

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:
 - i. 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.
 - ii. 280 total NWD pastors on the LCMS roster and talked about vacancy numbers.
 - iii. Talked about school vacancies and National shortage of teachers and principals. Then watched a video on our Lutheran Schools in the District.

- iv. Shared NWD statistics. 217 congregations. 45 dual congregations. 3 closed. 2 new congregations. 23 single congregations with no full-time pastor.
- v. 92,729 baptized members.
- vi. NWD dollars used: 39% to synod. 40% to NWD. 15% to NWD missions. 6% to Camp Luther.
- vii. Challenges our NWD faces: Worship attendance. Aging membership. Church conflict. Our world's indifference toward the church. Community demographic changes. Stewardship. Church worker debt.
- viii. Talked about the new compensation tool offered to congregations by CPS.
- ix. Talked about District website and the tools available there for congregations.
- x. Shared Camp Luther news.
- xi. 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.

- **Yes** First **183**
- **No** 29

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

- **Yes** First **123**
- **No** 85

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

- **Yes** First **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.

- **Yes** First 68
- **No** **145**

The original Resolution 18-08 was passed.

- **Yes** First **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