

Convention Minutes

Session 7

Wednesday a.m., July 22, 2026

Matins

The Rev. T. Benjamin Ball, Second Vice-President (Central Region), preached on Luke 7:11–17 in the Office of Morning Prayer; Chaplain Daenzer served as liturgist and Kantor Machemer provided accompaniment for the day's services.

[The entire text of Rev. Ball's sermon will be printed in the *2026 Convention Proceedings*.]

Committee 11: Registration, Credentials, and Elections

Having called the convention to order, President Harrison opened the session and relinquished the chair to First Vice-President Lange. The parliamentarian noted his mistake the previous day: that Res. 10-05A changed the bylaws instantly and therefore was not able to be reconsidered. He asked the chair to rule the adopted motion to reconsider out of order. The parliamentarian noted there is yet the possibility of a "fix." The chair ruled that the motion to reconsider Res. 10-05A was out of order, that it is a continuing breach, that the motion is null and void, and that Res. 10-05A stands adopted, as if the reconsideration never occurred. The parliamentarian apologized and was forgiven.

Resuming the chair, President Harrison called upon the Rev. James Maxwell, chairman of Committee 11 (Registration, Credentials, and Elections), to update to the registration report, which read as follows:

Voting delegates	949
Advisory delegates	161
Advisory representatives	170
Special guests and others	174

The report was moved and adopted without discussion by voice vote.

It was moved and seconded to amend Standing Rule 26, *TB* 4:374, having to do with the prohibition of motions to reconsider or rescind toward the end of the convention, to strike "day" and to insert "two days." It was moved and carried by voice vote to close debate. The amendment to Rule 26 failed as not receiving a majority of the entire membership (951) [Yes: 463; No: 384].

It was moved and seconded amend Standing Rule 23, *TB* 4:374, having to do with automatic votes on closing debate, to strike "twenty (20)" and replace with "ten (10)." It was moved and carried by voice vote to close debate. The amendment to Rule 23 failed as not receiving a majority of the entire membership (951) [Yes: 279; No: 578].

Consent Calendar

The chair introduced the day's consent calendar, as found in *Today's Business* issue 5 (*TB*, 5:409), including Res. 3-07, "To Give Thanks to God for Synod Congregations Engaging in Mercy Ministries" (*TB*, 1:81); Res. 5-12, "To Conclude *Created Male and Female* Task Force and Receive Its Recommendations" (*TB*, 1:107–8); Res. 8-03, "To Fund Our Synod's Seminaries" (*TB*, 1:136); Res. 8-05A, "To Give Thanks for Concordia Publishing House's Use of Bible Translations" (*TB*, 3:342); Res. 8-06, "To Commend Concordia Publishing House for Prioritizing Mission and Distribution" (*TB*, 1:137–38); and Res. 9-16A, "To Amend Bylaws to Enhance Responsibilities of Synod Mission Boards and To Direct Board of Directors, Board for National Mission, Board for International Mission, and Chief Mission Officer to Review Overture 9-11" (*TB*, 2B:295–96).

It was moved and seconded to remove Res. 5-12, "To Conclude *Created Male and Female* Task Force and Receive Its Recommendations" (*TB*, 1:107–8), from the consent calendar. This removal failed of the required 15 percent of the voting delegates [Yes: 129; No: 739].

The consent calendar was adopted by voice vote, including Res. 3-07, 5-12, 8-03, 8-05A, 8-06, and 9-16A.

Greetings—Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Introducing LWML President, Mrs. Eden Keefe, President Harrison noted her election in 2023, highlighted the work of the LWML, and spoke of the auxiliary's \$2.6 million mission grant goal. Keefe addressed the convention and

brought greetings on behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The women of the LWML are honored to serve the Church with LWML mission grants, service, and prayers. The 2025–2027 biennium includes eight mission grants totaling more than \$660,000 that directly support the LCMS, with additional \$100,000 supporting Lutheran Hour Ministries. The remaining national grants, approximately \$2 million, support churches, RSOs, schools, and camps. District-level mission grants top \$6.2 million, on top of local support to congregations and schools. Highlighting a mission in Kenya, supported by the LWML, Keefe spoke about Gospel-centered work in supporting young women who are abused, orphaned, or trafficked. A woman served by this mission told a visiting LCMS pastor, "Tell the women in America that their gifts brought me the Word of God. Now I can read God's Word for myself. Now I can tell others what Jesus has done for me." She concluded by thanking the assembly for the honor of serving the church.

