

MINUTES
THE 51st CONVENTION OF THE LCMS NORTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT
THE CENTRAL WISCONSIN CONVENTION & EXPO CENTER
ROTHSCHILD, WISCONSIN
June 7-8, 2015

CONVENTION THEME:
“HE’S BY OUR SIDE”

The 50th 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 7, 2015

1. CONVENING OF THE CONVENTION

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

Vicar Tim Swanson reported a quorum (235/35) and the convention began.

2. Attorney David Piehler was introduced as parliamentarian and read through the special standing rules (see Handbook, Section One). Motion made and seconded to accept convention rules.
3. Special thanks given to Rev. Daniel Thews for serving three 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. President Lueck made some corrections to the convention workbook. Circuit counselors corrected. Church significant anniversaries corrected. Resolution 15-12 was added to registration packet.
6. D.J. Schult introduced the use of keypads and gave instructions for voting.
7. District President’s report began with a video talking about postmodernism. President Lueck used this as a springboard to talk about truth and John 14:6 “I am the way and the truth and the life.” Then introduced the synod mission statement and our North Wisconsin District mission statement. Then laid out the following challenges the NWD faces to its mission:
 - i. Congregations are getting smaller and older.
 - ii. The calling and retention of Pastors.

- iii. A Revitalized mission and vision.
- iv. Engaging and equipping lay people for ministry.
- v. Reducing conflict among us.
- vi. Recruiting workers to serve.
- vii. Encouraging one another instead of tearing each other down.

8. 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.
9. 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 and prayed for.
10. Elections were held for Vice President.
 - Vice President, Region A

○ Rev. Steven Hulke	120
○ Rev. Steven Kline	44
○ Rev. Timothy Shoup	58
 - Vice President, Region B

○ Rev. Joel Danner	59
○ Rev. Don Engebretson	45
○ Rev. Timothy Roser	120
 - Vice President, Region C

○ Rev. Ronald Mueller	59
○ Rev. Thomas Myhre	37
○ Rev. William Plautz	133
 - Ranking of Vice Presidents

○ Rev. Steven Hulke	89	2 nd
○ Rev. Timothy Roser	93	1 st
○ Rev. William Plautz	45	3 rd
11. The three newly elected vice presidents were removed from the “Board of Directors Pastors” list.
12. The Circuit Visitors list was ratified by voice vote.
 - #1 Rev. Stanley Bahn
 - #2 Rev. Chad Ott
 - #3 Rev. John Miels
 - #4 Rev. John Trewyn

- #5 Rev. Richard Miller
- #6 Rev. Brian Stolarczyk
- #7 Rev. Donald Engebretson
- #8 Rev. Thomas Hahn
- #9 Rev. Steve Rutter
- #10 Rev. Jeffrey Lambrecht
- #11 Rev. Raymond Connor
- #12 Rev. Todd Jerabek
- #13 Rev. David Miller
- #14 Rev. Paul Scheunemann
- #15 Rev. Jonathan Wessel
- #16 Rev. Doug Schalow
- #17 Rev. Daniel Bohn
- #18 Rev. Paul Shackel
- #19 Rev. Scott Malme
- #20 Rev. Dennis Voss

13. Elections were held for District Secretary – Hal Toenjes elected.

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Rev. Donald Engebretson	46	56	46	
Rev. Travis Kleinschmidt	30	25		
Rev. Alan “Hal” Toenjes	69	78	97	120
Rev. Dennis Voss	57	73	85	114
Rev. Leonard Wildauer	29			

14. Elections were held for Board of Directors, Pastor – Wes Baumeister elected.

	First	Second	Third
Rev. Wesley Baumeister	70	101	121
Rev. David DePaoli	10		
Rev. Clinton Hoff	30	35	37
Rev. Bruce Lamont	30	12	10
Rev. Thomas Myhre	24	21	18
Rev. Brian Roehrborn	12	7	
Rev. Timothy Shoup	34	32	24
Rev. Thomas Stark	17	12	10

15. Arleigh Lutz and his wife Barb along with Paul Weber and his wife Candie were invited forward for special honor and thanks.

16. Synod video was shown.

17. Max Biezenthal from LCEF extended greetings before we broke to enjoy fellowship provided by LCEF.
18. Rev. Don Engebretson offered a prayer to close at 9:21 p.m.

SESSION #2
Monday, June 8, 2015

1. Opening devotions were offered by Rev. Terry L. Cripe, President, Ohio District.
2. Elections held for Board of Directors – Teacher/Commissioned Ministers – Susan Longmire and David Selmeyer elected.

