

## PRE-CONVENTION (Friday, April 8)

Registration

Floor Committee Meetings and Hearings

Circuit Caucuses of Select Circuits  
(Nomination of Circuit Counselors)

### FIRST SESSION (Friday, April 8)

Opening devotions for the Convention were led by Rev. Arlen Bruns, former President of the Kansas District. The hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" was sung.

The chairman of the Credentials Committee, Rev. Don Miller, reported that 118 Pastoral delegates and 132 Lay delegates were registered for the Convention.

With a quorum in attendance, President Eugene Schmidt officially opened the Convention and presented his report based on the Convention text and theme, II Timothy 2: 1-13, "Empowered in Grace".

District Education Executive, Al Gunderman, led the delegates in the first of the "Christ-Care" sessions, a time for Bible study, sharing, and prayer.

President Schmidt offered a few comments on Convention proceedings and orientation. Roberts Rules of Order will be followed. "Mission Moments" will be interspersed throughout the Convention in order to further inform delegates of important District projects and programs.

The objectives of the Convention are:

- (1) To have all participants grow in faith.
- (2) To have all participants grow in their understanding of the mission of the church.
- (3) To have conducted the business before us.
- (4) To have elected a new District President.
- (5) To have elected officers to conduct the business of the District on behalf of the congregations of the District.
- (6) To give God the great glory for His grace in Christ.

Rev. Schmidt called on the chairman of the Nominations Committee, Rev. Andrew Sabo, who explained the nominations process for District President. The floor was opened for further nominations. It was moved and seconded to close nominations and vote on the slate presented. **ADOPTED**

Candidates are:

Rev. Arno Meyer	Rev. Robert Schaedel
Rev. Jack Niermann	Rev. Warren Schmidt
Rev. Howard Patten	

The nominating process for Vice-President nominations and election was explained.

Mr. Stan Wehling, chairman of the Elections Committee, explained the election process for District President. Ballots were distributed. (Pages are from Topeka Lutheran School). Pres. Schmidt led the delegates in prayer seeking God's guidance as we vote for new leaders in the District's mission. The election for District President was closed after ballots were collected.

The Administration Floor Committee was called to the podium.

**Resolution 94-05-02A, Regional Reorganization**

**Regional Organization Of The Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod at its 1991 Convention amended its bylaws relating to regional organization to permit three or more regions and amended the organization of the Board of Directors to provide for election of one ordained minister from each region as a vice president and one layperson from each region; and,

**WHEREAS**, an informal survey following the Convention resulted in unanimous support for four regions representing the geographical regions of the District and further expressed a preference for one of three four-region options which were presented; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 1991 Convention also approved a reorganization of the Board of Directors to include eight ordained ministers, four commissioned ministers and eight laypersons; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the District shall be divided into four regions whose boundaries are defined by circuits as follows:

- Region I - Circuits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.
- Region II - Circuits 7, 8, 9 and 12.
- Region III - Circuits 5, 10, 11 and 14.
- Region IV - Circuits 13, 15 and 16.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The Missions Floor Committee reported that they were not ready with their resolutions, so the Administration Committee was given permission to continue with their report.

The Church Extension Fund (CEF) Board of Managers was introduced to the Convention: Mr. Dennis Meyer (chairman), Mr. Don Lumpe, Mr. Marvin Hass were present. Mr. Henry Schulteis was not able to attend the Convention.

Mr. Dennis Meyer, speaking for the CEF Board of Managers, presented the issue of joining Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). Pres. Schmidt opened the floor to questions about the considered option.

The Elections Committee interrupted the question and answer period with the results of the first Presidential ballot.

(257 ballots were cast, 129 needed to elect)

- Rev. Arno Meyer - 26
- Rev. Jack Niermann - 50
- Rev. Howard Patten - 103
- Rev. Robert Schaedel - 21 - eliminated
- Rev. Warren Schmidt - 57

The second ballot was distributed and after ballots were collected, the election was declared closed.

Questions and answers continued on the issue of District CEF joining LCEF.

The question period was again interrupted by the Elections Committee (Presidential ballot).

(260 second ballots were cast, 131 were needed for election)

- Rev. Arno Meyer - 14 - eliminated
- Rev. Jack Niermann - 25
- Rev. Howard Patten - 128
- Rev. Warren Schmidt - 69

The third ballot was distributed; elections were closed after the ballots were collected.

The Administration Floor Committee continued.

**Resolution 94-05-03A, Enabling Resolution to join LCEF**

**To Enable Entry Into Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Church Extension Fund has provided members of Kansas congregations an opportunity to invest their funds in support of the capital needs of mission and ministry of Kansas churches for more than a century; and,

**WHEREAS**, significant changes are occurring in all facets of church extension operations such as changes in laws governing issuance of debt securities by non-profit organizations, greater need for management data, and the need for thorough coordination of loan policies, procedures and legal documentation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod (LCEF) offers a means of support of District church extension matters in a manner which can achieve maximum effectiveness and efficiency, a minimum of risk of having church extension matters disrupted, and strong district involvement in all church extension fund functions at the grass roots level; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Church Extension Fund Board of Managers and the District Board of Directors are considering applying for membership in the LCEF to achieve maximum stewardship in carrying on church extension work; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Managers and Board of Directors believe that they should be authorized to apply for membership in the LCEF at such time as all facts and circumstances warrant such membership; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod be enabled to determine, in its sole discretion, whether and when The Kansas District should become a participant in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund-Missouri Synod; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors is authorized to adopt one or more resolutions instructing the officers and employees of the District to sign such documents, and to do such acts as might be necessary, in order that the District may so participate.

After considerable discussion, it was moved and seconded to call the question. The assembly approved the calling of the question.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

A "Mission Moment" on Campus Ministry was presented by Rev. Ken Kueker, Campus Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran, Lawrence, serving University of Kansas.

The Elections Committee presented the results of the third ballot for President.  
(253 ballots cast; 127 needed for election)

Rev. Jack Niermann - 32

**Rev. Howard Patten - 142 - ELECTION**

Rev. Warren Schmidt - 79

**Rev. Howard Patten** was declared elected as the new District President and accepted the applause of the delegates.

Vice-Presidential nominating ballots were distributed. Delegates nominated Vice-President candidates on a regional basis, each delegate voting for pastors within their own Region.

The Convention Essayist, Dr. Sam Nafzger, was introduced to the assembly and presented the first part of his paper, "The Spiritual Priesthood of All Believers".

Another "Mission Moment" focused on Children's Ministry programs offered through the District. Rick Hathaway presented the information.

The Floor Committee on Administration took the podium.

