

## **PRE-CONVENTION (Thursday, May 1, 2003)**

Registration

Floor Committee Meetings and Hearings

### **FIRST SESSION**

President Patten called the convention to order at 1:30 p.m.

We began with worship led by Rev. Joel Hiesterman on the theme "Christ be My Leader"

Orientation and Introductions

The Convention Special Standing Rules were presented by President Patten.

### **CONVENTION SPECIAL STANDING RULES**

The Special Standing Rules for the Convention which follow are being presented to the 2003 Convention for approval. They are included at the front of the workbook for the information and convenience of delegates in the event they are adopted.

1. The chair will see that the agenda is followed as closely as possible.
2. When recognized by the chair, members of the convention will state their name, whether they are a delegate or an advisory delegate, and the congregation or entity they represent.
3. Delegates may speak and vote, Advisory Delegates may speak, but not vote.
4. A delegate who has spoken on an issue may not at the close of their remark's move the previous question.
5. The two-minute rule will apply for all who speak from the floor and for the committee during debate.
6. The chair can limit debate and also the number of times a person may speak. (The Pro-Con speakers on a question will be observed.)
7. Personal Privilege will not be abused by using the time to advance the speaker's opinion. It is only to ask a question.
8. All substitute motions and amendments must be presented in written form to the District Secretary.
9. If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter will be offered two minutes to provide the rationale for presenting it. The convention will then first decide by majority vote without debate whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and 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 before the house. (This is the so-called "Behnken rule" for dealing with substitute motions.)
10. The Convention may alter or add to the nominated slates. A floor nomination must be accompanied by written acceptance of nomination from the nominee and a brief biographical description of the nominee.
11. Elections: Except on the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following regulations will apply: Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot will be declared elected. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast will be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates will constitute the ballot. When the number of candidates for an office is four or more times larger than the number of offices, then

after the second ballot and for all subsequent ballots, the lowest 25% of the candidates will be removed from the ballot until all offices are filled by a majority of votes cast.

12. Unless covered by these standing rules of the convention, parliamentary procedure will be governed by the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

13. Portable telephones and other electronic communication devices are not permitted in the **delegate section**.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Christ-care led by Al Gunderman

Rev. Jeffrey Geske, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, reported that there are 229 Voting Delegates (129 Laypersons and 100 pastors), 57 advisory delegates, 89 guests, and 22 excused absences.

Rev. Howard Patten gave the District President's Report.

Rev. David Meier, District Secretary presented the nominees for President. The floor was opened for further nominations. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

Candidates are: Rev. Allen Hoyer Rev. Keith Kohlmeier Rev. Gary Rueter

Rev. Don White, Chairman of the District Nominating Committee, presented the nominees for Board of Directors - Commissioned Ministers. The floor was opened for further nominations. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

The nominees for Board of Directors - Laity - by Region were presented. The floor was opened for further nominations. Walt Classen was nominated from the floor for Board of Directors - Laity - Region 3. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

Rev. Craig Boehlke, Chairman of the Elections Committee explained the elections process. After the ballots were distributed, Rev. Boehlke led the convention in prayer. The election was declared closed after the ballots were collected.

Education Floor Committee, Rev. Richard Bruenger, Chairman -The Education Floor Committee consisted of Pastors - Rev. Richard Bruenger, Rev. Mark Frith, Rev. Ken Nettling, Laypersons - David Bruns, Larry Dunekack, Garnell Hanson, Educator - Jim Bradshaw, Board - Jeremy Pera, and Staff - Al Gunderman.

**Resolution 2003-03-01 Recruitment of Professional Church Workers**

**WHEREAS**, there is an increasing shortage of professional church workers (pastors, educators, etc.) within the LCMS, and

**WHEREAS**, recruitment of professional church workers starts on the congregational level, and

**WHEREAS**, professional church workers in the field are among the best recruiters of future workers, and

**WHEREAS**, the LCMS has a significant initiative, "For the Sake of the Church," whose goal is to recruit workers; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that each Kansas district congregation be encouraged to develop an intentional plan for the recruitment of professional church workers, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that every year each professional church worker be encouraged to identify, mentor and support at least two individuals who appear to be especially gifted for professional church work, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas district publicize and support "For the Sake of the Church" as well as other recruitment initiatives of our Concordia Universities and Seminaries.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-03-02 Affirming the Ministry with and to Single Adults**

**WHEREAS** single adults have been and continue to be valuable members in our Lutheran churches; and

**WHEREAS** the gifts of single adults are many but are often overlooked because of their single status; and  
**WHEREAS** single adults have arrived at their singleness in different ways (by choice, divorce, death, etc.)  
and, therefore, have different needs regarding how they give and receive ministry, and

**WHEREAS** the ministry gifts of single adults are not being fully utilized in the life of their congregations;  
therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District in Convention recognize and give thanks for the ministry of single  
adults; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that all Kansas District congregations be encouraged to find increasing ways to recognize,  
affirm and value the ministry of single adults as part of their family ministry; and be it finally

**RESOLVED** that all Kansas District congregations encourage single adults in their congregation to  
consider participation in the district and various single adult conferences and retreats for support and growth.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-03-04 To Encourage Lutheran Schools and Congregations in Kansas to Offer the Best  
Lutheran Christian Education Possible**

**WHEREAS**, Kansas District Congregations have long supported Lutheran schools as a means of educating  
their children, and

**WHEREAS**, these schools have also served as a means of reaching out into the community with the saving  
message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and

**WHEREAS**, establishing a Lutheran School as a single congregation can be a financial burden limiting its  
ministry in other areas, and

**WHEREAS**, forming Lutheran school associations (more than one congregation supporting a school) is  
good stewardship of the resources God has given to the church, and

