

**TODAY'S
BUSINESS**

FIFTY-EIGHTH CONVENTION

**THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD**



MAY 1, 2009

The Convention Opening Service was held Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD. The service was conducted by the Reverend Christopher Ascher. The preacher for the service was the Reverend Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The Reverends Dale Sattgast, Darren Olson, George Sagissor, and Scott Sailer assisted with the service. Special music was provided by students of Sioux Falls Lutheran School, under the direction of Karen Dooley (who also served as the organist for the service), and by a choir comprised of singers from Sioux Falls area congregations, under the direction of Marya McCrae.

The first session of the 58th Convention of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2009. President Sattgast called upon the Convention Chaplain, the Reverend Darren Olson to open with a Devotion.

President Sattgast welcomed all delegates and special guests. The special guests were introduced, namely the President of the Synod, the Reverend Dr. Gerald Kieschnick; the Secretary of the Synod, the Reverend Dr. Raymond Hartwig; and the Reverend Dr. Vernon Schindler, former District President.

President Sattgast called on the Reverend Iver Possehl, Chairman of Committee 4, to give the Initial Report of this committee (Registration, Credentials and Excuses). Reverend Possehl reported that there are 60 Pastoral Delegates and 76 Lay Delegates present, for a total of 136 Voting Delegates. He also reported that there are 29 Advisory Delegates and 6 Guests in attendance. Reverend Sattgast determined that there is a quorum present for the convention.

President Sattgast introduced the other members of Committee 4: Reverend Daniel Redhage and Mrs. Krista Erickson.

President Sattgast called on the Reverend David Schwan, Executive Secretary, to address the Convention about Public Relations. Reverend Schwan reported that all public statements and all press releases are to go through his office.

President Sattgast directed the delegates to turn to page 4 in the Convention Manual to the Special Standing Rules. It was moved and seconded to adopt the Special Standing Rules. The motion carried. Reverend Levi Willms was introduced as the timekeeper for the Convention, as delegates are limited as to how long they may speak on an issue.

President Sattgast presented the Revised Agenda. It was moved and seconded to adopt the Revised Agenda. The motion carried.

President Sattgast appointed the Reverend Jonathan Boehne as Judge of Elections. DCE Jessica Grams, DCE Michael Kipp, Vicar Greg Lehr, the Reverend Christopher Lockie, and Vicar Adam Moline will serve as the committee tellers.

Mr. James Haar was introduced as the Convention's parliamentarian.

President Sattgast called on First Vice-President, the Reverend Gene Bauman, to chair the Convention while he gave his report. The Convention theme, "Called into Partnership," based on Philippians 1:3-6, was emphasized from Scripture and was applied to our work as a District. We are partners in the Gospel, in Faith and Hope, in Mission, and in the integrity of the Word of God

and the Lutheran Confessions. Reverend Sattgast identified various joys and challenges in this partnership in the District.

President Sattgast re-assumed the chair. He called upon the Reverend Daniel Deardoff, Chairman of Committee #1, to give his report.

Reverend Deardoff introduced the members of his committee and presented the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION 1-01 (Convention Theme) The resolution was moved and adopted.

RESOLUTION 1-04 (To Recognize Individuals and Welcome Them into the South Dakota District). The Resolution was moved and adopted. The individuals were asked to come forward and the Reverend Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, welcomed the new members.

RESOLUTION 1-05 (To Recognize Pastors' and Teachers' Anniversaries, Congregational Centennials and 125th Anniversaries of Congregations) The resolution was moved and adopted, with a rising vote of thanks.

RESOLUTION 1-06 (To Report Corporate Documents Approved by the Board of Directors) The resolution was moved and adopted.

It was moved and seconded to dispense with the reading of the Whereases of both Resolutions 1-02 and 1-03. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 1-02 (To Recognize That All Congregations of The South Dakota District are Called into Partnership) A friendly amendment was suggested and accepted to add the words "be encouraged to" in line 94, following the words "...congregations of The South Dakota District."

President Sattgast called on Mr. Lewis Mosemann to present the ballot for District President. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the slate of candidates as printed. The District President called for further nominations. There were none. The motion carried.

President Sattgast called upon the Convention Chaplain, the Reverend Darren Olson, to lead the assembly in prayer before voting.

The ballots for District President were distributed. It was determined by the Reverend Iver Possehl, chairman of Committee 4 that the number of voting delegates had not changed since the earlier report.

