with respect to any criminal action or proceeding if the person had no reasonable cause to
27 believe that the conduct engaged in was unlawful. The corporation, through its Board of
28 Directors, shall have such further or other authority to indemnify directors, officers,
29 employees, or agents consistent with the provisions of Michigan law Public Acts 170,
30 ~~Michigan Public Acts of 1987.~~
31

32 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
33 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
34

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-08
3 SUBJECT: To Amend the Church Extension Fund Bylaws to Confirm
4 CEF's Continued and Uninterrupted Operations in the Event
5 that the Michigan District No Longer Exists
6 REFERENCE: Overture 2-09
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the primary purpose of Church Extension Fund of the Michigan District of the Lutheran
9 Church-Missouri Synod ("CEF") is to contribute to the ministry and purpose of the Michigan District
10 and its member congregations; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, CEF is a Michigan church trustee corporation duly authorized under the laws of Michigan,
13 separate and distinct from the legal entity known as the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-
14 Missouri Synod (the "Michigan District"); and

15
16 **WHEREAS**, despite its separate existence from the Michigan District and its ability to serve the
17 congregations that are currently members of the Michigan District, CEF's Bylaws do not contemplate
18 continuing operations in the event that the Michigan District no longer exists (e.g., Synodical
19 reorganization, regionalization, decentralization, etc.); and

20
21 **WHEREAS**, the elimination of the Michigan District could therefore jeopardize the ongoing operations
22 of CEF, including more than 15,000 investor accounts and 500 loans; and

23
24 **WHEREAS**, CEF desires to enhance its Bylaws to allow for the continued and uninterrupted operation
25 of CEF in the event that the Michigan District no longer exists; therefore be it

26
27 **Resolved**, that the "Relationship to the Michigan District" section of CEF's Bylaws is hereby amended
28 to add the following new subsection 3 [new language underlined for reference]:
29

30 **I. RELATIONSHIP TO THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT**

- 31
- 32 1. The Church Extension Fund shall be subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Michigan
33 District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod insofar as said Constitution and Bylaws do
34 not conflict with the laws of the State of Michigan.
 - 35
36 2. In the event of the dissolution of the Church Extension Fund as a Michigan Church Trustee
37 Corporation, all property and assets to which it holds title, or over which it has control, shall
38 be transferred forthwith to the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or to
39 its nominee.
 - 40
41 3. In the event that the Michigan District no longer exists, then references to the "Michigan
42 District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod" or the "Michigan District" in these Bylaws,
43 and references to actions thereof, shall be deemed to mean, respectively, the congregations
44 that comprised the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and their
45 actions in convention or at a meeting of such congregations.

46
47 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
48 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
49
50

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSITITUTIONAL
2 MATTERS
3 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-09
4 SUBJECT: To Amend the Bylaws of the Michigan District Regarding
5 Nominations for District Board of Directors
6 REFERENCE: 2-03
7

8 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 4.7.1 states that “Each district may adopt regulations for the nomination
9 and election of its president; the nomination, selection, election, ranking, and succession in case of
10 vacancies of its vice-presidents; and the nomination or selection of any regional officers or regional
11 board of directors members, as long as these provisions do not conflict with the Bylaws of the
12 Synod,” and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the 2015 Convention of the Michigan District amended the District’s Bylaws to remove its
15 nominating committee from the nominating process for regional Board of Directors positions, in
16 order to comply with Synod’s Bylaws as they stood, and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the 2016 Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod amended Synod Bylaw
19 4.7.2 to allow nominating committees to be employed in the election of regional Board of Directors
20 positions, and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the District’s nominating committee has been helpful in developing Board of Directors
23 slates in the past, especially in providing for the re-nomination of incumbent Board members who
24 are eligible for another term, therefore be it
25

26 **Resolved**, that Michigan District Bylaws 5.5, 5.6 and 5.13 be amended as follows:
27

28 **5.5** Time of Elections.

- 29 a. The election of the President, the vice-presidents, the Secretary, approximately one-half of
30 the Board of Directors, and the ratification of the circuit visitors shall take place at each
31 District convention. At alternate conventions a District member shall be elected to serve on
32 the LCMS Committee for Convention Nominations.
33
- 34 b. Regional assemblies shall nominate for all positions with the exception of President,
35 Secretary, Treasurer, ~~the Board of Directors~~ and the Church Extension Fund Board of
36 Trustees.
37
- 38 c. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in even-numbered years, the Metro
39 East Region and the West Region shall ~~nominate~~ narrow the slate of candidates for the
40 Board of Directors.
41
- 42 d. At their regional assemblies prior to the convention held in odd-numbered years, the Metro
43 West Region and the North and East Region shall ~~nominate~~ narrow the slate of candidates
44 for the Board of Directors.
45

46 **5.6** Nominating Committee

- 47 a. The District convention shall elect a 12-member Nominating Committee consisting of one
48 (1)
49 ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister, and one (1) layperson from each region of
50 the District and the President shall designate the Chairman thereof. The three committee
51 members from each region shall serve as the regional nominating committee.

