

CHRIST IS RISEN

..... I N D E E D

Today's Business

Issue 6

Thursday, July 23

Table of Contents

First Issue	Pages 1–192
Second Issue, Part A	193–252
Second Issue, Part B	253–308
Third Issue	309–368
Fourth Issue	369–400
Fifth Issue	401–428
Daily Worship	430
ICRC Guests	431
Consent Calendar	432
Resolution Action Report.....	433
New Floor Committee Resolutions	435
10. Ecclesiastical Supervision and Dispute Resolution.....	435
New Delegate Resolutions	435
Slate of Candidates.....	438
Notices	448

Adopted Schedule

Morning Session

8:00	Matins— <i>Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa</i>
8:20	Consent Calendar
8:30	Minutes
8:35	Registration, Credentials, and Elections (#11) <i>(Balloting for other boards, CTCR, boards of regents, and synodwide entities)</i>
8:55	Finance (#8)
9:20	Life Together (#4)
10:25	Mercy (#3)
11:05	Unfinished Business
11:50	Itinerarium
12:00	Adjournment

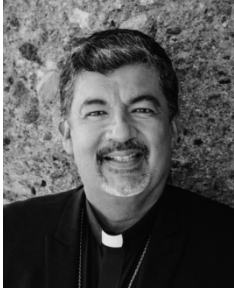
President's Proposed Schedule to Act on Necessary Business

Morning Session

8:00	Matins— <i>Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa</i>
8:20	Consent Calendar
8:30	Minutes
8:35	Mercy (#3)
9:05	National Witness (#1)
9:35	Itinerarium
9:45	Adjournment

DAILY WORSHIP

Preacher – Matins



The Rev. Dr. Alfonso Espinosa has served as a pastor in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) for 35 years. Espinosa currently serves Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine, Calif. He earned his M-Div in '91 at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN; the M.A. in Christian Apologetics in 2001 at Biola University, La Mirada, CA; and the Ph.D. in Theology in 2009 at the University of Birmingham, England. He is the author of the Faith and Culture trilogy published by Concordia Publishing House: *Faith That Sees Through the Culture* (2018), *Faith That Engages the Culture* (2021), and *Faith That Shines In the Culture* (2023). His latest release is the book *Contending for Christ Through the Creed: Apologetics for Loving Answers on the Christian Faith* (Wipf & Stock, 2025). He has also contributed to *The Lutheran Study Bible* (2009) as a member of the study notes team and wrote two chapters for *The Lutheran Difference* (2010, “God the Son” and “Creation”). His many other publications include the CTCR’s *Confession and Absolution* (2018) advocating that pastors need pastors; his contribution to *C.F.W. Walther: Churchman and Theologian* (CPH, 2011) with the essay, “C.F.W. Walther on Sanctification;” and his chapter in the textbook *Nursing and Ministry* (Jones & Bartlett, 2019) with the chapter entitled, “Nursing as Ministry for Diverse Populations and Faiths.” Dr. Espinosa has served the Board for National Mission of the LCMS since 2014 and has been the chair of the board this past triennium. During his service on the BNM he has championed both Family Ministry and increased BNM teamwork with our district presidents. He has served as adjunct professor of theology at Concordia University Irvine for undergraduate and graduate courses for 18 years and served for several years as an instructor of theology at Concordia Lutheran High School, Tomball, TX in apologetics and ethics for seniors. He has had over 50+ interviews with Issues, Etc, Faith Radio, and CPH podcasts. His current passion is to help equip the Church in face the idolatry in our culture not in a defensive posture, but in the confidence that the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ especially as it is put forth in our Lutheran Confessions will invigorate the Church to have confidence to share the freedom we know in Christ over all other gods. Pastor Espinosa is married to Traci and they have many children, in-law children, and grandchildren including Rev. A.J. Espinosa, STM; and Rev. Simon Volkmar who serves the Independent Evangelical—Lutheran Church (SELK) in Germany.

ICRC GUESTS

The International Church Relations Conference (ICRC) is a confessional Lutheran church fellowship (with an annual meeting). The ICRC has been held in various locations around the globe, but this year they are honored to participate in the Synod convention. The ICRC as a fellowship is composed of all church bodies that are in altar and pulpit fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The basis for this fellowship is: “United in Confession, Lutheran Church Fellowship.” Lutheran church fellowship means being united in confessing the doctrine of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all its articles.

