

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-01 (President’s Report – Convention Workbook, pp. 22-26)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO ESTABLISH THE CONVENTION THEME OF “BEHOLD YOUR GOD! WHAT HELP!  
4 WHAT HOPE!”

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** “Behold Your God! What Help! What Hope!” (Isaiah 40:9, 53:2; John 3:14-15) has been  
7 chosen as the theme of this 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran  
8 Church – Missouri Synod; AND

9  
10 **WHEREAS,** For over one hundred and ten years, the men and women of our beloved South Dakota  
11 District have beheld and experienced the great blessings of our faithful God; AND

12  
13 **WHEREAS,** The devotions, Bible study, and many reports of the convention will reflect upon these  
14 blessings extended to the congregations, schools, and ministries of the District; AND

15  
16 **WHEREAS,** Our convention theme will also shape our ministry in The South Dakota District for the  
17 next three years; THEREFORE BE IT

18  
19 **RESOLVED:** That “Behold your God! What Help! What Hope!” be the overall theme and the underlying  
20 spirit of this convention.

21  
22  
23  
24 Respectfully Submitted,

25  
26  
27  
28  
29 \_\_\_\_\_  
30 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

31  
32  
33  
34 \_\_\_\_\_  
35 Reverend David Otten

36  
37  
38  
39 \_\_\_\_\_  
40 Mr. Gordon Krause

41  
42  
43  
44 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch

**RESOLUTION: 1-02 (Convention Workbook pg. 32)**

**SUBJECT:** TO RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUALS AND WELCOME THEM INTO THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT OF THE LCMS

**WHEREAS,** During the triennium following the 2015 60<sup>th</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District, the following individuals became rostered members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod—Ministers of Religion—Ordained:

<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Jesse L. Davis	Paul F. Albers	Christopher R. McCarthy
Daniel P. Grimmer	Micah L. Bauer	Samuel R. Thole
Jason M. Letsche	William L. Cornelius	
Matthew T. Resner	Josiah J. Fitch	
James M. Wilshusen	Ryan M. Janke	
	Jens B. Jenson	
	Eric P. Obermann	
	Benjamin J. Theiss	

**WHEREAS,** During the same triennium, the following individuals became rostered members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Ministers of Religion—Commissioned:

<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Christina R. Sereda		Allison R. Miller
Emily B. Smith		Joshua M. Schmitt
Brian M. Weyers		Britney C. Vercruysse

**WHEREAS,** The membership of the above individuals is held in The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That this 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of The South Dakota District recognize and welcome the above individuals as partners in the Gospel; AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** That we pray God's richest blessings upon these workers that the Holy Spirit would use them to extend God's kingdom here on earth.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reverend David Otten

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gordon Krause

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-03 (President’s Report – Convention Workbook, pp. 44-46)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO RECOGNIZE PASTORS’ AND TEACHERS’ ANNIVERSARIES,  
4 CONGREGATIONAL CENTENNIALS AND 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARIES OF  
5 CONGREGATIONS

6  
7 **WHEREAS,** Many District pastors and commissioned ministers have been privileged to serve a  
8 number of milestone years (Convention Workbook pages 44-46); AND

9  
10 **WHEREAS,** Seven South Dakota District congregations have celebrated 125<sup>th</sup> anniversaries and four  
11 congregations celebrated their centennials during the past triennium (Convention  
12 Workbook, page 44); THEREFORE BE IT

13  
14 **RESOLVED:** That we recognize these pastors, commissioned workers, congregational centennials,  
15 and 125<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of congregations; AND BE IT FINALLY

16  
17 **RESOLVED:** That following the adoption of this Resolution the assembly will rejoice with these pastors,  
18 commissioned workers and congregations by rising and singing the Common Doxology.

19  
20 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
21 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
22 Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:  
23 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.  
24 (LSB #805)

25  
26 Respectfully Submitted,

27  
28  
29  
30  
31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

33  
34  
35  
36 \_\_\_\_\_  
37 Reverend David Otten

38  
39  
40  
41 \_\_\_\_\_  
42 Mr. Gordon Krause

43  
44  
45  
46 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-04 (Convention Workbook, pp. 33-34)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE REPORT OF CORPORATE DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY  
4 THE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** Paragraph 2.4.2, p. 54 of the “2016 Handbook” of the Synod stipulates that the action of  
7 the District Board of Directors approving revised Articles of Incorporation, Constitutions  
8 and Bylaws be reported to the District Convention; AND

9  
10 **WHEREAS,** The Board of Directors has approved the documents of the congregations listed on page  
11 34 of the Convention Workbook; THEREFORE BE IT

12  
13 **RESOLVED:** That the Convention acknowledge the Board of Directors’ action and the receipt of this  
14 report; AND BE IT FINALLY

15  
16 **RESOLVED:** That each congregation contemplating the revision of its Constitution, Articles of  
17 Incorporation and/or Bylaws is reminded to follow the requirements of the Synod with  
18 respect to review of said Articles of Incorporation, Constitutions and/or Bylaws.

