

# All We Have- a Trust From Thee



2009

## Report of the 92nd Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Bethany Lutheran  
College

Bethany Lutheran  
Theological  
Seminary

Mankato, Minnesota  
June 21–25, 2009



Evangelical Lutheran  
Synod

REPORT OF THE  
**92ND REGULAR CONVENTION**  
OF THE  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**  
  
**and the**

**53RD ANNUAL MEETING**  
OF THE  
**BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE CORPORATION**

Convention Theme:  
**“All We Have—A Trust From Thee”**

Essayist:  
The Rev. Paul Schneider

Compiled by  
The Rev. Craig A. Ferkenstad, Secretary

Held at  
BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE  
and  
BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

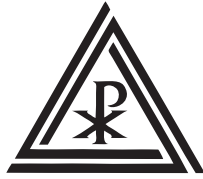
Mankato, Minnesota  
June 21–25, 2009

Artwork by the Rev. Donald Moldstad

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# THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY

## THE CONVENTION DAY BY DAY

### SYNOD SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2009

The 92<sup>nd</sup> Regular Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation began with a Festival Synod Sunday Service in Trinity Chapel beginning at 3:00 p.m. A relatively small crowd was in attendance. The Rev. D. Russow (Rogers, Minnesota) preached the sermon based on 1 Corinthians 7:29–31 under the theme *The time is short*. The Rev. E. Hoeft (Clara City, Minnesota) served as liturgist.

At 7:00 p.m. the assembly gathered again in Trinity Chapel for the Graduation Service for Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. Four students were graduated from the seminary. The Rev. J. Madson (Okauchee, Wisconsin) based the sermon on 2 Corinthians 3:4–6 with the theme *You will serve at the Lord's command*. Following the delivery of the sermon, a tornado warning prompted a thirty-minute evacuation of the chapel. The Rev. G. Schmeling served as liturgist and the Rev. J.K. Smith represented the Board of Regents. A reception, at the seminary, followed the service.



*Kyle Madson, Peter Faugstad*

### MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2009

The first working day of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regular Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation was opened with a devotion conducted at 9:30 a.m. in Trinity Chapel. The chaplain, the Rev. G. Smith (New Hampton, Iowa) preached the sermon based upon 2 Corinthians 5:14–15 with the theme, *This is living!* God created us to live for Him. Fullness of life can only be found in living in harmony with His plan for us. Now, after the Fall, sinners live for themselves; this is dying. But God saved us by sending His Son to pay for our sins through His death. Christ's love now compels us to live for Him who gave His life for us and rose again; this is living! Inspired by God's love in Christ we live to His glory and in His love with one another. This will continue forever in heaven's joys. The Order of Martins was followed and the service included the singing of the hymns, "Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose Thee," "All That I Was," and "Take My Life and Let It Be."

As the assembly gathered in the convention auditorium, Secretary Ferkenstad announced that the roll had been gathered at the credentials desk. By the end of the first working day of the convention, seventy-nine voting members and thirty-four permanent advisory members were present. By the conclusion of the convention there were eighty-four permanent voting members, forty-three permanent advisory members, and 126 delegates who had registered their presence.

At 10:28 a.m. President Moldstad declared the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regular Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation to be in session "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." He then led the assembly in prayer. President Moldstad then read the *President's Message* to the

synod. In doing so, he invited the convention to take a brief inventory of some of the great blessings which we enjoy as a synod.

Greetings were read from the Rev. Gundars Bakulis (Superintendent of the Confessional Lutheran Church of Latvia), the Rev. Otto Trebelhorn, the Rev. Peter Prange (Pastoral-President of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia). President Moldstad welcomed Professor Thomas Nass (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) who represented the WELS as an observer at this convention. Also welcomed were the Rev. Richard & Mrs. Warnke (former mentor for the Ukrainian Lutheran Church under Thoughts of Faith), the Rev. John Vogt (Rector of St. Sophia Seminary in Ternopil, Ukraine), and Nick & Kerry Laper (Ternopil, Ukraine). By the conclusion of the convention, greetings also were received from Missionary T.Erickson (Chile) and Bishop Horpynchuk (Ukrainian Lutheran Church). Other guests recognized at this convention included the Rev. Wayne Borgwardt, the Rev. Paul Wendland (Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary), and Professor Lyle Lange (Martin Luther College).

The chaplain closed the session with prayer at 11:50 a.m. The afternoon was spend in committee meetings preparing resolutions for consideration by the convention.

## **TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009**

The Tuesday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. M.Dale (Port St. Lucie, Florida) using Luke 10:27 as the sermon text with the theme, *Loving God*. The Lord tells us to love Him with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Why should we love Him? He is the creator of the world who demonstrated His love for us in words and in deeds—the greatest being exchanging His own Son's perfection for our guilt and punishment so that we could be saved. How do we love Him? The Bible mentions believing in the Son, listening to Him, obeying Him, and loving others as ways in which we show love for the Lord. Though we fail to do this perfectly, Christ succeeded in our place. By His grace and mercy, He enables us to live in repentance, and with a desire (and His power) to more and more act in love of God. The devotion also included the singing of the hymn, "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower."

Following the normal preliminaries, the Synodical Membership Committee reported. Five pastors, two teachers and one congregation were received into membership. The new members, who were present, were invited to the state and welcomed by President Moldstad.

President M.Schroeder, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, then addressed the convention. He reminded us that the Church always has faced difficult times. The eternal Lord works through weak and human people like us. In a world that seems to be changing, we hold-on to those things which do not change: God's mercy, God's word and God's promise.

The Home Mission Presentation was made by the Rev. S.Petersen and was a summary of the work of the synod's home missions, 1987–2009. During these years the board has worked with fifty-five congregations or start-up groups and forty-five ELS pastors. The Home Missions Committee then began their report to the convention.

The afternoon devotion consisted of the singing of the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God," and prayer by the chaplain; after which Mr. Michael Klatt spoke on behalf the Lutheran Home Association.

A presentation on behalf of the Lutheran Schools of America honoring the Lutheran Elementary School teachers who have served twenty-five years or more: Richard Brei (41 years), Camilla Daschund (41 years), Sharon King (39 years), Larry Rude (37 years), Barbar a Pape (35 years), Lynda Krueger (33 years), Sue Jankens (33 years), Dawn Sauer (30 years), Dennis Morrison (29 years), Mary Born (28 years), Jeanie Heller (28 years), Connie Davis (27 years), Jolene McClung (27 years), Ione Ibeling (26 years), Marcella Lowry (26 years). A special recognition also was made, by the Rev. G.Orvick, in honor of Silas Born's 50 years of service in the ministry of teaching. Silas Born was brought to the stage and presented with a plaque which read: "In gratitude to God for 50 years of service in the ministry of teaching."



The remainder of the afternoon consisted of the reports from the Miscellaneous and Elementary Education committees. With one simple motion, which received no discussion on the floor, the structure authorizing the organizational control of Thoughts of Faith was adopted by the synod.

The convention recessed to Trinity Chapel where the Anniversary Service was held at 5:00 p.m. The Rev. T.Rank (Scarville, Iowa) based his sermon upon 2 Timothy 4:1–5 under the theme *The Call to Preach is the Call to Endure*. The Service included the singing of the hymn, “Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide.”

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2009

The Wednesday morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. S.Schmeling (Thornton, Iowa) who based his sermon upon Romans 8:31–32 under the theme *Trust in God*. We are assured that if God did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, He will indeed give us all things. Though there may be difficulties along the way, we have the certainty that our Lord who has already done the most important thing for us, giving His life upon the cross and choosing us as His own in baptism, will also be with us this entire journey through. For He gives us the strength to face all problems of life and power to overcome and obtain the victory through the holy means of grace. The devotion included the singing of the hymn, “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus.”

The Wednesday morning session began at 8:50 a.m. at which time President Moldstad took note of the recent triumphant death of Mr. W.Lieske who served as a member of the ELS Board of Trustees for twenty-seven years. The synod’s expression of sympathy was extended to the family.



Mr. Wilbur Lieske

Following the preliminaries, President Moldstad introduced the essayist, the Rev. Paul Schneider (Midland, Michigan). The essayist began reading the essay, *All We Have—A Trust from Thee*. At 10:00 a.m. the assembly then was divided into sectional groups for discussion under the direction of the Board for Stewardship.

The Foreign Mission presentation was given by Mr. K.Traska concerning the work of Thoughts of Faith as the organization transitions its field of mission work to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. President Moldstad expressed the appreciation of the synod for the great services of Mr. Traska over the past years. Those individuals who have worked with Thoughts of Faith, and who were present at this time, also were recognized. The remainder of the morning was spent considering the report of the Foreign Missions Committee

The Wednesday afternoon devotion consisted of selections by the Youth Honor Choir and prayer by the chaplain. The convention then considered the report of the Finance Committee and continued discussion of the report of the Elementary Education Committee. Presentations were made by the Giving Counselor, the Rev. D.Basel, and the Rev. B.Tweit, chairman of the Board for Parish Education and Youth who drew attention to two publications which have been completed by the board: *Cling to the Cross II* and *A Study of the Epistle to the Hebrews*. Gratitude was expressed to the three pastors who prepared the Bible study: the Rev. S.Sparley, the Rev. J.Braun, the Rev. A.Hamilton. Higher education presentations followed as both President Schmeling (Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary) and President Bruss (Bethany Lutheran College) addressed the convention. The remainder of the afternoon was spent considering the reports of the Higher Education and Parishes Services committees and concluding the report of the Foreign Mission Committee. This was the momentous time when the motion was passed resolving that Thoughts of Faith come under the immediate governance and control of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Following this significant event, Mr. Kermit Traska presented the resignations of the Board of Directors of Thoughts of Faith, Inc.

The convention recessed to Trinity Chapel where the Memorial Service was conducted at 5:00 p.m. by the Rev. J. Petersen (Mankato, Minnesota). The sermon, based on Hebrews 4:9–10, pointed to the Sabbath rest the Lord provides in heaven for all who die trusting in the finished, perfect work of Jesus Christ. Those who were remembered all worked very hard in their service to the Lord and His kingdom. We thank God for them. Even more, we thank God for His grace whereby they and all of us can look forward to entering God's rest and peace in eternal life.

The Communion Service, upon the date of the Nativity of John the Baptist, was conducted in Trinity Chapel beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. M. Smith (North Mankato, Minnesota) based his sermon upon Luke 9:57–62. The Rev. D. Moldstad (Mankato, Minnesota) served as Liturgist.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009**

The morning devotion was conducted by the Rev. P. Van Kampen (Cottonwood, Minnesota) who based his message upon 1 Peter 2:9 under the theme: Sharing God. We share the things that bring us joy in life, like a baseball game or a dinner out. What brings more joy to life than the Lord? He did the greatest thing possible for you. He "bought you out of darkness into his wonderful light." He chose you from eternity, made you into a royal priesthood, washed your sins away and separated you as a holy nation, and bought you with the holy, precious blood of Christ. He did this for you, so that you could share Him with other, declaring His praises, telling everyone everywhere the great things God has done in your life. Declare those praises by being the holy priesthood that God made you to be. Declare by inviting others to the light of the gospel of as the psalmist say, to "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). The devotion included the singing of the hymn: "O Christ, Our True and Only Light."

After preliminaries, the Youth & Parish Education committee made their report.

The morning session then continued with the sectional discussions of the essay until the assembly again gathered for discussion and concluding remarks by the essayist. The essayist was thanked.

The convention concluded its work, during the morning session, by considering the reports of the following committees: Synodical Membership, Evangelism, Home Missions, Elementary Education, President's Message and Report, Pastoral Conference, Resolutions, and Excuses.

The president's concluding comments directed us to the salvation which God has given us in Christ which leaves us with a desire to thank Him with whatever we have in our lives.

Due to the early time of adjournment, an exceptionally large attendance was present when, at 12:20 p.m., the president declared the 92<sup>nd</sup> Regular Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Bethany Lutheran College Corporation to be closed "In the Name of Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."



*Individuals that have worked with Thoughts of Faith*

## ROLL CALL OF PERMANENT MEMBERS

### Active Membership:

1. Pastors serving member congregations:

*Members having the right to vote*

Present: K.Anderson, M.Bartels, T.Bartels, J.Braun, M.Brooks, E.Bryant, L.Buelow, M.Crick, C.Dale, M.Dale, E.Ekhoff, D.Faugstad, C.Ferkenstad, F.Fiedler, D.Finn, R.Flohr, T.Fox, P.Fries, E.Gernander, J.Gernander, W.Grimm, T.Gullixson, C.Hahnke, W.Halvorson, A.Hamilton, R.Harting, T.Hartwig, G.Haugen, T.Heyn, E.Hoeft, M.Hoesch, R.Holtz, B.Homan, H.Huhnerkoch, J.Jacobsen, D.Jaech, S.Kauffeld, C.Keeler, B.Kerkow, B.Klebig, K.Kluge, N.Krause, J.Krikava, F.Lams, D.Larson, P.Lepak, G.Lilienthal, J.Londgren, B.Longshore, J.Madson, D.McQuality, K.Mellon, J.Merseth, N.Merseth, H.Mosley, M.Muehlenhardt, G.Obenberger, R.Otto, A.Palmquist, R.Pederson, J.Petersen, A.Pittenger, T.Rank, A.Ring, D.Russow, S.Schmeling, T.Schmeling, D.Schmidt, P.Schneider, T.Skaaland, G.Smith, J.Smith, S.Sparley, S.Stafford, W.Stehr, F.Theiste, D.Thompson, B.Tweit, S.P.Van Kampen, D.J.Webber, L.Wentzlaff, J.Willitz, J.Wilson, P.Zager, T.Zenda

Excused: J.Abrahamson, H.Gieschen, M.Luttman, A.Schmidt

Absent: D.Bakke, J.Burkhardt, J.Dalke, A.Dethlefsen, K.Dethlefsen, K.Hermanson, J.Kim, B.Leonatti, J.Luplow, G.Schmidt, B.Schwark, E.C.F.Stubenvoll, P.Sullivan, R.Waters, T.Westendorf,

2. Pastors serving non-member Lutheran congregations which are, nevertheless, in fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: M.Ernst

3. Pastors serving independent congregations whose confessions and teaching are in agreement with those of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Excused: T.Smuda

Absent: A.Burmeister

4. Ordained clergymen serving as professors in educational institutions of the synod or a sister synod or as teachers in schools of member congregations:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: M.DeGarmeaux, A.Harstad, M.Harstad, W.Kessel, T.Kuster, D.Moldstad, S.Reagles, G.Schmeling, M.Smith, E.Teigen

Absent: D.Marzolf

5. Ordained clergymen serving in administrative offices of the synod:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: D.Basel, J.Moldstad, S.Petersen

6. Ordained clergymen serving in home & foreign mission fields or in church-related organizations:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: D.Oberer, J.Vogt

Absent: T.Erickson, M.Grubbs, D.Haeuser, Y.Kim, O.Rodriguez, T.Schultz

7. Pastors emeriti:

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: H.Abrahamson, R.Carter, R.Honsey, N.Madson, P.Madson, J.Moldstad, J.Olsen,  
G.Orvick, W.Petersen, J.K.Smith, R.Wiechmann, C.Wosje

Excused: P.Anderson

Absent: H.Bartels, K.Brumble, M.Doepel, J.Ehlert, R.Fyffe, E.Geistfeld, J.Krueger,  
H.Larson, D.Lillegard, F.Schmugge, E.Stubenvoll Sr, O.Trebelhorn, L.Vinton, H.Vetter,  
T.Zeller

8. Teachers serving in schools of member congregations

*Advisory membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: S.Beilke, R.Brei, A.Labitzky, R.Rathje, T.Schubkegel, L.Stroschine, D.Weston,  
C.Zibrowski

Absent: J.Gregovich, G.Kellermann, D.Morrison, L.Rude

### **Inactive Membership**

*Advisory Membership: Not having the right to vote*

Present: M.Marozick, G.Sahlstrom, C.Sielaff, M.Wold

Absent: D.Meyer, M.Rogers, K.Schmidt

### **Individuals:**

Present: S.Born, D.Bruss, N.Holte, M.Meyer

## 2009 REPRESENTATIVES ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
Abiding Shepherd	Cottage Grove, WI	
Abiding Word	Bowling Green, OH	Paul Brueggemeier Phil Honsey
Apostles	Ukiah, CA	
Ascension	St. Helens, OR	
Ascension	Eau Claire, WI	
Asian Mission	Irvine, CA	
Bethany	Ames, IA	Robb McMullen M. Seth Smiley
Bethany	Luverne, MN	Jim Hoiland Scott Preuss Gerald Winter (alt)
Bethany	Princeton, MN	Glen Hansen Lee Stroschine
Bethany	The Dalles, OR	Herb Klaviter Terry Nelson
Bethany	Port Orchard, WA	Earl Miller
Calvary	Ulen, MN	Douglas Umphrey
Center	Scarville, IA	
Christ	Windsor, CA	
Christ	Port St. Lucie, FL	David Clark Keith A. Duin
Christ	Klamath Falls, OR	Dale Hauck
Christ	Sutherlin, OR	Larry Brown
Christ the King	Bell Gardens, CA	
Christ the King	Green Bay, WI	Joseph Albers Thomas Drootsan
Concordia	Hood River, OR	
Concordia	Eau Claire, WI	Fred Kapanke Larry Wittwer
English	Cottonwood, MN	Dwayne Boerner Ray Pederson
Faith	Irvine, CA	
Faith	Parkersburg, IA	
Faith	East Jordan, MI	Robert Carter
Faith	Hillman, MI	
Faith	Clara City, MN	Wayne Spieker
Faith	Carthage, MO	
Faith	Medford, OR	
Faith	San Antonio, TX	
Faith	Oregon, WI	Jeff John Sean Stake
Family of God	Fort Mohave, AZ	
First	Suttons Bay, MI	John Vogt
First Shell Rock	Northwood, IA	
First Trinity	Marinette, WI	