**Resolution 94-05-01A, By-Law Changes**

**Amendments To The Bylaws Of The Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, the reorganization of The Kansas District into four regions makes it necessary to amend certain articles of the Bylaws of the District as set forth herein; and,

**WHEREAS**, action of the 1993 Synodical Convention replaces the District Board of Adjudication with a reconciler process; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors has established a Church Extension Fund Board of Managers to recommend action relating to the Church Extension Fund; and,

**WHEREAS**, mid-term changes in the Board of Directors membership overlaid with the new regional system of election of vice presidents and laypersons on the Board makes maintaining staggered six- and three-year terms on the Board nearly impossible; therefore, be it:

**RESOLVED**, that Article II, G, of the Bylaws be amended by adding the words, "and a layperson," following the words, "A vice president;" and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that in Article III, B, 1, a, the word "mission" be deleted, the first sentence to read: "The Board of Directors"; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Article III, B, 1, b, and Article III, C, 5, b, pertaining to the Board of Adjudication be deleted from the Bylaws; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that Article III, B, 2, f, be added to the Bylaws to make the Church Extension Fund Board of Managers an appointive Board of the District; and, be it finally,

**RESOLVED**, that Article III, C, 5, a, be amended to delete references to six year terms of members of the Board of Directors limiting all terms to three years with tenure of nine years.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-05-04, Tomah Shinga.**

**Support For Camp Tomah Shinga**

**WHEREAS**, The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Missouri-Kansas District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America through Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Kansas, Inc., operate **Camp Tomah Shinga** to provide facilities for Christian outdoor ministries at the camp on Lyons Creek Road southeast of Junction City; and,

**WHEREAS**, **Camp Tomah Shinga** is continuing the development of its facilities and now is able to offer year around meeting and retreat facilities in addition to its summer camping program; and,

WHEREAS, the generosity of congregations of all Lutheran bodies in Kansas have contributed to the development of the camp and the Board of Directors of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Kansas wishes to express its appreciation for that support and pledge its continued effort to develop its support of Lutheran ministry in Kansas in its presentation of this resolution; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod encourages congregations to continue their support of **Camp Tomah Shinga** by participating in the summer camping programs for youth; by using the facilities of the camp for retreats, conferences and other events; and by providing financial support to aid continued development of this ministry center.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The Administration Floor Committee announced that their work was concluded.

Following announcements, the First Session of the Convention was recessed with prayer led by session chaplain Bruns.

The Convention Worship Service was held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Topeka, at 7:30 p.m. The choir of Concordia College, Seward, NE provided a Pre-service concert at 7:00 and added much to the worship service which followed. Rev. Al Barry, President of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod preached for the service on the theme, "Hold High the Cross."

A reception was held in the hotel atrium at 9:30 p.m. for the Convention delegates and guests to greet newly elected President Patten.

**SECOND SESSION  
(Saturday, April 9)**

Pres. Schmidt rang the classroom bell at 8:29 a.m., officially opening the second session of the 1994 Kansas District Convention. Rev. George Bruening, former District President opened the session with devotion and prayer.

Al Gunderman, District Education Exec., led the delegates in a time of Christ-Care sharing and prayer.

The Elections Committee reported on the results of the Vice-President nominating ballot. Nominated for each region are:

Region I

Rev. Roland Boehnke  
Rev. Arno Meyer  
Rev. Theodore Staudacher

Region III

Rev. Henry Niermann  
Rev. John (Jack) Niermann

Region II

Rev. Michael Barnes  
Rev. Rodney Fritz  
Rev. Wendell Haubein  
Rev. Christopher Kellogg  
Rev. Robert Schaedel  
Rev. Gary Wolf

Region IV

Rev. Alvin Bruenger  
Rev. Ronald Fricke  
Rev. Joel Hiesterman  
Rev. Paul Johnston  
Rev. Vernon Oestmann  
Rev. Gerald Radtke

Ballots were distributed to the delegates; once collected, the election was declared closed.

Mr. Bill Kitchen presented the Treasurer's report.

It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.

**ADOPTED**

Rev. Eugene Stohs presented a "Mission Moment" on Urban Ministry.

The Floor Committee on Caring Ministry presented their resolutions.

**Resolution 94-02-01A, Older Adult Ministry Committee**

**Older Adult Ministry Committee**

**WHEREAS**, older adults will become the largest segment of our population in the coming years; and  
**WHEREAS**, the need for ministry with older adults is understood as a growing reality in our District congregations; and

**WHEREAS**, while the Saints Alive After 55 Task Force of the Kansas District with Mrs. Helen Miller as coordinator was providing leadership to Older Adult Ministries, an advocate concept was developed and approximately one-half the District congregations have appointed an Older Adult Ministry Advocate; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Older Adult Ministry Committee of The Kansas District, Mr. William Harries, chairman, has been developed at the recommendation of the Saints Alive After 55 Task Force as a permanent part of the District committee structure; and,

**WHEREAS**, to continue to impact congregations with older adult ministry emphases the Committee is engaging Rev. Roy Brockopp of Synod's Social Concerns Committee and Older Adult Ministry consultant to the Synod, to conduct a workshop for training of Older Adult Ministry consultants for congregations; and,

**WHEREAS**, after training, these congregational consultants will provide Older Adult Ministry leadership in their own congregations and strive to reach other congregations, at their invitation, in their geographical area; and

**WHEREAS**, this training will be conducted in 1994 and the responsibilities of the advocate will be defined and determined by the work of the Older Adult Ministry consultants to be trained this year; and,

**WHEREAS**, implementation of this plan will require that each congregation must have appointed an advocate for Older Adult Ministry to be the person who will work with the consultant in the development of an Older Adult Ministry in the local congregation; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that all Kansas District congregations appoint or reappoint an Older Adult Ministry Advocate, and that the names of the advocates be sent to the Kansas District office in care of the District President.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Bill Harries, chairman of the "Saints Alive After 55" Task Force spoke to the assembly about the ministry of older adults throughout the District.

**Resolution 94-02-02A, Health and Human Care**

**Encouraging Health and Human Care Ministries in Congregations**

**WHEREAS**, our Lord has made it clear to us in His Word that a life of faith includes caring for those in need (Matthew 25:31-46, Luke 10:25-37, James 2:14-17, Isaiah 58:6-11); and,

**WHEREAS**, rising health care costs have created a crisis for many people in our society; and,

**WHEREAS**, health insurance and health care providers encourage us to practice good preventative care; and,

**WHEREAS**, the local congregation can provide a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere for people to explore health care issues; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that our congregations be encouraged to establish Health and Human Care Committees to explore the ways in which we can serve the health and human care needs of the people of our congregations and communities with the resources available; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that our congregations be encouraged to explore the feasibility of engaging the services of a Parish Nurse to coordinate the Health and Human Care Ministries of the congregation, particularly as health educator, personal health consultant, facilitator of volunteers for Health and Human Care Ministries and as a liaison with community health resources; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that congregations be encouraged to seek the assistance of district and synodical resources in the establishment of Health and Human Care Ministries.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-02-03, Lutheran Disaster Relief**

**To Commend the Lutheran Disaster Relief Team**

**WHEREAS**, Kansans have suffered in recent years from tornadoes, floods, and other natural disasters and have been assisted by the Lutheran Disaster Relief Team facilitated by the Lutheran Social Service; and

**WHEREAS**, this organization continues to assist those in need and to prepare for future unexpected events; and,

**WHEREAS**, there will always be the need for such assistance; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations be encouraged to support disaster relief efforts with their resources, both financial and "in kind"; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District heartily comment and thank the Disaster Relief Team and the Lutheran Social Service for their work in this area by rising and singing The Doxology.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Bernice Karstensen addressed the Convention on the work of Lutheran Social Service in the area of disaster relief.

Muriel Green, representing LC-MS World Relief, explained the work of this important service arm of congregations.

Rev. Rocky Mease addressed the Convention on the chaplaincy program.

The Caring Ministry Floor Committee's work is completed.

