

Committee No. 1  
CREDENTIALS AND MEMBERSHIP

Resolution No. 1

Reference: Convention Manual  
Subject: Credentials

WHEREAS the delegates present for the 2012 Minnesota District Convention have registered; therefore be it

**Resolved,** that the duly registered delegates be seated and given the full rights and privileges of the convention.

Resolution No. 2

Reference: Committee No. 4's Revision of President's Report, pp. 5-10  
Subject: Membership

WHEREAS the pastors, professors, teachers, and staff ministers listed on pages 1-6 of Report No. 2 of the Committee No. 4's revision of the President's 2012 Report, have or will be entering service in the Minnesota District; therefore, be it

**Resolved,** that the delegates in convention receive them into district membership.

Rev. Paul Tessmer, Chairman  
Teacher Macord Johnson, Secretary

PASTORS:

John Dolan  
Thomas Hartwig

Committee No. 2  
REGISTRATION

	Lay Del.	Pastors	Teachers	Emeriti	Staff Ministers	Vicar	Inst. TLHA WLHS SCLHS MVLHS MLC	Guests	Totals
<b>Conference:</b>									
<b>Crow River</b>	17/24	19/21	2/7	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	38
<b>Mankato</b>	13/14	17/18	6/7	1/1	1/2	0/0	2/2	0/0	40
<b>New Ulm</b>	10/16	14/14	7/10	3/3	6/6	0/0	49/74	0/0	89
<b>Red Wing</b>	17/29	23/26	11/14	0/0	0/0	1/1	0/0	0/0	52
<b>Redwood Falls</b>	8/16	9/13	3/3	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	20
<b>Saint Croix</b>	29/47	46/57	22/31	0/0	1/2	0/0	11/30	0/0	109
	3/10	8/9	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	12
<b>Southern</b>									
Grand Totals:	97	136	52	4	8	1	62	0	360

Committee No. 2 considers it a privilege to serve during the 48<sup>th</sup> Biennial MN District Convention. It has been our pleasure to offer this information to you and may the Lord continue to bless your work at your congregations.

Potential attendees: 501

Attended: 360

Non-Attendees: 141

Mr. David Gartner – Chairman

Pastors:

Rev. Michael Barlow  
Rev. Kevin Draper  
Rev. Wayne Laitinen  
Rev. Bryan Prell  
Rev. Gary Wong

Teachers:

Mr. Randy Ristow - excused  
Mr. Tim Plath - excused  
Mr. Earl Heidtke  
Mr. Mark Probst  
Mr. Dave Gartner  
Mr. Jon Zieseemer – excused

Committee No. 4  
RESOLUTIONS AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Report No. 1**

Reference: President's Report

We concur with President Degner's focus on continuing education for called workers. We urge congregations to consider the blessings for themselves and the kingdom and to find ways to help with tuition and provide time for study.

**Resolution No. 1**

Reference: Convention Activity  
Subject: Opening Worship Offering

WHEREAS Martin Luther College is building an Early Childhood Learning Center to serve the synod; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the opening worship offering be given to the Let the Children Come campaign.

**Resolution No. 2**

Reference: Minnesota District Nominating Committee Report  
Subject: Ratification of Delegates to 2013 Synod Convention

WHEREAS the District Nominating Committee is to submit a list of teachers, staff ministers, pastors, and congregations for nomination to serve as delegates at the 2013 Convention of the WELS; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the convention ratify the following list of teachers, staff ministers, pastors and congregations to serve as delegates at the 2013 Convention of the WELS.

### **Resolution No. 3**

Reference: Convention Activity  
Subject: Ratification of conference officers

WHEREAS 1) the following pastors have been elected to serve as chairmen of their conferences:

Rev. Donald Main, Crow River Conference  
Rev. Bruce Hanneman, Mankato Conference  
Rev. David Bendix, Minnesota River Valley Conference  
Rev. Wayne Schoch, Red Wing Conference  
Rev. John Dolan, Saint Croix Conference  
Rev. Roger Neumann, Southern Conference; and

WHEREAS 2) the following pastors have been elected to serve as secretaries of their conferences:

Rev. Stephen Daley, Crow River Conference  
Rev. Dennis Reichow, Mankato Conference  
Rev. Michael Gorte, Minnesota River Valley Conference  
Rev. Timothy Learman, Red Wing Conference  
Rev. David Barkow, Saint Croix Conference  
Rev. Wayne Shevey, Southern Conference; therefore, be it

Resolved, that these officers be ratified by the convention.

### **Resolution No. 4**

Reference: Convention Activity  
Subject: Ratification of circuit pastors

WHEREAS 1) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Crow River Conference:

Rev. Mark Falck  
Rev. Dennis Strong  
Rev. Craig Engel  
Rev. Michael Neumann; and

WHEREAS 2) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Mankato Conference:

Rev. Ronald Siemers  
Rev. Bruce Hanneman; and

WHEREAS 3) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Minnesota River Valley Conference:

Rev. Paul Tessmer  
Rev. Jeffrey Bovee  
Rev. Jon Kruschel  
Rev. Keith Schreiner; and

WHEREAS 4) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Red Wing Conference:

Rev. Wayne Schoch  
Rev. Dennis Valleau  
Rev. Chris Christenson  
Rev. Dean Gunn; and

WHEREAS 5) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Saint Croix Conference:

Rev. Mark Kom  
Rev. Ellery Groth  
Rev. Matthew Hennig  
Rev. Martin Bentz  
Rev. David Tiarks  
Rev. Dennis Klatt; and

WHEREAS 6) the following pastors have been elected to serve as circuit pastors in the Southern Conference:

Rev. Wes Bruss  
Rev. Edward Lehmann; therefore, be it

Resolved, that these circuit pastors be ratified by the convention.

Committee No.4  
RESOLUTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Report No. 2**

Reference: President's Report

<b>Entering Ministry / Pastors</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Officiant</b>
8/23/2010	Degner	Abram	Martin Luther College, New Ulm MN	
5/8/2011	Emde	Kelly Rae	St. John, New Ulm	Pastors J. Bovee & W. Laitenen
2/13/2011	Glowicki	Jeremy	St. Paul, Jordan	Pastor John Meyer
9/4/2011	Hartwig	Thomas	St. John, Hasting, MN	Pastor Percy Damrow
2/12/2012	Hartwig	Thomas	Grace, South St. Paul, MN	Pastor Mark Kom
7/31/2011	Kempfert	Benjamin	Grace, Oronoco, MN	Pastor Dean Gunn
7/11/2010	Lee	Titus	Missionary to Hmong, Milwaukee, Sheboygan	
7/17/2011	Nitz	Aaron	St. Mark, Bemidji, MN	Pastor Mark Falck
6/22/2011	Pundt	Gerald A	Emeritus	
7/17/2011	Schmiel	Stephen	Faith, Prior Lake	Pastor Mark Schwertfeger
8/23/2010	Schmoller	Nicolas	Martin Luther Colege, New Ulm, MN	
3/11/2012	Sheppard	Michael	Immanuel, LaCrescent, MN/ Zion, Hokan, MN	Pastor Chris Christenson
9/13/2010	Sutton	Nathan	Saint Croix LHS, West. St. Paul, MN	
8/7/2011	Tews	Steven	St. Peter, Balaton, MN	Pastor Keith Schreiner
12/1/2010	Uhlhorn	Ronald	The Lutheran Home, Belle Plaine, MN	
9/11/2011	Voigt	Daniel	St. John, St. Paul, MN	Pastor Mark Kom
6/13/2010	Wahl	Timothy	Shepherd of the Lakes, Milford, IA	
9/25/2010	Wegner	Martin N	St. John, Spring Valley, WI	
8/22/2011	Westendorf	Daniel	Martin Luther College, New Ulm MN	Pres. Mark Zarling
8/7/2011	Zhao	Wei	Salem, Stillwater, MN	Dr. John Lawrenz/ Pastor Marcus Birkholz
<b>Leaving District Ministry / Pastors</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>TO /FOR</b>
2/21/2011	Baldauf	Paul	Retirement	
7/15/2012	Birkholz	Marcus	Salem, Stillwater, MN	
6/30/2010	Balge	Jonathan	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
9/15/2011	Boettcher	David M	Cross of Christ, Coon Rapids, MN	
10/24/2010	Bushaw	Robert D	St. Paul, Jordan, MN	
11/19/2011	Ehlers	John P	Grace, So. St. Paul, MN	
9/30/2010	Ernst	Micah A	Grace, Columbia, MO	
4/30/2012	Koepf	David E	Beautiful Savior, Eagan, MN	
5/31/2011	Kuether	Lon P	St. Mark, Bemidji, MN	
6/30/2011	Lehmann	Stephen	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	