**WHEREAS**, Lutheran Schools continue to be an important means in supporting the family as God has  
commanded to “Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray” (Proverbs 22:6); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations involved in school ministry be encouraged to support their school with  
great enthusiasm and finances, so that professional Called educators feel valued and supported in their ministry, be it  
further

**RESOLVED**, that each congregation of the Kansas District be encouraged to implement this ministry as a  
means to reach the unchurched children and their families in their communities, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that, where feasible, congregations be encouraged to form associations with other  
congregations in the establishment of a Lutheran school, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that congregations within the Kansas District be encouraged to give serious consideration to  
the establishment of a Lutheran school as a part of its family ministry.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-03-03 To Investigate and Encourage the Use of Effective Methods of Education by  
Congregations and Schools**

**WHEREAS**, children are among God’s creation placed within the hands of parents for a time so that they  
might grow to responsible adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a recognition within the LCMS that one of the roles of the church is to assist parents  
with their task, and

**WHEREAS**, from its beginning LCMS congregations have established educational agencies to assist  
parents in their task, and

**WHEREAS**, children are varied in interests, abilities and ways of learning, and

**WHEREAS**, among the methods of education that proved to be successful in educating some children has  
been Classical Christian Education; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the congregation/Lutheran schools of the Kansas District are encouraged to investigate  
such methods of education, including Classical Christian Education, that meet the goals of their educational  
agencies, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Department of Education and Youth of the Kansas District of the LCMS continue to  
be a resource of information on current methods of education.

## **ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The report on Education was noted for the convention, especially the Family Life Academy and Marriage Enrichment weekends. It was noted that DCE Jim Bradshaw was presented with the Master DCE award at the national DCE Conference.

Rev. Greg Manning, Grace Lutheran, Kansas City, in a Vision for the Church presentation, shared examples of ministry in the inner city.

Caring Ministry Floor Committee, Rev. Rocky Mease, Chairman - noted the report of the Caring Ministry Committee and subcommittees in the workbook.

The Elections Committee presented the election results for President.

(237 votes cast, 119 needed for election)

Rev. Allen Hoyer - 66

**Rev. Keith Kohlmeier - 144 - Election**

Rev. Gary Rueter - 27

The newly elected Kansas District President - Rev. Keith Kohlmeier was recognized by the convention.

The Elections Committee presented the election results for Board of Directors - Commissioned Ministers

(237 votes cast, 119 needed for election)

**Ed Bierbaum - 139 - Election**

**James Bradshaw - 123 - Election**

Joyce Duitsman - 104

Helen Genter - 52

**Dennis Hintz - 120 - Election**

Amy Hofman - 68

Jane Limback - 54

**Barb McComas - 128 - Election**

David Saving - 105

District Secretary, Rev. David Meier, presented the candidates for Regional Vice Presidents. The opportunity was given to the convention delegates to nominate from the floor. It was moved and seconded to close nominations.

## **ACTION: ADOPTED**

Candidates are:

Region 1: Rev. Peter Lange, Rev. Ed Trost

Region 2: Rev. Richard Bruenger, Rev. Rodney Fritz, Rev. Jeffery Geske, Rev. Robert Grimm, Rev. David Gruoner, and Rev. Alan Stahlecker

Region 3: Rev. Tom Harmon, Rev. David Meier, and Rev. Michael Wolff

Region 4: Rev. David Hutson, Rev. Randall Jahnke, and Rev. Don White

The Second Election was declared closed.

Toby Cook, Morning News Anchor for Fox Network in Kansas City, member of Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park and member of the Kansas District Lay Ministry program presented his Vision for the Church.

President Art Scheerer - Southeastern District - Essay - "The Church's Vision in a New Missionary Age"

The Elections Committee gave the results for Vice President by region.

Region 1: (231 votes cast, 116 needed for election)

Rev. Peter Lange - 87

**Rev. Ed Trost - 144 - Election**

Region 2: (225 votes cast, 113 needed for election)

Rev. Richard Bruenger - 58

Rev. Rodney Fritz - 31

Rev. Jeffery Geske - 21

Rev. Robert Grimm - 40

Rev. David Gruoner - 23  
Rev. Alan Stahlecker - 52

Region 3: (233 votes cast, 117 needed for election)  
Rev. Tom Harmon - 87  
Rev. David Meier - 95  
Rev. Michael Wolff - 51  
Region 4: (234 votes cast, 118 needed for election)  
Rev. David Hutson - 84  
Rev. Randall Jahnke - 94  
Rev. Don White - 56

#### Board of Directors - Laity by region

Region 1: (226 votes cast, 114 needed for election)  
Paul Becker - 45  
Miriam Krause - 33  
**Art Vogel - 122 - Election**  
Janet Zima - 26  
Region 2: (224 votes cast, 113 needed for election)  
Walt Frederking - 55  
Bruce Schultz - 52  
William Strauss - 36  
Barb Teske - 55  
Trent Sebits - 26

Region 3: (221 votes cast, 112 needed for election)  
Kenneth Jorns - 106  
Warren Meyer - 66  
Walt Claasen - 49  
Region 4: (209 votes cast, 105 needed for election)  
Betty Kruse - 66  
Les Walter - 104  
Doug Wolters - 39

Rev. Don White, Chairman of the District Nominating Committee, presented the nominees for District Nominating Committee. The floor was opened for further nominations. It was moved and seconded to close nominations.

#### **ACTION: ADOPTED**

The candidates are:

Clergy - Rev. Roland Boehnke, Reg. 1; Rev. Rodney Fritz, Reg. 2; Rev. Marvin Barz, Reg. 3; Rev. Ken Kaufmann, Reg. 3; Rev. Joel Hiesterman, Reg. 4; Rev. Randall Jahnke, Reg. 4  
Commissioned Minister - Milt Brueggemann and Jeremy Pera  
Laity - Region 1 - Marvin Schulteis and Marj Stuckert  
Region 2 - Bradley Lawrenz and Merle Lietz  
Region 3 - Don Kubler and Vicki Lessman  
Region 4 - Alfred Aufdemberg and Gaylord Shields

The third election was declared closed.

