

# ***Election and Resolution Highlights***

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Convention

Houston, Texas

July 10-17, 2010

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## **President and Vice-President Elections**

- Synod President – Rev. Matthew Harrison
- First Vice-President – Rev. Herb Mueller (his father was pastor in ND in various locations)
- Second Vice-President – Rev. John Wohlrabe
- Third Vice-President – Rev. Paul Maier
- Fourth Vice-President – Rev. Dan Preus
- Fifth Vice-President – Rev. Scott Murray

*Also...*

- North Dakota District's, Rev. Bernie Seter (Grafton), was elected to the International Board of Missions (Great Plains Region)

## **Missions**

- Reach out to Muslims
- Affirm and Encourage our Military Chaplains
- Encourage Participation in Operation Barnabas (helping our returning military)
- Reach out to Generation X and Millennials (born late 60's – 2000)
- Ensure solid Lutheran Theological Training for Missionaries

## **District and Congregational Services**

- Continue to support Children's Ministry, Family Ministry, Singles Ministry, Stewardship Ministry, and Youth Ministry
- Encourage Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families
- Encourage Study of the Lutheran Confessions during Reformation Celebration
- Encourage using District Guidelines for compensation of Professional Church Workers

## **Theology and Church Relations**

- To support Confessional Lutheranism at Home and Abroad
- To request a thorough Response to ELCA as their Social Statement on Human Sexuality
- To prepare new studies on Biblical interpretation
- To encourage collaboration between the CTCR and Seminary Faculties

## **Administration and Finance**

- To lead Districts and Synod in a Stewardship Renaissance
- To address Corporate Synod's Financial Crisis
- To study Higher Education System and bring back to 2013 Convention
- To address Student Indebtedness

## **Seminary and University Education**

- To recruit and retain Full-time Church Workers
- To Increase Impact of vicarage program
- To support Pastoral Formation

## **Human Care**

- To commend LCMS disaster relief work, particularly in Haiti
- To combat Malaria
- To encourage continued emphasis on Prison and Jail Ministry
- To continue the work initiated by the Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Task Force
- To support efforts to end Human Trafficking/Slavery

## **Ecclesial (Church) Matters**

- To encourage Task Force on Synodical Harmony
- To affirm Ecclesiastical Supervision

## **Synod Structure and Governance**

- To restore Circuits to their Primary Purpose
- Election of Circuit Counselors (the district president be provided opportunity to nominate eligible candidates from within the circuit; and be it further)
- Study future District Function and Configuration
- National Office realigns to Two Mission Boards: Domestic Missions and International Missions (this resolution perhaps drew the greatest discussion)
- That the convention will be required to elect the First Vice-President from the list of five chosen by the President-elect
- We Nominate and Elect Five Vice-Presidents by geographic region (e.g. West, East, South, Upper Great Plains, Great Lakes)
- That four weeks prior to the start of the convention, two of the delegates to the previous district convention from each congregation be provided opportunity to cast votes in a secure fashion for the office of President (in essence the Synod President is elected prior to the convention by each congregation)

*There was considerable interest on other resolution from Synod Structure and Governance that were either declined or received no action:*

- Establishing Synod's Priorities to give priority to Circuit and District Overtures (declined)
- Renaming the Synod (no action)
- To determine (or change) the number of delegates at National Conventions (withdrawn by committee)
- To change from a three to a four year convention cycle (declined)

For much more detail on all the resolutions and the convention, please go to [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org) and click on the convention tab.