Rev. Arturo Truenow, President
 Rev. Limberth Fernandez Coronado, President
 Rev. Victor Ivan Figueroa, General Secretary
 Rev. Geraldo Schuler, President
 Rev. Geraldo Kinas, President
 Rev. Luis Jasinto, President
 Rev. Omar Garza Martinez, President
 Rev. Marvin Donaire, President
 Rev. Alceu Figur, President
 Rev. Christian Hoffmann, President
 Rev. Eduardo Flores, President
 Rev. Matt Anker, President
 Rev. Tim Teuscher, President
 Rev. David Haberstock, President-Elect
 Rev. P.R. Selvaraj Paramaswaran

Mr. Ravi Jesupadam, OIM Coordinator
 Rev. John Saragih, Bishop
 Rev. Jong Ho Won, President
 Rev. Antonio Reyes, President
 Rev. Kevin Ko, Vice President
 Rev. John Donkoh, President
 Rev. Joseph Omolo, Archbishop
 Rev. Denis Rakotozafy, President
 Rev. Christian Ekong, Archbishop
 Rev. Helmut Paul, Bishop
 Rev. Martin Damasek, Acting Bishop

Rev. Tapani Simojoki, Chairman
 Rev. Juhana Pohjola, Bishop
 Rev. Garry Heintz, Vice President
 Rev. Hans-Jorg Voigt, Bishop
 Rev. Alexander Burtsev, Bishop
 Rev. Rinalds Grants, Archbishop
 Rev. Mindaugas Sabutis, Bishop
 Rev. Thor Henrik With, Bishop
 Rev. Torkild Masvie, Bishop
 Rev. Markus Snellmann, Bishop Elect
 Rev. Adalberto Hiller, President
 Rev. Vsevolod Lytkin, Bishop
 Rev. Evgenii Raskatov, General Secretary
 Rev. Bengt Adahl, Bishop
 Rev. Serge Maschewski, Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina
 Christian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia
 Christian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil
 Confessional Lutheran Church of Chile
 Lutheran Church of Guatemala
 Lutheran Synod of Mexico
 Lutheran Church Synod of Nicaragua
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Paraguay
 Lutheran Church of Uruguay
 Lutheran Church of Venezuela
 Lutheran Mission Australia
 Lutheran Church of Canada
 Lutheran Church of Canada
 President, Concordia Theological Seminary Nagercoil,
 India Evangelical Lutheran Church
 India Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church
 Lutheran Church of Korea
 Lutheran Church of the Philippines
 China Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya
 Malagasy Lutheran Church
 Lutheran Church of Nigeria
 Free Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South Africa
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Augsburg
 Confession in the Czech Republic
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of England
 Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland
 Evangelical Lutheran Church Synod of France
 Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church Germany
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in Almaty Kazakhstan
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania
 Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of Norway
 Lutheran Church of Norway and Iceland
 Lutheran Church of Norway and Iceland
 Portuguese Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia
 Mission Province of Sweden
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine

CONSENT CALENDAR

Preamble

Standing rule 10 states, “any remaining resolutions may be placed on a consent calendar if they are deemed by the chair to be non-controversial, courtesy, or honorific in nature and it shall require 15* percent of voting delegates to remove said resolution from the consent calendar. All resolutions not successfully removed shall be adopted without further action of the convention. The chairman may publish in each day’s *Today’s Business* a consent calendar for consideration that day.”

**in Session 5, this threshold was adjusted from 10 to 15 percent by amendment of Rule 10*

WHEREAS, the following have been presented by the President for adoption as part of the day’s consent calendar and not removed by request of at least ten percent of the voting delegation; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following resolutions shall stand adopted and be so reflected in the minutes and proceedings of the convention:

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Title</u>
Res. 3-03A	To Thank God for Work of LCMS Disaster Response and Human Care Partners and To Require Districts to Appoint Disaster Response Coordinators
Res. 3-05A	To Commend Efforts to Serve Worker Wellness and Encourage Participation in Concordia Plan Services



A delegate listens during the 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Phoenix on Wednesday, July 22, 2026. LCMS Communications/Frank Kohn

RESOLUTION ACTION REPORT

Floor Committee (continues on next page)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
01	A/Ad. Am. (1)	A/Adopted CC (1)	A/Ad. Am. (8)	Adopted (2)	Adopted (6)	A/Adopted (3)
02	Ad. Am. (1)	A/Adopted (2)	A/Adopted (8)	A/Adopted (2)	Adopted (6)	Adopted (3)
03	A/Adopted (1)	A/Adopted (2)	A/Prop CC (9)	Adopted (2)	Adopted CC (5)	A/Ad. Am. (3)
04	Adopted CC (1)	Adopted (2)		B/Adopted (3)	Adopted (7)	A/Adopted (3)
05	A/Adopted CC (3)	Adopted (2)	A/Prop CC (9)	Adopted (3)	Adopted (8)	A/Adopted (3)
06				A/Adopted (2)	A/Adopted CC (5)	A/Adopted (4)
07	A/Adopted (4)		Adopted CC (7)	Adopted (3)	Adopted CC (5)	A/Adopted (4)
08	A/Adopted CC (3)			Adopted as read (3)	A/Adopted (8)	Adopted (4)
09	A/Adopted (4)			A/Adopted (3)	A/Ad. Am. (8)	A/Adopted (5)
10				Adopted CC (5)	Adopted (6)	Adopted (6)
11					A/Adopted (6)	Adopted (5)
12	Adopted (4)				Adopted CC (7)	B/Ad. as read (5)
13	A/Adopted CC (3)				A/Adopted CC (5)	Adopted (5)
14	Adopted CC (3)				Adopted (8)	Adopted as read (6)
15					Ad. Am. (8)	
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

Key Adopted / Ad.: Adopted Declined / Dc.: Declined Pending / Pd.: Pending before assembly
 Ad. Am.: Adopted *as amended* Proposed / Prop.: Proposed A/, B/, C/, etc.: Action on published revised resolution
 CC.: Consent Calendar (#): Action in session #

Example: In column 2, row 05: A/Ad. Am. (3): Res. 2-05A was adopted as amended in session 3.