Elections Committee came back with a report on the Vice-Presidential ballot:

Region I (239 ballots cast; 120 needed to elect)

Rev. Roland Boehnke - 85

Rev. Arno Meyer - 82

Rev. Theodore Staudacher - 72 - eliminated

Region II (236 ballots cast; 119 needed to elect)

Rev. Michael Barnes - 17  
Rev. Rodney Fritz - 30  
Rev. Wendell Haubein - 42  
Rev. Christopher Kellogg - 37  
Rev. Robert Schaedel - 94  
Rev. Gary Wolf - 16 - eliminated

Region III (233 ballots cast; 117 needed to elect)

Rev. Henry Niermann - 67  
Rev. John (Jack) Niermann - 166 - ELECTION

Region IV (239 ballots cast; 120 needed to elect)

Rev. Alvin Bruenger - 23  
Rev. Ronald Fricke - 19 - eliminated  
Rev. Joel Hiesterman - 78  
Rev. Paul Johnston - 32  
Rev. Vernon Oestmann - 59  
Rev. Gerald Radtke - 28

A second ballot for Regions I, II & IV was distributed. Elections were declared closed after the ballots were collected.

Pres. Schmidt introduced Pres. Al Barry, President of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod for the first part of the Synodical report.

The Elections Committee reported on the results of the second Vice-Presidential ballot:

Region I (251 ballots cast; 126 needed to elect)

Rev. Roland Boehnke - 154 - ELECTION  
Rev. Arno Meyer - 83

Region II (250 ballots cast; 126 needed to elect)

Rev. Michael Barnes - 23 - eliminated  
Rev. Rodney Fritz - 23 - eliminated  
Rev. Wendell Haubein - 51  
Rev. Christopher Kellogg - 32  
Rev. Robert Schaedel - 121  
Rev. Gary Wolf - 16 - eliminated

Region IV (248 ballots cast; 125 needed to elect)

Rev. Alvin Bruenger - 20 - eliminated  
Rev. Joel Hiesterman - 114  
Rev. Paul Johnston - 33  
Rev. Vernon Oestmann - 60  
Rev. Gerald Radtke - 21

Ballots were again distributed for Vice-President elections for Regions II & IV. Elections were declared closed.

Ann Jedele spoke to the assembly on Early Childhood ministries in the District in another "Mission Moment." (Ann is also serving as "Cookie Coordinator" at the snack table in the display room.)



The Stewardship Floor Committee prepared to present their resolutions for action. Merle Lietz, chairman of the Centennial Thankoffering (CTO) Committee presented a report on the results of the CTO. Merle thanked all those who worked so hard and offered their service in the planning and implementing of the CTO which will support District ministries for years ahead. Costs of the Thankoffering were covered by interest earned on the gifts as they were received.

The Elections Committee again interrupted with voting results on the Vice-President ballot.

Region II (255 ballots cast; 128 needed to elect)

Rev. Wendell Haubein - 64

Rev. Christopher Kellogg - 34

Rev. Robert Schaedel - 157 - ELECTION

Region IV (253 ballots cast; 127 needed to elect)

Rev. Joel Hiesterman - 147 - ELECTION

Rev. Paul Johnston - 36

Rev. Vernon Oestmann - 52

Rev. Gerald Radtke - 18

The ballot for District Secretary could not be distributed as the two nominees (Revs. Schaedel and Hiesterman) were elected as Vice-Presidents. The Nominating Committee called an immediate meeting to designate additional nominees. Circuit 16 will also caucus at the break since their nominee for Counselor (Rev. Hiesterman) was elected Vice-President.

Rev. Ron Flentgen, chairman of the Stewardship Floor Committee, introduced Rev. Howard Patten, District Mission Executive, who spoke on "Mission Vision Giving".

**Resolution 94-04-01, Mission Vision Giving**

**To Initiate a District Plan of "Mission Vision Giving"**

WHEREAS, the essential marks of Christ's Church are as stated in Augsburg Confession VII, Tappert, page 32, "The Gospel be preached in conformity with a pure understanding of it and that the sacraments be administered in accordance with the Divine Word."; and,

WHEREAS, the essential mission of Christ's Church called, gathered and enlightened by the Holy Spirit through Gospel and Sacraments is that of its Lord, "to seek and save those who are lost" (Luke 19:10); and,

WHEREAS, Christ has given many and varied opportunities for His mission to the lost in the Kansas District; and

WHEREAS, the present mission-giving of Kansas District congregations, although a cause for thanksgiving because of the decade-long increase of 1.5% per year, serves - even with the best of stewardship - only to maintain past mission initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, new Kansas mission fields in inner-city, urban, cross-cultural, rural, campus, institutional, handicapped, and suburban settings can presently neither be initiated nor sustained for want of mission offerings; and,

WHEREAS, Kansas District congregations, organizations, families and individuals often give significant mission dollars over-and-above congregationally designated District/Synod mission offerings for mission projects that are: deemed important, a vehicle for personal involvement, and clearly accountable; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District, in Convention, recommend to its congregations and auxiliaries, and to the individual members of these congregations and auxiliaries that they consider La Iglesia Luterana de la Santa Cruz when preparing mission budgets or choosing recipients for special offerings.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Vice-President Warren Schmidt assumed the chair of the Convention.

Rev. John Miller, serving at La Santa Cruz, spoke to the assembly about the ministry to Hispanic peoples in southwest Kansas.

**Resolution 94-04-03A, Use Undesignated Gifts for Endowment Fund**

**To Use Undesignated Gifts for the Endowment Fund**

**WHEREAS**, Our Heavenly Father has blessed The Kansas District with many generous persons who have remembered the mission and ministry of the District with bequests of cash or property to be used to perpetuate the work of the District in the form of endowments; and,

**WHEREAS**, many of these gifts are designated for the general work of the church rather than for specific missions or ministries; and,

**WHEREAS**, the increasing number of these undesignated endowments makes it desirable for The Kansas District to establish procedures and policies for the investment and management of these gifts; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors be instructed and authorized to develop and implement such procedures and policies as may be deemed necessary to assure that all such gifts are used in accordance with the wishes of the donor and managed to effectively promote and support the mission and ministry of The Kansas District to the glory of God.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-04-04A, Congregational Endowment Funds**

**To Encourage Congregational Endowment Funds**

**WHEREAS**, many congregations and schools are receiving bequests, gifts, and memorials from people who wish to show their love for the Lord and His work here on earth; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District wishes to encourage these congregations and schools to be good stewards of these gifts by having an endowment fund in place that specifies where the money is to be used; and,

**WHEREAS**, these endowment funds can be used for special ministries on the local level, to support missionaries, to aid students going into full-time church work, or to support any one of the many Lutheran charities that are operating in the community, District or the world; and,

**WHEREAS**, congregations and schools need to be made aware that both the Kansas District Church Extension Fund and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Foundation can assist with investments. This gives the congregation and/or school safety and expertise and takes away the need for fees charged by some investment brokers; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District encourage each congregation and school to establish an endowment fund and adopt policies for its use and investment; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that congregations and schools be encouraged to utilize the services of the Kansas District Church Extension Fund and The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod Foundation to assist with these endowments.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-04-05A, Worker Compensation.**

**To Review Compensation For Paid Church Workers Within The Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, the concern for comparable compensation with no discrimination based on gender or ethnic background is valid and important; and,

**WHEREAS**, compensation for workers in the district should be relatively representative of the communities in which they are located; and

**WHEREAS**, such concerns are addressed by the district salary guidelines and the current policy of the district to refer to local school district salary scales for further guidance; and,

**WHEREAS**, there may be inequities that exist not only with respect to gender and ethnic background, but also concerning job classifications within congregations and entities of the Kansas District (i.e. fringe benefits, etc.); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the congregation and entities of the Kansas District be encouraged to utilize Kansas District salary guidelines as a minimum standard; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the congregations and entities of the Kansas District be encouraged to consult the local school districts salaries for further guidance; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we encourage congregations and entities in the Kansas District to eliminate compensation inequities which may exist.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The work of the Stewardship Floor Committee was completed with the adoption of these resolutions.