19  
20 Respectfully Submitted,

21  
22  
23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

25  
26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Reverend David Otten

29  
30  
31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Mr. Gordon Krause

33  
34  
35 \_\_\_\_\_  
36 Mr. Glenn Harnisch  
37  
38  
39

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-05 (Convention Workbook, pp. 23 and 70)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO THANK CERTAIN SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF

4  
5 **WHEREAS,** Chad Zinnel, has served thirteen years as Office Accountant at The South Dakota District  
6 Office, Wayne Steensma has served ten years as the District Archivist, Sherree Gayken  
7 served thirty-one years as the District Office Custodian, and Susan Bresee has served  
8 one-and-a-half years as the District Office Custodian; AND

9  
10 **WHEREAS,** These servants of God have carried out their work joyfully and faithfully; THEREFORE  
11 BE IT

12  
13 **RESOLVED:** That the District in Convention thank God for the gifts He gives to all His people for the  
14 common good, and that we thank His servants in the South Dakota District Office - Chad,  
15 Wayne, Sherree, and Susan – for their good and faithful service.

16  
17 Respectfully Submitted,

18  
19  
20 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

22  
23  
24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 Reverend David Otten

26  
27  
28 \_\_\_\_\_  
29 Mr. Gordon Krause

30  
31  
32 \_\_\_\_\_  
33 Mr. Glenn Harnisch  
34  
35

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
April 19-22, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-06 (Convention Workbook, pages 23 and 71)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK GOD FOR THE 37 ½ YEAR CAREER OF RANDALL L.  
4 GAYKEN AS DISTRICT BUSINESS MANAGER

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Randy Gayken began his service to The South Dakota District, Lutheran Church –  
7 Missouri Synod on October 28, 1980; AND

8  
9 **WHEREAS,** As District Business Manager, Mr. Gayken has been a constant, steady, and reliable  
10 presence for The South Dakota District over these 37 ½ years through many changes in  
11 District leadership, including five District Presidents and four District Executive Secretaries  
12 as well as numerous changes in business practices and technology; AND

13  
14 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Gayken has faithfully and diligently performed his duties as District Business Manager  
15 and manager of the South Dakota District Church Extension Fund; AND

16  
17 **WHEREAS,** The District and its leadership, its congregations and schools, and its professional church  
18 workers have been greatly blessed by Mr. Gayken's diligent and faithful stewardship and  
19 partnership in ministry and mission; AND

20  
21 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Gayken will be retiring from service as District Business Manager on May 31, 2018;  
22 THEREFORE BE IT

23  
24 **RESOLVED:** That we thank Mr. Gayken for his faithful, dedicated service to the District and the support  
25 of the mission of Christ over these many years and many changes; AND BE IT FINALLY

26  
27 **RESOLVED:** That following the adoption of this resolution the assembly will show its appreciation to Mr.  
28 Randy Gayken for his service and thanks to God for His blessings, by rising and singing  
29 the Common Doxology.

30  
31 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
32 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
33 Praise Him above ye, heav'nly host:  
34 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.  
35 (LSB #805)

36  
37 Respectfully Submitted,

38  
39  
40 \_\_\_\_\_  
41 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

42  
43  
44 \_\_\_\_\_  
45 Reverend David Otten

46  
47  
48 \_\_\_\_\_  
49 Mr. Gordon Krause

50  
51  
52 \_\_\_\_\_  
53 Mr. Glenn Harnisch

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-07 (Convention Workbook, page 23)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK GOD AT THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF JULIE PIKE'S  
4 SERVICE AS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

5  
6 **WHEREAS,** Mrs. Julie Pike began her service to The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church –  
7 Missouri Synod on September 17, 1987; AND

8  
9 **WHEREAS,** As Administrative Assistant, Julie has continuously provided dedicated and faithful service  
10 to the District through numerous changes in District and Synod, including five District  
11 Presidents and four District Executive Secretaries, with a spirit of patience and joy over 30  
12 years; AND

13  
14 **WHEREAS,** Julie maintains efficient administration of the duties and responsibilities of her position for  
15 the benefit of the Synod and District, her congregations, ordained ministers, commissioned  
16 ministers, and church members; AND

17  
18 **WHEREAS,** The District and its leadership, its congregations, and its professional church workers have  
19 been greatly blessed by Julie's diligent and faithful stewardship and partnership in ministry  
20 and mission and Julie continues to be a tremendous blessing to the staff of the District  
21 Office and the congregations, schools, and ministries of The South Dakota District;  
22 THEREFORE BE IT

23  
24 **RESOLVED:** That we thank Julie for her faithful, dedicated service to the District and the support of the  
25 mission over these many years and many changes; AND BE IT FINALLY

26  
27 **RESOLVED:** That following the adoption of this resolution the assembly will show its appreciation to Mrs.  
28 Julie Pike for her service and thanks to God for His blessings, by rising and singing the  
29 Common Doxology.