- 1
2 b. The Nominating Committee shall meet at the call of the Secretary.
3
4 c. The regional nominating committee shall draw up from its region a list of candidates and
5 alternates for the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee in accordance with the
6 provisions of Michigan District Bylaws 5.6, ~~and 5.7,~~ and 5.13 and the Schedule of Elections.
7 The regional nominating committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to
8 nominate, as well as biographical data, and supply the regional assembly with this
9 information. Following the regional nominations, the biographical data of persons nominated
10 shall be transferred to the District Nominating Committee so that the District ballot may be
11 drawn up.
12
13 d. The District Nominating Committee shall draw up a list of candidates and alternates for ~~all~~
14 ~~other District offices, namely,~~ the Secretary and the Church Extension Fund Board of
15 Trustees. The Nominating Committee shall obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to
16 nominate, and transmit its final report to the Secretary no later than three (3) months before
17 the convention. This report shall contain the occupation or profession, residency, and
18 specific experience and qualifications for the proposed office.
19
20 e. The Chairman or his designate shall submit the committee's report to the District convention.
21
22 f. If between the regional assembly and the District convention a nominee becomes ineligible
23 for election, the Elections Committee will fill the vacancy on the ballot with the person who
24 received the next-highest number of votes.
25
26 g. The convention shall have the right to alter the ballot by amendment. The amendment
27 procedure shall include a motion, a second, and a majority vote on the amendment. Any
28 delegate making a nomination for the floor shall have secured prior written consent and
29 biographical data from the candidate whom he wishes to nominate as detailed in Michigan
30 District Bylaw 5.6 c. & d. This material shall then be submitted to the District Secretary.
31
32 h. The Chairman shall have on hand at the convention a reserve list of nominees, approved by
33 his committee, for use if required if a new board is to be elected. Whenever possible,
34 however, the committee on nominations should be informed in advance if any new board is
35 likely to be elected at a District convention, so that it may have a slate of candidates in
36 readiness.
37

38 **5.13** Nominations of Board of Directors.

- 39 a. Every voting congregation of a region nominating for the Board of Directors may nominate
40 one (1) ordained minister, one (1) commissioned minister and two (2) laypersons from its
41 region for consideration as potential candidates by the regional nominating committee,
42 which may consider additional candidates as it sees fit. (Cf. Bylaw 5.5 c. & d. for the
43 nominating schedule.)
44
45 b. The nominations shall be submitted to the ~~Secretary~~ Nominating Committee no later than
46 four (4) months prior to the opening of the District convention.
47
48 c. The ~~Secretary~~ Nominating Committee shall ~~notify each nominee, secure his approval in~~
49 ~~writing, and secure biographical information for the inclusion of the~~ prepare a slate of up to
50 four (4) ordained ministers, four (4) commissioned ministers, and (8) laypersons receiving
51 ~~the most nominations on~~ for the regional nominating ballot in accordance with Bylaw 5.6 c.

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- d. At the regional assemblies each region shall choose by ballot two (2) ordained ministers, two (2) commissioned ministers, and four (4) laypersons from the slate prepared by the regional nominating committee as nominees for election by the District convention.
- e. Each voting delegate in the region may vote for two (2) ordained minister nominees, two (2) commissioned minister nominees, and four (4) layperson nominees. The two (2) ordained ministers, two (2) commissioned ministers, and (4) laypersons receiving the largest number of votes shall be candidates. The tellers shall report the results of the meeting to the chairman.
- f. The chairman of the regional assemblies shall report to the Secretary the names of the persons nominated for the Board of Directors, along with the biographical data. The Secretary shall transmit such names to the Floor Committee on Elections.
- g. The Committee on Elections shall recap the information provided on qualifications and experience for each candidate and shall submit such information together with the ballot on which such election is to take place.
- h. The convention shall have the right to alter the slate at the proper time by majority amendment as outlined in Michigan District Bylaw 5.6 g.

and be it finally

Resolved, that these amendments take effect following the 2018 Convention of the Michigan District.

Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-10
3 SUBJECT: Bylaw Clarification Regarding Circuit Realignment
4 REFERENCE: Overture 2-10
5

6 **WHEREAS**, Synodical Bylaw 5.1.2. states, “Districts shall establish visitation circuits according to
7 geographical criteria;” and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the Commission on Constitutional Matters has ruled that the word “District” in Synodical
10 Bylaw 5.1.2 refers to a district convention. It has also ruled that a district convention may by
11 resolution or bylaw delegate the decision on visitation circuit creation or realignment to that district’s
12 Board of Directors; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the final decision regarding visitation circuit realignment has been made by the Michigan
15 District Convention, not the Board of Directors, since at least 1994. And the 2003 Michigan District
16 Convention added bylaw 14.4 to the Michigan District Bylaws: “Circuits are created, aligned, and/or
17 realigned by convention resolution;” and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the 2015 Michigan District Convention subsumed Bylaw 14.4 under Bylaw 3.2:
20 “Regions shall consist of a group of circuits created, aligned, and/or realigned by convention
21 resolution;” and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, this has led to some confusion regarding who is authorized to create, align, and/or
24 realign visitation circuits; therefore be it
25