This table, updated daily, is provided for your convenience and the information contained herein is unofficial. The official record is contained in the convention minutes produced by the Secretary and will be published in the *Convention Proceedings*.

Floor Committee (continued from previous page)

	7	8	9	10		
01	Adopted (7)	Adopted (7)	B/Adopted CC (5)	A/Adopted (6)		
02	A/Adopted (7)	A/Adopted (7)	A/Adopted (4)	A/Adopted (5)		
03	A/Adopted (7)	Adopted CC (7)	Adopted CC (3)	A/Ad. as read (5)		
04	Adopted (7)	A/Adopted as read (7)	Adopted CC (3)	A/Adopted (6)		
05	Adopted (7)	A/Adopted CC (7)	Adopted CC (3)	A/Adopted (6)		
06	A/Ad. Am. (7)	Adopted CC (7)	Adopted CC (3)	Adopted CC (5)		
07	A/Adopted (8)	Adopted (7)	Adopted CC (3)	Adopted (8)		
08	A/Adopted (8)		Adopted as read (4)	Requires Ratification		
09	A/Adopted (8)		Adopted (4)			
10			A/Adopted (7)			
11			Adopted as read (4)			
12			Adopted (7)			
13			Ad. Am. (7)			
14			A/Adopted (7)			
15			Adopted (7)			
16			A/Ad. CC (7)			
17			A/Adopted (7)		Del. Res. (TB, 4:382–83)	Adopted (5)
18			Decl. by Sub. (7)		Omnibus Resolution A	Adopted (2)
19					Omnibus Resolution B (TB, 2B:266–67)	Adopted (2)
20					Omnibus Resolution C	Adopted (2)

Key Adopted / Ad.: Adopted Declined / Dc.: Declined Pending / Pd.: Pending before assembly
 Ad. Am.: Adopted as amended Proposed / Prop.: Proposed A/, B/, C/, etc.: Action on published revised resolution
 CC.: Consent Calendar (#): Action in session #

Example: In column 2, row 05: A/Ad. Am. (3): Res. 2-05A was adopted as amended in session 3.

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NEW FLOOR COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

10. ECCLESIASTICAL SUPERVISION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

To Amend Bylaw 4.2.4 regarding Installation of District Presidents

RESOLUTION 10-08

President's Report, Part 2 (*TB*, 1:35)

Therefore be it

Resolved, That Bylaw 4.2.4 be amended as follows:

~~PRESENT~~/PROPOSED WORDING

4.2 District Conventions

...

4.2.4 The President of the Synod or his representative shall report on the condition and affairs of the Synod. He shall also deliver the sermon at the opening or convention service. Except in the case of extenuating circumstance(s), as determined by the Synod President, he shall also install or reinstall the elected or re-elected district president prior to the conclusion of the district convention in which he is elected. The district president shall assume office upon a date certain in accordance with the bylaws of the district or practices of the district.

NEW DELEGATE RESOLUTIONS

To Address Modern Day Martyrdom

NEW RESOLUTION

Overtures 4-54–55 (*CW*, 331–32)

WHEREAS, The Church has had a long-standing recognition and honor of martyrs in the faith for their confession and example to us all; and

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Church has long celebrated feast days for Christ's martyrs; and

WHEREAS, Archbishop Balestrero (the Holy See's diplomat to the United Nations) reported an estimated 5,000 Christians were killed for their faith in 2025 (approximately 13 every day) (www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2026-03/holy-see-christian-persecution-religious-freedom-human-rights.html, accessed July 22, 2026); and

WHEREAS, In the last triennium there have been high profile killings of Christians for their faith in America and across the world including the shooting at Annunciation Catholic Church in Minnesota; the bombing at St. Elias Orthodox Church in Damascus; and the ongoing attacks on Christians in Nigeria; and

WHEREAS, The public assassination of Charlie Kirk and suspicions that Kirk's faith played a large role in the attacker's motive have brought concerns for many parishioners about growing violence against Christians in America; and

WHEREAS, Missionary brothers and friends of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have encountered regular threat and martyrdom, including martyrs who cannot be publicly recognized in the interest of protecting others still under persecution around the world; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod give thanks and praise to God for the steadfast faith of our Christian brothers and sisters who face persecution; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod give thanks and praise God for the encouragement and example of steadfast faith given to us by the Christian martyrs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod encourage congregations to regularly recognize and celebrate the feast days for martyrs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod encourage parish pastors to prepare their respective congregations to stay faithful, even facing the threat of death, by preaching and teaching on martyrdom; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod in convention give thanks to God for the confession of all martyrs of old and of recent times by rising and singing the common doxology.