Forest	Forest City, IA	Lowell Indvik
Gloria Dei	Saginaw, MI	Doran Bethke
		Timothy Hansen
Gloria Dei	Cold Spring, MN	Maynard Pick
Good Shepherd	Avon, IN	Michael Lilienthal
Good Shepherd	Indianola, IA	
Good Shepherd	Bloomer, WI	William Anderson
		Darrell Hoepner
Grace	Vero Beach, FL	Johnny H. Johnson
		Don Weston
Grace	Hobart, IN	Norman Mathis
		Jon Meyer
Grace	Newton, IA	
Grace	Piedmont, MO	
Grace	Weston, OH	Robert Fouts
		Joel D. Godwin
Grace	Madison, WI	Rodney A. Arneson
		Phillip C. Yagla
Hartland	Hartland, MN	Arvil Bartness
		James Hendrickson
		Donald Jordahl (alt)
		Kent Olmanson (alt)
Heritage	Apple Valley, MN	Al Braunworth
		Wayne Karlsrud
Holton	Holton, MI	Dwight Simmons
Holy Cross	Madison, WI	Fred Bartel
		Kermit Traska
Holy Scripture	Midland, MI	William Doughty
Holy Trinity	Okauchee, WI	Robert Brown
		Shu-Ting Lai
Hope	Portage, IN	Glenn Meentemeyer, Sr.
Hope	West Jordan, UT	
Immanuel	Riceville, IA	
Immanuel	Audubon, MN	Leslie Just
		Paul Miller
Jerico	New Hampton, IA	Jim Costello
King of Grace	Waukon, IA	Greg Gilbertson
		Richard Riese
King of Grace	Golden Valley, MN	John Kantorowicz
		Norman Werner
Lake Mills	Lake Mills, IA	Bill Humphrey
		Harlan Levorson
Lakewood	Lakewood, WA	Pat Moon
Lime Creek	Lake Mills, IA	
Lord of Life	Holland, MI	
Manchester	Manchester, MN	Raymond Baker
Messiah	Omro, WI	Michael Buchanan
Mt. Olive	Mankato, MN	Sig Lee
		Paul Tweit
Mt. Olive	Trail, MN	

Nazareth	Trail, MN	
New Life	Sebring, FL	
Newport	Wisconsin Dells, WI	Paul Gregerson Dennis Korth
Norseland	St. Peter, MN	Eric Annexstad Andrew Quist
Norwegian Grove	Gaylord, MN	Nathan Kranz Rod Tollefson Gary Wills (alt)
Oak Park	Oklee, MN	Kim Chervestad Darron Lundeen
Our Redeemer	Yelm, WA	John R. Anderson Paul Nielsen
Our Savior	Bishop, CA	
Our Savior	Lakeland, FL	
Our Savior	Naples, FL	
Our Savior	Grants Pass, OR	
Our Savior's	Albert Lea, MN	Benjamin Anderson Richard Bjelland
Our Savior's	Bagley, MN	
Our Savior's	Belview, MN	
Our Savior's	Hawley, MN	
Our Savior's	Princeton, MN	David Oman Robert Soule
Our Savior's	Roseau, MN	
Our Savior's	Amherst Junction, WI	
Our Savior's	Elderon, WI	
Our Saviour	Lake Havasu City, AZ	Russ Jacobs Dave Wilson
Our Saviour's	Madison, WI	Donald Heiliger
Parkland	Tacoma, WA	Todd Knutson Tom Langseth
Peace	Kissimmee, FL	Herb Berg Greg Sahlstrom
Peace	Lakeland, FL	
Peace	North Mankato, MN	Paul Madson Eric Woller
Peace	Jefferson City, MO	
Pilgrim	Waterloo, IA	Mark Perlwitz
Pinehurst	Eau Claire, WI	
Pinewood	Burlington, MA	
Redeemer	Scottsdale, AZ	Norman Hartigan
Redeemer	New Hampton, IA	Wallace Knutson Derwin Robinson
Redeemer	Iola, WI	Rick Hutchison
Redeeming Grace	Rogers, MN	Dennis Bohnsack Darrell Lawrence
Resurrection	Winter Haven, FL	Herman Roe
Resurrection	North Bend, OR	Mark Wold

Richland	Thornton, IA	Glenn Frederick
River Heights	East Grand Forks, MN	Dale Sorenson
		Paul Sorenson
Rock Dell	Belview, MN	
Saude	Lawler, IA	Oakleigh Nativig
Saved by Grace	Gresham, OR	Brad Hall
		David Sparley
Scarville Synod	Scarville, IA	Erling Brudvig
Scriptural	Cape Girardeau, MO	
Somber	Northwood, IA	Harold Halvorson
St. John's	Frankenmuth, MI	Arlen Born
		Tom Conzelmann
St. Katherine's	Menomonie, WI	
St. Luke	Mt. Vernon, WA	
St. Martin	Shawano, WI	Glenn Vander Linden
		Howard Waldschmidt
St. Matthew	Myrtle Creek, OR	
St. Paul	Lengby, MN	
St. Paul's	Portage, WI	
St. Timothy	Lombard, IL	Ray Mazzolini
		Leroy Meyer
Trinity	Sebastian, FL	George Lillegard
Trinity	Calmar, IA	
Trinity	Brewster, MA	Paul Chamberlin
		Joe Krikava
Trinity	Rogers City, MI	
Trinity	West Bend, WI	Ellsworth Butt
		Ralph Seidensticker
Western Koshkonong	Cottage Grove, WI	Alfred Kroll
		Norman J. Thede
Zion	Thompson, IA	
Zion	Tracy, MN	
Zion	Irwin, PA	



# CONVENTION COMMITTEES

## 1. President's Message and Report

Rev. G. Orvick  
Rev. J. Smith  
Mr. Ellsworth Butt  
Mr. George Lillegard

## 2. Nominating Committee

Rev. Erwin Ekhoft  
Rev. Michael Smith  
Rev. Bernt Tweit  
Mr. Robert Brown  
Mr. Keith Duin  
Mr. Glen Hansen  
Mr. Paul Tweit

## 3. Credentials

Rev. E. Hoeft  
Rev. S.P. Van Kampen  
Mr. Oakleigh Natvig

## 4. Program

Rev. G. Haugen  
Rev. D. Larson

## 5. Minutes

Rev. P. Lepak  
Mr. Richard Brei  
Mr. Joel Godwin

## 6. Doctrine

Rev. D. Finn  
Rev. A. Harstad  
Rev. B. Kerkow  
Rev. P. Lepak  
Rev. B. Longshore  
Rev. N. Merseeth  
Rev. A. Palmquist  
Rev. B. Tweit  
Rev. S.P. Van Kampen  
Rev. L. Wentzlaff  
Mr. Dennis Bohnsack  
Mr. Al Braunwarth  
Mr. David Clark  
Mr. Rick Hutchison  
Mr. Todd Knutson  
Mr. Sigurd Lee  
Mr. Ralph Seidensticker  
Mr. David Sparley

Mr. Kermit Traska  
Mr. Norman Werner

## 7. Finances

Rev. M. Brooks  
Rev. E. Bryant  
Rev. L. Buelow  
Rev. R. Carter  
Rev. E. Ekhoft  
Rev. E. Hoeft  
Rev. H. Huhnerkoch  
Rev. D. Jaech  
Rev. J. Madson  
Rev. N. Madson  
Rev. M. Marozick  
Rev. S. Petersen  
Rev. A. Ring  
Rev. M. Wold  
Mr. John Anderson  
Mr. Herb Berg  
Mr. Richard Bjelland  
Mr. Erling Brudvig  
Mr. Paul Chamberlin  
Mr. Ray Pederson  
Mr. Andrew Quist  
Mr. Ryan Rathje  
Mr. Paul Sorenson  
Mr. Rod Tollefson

## 8. Higher Education

Rev. E. Gernander  
Rev. N. Krause  
Rev. J. Krikava  
Rev. T. Rank  
Rev. G. Sahlstrom  
Rev. D. Schmidt  
Rev. J. Vogt  
Rev. D. Webber  
Mr. Robert Brown  
Mr. Micahel Buchanan  
Mr. Norman Hartigan  
Mr. Darrell Hoepner  
Mr. Nathan Kranz  
Mr. Marvin Meyer  
Mr. Paul Miller  
Mr. Paul Nielsen  
Mr. Richard Riese

## **9. Home Missions**

Rev. C. Dale  
Rev. F. Fiedler  
Rev. W. Halvorson  
Rev. M. Hoesch  
Rev. G. Obenberger  
Rev. A. Pittenger  
Rev. S. Schmeling  
Rev. P. Schneider  
Mr. Rodney Arneson  
Mr. Fred Bartel  
Mr. Silas Born  
Mr. Larry Brown  
Mr. Jim Costello  
Mr. Paul Gregerson  
Mr. Russ Jacobs  
Mr. Les Just  
Mr. Jon Meyer  
Mr. Terry Nelson  
Mr. Paul Tweit  
Mr. Howard Waldschmidt

## **10. Foreign Missions**

Rev. D. Basel  
Rev. M. Crick  
Rev. J. Gernander  
Rev. S. Kauffeld  
Rev. F. Lams  
Rev. D. Moldstad  
Rev. T. Skaaland  
Rev. S. Sparley  
Rev. W. Stehr  
Rev. E. Teigen  
Mr. Benjamin Anderson  
Mr. Arlen Born  
Mr. Allen Labitzky  
Mr. Darrell Lawrence  
Mr. Norman Mathis  
Mr. Mark Perlwitz  
Mr. Herman Roe  
Mr. Robert Soule  
Mr. Sean Stake

## **11. Evangelism**

Rev. T. Bartels  
Rev. J. Ehlert  
Rev. R. Harting  
Rev. D. Haeuser  
Rev. C. Hahnke  
Rev. G. Haugen

Rev. R. Honsey  
Rev. B. Klebig  
Rev. S. Reagles  
Rev. G. Schmeling  
Mr. Joseph Albers  
Mr. Greg Gilbertson  
Mr. Fred Kapanke  
Mr. Alfred Kroll  
Mr. Ray Mazzolini  
Mr. Glenn Meentemeyer  
Mr. Pat Moon  
Mr. Scott Preuss  
Mr. Larry Rude  
Mr. Phillip Yagla

## **12. Elementary Education**

Rev. M. Ernst  
Rev. R. Flohr  
Rev. T. Fox  
Rev. T. Gullixson  
Rev. A. Hamilton  
Rev. T. Hartwig  
Rev. W. Kessel  
Rev. R. Otto  
Rev. T. Schmeling  
Rev. J.K. Smith  
Rev. R. Wiechmann  
Rev. P. Zager  
Mr. Thomas Drootsan  
Mr. Joel Godwin  
Mr. Harold Halvorson  
Mr. Timothy Hansen  
Mr. Jeff John  
Mr. Wayne Karlsrud  
Mr. Wallace Knutson  
Mr. Dennis Korth  
Mr. Shu-Ting Lai  
Mr. Oakleigh Natvig  
Mr. Glenn Vander Linden  
Mr. David Wilson

## **13. Youth & Parish Education**

Rev. R. Holtz  
Rev. J. Jacobsen  
Rev. T. Kuster  
Rev. G. Lilienthal  
Rev. C. Sielaff  
Rev. F. Theiste  
Mr. Richard Brei  
Mr. Dan Bruss

Mr. Johnny Johnson  
Mr. Josef Krikava  
Mr. Tom Langseth  
Mr. Michael Lilienthal  
Mr. Leroy Meyer  
Mr. Norman Thede  
Mr. Bob Fouts  
Mr. Herb Klaviter  
Mr. Derwin Robinson  
Mr. Timothy Schubkegel  
Mr. Neil Willert  
Mr. Don Weston

#### **14. Parish Services**

Rev. M. Dale  
Rev. C. Keeler  
Rev. M. Muehlenhardt  
Rev. J. Wilson  
Mr. Raymond Baker  
Mr. Arvil Bartness  
Mr. Dwayne Boerner  
Mr. Paul Brueggemeier  
Mr. Brad Hall  
Mr. Lee Stroschine  
Mr. Larry Wittwer

#### **15. Synodical Membership**

Rev. D. Faugstad  
Rev. G. Smith  
Mr. Tom Conzelmann  
Mr. Jim Hendrickson  
Mr. Jim Hoiland  
Mr. Robb McMullen  
Mr. Earl Miller  
Mr. Dwight Simmons  
Mr. Wayne Spieker

#### **16. Miscellaneous**

Rev. M. Bartels  
Rev. J. Braun  
Rev. B. Homan  
Rev. K. Kluge  
Rev. D. Larson  
Rev. K. Mellon  
Rev. J. Merseth  
Rev. R. Pederson  
Rev. D. Russow  
Rev. M. Smith  
Rev. S. Stafford  
Rev. J. Willitz

Rev. T. Zenda  
Mr. Eric Annexstad  
Mr. Keith Duin  
Mr. Glenn Frederick  
Mr. Dale Hauck  
Mr. Jack Kantorowicz  
Mr. Harlan Levorson  
Mr. David Oman  
Mr. Maynard Pick  
Mr. Dale Sorenson

#### **17. Pastoral Conference Records**

Rev. W. Grimm  
Rev. C. Wosje

#### **18. Resolutions**

Rev. H. Abrahamson  
Rev. P. Madson

#### **19. Tellers**

Rev. Brian Klebig  
Rev. Boyd Longshore  
Candidate Peter Faugstad  
Candidate Kyle Madson

#### **20. Chaplain**

Rev. Glenn Smith

#### **21. Head Ushers**

Rev. M. Ernst  
Rev. R. Holtz

#### **22. Parliamentarians**

Rev. T. Kuster  
Rev. G. Orvick

#### **23. Assistant Secretary**

Rev. Michael Smith



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORT

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon us as we gather in his name to review the work of our church body, to plan for the future, and to implement those plans in keeping with our Lord’s command to “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation” (Mark 16:15).

Dear delegates, pastors and friends:

Significant changes on our nation’s economic landscape have occurred since we gathered here last June. Thirty days before the 44th US president was elected, a financial crisis grew so rapidly it virtually determined what would be the new government’s chief focus. Our country’s first president of African-American descent, Barack H. Obama, was sworn into office in January, a month which also witnessed 207,000 manufacturing jobs vanish—the largest one-month drop since October 1982. Economists quipped that if a crumbling sound was heard, you shouldn’t be surprised—it was simply millions of Americans cracking their nest eggs. The seesaw in fiscal reporting and forecasting has not just been fodder for the evening news. Lives and plans of individuals, families and congregations in our synod have been impacted—some, quite noticeably.

Our stewardship theme for the 2009 convention, “All We Have—A Trust From Thee,” was selected last August. At first thought, one might wonder: should a different subject have been chosen—maybe a theme emphasizing God’s providence, or a theme dedicated to prayer, or one stressing the continual loving presence of our Lord even when material losses are substantial? But think again. What an opportunity presents itself for a discussion on management of all that the Lord provides, even (maybe, *especially*) when challenged with a reduction of earthly goods! If this is true for us personally, this is true also for us synodically. Can austere times be used to channel our thinking toward a thorough examination of what we already have been granted and how our gracious God would have us respond?

Psalms 103 states: “Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s” (vv. 1-5). King David, the writer of this psalm, expresses sincere gratitude to our God. We believers share this same gratitude as we look over the brief span of our lives in this fleeting world. Our God has redeemed us sinners from eternal destruction through the life, death and resurrection of the One whose entry into Jerusalem David had prophesied when he penned in another of his psalms: “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Psalm 118:26).

A British theologian has summarized sin and salvation this way: “For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man.”<sup>1</sup> The knowledge of that gift of all gifts – our loving God substituting himself for us in the person of the Messiah and then obtaining and granting us forgiveness of sins – is what opens our eyes spiritually to see countless other blessings from the hand of our merciful Maker and Provider. We are from start to finish fully dependent on our great Benefactor who showers us with his goodness!

This thought was captured by Dr. John Kleinig, a Lutheran theologian from Australia, in his recent book, *Grace Upon Grace*: “Because our spiritual life and health depends on receiving from Christ, we exercise our faith by becoming beggars before God. And that’s not easy for us who fancy that we are producers of spiritual goods and owners of spiritual gifts... In our witness to our associates we [will] not come across as spiritual millionaires, but as beggars telling other beggars where to find bread.”<sup>2</sup>

1 Stott, John. *The Cross of Christ* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986), p. 160.

2 Kleinig, John W. *Grace Upon Grace* (St Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2008), p. 55.

We have so much for which to give thanks! This is true individually. This is true for our families. This is true for us as a nation—whether our nation realizes it or not. This is true for our congregations who experience joys and blessings through the weekly proclamation of the saving Gospel and the distribution of the holy sacrament. This is certainly also true for us as we find ourselves united together in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the purpose of spreading the Good News of Christ to others, for preserving doctrinal accord and confession, and for fostering Christian living among our membership.

Come along with me for a moment and take a brief inventory of some of the great blessings we enjoy as a synod.

1) **Proper distinguishing of Law and Gospel preached in our pulpits.** This is not something to take for granted. Philip Melancthon, in authoring the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, bemoaned the lack of good preaching in many of the German churches, leaving people confused about their salvation. He wrote in the Apology: “But there are probably many people in many places who are in doubt about important issues but do not hear teachers capable of setting their consciences at rest.”<sup>3</sup> If that assessment accurately pictures the typical church scene in the day of the Lutheran Reformers, how much more so today! Many in our land assemble each Sunday in steepled sanctuaries or in round mega-structures but are fed spiritual pabulum. We are deeply saddened when parishioners not only are led to question the veracity of Scripture but do not receive even a drop of the pure of medicine of Christ’s Gospel for the remission of sins. Instead, they are directed to their own vain attempts at righteousness for their confidence. Dr. Walther insisted: “Every sermon must contain both doctrines [Law & Gospel]. When either is missing, the other is wrong. For any sermon is wrong that does not present all that is necessary to a person’s salvation.”<sup>4</sup>

Thank God, we have well-trained clergy and teachers in our synod! Pray that we would continue to have our church workers so equipped. A pastor of a different Lutheran synod recently expressed himself on the need for maintaining a system of thorough scriptural and confessional education for clergy. He said, “Our people need pastors who are well-trained and well-educated. They need to know that those tending their souls are competent in the art of applying the healing balm of the Gospel to wounded consciences first. It’s true that strong interpersonal skills are important, but they are always secondary to delivering the Gospel in Word and Sacrament.”<sup>5</sup>

Here also I would like to draw special attention to the faithful wives of our pastors. The pastor’s wife carries out a vital role in encouraging and upholding her husband as he carries out his calling with Word and sacrament. She may also have a distinctive influence upon the church for years to come, since in many cases future pastors, teachers and lay leaders have their origins in the parsonage.

2) **Our excellent institutions of higher learning: Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.** While traveling away from the Mankato epicenter and bumping into individuals unfamiliar with the ELS, a remark often is heard, “Oh, your church runs Bethany. That’s a good school!” Our college—with its nineteen baccalaureates—and our seminary, the synod’s school of the prophets, enjoy reputations of academic excellence. Of greater importance, what is taught at our college and seminary highlights for our students Holy Scripture as the source of all truth, especially the truth of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Say a prayer of thanks for our college and seminary. Also, acknowledge past blessings as we consider the leaders who have gone before us. In this regard, it is fitting to draw special

3 Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Article XII, par. 130; Tappert ed., p. 202.

