

CONVENTION NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

68th Convention California-Nevada-Hawaii District

MAY 16, 2009

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

8am	Opening Bible Study
8:30	Convention Business
9:30	Greetings from others
9:45	Break
10:00	Dr. Jeff Myers
Noon	Lunch (Meal Package)
1:30 pm	Devotion
1:45	Dr. Jeff Myers
3:00	Break
3:15	President Kieschnick Q & A
4:00	Convention Business
4:45	Greetings from others
5:00	Session close
5:30	No host social time
6:30	Banquet seating (Salons 1-6)
8:00	Program

The 68th California-Nevada-Hawaii Convention Opens

The theme of the 68th District Convention of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District is "A New Song For An Old World." The opening devotion was led by Rev. Tom Zelt.

President Newton introduced First Lady Priscilla and presented her with a beautiful lei. He then introduced Synodical President Gerald Kieschnick and First Lady Terri Kieschnick, who also received a lei. President Newton's administrative assistant, Rita Konda, was also recognized with a corsage.



CONVENTION OFFICE HOURS Salon A

Saturday

8:00 - 11:30 am

1:00 - 5:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 - 10:30 am

Rev. Dr. Robert Newton Re-elected to Third Term as CNH District President

President Robert Newton was unanimously re-elected to a third term as CNH District President in a unique situation. Rev. Mark Kliewer, chairman of the Elections Committee, stated that according to CNH District Bylaws, candidates require 3 or more nominations to qualify for nomination. Only the top five candidates are listed on the ballot. This year, only two candidates received 3 or more nominations, and one candidate withdrew his name. Therefore, it was moved, seconded and passed that this year's ballot would contain only one name, and voting would take place with a voice vote. President Newton was unanimously elected. Confidence in President Newton's leadership was affirmed with a standing ovation.

Election of the First Vice President followed in much the same fashion. Rev. Dr. Tom Zelt from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Fremont, was the sole nominee. He was also elected by acclamation.

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CONVENTION NEWS

District President's Report

The Rev. Dr. Robert Newton presented his report to the convention. The report focused on 3 mission contexts:

- Pre-Church
- Churched
- Post-church

In the pre-churched society, the unchurched are the insiders and the missionaries are the outsiders. The missionaries' job is to communicate the gospel to the insiders.

In the churched society, the churched are the insiders and the unchurched are the outsiders. Pastors are insiders and they have credibility in the community. Church is desirable, and non-Christians come to the church to hear the Good News.

In the post-church society, the community around the church is increasingly unchurched, but the church continues to operate as if it were in a churched society. The insider becomes harder to identify. We are living in this post-church society, and we need to sharpen our focus. One way to do this is to increase localization of our mission outreach.

At this point, Rev. Ted Hartman talked about "Transforming Congregations for Mission," also known as "Revitalization." In this process, the District comes alongside congregations and pastors to help them in their outreach. A video was introduced in which congregations who are participating in the Revitalization process shared some of their experiences.

Synodical President Gerald Addresses CNH District Convention

The CNH District is blessed this year to have President and Mrs. Gerald Kieschnick in attendance. President Kieschnick addressed the group, using his theme of "One Mission, One Message, One People." He spoke of challenges, struggles and conflicts, some of them doctrinal, others more practical. In the end, there is so much more that unites us than divides us.

We live in a defining time when the view of Christianity is indifferent at best and hostile at worst. We need to respond with hope, as our God is a God of hope. God calls us to engage our culture with the Gospel and to live out our divine calling in the communities where we live. By practicing love and respect, we promote harmony among us. President Kieschnick reminded us that things of this world change rapidly, but hope in the Lord cannot be taken away.

New Congregation Received Into Membership

Bethlehem Ethiopian Lutheran Church was received into membership by the signing of the charter by Rev. Dereje Fantaye.

DISPLAY/EXHIBIT AREA

A wide variety of exhibits, loaded with information and goodies, are on display in the areas outside the convention hall. Find the perfect gift or reading material at West Coast Church Supplies/Concordia Publishing House. Learn about the many ministries in our District by visiting the various tables.

MESSAGE BOARD

All messages will be available in the Convention Hall. Any EMERGENCY MESSAGES should be called in to the hotel desk, which will pass the information on to the message center.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH PRESIDENT KIESCHNICK

Boxes are located on the stage to receive the question and answer sheets. The Q&A will take place on Saturday afternoon. Please deposit the sheets before noon on Saturday.

LOST & FOUND

Come to Salon A if you are missing anything such as a pair of reading glasses.