Ethan Thompson
Lay Delegate, Michigan District

To Publish Convention Delegate Seat Assignments

NEW RESOLUTION

Report R59 (*CW*, 143–60)

WHEREAS, The Synod in convention, as a deliberative body, is to conduct its business through the free exchange of ideas among delegates; and

WHEREAS, Delegates are often unable to locate one another on the convention floor, hindering their ability to confer and coordinate with one another; and

WHEREAS, Publishing voting delegate seat assignments in *Today's Business* would enable delegates to more readily locate and communicate with one another for the purpose of accomplishing Synod business; therefore be it

Resolved, That the seat assignments of all voting delegates be published in an edition of *Today's Business* distributed prior to the opening business session of each Synod convention.

Aaron Yaeger
Pastoral Delegate, Southeastern District

To Support Religious Workers Serving The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the United States

NEW RESOLUTION

Reports R1.2.1, R8, R13.1–2 (*CW*, 16–19, 55–56, 64–67); Overtures 1-01–03 (*CW*, 277–78)

WHEREAS, The mission of Christ's Church depends upon the free proclamation of the Gospel and the faithful service of pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, teachers, and other church workers whom the Lord calls from many nations (LCMS CTCR Bible study, *“Immigrants Among Us: A Lutheran Framework for Addressing Immigration Issues”* [Nov. 2018]; 2026 Res. 1-01A, “To Celebrate and Encourage All Nations Ministry in North America,” *TB* 2B:269–70; 2026 Res. 2-05, “To Give Thanks to God for 125 Years of Gospel Ministry, Partner Churches, and Mission in the Latin America and Caribbean Region,” *TB* 1:74–75); and

WHEREAS, The Synod has long benefited from the faithful service of clergy and church workers born outside the United States, whose ministries strengthen congregations and expand opportunities for witness among diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, Congregations served by immigrant pastors and church workers may experience significant disruption to Word and Sacrament ministry, pastoral care, evangelism, and mercy work when those workers are unable to enter, reenter, or remain in the United States due to visa restrictions (2016 Res. 13-03, “To Address Future Church Leadership Needs in Light of Current and Future Challenges,” *Proc.*, 238–39); and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures encourage prayers “for kings and all who are in high positions” (1 Tim. 2:1–2) so that the Church may carry out its mission in peace and freedom; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod reaffirm its gratitude for the faithful service of international pastors, missionaries, church workers, and lay leaders serving within the Synod; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Synod encourage its districts, congregations, and agencies to support international church
 2 workers and congregations affected by visa restrictions through prayer, pastoral care, and appropriate practical
 3 assistance; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That Synod entities (such as the Office of National Mission, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, and
 5 others), be encouraged to advocate for the removal of restrictions affecting religious workers from countries subject to
 6 current and potential visa suspensions, that they may continue to proclaim Christ to the congregations and communities
 7 they serve in the United States; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That such advocacy encourage immigration and visa policies that recognize the unique public benefit
 9 provided by religious workers while respecting the government's legitimate responsibility to provide for national
 10 security and enforce immigration law (2019 Res. 11-05A, "To Encourage Responsible Citizenship and Compassion
 11 Toward Neighbors Who Are Immigrants Among Us," *Proc.*, 218); and be it finally

12 *Resolved*, That the President of the Synod communicate this encouragement, as appropriate, to federal policymakers
 13 and agencies responsible for administering religious worker visa policies.

14
 15 Joshua Salzberg
 Lay Delegate, Pacific Southwest District



Andrew Schempf plays during the 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Phoenix on Monday, July 20, 2026. LCMS Communications/Erik M. Lunsford

SLATE OF CANDIDATES

The 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (2026)

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot		4 th Ballot	
First Vice-President of the Synod								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	926						
1. Christopher S. Esget (EN)	7.13%	66						
2. Alfonso O. Espinosa (PSW)	16.95%	157						
3. Eric T. Lange (NOW)	8.32%	77						
4. Peter K. Lange (MO)	60.37%	559						
5. Don R. (Richard) Stuckwisch Jr. (IN)	7.24%	67						
Regional Vice-President								
Central Region								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	936	Total	940				
1. Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball (SI)	47.97%	449	51.91%	488				
2. Joel D. Biermann (MO)	42.95%	402	45.96%	432				
3. Peter J. Brock (IN)	2.99%	28						
4. Jeffrey P. Cloeter (MO)	3.85%	36	2.13%	20				
5. Michael P. Schuermann (CI)	2.24%	21						
East-Southeast Region								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	925						
1. Wally M. Arp (SELC)	13.08%	121						
2. Christopher S. Esget (EN)	56.76%	525						
3. Jeffrey E. Skopak (SE)	10.81%	100						
4. Deric A. Taylor (NJ)	8.86%	82						
5. Luke T. Zimmerman (EN)	10.49%	97						
Great Lakes Region								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	919	Total	931	Total	925		
1. Mark D. Brandt (MI)	22.31%	205	27.93%	260	33.62%	311		
2. Jamison J. Hardy (EN)	15.13%	139						
3. David P. Ramirez (SW)	20.02%	184	23.52%	219				
4. Eric C. Skovgaard (SW)	37.32%	343	48.55%	452	66.38%	614		
5. Sean A. Willman (MI)	5.22%	48						
Great Plains Region								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	921						
1. David C. Mumme (MNS)	12.81%	118						
2. Nabil S. Nour (SD)	51.25%	472						
3. Matthew R. Richard (ND)	15.64%	144						
4. Scott C. Sailer (SD)	9.99%	92						
5. Steven D. Turner (IW)	10.31%	95						