4 Walther, C. F. W. *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, tr. from German edition of 1897) , p. 25.

5 Rev. B. Stark in the LCMS *Reporter*, March 2009, p. 5.

attention to the name of Rev. Raymond Branstad. Ray died on April 1, 2009, at the age of 92. He served as president of our Bethany Lutheran College from 1970-78. While president, he once was interviewed by the *Minneapolis Tribune* who did an article on “tiny Bethany College” in Mankato, Minnesota. At the time 215 students were enrolled. A lengthy article with pictures led the second section of that newspaper on December 19, 1972. Ray was quoted as saying, “Young people today are searching for some meaning in their lives. We give them motivation. We lead them to the One Thing Meaningful; it is Bethany’s motto—One Thing Needful—and it is ‘salvation by grace through faith in Christ the Savior.’” Older members in our synod may remember fondly something else about President Branstad: When the convention floor would debate finances—whether more to missions or to Bethany College—he would strongly make the case that the college was indeed also a great mission arm for the synod.

3) **Our Lutheran elementary schools.** Think of the young souls in our synod’s preschools and elementary schools in connection with our convention theme: “All We Have—A Trust From Thee.” The word “trust” carries the definition of “something committed to be used or cared for in the interest of another.” You’ve heard it said before: Out of all the earthly gifts God has given us, our children are the only “possessions” of this world we can—through faith in Christ—take with us into eternity. The psalmist calls children “a heritage from the Lord” (Psalm 127). Whether it is the children in our Sunday schools, our youth programs, or in our Lutheran elementary schools, they all are precious in God’s sight and we can do no better than to encourage the development of quality Lutheran schools to assist parents especially with their spiritual training. We agree wholeheartedly with the editor of our *Lutheran Sentinel* as he states in this month’s editorial: “The more that churches educate the next generations for living as Christian pilgrims in a changing world, the more we will equip them to proclaim the pure Gospel, defend the faith, and be examples of Christian love. This education begins at home as parents diligently teach their children the Bible stories, recite the Small Catechism, sing the teaching hymns in the hymnal, and teach them to pray. Given a foundation at home, the local congregation can build children up in the holy faith to meet the challenges of the years ahead.”<sup>6</sup>

4) **Our mission programs – both home and foreign.** In his hymn “May God Bestow on Us His Grace,” Dr. Luther begins with the plea that our Lord would provide us richly with the blessings of his grace so that we might ourselves be guided to life eternal. But he quickly adds this compelling point: “...And also to the heathen show / Christ’s riches without measure / And unto God convert them” (ELH #591, v. 1).

Praise God for the home missions we have been able to establish over the years! Hundreds of souls have been touched with Christ’s saving Word. Between the years of 1965 and 2007 an amount of \$9,558,000 has been expended by our synod on home mission congregations, and that figure represents only interest and operating subsidies paid out to a sum total of 89 churches. Our synod remains committed to establishing home missions, even as we look for alternatives to expensive starts, including consideration of funding the man instead of the location, vicars-in-mission, daughtering congregations and bi-vocational missionaries.

While we train men to assist in developing home missions, encouragement for learning the Hispanic language ought to be considered. In the years ahead is it possible to have a majority of our seminary graduates fairly fluent in conversational Spanish? Toward this end, we are hoping that our seminary and college might collaborate in being able to offer such a program for pre-seminary and seminary students. A grant of \$10,000 already has been received from Thrivent Financial as seed-money for this kind of project. Without adding undue academic requirements for seminarians, a certification of participation and qualification could be attached to the transcript of future seminary graduates indicating to our mission boards a certain proficiency level attained. Even if the Spanish proficiency level in may not reach the ability to preach

6 *Lutheran Sentinel*, June 2009, Rev. T. Gullixson’s “A World of Changes,” p. 15.

sermons to an all-Latino assembly, enough training may occur to make English-as-second-language courses available as valuable outreach tools in various communities. We are being told that by 2050 population projections show almost one-third of the US census will be of Hispanic/Latino origin.

In our brief inventory of synodical blessings, the subject of foreign missions deserves extra mention. From the time in 1968 when our synod began with its own foreign field in Peru we have entered three other countries as well: Chile, India and Korea. Last year the synod approved the acquisition of the church-related mission organization Thoughts of Faith (TOF), while asking the Board for Foreign Missions to come with a restructuring proposal for future operations. [The board's proposal is included in the Synod Review Committee's report to this convention.] What this means is that, upon the adoption of the restructuring proposal, the synod will be involved in mission work in seven foreign fields (with the addition of the TOF fields of Latvia, Czech Republic and Ukraine). Some might wonder about the advisability/feasibility of this in light of economic challenges we face here in the US. Yet, the blessings that come from encouraging our brothers and sisters in Christ in these countries, particularly assisting churches in becoming self-supporting, are commendable. We should also assure the convention that representatives from Thoughts of Faith, Inc., and from our Board for Foreign Missions are confident we can carry the increased supervisory work load with special funding provided and without impacting the synod's annual operating budget.

In Ukraine 23 pastors serve 24 congregations and 10 preaching stations, ministering to about 2,000 souls in the Ukrainian Lutheran Church. The Confessional Lutheran Church in Latvia has eight pastors watching over seven congregations, with a combined total of 600 souls. The church that meets in the school building in Plzen, Czech Republic, has a membership of 195, and we rejoice that on June 7 two men, the Rev. Martin Vrsecky and the Rev. Petr Krkora, were ordained into the public ministry.

What blessings our Lord has bestowed! Pray that this trust, or charge, from God in the area of foreign missions is put to good use so that, through our efforts in cooperation with our brothers and sister in the faith in other lands, we may together: "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim / Till all the world adore His sacred name" (ELH #194).

5) **Our doctrinal adherence – clearly a blessing never to be taken for granted.** We are in an era where denominational ties mean little or nothing to so many. The number of unchurched also is rapidly increasing. A 2008 religious survey indicates 15% of respondents claim to have no religion. This is up from 14.2% in 2001 and from 8.2% in 1990. Naturally, an opportunity for evangelism presents itself; it is also true, however, that the increase of people disinterested in churches and creeds could tempt us to soften our doctrine and practice. Liberal mainline churches have succumbed to this temptation for decades. Yes, thank God we adhere to doctrine. But, as we thank, plead for the Lord to keep us ever steadfast in his Word.

6) **One more: our fellowship with each other.** "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1). The bond we have in our determination to confess the truth, to be zealous for missions, and to want to work together for the glory and honor of our Savior is a bond unlike any other human alliances. We praise God for the fellowship we enjoy with our fellow Christians here in the ELS, with our sister synod in the United States, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and also with our fellow believers of like-minded confession in the worldwide CELC. What a great benefit to be able to share such unity, even as we strengthen and encourage one another along the narrow path.

A Jewish legend tells a story about King David. Tradition says that when David would go to bed at night there would usually be a stringed instrument hanging over the bed. The lyre was positioned in such a way that, when the north wind would come up at midnight, it would blow through the instrument causing it to produce sweet music. Being awakened by this music, David would get out of bed, pray and praise God until dawn.



Whether or not this story of David is true, we can apply it to our own lives: Let the sweet music of God's goodness in all that he does for us—and we have just spent moments on an synodical inventory—move us constantly to express our gratitude to the Lord in words, in music, in our monetary offerings, in our deeds and in our prayers.

ALL WE HAVE—A TRUST FROM THEE. The endowment of blessings provided us from above instills in us the desire to be better managers. How should we then act? How would you act if you had been given a huge sum as an active operating endowment for life? Thankful, certainly. Interested in preserving the *corpus* — in this case, the body of doctrine. Wanting to use the resources wisely — spending ourselves in ways to advance his kingdom. Concerned with giving an accounting, not for merit, but for the Master's honor. Finally, we wait on the Lord who alone yields the increase.

Oh, Thou who hast given us so very much, grant us one more thing—a grateful heart. Amen.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

*John A. Moldstad, president*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

Candidate of Theology Brian Klebig was ordained and installed as pastor of New Life Lutheran Church in Sebring, Florida, on July 6, 2008. The Rev. David Lillegard was liturgist and the Rev. Jon Mahnke (WELS) of Austin, Texas, preached the sermon. Circuit Visitor Herbert Huhnerkoch conducted the rites of ordination and installation. Other pastors who participated in the service were the Reverends Charles Keeler, Andrew Palmquist, Timothy Schmeling, Andrew Schmidt, Greg Schmidt and Greg Sahlstrom.

Candidate of Theology Harvey Boyd Longshore III was ordained and installed as pastor of Forest Lutheran Church, Forest City, Iowa, and Zion Lutheran Church, Thompson, Iowa, on July 13, 2008. The ordination service took place in Forest City, Iowa. President John Moldstad preached the sermon and seminary president, Gaylin Schmeling, served as liturgist. Circuit Visitor Wayne Halvorson performed the rites of ordination and installation.

Mr. David Zubke was installed as teacher of grades one through three at Peace Lutheran Church, Kissimmee, Florida, on August 17, 2008.

Candidate of Theology Robert Oberg was ordained and installed as a WELS pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Bruce Crossing, Michigan; St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hurley, Wisconsin; and First English Lutheran Church, Ashland, Wisconsin, on August 31, 2008. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling preached the ordination sermon and the Rev. Mark Gass performed the rites of ordination and installation. Other pastors who participated in the service were the Reverends Timothy Johnson, Joel Otto, Eric Verstein and Nathan Wilke. The three-point parish has it membership in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The Rev. Daniel Finn was installed as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Parkersburg, Iowa, on October 19, 2008. Pastor Finn also serves Pilgrim Lutheran in Waterloo, Iowa.

The Rev. Kenneth Mellon was installed as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, West Bend, Wisconsin on June 7, 2009. The Rev. James Korthals preached the sermon, the Rev. Bernt Tweit served as lector and the Rev. Jonathan Madson served as liturgist and performed the rite of installation.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Norseland Lutheran Church, St. Peter, Minnesota, observed the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization of the congregation on June 22, 2008. The Rev. Norman Madson, former pastor of the congregation, preached the anniversary sermon. Liturgists were the Rev. Tosten Skaaland, former pastor; the Rev. James Olsen, son of the congregation; and the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, current pastor. Other events were also held throughout the year.

Saude Lutheran Church, Lawler, Iowa, celebrated her 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 17, 2008. Vice President Glenn Obenberger, former pastor of the congregation, preached the sermon.



*Norseland Lutheran Church*



*Saude Lutheran Church*



*Richland Lutheran Church*



*Trinity Lutheran Church*



*Our Savior's Lutheran Church*



*First Shell Rock Lutheran Church*

The Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux, also a former pastor of the congregation, conducted the liturgy in Norwegian. The Rev. Dan Larson, current pastor of the congregation, served as lector.

Richland Lutheran Church, Thornton, Iowa, celebrated her 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 19, 2008. The Rev. Donald Moldstad, son of the congregation, preached the anniversary sermon. President emeritus George Orvick, son of the congregation, served as lector and the Rev. Samuel Schmeling, current pastor, served as liturgist. Former pastors of the congregation, the Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. and the Rev. Nile Merseth, spoke at the anniversary reception.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Sebastian, Florida, observed her 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 23, 2008. The Rev. David Lillegard, former pastor of the congregation, preached the festival sermon on Isaiah 43:18–21. The Rev. Timothy Schmeling, current pastor of the congregation, served as liturgist.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Elderon, Wisconsin, celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reorganization of the congregation on May 10, 2009. The children of the Sunday School and Confirmation Class sang in the service, which was followed by a program and dinner at the church.

First Shell Rock Lutheran Church, Northwood, Iowa, celebrated her 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 31, 2009. The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, a former vicar of the congregation, preached the anniversary sermon. The Rev. Karl Hermanson, current pastor of the congregation, served as liturgist. An afternoon program, entitled "His Grace Endures from Generation to Generation," gave an overview of the history of the congregation.

## **MORTGAGE BURNING**

New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida, celebrated the final payment of its mortgage with a special service on March 22, 2009. The Rev. Brian Klebig preached on the theme “Burning Down and Building Up.”



*members of New Life Lutheran Church*

## **ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION**

The following anniversaries of ordination are being observed this year:

The Rev. Darryl Bakke	25 years
The Rev. Thomas Fox	25 years
The Rev. Daniel Larson	25 years
The Rev. Kenneth Mellon	25 years
The Rev. Steven Sparley	25 years

## **MEMBERSHIP REQUESTS**

The following have applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The proper letters of request are on file:

The Rev. Brian Klebig, pastor of New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida.

The Rev. Harvey Boyd Longshore III, pastor of Forest Lutheran Church, Forest City, and Zion Lutheran Church, Thompson, Iowa.

The Rev. James Olsen, pastor emeritus, by transfer from the WELS.

The Rev. Shawn Kauffeld, by transfer from the WELS.

Mr. Don Weston, teacher at Grace Lutheran Church, Vero Beach, Florida.

Mr. Timothy Schubkegel, teacher at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin.

The following congregation has applied for membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The proper documents have been submitted:

Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon. Ascension has not been affiliated with another synod; it has operated as an independent congregation.

## **REINSTATEMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Rev. Joseph Burkhardt, who serves Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. Helens, Oregon, requested colloquy for reinstatement as a clergyman of the synod. Pastor Burkhardt's congregation is seeking membership in the synod. Following a meeting on March 24, 2009, the Colloquy Committee is recommending reinstatement of Pastor Burkhardt at this convention. Members who served with the president on the Colloquy Committee were Pres. Gaylin Schmeling, Vice President Glenn Obenberger, Prof. Erling Teigen, Mr. Allen Quist, the Rev. John Petersen, and Mr. David Ewert.

## **RESIGNATIONS, RETIREMENTS, APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS**

Rev. Karl Kuenzel has colloquized into the LCMS.

Rev. Michael Langlais has colloquized into the ELCA.

Prof. William Kessel resigned from the Board for Foreign Missions on October 26, 2008.

Prof. Adolph Harstad resigned from the Board for Foreign Missions on October 28, 2008.

The Rev. David Russow resigned from the Board for Stewardship in January 2009.

The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt retired from the public ministry on January 18, 2009.

The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr. resigned from the Board of Regents in February 2009.

The Rev. Richard Fyffe resigned from the Board for Christian Service in February 2009.

Mr. Robert Deering resigned from the Board for Publications in February 2009.

The Rev. Paul Schneider and Mr. Daniel Browning were appointed to serve on the Board for Foreign Missions.

The Rev. William Mack resigned from the clergy roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod on April 27, 2009, to accept a call into ULMA.

## DEATHS

Mrs. Marjorie Otto passed away on June 15, 2008. Her funeral service was held on July 19 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota.

Mrs. Dorothea Vetter died on July 15, 2008, in Alliance, Nebraska. A private memorial service was held.

The Rev. John Schmidt was taken to his heavenly home on September 19, 2008. Pastor Schmidt served as pastor of the following parishes in our synod: Tracy/Cottonwood, Minnesota; Lombard, Illinois; Waterloo, Iowa, Santa Rosa and Ventura, California; and in his semi-retirement time at Lakewood, Washington.

Mrs. Janet Theiste passed away on November 8, 2008. Her funeral service was held on November 15 at Concordia Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The Rev. Donald McElwain was taken to his heavenly home on December 3, 2008. Pastor McElwain served parishes in Burbank, California; North Hollywood, California; and El Paso, Texas.

Mr. Curtis Mantey, who served as principal and teacher at Bethany, Port Orchard, Washington, died on March 21, 2009. Mr. Mantey served as the synod's secretary of schools for a number of years and was a member of the Board for Education & Youth and, most recently, the Board for Lutheran Schools of America.

The Rev. Raymond Branstad died at the age of 92 on April 1, 2009. Pastor Branstad served as pastor at five congregations, as president of Bethany Lutheran College and also as the chairman of the Board for Education and Youth for many years. Funeral services were held at Grace Lutheran, Vero Beach, Florida.

## HISPANIC OUTREACH

The website announces: *La Iglesia Luterana Paz en Cristo te ofrece a tí una invitación a recibir gratuitamente la paz de Dios por medio de Jesucristo el Salvador* (Peace in Christ Lutheran Church offers to you an invitation to receive free-of-charge the peace of God through Jesus Christ the Savior). Every week our synod's congregation, Peace Lutheran in Kissimmee, Florida, advertises and offers Hispanic worship services under the leadership of the Rev. Herb Huhnerkoch. There is one other synod congregation offering such services, Christ the King Lutheran in Bell Gardens, California.

As we peek into the future, at least in view of demographic trends, how many churches of our synod will likely be offering Hispanic worship services? How many at the present time are considering seriously outreach efforts to those living nearby who hail from ethnic backgrounds notably dissimilar to the present membership majority? In the month of March, the Associated Press released some interesting statistics. Roughly one-fourth of our nation's kindergartners are of Hispanic descent, and the trend indicates that by 2023 the category of children now classified minority will become the majority. According to the AP report, already in this year of 2009, Hispanic students account for close to one-fifth of all who are enrolled in the K-12 levels. Hispanics/Latinos are expected to impact the US population with a tripling in numbers between 2008 and 2050; an increase from 46.7 million in 2008 to 132.8 million in 2050. This would mean that by 2050 the projection for the Hispanic/Latino population in our country would comprise almost one third of the total US census.

What can we—should we—do as a church body to increase our gospel outreach efforts among those of Hispanic background? Are there some concrete steps we should take in order to train workers in our established congregations and home missions to become conversant in Spanish? Are there some aspects of Hispanic culture that make gospel outreach—*from an external vantage point*—quite conducive? A Latino theologian advocating increased evangelism efforts among US-residing Hispanics recently stated: “Without denying that there are indeed secularly inclined ‘non-believers’ in Latin America, or even various forms of New Age and pagan spiritual renaissance in North America, one must also understand that the Latin American religious landscape often shares characteristics of church societies. There is an historic, cultural Roman Catholic presence in the region, which in some cases fosters respect for the church (even at times a sense of ‘sacredness’ of the church), or at least some openness to religion as a central dimension of life, and the overall idea of ‘Christianity’ as a relatively privileged place for seeking spiritual answers to life’s problems” (*Concordia Journal*, Winter 2009, p. 29). Should we not take note of this as we look for “door openers” with our new neighbors? The connections we make with others enable us to share the great news of the best connection ever: sinners with a perfect Savior who has secured redemption from sin and who guarantees eternal life to all who believe.

We should be aware and beware of a challenge Satan places in our path. It is as if he spreads lush carpet before us to have us linger and not step forward with boldness in our mission. There is a great temptation to become lethargic about the quintessential *need* for the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The same *Concordia Journal* writer quoted above describes the danger: “More than plain unwillingness to share the gospel, a certain subtle capitulation to the non-confrontational nature of tolerance is perhaps one of the many competing reasons why North American Lutherans have lost their backbone and become silent about Christ and the gospel in the world” (*Concordia Journal*, Winter 2009, p. 26).