6/4/2011	Luebchow	Roderick	Retirement	
8/31/2010	Myslik	Luke J	Trinity, Nicollet, MN	
8/13/2010	Piepenbrink	Leon E	Asian Ministry Coordinator, St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Robinson	Aaron T	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
8/31/2011	Schaefer II	William J	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
3/31/2011	Schumann	Daniel L	Faith, Prior Lake, MN	
6/30/2010	Sievert	Dustin D	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Stern	Jesse A	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Vomhof	Roger E	The Luth. Home/Jesus Cares, Belle Plaine, MN	
11/30/2011	Wall	Steven T	Zion, Hokah, MN	
3/31/2012	Windsperger	Donald C	St. John, Lake Benton, MN	
2/7/2011	Wolff	Jon	Semiretirement	
4/30/2011	Zander	Mark F	St. Peter, Balaton, MN	

### Entering Ministry / Vicars

Date	Last	First	Where	
8/15/2010	Freese	Patrick	St. John, Hastings, MN	Pastor Percy Damrow

### Deaths

Date	Last	First	Funeral	
6/3/2011	Baur	Ralph N.		
9/26/2011	Birkholz	Gerhard		
2/7/2012	Henrich	Warren		
5/29/2012	Knippel	Darrell		

### Congregation Closings / Transfers

Date	Congregation	What	
7/25/2011	Living Word, Dawson, MN	Congregation closed	

<b>Entering Ministry / Teachers</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Officiant</b>
9/12/2010	Deno	Apryl	God's Treasures Child Care, Winthrop, MN	Pastor Paul Tessmer
7/1/2011	Beilke	Jonathan G	Salem, Greenfield, MN	
7/1/2010	East	Danielle N	Christ, No. St. Paul, MN	
7/10/2011	Ehnert	Amy	Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN	Pastor Dennis Klatt
7/1/2011	Evans	Matthew J	Crown of Life, W. St. Paul, MN	
8/29/2011	Friend	Emily	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
5/30/2011	Gawrisch	Daniel	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	President Mark Zarling
7/3/2011	Glodowski	Ted	St. John, Goodhue, MN	Pastor Andrew Krause
8/22/2011	Grubbs	Paul	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	President Mark Zarling
7/1/2011	Haukoos	Sarah	Mt. Olive, Shakopee, MN	
8/30/2010	Hennig	Karen	Saint Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Jon Hackbarth
7/18/2010	Henning	Michael	Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN	
7/1/2010	Hulse	Erin M	Salem, Woodbury, MN	
10/3/2010	Kapanke	Lorna	Crown of Life, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Mark Kom
8/31/2010	Kionka	Rachel	West LHS, Plymouth, MN	Pastor Mark Neitzel
8/15/2010	Knepprath	Tracy	Risen Savior, N. Mankato, MN	Pastor Gary Wong
7/10/2011	Korth	Samuel	Trinity, Belle Plaine, MN	Pastor John Zeitler
8/29/2011	Krause	Emily	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
7/1/2010	Krause	Justin W	Salem, Stillwater, MN	
7/18/2010	Kutz	Heidi	St. John, Nodine, MN	
8/22/2011	Mehlberg	Jennifer	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	President Mark Zarling
7/1/2011	Monthie	Sarah K	Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn Park, MN	
8/1/2010	Nolte	Emily	Trinity, Belle Plaine, MN	
7/1/2011	Ohm	Justin M	Crown of Life, West St. Paul, MN	
8/22/2010	Pappenfuss	Paul	Trinity, Nicolet, MN	Pastor Ron Siemers
2/2/2012	Pekrul	Peggy L	Prairie Lutheran School, Gibbon, MN	
8/21/2011	Polzin	Barb	Risen Savior, N. Mankato, MN	Pastor Keith Siverly
8/8/2010	Retzlaff	David	Good Shepherd, Burnsville, MN	
7/3/2011	Rick	Dan	St. John, Sleepy Eye, MN	Pastor Kevin Draper
8/30/2010	Roberts	Emily	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Jon Hackbarth
5/16/2011	Rosenbaum	Derick	Petra, Sauk Rapids, MN	
10/18/2010	Rudolph	Tammy M	St. John, Redwood Falls, MN	
8/15/2010	Ruppnow	Jason	Risen Savior, N. Mankato, MN	Pastor Gary Wong
8/30/2010	Sauer	Sarah	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Jon Hackbarth
7/1/2011	Scheuerlein	Eric A	St. John, Redwood Falls, MN	
8/29/2011	Shambeau	Marc	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
8/30/2010	Shoop	Andrew	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Jon Hackbarth
7/3/2011	Shrum	Stacy	St. John, Sleepy Eye, MN	Pastor Kevin Draper



9/11/2011	Siverly	Kathleen	St. John, Lake City, MN	Pastor Dennis Valleau
8/1/2010	Sonntag	Ann	St. John, Goodhue, MN	
8/22/2011	Stein	Mark	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	President Mark Zarling
9/13/2010	Sutton	Nathan	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	Pastor Jon Leach
7/1/2011	Tacke	Mark W	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
5/31/2012	Tessmer	Deborah	Prairie Lutheran School, Fairfax, MN	
8/29/2010	Thiesfeldt	Greg	St. Paul, New Ulm, MN	Pastors D. Sutton/Tim Smith
7/1/2011	Tiarks	Karen B	Christ, North St. Paul, MN	
5/16/2011	Valus	Nolan	Mt. Olive, Delano, MN	
7/1/2011	Valus	Courtney M	Mt. Olive, Delano, MN	
8/1/2010	Vandenberg	Stephanie	Immanuel, Hutchinson, MN	
8/1/2010	Vandenberg	Alex	Immanuel, Hutchinson, MN	
1/24/2011	Vieth	Judith	St. John, Goodhue, MN	
8/12/2010	Weigand	Deborah G	Trinity, Osceola, WI	
7/1/2010	Welke	Dawn M	St. John, Caledonia, MN	
6/8/2011	Wendland	James R	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
4/23/2011	Yukich	Lori	Shepherds LL Preschool, Duluth, MN	