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Regional Vice-President (cont.)				
West-Southwest Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 935			
1. Timothy P. (Tim) Ahlman (PSW)	22.99% 215			
2. Alfonso O. Espinosa (PSW)	53.26% 498			
3. Bradley W. Jurischk (TX)	3.64% 34			
4. Eric T. Lange (NOW)	12.09% 113			
5. Yohannes A. Mengsteab (TX)	8.02% 75			
Regional Vice-President Rankings				
2nd Vice-President <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 932	Total 932		
1. Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball (SI)	44.74% 417	52.9% 493		
2. Christopher S. Esget (EN)	10.41% 97	7.4% 69		
3. Alfonso O. Espinosa (PSW)	21.35% 199	26.5% 247		
4. Nabil S. Nour (SD)	15.99% 149	13.2% 123		
5. Eric C. Skovgaard (SW)	7.51% 70			
3rd Vice President <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 928	Total 929		
2. Christopher S. Esget (EN)	25.11% 233	27.77% 258		
3. Alfonso O. Espinosa (PSW)	43.86% 407	55.97% 520		
4. Nabil S. Nour (SD)	21.98% 204	16.25% 151		
5. Eric C. Skovgaard (SW)	9.05% 84			
4th Vice President <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 926	Total 930		
2. Christopher S. Esget (EN)	45.25% 419	53.12% 494		
4. Nabil S. Nour (SD)	41.47% 384	46.88% 436		
5. Eric C. Skovgaard (SW)	13.28% 123			
5th Vice-President and 6th Vice-President <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 926			
4. Nabil S. Nour (SD)	66.74% 618			
5. Eric C. Skovgaard (SW)	33.26% 308			
Secretary of the Synod				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> <i>(elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 840			
1. Richard C. Rudowske Jr. (MO)	17.74% 149			
2. John W. Sias (MO)	82.26% 691			

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
LCMS Board of Directors				
Central Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 823			
1. Andrew N. Grams (MDS)	58.20% 479			
2. Aaron J. Silletto (IN)	27.46% 226			
3. Kevin W. Washburn (MDS)	14.34% 118			
West-Southwest Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 852	Total 866		
1. Trey Cox (PSW)	21.24% 181	21.02% 182		
2. Jerald L. Folkerts (RM)	10.68% 91			
3. Stephen Reavis (TX)	23.71% 202	26.10% 226		
4. Jesse L. Yow Jr. (CNH)	44.37% 378	52.89% 458		
At-Large <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 849	Total 864		
1. Thomas J. Deadrick (SD)	26.86% 228	36.23% 313		
2. David C. Eastburn (IE)	24.85% 211			
3. John W. Edson (MNS)	48.29% 410	63.77% 551		
At-Large <i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 871	Total 866		
1. Nathan T. Domsch (NEB)	25.95% 226	36.49% 316		
2. Jay A. Krause (SI)	25.83% 225			
3. Jan W. Lohmeyer (SO)	48.22% 420	63.51% 550		
Board for National Mission				
Central Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 884			
1. Douglas L. Rutt (MO)	36.99% 327			
2. Michael P. Schuermann (CI)	63.01% 557			
Great Lakes Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 898			
1. Peter C. Bender (SW)	61.36% 551			
2. Miriam R. Yakimow (MI)	38.64% 347			
West-Southwest Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 885	Total 899		
1. Kevin W. Austin (PSW)	33.45% 296	38.26% 344		
2. Thomas E. Chryst (TX)	49.83% 441	61.74% 555		
3. Neil S. Vanderbush (TX)	16.72% 148			
East-Southeast Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 896			
1. Rande T. Casaday (EN)	14.73% 132			
2. David L. Daniels (SE)	50.67% 454			
3. Karen A. Dowbnia (EN)	13.84% 124			
4. Janis G. McDaniels (SE)	20.76% 186			
Great Plains Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 892			
1. Vernon W. Kettelhake (NEB)	31.73% 283			
2. Sarah Rausch (SD)	68.27% 609			

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Board for International Mission				
East-Southeast Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 892			
1. James A. Douthwaite (SELC)	51.57% 460			
2. Gregory D. Jans (NJ)	18.39% 164			
3. Rachel E. Jaseph (SE)	30.04% 268			
Great Plains Region <i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 900	Total 904		
1. Richard X. Her (MNS)	24.67% 222			
2. Daniel Preus (MNN)	46.67% 420	54.65% 494		
3. Brent D. Smith (NEB)	28.67% 258	45.35% 410		
Central Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 890			
1. Adam D. Fosse (KS)	59.89% 533			
2. Seth R. Hinz (MO)	40.11% 357			
Great Lakes Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 903			
1. Kelly Bone (MI)	39.20% 354			
2. John L. Powers (SW)	60.80% 549			
West-Southwest Region <i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 893			
1. Richard P. Fielitz Jr. (CNH)	16.46% 147			
2. Terence Lung (CNH)	61.37% 548			
3. Doss Tychicus (PSW)	22.17% 198			
Commission on Theology and Church Relations				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained (parish pastor)</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 902	Total 902	Total 893	
1. Theodore J. Hopkins (MI)	20.62% 186	24.83% 224		
2. Andrew C. Kennell (MO)	16.41% 148			
3. Martin R. Noland (CNH)	23.17% 209	25.50% 230	39.31% 351	
4. Mark P. Surburg (SI)	39.80% 359	49.67% 448	60.69% 542	
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> <i>(elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 896			
1. Keith G. Chuvala (TX)	28.24% 253			
2. Paul P. Edmon (NE)	52.68% 472			
3. Joseph L. Olson (SW)	19.08% 171			