Besides a renewed emphasis on evangelism driven by the redeeming love of Christ for all sinners, should we as a synod initiate a program whereby we strive to increase the enrollment in Spanish classes by pre-seminary and seminary students? For a three-year span our seminary students share the Bethany campus where our college regularly offers Spanish coursework. This should not be overlooked. Even if class scheduling between seminary and college poses an obstacle to such a plan, possibly the use of Internet distance learning could be engaged. We might also find a donor or two who would like to help in financing a Spanish-learning project for our future pastors. Is the time right for us to make a good start on this?

## THOUGHTS OF FAITH ACQUISITION

In 2008 the synod approved the acquisition of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. (TOF), a church-related organization established in 1979. The adopted resolution stated: “Be it resolved, that Thoughts of Faith be brought into the organizational structure and under the direction and control of the synod through its Board for Foreign Missions...” A timeline date of January 1, 2010, was suggested for completion of the acquisition. In certifying the suggested timeline, the synod also directed the Board for Foreign Missions (in consultation with TOF) to bring a detailed resolution concerning restructuring to the 2009 convention.

While the “suggested” date for finalization was indicated as January 1, 2010, it became apparent to TOF and the Board for Foreign Missions that, for the sake of expediency and efficiency in operations, the acquisition timetable be moved forward by six months. (We urge all to read the report to this year’s convention by the Synod Review Committee. The Synod Review Committee’s report reflects the thinking of the Board for Foreign Missions on the restructuring and the advanced timetable.)

For the acquisition of Thoughts of Faith, attorneys for both TOF and the ELS have advised the retention of “Thoughts of Faith, Inc.” as a Wisconsin state incorporated entity. In order

to accomplish this, the Board of Directors for Thoughts of Faith, Inc., adopted the following resolution at its April 2–3, 2009, meeting: “That the Bylaws of Thoughts of Faith, Inc., be amended to read that the Evangelical Lutheran Synod shall be the sole voting member of the Corporation.” This action enables our synod in the acquisition to continue operations with the *Thoughts of Faith* name (incorporation registered in Wisconsin) as much as is preferred. It also removes the need for the synod to reregister in connection with TOF subsidiaries: Gift of Life and Faith in Action (Ukraine); also, the Martin Luther School (Czech Republic).

On January 8, 2009, the TOF Board of Directors unanimously passed the following motion: “Be it resolved, that contingent upon authorization by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod at its 2009 convention, the Board of Directors of Thoughts of Faith urges the ELS officially to take control of Thoughts of Faith, upon adoption of the Guidelines, as determined at the 2008 Synodical Convention.” Two months earlier, at its November 2008 meeting, TOF elected our synod’s appointed treasurer, Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft, to serve as a member of the TOF Board of Directors and also designated him treasurer of TOF.

Our synod’s Board for Foreign Missions is recommending to this year’s convention a restructuring proposal for the purpose of supervising the work of seven fields (Peru, Chile, India, Korea; TOF: Ukraine, Latvia, Czech Republic). The enclosed diagram is intended to help visualize the recommendation.

The **proposal** calls for a nine-member board. A Board for World Outreach (BWO) shall consist of nine members, all of whom shall be elected by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for three-year terms, and the elections will be staggered. The Board for World Outreach (BWO) shall replace the Board for Foreign Missions and the Thoughts of Faith Board of Directors immediately after ratification by the 2009 Evangelical Lutheran Synod convention, at which time the ELS Board for World Outreach shall assume all responsibilities, both legal and fiduciary, of the Board for Foreign Missions and Thoughts of Faith, Inc. Transition from the current seven-member Board for Foreign Missions to the proposed nine-member Board for World Outreach shall consist of the present members of the Board for Foreign Missions (which includes two recently appointed members from TOF) and an additional two members *appointed for one year* by the synod president, at least one of whom should come from the current Thoughts of Faith Board of Directors. After completing a one-year transitional term,





these members shall stand for nomination through the synod's Nominating Committee, together with other nominees, in order to be elected by the synod in convention.

The *proposed* "Guidelines for the Board for World Outreach," as presented by the Synod Review Committee, includes two full-time positions intended to guide and administer the synod's foreign mission program under the authority and direction of the BWO. As shown in the diagram, provision is being made for a World Missions Field Coordinator (WMFC) and a World Missions Administrator (WMA).

### **MISSION ADVANCEMENT PROJECT (MAP)**

MAP sent the following 2009 funding request to the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation: \$300,000 for Helping Hands, \$280,000 for India (LMSI) and \$1.8 million for Thoughts of Faith. In December 2008 the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation notified MAP of the following 2009 grant approvals: \$500,000 in support of Helping Hands and India (LMSI) jointly; and between \$1.25 and \$1.35 million for Thoughts of Faith. (See the convention report of the Synod Review Committee for the proposed guidelines for MAP, an entity incorporated in 1999 under the auspices of the synod's Board of Trustees.)

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

On September 16-17, 2008, the fifteen-member Planning and Coordinating Committee (P&C) gathered at the synod office building to begin its work on a strategic plan as urged by the 2008 convention. A lay member from our sister synod (WELS), Mr. Arvid Schwartz, has consented to assist us in the planning stage.

The P&C assigned to a subcommittee the task of setting a pointed agenda for its April 20–21, 2009, plenary session. Those who serve on the subcommittee are: Mr. Dennis Behr, the Rev. Ed Bryant, Mr. Phil Honsey, Mr. Arvid Schwartz (advisory facilitator) and Pres. Moldstad (*ex officio*). This subcommittee prepared planning materials that were disseminated to all members of the P&C for consideration at the spring sessions.

The primary purpose of our synod is contained in the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19–20). As our church body is fully committed to this purpose, we want to be prudent and diligent in the use of what the Lord has given us. Opinions may vary on how best to utilize our God-given earthly resources while striving to advance the gospel kingdom of our Savior through the work of home missions, foreign missions, Lutheran elementary education, publications, web communications, etc. Please pray for the members of the P&C as they lead our synod in this vital work of strategic planning. We also would like to thank the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation for the grant received in the amount of \$25,000 to assist our synod in strategic planning.

### **SYNOD FINANCES**

Our treasurer reports that through December 31, 2008, \$732,000 was received in congregational contributions. Note that the 2008 budget (reduced) was set at \$750,000. The 2009 adopted congregational contribution budget is \$818,000. However, in light of the current shortfall in congregational contributions, the Board of Trustees in the month of February this year took action to reduce the 2009 budget to \$725,000. This reduction is to be applied percentage-wise to all entities.

While mindful of the present financial challenges for our country, for our local congregations and for our synod, we are extremely grateful to the Lord for the blessings he has bestowed on us—especially on our church body—in permitting us to go forward with the promotion of Christ's gospel throughout a fast-populating world that has been redeemed from sin and death. Toward this end, we also are pleased to acknowledge a sizable bequest (\$625,000) left for the



work of foreign missions. The gift came from an ELS member, Carolyn Vogel of Hobart, Indiana, who died on December 19, 2008. We give thanks to God for her generosity.

## LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

Lutheran Schools of America (LSA) recently has undergone some changes. An anticipated large gift from an anonymous donor did not materialize. As a result of budget constraints, Mr. Michael Butterfield felt the need to resign from his post as the president of LSA. Our synod appreciates the zeal, the dedication and the effort given by Mr. Butterfield in the cause of promoting Lutheran schools. We sincerely thank him for his years of service.

While the Board for LSA presently has decided not to fill the vacated position of presidency, the board is restructuring itself administratively to carry on the worthy goals of LSA. The board's chairman, Rev. Ed Bryant, has stated: "With God's help we will continue to emphasize the great importance of Christian schools to the church, to assist all of our schools to prosper in every way that we can, to encourage the establishing of new schools, and so to advance excellence and outreach in Christian Lutheran education."

## ELS/WELS FORUM

Twenty-four leaders, twelve from our synod and twelve from the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod gathered at our Bethany campus on October 20–21, 2008. The Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum meets biennially, following its inception in 1967. The forum is a wonderful opportunity for cooperation between our church bodies in the sharing of ideas for mission work, education and worship. The biennial meeting also permits an avenue to share fraternally concerns with one another.



*ELS/WELS Forum, October 20–21, 2008*

*(Back, left to right):* Rev. Bruce Becker, Rev. Dan Koelpin, Rev. Thomas Nass, Mr. James Brandt, Rev. Glenn Obenberger

*(Middle, left to right):* Rev. Dave Liggett, Rev. Erwin Ekhoﬀ, Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, Mr. Silas Born, Rev. Mark Schroeder, Rev. John Moldstad, Mr. Dan Bruss, Rev. James Huebner

*(Front, left to right):* Rev. Paul Fries, Rev. Jonathan Madson, Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, Rev. Mark Zarling, Rev. John Vieths, Rev. Harold Hagedorn, Rev. Dan Basel, Rev. Steve Petersen, Mr. Michael Butterfield

*(Not pictured)* Rev. Paul Wendland, Rev. Don Sutton

## **DC & CICR MEETING**

On September 26, 2008, all members of our synod's Doctrine Committee (DC) and the Commission on Inter-Church Relations (CICR) of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod met in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The only topic for the day's session was the subject of women communing women. Four members of the DC presented papers: Prof. Erling Teigen, "Confessions, Hermeneutics, and 'The Public Ministry of the Word'"; Mr. Allen Quist, "Clarification of the Doctrine of the Public Ministry of the Word held by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod"; the Rev. Paul Zager, "Women Communing Women: The Scriptural Passages and Their Exegesis Form the Basis for Forbidding the Practice"; the Rev. Thomas Rank, "A Brief Examination of Christian Freedom and Adiaphora."

In the fall of this year another joint meeting is scheduled. At such time, the CICR will have an opportunity to respond formally to the papers given by our ELS men. There also was one paper by a WELS presenter that was unable to be delivered because of time constraints at the September 26, 2008, meeting.

Our synod amiably acknowledges the assurance given by WELS Pres. Mark Schroeder that the COP statement of March 27, 2007, stands as the official position of the WELS on this matter (statement appears in print in the *Wisconsin Lutheran Quarterly* Fall 2007 issue; also in ELS 2008 *Synod Report*). Our synod has indicated, through the Doctrine Committee, that it can accept this document as long as WELS abides by it. We urge patience by both church bodies, even as we mutually have allocated more time for discussion on the subject.

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

Bethany Lutheran College undertook a thorough self-study this past year as it prepared for a visit by representatives from the North Central Association's Commission on Accreditation. The NCA has granted another periodic approval.

The Board of Regents for our Bethany Lutheran College has decided to name the new academic facility after Professor Rudolph E. Honsey. Prof. Honsey has taught numerous courses at Bethany (including seminary) over a forty-seven-year span.

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

Our synod's "school of the prophets," Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, reported an enrollment of twenty-three men for the 2008–09 school year. This includes four men serving on vicarages. The Board of Regents has approved a proposal from the seminary to establish a degree of Master of Arts in Lutheran Theological Studies. This particular degree is designed for laity, enabling recognition of general competence in Lutheran biblical and doctrinal theology.

## **PLACEMENT IN WELS**

We are thankful to our sister synod, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, for enabling the placement of one of our seminary graduates in a WELS district. On July 23, 2008, the ELS Assignment Committee met and assigned 2008 Candidate of Theology Robert Oberg to a three-point WELS parish located in Hurley and Ashland, Wisconsin, and Bruce Crossing, Michigan. The ordination/installation service occurred on August 31, 2008, at St. Paul Lutheran in Hurley, Wisconsin. We are pleased to note that, with this placement, all of the 2008 seminary graduates were able to be assigned.

## **RETIREMENT PLANS IN THE SYNOD**

Beginning 2009 for church institutions (e.g., Bethany Lutheran College, Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), and beginning 2010 for individual congregations, new reporting methods are needed in connection with church workers' 403(b)

plans. Our synod intends to work with the company called *One America* in order to fulfill the new IRS requirements. Congregations may participate in the same system, *if they choose to do so*. The Board for Christian Service contributes annually a supplement to each called worker's retirement plan.

## LYA CONVENTION

Youth and counselors from our synod, totaling over 240, descended on the city of San Antonio, Texas, for the annual Lutheran Youth Association Convention, in July of 2008. The theme for the convention was *Friends Forever*. "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" served as the convention hymn. Bible Studies focused on the following areas of life under the cross:

- *Reconciliation – with God and with friends; learning to resolve conflicts in a Christian way*
- *Marriage – personal relationship with men and women; dating*
- *Brotherhood – qualities of good friendships as young people belonging to Christ*

## NEWS FROM OUR BOARD FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

A special fund has been established to help provide assistance for the education of children in India. The fund is called: India Orphans Scholarship Fund – Opportunities for Higher Education.

In July 2008 a donor was identified who has pledged financial support to cover the cost of opening and operating a new Lutheran elementary school in the rainforest region of Peru.

In August of 2008, the synod president and a few members of the Board for Foreign Missions traveled to our mission in Chile. The purpose of the trip was to assess the work in the Santiago area. Following the visit, some changes have been recommended for our future work in Chile. Pastors Timothy Erickson and Oto Rodriguez serve as our American missionaries in the country. They actively are training a number of Chilean men to serve as future leaders of the national church.

## STEWARDSHIP THEME

Our convention focus this year is the subject of Christian stewardship. For our theme, we use a phrase from one of our hymns: "**All We Have—A Trust From Thee.**" The scriptural text serving as the basis for the essay is 1 Chronicles 29:14. Similar to the format of 2007, sectional discussions have been arranged. We thank our Board for Stewardship for assisting in the convention planning.

## INACTIVE MEMBERS

Article III, A., of "Guidelines for the Clergy Roster" reads: "An ordained clergyman who does not have a current call but desires to remain on the clergy roster and is eligible to perform the duties of the office of the ministry described in Article II, and who is not emeritus may, by action of the president and secretary, be continued on the Clergy Roster for a period not to exceed three years from the beginning of the period of inactivity. Upon the application of the individual and the recommendation of the president and secretary for an extension of such classification, the convention shall determine in each instance, on written ballot, whether the request shall be honored for an additional three year period."

For the past three years the following names have been on our inactive list: Greg Sahlstrom, Victor Settje and Carlton Sielaff. At his request and with the approval of the president and secretary, the convention is being asked to extend the clergy roster status for the Rev. Greg Sahlstrom and the Rev. Carlton Sielaff.

## **CONGREGATIONS VISITED DURING THE PAST YEAR**

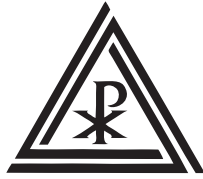
Forest, Forest City, IA; Newport, Wisconsin Dells, WI; King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN; Christ, Port St. Lucie, FL; Hartland, Hartland, MN; Manchester, Manchester, MN; Trinity, West Bend, WI; Our Saviour, Lake Havasu City, AZ; Peace, Jefferson City, MO; preaching station at Lake of the Ozarks, MO.

## **PASTORAL CONFERENCES ATTENDED**

Circuit Visitors' Conference, General Pastoral Conference, West Coast Conference (Circuits 11–12), Great Lakes Conference (Circuits 3–6), Circuit 9 Conference, Circuit 8 Winkel Conference, Circuit 1 Winkel Conference, Circuit 7 Winkel Conference.

*The Rev. John A. Moldstad, president*





# CONVENTION ESSAY

# ALL WE HAVE—A TRUST FROM THEE

The Rev. Paul Schneider

## INTRODUCTION

*We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou bless-est us,  
To thee our first fruits give!*

(TLH 441, st. 1, 2)

**ALL WE HAVE—A TRUST FROM THEE.** What a theme for our 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod! What a theme for the life of every Christian! This essay on Christian stewardship will be very personal, very practical and very biblical. Stewardship for the Christian is management of God's resources. Stewardship involves a Christian's responsibility before God to live an entire life according to the will of God. As John 3:16 is often called the **Gospel in a Nutshell**, this author's designation of 2 Corinthians 5:15 is **Stewardship in a Nutshell: And He (Christ) died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. Stewardship is Sanctification!**



*The Rev. Paul Schneider*

There are three other Bible passages that Christian stewards would do well to take to heart. Each citation includes the name of "John," chapter "3" as well as verse "16."

**NIV John 3:16** *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

**NIV 1 John 3:16–17** *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?*

**NIV Revelation to John 3:16** *So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.*

## THE FOUR "Ts" OF STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship has often been taught using the three "Ts" of **Time**, **Talent** and **Treasure**. There is also a fourth "T" referring to **Temple**, emphasizing the use of the means of grace, which remain the source of true motivation for all Christian living (stewardship). We need to keep in mind that all Christian stewards are "sinners" who deserve eternal punishment in hell because of failure to keep God's commandments perfectly in thought, word and deed. While "sinners" by nature, Christian stewards are also "saints" by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the means of grace, completely forgiven of all sins made possible through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christian stewards pattern their lives after their father Abraham and live in this world as strangers in a foreign country, looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God (Hebrews 11:9, 10). Christian stewards rejoice because they are *fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone ... built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit* (Ephesians 2:19–22).

## KING DAVID'S STEWARDSHIP PRACTICE

Although the convention theme is based on a verse from a stewardship hymn, the following verses from the inspired Scriptures teach the biblical stewardship truth that God owns everything, and we stewards are managers of His possessions. All that we have is truly a trust from our Lord! King David writes by inspiration,

*But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. We are aliens and strangers in your sight, as were all our forefathers. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. O LORD our God, as for all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name, it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.* (1 Chronicles 29:14–16)

King David, thankful for all the blessings God had bestowed upon him, was not content to live in a fancy palace while his Lord was worshipped in a tent. God wanted David's son, Solomon, to build the temple. But the Lord allowed David to prepare, plan and begin to pay for the construction of this new house of worship. Part of this plan was to invite all of God's people to participate in a special offering. Hence, in the final chapter of 1 Chronicles, a Christian steward can learn a great deal, not only about how to give offerings to God, but also about the loving nature of God and what it means to live a life in fellowship with him.

David begins chapter 29 by reminding his people that God had chosen Solomon to build the temple. This task would necessitate the full cooperation of all God's people. No one individual possessed all the skills, resources, and gifts to accomplish the construction of this special house of worship. David set the example by giving his own personal treasures (1 Chronicles 29:3) and then asked, *Now who is willing to consecrate himself today to the Lord?* (verse 5). David was bold enough to expect certain things from the leaders of God's people. When a person knows the Lord, he wants to serve Him. For this reason, David simply assumed that the princes of Israel would demonstrate the consecration of their hearts in a concrete way by freely offering gifts for the building of the temple. The expression David used, *consecrate himself*, literally means "to fill his hand." It is used in Scripture for the way a priest is formally inducted into the priesthood as one who is willing to offer his life in service of God (Exodus 28:41; 32:29). David understood that offering gifts to God was one way of offering one's life in priestly service.