<b>Leaving Ministry / Teachers</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Officiant</b>
6/30/2011	Bode	Glenn E	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
5/31/2011	Brown	Amber L	St. John, Sleepy Eye, MN	
6/30/2011	Brutlag	Ronald D	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Buske	Deborah L	Trinity, Belle Plaine, MN	
6/30/2011	Carr	Emily R (Babinec)	St. John, Goodhue, MN	
6/30/2011	Detjen	Julie L	Minnesota Valley LHS, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Dolan	Jeffrey D	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Duncan	David M	Trinity, Nicollet, MN	
6/30/2012	Fluegge	Michele	St. John, Redwood Falls, MN	
2/18/2011	Graf	Terrence A	Salem, Stillwater, MN	
6/30/2012	Groeler	Barbara	Prairie Lutheran School, Gibbon-Fairfax, MN	
6/30/2010	Groth	Justin E	Immanuel, Hutchinson, MN	
6/30/2010	Groth	Heidi B	Children of Grace, Hutchinson, MN	
6/30/2011	Grundmeier	Erika	Crown of Life, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Guzman	Laura M	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2012	Hansen	Rachel	St. John's, Lake City, MN	Resignation
7/31/2012	Hellman	Robert	St. Paul, Montrose, MN/ Trinity, Buffalo, MN	Retirement

6/30/2012	Hulse	Erin M	Salem, Woodbury, MN	Resignation
6/30/2010	Jaeger	Ryan A	Risen Savior, Mankato, MN	
10/31/2011	Jaspersen	Jennifer	Prairie Lutheran School, Gibbon-Fairfax, MN	Resignation
6/30/2011	Kelley	Jason W	St. John, Redwood Falls, MN	
6/30/2011	Koch	Katie E	Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn Park, MN	
6/30/2010	Kohler	Anthony D	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Leitz	Karla M	St. John, St. Paul, MN	
8/25/2010	Leitz	Jason T	Crown of Life, West St. Paul, MN	
2/1/2011	Lemke	Carl M	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Leonhard	Lorien S	St. John, Goodhue, MN	
6/30/2010	Leyrer	Philip M	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2011	Luehring	Rachel M	Mt. Olive, Delano, MN	
6/30/2011	Meitner	Matthew S	Salem, Greenfield, MN	
6/30/2010	Meitner	Cinda L	Holy Trinity, New Hope, MN	
6/30/2010	Minch	Jack N	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2012	Moeller	Michelle	St. John's, Lake City, MN	
6/30/2010	Moldenhauer	Amanda J	Immanuel, Tyler, MN	
6/30/2010	Nelson	Jeffrey D	St. John, Redwood Falls, MN	
6/30/2011	Peitsmeyer	Stephanie L	Petra, Sauk Rapids, MN	
6/30/2011	Reiter	Lynn	Christ, North St. Paul, MN	Retirement
6/15/2012	Riediger	Sue	St. John, Dakota, MN	Resignation
6/30/2010	Rosenow	Stephanie M	Petra, Sauk Rapids, MN	
6/30/2010	Ross	Michelle L	Christ, North St. Paul, MN	
8/31/2010	Sauer	Constance	Christ, Eden Prairie, MN	
6/30/2010	Schoenherr	Carol A	St. Paul, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Schroeder	Anne M	West LHS, Plymouth, MN	
6/30/2012	Schroeder	Howard	West LHS, Plymouth, MN	Leave of absence until 2014
6/30/2012	Schroeder	Rachel (Kionka)	West LHS, Plymouth, MN	Resignation
7/31/2010	Schroeder	Timothy J	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Schultz	Jeffrey D	St. John, Sleepy Eye, MN	
6/30/2010	Shambeau	Michelle	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
7/13/2011	Spanovich	Andrea	St. Croix LHS, West St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2011	Sponholz	Martin P	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Tarr	Jayne M	Christ, North St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Tess	Elizabeth C	Minnesota Valley LHS, New Ulm, MN	
6/30/2010	Traucht	George L	Good Shepherd, Burnsville, MN	
6/30/2011	Uhlenbrauck	Dale M	Christ, North St. Paul, MN	
6/30/2010	Van Houten	Susan M	Good Shepherd, Burnsville, MN	
6/30/2010	Van Loon	Betty S	St. John, Caledonia, MN	
6/30/2012	Walz	Debra	West LHS, Plymouth, MN	Resignation

6/30/2011	Wendorff	Carol	Mt. Olive, Delano, MN	
6/30/2010	Wenzel	Melodie L	Good Shepherd, St. Peter, MO	
5/31/2011	Zastrow	Stephanie H	St. John, Sleepy Eye, MN	
6/30/2012	Wehrenberg	Cindy	Good Shepherd, Burnsville, MN	

<b>Leaving Ministry / Staff Ministers</b>				
2/29/2012	Boggs	James	Good Shepherd, St. Peter, MO	
1/6/2012	Esmeier	Jim	The Luth. Home/Jesus Cares, Belle Plaine, MN	
8/31/2011	Meyer	John A	Ascension, Plymouth, MN	

Committee No. 4  
RESOLUTIONS & PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Resolution No. 5**

Reference: Convention Activity  
Subject: Ratification of District Officers

WHEREAS the convention has elected the following men to serve in district offices;

President: Rev. Charles Degner  
First Vice President: Rev. Donald Sutton  
Second Vice President: Rev. Mark Schwertfeger  
Secretary: Rev. Mike Hatzung; therefore, be it

Resolved, that these officers be ratified by the convention.

**Resolution No. 6**

Reference: Convention Activity  
Subject: Expressions of Gratitude

WHEREAS 1) our district and our convention require the efforts of many people in order to function; and

WHEREAS 2) the Lord has blessed us with many faithful and diligent servants; and

WHEREAS 3) it is fitting to acknowledge their time and effort; therefore, be it

Resolved, a) that we thank Martin Luther College for hosting us and providing for our needs; and be it further

Resolved, b) that we thank our worship leaders, presenters, and reporters; and be it further

Resolved, c) that we thank the committee members, chairmen, and secretaries for their efforts in bringing reports and resolutions, and be it further

Resolved, d) that we thank Teacher Dan Whitney for his years of service on the Board for Parish Schools; and be it finally

Resolved e) that we thank Rev. Mark Cordes for his years of service to the Board for Home Missions.