Dr. Orville Walz, Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, brought greetings from the university and shared some of the work being done at the university.

Recessed at 5:30 p.m.

Communion Service at 7:30 p.m. sponsored by Faith Lutheran Church, Topeka. Rev. Howard Patten was the preacher. The choir from Faith Lutheran assisted in worship.

#### **SECOND SESSION - (May 2, 2003)**

8:30 a.m. Convention Worship, "Christ be My Teacher" Rev. Ed Trost. The Choir of Topeka Lutheran School assisted in worship.

A request was made to see resolutions of the floor committees as soon as possible.

The Elections Committee reported the following results.

Region 2: (226 votes cast, 114 needed for election)  
Rev. Richard Bruenger - 84  
Rev. Robert Grimm - 69

Rev. Alan Stahlecker - 63

Region 3: (221 votes cast, 111 needed for election)  
Rev. Tom Harmon - 107  
**Rev. David Meier - 114 - Election**  
Board of Directors - Laity by region

Region 2: (187 votes cast, 94 needed for election)  
Walt Frederking - 63  
Bruce Schultz - 57  
William Strauss - 22  
Barb Teske - 45

District Nominating Committee  
Clergy (Elect 3)-  
(204 votes cast, 103 needed for election)  
**Rev. Roland Boehnke, Reg. 1 - 125 - Election**  
**Rev. Rodney Fritz, Reg. 2 - 114 - Election**  
Rev. Marvin Barz, Reg. 3 - 68  
Rev. Ken Kaufmann, Reg. 3 - 98  
**Rev. Joel Hiesterman, Reg. 4 - 136 - Election**  
Rev. Randall Jahnke, Reg. 4 - 70

Commissioned Minister -  
(161 votes cast, 81 needed for election)  
Milt Brueggemann - 79  
**Jeremy Pera - 82 - Election**  
The fourth election was closed.

President Art Scheerer - Southeastern District - Essay

The Elections Committee reported the results of the fourth election.

Region 2- Vice President (211 votes cast, 106 needed for election)  
Rev. Richard Bruenger - 84  
**Rev. Robert Grimm - 127 - Election**  
Board of Directors - Laity by region  
Region 2: (212 votes cast, 107 needed for election)  
Walt Frederking - 73  
Bruce Schultz - 64  
Barb Teske - 73

The District Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for the office of District Secretary. Rev. Don White noted that Rev. Rodney Fritz is added to the slate for Secretary by the District Nominations Committee due to a clerical error on their part. The convention was given the opportunity to nominate from the floor. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

The candidates for Secretary are Rev. David Gruoner, Rev. Peter Lange, Rev. Robert Schaedel and Rev. Rodney Fritz.

The District Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for Board of Directors - clergy. The convention was given the opportunity to nominate from the floor. A floor nomination added Rev. John Drush to slate for Board of Directors - clergy. It was moved and seconded to close nominations. **ACTION: ADOPTED**

The candidates for Board of Directors - Clergy are Rev. Gene Holtorf, Rev. Vern Oestmann and Rev. John Drush. The election for this office will be held after the profile for Rev. John Drush is distributed.

The fifth election including the ranking ballot for District Vice Presidents was closed.

Region 4: (218 votes cast, 110 needed for election)  
Rev. David Hutson - 100  
**Rev. Randall Jahnke - 118 - Election**

Region 3: (221 votes cast, 112 needed for election)  
**Kenneth Jorns - 127 - Election**  
Warren Meyer - 57  
Region 4: (170 votes cast, 86 needed for election)  
Betty Kruse - 72  
**Les Walter - 98 - Election**

Laity -  
Region 1 -(210 votes cast, 106 needed for election)  
**Marvin Schulteis - 144 - Election**  
Marj Stuckert - 66  
Region 2 - (208 votes cast, 105 needed for election)  
Bradley Lawrenz - 72  
**Merle Lietz - 136 - Election**  
Region 3 - (205 votes cast, 103 needed for election)  
Don Kubler - 101  
**Vicki Lessman - 104 - Election**  
Region 4 - (193 votes cast, 97 needed for election)  
**Alfred Aufdemberg - 130 - Election**  
Gaylord Shields - 63

Missions report - Gary Rueter

Noted that the State of Kansas had a 9% increase in population while our worshiping attendance grew by .2% in the same time period. There are great opportunities for new work in Kansas and great challenges.

Pastor Amos Bolay - Pastor in Liberia, started missions in Guinea - spending a year at St. Louis Seminary for further education. Pastor Bolay shared his thanks for our work in Guinea.

Synodical President Dr. Gerald Kieschnick gave his report.

Essay - Dr. Art Sheerer

Recess for lunch at 12:15 pm

Reconvene at 1:15 pm

The Elections Committee reported the results of the fifth election.

Results of ranking Ballot for Vice Presidents

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Rev. Ed Trost

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Rev. David Meier

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President - Rev. Robert Grimm

4<sup>th</sup> Vice President - Rev. Randall Jahnke

Secretary - (213 votes cast, 107 needed for election)

Rev. David Gruoner - 30

Rev. Peter Lange - 50

Rev. Robert Schaedel - 89

Rev. Rodney Fritz - 44

Board of Directors - Laity - Region 2 (199 votes cast, 100 needed for election)

Walt Frederking - 92

**Barb Teske - 107 - Election**

The sixth election was declared closed.