30  
31 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
32 Praise Him all creatures here below;  
33 Praise Him above ye, heav'nly host:  
34 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.  
35 (LSB #805)

36  
37 Respectfully Submitted,

38  
39  
40  
41 \_\_\_\_\_  
42 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

43  
44  
45 \_\_\_\_\_  
46 Reverend David Otten

47  
48  
49 \_\_\_\_\_  
50 Mr. Gordon Krause

51  
52 \_\_\_\_\_  
53 Mr. Glenn Harnisch

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

**RESOLUTION: 1-08 (Convention Workbook, pp. 22-26; 82-119)**

**SUBJECT:** TO ACCEPT THE PRESIDENT’S REPORT, TREASURER’S REPORT, AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

**WHEREAS,** The aforementioned reports and minutes have been submitted to the Convention; THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED:** That we accept the Reports and Minutes of the above entities; AND BE IT FINALLY

**RESOLVED:** That we give thanks and praise to God for the dedicated service of these entities of our beloved South Dakota District.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reverend David Otten

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gordon Krause

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch



To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-09 (Convention Workbook, pp. 47-60)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO RECOGNIZE AND GIVE THANKS FOR THE WORK OF THE CIRCUIT VISITORS

4  
5 **WHEREAS,** The Office of Circuit Visitor continues to be an important position within the structure of  
6 our Synod, oftentimes requiring substantial amounts of time and effort; AND

7  
8 **WHEREAS,** A number of District pastors have willingly served in this capacity during the past three  
9 years; AND

10  
11 **WHEREAS,** These Circuit Visitors have submitted reports to the Convention (Convention Workbook,  
12 pages 47-60) which not only inform of Circuit activities but also of dedicated service on  
13 the part of these men; THEREFORE BE IT

14  
15 **RESOLVED:** That the labors of these men be recognized by The South Dakota District as work well  
16 done.

17  
18 Respectfully Submitted,

19  
20  
21  
22  
23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

25  
26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Reverend David Otten

29  
30  
31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Mr. Gordon Krause

33  
34  
35 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-10 (President’s Report, Convention Workbook, pp. 22-26)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO THANK THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT

4  
5 **WHEREAS,** The Reverend Scott C. Sailer has provided our District with faithful pastoral leadership  
6 during the past triennium; AND

7  
8 **WHEREAS,** The District President has shared his thoughts with us of what it means to be “Called Into  
9 Partnership: For MERCY” in his Convention report, in his articles in the Lutheran Witness  
10 and the District President’s On-Line, in his visitations and preaching in many  
11 congregations for special occasions, and in his presence and leadership in many District  
12 meetings; THEREFORE BE IT

13  
14 **RESOLVED:** That we thank Reverend Sailer for his faithful pastoral leadership; AND BE IT FURTHER

15  
16 **RESOLVED:** That we accept our District President’s Report with thanks; AND BE IT FINALLY

17  
18 **RESOLVED:** That we give thanks to God for His servant, the Reverend Scott C. Sailer.  
19  
20

21  
22 Respectfully Submitted,

23  
24  
25  
26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

29  
30  
31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Reverend David Otten

33  
34  
35  
36  
37 \_\_\_\_\_  
38 Mr. Gordon Krause

39  
40  
41 \_\_\_\_\_  
42 Mr. Glenn Harnisch

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-11 (Overture 1-11)**

2  
3 **SUBJECT:** TO APPROVE VARIOUS AMENDMENTS TO THE SECOND RESTATED ARTICLES OF  
4 INCORPORATION OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN  
5 CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD, AND TO THEN APPROVE THE RESULTING REVISED  
6 ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT  
7

8 **Background:** The 2016 Convention of the Synod adopted resolutions which require its member Districts  
9 to amend the language in their governing documents regarding the District's relationship  
10 to the Synod, asset disposition, and prior approval of the Commission on Constitutional  
11 Matters (CCM) in amending such documents. Synod Bylaw 1.5.3.6 states requirements  
12 for relationship and asset disposition language. Synod Bylaw 3.9.2.2.3 requires prior  
13 review, by the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) of the Synod, of any  
14 amendments to the articles and bylaws of the Districts of the Synod. This requirement has  
15 been in place in the *Handbook* of the Synod for a number of years. However, due to Synod  
16 Convention action in 2016 (Resolution 11-15A), the new subparagraph [b] under Bylaw  
17 3.9.2.2.3 allows for those prior-approved amendments to be modified during a convention  
18 and then adopted, subject to subsequent approval of the CCM. Should the CCM not  
19 approve the amendments as adopted, the District Board of Directors is empowered, after  
20 the convention and by the District's Board of Directors two-thirds vote, to modify the  
21 amendments to the satisfaction of the CCM and to adopt them.  
22

23 **WHEREAS,** It is the desire and the obligation of The South Dakota District to honor LCMS convention  
24 resolutions and the resulting bylaw changes to the *Handbook* of the Synod, including those  
25 that pertain to the governing documents of LCMS entities (LCMS Bylaw 1.3.6; 2<sup>nd</sup> Restated  
26 Articles of Incorporation of The South Dakota District, Article III.C.), AND  
27

28 **WHEREAS,** It is also the desire and obligation of The South Dakota District to honor the laws of the  
29 State of South Dakota as a non-profit organization in the state (Romans 13:1-5), AND  
30