Vice-President Warren Schmidt introduced Rev. Joel Hiesterman, newly elected Region IV Vice-President and chairman of the Missions Floor Committee.

**Resolution 94-01-06A, To Respond to Mission Call**

**TO RESPOND TO THE MISSION CALL**

**WHEREAS**, the Great Commission is the call and command of Christ to His people to evangelize, to baptize and to teach God's Word; and

**WHEREAS**, God's people in every congregation are blessed by the Holy Spirit of Pentecost with the resources to carry out Christ's call and command; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent study of Lutheran congregations, Church Membership Initiative, demonstrated that only 20% of our congregations presently have either interest in or plans for reaching the lost to which Christ calls us; and,

**WHEREAS**, the realities of life afford daily crises (dangerous opportunities) for either seizing or neglecting the call and command; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that we rejoice in all opportunities presented by God to participate in the spread of His Kingdom; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that we give thanks for all individuals of our District and Church who have heard God's call and responded to serve God both locally and globally to spread Christ's name; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that we encourage each district member to reach out in Jesus' name to one another; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that we commend all congregations and individuals who intentionally reach out with The Word to the unchurched and unbelieving; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that we thank God for those congregations of our district which are planning outreach ministries and seeking to establish new missions and congregations; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we encourage congregations to use the outreach resources available through the offices of The Kansas District; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we urge all congregations to immediately and aggressively obey Christ's call and command in every possible way.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The Nominations Committee presented candidates for the office of District Secretary. Revs. David Meier and Christopher Kellogg are nominated by the Committee. The floor was opened to additional nominations. Rev. Paul Johnston and Rev. James Gau were nominated from the floor. (Consent and profiles were prepared for the delegates.)

The candidates were introduced to the delegates.

It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ADOPTED**

The Elections Committee distributed the Ranking Ballot for Vice-Presidents. Elections were closed after the ballots were collected.

Session II closed with announcements and prayer led by session chaplain Bruening. The assembly recessed for lunch.

**THIRD SESSION**

The Convention re-convened at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Bob Eggold, former Education Executive for the District, began the session with Scripture reading, singing "Thy Strong Word" and prayer. Christ-Care sharing and prayer was led by Al Gunderman.

The Elections Committee reported on the Vice-President Ranking Ballot:

- Rev. John Niermann - First VP
- Rev. Roland Boehnke - Second VP
- Rev. Robert Schaedel - Third VP
- Rev. Joel Hiesterman - Fourth VP

The ballot for District Secretary was distributed and elections were closed after the ballots were collected.

The Resolutions Floor Committee, Rev. Ed Trost, chairman, presented their resolutions.

**Resolution 94-08-01A, To Decline Overture 94-08-01**

**To Decline Overture 94-08-01**

**WHEREAS**, The Synodical handbook prescribes that the application for membership in the Synod by a congregation be submitted to the appropriate District President and acted upon by the Board of Directors of the District "bylaw 2.01" and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Kansas District is presently considering the application of the La Santa Cruz Mission into District and Synodical Membership, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District Convention respectfully decline overture 94-08-01.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-08-02A, To Decline Overture 94-08-02**

**To Decline Overture 94-08-02**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Presidents has adopted a procedure and policies in the matter of sexual misconduct by profession church workers and,

**WHEREAS**, the Synodical bylaws provide the Presidents of the Districts with the authority to act appropriately and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the current practice not to certify and/or ordain practicing or known homosexuals, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that Overture 94-08-02 be respectfully declined.

The Resolution was moved and seconded.

It was moved and seconded to **AMEND** the resolution by striking the third Whereas. The Amendment was **DEFEATED**

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-08-03A, To Decline Overture 94-08-03**

**To Decline Overture 94-08-03**

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the LCMS, Article XIB, addresses the duties of the Synodical President; and,

**WHEREAS**, the issue "to emphasize the Spiritual and Theological Leadership expected in the synodical President" is addressed in the Synodical Handbook Bylaws 3.101(a) and 3.101(b); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that Overture 94-08-03 offers no substantial change and be respectfully declined.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Resolution 94-08-04A, To Decline Overture 94-08-04, 06, 07, 09, 10, 11

**To Decline Overtures 94-08-04, 06, 07, 09, 10, 11**

WHEREAS, the recommendations of the Task Force on Finance are currently being studied by the Board of Directors of Synod, and

WHEREAS, President Barry has not given his final report on the Task Force recommendations, and

WHEREAS, the congregations of the Synod have the opportunity to memorialize the Synod in Convention after they receive President Barry's final report regarding the Task Force on Finance, and

WHEREAS, action at this time by the Kansas District would be inappropriate and premature; therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that Overtures 94-08-04, 06, 07, 09, 10, and 11 be respectfully declined.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Resolution 94-08-05A, To Decline Overture 94-08-05

**To Decline Overture 94-08-05**

WHEREAS, the Synod has spoken on fellowship, accepted and circulated the CTCR document on fellowship, and

WHEREAS, the Synod has passed resolutions affirming the position on close communion, St. Louis 1983, 3-12; Indianapolis 1986, 3-08; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that Overture 94-08-05 be respectfully declined.

It was moved and seconded to offer a **SUBSTITUTE MOTION**, reinstating Overture 94-08-05, through the First Resolved.

**Overture 94-08-05 Resolutions Floor Committee**

**To Reaffirm The Synod's Policy On Fellowship And Close Communion**

WHEREAS, reports of worship fellowship with those who are not in doctrinal agreement with The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod continue to trouble the church; and,

WHEREAS, the close communion practices of the Synod have been under attack in some quarters; and,

WHEREAS, the practice of close communion is a part of the Synod's fellowship practices; and,

WHEREAS, the Synod in its constitution, Article 111.1, recognizes the mandate of St. Paul to mark those who cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which we have learned and avoid them, (Rom. 16:17); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District in convention assembled reaffirm the Synod's position on fellowship and close communion.

The delegates voted whether to consider the Substitute Motion. A Division of the House showed 138 in FAVOR of considering the Substitute, 77 OPPOSED.

The Substitute Motion was presented to the floor for discussion.  
After much discussion, the QUESTION was CALLED.

**ACTION (on Substitute): ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-08-08-A, Thank God for Spiritual Leadership of Presidents Barry and Schmidt**

**To Thank God for the Spiritual Leadership Provided  
By President Barry and President Schmidt**

WHEREAS, God provides special gifts to the church through the elected leadership, and

WHEREAS, God has provided special gifts to the church in the spiritual leadership of President Barry and President Schmidt; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kansas District in convention thank God for the blessings received through the spiritual leadership provided by President Barry and President Schmidt.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The assembly expressed their thanks to God with the singing of the Doxology.

The work of the Resolutions Floor Committee is complete.

The Elections Committee ("Committeeus Interruptus") reported on the ballot for District Secretary.

(248 ballots cast; 125 needed to elect)  
Rev. James Gau - 44  
Rev. Paul Johnston - 34 - eliminated  
Rev. Christopher Kellogg - 46  
Rev. David Meier - 124

New ballots were distributed and elections closed after the delegates voted.