Mitch Holthus, announcer for the Kansas City Chiefs, shared his Vision of the Church

Visioning process led by Al Gunderman

The Elections Committee reported the results of the sixth ballot.

Secretary - (212 votes cast, 107 needed for election)

Rev. Peter Lange - 54

Rev. Robert Schaedel - 105

Rev. Rodney Fritz - 53

Board of Directors - Clergy (207 votes cast, 104 needed for election)

Rev. Gene Holtorf - 77

Rev. Vern Oestmann - 103

Rev. John Drush - 27

Board of Directors - Laity - at large (193 votes cast, 97 needed for election)

Paul Becker - 53

Walter Classen - 58

**Walt Frederking - 118 - Election**

Miriam Krause - 63

Betty Kruse - 86

Warren Meyer - 59

Bruce Schultz - 87

Trent Sebits - 53

William Strauss - 49  
Doug Wolters - 83  
Janet Zima - 60

The seventh election was declared closed.

Visioning process continued

The Elections Committee reported the results of the seventh ballot.

Secretary - (223 votes cast, 112 needed for election)

Rev. Peter Lange - 76

**Rev. Robert Schaedel - 147 - Election**

Board of Directors - Clergy

(223 votes cast, 112 needed for election)

Rev. Gene Holtorf - 82

**Rev. Vern Oestmann - 141- Election**

Board of Directors - Laity - at large

(201 votes cast, 102 needed for election)

Paul Becker - 48

Walter Classen - 51

Miriam Krause - 67

Betty Kruse - 90

Warren Meyer - 58

Bruce Schultz - 79

Trent Sebits - 61

Doug Wolters - 86

Janet Zima - 64

The eighth election was declared closed.

Visioning process continued

The Elections Committee reported the results of the eighth ballot.

Board of Directors - Laity - at large (191 votes cast, 96 needed for election)

Walter Classen - 53

Miriam Krause - 59

**Betty Kruse - 118- Election**

Warren Meyer - 52

Bruce Schultz - 94

Trent Sebits - 61

Doug Wolters - 89

Janet Zima - 58

The ninth election was declared closed.

Tom Nummela reported on the work of Concordia Publishing House.

Lois Lewellyn, Kansas District Lutheran Women's Missionary League President brought greetings to the Convention and reported on the work of the LWML.

Visioning process continued

The Elections Committee reported the results of the ninth election.

Board of Directors - Laity - at large (197 votes cast, 99 needed for election)

Walter Classen - 47

Miriam Krause - 54

Warren Meyer - 45

**Bruce Schultz -106 - Election**

Trent Sebits - 5

Doug Wolters - 94

Janet Zima - 48

The tenth election was declared closed.

Steve Hanschu - Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League President brought greetings to the Convention and reported on the work of the LLL.

Visioning processing continued

The Elections Committee reported the results of the tenth election.

Board of Directors - Laity - at large (162 votes cast, 82 needed for election)

Walter Classen - 13

Miriam Krause - 38

**Doug Wolters - 89 - Election**



The District Secretary, Rev. David Meier presented the slate of candidates - Circuit Counselor

Circuit 1 Rev. Mark Janzen, Sabetha	Circuit 9	Rev. Alan Stahlecker, Lincolnville
Circuit 2 Rev. Ed Mease, Leavenworth	Circuit 10	Rev. Dean Von Stroh, Andover
Circuit 3 Rev. Ron Flentgen, Olathe	Circuit 11	Rev. Rick Hathaway, Winfield
Circuit 4 Rev. John Duran, Ottawa	Circuit 12	Rev. Charles Adams, Salina
Circuit 5 Rev. Richard Peckman, Coffeyville	Circuit 13	Rev. Richard Andrus, Ellsworth
Circuit 6 Rev. John Hopkins, Topeka	Circuit 14	Rev. James Keltner, Ellsworth
Circuit 7 Rev. Rodney Fritz, Hanover	Circuit 15	Rev. Joel Hiesterman, Phillipsburg
Circuit 8 Rev. Larry Brackenhoff, Alta Vista	Circuit 16	Rev. Robert Roberts, Lakin

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The chairman of the elections committee, Rev. Craig Boehlke, made a motion that the elections be declared closed.  
**Adopted.** The elections committee was thanked for their work.

Committee members were Pastors: Rev. Craig Boehlke, Rev. Mark Eichler, Rev. David Parks, and Rev. Mark Wenzelberger Lay Persons: Luke Brown, Wayne Hobelman, and Stan Schrag Educators Sarah Boles, Boone Smith, and Jennifer Wendling Board: Rev. David Meier Staff: Larry Crume

Visioning process continued

Convention recessed at 4:30 pm

Banquet

The Horseshoe Farmers Band from Hanover entertained and led the Convention in song. Marvin Kohlmeier served as the Master of Ceremonies. Jada Kohlmeier shared her Vision of the Church.

Recognition awards for Rev. Paul Krause - 60 years, Rev. Andy Sabo - 58 years, Rev. Arlin Holtz - 55 years

President Kieschnick installed Rev. Keith Kohlmeier as Kansas District President.

Retiring Kansas District President Howard Patten and his wife Marilyn were honored for their service to God's Church in Kansas.

### **SESSION THREE - (May 3, 2003)**

Reconvened at 8:30 am

Convention Worship, "Christ be My Wisdom" - led by Rev. Robert Schaedel.

The Circuit Counselors choose Rev. Ron Flentgen, Olathe as Chairman of the Circuit Counselors. Rev. Flentgen will serve on the Kansas District Board of Directors.