Greetings—Lutheran Hour Ministries

President Harrison introduced Mr. Kurt Buchholz, Global CEO of Lutheran Hour Ministries. He has led the organization since 2013 to expand LHM's outreach to more than 60 countries throughout the world. Buchholz brought greetings from more than 350,000 individuals from around the world who make the organization what it is. He described the organization as a movement of Christians reaching people with the Gospel more than 300 million times each week. LHM does this by equipping over 900,000 last year to share the Gospel. Over 2 million people responded to that Gospel message last year. He asked for the assembly's continued prayer and support.

Committee 8: Finance

The chair recognized Chairman Roger C. Paavola, president, Mid-South District, to begin the report of his committee. He began by introducing the members of his committee and speaking to its purpose, and then proceeded to offer resolutions:

Res. 8-04A, "To Expand Access to the Lutheran Confessions" (*TB*, 3:341–42), was read, to remove from p. 342, l. 12, the word "upcoming," and introduced by the committee. The resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Res. 8-02A, "To Amend Bylaw Section 3.7 to Clarify Additional Assigned Responsibilities and Provisions on the Board of Trustees—Concordia Plans / Board of Directors—Concordia Plan Services" (*TB*, 3:339–41), was read and introduced by the committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

Res. 8-07, "To Address Concordia Publishing House Shipping Charges" (*TB*, 1:138), was read and introduced by the committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

Res. 8-01, "To Encourage Transparency and Accountability in Legal Judgments and Settlements" (*TB*, 1:133), was read and introduced by the committee. The resolution was adopted by voice vote.

The resolution "To Require Transparency and Accountability regarding Concluded *HotChalk* Litigation" (*TB*, 5:412), was moved and seconded. After debate, the resolution failed [Yes: 408; No: 470].

Committee 9: Structure and Administration

The chair recognized Chairman Justin A. Panzer, president, Kansas District, to continue the report of his committee.

Res. 9-12, "To Amend Bylaws Exclusive to Lutheran Church Extension Fund to Clarify That It May Provide Real Estate Evaluation and Redevelopment Services in Support of Synod Mission and Ministry" (*TB*, 1:173–74), was read and introduced by the committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted.

Res. 9-14A, "To Amend Constitution Article XII 15 as to Call of Special District Conventions" (*TB*, 3:348–49), was read and introduced by the committee. The resolution was adopted by the required two-thirds vote [Yes: 887; No: 24]. The resolution will require congregational ratification under Const. Art. XV.

Res. 9-13, "To Adopt Recommendations of 2023 Res. 9-06A Task Force on Electoral Circuit Parameters" (*TB*, 1:174–75), was read and introduced by the committee.

It was moved, with prior approval of the CCM, to amend, reverting the changes in *TB* 1:175, ll. 20–22, in Bylaw 3.1.2 (b), so as to retain the original bylaw language: "Exceptions to these requirements may be made only by the President of the Synod upon request of a district board of directors." It was moved and seconded to cease debate on the amendment; this carried by voice vote. The amendment was adopted [Yes: 489; No: 411].

1 An advisory delegate attempted to move an amendment that was found to be out of order. Res. 9-13 was adopted
2 as once amended by voice vote.

3 Res. 9-18, “To Amend Bylaw 3.12.2 to Elect the Synod President at Convention” (*TB*, 2B:297–99), was read and
4 introduced by the committee.

5 It was moved and seconded to substitute Res. 9-15, “To Increase Congregation Participation in Election of Synod
6 President” (*TB*, 1:176–77), was read and introduced by the committee. The convention accepted consideration of the
7 substitute [Yes: 581; No: 323] and proceeded with debate thereon.

8 With twenty minutes’ debate elapsed, the chair put to the body the closure of debate on the substitute; this carried
9 by voice vote. The substitute motion, Res. 9-15, was adopted [Yes: 617; No: 272] and, consequentially, Res. 9-18 was
10 declined.

11 Res. 9-10A, “To Revise the Membership of the Pastoral Formation Committee” (*TB*, 3:347–48), was read and
12 introduced by the committee.

13 The amendment on *TB* 5:413 was moved and seconded, to insert, at *TB* 3:347, l. 44, before the closing parenthesis,
14 the words “nor a first-term district president” so as to make lines 44–45 read:

15 2. ~~The presidents of the seminaries~~ A district president (not serving on a seminary Board of Regents
16 nor a first-term district president), appointed by the Council of Presidents

17 It was moved and carried in a voice vote to cease debate on the amendment. The amendment failed on a voice
18 vote. It was moved and carried in a voice vote to cease debate on the resolution. Res. 9-10A was adopted without
19 amendment by voice vote.