President Sattgast called upon the Reverend Dr. Brian Friedrich, President of Concordia University-Nebraska, to bring greetings and a report from this college of Concordia University System (CUS). Reverend Sattgast then called upon the Reverend Dr. Robert Holst, President of Concordia University-St. Paul, to bring greetings and a report from this college of the CUS.

President Sattgast introduced Army Chaplain, the Reverend Richard Townes, who is a member of our District. The District President then asked all delegates who have served in the military to

stand. Reverend Sattgast called upon the Convention Chaplain to lead the assembly in a table prayer before lunch. He then recessed the convention until 1:00 p.m.

President Sattgast resumed the convention at 1:00 p.m. and called on Chaplain Olson to lead the convention in prayer before the Synodical President's report.

Synodical President Kieschnick was called on to present his report. He did so under the theme "One Message, One Mission, One People." The President emphasized the troubles of the decline of the Christian Church, in general, and the alarming increase in immorality in our culture. He asked, "How will we engage our culture with the Gospel?" His video presentation featured several ministries, in urban and rural settings, that are effectively engaging their communities with the Gospel. After the video presentation, Reverend Kieschnick announced the 2010 Synodical Convention theme: "One People...Forgiven." The focus of the convention will be on reconciliation with God and with one another. The second half of the President's report was given over to Question and Answer.

President Sattgast invited the Reverend Robert Greene, Chairman of the Synod's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synodical Structure and Governance, to give his report. Reverend Greene led the assembly in an overview of 15 proposals from the Task Force. The delegates were asked to respond to the proposals via a survey.

The convention recessed at 3 p.m. for 15 minutes.

President Sattgast resumed the convention at 3:15 p.m. He announced \$8,647.67 was received for the convention offering to benefit the Immanuel, Wecota, congregation in their re-building following the destruction of their church building by fire in 2008.

Reverend Sattgast called upon the Judge of Elections to give the results of the first ballot for District President. 136 ballots were counted, with one of those ballots being a voided ballot. Reverend Gene Bauman received 35 votes, Reverend Scott Sailer received 10 votes, and Reverend Dale Sattgast received 90 votes. Having received a majority of the votes cast, Reverend Dale Sattgast was declared elected.

The Elections Committee was instructed to distribute the Nominating Ballot for the office of 1st Vice-President. Each delegate was directed to write the name of one pastor on the District Roster on his or her ballot for this office. When all the ballots were collected, President Sattgast declared the nominating ballot to be closed.

President Sattgast asked Reverend Greene to continue the Report of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synodical Structure and Governance, which, at this point, was comprised of a Question and Answer time.

President Sattgast asked the Judge of Elections, Reverend Jonathan Boehne, to present the nominations for 1st Vice-President. The nominations were as follows: Gene Bauman - 97, Scott

Sailer - 12, Brad Urbach - 4, and Nabil Nour - 3. There was 1 nomination each for the following: Christopher Boehnke, Victor Dorn, Kenneth Johnson, Matthew Nix, Christen Prumm, George Sagissor, Randy Sturzenbecher, Peter Utecht, and Kevin Vogts. A motion was made and seconded to elect Reverend Gene Bauman 1st Vice-President of the District. The motion carried.

President Sattgast asked the Elections Committee to distribute the nominating ballot for the office of 2nd Vice-President. Once again, the delegates were instructed to write the name of one pastor on the District Roster on his or her ballot for this office. When all the ballots were collected, President Sattgast declared the nominating ballot to be closed.

Reverend Greene continued the Question and Answer time concerning the work of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synodical Structure and Governance.

President Sattgast called on the Judge of Elections to give his report on the balloting for 2nd Vice-President of the District. The results were as follows: Nabil Nour – 65; Scott Sailer – 31; Brad Urbach 13; Kevin Vogts – 6; 2 each for Peter Utecht, Randy Sturzenbecher, and Hyle Anderson; and one each for L. Scott Spiehs, Don McKillop, Matthew Nix, Thomas Christopher, Daniel Deardoff, Glenn Denke, David Otten, George Sagissor, Michael Bagnall, and Terry Naasz. No candidate received a majority of the votes cast. It was moved and seconded that the second ballot for 2nd Vice-President be comprised of the two men receiving the most votes: Nabil Nour and Scott Sailer. The motion carried.

Reverend Greene completed the Blue Ribbon Task Force Question and Answer time. The assembly thanked Reverend Greene for his report.