Office / Candidate		1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot		4 th Ballot	
Concordia Historical Institute Board of Governors									
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 2, 6-year term)		A Total	899	A Total	900	A		A	
		B Total	899	B Total	905	B		B	
1. Rodney A. Benkendorf (MO)		A	38.38%	345	51.33%	462			
		B							
2. Mark A. Loest (MI)		A	18.69%	168					
		B	17.24%	155					
3. David P. Ramirez (SW)		A	21.91%	197	26.67%	240			
		B	32.93%	296	36.35%	329			
4. Robert V. Roethemeyer (IN)		A	21.02%	189	22.00%	198			
		B	49.83%	448	63.65%	576			
Minister of Religion—Commissioned or Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 1, 6-year term)		Total		893	Total		893		
1. David Duesenberg (MO)		17.25%		154					
2. Alessandro Meregaglia (NOW)		33.71%		301	40.76%		364		
3. Matthew C. Phillips (NEB)		49.05%		438	59.24%		529		
Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors									
Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 4, 6-year term)		A Total	811	A Total	840	A		A	
		B Total	859	B		B		B	
		C Total	881	C		C		C	
		D Total	880	D Total	890	D Total		880	D
1. Heidi K. Abegg (EN)		A	29.47%	239	62.26%	523			
		B							
		C							
		D							
2. Jeff Bull (IW)		A	6.29%	51					
		B	9.08%	78					
		C	9.19%	81					
		D	11.59%	102					
3. Thomas R. Halvorson (MT)		A	24.17%	196	37.74%	317			
		B	51.34%	441					
		C							
		D							
4. Mark Hemingway (EN)		A	13.93%	113					
		B	15.37%	132					
		C	53.01%	467					
		D							
5. Seth R. Hinz (MO)		A	11.47%	93					
		B	10.71%	92					
		C	16.35%	144					
		D	32.50%	286	38.09%	339	40.91%	360	
6. Noreen L. Linke (RM)		A	2.59%	21					
		B	2.91%	25					
		C	4.88%	43					
		D	7.39%	65					
7. Sarah Rausch (SD)		A	6.78%	55					
		B	6.17%	53					
		C	8.97%	79					
		D	16.25%	143	18.09%	161			
8. William M. Thompson II (MO)		A	5.30%	43					
		B	4.42%	38					
		C	7.60%	67					
		D	32.27%	284	43.82%	390	59.09%	520	

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
The Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri Synod Board of Directors				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained or Commissioned (elect 1, 3-year term)</i>	Total 876	Total 879		
1. Michael L. Kumm (SD)	49.09% 430	63.25% 556		
2. Kevin D. Robson (MO)	24.54% 215	36.75% 323		
3. Blaise C. Sedney (SE)	26.37% 231			
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 3, 3-year term)</i>	A Total 875 B Total 887 C Total 881	A Total 855 B Total 882 C	A B C	A B C
1. Jason Behr (SW)	A 10.29% 90 B 6.31% 56 C 9.19% 81			
2. Matthew W. Hurtienne (EN)	A 10.51% 92 B 9.24% 82 C 16.35% 144			
3. Julie A. Johnson (SI)	A 44.80% 392 B C	72.16% 617		
4. Jonathan H. Kramer (MO)	A 11.20% 98 B 33.26% 295 C 62.20% 548	39.34% 347		
5. Gretchen A. Roberts (MDS)	A 16.34% 143 B 46.11% 409 C	27.84% 238 60.66% 535		
6. Ryan Weir (KS)	A 6.86% 60 B 5.07% 45 C 12.26% 108			
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation Board of Trustees				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 880			
1. Mark L. Huff (MI)	28.41% 250			
2. Todd C. Riordan (IN)	71.59% 630			
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 871	Total 864		
1. Glenn R. Pittsford (TX)	18.37% 160			
2. Franklin E. Simek Jr. (SI)	35.59% 310	44.33% 383		
3. Mark O. Swenson (MNS)	46.04% 401	55.67% 481		
Concordia University System Board of Directors				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 6-year term)</i>	Total 886			
1. Jacob C. Bobby (SD)	26.64% 236			
2. Matthew E. Borrasso (SE)	17.38% 154			
3. Mark S. Nuckols (SW)	55.98% 496			