Today's pages are from the youth group of Zion Lutheran, Vassar

Dr. Sam Nafzger continued his presentation on "The Spiritual Priesthood of All Believers".

A report of the election of District Secretary was made by the Elections Committee.

(225 ballots cast; 113 needed to elect)  
Rev. James Gau - 23  
Rev. Christopher Kellogg - 23  
Rev. David Meier - 179 - ELECTION

The Nominating Committee, Rev. Andrew Sabo, chairman, presented the slate of candidates for District Board of Directors. The floor was opened for further nominations and the following floor nominations were made:

Ordained Minister - Rev. Paul Johnston  
Rev. Ken Haskell

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

Commissioned Minister

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ADOPTED**

Laypersons - Harold Koester  
Janet Zima

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ADOPTED**

It was moved and seconded to accept the slate of candidates as amended.

**ADOPTED**

"Mission Moment": Eva Whitmore offered comments to the assembly on Urban Ministry.

**ADOPTED**

The Education Floor Committee, Milt Brueggeman, chairman, presented their resolutions for consideration.

**Resolution 94-03-01A, Education Growth Plan**

**Continuing Education Annual Growth Plan**

**WHEREAS**, church professionals who serve in the discipling ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ need to function with competence and effectiveness as servants of our Lord and His Church; and,

**WHEREAS**, church professionals desire and need to grow and be renewed both personally and professionally; and,

**WHEREAS**, growth and renewal is enhanced when an individual designs an "Annual Growth Plan" which utilizes a wide variety of activities for learning; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that each professional church worker in the Kansas District develop a written "Annual Growth Plan" or its equivalent in consultation with congregational leadership; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this "Annual Growth Plan" include a minimum of 2.0 Continuing Education Units (20 contact hours) or its equivalent; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that District-sponsored workshops on the development of growth plans be made available at professional conferences; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the District Continuing Education Committee provide various opportunities for professional church workers to obtain Continuing Education Units; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that congregations in the Kansas District be encouraged to provide their professional church workers who are employed full-time for 12 months with a minimum of one week beyond the regular vacation time and required conference participation to engage in such continuing education; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that each congregation in the Kansas District be encouraged to include a "line item" in their budget to assist and encourage its church professionals to pursue such continuing education.

It was moved and seconded to AMEND the resolution by striking the first two resolves. Amendment

**DEFEATED**

It was moved and seconded to AMEND the resolution by adding to the first resolved, "that each professional worker in the Kansas District be strongly encouraged to develop..."

Amendment **ADOPTED**

**ACTION (on resolution as amended): ADOPTED**



The Elections Committee distributed ballots for Board of Directors. Elections closed after ballots were collected.

The Education Floor Committee continued their presentation of resolutions.

**Resolution 94-03-02A, Conference of Congregational Services**

**Conference of Congregational Services**

WHEREAS, the 1992 Synodical Convention (RES 4-02A) provided for the creation of a national Board for Congregational Services to be in place by the 1995 Synodical Convention and created the present Conference of Congregational Services on a pilot basis for 1992-95, with the 1995 Convention to create a smaller conference; and,

WHEREAS, the Conference intends to provide congregational thinking on issues, trends and needs and to become a clearing house and liaison between district and national boards and staffs; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod keep the CCS before the throne of grace in prayer as it seeks to present a new congregational services design to the Synod at the 1995 Synodical convention; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, encourage its staff and leadership to continue the process of determining the needs and expectations of the District congregations, to discover more efficient ways for congregational service units to provide balanced, integrated and coordinated services to congregations, remaining sensitive to and cooperative with the synodical CCS.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED AND ADOPTED**

Vice-President Warren Schmidt assumed to the chair.

**Resolution 94-03-03A, Scholarship Endowment**

**Congregational Funding for District Scholarship Endowment Fund**

WHEREAS, the cost of education for students preparing for professional church work careers has risen substantially and many new workers in congregations are burdened with significant loan repayments; and,

WHEREAS, the Kansas District has budgeted for grants in aid to students for many years, but budget limitations have limited these stipends to token amounts for each student; and,

WHEREAS, the Kansas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League and the St. John's College Alumni Association provide additional support to Kansas students during their preparation for professional church work; and,

WHEREAS, the Lord has blessed the efforts of the Kansas District to establish a scholarship endowment fund as resolved at the 1991 District Convention with gifts of \$216,000 toward a \$350,000 goal; and,

WHEREAS, a gift of a \$5,000 scholarship endowment from each congregation of the District added to the existing endowment would build the endowment to more than \$1,000,000 to produce interest for student aid; and,

WHEREAS, grants awarded to students who qualify for financial aid tend to lower awards from other sources with the result that student borrowing to finance education remains and aid to repay student loans for newly graduated workers continues to be critical; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District Convention hereby encourages each congregation of the District to develop a \$5,000 gift (or some other appropriate amount) to a consolidated District scholarship endowment fund during the coming triennium; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the District Scholarship Committee is instructed to develop guidelines for grant awards which continue aid to students and may include assistance to professional workers of the District for retirement of educational debts.

It was moved to **AMEND** the resolution by adding to the first resolved, "each of the congregations of the District to develop a \$500 gift..." The amendment died for lack of a second.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED AND ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-03-04, Thanksgiving for Volunteers**

#### **Thanksgiving For Volunteers**

**WHEREAS**, there has been a large number of lay people and professional workers involved in various committees of the Board of Directors of the Kansas District; and,

**WHEREAS**, these volunteers came from congregations who encourage these members and workers to donate their time to this ministry of the District; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District, in Convention, give praise to God for these gifts to the Church and give thanks to the volunteers serving on the Committees under the Board of Directors and to the congregations who support them.

It was moved and seconded to **AMEND** the resolution by adding to the resolved, "and that such thanks be published in the District edition of The Lutheran Witness". **ADOPTED**

**ACTION (resolution as amended): MOVED, SECONDED AND ADOPTED**

The assembly sang "Now Thank We All Our God" in thankfulness to God for those who have serve so selflessly.

The Elections Committee distributed ballots for Regional Representation - Laypersons (Regions I, II, III) for the Board of Directors. There was a mistake on the ballot. A new ballot will be prepared for voting later.

The Missions Floor Committee, Joel Hiesterman, chr., presented more resolutions.

**Resolution 94-01-01A, Encouragement to Lay People to Remain with Central City Urban Congregations**

#### **Encouragement to Lay People To Remain With Central City Urban Congregations**

**WHEREAS**, the mission challenge is very great in our urban central city changing populations, and thus personal and structural stability is vital to congregations in these areas; and,

**WHEREAS**, numerous lay people who have moved to the suburbs continue to retain their active membership in the central city congregations assisting significantly in keeping the mission in our central cities alive and growing; and,

**WHEREAS**, people of such dedication and spirit deserve our praise and encouragement; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that we express our thanksgiving to our Savior for these dedicated lay members who commit themselves to the unique mission of the central city; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the District leaders and Circuit Counselors continually remind the suburban pastors and the suburban congregations to encourage the lay people, who are members of central city congregations and who occasionally may attend suburban churches, to remain working, if possible, in those central city congregations for the great mission work we have together in our cities; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that district leaders and appropriate Circuit Counselors encourage and assist in the joint development of a plan of workshops and leadership development for building and strengthening bridges between urban and suburban congregations for mutual support and affirmation of congregational mission and ministry.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-01-02A, Revitalization of Urban Core Missions**