President Sattgast called on the Judge of Elections to have his committee distribute the 2nd ballot for 2nd Vice-President. Ballots were handed out and collected. President Sattgast declared the balloting closed.

Floor Committee #1 was called on to continue their report. Discussion resumed on Resolution 1-02 (To Recognize That All Congregations of the South Dakota District Are Called into Partnership). A friendly amendment was made by the Committee to add the words "be encouraged to" to line to line 86 after the word "Synod," and to add the words "be encouraged to" to line 91 after the word "District." The resolution was adopted as amended.

The Judge of Elections reported the results of the balloting for the Office of 2nd Vice-President: Nabil Nour – 79; and Scott Sailer – 52 votes. There were 5 voided ballots. Reverend Nour was declared elected as 2nd Vice-President.

Floor Committee #1 continued their report. They presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 1-03 (To Realign Circuits). The resolution was moved and seconded. A motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by adding the Rosebud Mission work to the Pierre Circuit in the long-term part of the proposal (move the words "Rosebud Mission work" from line 88 to line 87). The motion carried. Another motion was made and seconded to amend the newly-amended resolution by deleting lines 80-112. The motion failed. A friendly amendment was made to strike line 98. A motion was made and seconded to adopt only the long-term proposal (this would qualify under the Benhken rule as a substitute motion, c.f. Convention Workbook, p. 4). The motion to consider the substitute motion was defeated. The question was called. The motion to call the question passed. Voting on the original motion was done. The resolution was adopted as amended.

President Sattgast called on the Convention Chaplain to close the afternoon session with prayer at 5:07 p.m.

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April 30, 2009
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The convention was adjourned until 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Scott C. Sailer, Secretary
The South Dakota District LCMS

NOTE: A Substitute Motion for Resolution 1-14

**To the 58th Convention of
The South Dakota District of
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
April 29 - May 2, 2009**

Subject: To adjust District remittance to the national synodical budget.

Whereas, It is the desire and practice of all Christians to be good stewards of the material blessings with which God has provided them and to generously give toward the financial needs of the Church both locally and abroad; and

Whereas, Despite being blessed with many members who generously give of their money for the work of their congregation, many of the congregations of the South Dakota District of the LCMS are operating near or at a deficit in their annual budget which also affects how much can be remitted to the work of the South Dakota District, and

Whereas, Despite being blessed with many congregations and individuals who generously give of their money for the work of the District, the South Dakota District is currently operating with a deficit budget, and

Whereas, Given the demographic and economic realities in South Dakota, this situation is likely to not change significantly for the better in the near future, and

Whereas, Many faithful pastors in our district's parishes willingly make sacrifices of their own salary and/or benefits for the sake of the Church while at the same time encouraging their people to generously support the work of District and Synod, and

Whereas, Congregations many times are forced to reduce offerings to District as well as make other budgetary cuts in order to maintain a balanced budget, and

Whereas, The South Dakota District has been blessed with leadership that has to the best of their ability trimmed and cut the annual budget and made personal sacrifices in order to balance the District budget; and

Whereas, The South Dakota District continues to operate at an annual budget deficit, therefore be it

Resolved, That the SD District give thanks to God for the generous support to congregation and district given by a multitude of Christian people in our District, and be it further

Resolved, That the SD District give thanks for the faithful stewardship of our leadership in dealing with difficult financial circumstances, and be it further

Resolved, That, recognizing the current economic situation and financial constraints of many of our congregations, the South Dakota District Board of Directors, in establishing the annual District Budget, adjust the amount given to the LCMS national budget so as to maintain a balanced budget in the SD District, and be it finally

Resolved, That congregations be encouraged to continue to give generously to the work of our District so that, by God's blessing, we may continue to support both the work of our District and our Synod at current levels.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION ON MINISTERIAL GROWTH AND SUPPORT – Professional Church Workers please be sure to fill out the participation card found in your registration packet and return to the Convention Office (Room 10) by Friday noon.

LCMS WORLD RELIEF AND HUMAN CARE has available *Congregational Planning for Flu Pandemic* materials that encourages you to make preparations around, communication, worship, pastoral care, leadership and community outreach. Also available is the *pandemic Flu Community Response Protocol* a wonderful checklist for developing and improving influenza pandemic response and preparedness plans. If you would like a copy they are available at the Convention Office, Meeting Room 10 – see Julie; or online at <http://www/lcms.org/>