	First
Dean Frick	86
Sue Lilenthal	90
Susan Longmire	125
David Selmeyer	122

3. Elections held for Board of Directors – Laypersons – Paul Duerst, Stephen Fisher, David Mellem, Bruce Plautz, Karol Selle and Craig Timm elected. (HOWEVER, SEE THE REELECTION HELD LATER DUE TO A MISTAKE. DAVID MELLEM WAS REMOVED AND RICHARD BARTANEN WAS ADDED.)

	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Richard Bartanen	89	61	65	74	45
Paul Duerst	110	78	100	126	
Dale Ernst	93	53	52	51	21
Stephen Fisher	96	70	80	106	117
Kurt Henn	66	28			
Jonathon Lee	82	45	36	42	23
David Makela	86	60	54	46	23
David Mancusi	68	41	34		
David Mellem	119				
Bruce Plautz	142				
Karol Selle	146				
Craig Timm	149				

4. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Teacher At Large – Dian Schlichtmann elected.

	First
Holly Prah	98
Dian Schlichtmann	125

5. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area A – Pastor – Todd Jerebek elected.

	First	Second
Rev. Aaron Gehrke	89	93
Rev. Todd Jerabek	115	140
Rev. Matthew Uttenreither	30	

6. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area A – Layperson – Richard Bartanen elected.

	First
Richard Bartanen	153
Marlyn Teetzen	72

7. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area B – Pastor – Joel Danner elected.

	First
Rev. Joel Danner	128
Rev. Mark Lewis	96

8. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area B – Layperson – Jack Kleinschmidt elected.

	First	Second
Brian Hanson	72	75
Jack Kleinschmidt	98	153
David Lutz	46	

9. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area C – Pastor – Clinton Hoff elected.

	First	Second
Rev. Clinton Hoff	87	126
Rev. Thomas Myhre	85	112
Rev. Ryan Schroeder	58	

10. Elections held for Nominations Committee – Area C – Layperson – Anne Hartman

	First
Anne Hartman	156
Luther Raynes	81

11. Elections held for 2016 Synod Convention NWD Advisory Delegates – Chris Nelson and Gerald Schmidt elected.

	First
Brett Jones	101
Chris Nelson	120
Gerald Schmidt	117
Kathy Yahr	93

12. Elections held for 2016 Synod Committee for Convention Nominations – David Piehler elected. Motion made and seconded to add Stephen Fisher to the ballot. Passed by voice vote.

	First	Second
David Piehler	84	127
Timothy Mattson	64	109
Stephen Fisher	85	

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

14. Video was shown from Concordia Plan Services.

15. Break

16. Video was shown from Partner Plus.

17. Second Elections held for Board of Directors – Layperson – Richard Bartanen added and David Mellem removed. (WE ACCIDENTLY ELECTED TWO PEOPLE FROM THE SAME CHURCH TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. DAVID MELLEM WAS ELECTED AFTER REV. WES BAUMEISTER WAS ELECTED. SO DAVID MELLEM WAS REMOVED AND NEW ELECTION WAS HELD FOR HIS REPLACEMENT.)

	First	Second	Third
Richard Bartanen	55	90	112
Dale Ernst	36	27	23
Kurt Henn	15	11	
Jonathan Lee	21	17	18
David Makela	43	52	50
David Mancosi	13		

18. Resolution 15-06, To Speak as the North Wisconsin District on Euthanasia, was passed.

- | | First |
|-------|-------|
| ○ Yes | 218 |
| ○ No | 7 |

19. Resolution 15-08, To Establish a Task Force for Ministry to and with People with Disabilities, passed after some discussion about what resources are available.

- | | First |
|-------|-------|
| ○ Yes | 197 |
| ○ No | 32 |

20. Resolution 15-04, To Provide Additional PALS Funding from the North Wisconsin District passed with the following amendment: “NWD will pay, upon request, up to $\frac{3}{4}$...”

Vote to amend the Resolution

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| ○ Yes | 187 |
| ○ No | 49 |

Vote on the amended Resolution

- | | |
|-------|-----|
| ○ Yes | 161 |
| ○ No | 75 |

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

22. Lunch

23. Greetings brought to the Convention by LWML, LHM and Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry, President of CUW and CUAA.

24. Resolution 15-12, To Change the Way Pastor’s Information Forms (Ifs) are Done, passed with the following amendments:

- First, it was brought to the attention of the convention that the Resolution that was published in the convention workbook was not the resolution that was submitted by the floor committee. The correct resolution was passed out and accepted by the delegates.
- A motion was made to change the wording “(which means what?)” to “Which is an unclear term”. There was no second so amendment dies.

✓ Amendment made and seconded to strike the wording “(which means what?)”.

- Yes 173
- No 39

✓ Amended 15-12 passed.