20 Res. 9-17A, “To Respectfully Decline Overtures” (*TB*, 3:349–50), was read and introduced by the committee.
21 Without debate, the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

22 *Committee 5: Theology and Church Relations*

23 The chair recognized Chairman Brian S. Saunders, president, Iowa East District, to begin the report of his
24 committee.

25 Res. 5-04, “To Address Concerns with Partner Churches” (*TB*, 1:99–101), was read and introduced by the
26 committee. The resolution was adopted by voice vote.

27 Res. 5-15, “To Call Upon the AALC to Honor the Bonds of Fellowship and Resolve Matters Threatening the Unity
28 of Doctrine and Practice” (*TB*, 2B:297), was read and introduced by the committee.

29 It was moved to amend at p. 297, l. 25 to insert “reconciliatory” before “dialogue”; this carried by voice vote.

30 It was moved and seconded to amend at p. 297, l. 24, to strike “according to LCMS bylaws” and insert instead
31 “through a mutually accountable process that honors the ecclesiastical judgments and responsibilities of both church
32 bodies.” It was moved and carried by voice vote to cease debate on the amendment. The amendment failed.

33 It was moved and seconded to amend at p. 297, l. 19, to add “to work in good faith” before “to rectify.”

34 The orders of the day were reached; Res. 5-15 will be pending carrying the proposed amendment when Committee
35 5 returns.

36 *Convention Essay: “Christ’s Resurrection for You”*

37 [The entire text of the essay by the Rev. Kirk M. Clayton, professor, Concordia University Chicago, as well as the
38 response by the Rev. C. Bryan Wolfmueller, pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas., will be printed in the
39 *2026 Convention Proceedings*.]

40 During the essay, the chair was passed to the Rev. David A. Davis, president, Michigan District.

41 *Committee 7: University Education*

42 With President Harrison resuming the chair, the chair recognized Chairman Brady L. Finnern, president, Minnesota
43 North District, to begin the report of his committee. After opening remarks, the committee proceeded with business:

44 Res. 7-01, “To Commend the Concordia University System” (*TB*, 1:126), was read and introduced by the
45 committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

1 Res. 7-02A, “To Amend Bylaw 3.10.6.2.2” (*TB*, 3:334–35), was read and introduced by the committee. Without
2 debate, the resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

3 Res. 7-03A, “To Amend Bylaw 3.6.6.1” (*TB*, 3:335–36), was read and introduced by the committee. Without
4 debate, the resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

5 Res. 7-04, “To Clarify Prior Approval Protocols for University Theological Faculties” (*TB*, 1:128–29), was read
6 and introduced by the committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

7 Res. 7-05, “To Clarify Prior Approval Protocols for University Presidential Candidates” (*TB*, 1:129), was read and
8 introduced by the committee. Without debate, the resolution was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

9 Res. 7-06A, “To Encourage University Worship Practices That Form Students to be Faithful to Scriptures and
10 Lutheran Confessions” (*TB*, 3:336–37), was read and introduced by the committee.

11 It was moved and seconded to amend, on p. 337, l. 26, to strike “should” and replace with “must.” It was moved
12 and carried to cease debate. The amendment was adopted by a voice vote.

13 It was moved to amend on p. 337, l. 26, to append “but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of practices
14 and customs which are in harmony with our common confession of faith.” After clarification, the delegate withdrew
15 his amendment.

16 It was moved and carried on a voice vote to cease debate. The resolution was adopted [Yes: 806; No: 83].

17 Res. 7-07A, “To Clarify *Lutheran Identity* in Connection with the Concordia Universities” (*TB*, 3:337–38), was
18 read and introduced by the committee.

19 The orders of the day were called as the Lutheran Hour Ministries video, omitted earlier, was played.

20 **Session 8**
21 **Wednesday p.m., July 22, 2026**

22 *Commemoration of the Faithful Departed*

23 The Rev. Dr. Michael E. Gibson, president, Pacific Southwest District, preached on Romans 6:3–11 in the
24 Commemoration of the Faithful Departed; Chaplain Daenzer served as liturgist and Kantor Matthew Machemer as
25 organist; a choir provided special music.

26 [The entire text of President Gibson’s sermon will be printed in the *2026 Convention Proceedings*.]

27 *Minutes*

28 With the Rev. Dr. Michael T. Von Behren, president, Northwest District, taking the chair, the minutes of Tuesday’s
29 Sessions 5 and 6 were presented and approved by consent.