Rev. Eugene Devries, Chairman  
Rev. Nathan Sutton, Secretary

PASTORS

Pastor John Baumann  
Pastor Jonathan Brohn  
Pastor Craig Engel  
Pastor Michael Geiger  
Pastor Bruce Janisch  
Pastor Michael Kuschel  
Pastor Mark Lenz  
Pastor Kurt Lueneburg  
Pastor Dallas Miller  
Pastor Mark Neitzel  
Pastor Timothy Redfield  
Pastor Thomas Schultz  
Pastor David Shilling  
Pastor Daniel Westendorf  
Pastor William Ziebell

TEACHERS

Benjamin Bain  
David Biedenbender  
Philip Ewerdt  
John Gunderson  
Michael Henning Jr.  
Paul Kanzenbach  
Philip Meitner  
Daniel Plath  
Michael Ross  
Eric Scheuerlein  
Paul Tess  
Andrew Wehausen  
Adam Wiechmann

LAY DELEGATES

Don Beguhl  
Troy Benson  
Len Biermann  
Delmar Christianson  
Dennis Cunningham  
Curt Hall  
Jerry Hallis  
Daniel Heins  
Joe Kelly  
Marvin Kollos  
Robin Kramer  
Ernie Latorre  
Ron Peterson

Subject: Report on Election of Officers

**District Positions**

- District President.....Rev. Charles Degner
- First Vice President.....Rev. Donald Sutton
- Second Vice President .....Rev. Mark Schwertfeger
- Secretary .....Rev. Michael Hatzung
- Mission Board Pastor.....Rev. Jeremy Glowicki (18)  
Rev. Wayne Shevey (18)
- Parish Schools/Lutheran Schools.....Teacher Kurt Maciejczak (18)
- Special Ministries.....Rev. Darren Green (18)
- Board of Appeals .....Rev. Mark Kom (18)  
Teacher Gary Bain (18)  
Mr. Scott Rigge (18)

**District Nominating Committee**

- Crow River Conference.....Rev. Don Main (16)
- Mankato Conference.....Rev. John Meyer (16)
- Minnesota River Valley Conference .....Rev. Michael Berg (16)
- Red Wing Conference .....Rev. James Hein (16)
- St. Croix Conference .....Rev. Jeffrey Mittelstadt (16)
- Southern (Missouri Circuit).....Rev. Wayne Shevey (16)

**Synod School Board Positions**

- Luther Preparatory School Governing Board .....Teacher John Meyer (18)
- Michigan Lutheran Seminary Governing Board.....Teacher David Bauer (18)

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Bitter, Chairman  
Jonathan Roux, Secretary

**PASTORS**

David Bendix  
Mark Cordes  
Todd Engel  
Jeremy Glowicki  
James Hein  
Joseph Johnson  
Randall Kuznicki  
Roger Neumann  
Robert Schultz  
Keith Siverly  
Steven Tews

**TEACHERS**

Nathan Bitter  
Gary Bain  
Rodney Herbison  
Daniel Kell  
Justin Ohm  
Michael Plocher  
Jonathan Roux  
Aaron Schleusner  
Scott Sievert  
Steven Thiesfeldt

**LAY DELEGATES**

Austin, Don Thompson  
Butterfield, Kirk Kratovil  
Dakota, Rolf Reissman  
Duluth, Jasen Keske  
Frontenac, Ian Lutjen  
Glenwood, Wayne Paulsen  
Goodhue, Steven Oelkers  
Loretto, Lynn Jurrens  
Marshall, Reinhold Kehren  
New Hope, Timothy Russow  
Osceola, Wayne Lueck  
Redwood Falls, Jeffrey Olson  
River Falls, Bob Decker  
West St. Paul, Rick Berthiaume

Reference: RTD, pp. 77-81.

### **Report No. 1**

“The Board for Home Missions (BHM) works to coordinate the rescue mission of souls through the establishing and supporting of mission churches.”

Currently the BHM serves 11 exploratory missions, 24 missions in development phase, 9 ministries in enhanced phase and 16 cross-cultural ministries. Another 114 congregations are classified as missions because they have loans from the Church Extension Fund.

The BHM serves our campus ministries around the country. Keeping up-to-date student information on databases remains a challenge. However, the BHM continues to work diligently at providing a church home for WELS collegiates throughout our country.

The BHM received a \$1 million grant from the WELS Church Extension Fund. This grant was divided among 6 mission congregations: Peace in Jesus, Boise, ID; Spirit of Life, Caledonia, MI; Christ, Denver, CO; Moncks Corner, SC; Amazing Love, New Lenox, IL; and Trinity, Woodbridge, VA.

In 2011 the BHM opened four new mission congregations: Leamington, Ontario, Canada; Moncks Corner, SC; Morristown, TN; and Vail, AZ. Neighboring congregations are partnering with most of these missions.

In 2010 the BHM opted for a regional approach for Home Missions for two years; it will be reevaluated this fall. Each district maintains its own mission board, but mission boards are working with one another within the four regions: North, South, East, and West.

WELS-Canada continues its move to become an independent church body. The districts with churches in Canada will have to approve this in their conventions.

The BHM also supports a number of cross-cultural ministries, including Hispanic, Hmong, Lao, Sudanese, Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Navajo, and Vietnamese.

BHM partners:

- WELS Church Extension Fund
- WELS Kingdom Workers
- Lutheran Women's Mission Society
- Multi-Language Publications

Looking ahead, the BHM continues to plan new missions, to partner with existing congregations in starting new missions and ministries, and to communicate with members of the



Synod about how the Lord blesses the gospel proclamation throughout North America. Our committee takes great joy in all the opportunities our Synod is using to share the gospel with the lost and looks forward to see how the Lord will bless that gospel proclamation.

### **Resolution No. 1**

Reference: RTD, pg. 78  
Subject: Regional Approach for Board Representation

- WHEREAS 1) it is the desire of the WELS Board for Home Missions to make the best use of Synod resources as it “works to coordinate the rescue mission of souls through the establishing and supporting of mission churches”; and
- WHEREAS 2) the WELS Board for Home Missions has been in a two-year trial period making use of a regional approach to prioritize home mission activities; and
- WHEREAS 3) a practice of district representatives openly discussing and deciding mission priorities gives valuable grassroots input; and
- WHEREAS 4) the regional system impairs direct district Board for Home Missions input into decisions; and
- WHEREAS 5) the envisioned benefits of the regional system for improved efficiency, reduced costs, and better training may not have been realized; and
- WHEREAS 6) regional representatives may not have necessary information to answer specific questions concerning certain mission opportunities; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED a) that we encourage the dissolution of the trial regional system; and be it further
- RESOLVED b) that we encourage the Board for Home Missions Executive Committee no longer to prioritize mission opportunities in advance of the meeting of the Board for Home Missions at large; and be it finally
- RESOLVED c) that we encourage the Board for Home Missions Executive Committee to prioritize the training of and communication between district Boards for Home Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. James Grabitske, Chairman  
Rev. Ben Kempfert, Secretary

Stu Gilbert  
Norman Goodman  
Jason Rupnow  
Gerald Woodley  
Greg Tobison  
John Hahn  
Andrew Bare

Ernie Kempf  
Steve Daley  
Jim Witt  
Jon Ladner  
Steven Wohlman  
Joel Luetke  
Bruce Baumeister

Frederick Panning  
Curt Richter  
Jeff Limpert  
Ken Caseltine  
Dave Sauer

*Reference: RTTD, pg. 71*

*Report No. 1: Our current situation*

We are grateful to our gracious God that the number of souls we serve has increased from 33,000 two decades ago to 83,070 in 2010 and to 86,502 in 2012, with 32,000 more being served in seed-sowing ministries. Our expatriate force is comprised of 42 full-time missionaries, 8 teachers, and 61 lay workers, while our national staff is made up of 146 pastors, 17 student pastors, 13 vicars, and 194 evangelists; these workers serve a total of 533 congregations and 132 preaching stations. The BWM's seven administrative committees currently oversee ministry in 21 world fields.

*Reference: RTTD, pg. 71-72*

*Report No. 2: Expansion*

Exploratory visits have been carried out in Guatemala, Haiti, and Korea, with limited mission work already being done in the latter two countries through alternate mission strategies until a long-range strategic plan is developed and resources are secured.