31 **WHEREAS,** These suggested amendments have been adopted by the District Board of Directors in  
32 their meeting of December 11, 2017, after having received prior approval by the Synod's  
33 Commission on Constitutional Matters in their meeting of September 15-16, 2017 (LCMS  
34 Bylaws 3.9.2.2.3; 4.5.1.d), THEREFORE LET IT BE  
35

36 **RESOLVED:** That Articles IX, X, and XI of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Restated Articles of The South Dakota District of The  
37 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be amended and adopted as follows:  
38

39 [PRESENT/PROPOSED WORDING]

40  
41 [BRACKETS ARE USED FOR EXPLANATIONS ONLY; THIS MATERIAL IS NOT PART OF THE  
42 AMENDMENTS.]  
43  
44

45 **ARTICLE IX**

46 **RELATIONSHIP TO THE SYNOD**

47  
48 This corporation, as part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, acknowledges its  
49 allegiance to the Synod and to the convention of the Synod. It submits to the authority of the  
50 Synod and the convention. It accedes, recognizes, and accepts the doctrine taught and  
51 practiced in the Synod (Art. II), ~~and also the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws~~  
52 ~~of the Synod, as currently in effect and as may hereafter be amended from time to time. All~~

53 provisions of this corporation's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the  
54 provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the Synod in convention.

- 55  
56 ~~A. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the organizational documents of~~  
57 ~~this corporation and the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, or Bylaws of the Synod,~~  
58 ~~as may hereafter be amended from time to time, the Articles, Constitution, or Bylaws~~  
59 ~~of the Synod shall control and govern.~~  
60  
61 ~~B. This provision may not be altered or deleted without the approval of the Synod in~~  
62 ~~convention or the Board of Directors of the Synod.~~

63  
64 [NOTE: The following, formerly point "C," becomes a second paragraph in Article IX.]

65  
66 ~~C. Neither The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod nor The Lutheran Church—Missouri~~  
67 ~~Synod Incorporated is responsible for the debts or other obligations of this corporation nor~~  
68 ~~do they represent or endorse the fiscal solvency of this corporation.~~

## 69 70 71 72 **ARTICLE X**

### 73 **DISSOLUTION**

- 74 ~~A. In the event this corporation is dissolved or its existence otherwise terminates or is~~  
75 ~~terminated, after the payment of the debts of the corporation, all right, title, and interest~~  
76 ~~in and to its property, whether tangible or intangible and whether real or personal, shall~~  
77 ~~thereupon automatically vest in or be transferred to the Synod, and this corporation~~  
78 ~~covenants and agrees to execute and deliver to the Synod such documents and~~  
79 ~~instruments and to take such other and further actions as the Synod may deem~~  
80 ~~reasonably necessary or desirable, in order to evidence and give full effect to the~~  
81 ~~foregoing. This provision may not be altered or deleted without the approval of the~~  
82 ~~Synod in convention or the Board of Directors of the Synod.~~  
83  
84 A. In the event of dissolution, other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the  
85 assets of this corporation, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with  
86 applicable state and federal laws, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as may  
87 be more specifically described in the Bylaws of this corporation.  
88  
89 B. If, however, on the date of such proposed dissolution, The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
90 Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, is no longer in existence, the assets  
91 of this corporation may distributed to any other Section 501(C)(3) organization as  
92 designated by the District's Board of Directors.

## 93 94 **ARTICLE XI**

### 95 **AMENDMENTS**

96 Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be made at any time at a regularly called  
97 meeting of this corporation by a majority of the voting delegates present at such meeting,  
98 provided such amendments are not inconsistent with the Constitution or the laws of the United  
99 States or the State of South Dakota or the Constitution or Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—  
100 Missouri Synod, and with prior approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the  
101 Synod. However, District Conventions are intended as the principal legislative assemblies for  
102 amendment of Articles of Incorporation.

103  
104  
  
105  
106  
107  
108  
  
109  
110  
111  
112  
  
113  
114  
  
115  
116  
117  
  
118  
119  
120  
121  
122  
123  
124  
  
125  
  
126  
127  
128  
129  
  
130  
131  
  
132  
133  
  
134  
135  
  
136  
  
137

Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall be made in the following manner:

- A. Unless an amendment is proposed directly by the members, the Board of Directors shall adopt a Resolution setting forth the proposed amendment and directing that it be submitted to a vote at a meeting of members entitled to vote thereon, after obtaining prior approval of the Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters.
- B. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and setting forth the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be effected thereby shall be given to each member entitled to vote at such meeting not less than ten nor more than fifty days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail.
- C. If the members adopt a Resolution setting forth a proposed amendment, written notice shall also be provided to the Board of Directors, as provided above.
- D. The proposed amendment shall be adopted upon receiving at least a majority of the votes which members present at such meeting are entitled to cast after obtaining prior approval of the Synod’s Commission on Constitutional Matters.
- E. The District in convention may vote to amend its articles or bylaws provided the resolution is contingent on approval by the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The amended articles or bylaws become effective immediately upon, and only upon, approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. Should the Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted changes, the District Board of Directors may modify the amendments to comply with the Commission on Constitutional Matters’ requirements upon their two-thirds vote.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Restated Articles of Incorporation  
of The South Dakota District**

**of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

Revised by the 2018 Convention of the District.