#### **Revitalization of Urban Core Missions**

**WHEREAS**, the mission strategy of our Lord and Savior throughout the Gospels and especially in Luke 14 is clearly directed towards those who are economically, socially and culturally vulnerable and powerless; and,

**WHEREAS**, policies that perceive "mission" only or predominantly in suburban and outlying areas encourage membership to leave central city congregations to the detriment of their financial base and to the loss of necessary talent for administration and education; and,

**WHEREAS**, the central urban region is an area which includes a high number and a high percentage of the unchurched in our nation as well as in Kansas; and,

**WHEREAS**, we exist as congregations in the Kansas District and in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, which seek to walk together in a unified mission, message and ministry for all people regardless of economic status or ethnic heritage; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District through its Board of Directors continue in the development of a mission strategy with its congregations in core urban areas to revitalize the infrastructure and outreach ministry of congregations in Kansas metropolitan areas; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District provide appropriate funding for the development of research and study of urban parishes by the congregations, staff and pastors involved; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District provide at least initial funding for support of revitalization in those congregations and their outreach where such research and study indicate the Mission of Jesus Christ will be most effective.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-01-04A, Centennial Thankoffering - Ethnic Ministry Gift Distribution**

#### **Centennial Thankoffering Ethnic Ministry Gift Distribution**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Board of Directors gives thanks to God for the blessings provided by the generous giving of His people of the Kansas District through the Centennial Thankoffering; and,

**WHEREAS**, 7% of the Centennial Thankoffering was designated for Cross-cultural (Ethnic) mission within the Kansas District with Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City and La Santa Cruz Lutheran Mission, Garden City serving as examples of Cross-cultural (Ethnic) mission and ministry both present and proposed within the Kansas District; and,

WHEREAS, the Kansas District Board of Directors recognizes the continuing mission and ministry of both Faith Lutheran Church and La Santa Cruz Lutheran Mission, and gives thanks to God for the blessings He has given to and through these missions; and,

WHEREAS, there are continuing needs for cross cultural (Ethnic) mission development in other areas of the District; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Kansas District Board of Directors recommend to the 1994 District Convention that \$5,000.00 (approximately 10% of the amount specified for Cross-Cultural (Ethnic) Mission) of the Centennial Thankoffering be designated for Faith Lutheran Church, Kansas City; and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$5,000.00 (approximately 10% of the amount specified for Cross-Cultural (Ethnic) Missions) of the Centennial Thankoffering be designated for the newly-forming congregation, La Santa Cruz, upon formal acceptance as a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the remaining balance, plus interest accrued to date, be designated, according to the recommendation of the Centennial Thankoffering Committee, for the development of a Cross-Cultural (Ethnic) Mission Endowment Fund which fund will support both new and existing cross-cultural initiatives in the Kansas District.

It was moved and seconded to AMEND the resolution by changing the first two resolves from "\$5,000 (approximately 10%...)" to read "\$25,000 (approximately 50%...)"

Before the delegates could act on the Amendment, the Elections Committee presented a ballot to determine Layperson Regional representation on the Board of Directors. This ballot would guarantee proper regional representation pursuant to the District By-Laws. Election was declared closed after the ballots were collected.

Discussion continued on the Amendment to Res. 94-01-04A.

Amendment: DEFEATED

It was moved and seconded to AMEND the resolution by changing the first two resolves to read "\$16,500 (approximately 33%...)"

Amendment: DEFEATED

It was moved and seconded to AMEND the resolution by changing the first two resolves to read "\$12,500 (approximately 25%...)"

A Division of the House revealed 106 in FAVOR of the Amendment; 111 OPPOSED.

Amendment: DEFEATED

Pres. Schmidt re-assumed the chair.

The Question was Called.

ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED

The Elections Committee reported on balloting results for Board of Directors (Ordained and Commissioned)

Ordained - (227 ballots cast; 114 needed to elect)

Rev. Ken Haskell - 40 - eliminated  
Rev. Paul Johnston - 46  
Rev. Arno Meyer - 85  
Rev. Vern Oestmann - 56

Commissioned - (232 ballots cast; 117 needed to elect)

Carla Brakhage - 72  
Milton Brueggemen - 118 - ELECTION  
Joyce Duitsman - 99  
Charles Jedele - 60 - eliminated  
Barbara McComas - 114  
Jeremy Pera - 116

David Saving - 71  
Mark Schotte - 124 - ELECTION  
Stanley Wehling - 127 - ELECTION

Another ballot (Board of Directors: Ordained and Commissioned) was distributed and elections were closed.

The delegates continued with another ballot for Board of Directors (Laypersons). Elections were closed after ballots were collected.

Orville Walz, President of Concordia College, Seward, NE addressed the assembly. He noted that total enrollment at Concordia stands at 900+ students, almost 40 are from Kansas. Two members of the Kansas District serve on the Board of Regents. Concordia has more full-time church-work students than any other institution in the Synod. 81% of the Kansas students are preparing for full-time church work.

Pres. Schmidt noted that the Convention logo was designed by a Concordia alumni and the Concordia art department crafted the logo for our use.

Session chaplain, Bob Eggold, closed the session with two verses of "Thy Strong Word" and prayer.

#### CONVENTION BANQUET

The Convention Banquet was held Saturday evening in the hotel banquet room. Mr. Les Schmidt, Executive for the Synod's Overseas Volunteer Mission Services program, and brother of President Eugene Schmidt, served as master-of-ceremonies.

Newly elected President Howard Patten delivered his acceptance speech and Pres. Schmidt offered some "farewell" comments.

A special poem by the "Bard of Paxico", Merle Lietz, and a special hymn by Rev. Richard Kaczor made for a memorable evening.

#### FOURTH SESSION (Sunday, April 10)

The morning began with the Order of Matins, including a "Service of Sending" led by the campus pastors in the District. This service is available to congregations of the District for their use in "sending" students to carry out their ministry in campus settings. Rev. Al Burroughs was preacher for the service.

Al Gundermann led the delegates in Christ-Care sharing and prayer.

Pres. Schmidt again introduced the Elections Committee to report on the last ballot for Board of Directors (Regional Representatives - Layperson) and Ordained and Commissioned Ministers on the Board of Directors.

Regional Representatives - Laypersons (240 ballots cast; 121 needed to elect)

##### Region I

Marilyn Greathouse - 31 - eliminated

Todd Gigstad - 37

Jane Turner - 40

Jack Wagner - 45

Eva Whitmire - 4

Janet Zima - 45

##### Region II

John Bosch - 44 - eliminated

Elmer Kolle - 49

Richard Schotte - 71

Wilber Tegtmeier - 73

Region III

Harold Koester - 46  
Otto Keller - 38  
Darrel Lorenz - 35 - eliminated  
Nathan Sheppmann - 118

Ordained Ministers (239 ballots cast; 120 needed to elect)

Rev. Paul Johnston - 68 - eliminated  
Rev. Arno Meyer - 93  
Rev. Vern Oestmann - 78

Commissioned (238 ballots cast; 120 needed to elect)

Carla Brakhage - 32 - eliminated  
Joyce Duitsman - 51  
Barbara McComas - 49  
Jeremy Pera - 78  
David Saving - 20 - eliminated

Another ballot was distributed and elections were closed after the ballots were collected.

Dr. Sam Nafzger, Convention Essayist, presented the last portion of his paper. Before his presentation, Pres. Schmidt presented Dr. Nafzger with a wooden cross as a memento from the Convention.

Barb McComas presented a "Mission Moment" on behalf of the District Youth Ministry Committee. Barb just fulfilled her term as chairperson of the Committee; the new chairperson is Lori Kiehl, Independence.