- Yes 174
- No 57

25. Resolution 15-10, To Realign Circuits in the North Wisconsin District for Better Efficiency and More Productivity Among Congregations, passed with the following amendments:

➤ By common consent the 2nd and 4th Resolved were struck.

➤ Amendment was made and seconded to add the following Resolveds: “Circuit 15 and circuit 20 will be combined as one visitation circuit numbered Circuit 15. Be it finally resolved: The new Circuit 15 will meet in caucus within 60 days to elect a new Circuit Visitor who will be approved by the District President.”

- Yes 214
- No 9

➤ Amended resolution passed.

- Yes 218
- No 10

26. Resolution 15-14, To Decline Certain Overtures was passed with the following amendment:

➤ Amendment made and seconded to pull 15-13 from Overture 15-14.

- Yes 112
- No 107

➤ Revised 15-14 passed.

- Yes 212
- No 9

27. Motion made and seconded to consider Overture 15-13. Approved by voice vote.

28. Overture 15-1, To Express Support and Encouragement for SP Harrison, passed with the following amendments:

- Amendment made and seconded to strike first whereas. Strike line 22. Strike line 32. Add “Where false doctrine has been advocated.”
 - Yes 162
 - No 58
- Amendment made and seconded to strike line 22 “public teacher” and replace with “called and/or rostered workers of the LCMS”.
 - Yes 184
 - No 40
- Amended 15-13 passed.
 - Yes 141
 - No 84

29. Resolution 15-02, To Overrule CCM Opinion 14-2724, was tabled.

- Motion was made and seconded to table the Resolution.
 - Yes 128
 - No 103

30. Convention Essay: “He’s By Our Side” was presented by Rev. Terry Cripe, Ohio District President.

- Question #1: The NWD provides resources for the district president to carry out ecclesiastical supervision as defined in the Synod’s Constitution (Art. XII) and Bylaws (Bylaw 1.2.1 [g]) in a reasonable and timely manner.

Strongly Agree	27
Agree	95
Disagree	5
Strongly Disagree	1
Insufficient Knowledge	30

- Question #2: The NWD provides resources for the district president in carrying out the minimum requirements for official visits to each of the member congregations as outlined in Bylaws 4.4.4ff., including coming to the pastors and member congregations at least once every three years as a brotherly advisor, “reminding them of the joy of serving in the mission and ministry of the church.”

Strongly Agree	12
Agree	92
Disagree	26
Strongly Disagree	3
Insufficient Knowledge	26

- Question #3: The NWD provides appropriate guidance and support to member congregations for participating in the mission God has given to the Church, including how that is carried out in the various missions and ministries of the church.

Strongly Agree	22
Agree	104
Disagree	16
Strongly Disagree	1
Insufficient Knowledge	11

- ✓ Question #4: The NWD provides encouragement and needed congregational services (e.g., stewardship, conflict resolution, crisis counseling, financial counseling, calling process, collaborative efforts, networking, nourishment, and help with evangelistic outreach, etc.) to member congregations, and provides advice and counsel to member congregations struggling to carry out their core functions. (Provides encouragement and support for Lutheran pre-schools, elementary and high schools.)

Strongly Agree	21
Agree	107
Disagree	13
Strongly Disagree	1
Insufficient Knowledge	14

- Question #5: The NWD adapts to new circumstances and meets changing needs related to the mission and ministry of the church.

Strongly Agree	13
Agree	105
Disagree	18
Strongly Disagree	1
Insufficient Knowledge	18

- Question #6: The NWD meets its financial responsibilities and obligations, and receives sufficient financial resources from its membership to (i) support the mission and ministry of the church in the district, and (ii) financially assist the mission and ministry of the Synod.

Strongly Agree	11
Agree	98
Disagree	26
Strongly Disagree	2
Insufficient Knowledge	23

- Question #7: The NWD finds itself to be of a size and configuration to be effective, efficient, and capable of serving all who make up its constituency.

Strongly Agree	32
Agree	96
Disagree	13
Strongly Disagree	2
Insufficient Knowledge	15

- Question #8: The NWD provides adequate assistance and support to allow the district president to carry out the obligations of the office of district president as set forth in the Bylaws.

Strongly Agree	21
Agree	107
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	3
Insufficient Knowledge	20

31. Camp Luther presentation.

32. Peru mission initiative report.

33. The District Happenings video was shown.

34. The District officers were installed. President Lueck was installed by the Rev. Dr. John Wohlrabe Jr., Synod 2nd Vice President. President Lueck then installed the District Vice Presidents, the Circuit Visitors and the Board of Directors.

35. Rev. Hubbard reported on convention participants. There were 293 voting delegates present and 40 advisory delegates.

36. Closing devotion and praise was offered and President Lueck closed the 51st 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