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME**

The name of the corporation shall be “THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD.”

**ARTICLE II**

**PERIOD OF DURATION**

The period of duration of this corporation is perpetual.

**ARTICLE III**

138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174

**OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES**

This corporation is formed for the following objectives and purposes:

- A. To unite in a corporate body the congregations, and ordained and commissioned ministers of religion, who are members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, situated or residing within the geographical boundaries of The South Dakota District; and to perpetuate the good work of disseminating the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.
  
- B. To carry out within the South Dakota District the objectives of The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod (The Synod), to-wit:
  - 1. Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; I Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defense against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;
  - 2. Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world;
  - 3. Recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth;
  - 4. Provide opportunities through which its members may express their Christian concern, love, and compassion in meeting human needs;
  - 5. Aid congregations to develop processes of thorough Christian education and nurture and to establish agencies of Christian education such as elementary and secondary schools and to support Synodical colleges, universities, and seminaries;
  - 6. Aid congregations by providing a variety of resources and opportunities for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith;
  - 7. Encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith;
  - 8. Provide evangelical supervision, counsel, and care for pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers of the Synod in the performance of their official duties;
  - 9. Provide protection for congregations, pastors, teachers, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the maintenance of their rights; and
  - 10. Aid in providing for the welfare of pastors, teachers, and other church workers, and their families in the event of illness, disability, retirement, special need, or death.
  
- C. As a District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to carry out Synodical resolutions affecting the District.
  
- D. To purchase or otherwise acquire, own, hold, use, lease (as lessee or lessor), pledge, invest in, encumber, exchange, transfer, and dispose of real or personal property.

- 175 E. To borrow money, to issue, sell, or pledge its obligations, notes, bonds, and other evidences  
176 of indebtedness, and to mortgage or pledge its property to secure the payment thereof.
- 177 F. To receive by gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise any money or other property absolute or in  
178 trust.
- 179 G. To have such powers as are permitted to it under the Statutes of the State of South Dakota,  
180 as from time to time amended, except that said corporation shall be organized and operated  
181 exclusively for the purposes specified in and qualified under Section 501 (C) (3) of the  
182 Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as the same may hereafter be amended and  
183 supplemented, and that said corporation shall operate exclusively for religious, educational,  
184 charitable, and other non-profitable purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to  
185 the benefit of any member. This corporation is specifically restricted to engage otherwise  
186 than as an insubstantial part of its activities, in activities which are in furtherance of one or  
187 more of the exempt purposes set out for such exempt organizations under the Internal  
188 Revenue Code.

189

#### ARTICLE IV

190

#### MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING PRIVILEGE

- 191 A. Membership: The membership of this corporation is comprised of the congregations  
192 and the ordained and commissioned ministers of religion of The Lutheran Church—  
193 Missouri Synod who have affiliated with this District.
- 194
- 195 B. Voting Members: At the meetings of the District, every congregation or parish is  
196 entitled to two votes: one cast by the pastor and the other by the lay delegate. These  
197 delegates shall be accredited, in accord with the Constitution and Bylaws of The  
198 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the District.
- 199
- 200 C. Advisory Delegates: All nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers who are  
201 members of the Synod within the District shall serve as advisory delegates. Advisory  
202 delegates are entitled to voice and vote on a floor committee, if appointed, and to voice  
203 in the District Convention. Advisory delegates are expected to attend the District  
204 Conventions, unless excused in accordance with the Bylaws.

205

206

207

#### ARTICLE V

208

#### MEETINGS

- 209 A. An annual meeting of the members shall be held as may be provided by the Bylaws.  
210
- 211 B. This corporation shall have a District Convention, in the years prescribed by the  
212 Constitution and Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The District  
213 Convention may be considered an annual meeting. District Conventions are the  
214 principal legislative assemblies, which amend the District's Articles of Incorporation  
215 and Bylaws, consider and take action on reports and overtures, and handle  
216 appropriate appeals.
- 217
- 218 C. Special meetings may be called in such manner as may be provided by the Synod or,  
219 if a meeting is necessary or advisable under South Dakota state law, as provided in  
220 this corporation's Bylaws.

221  
222  
223  
224  
225

**ARTICLE VI**

226

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OFFICERS**

227  
228  
229

A. The Board of Directors, of not less than three, shall be constituted as specified in the Bylaws and shall be elected by ballot by the voting delegates at that District Convention called for such purpose in the Bylaws of this corporation.

230  
231  
232  
233  
234

B. The officers of this corporation shall consist of a president, vice-presidents as specified by the Bylaws of this corporation, a secretary, a treasurer and such other officers as Bylaws may identify and shall be elected by ballot by the voting delegates at that District Convention called for such purpose in the Bylaws.

235  
236  
237

C. The duties of officers and directors and such other regulations and prohibitions regarding the qualifications of officers, as may be deemed necessary or expedient are or may be provided for in the Bylaws.