The Missions Floor Committee, Joel Hiestermann, presented their final resolutions. (It was noted that now that he has been elected as Vice-President, a suit and tie have been added to his wardrobe.)

**Resolution 94-01-05A, Haskell Indian Ministry.**

Prior to the presentation of the resolution, A Narrative outline of the ministry at Haskell Indian Junior College was presented by Lew Llewellyn.

**Support of Campus Ministry At  
Haskell Indian Nations University**

**WHEREAS**, Haskell Indian Junior College, the only federally funded Native American college in the United States, is being expanded to a four-year university status providing a unique opportunity for a Lutheran ministry of the Gospel to Native American students from dozens of tribes representing all 50 states; and,

**WHEREAS**, Kansas District congregations have been involved for more than 20 years in an outreach ministry of Christian friendship and Scriptural support to Haskell students and faculty which is consistent with Synodical guidelines for campus ministry; and,

**WHEREAS**, Lutheran students at Haskell University are encouraged to become active in Lutheran congregations in the Lawrence area for spiritual nourishment in Word and Sacrament; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District, meeting in convention in Topeka, April 8-10, 1994, give thanks to God for His blessings upon this ministry and express its gratitude to those who have supported this ministry with their gifts and leadership; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District, meeting in convention, not only express its support for this ministry, but seek ways to intensify and improve its mission to the expanding Native American community at Haskell Indian Nations University; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas District be encouraged to remember and support this vital mission with their prayers, publicity and gifts.

The Chairman of Interruptions (Elections) presented the results of the previous ballot for Board of Directors  
Ordained Minister: (206 ballots cast; 104 needed to elect)

**Rev. Arno Meyer - 110 - ELECTION**  
Rev. Vern Oestmann - 94

Commissioned: (206 ballots cast; 104 needed to elect)

Joyce Duitsman - 50 - eliminated  
Barbara McComas - 65  
Jeremy Pera - 88

Regional Representatives - Laypersons (206 ballots cast; 104 needed to elect)

Region I

Todd Gigstad - 28 - eliminated  
Jane Turner - 36  
Jack Wagner - 54  
Eva Whitmire - 42  
Janet Zima - 44

Region II

Elmer Kolle - 33 - eliminated  
Richard Schotte - 72  
Wilber Tegtmeier - 97

Region III

Otto Keller - 33  
Harold Koester - 41  
Nathan Shepman - 128 - ELECTION

Another ballot was distributed and elections closed when ballots were collected.

**Resolution 94-01-05A** (Support of Campus Ministry ... Haskell) was presented for vote

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 94-01-07A**, To Decline Overtures 94-01-04, 05, 06, 07

**To Decline Overtures 94-01-04, 94-01-05, 94-01-06 and 94-01-07**

**WHEREAS**, the concerns expressed by the above-named overtures have been addressed in discussion by this Convention both in the Missions Floor Committee and on the Convention floor; and,

**WHEREAS**, the pertinent matters were adopted by the Convention in Resolution 94-01-04A, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that we respectfully decline overtures 94-01-04, 94-01-05, 94-01-06 and 94-01-07.

It was moved and seconded to Table the resolution until Resolution 94-01-03A is considered.

**MOTION TO TABLE: DEFEATED**

**ACTION ON RESOLUTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Resolution 94-01-08A, To Decline Overtures 94-01-09 & 10

**To Decline Overtures 94-01-09 and 94-01-10**

WHEREAS, the concerns expressed by the above-named overtures have been addressed in discussion by this Convention both in the Missions Floor Committee and on the Convention floor; and,

WHEREAS, the pertinent matters were adopted by the Convention in Resolution 94-01-11, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we respectfully decline overtures 94-01-09 and 94-09-10.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The Floor Committee for Missions concluded their report.

A "Mission Moment" on Family Life Ministry was presented by Jeremy Pera.

The Elections Committee presented results of the previous ballot (Board of Directors: Commissioned Minister & Regional Layperson representatives).

Commissioned Minister (216 ballots cast; 109 needed to elect)

Barbara McComas - 92

Jeremy Pera - 120 - ELECTION

Layperson - Regional (216 ballots cast; 109 needed to elect)

Region I

Jane Turner - 41

Jack Wagner - 91

Eva Whitmire - 37 - eliminated

Janet Zima - 44

Region II

Richard Schotte - 71

Wilber Tegtmeler - 131 - ELECTION

The next ballot was distributed and elections closed when all ballots were collected.

The Nominations Committee, Rev. Ken Kaufmann, representing Rev. Andrew Sabo, presented the slate for District Convention Nominations Committee. The floor was opened for additional nominations.

Pastoral: It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The Nominations Committee explained that normal procedure would be to await conclusion of all other elections before proceeding with additional nominations for Commissioned Minister, Layperson and Synodical Nominations Committee. Permission was requested to proceed with floor nominations for these positions immediately.

It was moved and seconded to proceed with any additional nominations.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

Commissioned Minister (District Nominations Committee)

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

Layperson (District Nominations Committee)

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**



Synodical Nominations Committee

It was moved and seconded that nominations cease.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The Convention Nominations Committee was thanked for their faithful work.

The slate of Circuit Counselors was presented to the Convention for ratification.

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Lawrence Boye      | 9. John Ryding       |
| 2. Michael May        | 10. Gilbert Holstein |
| 3. Ronald Flentgen    | 11. Mark Boxman      |
| 4. Clarence Marquardt | 12. Donn Williams    |
| 5. Ed Mease           | 13. Ronald Fricke    |
| 6. Donald Miller      | 14. Henry Niermann   |
| 7. David Gruoner      | 15. Allen Hoyer      |
| 8. Marvin Barz        | 16. Kenneth Haskell  |

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, RATIFIED**

Pres. Schmidt presented President Al Barry with a wooden cross prior to his final presentation on the work of the Synod. A combination of video and live presentation was used.

The Elections Committee interrupted (again) Pres. Barry's report with ballot results.

Board of Directors - Layperson, Regional rep. (205 ballots cast; 103 needed to elect)

Region I

Jane Turner - 37

**Jack Wagner - 123 - ELECTION**

Janet Zima - 48

The next ballot (District Convention Nominations Committee and Board of Directors: Layperson) was distributed and elections closed.

Pres. Barry continued and concluded his report.

Dr. John Johnson, President of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis was introduced to the assembly. He presented work of both Seminaries in preparing men for the Office of the Holy Ministry. While officially representing both seminaries, Dr. Johnson could not help but note that the District had "the good grace to replace one St. Louis alumnus with another."

Following his presentation, Pres. Schmidt also gave Dr. Johnson a cross-plaque as a reminder of his time with us at the Convention.

A "Mission Moment" focusing on Foreign Missions was presented by Dan Wienicke.

Bernice Karstensen addressed the Convention on the work of Lutheran Social Services (LSS). LSS has been a serving arm of the church for more than 115 years. The Kellogg Foundation (Battle Creek, Michigan) has provided a \$100,000 Planning Grant to lay the groundwork for Grant requests of millions of dollars to aid children in Kansas through LSS. This will be a joint effort with various state offices and institutions. There are 7800 children in Kansas who are "in the system" in foster-care and juvenile offenders. Bernice also noted that a Social Worker is based in Phillipsburg, providing home-based crisis intervention in northwest Kansas.