Some may wonder at the appropriateness of David declaring publicly what amount he was willing to give. Is this sinful pride in action? Is it going against God's will, where Jesus would later teach in His Sermon on the Mount, to *give in secret*? (Matthew 6:4) We know that God looks more at the heart than at the hand. God here uses His servant David as a good example of Christian stewardship. David was showing spiritual leadership, not sinful pride.

Do not fail to miss a couple key words in this chapter, *willing* and *joyful*. God's people were so generous that it caused everyone to rejoice. These were not the dregs, squeezed out of them by guilt, duty or compulsion of any kind. The total given was an amount so huge, only God could have enabled it. Yes, the Holy Spirit makes stewards *willing* and *joyful*!

## THE STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

Perhaps this would be a good time to call attention to the direction and limitations of this convention essay. Stewardship involves all of life: every second, every penny, every possession, every talent, everything; but time restraints demand that we focus this essay on a very limited, yet most vital part of Christian stewardship: the offerings of money. This essay will be directed at the heart and the head, through which the Holy Spirit directs the hand!

In the church many are "uncomfortable" when it comes to money. We often act as if it were a commodity too degraded to mention in a spiritual context. We tiptoe timidly around the thought of teaching clearly what God in the Bible instructs about a Christian's use of money.



There are those who act as if it were a thoroughly ungodly thing for anyone else to know what they give to God! *What I give is between God and me, and no one else!* But is this truly biblical stewardship? Contrast this attitude with David's actions. He publicly declares what he is willing to offer to God. He is not boasting. He is displaying his love and his faith and is desiring to follow what Jesus would later teach in the Sermon on the Mount, *to let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven* (Matthew 5:16).

## STATISTICS

There is a stewardship publication, **The State of Church Giving through 2006**, by John L. & Sylvia Ronsvalle, published in 2008 through empty tomb, inc., Champaign, Illinois, offering statistics gathered from data of 27 million full or confirmed members from just over 100,000 of the estimated 350,000 religious congregations in the U.S. from 1968 to 2006.

Consider these findings:

- Per member giving to Total Contributions, Congregational Finances, and Benevolences decreased as a portion of income to all three categories in the 1968–2006 period.
- A review of giving and membership patterns in 11 Protestant denominations from 1921 to 2006 found per member giving as a portion of income began to decline in 1961, and membership began to decline as a percent of U.S. population in 1962. Giving as a percentage of income was lower in 2006 than in either 1921 or 1933.
- If church members were to reach a congregation-wide average of 10% giving, an estimated additional \$170 billion dollars would be available to assist both local and global neighbors in need.
- In 2006 giving for both Congregational Finances and Benevolences was 2.55%.
- From 1922 through 1933, giving as a percent of income stayed above 3% with a high of 3.7% in 1924. The year 1933 was the depth of the Great Depression. Per capita income was at the lowest point it would reach between 1921 and 2006, whether measured in current or inflation-adjusted dollars. Yet per member giving as a percentage of income was 3.3%. Between 1968 and 2005, six recessions occurred (1970; 1973–75; 1980; 1981–82; 1990–91; 2001). In three of the recessions, church member giving declined, while in three it did not.

Pastor Ron Muetzel, in an essay, *Facing the Challenges: Hindrances to Godly Giving*, presented at a symposium on Christian Stewardship at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, September 17–18, 2007, writes

*I know how discouraging it can be to examine the giving performance of the people under our spiritual care. The giving percentage Pastor Liggett ascribed to our people in his convention presentation is 2.8%. (PowerPoint presentation, "Funding the Declaration.") Obviously, that isn't even close to a tithe. Nor does it compare very favorably with the 2.2% of after-tax income that Americans in general give to charity. We wonder how it can be that Gospel-motivated people of God scarcely outpace an American population of atheists, idol-worshippers, and the spiritually indifferent, as well as a minority of faithful followers of Jesus Christ. For one thing, the comparison is hardly apples-to-apples. The 2.8% only counts what is countable in receipts by congregations and synodical entities. Certainly, the people of our fellowship "are willing to share" beyond that for the benefit of other kingdom work and for other worthwhile works of compassion. We also do well to keep in mind that we are talking about averages, while no one of God's people is average. Yes, there are many who struggle in this area of their sanctification and are slow to mature. At the same time, there is reason to rejoice with so many who truly "excel in this grace of giving" (2 Corinthians 8:7) and give at a level that leaves the tithe in the dust. All of this said, the 2.8% average is nowhere near the level we would like; it is closer to 0% than to 10%.*

Why is it that when God appears to be showering greater material blessings upon Americans, they are living more for themselves and less for Him, just the opposite of His encouragement in the **Stewardship in a Nutshell** passage of 2 Corinthians 5:15? Why is it that many today think nothing of leaving a 15–20% tip at a restaurant while leaving 2–3% at church? The cause, of course, is sin. Every person possesses the old Adam and is filled with selfishness and greed by nature. How easy for the Christian to forget the inspired advice given by Moses before God's people entered the Promised Land: *You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gave you the ability to produce wealth* (Deuteronomy 8:17, 18).

Because everything belongs to God, I should consider how much I keep for myself as the issue, instead of how much I give. What I give as a tithe or beyond, illustrates my relationship to the items that I possess, as well as my relationship with my God. Understanding biblical stewardship and the reality that God owns everything, enables me to be more carefree and less possessive, and much more generous. It is a lot easier to give away someone else's money than my own. If I think of money as something belonging to God that He has given to me to manage, it retains its proper perspective in my life. It's His money, with my name on the account. I'm simply His steward, managing His resources.

## THE SINNER'S STEWARDSHIP STRUGGLE

This sinful nature impacts the church in every way, from the pastor to the parishioner, from the pulpit to the pew, from the playground to the place of work, from the dinner plate to the offering plate. While serving as the chair of the ELS Board for Stewardship for over 21 years, I learned the great challenge of teaching biblical stewardship and have seen evidence that, in many congregations, the pastoral responsibility of teaching stewardship is too often downplayed or assigned a relatively low priority. I personally repent of my past failures and invite each and every pastor to do the same. (You lay people can and should also repent, for you have "almost" as many sins as do we pastors!)

Time does not permit discussing in detail these misunderstandings, but they are often used by pastors and parishioners alike to excuse preaching and teaching boldly on the subject of stewardship.

- I simply preach the law and gospel in my Sunday sermons, and that is enough! I don't need to "do" stewardship programs!
- I "use" the stewardship materials the synod provides. I place them on a table in the Narthex and let the members take them home for personal and private study.
- I feel uncomfortable talking about money because it is such a personal and sensitive issue. I don't want to provide ammunition for those who complain that the church is only interested in money.
- I know I should give more, but I just can't seem to afford it at the present time. My bills come first! Maybe when I am more financially secure...
- Giving is only between the "giver" and God! It is no one else's business!

This list could go on and on...

## TEACHING BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

What role should the church and pastor have in teaching biblical stewardship? I remember many years ago teaching a session on Christian giving in Bible Class. The next day I received a phone call from a member who wanted to come in to talk to me about the presentation. Assuming the worst, I expected to be put on the defensive. But to my surprise, and appreciation, he said, *I appreciated your presentation in Bible Class on Sunday, but you need to go further and teach us about the proper management of money in our daily lives.*

Has the conservative Lutheran Church done a disservice to members by not teaching the practical stewardship of budgeting and managing finances? Every couple has several hundred or even thousands of dollars that they spend and don't even know where it's going. Professor Forrest L. Bivens wrote a paper for the Symposium at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 2007. He comments in his essay, *Seizing the Opportunities: Ways to Encourage Godly Giving*.

*Godly giving, narrowly defined, also needs to be seen as part of a package of money management skills needed among our people. Sometimes there may be proper motivation and godly intentions regarding giving that are frustrated by money mismanagement that makes godly giving almost impossible. And sometimes good intentions are accompanied by ignorance about how best one may convey gifts for religious and charitable purposes. The result is usually diminished levels of giving and inefficient or wasteful giving patterns. The curriculum approach to financial stewardship training in our congregations, at least to some degree, should include a number of topics that are sometimes seen as somehow non-spiritual or non-religious. Their intimate connection to godly giving as well as to the dedication of one's entire lifestyle to the Lord, however, may easily be seen. Among these topics are: personal and family budgeting (and following through on using prepared budgets); fiscal restraint and contentment as virtues; the pluses and pitfalls in the use of credit; dealing with indebtedness; savings and investment patterns and methods; deferred charitable giving and inter-generational transfer of resources. So many goals and purposes in personal and family money management require relatively simple interrelated skills that our American culture has neglected or despised. We dare not.*

## **CREDIT CARD DEBT**

Consider the reality of credit card debt. The almost magical convenience of plastic money is critical to our famously compulsive consumer economy. With more than 641 million credit cards in circulation and accounting for an estimated 1.5 trillion dollars of consumer spending, the U.S. economy has clearly gone plastic. Millions of American families (many church members) use their credit cards to make ends meet with an estimated 115 million Americans carrying a monthly credit card debt. According to an April 12, 2009 article in our Midland newspaper, the average U.S. household carries a credit card debt of \$10,728. Over 80% of graduating college seniors have credit card debt before they even have a job! Parents provide or allow their children freely to use credit cards without instruction or supervision. The American Bankruptcy Institute reveals that 19% of the people who filed for bankruptcy last year were college students. Money and money fights are the #1 cause of divorce, not to mention the subject couples fight about the most. The dreaded "B" word is *Budget*, and without one, many will experience another "B" word: *Bankruptcy*.

According to the 2008 Retirement Confidence Survey, conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, nearly 30% of people aged 45 and older have saved less than \$10,000 toward their retirement goals.

## **SYMPTOMS OF A STRUGGLING STEWARD**

How would you rate yourself as a Christian steward in handling your personal finances? Consider some symptoms of a struggling, sinking steward:

- Worry over financial matters, borrowing to survive.
- Chronic overdue bills (leaving unopened), maxing out credit cards.
- Dreams and desires to get rich quick playing the lottery, gambling, etc.
- Greedy—seldom satisfied and frequently wanting more and more.
- Problems with priorities, putting luxury before necessity, wants before needs.
- Over commitment to work just to make more money.
- Financial resentment—jealous over other people's blessings.

- No regular pattern to church giving, not making up the weeks you must miss.
- Giving leftovers rather than firstfruits.
- Having the all-too-common thought: I just don't know where all my money goes.
- Wondering why so much of the month is left when the money has come to an end.
- Excusing your lack of giving to the Lord thinking, I just can't afford to give.
- Justifying your luxury, thinking I deserve it!
- Feeling "uncomfortable" attending or even "avoiding" church stewardship programs.

Christian stewards need to keep in mind these words from the writer to the Hebrews: *Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you"* (Hebrews 13:5). Thus Professor Adolph L. Harstad rightly concludes, *A cornucopia cluttered with cars, cash and credit cards does not insure a full life. The Lord's gracious presence does* (The People's Bible, Joshua, p. 21).

## A CHALLENGE TO TEACH STEWARDSHIP!

All too often leaders in today's confessional churches fail properly to teach Christian stewardship principles and, if they do attempt to bring them before the few who are willing to listen, the fear of becoming legalistic causes the instruction to be so vague that it passes over the head, without ever entering the heart.

Here is a challenge to all congregations of the ELS! Consider teaching members how properly to manage their finances so they can be faithful stewards of all God's possessions. As faithful stewards, they will learn and grow to become generous givers through the grace of God. Christian stewards need to learn how to manage the money God provides them. One place to start is with Dave Ramsey's **Financial Peace University** (FPU) at [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com). FPU extends over 13 weeks, designed to be digested slowly and be pondered deeply, thus allowing for a true and lasting behavioral change in lifestyle.

## MONEY TRUTHS VS. MYTHS

Dave Ramsey, in his book, *The Total Money Makeover*, published by Thomas Nelson (see [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com)) offers the following advice, a mere sampling of what is in his book:

- You are going to die—so do it with a will. (70% of Americans die without one.)
- Drive a good, reliable used car and stay away from new car payments.
- Loaning money to a friend or relative can strain or destroy relationships.
- If you cosign a loan, be ready to repay it.
- Debt is NOT a tool.
- Lotto and Power Ball are a tax on the poor and people who can't do math.
- You are being robbed every day by not using the power of cash.
- Some insurance you can't afford to be without.

Now consider some **BABY STEPS** to get out of debt:

- Save \$1,000 cash as a Starter Emergency Fund.
- Start the Debt Snowball.
- Finish the Emergency Fund.
- Invest 15 Percent of your income in Retirement.
- Save for College.
- Pay off your Home Mortgage.
- Build Wealth.

Dave Ramsey's book is targeted to the world, but his Christian principles and ethics are behind it all. This is apparent from what he says on page 212, *Giving Is the Biggest Reward of the Entire Workout*. Certainly as any Christian steward begins to take "Baby Steps," there is always the desire to keep the Lord FIRST in everything. Just consider how much more generous one

could be if the interest paid on debt could be redirected toward Kingdom work, as a firstfruit offering. As Ramsey professes on page 221: *If you are a Christian like me, it is your spiritual duty to possess riches so that you can do with them things that bring glory to God.* To that I personally would add that it is our privilege and our joy as well! We are to use all our material blessings, knowing they actually belong to God, the OWNER, and everything we possess and continue to receive, as a TRUST from Him!

## MONEY AS A THERMOMETER

How a person allocates his or her resources is an important thermometer of the heart. What is valued the most? If we understood the true role of money in our lives, according to philosopher Jacob Needleman (Money and the Meaning of Life, published by Doubleday) we would not think simply in terms of spending it or saving it. Money exerts a deep emotional influence on who we are and what we tell ourselves we can never have. Our long unwillingness to understand the emotional and spiritual effects of money on us is at the heart of why we have come to know the price of everything and the value of nothing. Needleman goes on to comment that *how a person behaves toward money is a true test of authenticity ... That money is where most of us are tested says precisely as much about the weakness of man as it does about the power of money.* (p. 268)

## IS IT PRINCIPLE OR PRINCIPAL?

Remember that it is not only what we say about money, but what we do, how we behave, when money is at issue. *It's not the money, it's the principle!* That's the claim often made. Oh, really? Unfortunately, the PRINCIPLE is all-too-often the PRINCIPAL (money)! Yet, by God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, the Christian steward can and will function on ***principle!*** In our relationships with each other, Christian stewards, understanding and applying biblical principles, can witness to the world that there is something independent of money, which is always of first importance. (Seek God's Kingdom FIRST! Matthew 6:33) There must be something in our lives that we really and tangibly take more seriously than money. Perhaps a good question to ask oneself is, *Where do I look for my security?* Is it my bank account or my retirement, connected to the Social Security from the USA? Or is my SECURITY found in Jesus Christ? There is a possibility that one could lose all material possessions as did Job. Many American Christians have lost a considerable amount of assets in the recent market downturn. Can we say with Job, *Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised* (Job 1:21)? We can personally lose everything materially, but when we remain stewards in God's kingdom, we will still possess everything we absolutely need to serve our Master.

Applying this to our daily lives reinforces the truth that life is not about money. It's about what you do with everything that God has given you. As a sinner searches for financial peace and freedom, he will only find it when there is total dependence upon God.

## GIVING IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP

How often we hear the complaint, *The church is only after my money.* Many "outside" the church feel this way, accusing organized religion of being more interested in the pocketbook than the heart. Even some "inside" the church feel this way. Perhaps this is why many pastors and church leaders shy away from stewardship training. But what needs to be remembered is the reason we *pass the offering plate* at a worship service. Giving money is an **ACT OF WORSHIP**. God doesn't need our money (Psalm 50:9, 10, 12). The unfortunate result of a lack of biblical stewardship training is reflected in the manner in which Christians use, or misuse, their money. Perhaps this also explains why we Americans live in a country that is

enjoying unprecedented economic prosperity (at least, we were!) while we serve in a church that all too often struggles financially.

Giving is worship, and worship is giving. The center of all giving is always God, not man. Christians can worship and give to God only because God has first given to them. Thus we sing in TLH 441, *We give Thee but Thine own*. God owns the world and everything in it, including us (Exodus 19:5; Psalm 24:1; Haggai 2:8; 1 Chronicles 29:14). David expressed the truth that everything comes from God (verse 14). Not only did the wealth itself come from God, but the willing heart to give it came also from God. God provides both the means and the motive! Grace frames a believer's entire life. When a Christian steward fully understands and appreciates the grace of God, then comes the realization that one can never truly give to God, but only receive from Him. Even when we offer our service to God, our money to God, our worship to God, we are only returning to him what he has first given to us. God is God. We are but beggars who can only plead for his mercy. Luther expressed this before his death. *We are beggars, that is true. He also confessed, All is from you, O Lord, and from you we have received whatever we have done.* Sounds much like the words of David: *Everything is from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand* (1 Chronicles 29:14).

### KING DAVID'S STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

A *magnificent* offering for a *magnificent* building led King David to express his own and his people's joy in a *magnificent* prayer of praise and thanksgiving. David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10–13 puts the offering of gifts to the Lord into its proper context.

*David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name."*

Professor Paul Wendland offers these words of commentary on David's inspirational prayer.

*Let David teach us all to pray these words. How the human heart longs for fulfillment, to be lifted up above the dreary dust of life! Yet how perversely it seeks that lifting up in some empty self-exaltation or in pursuit of creature comforts instead of resting in the consolation of its Creator. Only when the human heart is won over to the kingdom of Christ can it know the joy of being caught up into God's world-rule, a righteous, saving purpose at work in history and in the annals of our lives. When the kingdom of Christ our Lord comes to our heart, we know the joy of being part of something bigger than our puny selves. That's the joy expressed in David's song. His throne was not his own, but God's. What God did for him he did not for him alone, but for a world of hungry, hurting souls. (The People's Bible, 1 Chronicles, by Paul O. Wendland, p. 306)*

### COMFORT

What comfort Christian stewards can derive from the assurance that because God owns everything and they are managing His possessions, no matter what happens to the economy, God will never leave nor forsake His own. Retirement plans can decrease or even disappear, but that does not change the eternal home prepared for all God's people. That Mansion was secured one dark day outside Jerusalem on a hill called Calvary, when Jesus allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross and there suffered and died for the sins of the world—your sins, my

sins. Three days later on Easter Sunday, salvation was confirmed when the Savior rose from the grave, alive and victorious. Feeling secure about true retirement, all Christian stewards can be busy carrying out with joy the mission to build God's temple, the holy Christian Church.

## GOD'S GUIDANCE FOR GIVING

As Christian stewards who desire to be faithful in doing God's will, it is fitting and proper to search the Scriptures for God's Guidance for Giving. Take to heart these biblical truths, based on the inspired Word of God.