238  
239  
240  
241  
242

D. The property and affairs of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod shall be managed by the Board of Directors, which may exercise all the powers granted it in its efforts to realize the objectives of this organization, subject to the Bylaws of said corporation and the decision of its members at Convention or other meetings assembled.

243

**ARTICLE VII**

244

**INDEBTEDNESS: LIABILITY**

245  
246

A. The highest amount of indebtedness which this corporation shall incur shall in no event exceed the value of the assets owned by this corporation.

247  
248  
249  
250  
251

B. All indebtedness contracted by this corporation shall be made and concurred in by the President and Treasurer of this corporation, and the President and Secretary of this corporation shall make all conveyances of real estate, and shall execute all encumbrance, if any, of property owned by this corporation, and shall likewise release any and all mortgages and liens now existing or hereafter created in favor of this corporation.

252  
253

C. Private property of the members of this corporation shall not be subject to the payment of the corporate debts but shall be exempt from all liability therefore.

254

255

**ARTICLE VIII**

256

**BYLAWS**

257  
258  
259

A. The Constitution of the Synod shall be a part of this corporation's Bylaws and the Bylaws of the Synod shall be primarily the Bylaws of this corporation.



- 260 B. This corporation may adopt additional Bylaws and such rules and regulations for its  
261 own conduct as are not in conflict with these Articles of Incorporation, the laws of the  
262 State of South Dakota, or the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod.  
263 These Bylaws and regulations and any subsequent changes shall be submitted to the  
264 Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters for review and approval.  
265
- 266 C. Such additional Bylaws shall be adopted, altered, amended or repealed by a majority  
267 vote of the voting delegates present in the District Convention or at any special District  
268 meeting. However, District Conventions are intended as the principal legislative  
269 assemblies for amendment of the Bylaws.  
270  
271

272

273

## ARTICLE IX

274

### RELATIONSHIP TO THE SYNOD

275

276

This corporation, as part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, acknowledges its allegiance to the Synod and to the convention of the Synod. It submits to the authority of the Synod and the convention. It accedes, recognizes, and accepts the doctrine taught and practiced in the Synod (Art. II). All provisions of this corporation's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the Synod in convention.

282

283

Neither The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod nor The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Incorporated is responsible for the debts or other obligation of this corporation nor do they represent or endorse the fiscal solvency of this corporation.

284

285

286

287

288

## ARTICLE X

289

### DISSOLUTION

290

A. In the event of dissolution, other than by direction from the Synod in convention, the assets of this corporation, subject to its liabilities, shall be transferred, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, as may be more specifically described in the Bylaws of this corporation.

291

292

293

294

B. If, however, on the date of such proposed dissolution, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a Missouri Corporation, or its successor, is no longer in existence, the assets of this corporation may distributed to any other Section 501(C)(3) organization as designated by the District's Board of Directors.

295

296

297

298

299

300

301

## ARTICLE XI

302

### AMENDMENTS

303

Amendments to these Articles of Incorporation may be made at any time at a regularly called meeting of this corporation by a majority of the voting delegates present at such meeting,

304

305 provided such amendments are not inconsistent with the Constitution or the laws of the United  
306 States or the State of South Dakota or the Constitution or Bylaws of The Lutheran Church—  
307 Missouri Synod, and with prior approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the  
308 Synod. However, District Conventions are intended as the principal legislative assemblies for  
309 amendment of Articles of Incorporation.  
310

311 Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall be made in the following manner:

312 A. Unless an amendment is proposed directly by the members, the Board of Directors shall adopt  
313 a Resolution setting forth the proposed amendment and directing that it be submitted to a vote  
314 at a meeting of members entitled to vote thereon, after obtaining prior approval of the Synod's  
315 Commission on Constitutional Matters.

316 B. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and setting forth the  
317 proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be effected thereby shall be given to  
318 each member entitled to vote at such meeting not less than ten nor more than fifty days before  
319 the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail.

320 C. If the members adopt a Resolution setting forth a proposed amendment, written notice shall also  
321 be provided to the Board of Directors, as provided above.

322 D. The proposed amendment shall be adopted upon receiving at least a majority of the votes which  
323 members present at such meeting are entitled to cast after obtaining prior approval of the  
324 Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters.

325 E. The District in convention may vote to amend its articles or bylaws provided the resolution is  
326 contingent on approval by the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The amended articles or  
327 bylaws become effective immediately upon, and only upon, approval of the Commission on  
328 Constitutional Matters. Should the Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the  
329 adopted changes, the District Board of Directors may modify the amendments to comply with  
330 the Commission on Constitutional Matters' requirements upon their two-thirds vote.