Office / Candidate		1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot		4 th Ballot
Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, Ind.) Board of Regents								
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 2, 6-year term)		A Total 889		A Total 889		A		A
		B Total 884		B Total 893		B		B
1. Randall L. Golter (IE)	A	10.91% 97						
	B	11.43% 101						
2. Timothy M. Klinkenberg (PSW)	A	19.57% 174		22.16% 197				
	B	35.41% 313		45.80% 409				
3. Korey D. Maas (MI)	A	38.58% 343		56.81% 505				
	B							
4. David P. Ramirez (SW)	A	23.28% 207		21.03% 187				
	B	43.55% 385		54.20% 484				
5. Jeffrey E. Skopak (SE)	A	7.65% 68						
	B	9.62% 85						
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 6-year term)		Total 871						
1. Matthew C. Janssen (MO)		28.13% 245						
2. Mark W. Meehl (NEB)		71.87% 626						
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 1, 6-year term)		Total 892		Total 893				
1. Elizabeth R. Killinger (TX)		29.82% 266						
2. Michael D. Lange (PSW)		25.22% 225		45.58% 407				
3. Christian A. Preus (MNS)		44.96% 401		54.42% 486				
Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, Mo.) Board of Regents								
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 2, 6-year term)		A Total 826		A Total 851		A		A
		B Total 863		B Total 859		B		B
1. Joel A. Brondos (CI)	A	41.77% 345		54.41% 463				
	B							
2. Warren W. Graff (RM)	A	11.50% 95						
	B	11.82% 102						
3. Bruce E. Keseman (SI)	A	17.19% 142		19.39% 165				
	B	48.09% 415		65.19% 560				
4. Richard C. Rudowske Jr. (MO)	A	19.01% 157		26.20% 223				
	B	30.01% 259		34.81% 299				
5. Harald G. Tomesch (SW)	A	10.53% 87						
	B	10.08% 87						
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 6-year term)		Total 868						
1. Sarah E. Gaffney (SI)		32.60% 283						
2. Michael S. Staub (TX)		67.40% 585						
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 1, 6-year term)		Total 864						
1. Michelle M. Kazmierczak (IN)		37.04% 320						
2. Noreen L. Linke (RM)		10.07% 87						
3. Mark O. Stern (NI)		52.89% 457						

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Concordia University Chicago (River Forest, Ill.) Board of Regents				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 864			
1. Matthew D. Bean (SE)	14.12% 122			
2. Rene G. Castellero (SI)	19.21% 166			
3. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. (IN)	66.67% 576			
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 864	Total 863		
1. Jeremy T. Geidel (NEB)	31.94% 276	43.22% 373		
2. Nathanael Hahn (WY)	47.69% 412	56.78% 490		
3. Paul R. Steinhaus (NW)	20.37% 176			
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total 854 B Total 866	A Total 862 B	A Total 847 B	A B
1. Alicia K. Dietrich (SI)	A 33.61% 287 B	42.92% 370	52.42% 444	
2. David Walz (NI)	A 36.07% 308 B 56.24% 487	45.01% 388	47.58% 403	
3. Alison C. Witte (OH)	A 11.71% 100 B 10.97% 95			
4. Mark D. Wolfrum (NI)	A 18.62% 159 B 32.79% 284	12.06% 104		
Concordia University, Irvine (Calif.) Board of Regents				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 857			
1. Brian L. Kachelmeier (TX)	65.11% 558			
2. Elroi Reimnitz (PSW)	12.84% 110			
3. Muluneh Taye (CNH)	22.05% 189			
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 848			
1. Robert S. Fogo (TX)	47.05% 399			
2. Sarah E. Gaffney (SI)	52.95% 449			
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total 857 B Total 845	A Total 852 B Total 840	A Total 833 B	A B
1. Harry Edmon (NOW)	A 8.17% 70 B 9.82% 83			
2. Laura G. Hemminger (NOW)	A 34.66% 297 B	44.48% 379	56.78% 473	
3. Gary C. Nelson (CNH)	A 29.05% 249 B 44.62% 377	30.63% 261 39.40% 331	43.22% 360	
4. Brian T. Yamabe (CNH)	A 28.12% 241 B 45.56% 385	24.88% 212 60.60% 509		