- **GIVE GRACEFULLY!** NIV 2 Corinthians 8:1–4 *And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.*
- **GIVE CONFIDENTLY!** NIV 2 Corinthians 9:10–11 *Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*
- **GIVE PROPORTIONATELY!** NIV 1 Corinthians 16:1–2 *Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*
- **GIVE GENEROUSLY!** NIV 2 Corinthians 9:6 *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*
- **GIVE REGULARLY!** NIV 1 Corinthians 16:2 *On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*
- **GIVE CHEERFULLY!** NIV 2 Corinthians 9:7 *Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*
- **GIVE THOUGHTFULLY!** NIV Romans 14:12 *So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.*
- **GIVE PRAYERFULLY!** NIV James 1:5 *If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.*
- **GIVE SCRIPTURALLY!** NIV Proverbs 3:9 *Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;*

## QUESTIONS FOR STEWARDSHIP APPLICATION

Now consider a few questions each and every Christian steward should ponder and pray over, striving to follow God's Guidance and thus to grow in the grace of giving.

- What percentage of income do I give as an offering to the church? (The average American gives 2–3%. Knowing what God taught His Old Testament people, and the principles of stewardship in the New Testament, can such an offering be considered “generous?”) Do I trust God enough to tithe?
- Do I give an offering in accord with my income, or only in accord with my church attendance? (Many churches would experience increased offerings if members would “make up” whenever they miss a Sunday. Many more blessings would be enjoyed by members if their absence on a Sunday resulted only from valid reasons, not contrived excuses. In other words, more faithful use of the Means of Grace, through which faith is strengthened.)



- Is my offering “first fruit” or a “left over?” (Am I hot, cold or lukewarm? Revelation 3:16)
- How do I understand and apply Jesus’ words, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also?” (Matthew 6:21)
- Contrast: I can’t afford to give! with I can’t afford NOT to give!
- Do I live within my means, using a budget, if necessary (for most, it is)? Am I working toward becoming debt free?

The sainted Professor M.H. Otto, my Dean and Professor at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, once wrote in a Stewardship Tract, titled BECAUSE HE LOVED US,

*We cannot afford not to give. We never get rich by withholding from the Lord more than is proper. One may think he can get by, but the Lord has a way of collecting that can be disastrous... People may think they are gaining materially by not giving liberally, but they are making themselves poorer and poorer... Yea, we can and will give—regularly, gladly, generously—for the work of the Church... In fact, no one will be able to dissuade us from showing our love to God by giving bountifully... We have the assurance that we shall not suffer materially; rather, the more we give for the work of the Lord, necessary work, the more we shall be enabled to continue to give... We give to Him because he first gave to us. **We cannot afford NOT to give!***

## THE THEOLOGY OF STEWARDSHIP

One of the greatest challenges in writing this essay was to keep within the assigned time limit. To begin to bring this essay to a conclusion, we need to remember that stewardship training is never done in a vacuum. We are to use God’s Means of Grace, His Word and Sacraments, to nurture our faith and to grow in the grace of giving. Professor David J. Valleskey also delivered a paper at the Symposium at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in 2007, *Laying the Foundation: The Scriptural Basis for Godly Giving*. He included a summary of twenty points from his study of 2 Corinthians 8 and 9, suggesting what pastors can take to heart themselves and teach their members about godly giving. Consider then, in the words of Professor Valleskey, *some guidelines for godly giving from Pastor Paul as gleaned from the message of these chapters*. (Remember, his reference is to the Apostle Paul, not this author!)

1. *Godly giving is a response to the grace of God in Christ. This underscores the need for preaching specific law (about greed, selfishness, covetousness, materialism) and specific gospel through which the guilty sinner is set free from guilt and is moved to respond with thanksgiving.*
2. *Trusting in the power of the gospel, pastors will want to expect the best from God’s people, as they appeal to the New Man in them.*
3. *We not only alleviate people’s spiritual and physical needs, but we worship God with our offerings. Our offerings have a vertical, not just a horizontal, dimension to them.*
4. *God is pleased with single-minded giving. Pastors, therefore, will take care not to put obstacles to that kind of giving before their members, e.g., appeals to pride, emphasis on rewards, motivating by guilt or coercion.*
5. *It is better to talk about our giving as an offering than a collection. The latter has to do with what is taken from you; the former stresses the act of giving.*
6. *God is more concerned about the attitude with which we give than with the amount we give. We will want to avoid any practices which make it appear as though the opposite were true.*
7. *Since giving is a part of a Christian’s life of sanctification, pastors will not hesitate to talk about this subject on a regular basis.*



8. *Since giving is only a part of a Christian's life of sanctification, pastors will not harp on the subject. Other areas need to be addressed also.*
9. *God loves a cheerful giver, a giver who gives from a heart made cheerful by God's grace. Therefore, preach the gospel!*
10. *Stewardship counsel from those of the wider fellowship beyond the congregation can benefit a congregation and therefore should be welcomed and encouraged.*
11. *Our joint giving endeavors (congregational and synodical) are tangible expressions of our fellowship in Christ and thus should be encouraged and treasured.*
12. *In giving, both the giver and the receiver are blessed. It's always a two-way street.*
13. *God, who supplies the seed for the sower, will always give us what we need.*
14. *Christians give from what God has given them (proportionate giving). In planning their giving, it is helpful for Christians to determine first what percentage of their income they will give to the Lord and then to translate that percentage into an amount.*
15. *Planning our giving can help to combat haphazard left-over giving.*
16. *The example that others set can assist Christians in their giving. Pastors themselves may well be a prime example for their members.*
17. *Those who lead stewardship endeavors need to be mature Christians, well respected by their brothers and sisters in faith.*
18. *God promises to reward faithful giving. Pastors need not hesitate to point to such promises. But at the same time they will want to continue to focus their members' eyes of faith on the cross and empty tomb as the motivation for godly giving.*
19. *"Need giving" can be properly understood as Christians exercising careful stewardship of their resources. It is imperative that congregations and church bodies be wise stewards of the gifts of God's people and that they communicate clearly how people's offerings will be used.*
20. *The careful way by which Pastor Paul organized the offering for the saints in Jerusalem demonstrates the value of carrying out congregational and synodical stewardship endeavors in an orderly and organized way. Annual stewardship "programs," together with ongoing stewardship training, can help a congregation do just that.*

## YEAR OF JUBILEE

Consider an Old Testament history lesson, which is biblical, practical, and I pray, most personal! It certainly illustrates the theme of this Convention, **ALL WE HAVE—A TRUST FROM THEE**.

God required His Old Testament people to celebrate certain years by glorifying Him for His wonderful works. Every 7<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> years were to be special events in their lives. They were times to give proper praise to God. Given at Mt. Sinai, this practice anticipated the time when the Israelites would enter the Promised Land. When they settled there, the land was to be given a Sabbath rest. Just as man worked for 6 days and rested on the 7<sup>th</sup>, so the land was to be tilled for 6 years and be allowed to lie fallow in the 7<sup>th</sup> year. During that time even the orchards and vineyards were to remain untended.

By giving the land a year of rest, the people recognized it as a gift from God. In fact, the sabbatical year underscored that God is the Provider of ALL things, because they needed to depend upon His blessings in order to take a year off. It was a reminder that, although we work hard, it is God Who actually provides; and our chief purpose in life is not to accumulate material wealth and possessions or a long list of impressive accomplishments, but rather to glorify God. So every 7<sup>th</sup> year was a sabbatical year, and after 7 sabbatical years, the 50<sup>th</sup> year was to be a **Year of Jubilee**. The name **jubilee** probably comes from the Hebrew word for *ram's horn*, which was used to proclaim the beginning of the year on the Day of Atonement. Like the

sabbatical year, the **Year of Jubilee** was to be holy to the Lord, and the land was to lie fallow. It was called *the Year of Liberty* by Ezekiel, because all land returned to its original owner, and all slaves were set free.

The Year of Jubilee, coming right after a Sabbath year, meant the land lay fallow 2 years in a row. God, however, promised that the 6<sup>th</sup> year's harvest would be so blessed that it would produce a food supply adequate for those extra 2 years. (Note how God was teaching His people to trust in Him! Reminds us of the manna in the wilderness.)

The basic theme of the **Year of Jubilee** was **FREEDOM**. In this year the Israelites were reminded they had been slaves in Egypt, but that God had liberated them by His almighty power. They were free, living in their own land, which actually belonged to God, Who was letting them use and enjoy it.

But liberty was not license. They were not free to worship other gods. Nor were they free to set their hearts on what this world had to offer. Their hearts and minds were to be devoted to the Lord. They were to reflect especially on the Covenant, the solemn agreement the Lord had made with them. By means of the Year of Jubilee, the Lord clearly reasserted His OWNERSHIP of the land and emphasized the importance of keeping it holy. In turn, the laws of the Year of Jubilee reminded the Israelites they were to trust the God who had delivered them.

What a test to the faith of God's people, to trust in God's rich blessings for 6 years, depending upon Him also to provide for the year when there would be no harvest. The Year of Jubilee was clearly a time for faith in God's promises to provide. And behind every material blessing was a spiritual blessing. What a lesson in Christian stewardship!

## A STEWARD'S "FINAL GIFT"

As we consider the entire life of a Christian steward, it is good to be reminded that each day we live is one day closer to the time our Lord calls us home to heaven. (Our Deferred Giving Counselor would never forgive me if I did not mention this area of stewardship!) I share more words of Pastor Ron Muetzel from his Symposium essay.

*I state the obvious when I say that all of us will die. As that happens, an enormous amount of wealth will be transferred in what is called a person's "final gift." I believe it is important to challenge God's people not to operate with the world's concern as their giving principle. God's people need to be asking themselves whether the best disposition of assets at death is to enrich their children. (They may decide that it is important to pass everything to their children. But the question needs to be raised.) Or, would it be better to direct a substantial portion of their estate, perhaps all of it, to support the work of the gospel? It isn't unusual for people to be influenced by the tithe even in their estate planning. They figure that leaving 10% of their estate for gospel work is more than adequate; the rest should go to their heirs. Once again, Scripture does not prescribe a percentage distribution for our estates. Bequests to children, relatives, friends and other entities may be appropriate. But many of God's people could give gospel ministry higher priority in their final gift.*

*Of course, another option is to give our wealth generously for gospel work before we die. I have a rather wealthy and very generous friend who says it is his goal to die penniless. How he expects to accomplish that is his wife's concern!*

## CONCLUSION

The Rev. George M. Orvick, in his *President's Message* to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in June of 1999, presented *The Challenge of Stewardship*. It is to our benefit to hear and to apply his message today. It serves as a great summary, exhortation, and conclusion of this essay to the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the ELS.

*All Christians are stewards, that is, managers of the time, talents and treasures that the Lord has given to each one of us. In today's busy society the management of our time has become an increasingly difficult task. Years ago when the book "Future Shock" was published it pointed out that time would become an even more important commodity than money. In spite of all the new labor saving devices we seem to be busier than ever. A person therefore needs to plan. We need to set aside definite amounts of time for our daily devotions, for our family, for our work, for our church activities, for recreation, etc. Without such management we can so easily leave out important matters. Our spiritual life can be neglected, our family life can suffer, and our marriages can be endangered. Stewardship is absolutely necessary!*

*Likewise the stewardship of our treasures is important. We need to be good managers of our earthly possessions. Each person needs to make a plan for what he will give to carry on the work of the congregation and the work of the synod. It is a responsibility that the Lord has laid upon us. Likewise a congregation should have a budget so that all needs are met. Each congregation has an obligation to support the synod. At the beginning of a fiscal year the congregation should plan its budget and include a definite percentage or amount for the Lord's work away from home. This is what a synod is for, namely that we can do work together. Together we can send out missionaries. Together we can operate a college and seminary. Together we can help our Christian day schools and support youth work. For the last ten years giving to the synod has shown no increase. With the inflation and the growth we are having it would seem that the offerings for synodical work would also grow. We ask each delegate here at this convention to examine his own congregation's record and to go home and discuss it in council and voters' meetings when the next year's budget is proposed. Place an amount in the budget as you would any other expense. Have the treasurer send that to the synod just as he pays the pastor's salary or the heat and light bill. This is good management and careful stewardship. Let's see what we can do together for the Lord. This is what it means to belong to a synod, namely, that we walk together with others and unite with them in carrying out work that we could not do by ourselves." (Synod Report, 1999, p. 19)*

Do we trust God to take Him at His Word? That is the essence of Christian stewardship! It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit through the means of grace, comfort and strengthen us with the assurance of forgiveness, life and salvation through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived, died and rose again for our justification.

As Christian stewards, we dedicate our lives in service to our Triune God, our Maker, our Owner, our Provider, our Redeemer, in the confidence of knowing that **ALL WE HAVE IS A TRUST FROM GOD**. As Christian stewards we sing with our lives and with our lips, this theme song,

*We give Thee but Thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou bless-est us,  
To thee our first fruits give!*

(TLH 441, st. 1, 2)

***Soli Deo Gloria***



## REPORTS AND ACTION

*SYNODICAL MEMBERSHIP  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution 1: Membership Application of Pastor**

WHEREAS, The following pastor has been recommended by the faculty and approved by the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,  
WHEREAS, It has been established in his application for synodical membership that the requirements of the synodical constitution have been met, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Brian Klebig of New Life Lutheran Church, Sebring, Florida, be received into permanent membership of the ELS.

**Resolution 2: Membership Application of Pastor**

WHEREAS, The following pastor has been recommended by the faculty and approved by the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, and,  
WHEREAS, It has been established in his application for synodical membership that the requirements of the synodical constitution have been met, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Harvey Boyd Longshore III, pastor of Forest Lutheran Church, Forest City, and Zion Lutheran Church, Thompson, Iowa, be received into permanent membership of the ELS.

**Resolution 3: Membership Application of Pastor for emeritus status**

WHEREAS, The Reverend James Olsen has requested the status of pastor emeritus, and,  
WHEREAS, He has been transferred to the ELS by the officials of the WELS, and,  
WHEREAS, He has met all qualifications for being listed on the clergy roster of the ELS as pastor emeritus, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend James Olsen be included on the clergy roster of the ELS as pastor emeritus.

**Resolution 4: Membership Application of Pastor reinstatement**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Joseph Burkhardt has requested reinstatement on the clergy roster of the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, It has been established by colloquy of March 24, 2009, and by application for synodical membership that the requirements of the synodical constitution have been met, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Joseph Burkhardt, pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon, be received into permanent membership of the ELS.

**Resolution 5: Membership Application of Teacher**

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald S. Weston, teacher at Grace Lutheran School, Vero Beach, Florida, has requested the status of permanent membership of the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, He has accepted a call to be a teacher at Grace Lutheran School, Vero Beach, Florida, and,  
WHEREAS, Mr. Weston unconditionally subscribes to the teachings and constitution of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. Donald S. Weston be received into permanent membership in the ELS.

**Resolution 6: Membership Application of Teacher**

WHEREAS, Mr. Timothy Schubkegel, principal at Holy Cross Lutheran School, Madison, Wisconsin, has requested the status of permanent membership of the ELS, and,

WHEREAS, He has accepted a call to be principal at Holy Cross Lutheran, Madison, Wisconsin, and,  
WHEREAS, Mr. Schubkegel unconditionally subscribes to the teachings and constitution of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. Timothy Schubkegel be received into permanent membership in the ELS.

#### **Resolution 7: Membership Application of Pastor transfer from WELS**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Shawn E. Kauffeld serves both a WELS (St. John's) and an ELS (St. Katherine's) congregation in Menomonie, Wisconsin, and,  
WHEREAS, He has requested transfer from membership and clergy roster of the WELS to membership and inclusion on the clergy roster of the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, He has been transferred to the ELS by the officials of the WELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Shawn Kauffeld, pastor of St. Katherine's and St. John's Lutheran Churches, Menomonie, Wisconsin, be received into permanent membership of the ELS.

#### **Resolution 8: Membership Application of Congregation**

WHEREAS, It has been established that Ascension Lutheran Church of St. Helens, Oregon, in its application for synodical membership, has met the requirements of the constitution of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Helens, Oregon, be received into membership in the ELS.

#### **Resolution 9: Congregation Constitution Revision**

WHEREAS, The revised constitution of First Trinity Lutheran Church of Marinette, Wisconsin, has undergone proper synodical review, and,  
WHEREAS, It has been found to have met the requirements of the constitution of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the revised constitution of First Trinity Lutheran Church, Marinette, Wisconsin, be approved by the ELS.

#### **Resolution 10: Application of Pastor to Continue on the Clergy Roster**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Carlton Sielaff has requested to remain as a member on the clergy roster of the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, He has met all qualifications for being listed on the clergy roster of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Carlton Sielaff continue to be on the clergy roster of the ELS.

#### **Resolution 11: Application of Pastor to Continue on the Clergy Roster**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Greg Sahlstrom has requested to remain as a member on the clergy roster of the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, He has met all qualifications for being listed on the clergy roster of the ELS, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Reverend Greg Sahlstrom continue to be on the clergy roster of the ELS.

*CREDENTIALS*  
*ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution 1: Excuses of pastors: non-attendance**

WHEREAS, Excuses for absence from the 2009 Synod Convention have been received from the following pastors: Joseph Abrahamson, Paul Anderson, Henry Gieschen, Mark Grubbs, Matt Luttman, Mark Rogers, Andrew Schmidt, Fred Schmugge and Thomas Smuda therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

**Resolution 2: Excuses of congregations: non-attendance**

WHEREAS, Our Savior Lutheran Church (Lakeland, Florida), Peace Lutheran Church (Lakeland, Florida), Our Savior Lutheran Church (Naples, Florida), Trinity Lutheran Church (Calmar, Iowa), Faith Lutheran Church (Medford, Oregon), Our Savior's Lutheran Church (Elderon, Wisconsin), Our Savior Lutheran Church (Bishop, California) and Pinewood Lutheran Church (Burlington, Massachusetts) have submitted excuses for not sending delegates to this convention, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

**Resolution 3: Excuses of congregations: partial representation**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following churches be excused for sending only one delegate to the convention: Faith Lutheran Church (Clara City, Minnesota) and Trinity Lutheran Church (Sebastian, Florida).

**Resolution 4: Excuses of pastors: late arrival**

WHEREAS, Excuses for late arrival to the 2009 Synod Convention have been received from Jerry Gernander and Thomas Heyn, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

**Resolution 5: Excuse of delegate: late arrival**

WHEREAS, An excuse for late arrival to the 2009 Synod Convention has been received from Glen Hansen, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That he be excused.