331 Respectfully Submitted,

332  
333  
334  
335  
336 \_\_\_\_\_  
337 Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

338  
339  
340  
341 \_\_\_\_\_  
342 Reverend David Otten

343  
344  
345  
346 \_\_\_\_\_  
347 Mr. Gordon Krause

348  
349  
350  
351 \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glenn Harnisch

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-13 (Overture 1-13)**

2 **SUBJECT:** THE SOUTH DAKOTA CHURCH EXTENSION FUND AND LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3 EXTENSION FUND

4 **WHEREAS,** It is our Christian joy to be a good steward of all of God's gracious gifts: "His master said  
5 to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set  
6 you over much. Enter into the joy of your master,'" St. Matthew 25:21 (ESV); AND

7 **WHEREAS,** The South Dakota Church Extension Fund (CEF) has faithfully served The South Dakota  
8 District since 1907 A.D.; AND

9 **WHEREAS,** A number of mitigating circumstances challenge our District's ability to continue to provide  
10 a quality church extension ministry on our own, including: increasing regulations upon  
11 church extension funds, including filing requirements with the state and the need to  
12 purchase banking liability insurance; our CEF assets not being sufficient to approve loan  
13 requests exceeding \$600,000; our CEF's limited portfolio of investment options; CEF's  
14 need to purchase an appropriate banking computer system to enable investors to have  
15 online accounts in a secure website environment; and the pending retirement of Randy  
16 Gayken, our SD District Business Manager and CEF manager; AND

17 **WHEREAS,** The Lutheran Church Extension Fund – Missouri Synod (LCEF) was formed by the Synod  
18 in Convention in 1977 in order to bring the Church Extension Funds of the various Districts  
19 of the Synod into one organization of the Synod, providing the administration and the loan  
20 and investment products and services Districts cannot afford or provide because of the  
21 limited assets the fund has or because of regulations in their states; AND

22 **WHEREAS,** LCEF provides a broad portfolio of individual and congregational investor products and  
23 ministry services, doing so with high ratings in the industry; AND

24 **WHEREAS,** In 2016 the District President appointed a "Future of the CEF" committee to make a  
25 recommendation to the District Board of Directors as to whether the District should keep  
26 its CEF in its current form, or whether the District should transfer CEF's loan receivable,  
27 investor payables, and net asset balance to Synod's Lutheran Church Extension Fund  
28 (LCEF) to carry out the ministries of church extension in our District. (This committee  
29 consisted of Mr. Jim Schnaidt of Menno; Mr. John Mills of Brookings; Mr. Randy Gayken,  
30 our District Business Manager; Rev. L. Scott Spiehs of Wolsey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of the  
31 District; Rev. Brad Urbach of Pierre; and Rev. Scott Sailer, our District President.); AND

32 **WHEREAS,** The "Future of the CEF" committee recommended unanimously that the South Dakota  
33 District CEF should consolidate into and become a member District of the LCEF; AND

34 **WHEREAS,** The South Dakota District Board of Directors, at its June 2017 regular meeting, voted  
35 unanimously to consolidate our District CEF into LCEF; AND

36 **WHEREAS,** The consolidation was finalized on October 15, 2017; THEREFORE BE IT

37 **RESOLVED:** That we express our deep appreciation and thanks to all the past District Boards of  
38 Directors, CEF Committees, staff, and investors over the past 110 years that made this  
39 fund a blessing for all the congregations and schools who received loans from CEF to build  
40 or make improvements to their facilities for worship, education and fellowship; AND BE IT  
41 FURTHER

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

42 **RESOLVED:** That we thank God for the extraordinary efforts of Randy Gayken and Chad Zinnel,  
43 resulting in the smooth transfer of records and accounts from our South Dakota CEF to  
44 LCEF; AND BE IT FURTHER

45 **RESOLVED:** That all congregations, schools, and rostered church workers of the District be encouraged  
46 to consider the investor products and ministry services of LCEF, as faithful stewards of the  
47 resources God has given them; AND BE IT FINALLY

48 **RESOLVED:** That we acknowledge the ministry of LCEF as a valued partner in the Gospel to assist us  
49 in proclaiming in our District and throughout the earth, “Behold your God! What help! What  
50 hope!”

51

52

Respectfully Submitted,

53

54

---

Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

55

56

57

58

---

Reverend David Otten

59

60

61

62

---

Mr. Gordon Krause

63

64

65

66

---

Mr. Glenn Harnisch

67

68

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

1     **RESOLUTION: 1-14 (Overture 1-14) Amended**

2  
3     **SUBJECT:**     TO MEMORIALIZE THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD TO ELIMINATE  
4                    THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN ELECTORAL AND VISITATION CIRCUITS AND THE  
5                    COMMUNICANT MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT OF SAME

6  
7     **WHEREAS,**     LCMS Bylaw 3.1.2 (a) states: “An electoral circuit shall consist of . . . 7 to 20 member  
8                    congregations, involving an aggregate communicant membership ranging from 1,500 to  
9                    10,000; AND

10  
11    **WHEREAS,**     Bylaw 3.1.2(a) is the only place in the LCMS Constitution or Bylaws where communicant  
12                    membership is taken into account; AND

13  
14    **WHEREAS,**     The Church is not to be measured by “communicant membership,” for wherever the  
15                    Gospel is preached in its truth and purity and the Sacraments administered according to  
16                    Christ’s command, there is Christ present and there is the Church, even if there are only  
17                    two or three gathered together in His name (Matthew 18:20; AC VIII; *Christian Dogmatics*,  
18                    Vol III, p 409); AND