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot	2 nd Ballot	3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Concordia University, Nebraska (Seward, Neb.) Board of Regents				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 837			
1. Scott T. Adle (NEB)	62.96% 527			
2. Luther C. Biggs (NEB)	15.29% 128			
3. John David K. Zischke (MDS)	21.74% 182			
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 834	Total 837		
1. Craig A. Ernstmeyer (MO)	42.21% 352	52.81% 442		
2. Jay A. Krause (SI)	40.89% 341	47.19% 395		
3. Alan P. Runge (NI)	16.91% 141			
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total 833 B Total 772	A Total 837 B Total 846	A B	A B
1. Dan Buman (NEB)	A 11.40% 95 B 13.47% 104			
2. Christopher P. Heins (MO)	A 38.18% 318 B	50.90% 426		
3. Bruce D. Schultz (KS)	A 18.37% 153 B 47.80% 369	18.52% 155 64.66% 547		
4. Douglas Tewes (NEB)	A 23.89% 199 B 29.66% 229	30.59% 256 35.34% 299		
5. Stan Ullerich (IW)	A 8.16% 68 B 9.07% 70			
Concordia University, St. Paul (Minn.) Board of Regents				
<i>Minister of Religion—Ordained</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 872	Total 867		
1. Jeffrey P. Cloeter (MO)	33.83% 295	39.91% 346		
2. Adam T. Filipek (ND)	18.92% 165			
3. Donald J. Fondow (MNN)	47.25% 412	60.09% 521		
<i>Minister of Religion—Commissioned</i> (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total 861	Total 868		
1. John Chilman III (PSW)	13.82% 119			
2. Tia M. Esser (SD)	42.16% 363	50.81% 441		
3. Gary L. Volberding (MNS)	44.02% 379	49.19% 427		
<i>Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation</i> (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total 863 B Total 872	A Total 875 B	A Total 860 B	A B
1. Karl Abbott (SE)	A 21.21% 183 B 22.25% 194	18.40% 161		
2. Paul C. Hinz (TX)	A 35.23% 304 B	46.86% 410	59.07% 508	
3. Richard A. Rolf (MI)	A 12.63% 109 B 10.44% 91			
4. Rosa Summers (MNS)	A 30.94% 267 B 67.32% 587	34.74% 304	40.93% 352	

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot	4 th Ballot
Concordia University Texas (Austin, Texas) Board of Regents						
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	865	Total	870		
1. Keith W. Schweitzer (IW)	21.73%	188				
2. Neil S. Vanderbush (TX)	38.84%	336	50.69%	441		
3. Richard A. Zeile (MI)	39.42%	341	49.31%	429		
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	865				
1. Christopher R. Marshall (SW)	33.06%	286				
2. Miguel A. Ruiz (TX)	66.94%	579				
Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total	864	A		A	A
	B Total	851	B		B	B
1. Jon Allen (EA)	A	18.06%	156			
	B	23.15%	197			
2. William Brandt (TX)	A	53.01%	458			
	B					
3. Bob L. Ssekyanzi (TX)	A	28.94%	250			
	B	76.85%	654			
Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon, Wis.) Board of Regents						
Minister of Religion—Ordained (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	876	Total	878		
1. Jonathan E. Conner (IW)	25.11%	220				
2. Dwayne M. Lueck (NW)	27.28%	239	34.28%	301		
3. Lance A. O'Donnell (SW)	47.60%	417	65.72%	577		
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	874				
1. Jennifer Knox (SW)	73.91%	646				
2. Paul R. Steinhaus (NW)	26.09%	228				
Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 2, 3-year term)	A Total	867	A Total	868	A	A
	B Total	877	B		B	B
1. Jon Allen (EA)	A	18.69%	162	19.35%	168	
	B	21.44%	188			
2. Rande T. Casaday (EN)	A	10.50%	91			
	B	8.44%	74			
3. David Lambert (EN)	A	41.18%	357	54.95%	477	
	B					
4. Stephen M. Saunders (SW)	A	29.64%	257	25.69%	223	
	B	70.13%	615			

Office / Candidate	1 st Ballot		2 nd Ballot		3 rd Ballot		4 th Ballot	
Commission on Worship								
Minister of Religion—Ordained (parish pastor) (elect 1, 6-year term)	Total	852	Total	869				
1. John M. Berg (SW)	6.57%	56						
2. Steven C. Briel (MNS)	5.63%	48						
3. Jason M. Kaspar (TX)	10.45%	89						
4. David A. Kind (MNS)	24.77%	211	49.71%	432				
5. Brent W. Kuhlman (NEB)	12.91%	110						
6. Steven P. Mueller (PSW)	27.93%	238	50.29%	437				
7. Daniel C. Ross (OK)	6.22%	53						
8. Sean R. Smith (MDS)	5.52%	47						
Minister of Religion—Commissioned (parish teacher) (elect 1, 6-year term)	Total	858	Total	874	Total	874		
1. Matthew C. Janssen (MO)	14.69%	126						
2. Darin D. Koenemann (IN)	14.69%	126						
3. Miguel A. Ruiz (TX)	28.55%	245	39.47%	345	44.74%	391		
4. Paul M. Soulek (NEB)	24.36%	209	39.13%	342	55.26%	483		
5. Thomas J. Winterstein (MI)	17.72%	152	21.40%	187				
Lay Member of LCMS Member Congregation (elect 1, 3-year term)	Total	847	Total	894	Total	876		
1. Michael Hollman (IN)	30.34%	257	32.21%	288	42.35%	371		
2. Noreen L. Linke (RM)	30.34%	257	26.40%	236				
3. Joseph L. Olson (SW)	39.32%	333	41.39%	370	57.65%	505		

NOTICES

Luggage Storage

For those who must check out of their hotel Thursday morning but will participate in the remainder of the convention, please check with your hotel bell stand about storing your luggage. If storage is not available at your hotel, luggage may be stored in Room 106-C from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



The historic gavel during the 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Phoenix on Tuesday, July 21, 2026. LCMS Communications/Erik M. Lunsford