**Resolution 6: Excuses of pastors: early departure**

WHEREAS, Excuses for early departure from the 2009 Synod Convention have been received from the following pastors: Cory Hahnke, Daniel Larson, James Olsen, Andrew Palmquist and Joel Willitz, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

**Resolution 7: Excuses of delegates: early departure**

WHEREAS, Excuses for early departure from the 2009 Synod Convention has been received from Greg Gilbertson, Scott Preuss, and Richard Riese, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That they be excused.

## **REPORT OF THE DOCTRINE COMMITTEE**

The message of the Gospel is God revealed in the cross. Luther reminds us that, "He who does not know Christ does not know God hidden in suffering.... God can be found only in suffering and the cross" (LW 31:53). This is the theology of the cross which is the heart

and core of the Scripture, as St. Paul writes, “For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1 Corinthians 2:2). Every aspect of Lutheran theology is influenced by the theology of the cross. God is not to be sought in the great and spectacular things of this world but in the humble child in the manger and in the crucified one. Salvation is not accomplished through powerful events in the eyes of the world. God chose not to accomplish redemption through His bare majesty and power. Instead salvation was accomplished in the death of God and in His seeming defeat on the cross.

The channels of God’s salvation are not to be found in magnificent signs or in things that the human mind would expect or understand. Rather the means of grace are a seemingly insignificant book, a palm-full of water, and some bread and wine. God chose to hide His power in these insignificant things. The church is not a great and powerful outward organization as many think today. The church is found in the insignificant gathering around the means of grace.

The theology of the cross also affects the life of the Christian. The Christian should not expect that his life will always be outwardly easy. God is not closest to us in peace and leisure but in the suffering of the cross. The Christian’s life is always at its best under the cross because his gracious Father is guiding his life. Even through the burdens and struggles (*Anfechtung*) of life, God is working for his ultimate good (Romans 8:28).

This truth our great God has revealed to us in His inerrant and life-giving Word. It is our purpose as a synod and as a Doctrine Committee to continue in that Word so that we are indeed His disciples (John 8:31). We desire to confess boldly the truth of His Word so that more and more may know the joy of salvation, and we desire to defend it from attacks on every side.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Doctrine Committee consists of Prof. Allen Quist, the Rev. Thomas Rank, Mr. Paul Tweit, the Rev. David Jay Webber, the Rev. Paul Zager, Prof. Erling Teigen, and Prof. Gaylin Schmeling. The Doctrine Committee’s three regular meetings were devoted to the consideration of questions and other matters referred to it by the synodical president, the chairman of the committee, and groups or other individuals within the synod.

## **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFESSIONAL FORUM**

The biennial meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum (ELCF) was held on October 20–21, 2008, in Mankato, Minnesota. The forum, consisting of twelve representatives of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and twelve representatives of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), is intended to cultivate and preserve the fellowship enjoyed by those two synods. The doctrinal subcommittee of the forum (consisting of two members from each synod) naturally discusses primarily doctrinal matters in its divisional session, and then joins the other divisions in a plenary session that gives attention to reports from all the divisions of the forum.

## **COMMISSION ON CHURCH AND STATE**

The 2008 Synod Convention resolved that the memorial concerning a commission on church and state be referred to both the Doctrine Committee and the Synod Review Committee for study and possible recommendations to the 2009 convention (2008 *Synod Report*, p. 159). After considerable study of the memorial, the Doctrine Committee passed a resolution stating that it would refer this memorial to the Synod Review Committee, noting that the Doctrine Committee has no theological issues regarding such a proposal.



## THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE WELS

The issue of women communing women was discussed at the Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Forum on October 16–17, 2006. There were subsequent teleconferences of the subcommittee of the two theological commissions. During this time a statement was formulated that the WELS COP adopted on March 27, 2007. Much of this statement was a joint effort of President John Moldstad and President Karl Gurgel (for the full statement see 2008 *Synod Report*, p. 81).

The statement lists several areas of concern, including that of proper spiritual care of communicants and that of causing confusion about the role of women in the public ministry, recognizing that “the logical inference from the study of pertinent passages of Scripture leads us to conclude that the administration of communion is usually one of the responsibilities of the overseeing minister of the church (1 Corinthians 4:1), and this oversight position for congregations is restricted to males (e.g. 1 Timothy 2:11–12, 1 Timothy 3:1ff).” It then concludes by stating: “For these above reasons, we conclude that the practice of women privately or publicly distributing the Lord’s Supper to women is something from which we will refrain.”

The 2007 Synod Convention resolved “That we rejoice in the WELS COP statement ‘Concerning Women Administering Communion to Women,’ as a demonstration of unity in practice that exists between our two synods in this matter, and, ... That the Doctrine Committee be directed to continue its discussion with the WELS on the matter of women communing women and related issues, clarifying terms and seeking agreement concerning the meaning of the proof passages which prohibit the practice of women officiating at services of Holy Communion” (2007 *Synod Report*, p. 62).

Following the directive of the 2007 Synod Convention, the Doctrine Committee scheduled a meeting with the WELS CICR to discuss these matters. This meeting occurred on September 28, 2007, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Here papers were presented by both committees. These papers centered on the question of whether there is historical and exegetical basis for not allowing a woman to commune a woman. From these discussions it was evident that this was not a practice promoted by our WELS brethren. It was agreed that the CICR of WELS and the Doctrine Committee would meet again on September 26, 2008, to continue discussion on clarifying terms and seeking agreement concerning the meaning of proof passages which prohibit the practice of women officiating at services of Holy Communion. The 2008 Synod Convention expressed its thankfulness for the fraternal discussions and encouraged them to continue (2008 *Synod Report*, p. 86).

At the meeting on September 26, 2008, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, papers were presented by Prof. John Brenner and Rev. John Vieths for the WELS and by Prof. Erling Teigen, Mr. Allen Quist, Rev. Paul Zager, and Rev. Thomas Rank for the ELS. In the afternoon session, there was discussion on questions that the two commissions raised. In this session, Pres. Mark Schroeder of the WELS gave the assurance that the WELS continues to abide by the COP statement, “Concerning Women Administering Communion to Women” of March 27, 2007. A meeting is planned for September 25, 2009, where the WELS CICR will have an opportunity to respond formally to the papers given by the ELS in 2008 and the ELS DC will have an opportunity to respond to the papers given by the CICR members. There is one paper by a WELS presenter, which was not able to be delivered because of time restraints, that will be presented in 2009. Also there will be informational material presented by both of the theological commissions.

## CONFESSIOAL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFERENCE CONVENTION

The year 2008 marked the fifteenth anniversary of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC), founded in 1993 in Oberwesel, Germany. The anniversary convention

was held in Kiev, Ukraine, June 3–5, 2008. “Make Known God’s Manifold Wisdom” was the theme for this anniversary celebration. This topic was discussed in five essays presented by men from the various church bodies that make up the CELC. The CELC was established as the spiritual heir of the Synodical Conference. The purpose of the CELC has been to preserve the doctrine of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions in our midst and to proclaim the message of salvation in Christ throughout the world. The CELC has done this through mutual encouragement and strengthening of the member churches. All the participants were filled with gratitude and thankfulness to the Lord that He has preserved His Word in its truth and purity in our midst and we pray that He will continue to be with us through Word and Sacrament in the future.

In addition to the essays at the conference, there was discussion of a dispute resolution policy, global theological education, and the work of the Theological Commission. Although the CELC has been spared from disharmony between its member churches, a dispute resolution policy was adopted by the convention, prayerfully that it never be needed.

The convention adopted a proposal for the establishment of the Theological Education—Transfer and Augmentation Commission (THETA Commission). The THETA Commission’s purpose is to share resources among our CELC seminaries and help those institutions to further develop their faculties. The commission is made up of the following men: Prof. Kenneth Cherney (WELS), Prof. Salimo Hachibamba (Lutheran Church of Central Africa—Zambia), Prof. David Haeuser (Peruvian Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Church), Prof. John Vogt (Ukrainian Lutheran Church), and Dr. John Lawrenz (Asia Lutheran Seminary, Hong Kong).

In order that the essays presented at the triennial meetings might become available to a wider audience than just the participants at the conventions, the Theological Commission has been given the assignment to edit the essays of the previous conventions into booklet form. The commission produced and presented to the convention Article IV, “The Person and Work of Christ” in the series of booklets entitled *The Eternal Word: A Lutheran Confession for the Twenty-First Century*. Article I is a study of the doctrine of Holy Scripture, Article II of the doctrine of Justification, and Article III of the Work of the Holy Spirit.

The outgoing members of the Theological Commission, Dr. Gottfried Herrmann (Evangelisch-Lutherische Freikirche [ELFK]) and Prof. Salimo Hachibamba (Lutheran Church of Central Africa—Zambia), were thanked for their years of service. The new members of the Theological Commission are the Rev. Batson Beard Liwonde (Lutheran Church of Central Africa—Malawi) and the Rev. Andreas Drechsler (ELFK). These men make up the commission together with Prof. Lyle Lange, WELS; Prof. Gaylin Schmeling, ELS; the Rev. Takeshi Nadaira, Lutheran Evangelical Christian Church—Japan; and the Rev. Steven Petersen, CELC president, ex officio.

The election of officers took place at the convention. The present officers of the CELC are: the Rev. Steven Peterson (ELS), president; the Rev. Daniel Koelpin (WELS), vice-president; the Rev. Thomas Nass (WELS), secretary; and Dr. William Kessel (ELS) and the Rev. Wayne Mueller (WELS), planning committee.

A highlight of this anniversary convention was the acceptance into membership of the Igreja Luterana de Portugal (ILP, Lutheran Church of Portugal), which is now the twenty-first member of the CELC. The Lutheran Church of Portugal is a church body which is making a strong confessional stand in this predominantly Roman Catholic country. The ILP has two congregations and several preaching stations served by the Rev. Artur Villares. This church body has been in contact with the WELS for a number of years. At its 2007 convention, the WELS declared fellowship with the ILP. The Doctrine Committee of the ELS has reviewed the doctrinal statement of the ILP and found it to be in agreement with the Holy Scriptures

and the Lutheran Confessions. At its 2008 convention, the ELS officially declared fellowship with the ILP.

For more information about the CELC, visit the website: <[www.celc.info](http://www.celc.info)>.

## **THEOLOGICAL TRENDS**

The Doctrine Committee desires to keep abreast of doctrinal trends and issues within the church at large, e.g., homosexuality (in particular the February 2009 ELCA proposed social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust”), feminism, the “church growth” movement, the “emergent church” phenomenon, “contemporary worship” practices, etc. Therefore each member of the committee is assigned certain magazines, periodicals, and theological essays which he is to monitor for the committee and keep it informed concerning developments within the various church bodies. In addition to this, the Rev. Thomas Rank has lead the committee in its study of Bible translations and Mr. Allen Quist is leading the committee in its study of postmodernism in society.

The Lord’s injunction to His people is to hold fast to and to teach all things which He has commanded them. Let us therefore continue to pray to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ, that His Holy Spirit may lead us into His Word and truth and preserve us therein.

Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;  
Curb those who fain by craft and sword  
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son  
And set at naught all He hath done.  
(ELH 589:1)

*The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, chairman*  
*The Rev. Paul Zager, secretary*

## **DOCTRINE**

### **ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

#### **Resolution 1 : Regarding the Role of Women in the WELS**

WHEREAS, The WELS Council of Presidents (COP) on March 27, 2007, issued a statement, “Concerning Women Administering Communion to Women,” and,

WHEREAS, The discussions between the CICR of WELS and the Doctrine Committee of the ELS regarding the issue of women communing women are ongoing, and,

WHEREAS, There is another meeting scheduled for September 25, 2009, for further discussion of this issue, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the WELS COP statement, “Concerning Women Administering Communion to Women,” printed in the 2008 *Synod Report* be republished in the 2009 *Synod Report*, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourage these discussions between the CICR and ELS Doctrine Committee to continue in a fraternal spirit toward a Scripturally sound conclusion.

#### **Resolution 2 : Regarding the CELC Convention**

WHEREAS, The fifth triennial meeting of the CELC was held in 2008 in Kiev, Ukraine, and,

WHEREAS, The goal of the CELC is to preserve the doctrine of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions in our midst and to proclaim the message of salvation in Christ throughout the world, and,

WHEREAS, The CELC established the THETA Commission to share resources and develop seminary faculties among its member church bodies, and,  
 WHEREAS, The Theological Commission of the CELC has been given the assignment to edit the essays of previous conventions and prepare them in booklet form for wider publication, and,  
 WHEREAS, The CELC accepted the Lutheran Church of Portugal into its membership after finding its doctrine to be in agreement with the Holy Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, therefore,  
 A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank the CELC for its work in establishing the THETA Commission, and,  
 B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourage the Theological Commission of the CELC in its efforts to edit the essays of previous conventions and to publish them in booklet form, and,  
 C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod rejoice with the CELC that it welcomed the Lutheran Church of Portugal into membership.

### **Resolution 3: Regarding Current Theological Trends**

WHEREAS, The Doctrine Committee continues to study current theological trends, and,  
 WHEREAS, a sound understanding of Christian doctrine is necessary for all Christians to be prepared in season and out of season and thus able to identify sound biblical truths and to refute false teachings, therefore,  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod urge the Doctrine Committee to continue studying current theological trends and to disseminate pertinent summary information through the existing synod publications and website.

### **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Council of Presidents: Concerning Women Administering Communion to Women**

While Scripture does not address the specific action of a woman administering communion to another woman, we will refrain from this practice for the following reasons:

- Concern that speaking of such action as permissible without confining it to unusual circumstances, especially cases of casuistry, causes confusion about the role of women in public ministry, and it may appear that women are now functioning in a role historically assigned to the pastoral ministry. In addition, historically women communing women has not been a practice within the Evangelical Lutheran Church.
- Concern for the proper spiritual care of communicants; the logical inference from the study of pertinent passages of Scripture leads us to conclude that the administration of communion is usually one of the responsibilities of the overseeing minister of the church (1 Corinthians 4:1), and this oversight position for congregations is restricted to males (e.g., 1 Timothy 2:11-12, 1 Timothy 3:1ff). This does not mean that in every case only the overseeing ministers are the administrators of the sacrament; properly trained male leaders in congregations may, when properly called and under appropriate supervision and when the need arises, serve as administrators.
- Concern about whether others have sufficient theological training and ongoing experience to preside at the celebration of the Lord's

Supper; generally the one trained as the overseeing minister is entrusted evangelically to determine whether a communicant in a worthy manner is receiving the Lord's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

- Concern that the reception of the Lord's Supper not be regarded as an emergency situation; unlike Baptism, the Lord's Supper is not an emergency sacrament, and generally sacraments are administered by the overseeing minister; we do acknowledge, however, that there may be an exceptional case of casuistry, in which the law of love would require a woman to administer communion to another Christian, so as not to deprive a communicant of grace and comfort.
- Concern that circumstances may arise in which such a practice would blur the biblical roles of man and woman.
- Concern that when the Lord's Supper is offered both male and female communicants, generally, should be welcome to attend. The gender of the administrant should not be considered as a reason for prohibiting someone from taking the sacrament.

The above remarks are not to be understood as implying that the efficacy of the sacrament depends on the kind of call held by the administrant.

For these above reasons, we conclude that the practice of women privately or publicly distributing the Lord's Supper to women is something from which we will refrain.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND PRESIDENT OF BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

### **BOARD OF REGENTS**

Members of the board during the past year: The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr., McFarland, Wisconsin, chairman; Mr. Harold Theiste, Pinehurst, North Carolina, vice-chairman; The Rev. Kenneth V. Schmidt, West Bend, Wisconsin, secretary; Dr. Willis Anthony, St. Peter, Minnesota; The Rev. Mark Bartels, Madison, Wisconsin; Mr. Paul T. Chamberlin, South Chatham, Massachusetts; Mr. Lyle Fahning, Burnsville, Minnesota; The Rev. Herbert Huhnerkoch, Kissimmee, Florida; Mr. James Minor, Plymouth, Minnesota; Mr. Roland Reinholtz, The Villages, Florida; The Rev. Dr. J. Kincaid Smith, Mankato, Minnesota; and The Rev. Joel Willitz, Bridgeport, Michigan.

Advisory Members: The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Mankato, Minnesota, President of the ELS; The Rev. Lawrence Burgdorf, St. Louis, Missouri; and Mr. William Overn, Eagan, Minnesota.

At its February meeting, the board accepted the resignation of Chairman John A. Moldstad, Sr., and conveyed its sincere gratitude for his more than 30 years of service on Bethany's Board of Regents, 19 of which he served as chairman.

The Board of Regents has appointed Rev. Joel Willitz of Bridgeport, Michigan, to serve a three-year term as a Type B member beginning in June 2009. The synod is asked to ratify this election at the 2009 convention.

# THE FACULTY AND STAFF

Bethany Lutheran College and Theological Seminary are thankful that the Lord continues to provide talented and committed men and women who embrace the mission of the college and seminary and serve as faculty and staff. We praise God for sending us these dedicated workers. During a special service on February 9, 2009, the college and seminary observed the following anniversaries:

Mr. Greg Costello, Controller	30 years
Prof. Dennis Marzolf, Music	25 years
Mr. Art Westphal, Chief Advancement Officer	25 years
Mrs. Kathy Forsberg, Assistant Librarian, Cataloging	20 years
Mrs. Julie Stelter, Cashier/Accounts Receivable	20 years
Prof. Ramona Czer, English/Communication	15 years
Mr. Mike Fletcher, Superintendent of Buildings	15 years
Mr. Rick Jeddeloh, Head Coach, Men's Basketball and Men's/Women's Golf	15 years
Mr. Dan Johnson, Head Groundskeeper	15 years
Mr. Todd Marzinske, Manager of Network Systems	15 years
Prof. Andrew Overn, Art	15 years
Mr. Brian Strom, Head Housekeeper	15 years
Mrs. Joni Bode, Assistant to the Registrar	10 years
Mrs. Paulette Tonn Booker, Manager of Employee Relations	10 years
Dr. John Boubel, History	10 years
Mr. Jon Geistfeld, Housekeeping Technician	10 years
Prof. Lars Johnson, English/Communication	10 years
Dr. Matthew Kuster, Biology/Physical Education	10 years
Dr. Angela Murilla, Communication	10 years
Dr. Jonas Nissen, Communication	10 years
Dr. Matthew Riehl, Chemistry	10 years
Mrs. Lisa Shubert, Manager of Administrative Computing	10 years
Mr. Eryk Wangness, Maintenance Technician	10 years
Mr. John Winch, Maintenance Technician/Chief Boiler Operator	10 years
Mr. Jeffrey Younge, Director of Financial Aid	10 years

This past academic year Laura Buch, Mathematics, joined our faculty with Tanya Homan, Admissions Counselor, and Dustin Lange, Admissions Counselor, joining our professional staff.