30 *Committee 11: Registration, Credentials, and Elections – Balloting for Other Boards and Commissions*

31 The chair called Committee 11 Chairman James Maxwell to the podium to continue with elections for the Synod’s
32 boards and commissions:

33 *Board of Regents, Seward (Lay, elect 2, 3-year term)*

34 *Position 2 of 2:*

35	Dan Buman (NEB)	104		
36	Bruce D. Schultz (KS)	369	547	(declared elected)
37	Douglas Tewes (NEB)	229	299	
38	Stan Ullerich (IW)	70		

39
40 *Board of Regents, St. Paul (Ordained, 3-year term)*

41	Jeffrey P. Cloeter (MO)	295	346	
42	Adam T. Filipek (ND)	165		
43	Donald J. Fondow (MNN)	412	521	(declared elected)

Board of Regents, St. Paul (Commissioned, 3-year term)

John Chilman III (PSW)	119			
Tia M. Esser (SD)	363	441		(declared elected)
Gary L. Volberding (MNS)	379	427		

Board of Regents, St. Paul (Lay, elect 2, 3-year term)

Position 1 of 2:

Karl Abbott (SE)	183	161		
Paul C. Hinz (TX)	304	410	508	(declared elected)
Richard A. Rolf (MI)	109			
Rosa Summers (MNS)	267	304	352	

Position 2 of 2:

Karl Abbott (SE)	194			
Richard A. Rolf (MI)	91			
Rosa Summers (MNS)	587			(declared elected)

Board of Regents, Austin (Ordained, 3-year term)

Keith W. Schweitzer (IW)	188			
Neil S. Vanderbush (TX)	336	441		(declared elected)
Richard A. Zeile (MI)	341	429		

Board of Regents, Austin (Commissioned, 3-year term)

Christopher R. Marshall (SW)	286			
Miguel A. Ruiz (TX)	579			(declared elected)

Board of Regents, Austin (Lay, elect 2, 3-year term)

Position 1 of 2:

Jon Allen (EA)	156			
William Brandt (TX)	458			(declared elected)
Bob L. Ssekyanzi (TX)	250			

Position 2 of 2:

Jon Allen (EA)	197			
Bob L. Ssekyanzi (TX)	654			(declared elected)

Board of Regents, Mequon (Ordained, 3-year term)

Jonathan E. Conner (IW)	220			
Dwayne M. Lueck (NW)	239	301		
Lance A. ODonnell (SW)	417	577		(declared elected)

Board of Regents, Mequon (Commissioned, 3-year term)

Jennifer Knox (SW)	646			(declared elected)
Paul R. Steinhaus (NW)	228			

Board of Regents, Mequon (Lay, elect 2, 3-year term)

Position 1 of 2:

Jon Allen (EA)	162	168		
Rande T. Casaday (EN)	91			
David Lambert (EN)	357	477		(declared elected)
Stephen M. Saunders (SW)	257	223		

Position 2 of 2:

Jon Allen (EA)	188			
Rande T. Casaday (EN)	74			
Stephen M. Saunders (SW)	615			(declared elected)

Commission on Worship (Ordained [parish pastor], 6-year term)

John M. Berg (SW)	56			
Steven C. Briel (MNS)	48			
Jason M. Kaspar (TX)	89			
David A. Kind (MNS)	211	432		
Brent W. Kuhlman (NEB)	110			
Steven P. Mueller (PSW)	238	437		(declared elected)
Daniel C. Ross (OK)	53			
Sean R. Smith (MDS)	47			

Commission on Worship (Commissioned [director of parish music or parish teacher], 6-year term)

Matthew C. Janssen (MO)	126			
Darin D. Koenemann (IN)	126			
Miguel A. Ruiz (TX)	245	345	391	
Paul M. Soulek (NEB)	209	342	483	(declared elected)
Thomas J. Winterstein (MI)	152	187		

Commission on Worship (Lay, 3-year term)

Michael Hollman (IN)	257	288	371	
Noreen L. Linke (RM)	257	236		
Joseph L. Olson (SW)	333	370	505	(declared elected)

Committee 5: Theology and Church Relations

With President Harrison resuming the chair, the chair recognized Chairman Brian S. Saunders, president, Iowa East District, to continue the report of his committee with a resolution pending.