Floor Committee on Missions Report - Rev. Cliff Winter

The members of the Missions Committee are: Pastors: Rev. Cliff Winter, Rev. Lee Hovel, Rev. Ron Oldenettel, Lay Persons: Lisa Stubbs, George Woodyard, and Marvin Zorn Educator: Jane Limback Board: Art Vogel Staff: Rev. Gary Rueter

**Resolution 2003-01-01 To Commend President Kieschnick's Emphasis on "One Message, One Mission, One People"**

**WHEREAS**, President Gerald Kieschnick and other Synodical leaders have used the emphasis "One Message, One Mission, One People" to encourage our entire church body toward a stronger zeal for evangelical confession, mission outreach, and renewed efforts to achieve peace and concord in our midst; and

**WHEREAS**, this emphasis expresses the heart of what it means to be Christ's people in confession,

mission, and unity within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District, meeting in convention, commend President Kieschnick by endorsing and responding enthusiastically to this emphasis.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-01-02B To Increase Mission Vision**

**WHEREAS**, President Kieschnick has presented a mission vision of “One Mission, One Message, One People” for renewed mission outreach by our LC-MS; and

**WHEREAS**, Pentecost 2000 initiated 750 new cross-cultural ministries by the year 2002 and is continuing its efforts to reach the 1000 goal by 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board for Mission Services has implemented an initiative to reach 100 million new souls in the next generation by the year 2017 to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Concordia University System has initiated the “For the Sake of the Church” initiative, to double the number of Lutheran students attending our 10 CUS schools, and raise a \$400 million endowment to support their education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mission Vision plan adopted in 1994 by the Kansas District Convention has been a great blessing to the District in developing giving to underwrite mission initiatives over and above regular congregational Synod/District mission offerings; and

**WHEREAS**, many opportunities and challenges for outreach exist that cannot be fully funded by District receipts, for example, new mission starts and ethnic, urban, deaf, and campus ministries; therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Kansas District determines to share the Good News of Jesus with all people and encourages its congregations to pray daily that the power of God’s Word and Spirit may work in the hearts and lives of all people; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Mission Vision Task Force look for opportunities for initiating, renewing, and funding outreach to the unchurched in Kansas.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-01-03 To Extend Kansas Guinea Partnership with LCMS World Mission**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District Convention in 1997 authorized a “Gospel Outreach Mission Partnership” with LCMS World Mission for work in Guinea, West Africa; and

**WHEREAS**, the partnership committed the Kansas District to provide a minimum of \$50,000 per year for seven years (until May 1, 2004); and

**WHEREAS**, funds contributed by congregations and individuals in the Kansas District have substantially exceeded the annual intention to the partnership; and

**WHEREAS**, the work in Guinea has expanded greatly during the last six years, from Tim and Beth Heiney to include also Jon and Sharon Oetting, Tim and Heidi Norton and Dr. Kristen Schmalz; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District convention in 2000 not only reaffirmed its support of this partnership but also increased its financial commitment to \$75,000 per year through 2004;

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District intends to lay the foundation for a Lutheran church body in Guinea, and  
(Amendment) **WHEREAS**, the pastors and churches of Guinea do not yet have the Small Catechism or any other Lutheran confessional writing of the Book of Concord available in their own Bandi language, and Pastor Amos Bolay indicated that this is a critical need, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District affirm its intention to sponsor the translation of the Book of Concord into the Bandi language by the year 2009. therefore be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District convention praise God for the faith and trust that led LCMS World Mission to offer this partnership and for the spirit and energy with which the people of our District have supported this endeavor; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District affirm its intention to extend the Guinea Mission Partnership with LCMS World Missions by seeking to provide a minimum of \$75,000 per year through May 1, 2007; and that we pledge ourselves to continue to pray for the protection, support, and work of the missionary families as well as the national church leaders; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that this convention encourage congregations of the Kansas District to support this partnership by using the special Guinea Partnership brochure to be distributed each year on Pentecost Sunday, or

another Sunday of their choice.

The resolution was moved and seconded.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by adding the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District intends to lay the foundation for a Lutheran church body in Guinea, and

**WHEREAS**, the pastors and churches of Guinea do not yet have the Small Catechism or any other Lutheran confessional writing of the Book of Concord available in their own Bandi language, and Pastor Amos Bolay indicated that this is a critical need, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District affirm its intention to sponsor the translation of the Book of Concord into the Bandi language by the year 2009.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

President Patten led the convention in singing "Praise God From All Blessings Flow" to thank God for the work in Guinea.

**Resolution 2003-01-04 To Commend and Encourage the Establishment of New Outreach Sites**

**WHEREAS**, three congregations of the Kansas District (Ascension, Wichita; Trinity, Leavenworth; Trinity, Mission) have received District support to establish second sites for increased outreach in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Bethany, Overland Park has established a second site for outreach without District support; and

**WHEREAS**, First Lutheran, Paola is considering a second site in Louisburg and has requested District support; and

*(Amendment) WHEREAS, Zion Lutheran in Argonia has received an evangelism grant from the Schwan's Foundation to establish a second site for outreach in Harper County (the neighboring county) and has requested District support; and*

**WHEREAS**, the most effective way to reach new people is through new congregations; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the convention commend these congregations for their efforts in establishing outreach sites; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the convention encourage other congregations to establish new outreach sites and ministries to reach unchurched people in Kansas.

The resolution was moved and seconded.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by adding the following:

**WHEREAS**, Zion Lutheran in Argonia has received an evangelism grant from the Schwan's Foundation to establish a second site for outreach in Harper County (the neighboring county) and has requested District support; and

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

Commission on Lay Ministry Director Jim Jorns gave a report on the Lay Ministry Institute

Mike Parmenter, Bethany, Wichita, member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lay Ministry class shared his experiences in the Lay Ministry program.

Tom Eckard, Bethany, Overland Park, member of the current Lay Ministry class shared his experiences in the Lay Ministry program.