*Reference: RTTD, pg. 72-73*

*Report No. 3: Noteworthy activities*

- We thank God for blessing gospel ministry in some of the world's most challenging fields:
  - Nepal: 13,700 have been reached through Bible storying.
  - Pakistan: 30,000 have been reached through Bible Correspondence and Teaching School courses. A small confessional Lutheran church body of 36 communicants has been formed.
  - China: WELS worker training students are being encouraged to learn Mandarin, Chinese Christian materials are being produced and published, and pastors and lay workers are being trained at Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong.
- We commend the BWM for its use of creative methods, such as Latin American Traveling Theological Educators (LATTE), Apache Christian Training School (ACTS), and the Greater Africa Theological Studies Institute (GRATSI), all of which work in cooperation with the Pastoral Studies Institute (PSI) of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.
- We rejoice that the Multi-Language Publications Committee has produced 2,471 titles in 65 languages.

*Reference: RTTD, pg. 73-74*  
*Report No. 4: Safety concerns*

We ask the Lord for his continued protection on those who share the gospel in high risk areas of the world such as Mexico, Nigeria, Nepal, Indonesia, and Pakistan. World Missions continues to monitor those areas in order to minimize the risk to our expatriate and national workers.

*Reference: RTTD, pg. 74-75*  
*Report No. 5: A look ahead*

- We encourage our mission fields to continue to work to become independent church bodies that are self-disciplining, self-administering, self-propagating, and self-supporting.
- We celebrate the successes of the newly-formed Christian Aid and Relief Committee as they use humanitarian assistance as a bridge for gospel witness in India, Indonesia, and Nepal, and as they explore its use in Haiti and Pakistan.
- We look forward to an increased use of technology to leverage our global efforts in theological education.
- We pray for the success of two conferences that will be held this fall:
  - Christ in Media Institute Conference (Bethany Lutheran College, Oct. 12-14, 2012)
  - Asia Publications Conference (Hong Kong Retreat Center, Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 2012)
- We encourage our congregations to make use of material from Missions Promotions at synod offices; information can be found at [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net) as Mission Display Kits.
- We thank Pastor John Kurth for his willingness to continue to serve as a transition counselor by helping mission families readjust to life in the United States. He is working part-time while the BWM searches for a long-term replacement.

Reference: RTTD, pg. 75  
Report No. 6: Conclusion

“The world missions team continues to seek the prayers, interest, and support of all the members of WELS for the work of reaching the world’s lost, which is at the very core of our synods mission. May the Lord bless our calling in regard to worldwide gospel outreach so that as many souls as possible might know Christ’s love.”

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Kroll, Chairman  
Lawrence Olson, Secretary

<u>PASTORS</u>	<u>TEACHERS</u>	<u>LAY DELEGATES</u>
Steven Abramowski	Paul Bases	St Paul Arlington
Marcus Birkholz	Jared Christensen	St John Butterfield
Percy Damrow	Theodore Glodowski	Christ the Lord Cottage Grove
Andrew Fix	Scott Gostchock	St Matthew (Flora) Danube
Darren Green	Jason Hahn	Abiding Savior Elk River

Mark Kock  
Douglas Lange  
Paul Lindhorst  
Adam Manian  
William Monday  
Lawrence Olson  
Duane Schmeichel  
Martin Schwartz  
Timothy Smith  
Jon Wolff

Michael Homan  
Roger Klockziem  
Lawrence Lotito  
David Mielke  
Christopher Olson  
Casey Pufahl  
Kenneth Rupnow  
Kurt Schmidt  
Alan Spurgin  
James Unke  
David Wendland  
Philip Zahn

St John Goodhue  
St John Hancock  
First La Crescent  
St John Lake City  
Zion Marshall  
Prince of Peace Mason City  
Trinity Montrose  
St Paul New Ulm  
Trinity Nicollet  
Zion Osceola  
Faith Prior Lake  
Ascension Rochester  
New Life Shoreview  
Grace South Saint Paul

**Report No. 1**

Reference: RTD, pp. 87-95

The continuing purpose of the WELS Board for Ministerial Education (BME) is “the preparation of ministers of the gospel to proclaim Christ’s love” (RTD p. 87) to churches, schools, and mission fields of our fellowship. The BME report provides an overview of the work at the Synod ministerial education schools – Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS), Martin Luther College (MLC), Luther Preparatory School (LPS), and Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS).

The report that follows is a synopsis of the information provided by the Report to the Twelve Districts (RTD). It highlights the major points of emphasis, notes with thanks blessings received, points out areas of concern, and proposes several resolutions.

**Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary**

- The committee endorses the continuing active recruitment and continuing education efforts (p. 88) which recognize that “the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few” (ESV, Matthew 9:37).
- In light of the growing opportunities the Lord of the Church is providing in China, the committee notes and supports efforts to provide future pastors with experiences and training that will broaden their knowledge of the Chinese culture and language (p. 87).
- The committee notes with thanks that WLS enrollment has stabilized and that the projections of graduates in the years to come (p. 89) align with the WELS Long Range Plan goal of graduating 30 pastor candidates per year (p. 89).
- The committee notes with joy the generous gifts and grants which provide tuition assistance (p. 90). Many students enter WLS with debts from MLC; therefore, financial aid is needed.
- We give thanks for the Pastoral Studies institute (PSI) program, which meets the needs of those that cannot take the traditional path to the pastoral ministry. We support PSI program review so that the PSI program may serve more ministry candidates (p. 91).
- We note and support the mission of “Grow in Grace” to provide continuing education resources and its efforts to connect pastors with partners who will encourage spiritual and professional growth (p. 91).
- The committee notes with concern that “the revenue model the seminary has been operating with is not sustainable” and “by the next biennium WLS will either have to find other major sources of revenue or makes substantial cuts in spending” (p. 94).
- We look forward to the coming 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WLS and the opportunity to thank the Lord for the blessings our Synod has received through the seminary (p. 95).

**Resolution No. 1**

Reference: RTD, p. 92

Subject: Thanksgiving for Ministry Service

WHEREAS 1) Professor Richard Gurgel has served 25 years in the ministry; and

WHEREAS 2) Professors Forest Bivens and John Brug have served 40 years in the ministry; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that we thank these faithful servants for using their gifts to serve the Lord these many years.

**Report No. 2**

Reference: RTD, pp. 95-102

**Martin Luther College**

- The committee notes with appreciation MLC’s plans to construct a new Early Childhood Center to meet the increasing need for early childhood teachers. This facility will not be funded with Synod budget funds; rather, MLC is gathering offerings through a silent campaign. Construction has been delayed until spring 2013 to allow time for funds to be raised. The independent construction of an assisted-living facility for seniors on adjacent property will allow intergenerational ministry opportunities in the future (pp. 97-98).
- Financial concerns remain at MLC. The report states, “Pressing needs ... remain: increased financial aid to reduce student indebtedness, programmed maintenance needs already identified and prioritized at \$2.9 million, an expansion or new construction of an early childhood learning center, and restoration of faculty strength in line with Higher Learning Commission guidelines – these are the key concerns” (p. 98).
- The MLC report states that 70% of graduates carry an average debt of \$22,555. Graduates that enroll at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary must begin debt repayment while enrolled at WLS. These facts demonstrate the importance of congregation-based programs of financial assistance to reduce student debt loads (p. 100).
- MLC has a goal of establishing and maintaining a \$4 million reserve fund (equivalent to 25% of its annual operating budget). Presently, the reserve fund holds less than half of this amount. Additionally, it should be noted that MLC has only \$750,000 designated to meet maintenance needs (previously mentioned) of \$2.9 million (p. 99).
- The committee notes with gratitude that the graduates of MLC are well-trained and prepared for their careers in the ministry. We praise God for the administration and faculty of MLC and their vigilant efforts to fulfill the ministry goals of our Synod.