It was moved and seconded to extend the Convention past the lunch break in order to complete elections and hear the remaining speakers.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

Donna Wehmeier, President of the District Lutheran Woman's Missionary League, addressed the Convention on the work of the LWML in Kansas and throughout the Synod. The purpose of the LWML is to support and encourage mission growth.

The Elections Committee, Rev. Norbert Tegtmeier, presented the results of the last ballot (District Convention Nominations Committee; Synodical Convention Nominations Committee representative; Board of Directors - Layperson).

**District Convention Nominations Committee**

**Ordained: (3 highest vote counts = elected)**

**Rev. Gary Bender - 175 - ELECTION**

**Rev. Rodney Fritz - 133 - ELECTION**

**Rev. Scott Goltl - 116**

**Rev. Norbert Tegtmeier - 133 - ELECTION**

**Rev. Don Urbach - 49**

**Commissioned:**

**Orville Altevogt - 104 - ELECTION**

**Michael Freed - 97**

**Laypersons:**

**Bud Hiesterman - 151 - ELECTION**

**Walter May - 72**

**Leon Schrum - 63**

**William Strauss - 127 - ELECTION**

**Synodical Convention Nomination Committee**

**Merle Lietz - 143 - ELECTION**

**Ralph Unger - 67**

**Board of Directors - Layperson (106 needed to elect)**

**John Bosch - 44**

**Marilyn Greathouse - 67**

**Todd Gigstad - 37**

**Otto Keller - 27 - eliminated**

**Harold Koester - 56**

**Elmer Kolle - 59**

**Daryl Lorenz - 19 - eliminated**

**Paul Phillips - 28 - eliminated**

**Richard Schotte - 69**

**Jane Turner - 66**

**Les Walter - 46**

**Eva Whitmire - 55**

**Janet Zima - 63**

Ballots were distributed and elections closed after the ballots were collected.

Elmer Kolle, President of the District Lutheran Layman's League, addressed the assembly on the media initiative of the LLL "Go Tell A New Generation".

Chuck Jedele offered a "Mission Moment" on Lutheran Schools.

The Excuse Committee presented their report, even though most of them had already left (without excuse, it must be noted).

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | "My mother has fallen!<br>My home it has burned!<br>We hope your committee,<br>Compassion has learned!"<br>"We send you excuses,<br>and oh, how they flow.<br>May we all be excused?"<br>We all answered, NO!"           | 3 | Yet, mercy is fine<br>Compassion is nice.<br>We excused not only once,<br>But twice!<br>Their stories convincing,<br>"Other plans we have made."<br>We wrote, "Yes we'll excuse you,<br>As soon as we're paid!"<br>And so mercy moves,<br>And grace it does flow<br>Oh, shall we excuse them?<br>We all answered NO!" |
| 2 | The list it kept growing<br>So many excuses received;<br>Tales of woe so un-nerving<br>At first, we believed.<br>"My car has been stolen!<br>My truck, it won't go!<br>Oh, will you excuse us?"<br>We all answered, NO!" | 4 | The Excuse Committee<br>So exhausted by this;<br>Makes their own excuses<br>Of something a-miss.<br>"My cat was ran over!<br>My dog must be fed!<br>My blankets are warm<br>As I lay in my bed!"<br>"Excuses have buried<br>My desk - such a mess!"<br>Oh shall we excuse us?<br>We all answered, YES!                |

The following congregations sent excuses for their Lay Delegate: Grace/Larned; Grace/McPherson; St. Paul's/Ellsworth.

Rev. Eugene Hicks, Immanuel/Herington and Zion/Latimer was absent (with excuse).

It was moved and seconded to accept the report of the Excuse Committee. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

President-elect Patten and Merle Lietz came to the podium. Poet Lietz presented one of his world-renowned poems. Pres. Schmidt handed to the President-elect the District Gavel (made from the wood of the Wetzel cabin, the site of the first Lutheran services in Kansas), a school bell for calling the Convention to order, and a timer for keeping "eggs-act" time for speakers.

It was noted that the new President and Praesidium will be installed at a worship service at Faith Lutheran, Topeka, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

"Mission Moment" by Marvin May on Singles Ministry.

The Elections Committee, Rev. Norbert Tegtmeier, reported on the last ballot (Board of Directors - Layperson) (184 ballots cast; 93 needed to elect)

- John Bosch - 40
- Marilyn Greathouse - 84
- Todd Gigstad - 24 - eliminated
- Harold Koester - 40
- Elmer Kolle - 59
- Richard Schotte - 74
- Jane Turner - 70
- Les Walter - 44
- Eva Whitmire - 45
- Janet Zima - 58

New ballots were distributed, collected; Elections were closed.

Garry Niehoff, Planned Giving Counselor, spoke to the Convention on the Planned Giving Program of the District.

A "Mission Moment" on the District A-V Library was presented by Joyce Umscheid.

Pres. Schmidt invited the members of the Board of Director and Circuit Counselors for the past triennium who will not continue in their office to come forward. Special plaques were presented to them for recognition of their faithful service and churchmanship.

Board of Directors:

Rev. Ken Kaufman

Rev. Jerry Peck

Jerry Larson

Carl Raguse

Ken Duitsman

Barbara McComas

Rev. Vern Oestmann

Rev. Warren Schmidt

Rich Soeken

Rev. Earl Zimmerman

Elaine Whiteneck

Circuit Counselors:

Rev. Bob Ziegler

Rev. Al Goebbert

Rev. Arlin Holtz

Rev. Wendel Haubein

Rev. Ed Trost

Rev. Dale Doerr

Rev. Chris Kellogg

Rev. Vern Oestmann

It was moved and seconded to **SUSPEND THE RULES**, declaring the top three vote receivers on the next ballot be declared elected.

Before action on the motion, the Elections Committee reported that the previous ballot resulted in the election of two members to the Board, another ballot will be required for the last remaining position.

The mover of the motion to **SUSPEND** changed his motion to declare the top vote recipient on the next ballot (even lacking a majority) be declared elected. It was noted that a motion to **SUSPEND** requires a two-thirds majority.

After much discussion, the chair requested that the motion be **TABLED** until the Elections Committee presented their report.

**ACTION (to Table): ADOPTED**

The Elections Committee presented their report (Board of Directors - Layperson):

(185 ballots cast; 93 needed to elect)

John Bosch - 34

**Marilyn Greathouse - 100 - ELECTION**

Harold Koester - 29 - eliminated

Elmer Kolle - 60

**Richard Schotte - 102 - ELECTION**

Jane Turner - 84

Les Walter - 46

Eva Whitmire - 40

Janet Zima - 47

Ballots were distributed, collected; Election was declared closed.

The motion to **SUSPEND THE RULES** was taken off the table.

**ACTION: DEFEATED**

It was moved and seconded to re-use an old ballot, if another ballot is necessary, to save time for printing.

**ACTION: DEFEATED**

The Elections Committee presented their final report (which met with much applause).

Board of Directors - Layperson

(175 ballots cast; 88 needed to elect)

John Bosch - 8

Elmer Kolle - 28

Jane Turner - 104 - ELECTION

Les Walter - 11

Eva Whitmire - 12

Janet Zima - 12

The newly-elected and re-elected members of the Board of Directors; Circuit Counselors; District Nominations Committee and Synodical Nominations Committee were installed by Pres. Eugene Schmidt.

Convention Chaplain, Rev. Al Burroughs, closed the Convention with special intercessions and the Lord's Prayer.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the 1994 Convention of the Kansas District. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Robert C. Schaedel, District Secretary