Jim Jorns read a letter bringing greetings from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Rev. Glenn Thomas, Vice President for Seminary Relations

Floor Committee for Resolutions acting chairman Rev. Kent Rohrberg

The members of the Resolutions Committee are: Pastors: Rev. Arno Meyer, Rev. Donnie Hofman, and Rev. Kenton Rohrberg Lay Persons Alice Elkins, Craig Johnson, and Don Bartling Educator: Gery Pralle Board: Joel Hiesterman Staff: Howard Patten

### **Resolution 2003-06-01 To Commend and Direct the Scheduling of the Kansas District**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod is to meet in Convention every third year ("the year immediately preceding the general convention of the Synod" – Kansas District Bylaws, Article V. 1.); and

**WHEREAS**, "Each of the congregations of the District (a multiple parish being considered as a congregational unit) shall be represented by one pastor and one lay delegate . . ." (Kansas District Bylaws, Article V. 1.); and

**WHEREAS**, all of the lay delegates give sacrificially of their time in service to this Convention, some even having to take off from their secular vocation to attend the Convention; and

**WHEREAS**, all of the pastoral delegates are normally expected to be in the parishes in which they have serve on a Sunday morning; and

**WHEREAS**, when the Convention is scheduled to be in session of Sunday, the pastors of the District face the dilemma of determining which of two important places they need to be on Sunday morning; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that we commend the Kansas District Board of Directors for scheduling the 2003 Convention from Thursday, May 1, 2003 through Saturday, May 3, 2003 so that all pastors may be in their parishes on Sunday, May 4, 2003 to serve the congregations to which they have been called; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we give thanks to all the lay delegates for their sacrificial service at this Convention, with special gratitude to those who even took days off from their work schedules to serve the church as a delegate; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District Board of Directors be encouraged to schedule future District Conventions in such a way that the people of the Kansas District are best served in the worship and work of the church of Christ.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

### **Resolution 2003-06-02 To Provide More Equitable Representation and Voting Privileges at Conventions, and To Study Other Organizational Matters**

**WHEREAS**, under the blessing of God, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has grown in size and complexity far beyond the imaginings of our founding fathers, and

**WHEREAS**, we now include many lay members, pastors and commissioned workers such as teachers, Directors of Christian Education, chaplains, district and synod staff, college, university and seminary professors, and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a great difference in the size of congregations, circuits and districts, and

**WHEREAS**, professors and commissioned workers have no direct vote in the government and decisions of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and

**WHEREAS**, the number and size of Synodical boards and commissions has grown over the years, therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Kansas District request the Synodical convention of 2004 to direct the Commission on Structure of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to study synods' voting and organizational structure; and be in further

**RESOLVED**, that they bring recommendations for solving the following matters, and other issues related to these structures, to the entire Synod no later than one year prior to the 2007 Synodical convention:

- ~~→ Granting commissioned ministers fair representation, perhaps on a circuit basis, to district and national conventions;~~
- ~~→ Providing a more equitable representation based on size and number of congregations, circuits and districts;~~

- Reducing the size and number of Synodical boards and commissions, wherever possible, and determine the best method for selecting members,
- ~~➤ Asking the Council of Presidents to participate more directly in the nomination and appointment of Board and Commission members,~~
- Considering ways by which two or more districts may share the services of individual staff members,
- ~~➤ Exploring options for choosing Synodical vice-presidents two through five on a regional basis.~~

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by striking lines 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29  
Voice vote inconclusive

98 in favor 89 opposed **ACTION: ADOPTED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The Resolutions Committee was dismissed until later.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Larry Crume, Kansas District LCEF Vice President introduced Merle Freitag, President of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

Floor Committee on Caring Ministry - Rev. Scott Lemmerman, Chairman

The members of the Caring Ministry Committee are: Pastors: Rev. Scott Lemmerman, Rev. Neil Buono, Rev. Mike Sharp Educators: Terry Bird, Board: Barb McComas Staff: Rev. Rocky Mease

#### **Resolution 2003-02-01 THANKS TO LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, Lutheran Social Services of Kansas and Oklahoma (LSS) has, for more than one hundred twenty years served our communities, and especially our children, in the name of our Lutheran congregations, and

**WHEREAS**, this service has been a blessing to many and has brought honor to the name of “Lutheran,” and

**WHEREAS**, LSS has now ceased its operations and turned over the responsibilities for its ministries of care and concern to various other charitable organizations, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that we give thanks to God for the ways in which He has blessed us through Lutheran Social Services, and for the many faithful, skilled and loving people employed by LSS whom He has used in this work of love.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

#### **Resolution 2003-02-02 A VISION FOR LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRY IN KANSAS**

**WHEREAS**, Christ has called all his people to care for and serve each other, and the whole world, in love, and

**WHEREAS**, this service, care, and love are not to be not limited to seeing and caring for the needs of individuals on a one-to-one basis, but, following the example of the early Church in Acts, the responsibility of Christians in community, and

**WHEREAS**, we, as members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and its congregations in Kansas, find ourselves especially concerned with service to our fellow Kansans, both individually and in society, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that we commend the Board of Directors of the Kansas District of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod for establishing a Committee on Social Ministry under the Board of Caring Ministry, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we define the work of this Committee to include the production of a vision for Lutheran Social Ministry in Kansas, and the encouragement of its implementation.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-02-03 COMMEND PARISH NURSE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Parish Nurse Program has been a shining star among the caring ministries of the Kansas District, both encouraging and providing training for parish nurses in the congregations of the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the success of this Program owes much to the members of the Parish Nurse Committee, and especially to the tireless efforts of its chairman, Connie Scheffer; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that we give thanks to God for the Parish Nurse Program of the Kansas District, and brothers and sisters in Christ through whom He has blessed us in this Program; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we pray God that he would continue to bless the work of this Committee, continue to bless personally each of its members with life and health and joy in serving, and bless as well each Parish Nurse serving our congregations.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

The Floor Committee was thanked for their work.