**Resolution No. 2**

Reference: RTD, p. 97

Subject: Thanksgiving for Ministry Service

WHEREAS 1) Professor Richard Ash, having served 44 years in the public ministry (13 years at MLC), is retiring at the end of June 2012, and

WHEREAS 2) Professor Ronald Shilling, having served 49 years in the public ministry (47 years at MLC), is retiring at the end of June 2012, and

WHEREAS 3) Professors John Meyer and Jeffrey Schone have completed 25 years in the public ministry, and Professor Wayne Wagner has completed 40 years of service in the public ministry, and

WHEREAS 4) Pastor Roy Beyer has completed two six-year terms on the MLC Governing Board; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we thank the lord of the Church for these servants who faithfully used their gifts to serve God's kingdom these many years.

### **Report No. 3**

Reference: RTD, pp. 102-106

#### **Luther Preparatory School and Michigan Lutheran Seminary**

- The committee notes with thanks the pattern of increasing enrollment at both LPS and MLS and the success of innovative recruitment efforts at both schools (pp. 102,104).
- The committee notes that the Synod preparatory schools may need to explore the development of online courses for students interested in ministry who are not able to attend MLS or LPS.
- The committee notes the need for congregational stewardship efforts to increase support for all Synod schools.
- We commend the faculties and staffs of MLS and LPS for maintaining quality programs while experiencing reductions in budgets and personnel.
- We commend LPS for achieving accreditation status from both WELSSA and AdvanceED-NCA (p.103).
- We note with concern the continued use of one time monies to supplement the operating budgets of MLS and LPS (p.103).
- We rejoice that the Lord moved Pastor Joel Petermann to accept the call to serve as president of MLS (p.105).

Teacher Greg Thiesfeldt, Chairman  
Teacher Ryan Hulse, Secretary

Pastor Jon Bitter  
Professor James Danell  
Pastor David Fleischmann  
Pastor Matthew Grunewald  
Pastor Curtis Holub  
Professor Paul Koelpin  
Professor Lyle Lange



Pastor Daniel Lindner  
Pastor Michael Otterstatter  
Professor John Schmidt  
Pastor Richard Schwerin  
Pastor Daniel Voigt  
Teacher Justin Hansen  
Teacher Donald Koch  
Teacher Kurt Maciejczak  
Teacher Paul Pappenfuss  
Staff Minister Ronald Schmidt  
Teacher Mark Stein  
Teacher Seth Zimmermann  
Hope, Andover  
St. Peter, Balaton  
Trinity, Belle Plaine  
St. Mark, Bemidji  
Faith, Excelsior  
Emanuel, Fairfax  
St. Peter, Goodhue  
St. John, Hastings  
Grace, Hutchinson  
Zion, New Ulm  
St. Paul, North Mankato  
Resurrection, Rochester  
Salem, Stillwater

Reference: RTD, pp. 11-18

**Report No. 1**

Early childhood enrollments continue to grow. Lutheran elementary schools and area Lutheran high school enrollments have grown slightly in the past year. Funding has been challenging for this commission in many areas, requiring more and more synod support. All early childhood education (ECE), Lutheran elementary schools, and area Lutheran high schools are encouraged to participate in the Supplemental Contribution Program. Currently stand alone ECEs are at .05% participation, Lutheran elementary schools are at 54% participation, and area Lutheran high schools are at 52%.

Reference: RTD, p. 32

**Report No. 2**

The Commission for Congregational Counseling (CCC) assists WELS congregations in evaluating ministry and developing plans to adjust and expand their ministry. We pray that the Lord will bless the CCC as it trains counselors for working one-on-one with congregations and as they seek to call a director for the ongoing training and coordination of CCC counselors.

Reference: RTD, pp. 11-13, 24-29

**Report No. 3**

We thank the Lord for the service of the Commission of Special Ministries as it coordinates thousands of volunteers who meet the spiritual needs of individuals who face special physical, mental, or emotional challenges, serve our members in the military, and reach out to people in prison. All of this work under the commission is carried out without financial support from the synod budget. Please remember the work of Special Ministries in your prayers and stewardship.

We look forward to the contributions of the newly established WELS Nurses Association, the new Chaplain Certification program, and continued efforts to enhance all areas of Special Ministries.

As Rev. Carl Ziemer enters retirement, we thank him for his faithful service as the director of the Commission on Special Ministries.

Reference: RTD, pp. 11-13

#### **Report No. 4**

While the Congregational Ministry Support Group (CMSG) is significantly downsized and unable to deliver the same level of services as in the past, each unit still strives faithfully and creatively to serve congregations, schools, and their leaders.

The CMSG has been working on various stronger partnerships, as envisioned by the Ad Hoc Commission and by the 2009 synod convention. In the time that has passed since 2009, this work in progress seeks to answer these questions:

- How can the CMSG better serve alongside district presidents and a revamped circuit pastor system?
- How can district presidents encourage better usage of CMSG resources and programs?
- How will the CMSG be a part of the growing emphasis on continuing education of called workers and pursuit of excellence in our parishes and schools?

The Institute for Worship and Outreach is a group of WELS pastors who have become convinced, on the basis of study and ministry experiences, that worship forms and outreach methods can and must intersect confessionally and evangelically in efforts to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. With this perspective, they have come together to foster a unified philosophy of worship and outreach in WELS and to be a resource for pastors as they reach out to the lost with the gospel of Jesus in public worship. More information is available at: [www.worshipandoutreach.org](http://www.worshipandoutreach.org)

Reference: RTD, pp. 29-32

#### **Report No. 5**

The Commission on Youth and Family Ministry has a coordinator in each district to carry out work although they currently have no director in office. As they look ahead, the commission continues to struggle with a lack of funding, yet they hope to establish a Youth Rally Fund and continue Kid's Connection.

The Commission on Adult Discipleship currently operates without an administrative director. They look ahead to continuing Schools of Adult Bible Study for Pastors in 2013, New Internet Bible studies later this year, a new marriage course entitled "Distracted Marriage", and two sequels to *Road to Emmaus*.

The Commission for Congregational Counseling is the newest of the commissions in the Congregation and Ministry Support Group. It serves to provide encouragement and support for congregations. They launched E12 (Easter 2012) – serving with 500 congregations, sending over half a million Easter postcard invitations. More E12 info at [connect.wels.net/ccc](http://connect.wels.net/ccc).

