**MINUTES**

**THE 52nd CONVENTION OF THE LCMS NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT**

**THE CENTRAL WISCONSIN CONVENTION & EXPO CENTER**

**ROTHSCHILD, WISCONSIN**

**June 3-4, 2018**

CONVENTION THEME:

“IN YOUR LIGHT WE SEE LIGHT, PSALM 36:9”

The 52nd convention of the LCMS North Wisconsin District opened with worship at 4:30 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Weston, WI. The message was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, Synod President.

SESSION #1

Sunday, June 3, 2018

1. CONVENING OF THE CONVENTION

President Lueck opened in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The credentials chairman reported a quorum (240/20) and the convention began.

2. Attorney David Piehler was introduced as parliamentarian and read through the special standing rules (see Convention Packet, Section One,). Motion made and seconded to accept convention rules.

3. Special thanks given to Rev. Daniel Thews for serving four terms as District Secretary and other Board of Directors of the past triennium.

4. Motion made and seconded to accept proposed convention agenda. Motion approved by voice vote.

5. D.J. Schult introduced the use of keypads and gave instructions for voting.

6. District President’s report began with a video talking about sharing the light. President Lueck used this as a springboard to talk about our theme from Psalm 36:9 “In Your Light We See Light.” Then introduced our North Wisconsin District mission statement and connected the two. Then shared his report:

1. Thanked Board of Directors and Chairman Craig Timm. Thanked Circuit Visitors and mentioned those who are retiring. Thanked Retirees. Acknowledged new church workers in the District.
2. 280 total NWD pastors on the LCMS roster and talked about vacancy numbers.
3. Talked about school vacancies and National shortage of teachers and principals. Then watched a video on our Lutheran Schools in the District.
4. Shared NWD statistics. 217 congregations. 45 dual congregations. 3 closed. 2 new congregations. 23 single congregations with no full-time pastor.
5. 92,729 baptized members.
6. NWD dollars used: 39% to synod. 40% to NWD. 15% to NWD missions. 6% to Camp Luther.
7. Challenges our NWD faces: Worship attendance. Aging membership. Church conflict. Our world’s indifference toward the church. Community demographic changes. Stewardship. Church worker debt.
8. Talked about the new compensation tool offered to congregations by CPS.
9. Talked about District website and the tools available there for congregations.
10. Shared Camp Luther news.
11. Closed with you are not alone. Your church address is not an accident. Your community is not an accident. Your calling is no accident.

7. Motion was made and seconded to accept ballot of candidates as presented in workbook. Passed by voice vote. Rev. Don Engebretson led an opening prayer for upcoming elections.

8. Since there was only one candidate for District President, the five minute speech was waived. Motion was made and seconded to cast a unanimous vote for Dwayne Lueck for position of District President. Motion passed by voice vote. President Lueck was reelected. Dwayne and Cheryl were called forward, celebrated and prayed for.

9. Elections were held for Vice President.

* Vice President, Region A

First Second

* + Rev. Joshua Errer 25
  + Rev. Steven Kline 41 28
  + Rev. Chad Ott 69 77
  + **Rev. Timothy Shoup** 78 **120**
* Vice President, Region B
* Rev. Joel Danner 51
* Rev. Don Engebretson 45
* **Rev. Timothy Roser 120**
* Vice President, Region C

First Second

* Rev. Ronald Mueller 33 18
* Rev. Thomas Myhre 18
* Rev. Gary Pahl 27 17
* Rev. Daniel Pfaffe 42 45
* **Rev. William Plautz** 99 **144**
* Ranking of Vice Presidents
  + Rev. Timothy Shoup 43 3rd
  + Rev. Timothy Roser 108 1st
  + Rev. William Plautz 76 2nd

10. Elections were held for District Secretary – Rev. Don Engebretson elected.

**Rev. Donald Engebretson 115**

Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt 110

11. Since Rev. Engebretson was elected District Secretary, he cannot serve as Circuit Visitor for Circuit #7. Circuit #7 will caucus to pick new candidate for elections in the morning. The slate, with a vacant #7, was motioned, seconded and passed by voice vote.

12. The Circuit Visitors list was ratified by voice vote.

#1 Rev. Steven Hyvonen

#2 Rev. Chad Ott

#3 Rev. Quinten Buechner

#4 Rev. John Trewyn

#5 Rev. Johnathan Cluppert

#6 Rev. Joel Danner

#7

#8 Rev. Thomas Hahn

#9 Rev. Mark Schulz

#10 Rev. Jeffrey Lambrecht

#11 Rev. Raymond Connor

#12 Rev. Todd Jerabek

#13 Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt

#14 Rev. Paul Scheunemann

#15 Rev. Timothy Moe

#16 Rev. Doug Schalow

#17 Rev. Daniel Bohn

#18 Rev. Jeffrey Smiles

#19 Rev. Paul Pett

13. Elections were held for Board of Directors, Pastor – Rev. Aaron Gehrke elected.

First Second Third

Rev. Ray Connor 47 46 32

Rev. Aric Fenske 45 48 52

**Rev. Aaron Gehrke** 58 90 **126**

Rev. Timothy Jones 15

Rev. Thomas Myhre 24 17

Rev. Leonard Wildauer 35 24 18

14. Arleigh Lutz and his wife Barb along with Paul Weber and his wife Candy were invited forward for special honor and thanks for their service.

15. Rev. Dr. Tom Ries, President of Concordia University, St. Paul extended greetings before we broke to enjoy fellowship in the Grand Ballroom provided by LCEF.