Stewardship Floor Committee - Acting Chairman Rev. Kurt Rutz

The Stewardship Committee consists of Pastors: Rev. Rick Twenhafel, Rev. Clark Davis, and Rev. Kurt Rutz Lay Persons Faye Dieckman, Allen Kohlmeier and Jim Woody Educator Ed Bierbaum Board Mark Schotte Staff Garry Niehoff

**Resolution 2003-05-02 Worker Benefit Plans**

**WHEREAS**, Worker Benefit Plans is the pre eminent provider of health, retirement and disability benefits for church workers throughout the Missouri Synod, and

**WHEREAS**, significant consequences may occur to both employer and employee upon withdrawal from said plan, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations, schools, associations and entities of the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod be encouraged to involve representatives of Worker Benefit Plans when exploring and analyzing other options, and consider the long- term and short- term impact on employees and members of the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in the final determination of provider.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-04-01 Use of Congregational Stewardship Workbook**

**WHEREAS**, the Lord has richly blessed the congregations of The Kansas District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod with the gifts and blessings of His Gospel ministry, and

**WHEREAS**, he has entrusted these congregations with the task of ensuring that the ministries of His Church are well-equipped and funded, and

**WHEREAS**, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has developed a Congregational Stewardship Workbook to assist in this task, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas District LCMS be encouraged to make use of the Congregational Stewardship Workbook in the planning process of their programs of ministry.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-04-02 Support for Mission and Ministry**

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is the union of all congregations and individuals belonging to the Synod within the State of Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Word of God boldly declares that we are to give proportionately from what God has so graciously given us (e.g., 2 Corinthians 8-9); and

**WHEREAS**, individuals are encouraged to be good stewards of God's gifts of time, talents and treasures, and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas District-LCMS offers opportunities for individuals and congregations to support mission and ministry within the State of Kansas and throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, many doors of opportunity are opening for new missions starts within Kansas and the Synod and continuous support is necessary for mission and ministry to our campus ministries, education, youth, singles, older adults, caring ministries and other ministries, and

**WHEREAS**, congregations benefit from the administration of the District office and have duly elected the President and the Board of Directors who calls and hires extended staff to administrate various areas of ministry; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District-LCMS in convention encourage congregations and individuals to continue their good practice of stewardship in offering up to our Lord their gifts of time, talents, and treasurers for mission and ministry on the local, District, and Synodical levels; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Kansas District inform congregations of the Kansas District various needs for support within the District and the Synod; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that congregations and individuals *be encouraged* offer their God-given gifts for mission and ministry and not withhold financial support to congregations or District or Synod; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Kansas District continue to prayfully and financially support our District's ministry including its administration, mission and ministry, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we pray for a continuous outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the abundance of blessings so that God's will to seek and to save the lost is our common endeavor now and always.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by adding the words "be encouraged" to line 22(third resolve)

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by substituting the words "to encourage" for the words "their good" in Line 17 (first resolve)

**ACTION: DEFEATED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

#### **Resolution 2003-04-03 Use of the Planned Giving Program**

**WHEREAS**, the Lord has entrusted many gifts to us for safe keeping, and

**WHEREAS**, we have the services of a Planned Giving Counselor to assist in the planning process to pass their gifts to the next generation by minimizing cost, and

**WHEREAS**, congregations receive bequests and gifts to be placed in Endowment Funds, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations avail themselves of the full service provided in the Planned Giving Counselor to accomplish the very important task of planning the transfers by avoiding probate and minimizing taxes and avail themselves in establishing an Endowment Fund.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

Garry Niehoff, Kansas District Planned Giving Counselor was recognized.

Floor Committee was thanked for their work.

Resolutions Committee

#### **Resolution 2003-06-03 To Change Restrictions Concerning Membership on the Synodical Board of Directors**

**WHEREAS**, Synodical Bylaw 3.181, as stated, concerning the make up of the Synodical Board of Directors, "No more than one of these 13 [members] may be elected from one district"; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no restrictions for membership on any other Synodical board or synod-wide entity (e.g., Concordia Historical Institute, Concordia Publishing House, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod Foundation); and

**WHEREAS**, prior to 1998 the bylaw concerning membership on the Board of Directors read, "No more than one of the ordained ministers or lay persons may be elected from anyone District"; and

**WHEREAS**, the previous less restrictive bylaw limitation had served our Synod well for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable that the best qualified candidates for office be elected; therefore; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Kansas District memorializes the 2004 Synodical Convention to amend Bylaw 3.181a to read as follows:

*"... No more than one of the four elected ordained ministers may be from any one District, and no more than one of the eight elected laypersons may be from any one District."*

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, DECLINED**

**Resolution 2003-06-04 We Thank President Kieschnick**

**WHEREAS**, the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11th, 2001 brought much heartache to much of our nation; and

**WHEREAS**, people were in great need to hear or read of the comfort and peace of God's love proclaimed through the Good News of Jesus Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, President Gerald Kieschnick of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod responded to that need by using letters, sermons, speeches and newspaper ads to proclaim the love of God through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Kansas District commend and thank Dr. Kieschnick for bringing the wonderful message of God's love to the members of the LCMS as well as the communities in the United States of America, and in so doing demonstrate the Gospel-centered message of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-06-05 To Respect and Trust Each Other**

**WHEREAS**, in these difficult, changing and turbulent times, Synodical officials, pastors, congregations, and individual Christians are often called upon to make difficult decisions in complex and critical situations; and

**WHEREAS**, the word of God does not always directly address or provide definitive answers in many such situations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Theological Convocation of the Kansas District in January showed us the positive impact of talking face-to-face with those of differing opinions,