## Resolution No. 1

Reference: RTD, pp. 33-41

Subject: Continuing Education for Called Workers Committee (CECW)

- WHEREAS 1) “the sharpened focus on continuing education for called workers sounded by the Ad Hoc Commission (2009) and the re-establishment of the Continuing Education for Called Workers Committee (CECW) by the synod convention of 2009 found specific support and direction in the proposal adopted by the synod convention of 2011. This proposal, titled ‘Continuing education for WELS called teachers,’ gives detailed directions, marching orders if you will, for the teacher side of the CECW” (p. 34); and
- WHEREAS 2) “two additional resolutions were adopted at the 2011 synod convention that began to lay the groundwork for what this coordinated and comprehensive program of continuing education might look like” (p. 33); and
- WHEREAS 3) the Conference of Presidents (COP), Commission on Lutheran Schools (CLS), Continuing Education of Called Workers Committee (CECW), Synodical Council (SC), and Board for Ministerial Education (BME) began implementing a program in advancement of this goal; and
- WHEREAS 4) the COP passed a motion in its October 2011 meeting to require that “any time an MLC teacher candidate is assigned, the school is charged \$1,000/year fee for two years” (p. 35) to supply the school with a trained Instructional Mentor; and
- WHEREAS 5) the report is a summary of the policy and as such lacks detail; and
- WHEREAS 6) that both the New Teacher Induction and Veteran teacher development programs are “works in progress”, and as such are still being developed and tested; and
- WHEREAS 7) acknowledging that this is a work in progress, nevertheless there are some concerns:

\*How will the plan encourage not only professional growth but also the spiritual growth of our called workers?

\*Will there be contingencies for congregations who may have difficulty meeting the NTI fees?

\*There appears to be a mandated increase in staff to Martin Luther College without also increasing synodical funding.

\*That there be definition for the phrase, “appropriate continuing education status of our teachers” (p. 41)

\*That additional stress on the family of the called worker be considered.

Therefore, be it

- Resolved, a) the Minnesota District support this program and implementation; and be it further
- Resolved, b) the Minnesota District direct the district secretary to forward the following concerns to the CECW; and be it finally
- Resolved, c) that the same concerns be addressed by COP or CECW at the time of the Synod Convention 2013.

## **Resolution No. 2**

Reference: RTD, pg. 2

Subject: Congregational Mission Offerings

WHEREAS 1) a number of congregations have not submitted subscriptions for Congregational Mission Offerings (CMO); and

WHEREAS 2) some congregations do not send any offerings to the synod; therefore, be it

Resolved, a) that we urge all congregations in the Minnesota District to submit subscriptions for CMO; and be it finally

Resolved, b) that we urge all congregations in the Minnesota District to support the blessed ministry of the Synod with Congregational Mission Offerings.

Rev Matthew Rauh, Chairman  
Rev John Meyer, Secretary

### **LAY DELGATES**

Christ Baxter  
Bloomington Bloomington  
St John Boyd  
St Matthew Danube  
St John Fairfax  
St John Glencoe

### **TEACHERS**

Gregory Baures  
Mark Dobberstein  
John Gronholz  
Jonathan Harley  
Jason Jaspersen  
Karl Mantzke

### **PASTORS**

Daniel Balge  
Timothy Blauert  
Matthew DeNoyer  
Edwin Fredrich  
Jonathan Hackbarth  
Christopher Hoppe

Immanuel Hutchinson  
Bethlehem Lakeville  
Emmanuel Owatonna  
Cross Rockford  
Good Shepherd St Peters

James Pasbrig  
David Retzlaff  
Steven Rutschow  
Lyle Strehler  
Jeffrey Strehlow  
David Wendler  
Mark Zoellner

Scott Muske  
Stephen Schmiel  
Curtiss Seefeldt  
William Staab  
Timothy Wahl  
Mark Zarling

Committee No. 11  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Reference: Ministry Support: Synodical Council RTTD, pg. 41  
Report No. 1

We are thankful for the dedicated service of the Synodical Council members whose terms have come to an end during the past biennium.

Reference: Ministry Support: Publication Coordinating Commission RTTD, pg. 50  
Report No. 2

We are encouraged that the Publication Coordinating Commission has listed several worthy projects for development. Currently, there is no funding to carry out these projects. Funding will be needed soon in order to complete these projects by the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. We are encouraged that the Publication Coordinating Commission is striving to publish a new catechism that would coordinate with the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Reference: Support Services: Facility Services RTTD, pp. 40, 59-60  
Report No. 3

We note with concern that WELS owns two administration buildings due to unforeseen events. The SC is committed to selling one of the buildings. The Milwaukee property needs repairs in the range of \$1.5 to \$2 million. We pray that a timely and financially responsible solution is found in order to reduce our risks.

Reference: Ministry Financial Plan and Results RTTD, pp. 61-69  
Report No. 4

We thank Financial Services for noting the error on page 64 under “Synod Support: Variance to Plan.” The parentheses in the table were incorrectly reversed on the dollar amounts.

Reference: Northwestern Publishing House RTTD, pp. 107-108  
Report No. 5

For 120 years Northwestern Publishing House has published sound materials for use in our congregations and continues to be proactive as they look to future needs. Work on the *Christ-Light* curriculum is proceeding. At this time NPH is preparing a Sunday school version of the *Christ-Light* curriculum that is compatible with all the major translation choices.

Reference: WELS Historical Institute RTTD, pp. 108-109  
Report No. 6

“The WELS Historical Institute works to preserve and present the story of God’s grace to WELS. The institute continues to publish the *WELS Historical Institute Journal* and *WELS Historical Institute Newsletter* each year. The institute also works to restore and preserve the Salem Landmark Church Museum, constructed in 1863 in north Milwaukee. The Salem Landmark Church Museum will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013.”

Reference: WELS Church Extension Fund, Inc. RTTD, pp. 110-111  
Report No. 7

With joy we recognize the work of the CEF in distributing loans and grants to new WELS mission openings for facility and land acquisition, and for their support in providing \$1 million for the Board for Home Missions.

Reference: WELS Foundation, Inc. RTTD, pp. 111-113  
Report No. 8

We are thankful for the work of the WELS Foundation, which through encouraging planned giving, have provided support for \$5.6 million in 2011 to Home and World Missions, ministerial education schools, congregations, and area Lutheran high schools.

Reference: WELS Investment Funds, Inc. RTTD, pp. 114-115  
Report No. 9

We recognize with thanksgiving the work of the WELS Investment Funds, Inc., to provide WELS organizations with professionally managed investment portfolios.

Reference: WELS Benefit Plans RTTD, pp. 115-117  
Report No. 10

We are grateful for the work that the WELS Benefit Plans Office is doing to carefully manage the VEBA and Pension plans, considering the impact it has on congregation’s ministry plans while maintaining meaningful benefits for the workers. We commend them on their focus to return the plan to 100% funding status while keeping pace with the growing number of retirees.

“Health care reform efforts are in a holding pattern as the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule on the legality of at least some of the elements in June 2012. The outcome of the November 2012 elections will also impact the implementation of health care reform mandates.”



Mr. Mark Kutz, Chair

Mr. Daniel Whitney, Co-Secretary

Mr. William Arndt, Co-Secretary

**PASTORS:**

David Barkow  
Michael W. Dietz  
Timothy Learman  
Martin Lopahs  
Steve Staude

**TEACHERS:**

William Arndt  
Jonathon Beike  
Paul Grubbs  
Mark Kutz  
David Noack  
Jim Stueber  
Daniel Whitney

**LAY DELEGATES:**

Darrell Carstensen  
Donald Munsterteiger  
Gary Sacket  
Pat Dillon  
Allan Duesterhoeft  
Guy Trebesch  
James Murrow  
David Pfeiffer  
Kevin Doering  
Gary D. Burns  
Donald Kluender

Reference: Translation Evaluation Committee Report to the Twelve Districts  
Report No. 1

The Translation Evaluation Committee (TEC), in their May 11, 2012 report, expressed a desire that a final decision to choose a new translation be postponed to the 2013 WELS Convention. This is due in part to the fact that the urgency formerly felt to select a new translation has been eased. They also feel that consensus has not yet been reached. They would like to have more time for the ESV and the HCSB to be studied before asking for a final vote. Checking the fourth option on the District Convention Ballot on the Translation Issue will provide them and all of us more time to study this issue. That choice reads, "The decision should be delayed until the 2013 synod convention."