Res. 5-15, “To Call Upon the AALC to Honor the Bonds of Fellowship and Resolve Matters Threatening the Unity of Doctrine and Practice” (*TB*, 2B:297), returned to the floor, as amended at p. 297, l. 25, to insert “reconciliatory” before “dialogue.” The resolution was carrying a pending amendment at p. 297, l. 19, to add “to work in good faith” before “to rectify.” Closure of debate on the amendment carried by a voice vote. The amendment was adopted [Yes: 574; No: 310]. With twenty minutes’ debate on the resolution elapsed, closure of debate carried by a voice vote. Res. 5-15 as twice amended was adopted [Yes: 813; No: 87].

Committee 7: University Education

The chair recognized Chairman Brady L. Finnern, president, Minnesota North District, to continue the report of his committee. After introducing the members of his committee, he proceeded with the resolution pending:

Res. 7-07A, “To Clarify *Lutheran Identity* in Connection with the Concordia Universities” (*TB*, 3:337–38), was read and introduced by the committee.

It was moved to amend on p. 338, l. 6, to strike “CUS BOD, in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations” and insert “the Commission on Theology and Church Relations in consultation with the CUS BOD.” A motion to cease debate on the amendment carried by voice vote. The amendment failed.

It was moved and seconded to cease debate on the resolution; this carried by voice vote. Res. 7-07A was adopted [Yes: 773; No: 143].

Res. 7-08A, “To Study Synodwide Corporate Status of Concordia University System” (*TB*, 3:338), was read and introduced by the committee. Closure of debate carried by voice vote. The resolution was adopted [Yes: 850; No: 53].

1 Res. 7-09A, “To Give Thanks for Work and Ministry of Concordia University Ann Arbor” (*TB*, 3:338–39), was
2 read and introduced by the committee.

3 It was moved to amend on p. 339, l. 7, by striking the words “and present.” Closure of debate on the amendment
4 carried in a voice vote. The amendment failed [Yes: 186; No: 708].

5 Closure of debate on the resolution carried in a voice vote. The resolution was adopted without amendment [Yes:
6 818; No: 91].

7 *Committee 5: Theology and Church Relations*

8 The chair recognized Chairman Brian S. Saunders, president, Iowa East District, to continue the report of his
9 committee with a resolution pending.

10 Res. 5-05, “To Address Open Communion and Pastoral Exceptions in Extraordinary Circumstances” (*TB*, 1:101–
11 2), was read and introduced by the committee.

12 It was moved to amend at p. 102, ll. 13–14, to strike “be urged pastorally and through sound catechesis to” and
13 replace with “and in accordance with the standards set forth in Articles II and VI 2 of the Synod Constitution.”

14 It was moved to amend the amendment to change the first “and” to “must.” Closure of debate on the amendment
15 carried by voice vote; the amendment to the amendment failed [Yes: 414; No: 437]. Debate on the primary amendment
16 continued.

17 Closure of debate on the primary amendment carried by voice vote. The primary amendment failed [Yes: 377; No:
18 506]. After further debate, closure of debate on the resolution carried by voice vote. Res. 5-05 was adopted without
19 amendment [Yes: 787; No: 114].

20 Res. 5-09A, “To Address the Public Reading of Scripture in Public Worship” (*TB*, 3:325–26), was read and
21 introduced by the committee.

22 It was moved to amend (*TB* 4:384) by appending at *TB* 3:326, l. 13, the words “and make recommendations for
23 action at the next Synod convention.” Closure of debate carried by voice vote. The amendment failed by voice vote.

24 It was moved to amend at l. 13, to add after “convention” the words “and create study materials for use at
25 synodwide theological convocations, such as circuit forums and district gatherings.” Closure of debate on the
26 amendment carried by voice vote. The amendment was adopted [Yes: 453; No: 436].

27 It was moved and seconded to strike, on p. 326, lines 5–13 in their entirety.

28 With twenty minutes’ debate elapsed, automatic closure of debate on the amendment carried and the amendment
29 failed. Automatic closure of debate on the resolution carried. Res. 5-09A as once amended was adopted [Yes: 607;
30 No: 296].

31 *Special Recognition—New and Outgoing Officers*

32 The chair introduced the Secretary and vice-presidents elected for the upcoming triennium and recognized the Rev.
33 Dr. Scott R. Murray and the Rev. Dr. John C. Wohlrabe, Jr., outgoing vice-presidents.