**WHEREAS**, the "Statement of the Council of Presidents On Harmony and Trust in Synod" (see statement at end of resolution) supports this effort to walk together in respect and trust; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that we encourage each other to approach such situations with prayer, the study of God's Word, the counsel of our brothers and sisters in Christ, the desire to act boldly and faithfully on behalf of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and in accordance with the commitments made to our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we recognize that because such situations vary from place to place, local pastors, congregations, and officials are ordinarily in a better position to make responsible decisions than those who are farther away, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that because of the above truths, we trust each other's decision and therefore avoid negative judgments and charges against each other in such circumstances; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that when we disagree with the decisions of a pastor, congregation, or official in such situations, we encourage one another and address those differences personally and privately before making our disagreements public or bringing formal charges against each other; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that we ask the 2003 Kansas District convention to request the Synodical convention of 2004 to authorize the Council of Presidents and the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, acting together, to develop guidelines and official procedures that will assist the members of the synod to develop greater mutual respect and trust for each other, particularly in recognizing and dealing responsibly and charitably with cases of discretion.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution by deleting lines 14-18.

**ACTION: DECLINED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

Statement of the Council of Presidents On Harmony and Trust in Synod

To Restore Harmony and Trust within The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod for the sake of Christ's Mission. Because Jesus Christ is our peace and has made us one, the Council of Presidents renews its commitment to lead the Synod in addressing:



1. The need to work toward agreement in doctrine and practice.
2. The need to provide safe places for responsible theological doctrinal discussion on the basis of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.
3. The need to avoid party spirit, rancor and name calling, and to treat one another in Christian love.
4. The need throughout the synod for God's people to seek that humility which leads to genuine repentance and forgiveness.
5. The need to support the President and all other elected officers of the Synod in every effort to focus our church on the Great Commission and to work for harmony within the Synod.

#### **Resolution 2003-06-06 To Reaffirm the Priesthood of All Believers**

**WHEREAS**, the Biblical doctrine of the priesthood of all believers is a fundamental doctrine of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, (as found in 1 Peter 2:9, "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."), and

**WHEREAS**, Martin Luther taught that the office of preaching belongs to all who are Christians both by right and command, and every Christian has the right and duty to teach, instruct, admonish, comfort and rebuke his neighbor at every opportunity, and

**WHEREAS**, our founder C.F.W. Walther taught that, "the holy ministry is the authority conferred by God through the congregation, as a holder of the priesthood and of all church power, to administer in public office the common rights of the spiritual priesthood in behalf of all," therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that the Kansas District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in convention reaffirms its historic emphasis on the authority and responsibilities of the priesthood of all believers including the right of self-governance, in the relationship between the congregation and its called pastor, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, to reject or revise any teachings, procedures, rulings, practices, resolutions or proposals that would deny or hinder the right and responsibility of church members to participate in the calling of pastors, in teaching and witnessing, in the right to judge doctrine, and in the decision making and administration of all church affairs, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that we all implore the mercies of God to help us find a consensus on disputed matters that is pleasing to him, grounded in Scripture, and faithful to the gospel so that the mission and ministry of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod might be strengthened and advanced.

It was moved and seconded to amend this resolution as follows:

*Retain first "Whereas" as it appears in original resolution, then replace all remaining "Whereas" sections with the following:*

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with *Augsburg Confession V*, that in order for sinners to be justified in Christ, God established the office of the ministry, that is, of preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments; and

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with Melancthon's *Treatise 69*, that the royal priesthood of our Baptism confers on the true church alone "the right of choosing and ordaining" persons to this office; and

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with the Table of Duties in Luther's *Small Catechism*, that one purpose of this ministry is to equip all Christians to fulfill their priestly vocations within the various Holy Orders of life; and

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with Martin Luther, that the general calling of every Christian to "confess, preach and spread this Word" is something distinct from being called publicly in the church "to preach and teach in the stead and by the commission of the rest" ("The Right and Power of a Christian Congregation to Judge...", 1523); and

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with *Augsburg Confession XIV*, that no one is to preach

or administer the Sacraments without such a proper and regular call; and

**WHEREAS** from Holy Scripture we believe, in agreement with Melancthon's *Treatise*, 26, that various titles and positions may be recognized and utilized for the fulfillment of this ministry; and

**WHEREAS** both in Reformation history and in the history of our beloved Synod there have been developed uniform and churchly ways and rites for proceeding with the call and ordination of occupants for the office of the ministry; be it...

*Then, leave each of the original Resolves in its original form, but insert the following two Resolves between the first and the second Resolves of the original overture:*

**RESOLVED**, that our pastors and churches during the next three years make a study from the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions of the relationship between the call to the public office of the holy ministry on the one hand, and the vocation of all the baptized on the other; and be it

**RESOLVED**, that the preachers and teachers of our District avoid both the confusion of these two callings and the disparagement of either of them, but seek rather to hold high both the baptismal calling to faith and holiness of life and the call and ordination to the office of the ministry; and be it

**ACTION: ADOPTED**

The amended resolution was presented to the Convention.

**ACTION: DECLINED**

**Resolution 2003-06-09 To Study District Staff Relationships with Local Parishes**

**WHEREAS**, the life of the church is lived out in local congregational settings; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for called District staff workers, to be effective in their positions, to remain in touch with parish life in the local setting; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors and the Presidium of the Kansas District undertake a study in the next triennium as to the advisability of an official relationship between each called District staff person and a worshipping congregation of the District; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the official relationship be established if deemed advisable.

**ACTION: MOVED, SECONDED, ADOPTED**

**Resolution 2003-06-08** which deals with Overture 2003-06-08 was not acted on because it is being dealt with by the CTCR.

Closing Convention Worship led by Rev. Keith Kohlmeier. The choir from Zion, Vassar assisted in worship.