

Committee No. 10

CONGREGATION AND DISTRICT MINISTRY

Reference: RTD, pp. 1-9, 19-53

Report No. 1

We thank our Lord and commend the work of the Conference of Presidents who have provided our synod with leadership especially in the areas of finance, doctrine and congregational ministry.

Report No. 2

We appreciate the efforts of the Commission on Interchurch Relations in monitoring doctrinal discussions of other church bodies. We thank our God for Professor Nass's many years of faithful service.

Report No. 3

We give thanks for the Ministry of Christian Giving and their efforts to assist the Conference of Presidents in teaching us how to excel in the grace of giving. We encourage our congregations to utilize 364 Days of Thanksgiving. We also thank our Savior for Mr. Harold Mears's years of faithful service.

Report No. 4

We applaud the work of Communication Services and Northwestern Publishing House in producing Forward in Christ, WELS Connection, Our Synod's website, Facebook and Twitter pages and all the other materials that help us proclaim what Christ has done.

We encourage Communication Services in their future planning, especially in preparing for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the service to be held at the Bradley Center in Milwaukee on October 31, 2017.

Report No. 5

We recognize the work of the Commission on Worship and encourage them to continue with their plans for the Reformation service and the national conference on worship. We look forward to the hymnology classes and the production of the new hymnal.

Report No. 6

We commend the work the Commission on Evangelism and the work of the Commission on Congregational Counseling in assisting WELS congregations in evaluating their ministries, and developing plans to expand their outreach. We pray the Lord of the Harvest to bless their faithful efforts.

Report No. 7

Special ministries consists of Prison Ministry, Military Services, Care Committee for Called Workers, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Ministry, Committee on Mental Health Needs, Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Mission for the Visually Impaired, and the Health and Wellness Committee. We thank Special Ministries for their fine work and encourage them to continue in it. We appreciate the resources they have created to help educate and encourage so many people.

Report No. 8

Adult Discipleship is working on interactive faith Bible studies, marriage enrichment programs, women's ministry and partnering with Northwestern Publishing House. We encourage them in their future endeavors to create materials and resources in these areas.

Report No. 9

We thank the Commission on Youth and Family Ministry for their work. We support the decision to join together Adult Discipleship and Youth and Family Ministry. We pray a full-time director of this commission will bring stability to these programs.

Report No. 10

We note the need for more principals and early childhood directors. We encourage the Commission on Lutheran Schools to continue their programs to train teachers and MLC graduates to become principals through the Principal Apprentice Program. We also encourage the Director Apprentice Mentoring Program.

CONGREGATION AND DISTRICT MINISTRY

Reference: RTD, (pp. 23-25)

Subject: Joint Statement Regarding the Termination of Fellowship

- WHEREAS 1) The Lord commands that his church on earth be united in mind and thought under one Shepherd, Jesus; and
- WHEREAS 2) this document was written for the purpose of helping our synods deal with future circumstances in unified brotherly way; and
- WHEREAS 3) our committee was not unified, with some on our committee concerned that certain statements (II. H, III.G) could be misunderstood and/or misapplied; therefore be it
- RESOLVED a) that we commend the work of the representatives of the three synods for the work they have done so far; and be it finally
- RESOLVED b) that further study be recommended especially in regards to an exegesis of Romans 16:17.

Mark Cordes, Chairman
Eugene Andrus, Secretary
Joel Fredrich
Bruce Hanneman
David Starr
Clayton Welch

William Arndt
Jonathan Beilke
Jared Christensen
Phillip Ewerdt
Lawrence Lotito
Glenn Metzger
Daniel Rick
Jeffery Schoenherr
Jeffery Strehlow

Eric Baube
Bill Bremel
Alan Breuer
Karl De Marce
Robin Kramer
Steve Oelkers
Ron Renner
Bob Roske
Tim Russow
Wesley Steinborn