

Called to order 8:31 AM in name of Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The President introduced Rev. Ed Kruger, Missions staffperson. Rev. Kruger began:

“Prayer and mission go hand in hand, beginning and ending in worship because mission exists for the sake of worship (God is important, not man). Missions exist because worship does not. As Christians, we are called on to touch hearts and change lives. Sometimes a peaceful process—because of satan, often wartime. Every Christian on the mission field in full armor of God, doing battle. But Christ has won the war against the power of sin, death and the devil and rules as King. Our God is a seeking God who touches hearts and changes lives. That’s why He came to earth and conquered satan and gave to us the keys of the kingdom.

“What makes for the healthy building up of the body of Christ? **Natural church development**—God causes the church to grow (Mark 4:26-28). There is also human effort: tilling, fertilizing, weeding, watering to maximize potential for life and health in church. But the farmer doesn’t give growth—God does. Healthy churches are growing churches; unhealthy are plateaued or not growing. 8 characteristics of growing churches:

1. Empowering leadership
2. Gift-oriented ministry
3. Passionate spirituality
4. Functional structures
5. Inspiring worship
6. Holistic small groups
7. Need-oriented Evangelism
8. Loving relationships

“Each characteristic is defined/specified by the adjectives. All areas need to be present/effectively developed for a church to be growing. When you increase quality in deficient areas, you increase the capacity to hold members. Work on “deficient” areas and you balance a quality ministry. Encourage to buy Natural Church Development and obtain assessment packet from District.

“**Refocus**—more deliberate and intensive 3-year process which endeavors to change the culture of a congregation from one of maintenance to one of mission. [Rev. Kruger then showed a video presentation on Refocus in the District.]

Rev. Kruger helped us understand that the challenge of the English language itself (i.e., why do you “chair” a meeting when you stand?) calls for much trust in ethnic ministries. A concluding video presentation was shown on the broad variety of missions in our District.

The Chair presented the minutes of the previous day for approval. One correction: Gladys is the *mother-in-law* of Rev. Wickstrom. Approved as corrected.

The Chair called for the ratification of Circuit Counselors by voice vote. The slate Ratification of Regional Vice Presidents and Lay Representatives by voice vote.

The President recognized Rev. Kliwer, Chairperson for Elections Committee who reported the results of yesterday's ballot for District positions. Elected are:

- Art Kroeger—Treasurer
- David Poganski—pastoral member of District Committee/Constitutional Matters
- Paul Meyer, Gloria Edwards, Forrest Adams—District Nominating Committee

- Melissa Bledsoe, Robert Fickenscher, Jan Killingsworth—CEF Board
- Cynthia Rothas—Commissioned Minister/BOD
- Helen Bartz—Nominating Committee/LCMS Convention

No clear majority for Secretary and Layperson to District Committee on Constitutional Matters and an additional ballot was called. The balloting was conducted and was closed.

The Chair recognized Rev. Lon Haack, Chairman of the Theology Committee #2. He continued his presentation of Resolution 2-02a, Ref. CM p. 72, Overture #19 RE: TO MEMORIALIZE THE LCMS TO SEEK IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE ELCA (postponed from yesterday). Question called and seconded. The motion was passed. The Resolution was presented for adoption. The Resolution was defeated.

Rev. Lon Haack presented Resolution 2-05a, Ref. CM p.67, Overture #8; Ref. CM #68, Overture # 9; Ref. CM Supplement p. 87, Overture # 37; RE: TO RECOMMEND NORMATIVE COMMUNION POLICY TO THE LCMS. The Resolution was presented for adoption. Moved to recommit. Defeated. Moved and seconded to call the question. Adopted. The Resolution was adopted.

The Chair recognized Rev. Jim Beyer, Chairman of the Administration Committee #4. He presented Resolution 4-10, Ref. CM p. 63, Overture #1 RE: TO REFER AT-RISK CONGREGATIONS OR MISSION TO THE PARTNER MINISTRY COMMITTEE. The Resolution was presented for adoption. Moved and seconded to amend the Resolved as follows:

“that at-risk congregations or mission seek prayer support, counsel, and mission & ministry ideas from their fellow circuit congregations and be referred to the Partner Ministry Committee for assistance.”

The amendment was adopted. The Resolution was presented as amended for adoption. The Resolution was adopted.

Rev. Jim Beyer presented Resolution 4-11, Ref. CM p. 69, Overture #12 RE: TO MEMORIALIZE SYNOD IN CONVENTION TO MAINTAIN AND EMPHASIZE ARTICLES II AND VII OF SYNOD'S HANDBOOK. The Resolution was presented for adoption. The Resolution was adopted.

The Chair recognized Rev. Les Self, Chairman of the Next Convention Committee #9. He presented Resolution 9-01, RE: TO IDENTIFY SITE FOR 2006 CNH DISTRICT CONVENTION. The Resolution was presented for adoption. The Resolution was adopted.

A point of order was called from the floor: It was resolved that, due to time constraints, the committees suspend the reading of the “Whereas” in presentations of the resolutions from this point on. Chair called the question. The Resolution was adopted.

The Chair recognized the youth delegates attending our Convention and thanked them for their help during the entire proceedings.

The President recognized the Rev. Dr. Jack Geistlinger, Human Care and Services. He reminded the Convention of the upcoming workshop entitled "Those Rusty Golden Years" (Dr. Rich Bimler, Wheat Ridge Ministries, keynote speaker) regarding ministering to older adults.

Rev. Jim Beyer presented Resolution 4-15, RE: TO DECLARE PRESIDENT TIETJEN "PRESIDENT EMERITUS" OF THE CNH DISTRICT. The Resolution was presented for adoption. The Resolution was adopted.

Rev. Jim Beyer presented Resolution 4-07a, RE: TO PETITION THE LCMS COMMISSION ON STRUCTURE TO STUDY MEANS FOR MORE EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION AT SYNODICAL CONVENTION. The Resolution was presented for adoption. A common consent clarification of Resolved was requested by the Chair:

"that we *urge* the Commission on Structure of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to study..."

The Resolution was defeated.

The President recognized Rev. Kliwer, Chairperson for Elections Committee who reported the results of the ballot for remaining District positions. Elected were:

- Rev. James Mueller—Secretary
- Michael Hughes—District Committee on Constitutional Matters

The President asked the Convention to acknowledge Rita Konda and Robyn Porter and their efforts relative to the Convention.

The President asked the Convention to acknowledge outgoing First Vice-President Rev. Ted Zimmerman and his years of service to the District.

Rev. John Mueller, Chairman of the Program Committee reported that \$2,128 was received from Friday evening's worship offerings. It was moved and seconded relative to those offerings and those offerings received this morning's worship service, to send 1/2 to Lutheran High School/Sacramento, 1/2 to Synod Missions. It was moved and seconded to amend the committee recommendation so as to divide gross offerings into four parts and distribute equally between the 3 CNH District High Schools and national Missions. The Resolution was adopted.

The Chair recognized Rev. David Sauer, Chairperson Committee #1, Missions. He presented Resolution 1-03a, Ref. CM p.76-77, Overtures #24 & 25 RE: TO ESTABLISH HARVESTERS FOR CHRIST. Moved and seconded to refer the Resolution to the Board of Directors for action. It was adopted to refer the Resolution to the Board of Directors for action.

The President declared the Sixty-sixth Convention closed in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.