Reference: Translation Feasibility Committee Report to the Twelve Districts  
Report No. 2

The Translation Feasibility Committee (TFC) has been appointed by President Schroeder to determine the feasibility of a translation of our own, or our own study notes to accompany the Bible chosen for our synod publications. Both producing our own translation and revising an existing translation will take years of effort and an investment of millions of dollars. While Zondervan, Crossway, and Holman would permit WELS to use their translations to produce a study Bible, it appears our market is too small to allow it to be sold at a competitive price without synodical subsidy.

The TFC will continue to study our potential for producing a translation of our own. They will focus on product, process, people, price, and impact. A final recommendation will be presented at the 2013 Synod Convention.

Rev. Roger Knepprath, Chairman

Rev. Ross Stelljes, Secretary

PASTORS

Thomas Barthel  
Timothy Bode  
Richard Durow  
Joel Gawrisch  
Dennis Harbach  
David Huebner

Brian Koschnitzke  
Arnold Lemke  
Loren Lucht  
John Micheel  
David Naumann  
Rodney Pudell

Eric Schroeder  
Michael Sheppard  
Ross Stelljes  
Clayton Welch  
David Zhao

TEACHERS

Richard Ash  
Steven Biedenbender  
Matthew Evans  
James Grunwald  
J Lance Hartzell  
Eric Kaesermann

Samuel Korth  
Merlin Meitner  
Brent Nolte  
Gene Pfeifer  
Derick Rosenbaum  
Richmond Scharf

David Schulz  
Mark Tacke  
Wayne Wagner  
Jeffery Wiechman

LAY DELEGATES

St Paul, Alexandria  
Good Shepherd, Burnsville  
St John, Caledonia  
St John, Centuria  
Mt Olive, Delano  
Trinity, Johnson  
St Paul, Jordan

St John, Lake Benton  
Sheph. o t Lakes, Milford  
Pilgrim, Minneapolis  
Zion, Morton  
St John, Red Wing  
Martin Luther, Saint Louis  
Mt Olive, Saint Paul

St Peter, Saint Peter  
St John, Sleepy Eye  
Beaut Savior, W D Moines  
Salem, Woodbury  
Immanuel, Woodville  
Christ, Zumbrota

Committee No. 13  
EXCUSES

Subject: Convention Excuses

**Excused Full Time:**

**Pastors:**

Gene Andrus  
Ben Blumer  
Micah Ernst  
James Hein  
Ryan Heiman  
Brian Koschnitzke  
Matthew Luetke  
Mark Neitzel  
Jim Pope  
Keith Schreiner  
Frederick Kogler  
Mark Kom  
Kurt Lueneberg  
Martin Weigand

**Teachers:**

Richard Ash  
Jim Buboltz  
Tony Drkula  
Nate Hochmuth  
Jeff Koepsell  
Scott Loberger  
Phil Meitner  
Kermit Moldenhauer  
Ryan Rathje  
Randy Ristow  
Derick Rosenbaum  
Jon Roux  
Steven Rutschow  
Jeff Schoenherr  
Richmond Scharf  
James Schroeder  
Mark Tacke  
Alex Vandenberg  
Tim Vogel  
Dave Wendland  
Adam Wiechmann  
Philip Zahn  
James Bakken

**Lay Delegates:**

Trinity, Belle Plaine, MN  
Immanuel, Buffalo, MN  
Grace, Columbia, MO  
Apostles, Dardenne Prairie, MO  
Lincoln Heights, Des Moines, IA  
Mt. Olive, Graceville, MN  
Zion, Hokah, MN  
Trinity, Johnson, MN  
St. Paul's, Jordan, MN  
Immanuel, LaCrescent, MN  
Grace, LeSueur, MN  
Peace, Marshfield, MO  
Prince of Peace, Mason City, IA  
St. Paul, Monticello, MN  
St. Paul's, Montrose, MN  
St. Paul, Morris, MN  
Freidens, New Prague, MN  
Grace, Oskaloosa, IA  
Zion, Springfield, MO  
Divinity, St. Paul, MN  
Mt. Olive, St. Paul, MN  
Beautiful Savior, W. Des Moines, IA  
Immanuel, Willmar, MN

**Excused Part-time:**

**Pastors:**

Dave Barkow  
Keith Bilitz  
Percy Damrow  
Michael Dietz  
Craig Engel  
Ed Fredrich  
Michael Gorte  
Darren Green  
Dave Horton  
Brian Kom  
Dan Kroll  
Jonathon Leach  
Dallas Miller

**Teachers:**

Eric Kaesermann  
Don Koch  
Carl Lemke  
Jeff Lemke  
Daniel Rick  
Brandon Steenbock

**Lay Delegates:**

St. John's, Alma City, MN  
Christ the Lord, Cottage Grove, MN  
St. John's, Hastings, MN  
St. John's, Janesville, MN  
Salem, Loretto, MN

Scott Muske  
Roger Neumann  
Rod Pudell  
Allen Schleusener  
Wayne Schoch  
Dave Shilling  
Scott Spaulding  
John Zeitler

**Unexcused:**

**Pastors:**

Alan Horn

**Teachers:**

**Lay Delegates:**

Zion, Almena, MN  
Grace, Clear Lake, WI  
Courtland, Courtland, MN  
St. Matthew, Danube, MN  
Beautiful Savior, Eagan, MN  
Peace, Echo, MN  
Sh. of the Lakes, Fairmont, MN  
St. Matthew, Flora Twp, MN  
Emmanuel, Hudson, WI  
Mt. Olive Inver Grove Heights, MN  
Sh. Of Hills Inver Grove Heights, MN  
Living Word, Plainview, MN  
Trinity, Lake City, MN  
Peace, Marshfield, MN  
St. John, Mazeppa, MN  
Grace, Nelson, MN  
Zion New Ulm, MN  
Zion, Osceola, WI  
Immanuel Hmong, N. St. Paul, MN  
Good Shepherd, Pipestone, MN  
Ascension, Rochester, MN  
Christ Our Rock, Rochester, MN  
St. Paul's, St. James, MN  
Timothy, St. Louis Park, MN  
Mt. Olive, Shakopee, MN  
St. John's, Stillwater, MN  
Our Redeemer, Wabasha, MN  
Immanuel, West Florence, MN  
St. John's, Wood Lake, MN  
Immanuel, Woodville, WI  
St. John, Vesta, MN

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Michael Gorte, Chairman  
Rev. Paul Tessmer, Secretary

**CIRCUIT PASTORS:**

Martin Bentz  
Jeffrey Bovee  
Wesley Bruss  
Christian Christenson  
Mark Falck  
Ellery Groth  
Dean Gunn  
Bruce Hanneman

Matthew Hennig  
Dennis Klatt  
Mark Kom  
Jonathon Kruschel  
Edwin Lehmann  
Michael Neumann  
Daniel Reich  
Wayne Schoch

Keith Schreiner  
Ronald Siemers  
Dennis Strong  
Paul Tessmer  
David Tiarks  
Dennis Valleau