26 **Resolved**, that the final decision regarding visitation circuit realignment continue to be made by the
27 Michigan District Convention, not the Board of Directors; and be it finally
28

29 **Resolved**, that, for the sake of clarity and in order to avoid confusion between the role of the Board
30 of Directors in determining electoral circuits (Synodical Bylaw 3.1.2.a) and the role of the District
31 Convention in establishing visitation circuits (Synodical Bylaw 5.1.2), the following be added to the
32 Michigan District Bylaws: Bylaw 1.3.e, “Visitation circuits are created, aligned, and/or realigned by
33 convention resolution.”
34

35 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
36 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-11
3 SUBJECT: Affirm Visitation Circuit Alignment
4 REFERENCE: Overture 2-11
5

6 **WHEREAS**, according to Synodical Bylaw 5.1.1, and confirmed by the Visitation Circuit Realignment
7 Task Force in the Attachment for Overture 2-11 Rationale, “A visitation circuit is a network of
8 congregations that ‘walks together’ for mutual care, support, advice, study, ecclesiastical
9 encouragement, service, coordination, resources, and counsel—all for the sake of greater
10 congregational participation in God’s mission;” and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, visitation circuits also serve as the structure for representation at national conventions of
13 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. As noted in Synodical Bylaw 3.1.2,
14

15 (a) An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent visitation circuits, as shall
16 be determined by the district board of directors on the basis of the following requirements:
17 each pair of delegates shall represent from 7 to 20 member congregations, involving an
18 aggregate confirmed membership ranging from 1,500 to 10,000.

19 (c) Voting delegates shall consist of one pastor and one layman from each electoral circuit;
20 and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, laudable effort was given to provide a plan that increased the number of electoral circuits
23 for greater representation at Synodical conventions, but that plan would have caused too great of
24 disruption with existing networks of congregations and ministries; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, Cross and Resurrection Ypsilanti from circuit 29 Ann Arbor requested transfer to circuit
27 28 Milan; therefore be it
28

29 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention commend the Visitation Circuit Realignment Task
30 Force for their work; and be it further
31

32 **Resolved**, that existing circuit alignment is affirmed and retained in support of ongoing and future
33 commitment to *Living as God’s Saved and Sent Servants*; and be it finally
34

35 **Resolved**, that in accordance with the congregation’s request, Cross and Resurrection Ypsilanti is
36 moved from circuit 29 Ann Arbor to circuit 28 Milan.
37

38 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
39 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen
40

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-12
3 SUBJECT: To Consider Voting Privilege for Advisory Delegates
4 REFERENCE: Overture 2-13, 2-14
5
6 **WHEREAS**, called Commissioned Ministers have a critical ministry impacting the lives of families as
7 an outreach arm of congregations; and
8
9 **WHEREAS**, Commissioned Ministers are highly valued for their zeal and faithfulness; and
10
11 **WHEREAS**, all Commissioned Ministers are theologically trained; and
12
13 **WHEREAS**, the LCMS requires Commissioned Ministers to attend District Conventions as Advisory
14 Delegates, whose only authority is to speak to the Convention; and
15
16 **WHEREAS**, districts are expected to appoint a representative number of Commissioned Ministers to
17 represent the District at the LCMS Convention as Advisory Delegates, whose only authority is to
18 speak to the Convention; and
19
20 **WHEREAS**, the 2016 Synod in Convention voted 921 to 58 “To Allow Voting Privilege for Assistant
21 Pastors” (Res. 11–09), thus indicating a willingness for the LCMS to reconsider the rigid restrictions
22 placed on voting privilege; therefore be it
23
24 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an overture
25 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statement:
26
27 **Resolved**, that a discussion regarding the voting privilege for Commissioned Ministers begin
28 at the 2019 Synodical Convention with a decision reached by the 2022 Synodical
29 Convention.
30
31 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
32 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen

1 COMMITTEE NAME: ADMINISTRATION, STRUCTURE, & CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS
2 RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2-13
3 SUBJECT: Term Limits of Synodical President and Vice Presidents
4 REFERENCE: 2-01
5

6 **WHEREAS**, in many of our districts throughout Synod, District Presidents are term limited; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, offices of presidents in districts are not called nor biblically mandated, but rather elected
9 as our governance structure; and

10
11 **WHEREAS**, there's an optimal balance between experience in office and healthy turnover in office,
12 therefore be it

13
14 **Resolved**, that the Michigan District in convention submit to the 2019 LCMS Convention an overture
15 with the above stated WHEREAS statements and the following Resolved statement:
16

17 **Resolved**, that the LCMS study the ramifications and advisability of term limits for the offices
18 of Synodical President and Vice Presidents.
19

20 Submitted by: Committee #2 – Administration, Structure, & Constitutional Matters
21 Rev. Mark Brandt and Rev. David Davis, Co-Chairmen