34 *Presentation—International Mission: Showing Mercy*

35 The Rev. Airton Schroeder, vice-president for social ministry and diaconal work for the Evangelical Lutheran
36 Church of Brazil (IELB), presented to the convention, noting that near the start of his service on the board of directors
37 of IELB in 2014, presiding over the mercy area, he was invited to participate in the International Conference on
38 Disaster Response at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, leading IELB to organize a disaster response
39 program. This was put to the test in 2023 when major flooding struck Brazil. LCMS leaders, at IELB’s request,
40 provided assistance and visited Brazil. The experience led IELB to host disaster response conferences and to translate
41 and adapt content for training based on the theology of the cross, focused on the mercy of the cross. This partnership
42 with LCMS and resulting training and conferences have aided IELB’s response to further disasters and facilitated new
43 partnerships. The training and publications were important, the assurance that IELB was not alone was priceless, and
44 IELB recognizes its relevance in the context of society. He finished by thanking LCMS for its willingness to help
45 people around the world, for its support and for giving IELB the opportunity to participate in the life of LCMS.

1 *Committee 3: Mercy*

2 The chair recognized Chairman John L. Pingel, president, Eastern District, to begin the report of his committee.
3 He began with introductions.

4 Res. 3-01A, “To Commend and Encourage Life Ministry Efforts of Congregations, Schools, Districts, and
5 Recognized Service Organizations” (*TB*, 2B:279–80), was read and introduced by the committee after prefatory
6 remarks on the grant program and on loving “in deed and in truth,” as well as a presentation by members of a
7 congregation aided by a grant.

8 It was moved and seconded to amend at p. 280, l. 8, to strike “and RSOs” and insert “RSOs and faith-based
9 nonprofits.” Closure of debate was moved and carried by a voice vote. After an uncertain voice vote, the amendment
10 was adopted [Yes: 502; No: 317]. In response to a point of order it was explained that the Secretary will adjust the
11 title as appropriate to reflect an increased scope.

12 It was moved and seconded to amend at p. 280, l. 13, to insert, after “natural death,” the words “to support as they
13 see fit state and federal aid that helps people, families, and the underserved obtain food or medical care, in our own
14 land or abroad.” Closure of debate was called and carried by voice vote on the amendment. The amendment failed in
15 a voice vote.

16 Closure of debate was called and carried by voice vote. Res. 3-01A as once amended was adopted [Yes: 779; No:
17 68]. The orders of the day were reached.

18 *Committee 10: Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution*

19 The chair recognized Chairman Robert D. Beinke, president, New England District, to begin the report of his
20 committee.

21 The committee offered an amendment to Bylaw 4.2.4 as adopted, to add, after “circumstance(s),” the words, “as
22 determined by the Synod President.” This was adopted by voice vote. [It was determined that this would require
23 ratification in Session 9 due to Bylaw 7.1.1 (a).]

24 Res. 10-07, “To Respectfully Decline Overtures” (*TB*, 1:185), was read and introduced by the committee. Without
25 debate, the resolution was adopted by voice vote.

26 *Committee 5: Theology and Church Relations*

27 The chair recognized Chairman Brian S. Saunders, president, Iowa East District, to continue the report of his
28 committee.

29 Res. 5-08A, “To Reaffirm the Synod’s Positions on Men and Women in the Church” (*TB*, 2B:292–93), was read
30 and introduced by the committee.

31 It was moved and carried by voice vote to cease debate. The resolution was adopted [Yes: 742; No: 138].

32 Chairman Saunders introduced members of the committee who had not presented.

33 It was moved and seconded to reconsider Res. 3-01A, “To Commend and Encourage Life Ministry Efforts of
34 Congregations, Schools, Districts, and Recognized Service Organizations” (*TB*, 2B:279–80). Closure of debate was
35 called and carried on a voice vote. Reconsideration failed on a voice vote.

36 *Committee 3: Mercy*

37 The chair recognized Chairman John L. Pingel, president, Eastern District, to continue the report of his committee.

38 Res. 3-02A, “To Promote Awareness of Christian Adoption and Fostering Needs” (*TB*, 2B:280), was read and
39 introduced by the committee.

40 It was amended to add a final resolve, p. 280, after l. 42, “That Synod in convention will work on a digital resource
41 that lists agencies and RSOs that provide adoption services and what state(s) each agency serves.” It was moved and
42 carried by voice vote to close debate on the amendment. The amendment failed on a voice vote, confirmed by division
43 [Yes: 301; No: 543]. At the orders, closure of debate was called and carried by voice vote. Res. 3-02A was adopted
44 without amendment by voice vote.

1 Responsive Prayer

2 Chaplain Daenzer led the convention in Responsive Prayer, with the text, Job 19:25–27.

3 John W. Sias, *Secretary*