19  
20    **WHEREAS,**     All congregations, regardless of numbers of communicant members, share equally in the  
21                    authority and power of the Church, that is, the Office of the Keys, and are the possessors  
22                    of the priesthood and all church power, even if there are only two or three believers in  
23                    them (*Kirche und Amt*, Part One, Theses IV, VI, VII, Part Two, Thesis VII)

24  
25                    “As visible congregations that still have the Word and the sacraments essentially  
26                    according to God’s Word bear the name “church” because of the true invisible  
27                    church of sincere believers that is found in them, so also they possess the power  
28                    [authority] that Christ has given to His whole church, on account of the true  
29                    invisible church hidden in them, even if there were only two or three [believers]”  
30                    (*Ibid*, Part 1, VII), AND

31  
32    **WHEREAS,**     The requirement of at least 1,500 communicant members in an electoral circuit is  
33                    becoming an increasing burden in many of our districts, requiring electoral circuits of  
34                    ever-increasing geographic size; THEREFORE BE IT

35  
36    **RESOLVED:**     That the distinction between electoral and visitation circuits be eliminated and the Bylaws  
37                    of the Synod be amended to reflect this change; AND BE IT FURTHER

38  
39    **RESOLVED:**     That the communicant membership requirement for circuits be eliminated and that circuits  
40                    be defined in these terms in the Bylaws of the Synod: “a circuit shall consist of from 7 to  
41                    20 congregations and, except during a pastoral vacancy in (a) member congregation(s),  
42                    at least 7 pastors.”; AND BE IT FINALLY

43  
44    **RESOLVED:**     That The South Dakota District in convention submit this Resolution to the 2019  
45                    Convention of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod for action.

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

---

Reverend David Otten

---

Mr. Gordon Krause

---

Mr. Glenn Harnish

50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60  
61  
62  
63  
64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-15 (Overtures 1-15, 1-16 and 1-17)**  
2

3 **SUBJECT:** TO REALIGN CIRCUITS OF SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT AND ENCOURAGE  
4 CONGREGATIONS WITHIN EACH CIRCUIT TO WORK TOGETHER  
5

6 **WHEREAS,** LCMS Bylaw 3.1.2(a) states: “An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two  
7 adjacent visitation circuits, as shall be determined by the district board of directors on the  
8 basis of the following requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent from 7 to 20  
9 member congregations, involving an aggregate confirmed membership ranging from  
10 1,500 to 10,000”; AND  
11

12 **WHEREAS,** LCMS Bylaw 5.1.1 states: “A visitation circuit is a network of congregations that ‘walks  
13 together’ for mutual care, support, advice, study, ecclesiastical encouragement, service,  
14 coordination, resources, and counsel – all for the sake of greater congregational  
15 participation in God’s mission”; AND  
16

17 **WHEREAS,** For the benefit of the ministry of the South Dakota District and her circuits, the Huron  
18 Circuit petitions the South Dakota District to disband the circuit and assign its  
19 congregations to other circuits; THEREFORE BE IT  
20

21 **RESOLVED:** That the South Dakota District in Convention disband the Huron Circuit and assign its  
22 congregations as follows:  
23

- 24 • Our Savior Lutheran Church of Madison and St. John’s Lutheran Church of Howard  
25 to the Freeman Circuit.
- 26 • Messiah Lutheran Church of Redfield and Redeemer Lutheran Church of Doland to  
27 the Aberdeen Circuit
- 28 • Mount Calvary Lutheran Church of Huron, St. John Lutheran Church of Wolsey, Zion  
29 Lutheran Church of Wessington Springs, and Mt. Olive Lutheran Church of  
30 Woonsocket to the Mitchell Circuit; AND BE IT FURTHER  
31

32 **RESOLVED:** That the Circuits of the South Dakota District be identified in the following way, congruent  
33 with Synod’s Circuit designations:  
34

- 35 • Aberdeen Circuit: Circuit #1
- 36 • Watertown Circuit: Circuit #2
- 37 • Pierre Circuit: Circuit #3
- 38 • Black Hills Circuit: Circuit #4
- 39 • Mitchell Circuit: Circuit #5
- 40 • Freeman Circuit: Circuit #6
- 41 • Sioux Falls Circuit: Circuit #7
- 42 • Yankton Circuit: Circuit #8;
- 43 AND BE IT FINALLY  
44

45 **RESOLVED:** That the District Board of Directors appoint a committee after the 2019 Synodical  
46 Convention to:  
47

- 48 • Consider demographic realities, travel, and ministry relationships between  
49 congregations and within existing circuits; and
- 50 • Bring a plan for circuit alignment for the South Dakota District to the 2021 Convention  
51 of the District that recommends visitation circuits which fulfill the requirements to exist  
52 as electoral circuits.  
53

To The 61<sup>st</sup> Convention of  
The South Dakota District of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
April 19-21, 2018

54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60  
61  
62  
63  
64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Reverend Paul Winckler, Chairman

---

Reverend David Otten

---

Mr. Gordon Krause

---

Mr. Glenn Harnisch