16. Rev. Ryan Fehrmann closed the first session with Daily Prayer – Close of the Day, Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. We paused to remember and give thanks to God for those who have passed into glory since the last convention:

Richard Czech Rev. Donald White Rev. Herbert Prauener

Rev. Donald Schulz Rev. Carl Selle Rev. Michael Stock

Rev. Wilbur Zielke Rev. David Boettcher Rev Donald Dominkowski

Allen Hoye Rev. James Plackner Donald Rosenberg

David Selmeyer Rev. Steven Anderson Rev. Norman Natzke

Rev. Donald Wesener

**SESSION #2**

Monday, June 4, 2018

1. Opening Matins were offered by Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, President, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. “Don’t become preoccupied by the business of the church but be obsessed with the Lord Jesus Christ.”
2. In circuit caucus, Circuit #7 chose Rev. Kyle Verage as their Circuit Visitor. Pastor Verage was added to the Circuit Visitors list and was motioned, seconded and added by voice vote.

3. Elections held for Board of Directors – Teacher/Commissioned Ministers – Brian Betts and Sharon Voight were elected.

First Second

**Brian Betts** **122**

Nathan Doell 91 48

Jeffrey Holt 92 61

**Sharon Voight** 96 **120**

4. Elections held for Board of Directors – Laypersons – Bruce Plautz, Karol Selle, Kathy Strasser, Paul Duerst, Stephane Fisher and Brian Hanson were initially elected. (However, see later convention action as Brian Hanson was removed because that would be two people from the same congregation on the Board of Directors. Richard Bartanen will be added in his place later.)

First Second Third Fourth Fifth Sixth Seventh

Richard Bartanen 117 94 107 103 104 80 93

**Paul Duerst** 106 98 110 103 **123**

**Stephen Fisher** 114 94 96 119 **149**

David Frater 60

**Brian Hanson** 113 97 96 104 107 83 **123**

David Makela 97 92 94 92 94 60

John Paddock 67 63

Michael Otten 68 73 65 60 55

**Bruce Plautz 148**

Daniel Schneider 76 67 65 54

James Schneider 81 68 61

**Karol Selle** **127**

**Kathy Strasser** 99 108 **122**

5. President Matthew C. Harrison brought his synod report to the convention.

6 President Harrison then installed Rev. Dwayne Lueck as District President.

7. Break for lunch.

8. Brian Hanson was elected to the Board of Directors/Layperson but that put two people from the same congregation on the board. So Brian was removed and Richard Bartanen, who had the next most votes in the seventh round of elections, was put on the Board in his place. Motioned, seconded and approved by voice vote.

9. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Teacher At Large – Pauline Jerabek elected.

First

**Pauline Jerabek 115**

Sallie Kamps 87

10. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area A – Pastor – Rev. Matthew Uttenreither elected.

First

Rev. Matthew Christians 90

**Rev. Matthew Uttenreither 106**

11. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area A – Layperson – Wayne Carlson elected.

First Second

Allen Mueller 45

Scott Fischer 69 76

**Wayne Carlson** 82 **123**

12. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area B – Pastor – Rev. Tim Swanson elected.

First

Rev. Donald Engebretson 82

**Rev. Tim Swanson 129**

13. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area B – Layperson – Paula Krueger elected.

First

Daniel Frick 37

**Paula Krueger 122**

Daniel Schneider 41

14. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area C – Pastor – Rev. Ronald Mueller elected.

First

Rev. Donald Bruce 65

**Rev. Ronald Mueller 103**

Rev. James Norton 32

15. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area C – Layperson – Mary Harington

First

Laura Bruce 74

**Mary Harington 134**

16. Elections held for 2019 Synod Convention NWD Advisory Delegates – Brian Betts elected.

First

**Brian Betts 125**

Jeffery Nielsen 85

17. Greetings were brought to the convention by Rev. Bart Day, President and CEO, Lutheran Church Extension Fund; Mary Harrington, President, North Wisconsin District Lutheran Women’s Missionary League; Neal Schalow, President, North Wisconsin Upper Michigan District Lutheran Laymen’s League; Rev. Patrick Ferry, President, Concordia University of Wisconsin and Ann Arbor.

18. Break

19. Resolution 18-02, To Humbly Confess the Six Twenty-Four Hour Day Creation as Being in Accordance with Holy Scripture, was passed after the question was called.

First

* **Yes 183**
* No 29

20. Resolution 18-04, To Decry Racism in Church and Society, passed.

First

* **Yes 123**
* No 85

21. Resolution 18-06, To Address the Student Debt of District Professional Church Workers passed.

First

* **Yes 197**
* No 16

22. Resolution 18-08, To Decline Certain Overtures, passed after amendment was defeated.

Amendment was made and seconded to amend the resolution so that it can be addressed on the floor. It was defeated.

First

* Yes 68
* **No 145**

The original Resolution 18-08 was passed.

First

* **Yes 172**
* No 43

23. NWD Staff was introduced by President Lueck and were thanked for their service.

24. Convention Essay: “In Your Light, We See Light” was presented by Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, President, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

25. The Circuit Visitors and Board of Directors were installed by President Lueck.

26. Camp Luther presentation.

27. Rev. John Stransky of the Registration Committee reported there were 254 Voting Delegates, 23 Advisory Delegates, and 94 Guests making a grand total of 371 individuals.

28. Closing devotion and praise were offered and President Lueck closed the 52nd Convention of the North Wisconsin District of the LCMS in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Submitted by Rev. Daniel P. Thews

NWD District Secretary