# ENROLLMENT

This year we were again blessed with record enrollment. In addition, 119 received their Bachelor of Arts degree representing 16 of the 19 majors we now offer.

The 2008–2009 enrollment was as follows:

	1st Semester	2nd Semester
Freshmen	208	165
Sophomores	167	135
Juniors	117	119
Seniors	94	113
Part-Time	12	13
PSEOP	12	10
Non-Degree	9	7
	619	562

We continue to give thanks that we have the opportunity to provide a Christ-centered education for these students.

## **CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROJECTS**

We received final word August 2008 from the NCAA that both Bethany and the athletic conference in which we compete, the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference, were granted full membership in NCAA Division III. We are pleased that our student athletes now have the opportunity to compete at the national baccalaureate level.

In October of 2008, a team of consultant evaluators from The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, our regional accrediting organization, conducted a comprehensive campus visit at the college. In February 2009, the commission took official action on the team report resulting in continued accreditation status for Bethany.

## **PHYSICAL PLANT**

On June 15, 2008, we broke ground for our new academic building, Rudolph E. Honsey Hall. This 17 million-dollar project is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2010, and is designed to serve four academic divisions. Honsey Hall is scheduled to be completed next spring and will be available for student and faculty use beginning fall semester of 2010.

We are thankful that we are able to regularly make improvements to our facilities. Visitors regularly comment on the beauty of the campus and the careful attention paid to buildings and grounds maintenance. This summer the practice soccer field was rebuilt with improved drainage, new sod, and irrigation.

## **GRANTS**

Financial support from a variety of grants continues to provide assistance to carry on the mission Bethany Lutheran College. We received a generous grant from the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation to continue to enhance our programmatic offerings and physical facilities. We are thankful for their generous support.

We are grateful that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans continues to provide matching funds to its members who support the college. This year Thrivent Financial for Lutherans provided \$79,942.50 in matching support. In addition many corporations match their employees' contributions to the college through their corporate foundations. These funds maximize the donors' gifts.

The Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary made a commitment of \$15,000 to several projects that have a direct impact on our students. This group has provided financial, emotional and spiritual support to our students for many years. We are very thankful to this group of generous women.

## **ESTATES**

The college gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following estates received through December 31, 2008:

Anderson, M. Calvin J.	\$217,747.07
Becker, Charlotte F.	\$135,000.00
Clark, Dorothy E.	\$3,120.30
Geistfeld, Viola O.	\$11,173.22
Otto, Marjorie H.	\$2,885.01
Ross, Carol	\$2,000.00
Schwan, Robert W.	\$108,297.96

Seime, DeLores E.  
Stille, Edith E.  
Stille, Raymond A.

\$559.54  
\$98,280.00  
\$500,000.00

## CONCLUSION

The Lord has richly blessed Bethany Lutheran College during the past year. We are humbled by the generous financial support, prayers and words of encouragement of alumni and friends. We are grateful to have the opportunity to provide a Christ-centered education to give our students the foundation needed as they leave campus to pursue their vocation of choice.

*Mr. Harold A. Theiste, vice-chairman*  
*The Rev. Kenneth V. Schmidt, secretary*  
*Dan R. Bruss, president*

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" (Isaiah 52:7). These words of the prophet Isaiah describe the beauty of the Gospel ministry. This ministry is beautiful because of the message which it proclaims. That message is centered in the God-Man Jesus Christ and His redemptive work for our salvation. He loved us so much that He lived a holy life in our place and gave Himself into death as the one sufficient ransom to free us from the domination of sin, death, and the devil. He took upon Himself our sin, our death, and our hell so that we could have His righteousness, life, and heaven. This wonderful treasure is offered to us in the means of grace, the Word and the Sacraments, and is received by faith alone in Him as the Savior which faith is worked, strengthened, and preserved through these same means of grace.

Our Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary continues to play a vital role in preparing men to go forth to proclaim the beautiful message of the Gospel, which alone can bring true peace and joy to soothe the troubled souls. Each year we continue to send forth more workers who have been trained to preach the blessed truths of God's Word. The Lord permitted us another school year where men were trained for this blessed ministry. May our gracious Lord continue to bless our seminary to the glory of His name and the welfare of precious blood-bought souls.

## BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board of Regents is responsible for the operations of the seminary. The board met quarterly during the year and the president of the seminary submitted a report to each meeting. The members of the board are: The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., McFarland, Wisconsin, chairman; Mr. Harold Theiste, Pinehurst, North Carolina, vice-chairman; the Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, West Bend, Wisconsin, secretary; the Rev. Mark Bartels, Madison, Wisconsin; the Rev. Herbert Huhnerkoch, Kissimmee, Florida; the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith, Mankato, Minnesota; the Rev. Joel Willitz, Frankenmuth, Michigan; Dr. Willis Anthony, St. Peter, Minnesota; Mr. Paul Chamberlin, South Chatham, Massachusetts; Mr. Lyle Fahning, Burnsville, Minnesota; Mr. James Minor, Plymouth, Minnesota; and Mr. Roland Reinholdt, Middleton, Wisconsin. By virtue of office, the president of Bethany Lutheran College, Inc., the Rev. John Moldstad, Mankato, Minnesota, serves as a member of the Board of Regents. The Rev. Lawrence Burgdorf, Earth City, Missouri, and Mr. William Overn, Eagan, Minnesota, serve as advisory members to the board.



At its February meeting, the board accepted the resignation of Chairman John A. Moldstad, Sr., and conveyed its sincere gratitude for his more than thirty years of service on Bethany's Board of Regents, nineteen of which he served as chairman.

## **FACULTY**

The following professors taught in the seminary during the 2008–09 school year: Adolph Harstad, Michael Smith, Thomas Kuster, and Gaylin Schmeling. Professor Harstad leads our Old Testament studies and teaches Church History, Homiletics, and other practical courses. Professor Smith teaches our New Testament courses, Symbolics, Homiletics and other practical courses. Professor Kuster teaches Communication and Homiletics. President Schmeling teaches Church History, Dogmatics, Homiletics, and other practical courses.

Professor Smith served as guest lecturer at St. Sophia Seminary in Ternopil, Ukraine, May 18–29, 2009. He presented a course on the life of Christ.

The fall of 2008 Professor Harstad was on sabbatical preparing a Deuteronomy commentary for the Concordia Commentary series.

## **ENROLLMENT**

There were twenty-three students enrolled at the seminary in the 2008–09 academic year. It breaks down as follows: 6 juniors, 4 middlers, 9 seniors and 4 vicars. There are three international students. Kalyan Kumar Gollapalli and Pradeep Kumar Lingala are both from the Lutheran Mission of Salvation—India. Sung Gyu Choi is from East Seoul Canaan Church in South Korea. Those who were serving their vicarages: Christian Eisenbeis at King of Grace Lutheran Church, Waukon, Iowa; Peter Faugstad at Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington; Kyle Madson at St. John's Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth, Michigan; and Luke Ulrich at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albert Lea, Minnesota.

## **RECRUITMENT**

Although our synod is blessed with few vacancies at present and our seminary enrollment continues to grow, new pastors will be needed in the coming years. Our synod desires to begin new missions and continue to serve our present congregations. Therefore, the seminary continues to encourage men to consider the pastoral ministry but the support of our congregations and pastors is needed.

We urge pastors and laity to be recruiters for the seminary by encouraging promising young men to study for the pastoral ministry. St. Paul reminds us, "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?" (Romans 10:14–15). The gracious Savior who laid down His life for our salvation is calling for pastors to shepherd and nurture the flock purchased with His own blood.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

The seminary has recently established a Master of Arts degree in Lutheran Theological Studies. The purpose of studying for the Master of Arts in Lutheran Theological Studies (M.A.) is to acquire a general competence in Lutheran biblical and doctrinal theology. The M.A. is designed for laity. It is especially helpful for Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) Christians who seek to further their knowledge of Lutheran theology so that they may give appropriate leadership in their congregations and communities.

## ACTIVITIES

**Response to Child Abuse Seminar:** This seminar was held July 21–22, 2008 at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mankato, Minnesota. The purpose of this seminar was to develop effective responses by our called workers to the sin of child abuse in the parish. The seminar was presented in conjunction with the National Association to Prevent the Sexual Abuse of Children (NAPSAC).

**New Pastors Institute:** The institute was held August 4–5, 2008 in Eagan, Minnesota. The purpose of this institute was to assist and mentor our first-year pastors in the ongoing work of the ministry. It was a time to share the concerns and issues which face young pastors and to promote continued pastoral study.

**Reformation Lectures:** These lectures were held October 30–31, 2008. These lectures are sponsored jointly by Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. This was the forty-first in the series of annual Reformation Lectures which began in 1967. The theme of the lectures was **The Freedom of the Will in Three Reformations**. The titles and presenters were: *The Lutheran Reformation*, by Dr. Cameron MacKenzie, Ft. Wayne, Indiana; *The Radical Reformation*, by Prof. James Korthals, Mequon, Wisconsin; and *The Catholic Reformation*, by Dr. John Maxfield, St. Francis, Minnesota.

**Mission and Ministry:** An invitation was extended to our students to attend the annual mission and ministry seminar at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wisconsin, on February 3–5. The theme of the seminar was “Go and Make Disciples,” emphasizing home and world missions.

**Seminary Marriage & Parsonage Retreat:** The Seminary Marriage & Parsonage Retreat took place on February 20–21, 2009. Prof. Michael and Anita Smith gave a presentation on communication in the marriage relationship. The purpose of this seminar was to prepare the students and their families for life in the parsonage and to increase their awareness of Christian service.

**Senior Recognition Dinner:** This event was held on the evening of April 28, 2009. This is always a pleasant and relaxing evening for the students and staff.

**Vicar Workshop:** Our annual vicar workshop was held on Thursday, May 14, 2009. The returning vicars reported on certain phases of their vicarage. President John Moldstad spoke to the vicars concerning the pastor and his relationship to the synod. Brief presentations were also given on our synod’s pension fund, insurance plan, and deferred giving. The Call Service took place at 3:15 p.m. with the Rev. Steven Petersen preaching.

**Annual Pastors’ Institute:** A pastors’ institute was held May 21–22, 2009, at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth, Michigan. President Gaylin Schmeling gave a presentation on the history of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, entitled *Make Known God’s Manifold Wisdom*, and a presentation entitled *The Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*. The purpose of this institute is to provide continuing education for our pastors.

**Graduation:** The seminary graduation service was held on Synod Sunday, June 21, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Trinity Chapel. The Rev. Jonathan Madson was the preacher, President Gaylin Schmeling served as liturgist and the Rev. J. Kincaid Smith represented the Board of Regents. The following graduated from the seminary with a Master of Divinity degree: Christian Eisenbeis, Peter Faugstad, Kyle Madson and Luke Ulrich.

## LUTHERAN SYNOD QUARTERLY

The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* is the theological journal of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. The subscription price is \$20.00 per year and can be obtained by writing to Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, 6 Browns Court, Mankato, MN 56001. Past issues of the *Quarterly* are to be found on the Bethany Seminary website <[www.blts.edu/lsq](http://www.blts.edu/lsq)>.

## GRANTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will contribute fifty cents for every dollar members donate to the seminary to a limit of \$300 matching.

Each year there are corporations that match their employees' contributions to the seminary through their foundations. We are thankful for this added support.

Members of the ELS ladies' organizations have given support to the Seminary Fund, Scholarship Fund and Student Support Fund. This has been a wonderful blessing for our students. Thank you for all your help.

The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation supports the seminary in a significant way. Grants from the foundation have provided support for the seminary operations and for our seminarians and their families.

## LEGACIES AND GIFT ANNUITIES

The following legacies were received in fiscal year July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008:

Robert Weilage	\$ 5,000.00
Edith Miller	\$ 17,503.21
Helen O. Heidmann	\$ 1,000.00
Ann A. Christensen	\$ 9,129.45

## SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The Scholarship Endowment Funds continue to be a blessing to the seminary students. Several scholarship funds have been set up in memory of individuals and the annual dividends are used to help students with their tuition costs. The students are most appreciative of this financial assistance as they pursue their theological education. It is our concern that no one desiring to study for the ministry be denied a theological education for lack of funds. The present Scholarship Endowment Funds are: Merle Aasen; Otto and Dorothy Abrams; Herman and Evelyn Anderson; Joey and Trisha Anderson; John, Ethel and Rodney Arends; Robert, Flora, and Charlotte F. Becker; Edmund Bolstad; Kenneth and Audrey Bolstad; Gregory C. and Susan D. Bovid; Buelow-Kubiak; Nora Buffington; Larry and Jane Carlovsky; Arthur O. Carlsen; Glenn and Dorothy Collins; Mabel Dahlgren; Allen and Susan Daniels; Davis-Nelson; Robert and Betty Diesing; Roger and Lois Dohrmann; Stuart Dorr; John Dukleth Memorial; Keith and Claudia Eisberg; George and Dorothy Feil; Donald and Opal Hackbarth; Albert S. Hammer; Paul and Cordia Hasz; Hoiland Family; Lyle and Debby Hoverson; Lenwick and Glenna Hoyord; Ewald and Verda Kohlmeyer; Jens, Jerome, and Laverne Kvam; Ernest W. Larsen; Albin Levorson; George O. Lillegard; Harold and Ellen Loe; Gwenn and Sigfred Lysne; Juul B. Madson Memorial Fund for Excellence in New Testament Greek; Norman A. Madson, Sr.; William and Jean McMurdie; Clarence E. and June Labb Miller; Joe and Peggy Moll; Richard and Hazel Newgard; George Nygaard; Arleta M. Olson; Ordal; George and Ruth Orvick; Kenneth and Violet Peter; Emil and Martha Peterson; Timothy and Gail Peterson; Richard and Florence Rado; Chauncey and Enanda Reinertson; Roland and Lois Reinholtz; Richland Lutheran Church; Merrill and Dorothy Rope; Ronald and Gay Rose; Herbert, Linette and Grace Sahnaw; Edna May Scherzer-Getz; Eugene and Bertha Schiller; Gaylin and Rebecca Schmeling; Kenneth and Pat Schneider; Herb and Cathy Schulz; Alhert and Clara Strand; Thomas Stueck; Calhoun and Jean Sumrall; Timothy and Nancy Thiele; Milton E. Tweit; Jim and Juanita Walberg; Walker-Schneider; William and Eunice Wehrenberg; Whipple; and James and Carol Williams.

There is also a General Scholarship Fund to which individuals and organizations donate during the year and which is also used to render assistance to students in need.

## STUDENT HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The seminary assists students with their housing. This program is a great benefit for our students and their families as they prepare for the public ministry.

## SEMINARY ENDOWMENT FUND

A Seminary Endowment Fund has been established to be used for seminary needs. We want this fund to grow over the years and therefore we encourage our people to remember it. A bequest would certainly be an appropriate way to perpetuate the work of the seminary as it carries out its task of training pastors to proclaim the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*The Rev. Gaylin Schmeling, president*  
*The Rev. John Moldstad, Sr., chairman*  
*The Rev. Kenneth Schmidt, secretary*

### Bethany Lutheran College, Inc. Consolidating Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2008

	College	Seminary	Total
<b>REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>			
Tuition and Fees	\$ 10,059,903	\$ 147,400	\$ 10,207,303
Less: Scholarships and grants	(4,088,783)	(145,256)	(4,234,039)
Net tuition and fees	5,971,120	2,144	5,973,264
Government grants	148,541		148,541
Contributions	9,387,124	1,920,828	11,307,952
Endowment income	824,864	188,749	1,013,613
Endowment gains (losses)	(6,000,286)	(834,929)	(6,835,215)
Sales and services of student activities	125,172		125,172
Other sources	537,428	74,765	612,193
Sales and services of auxiliary enterprises	2,693,735	29,403	2,723,138
Adjustment of actuarial liability	(75,478)	(173,694)	(249,172)
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	13,612,220	1,207,266	14,819,486
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program expenses			
Instruction	5,080,244	525,894	5,606,138
Academic support	804,099		804,099
Student services	4,056,702	225,888	4,282,590
Auxiliary enterprises	2,955,524		2,955,524
Support expenses			
Institutional support	3,873,659	59,421	3,933,080
Allocable expenses			
Operation and maintenance of plant	1,637,374		1,637,374
Depreciation	1,826,408		1,826,408
Amortization	18,579		18,579
Interest	513,859		513,859
Less: Allocated expenses	(3,996,220)		(3,996,220)
Total Expenses	16,770,228	811,203	17,581,431
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	(3,158,008)	396,063	(2,761,945)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	80,204,182	8,430,518	88,634,700
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 77,046,174</u>	<u>\$ 8,826,581</u>	<u>\$ 85,872,755</u>

*HIGHER EDUCATION*  
*ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution 1: Thanks to College personnel**

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents, faculty, staff and administration of Bethany Lutheran College, and President Bruss, serve our synod faithfully, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank these people for their faithful service.

**Resolution 2: Appointment to the Board of Regents**

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents has appointed Rev. Joel Willitz of Bridgeport, Michigan, to serve a three-year term as a type B member of the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College, Inc., therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod ratify his appointment to the board.

**Resolution 3: Thanks for faithful stewardship demonstrated by our college**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod give thanks for the sound financial status of our college.

**Resolution 4: Thanks to supporting organizations of Bethany College**

WHEREAS, The Bethany Lutheran College Women's Auxiliary provides generous support to our college, and,  
WHEREAS, The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans have provided, and continue to provide, generous support to our college, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank these organizations for their support of Bethany Lutheran College.

**Resolution 5: Full membership in Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod recognize the admission of Bethany Lutheran College into Division III of the NCAA and commend those whose hard work made this possible.

**Resolution 6: Full accreditation of Bethany Lutheran College**

WHEREAS, The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools has granted Bethany Lutheran College its continued full accreditation status, and,  
WHEREAS, This accreditation status identifies Bethany Lutheran College as an institution of academic excellence, and,  
WHEREAS, This accreditation allows a Bethany education to be transferable to other colleges and universities, and,  
WHEREAS, The entire faculty, staff, administrators and students of Bethany Lutheran College worked diligently over two years toward the goal of continued full accreditation, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank and commend the institution for achieving this status.

**Resolution 7: Thanksgiving for blessings to Bethany Lutheran College**

WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed Bethany Lutheran College with continued support through estate planning, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod give thanks to the Lord for these faithful donors.

**Resolution 8: Thanks to supporting organizations of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary**

WHEREAS, ELS ladies' organizations provide generous support to our seminary, and,

WHEREAS, The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation has provided, and continues to provide generous support to our seminary, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank these organizations for their support of our seminary.

**Resolution 9: Thanks for faithful stewardship demonstrated by our seminary**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod give thanks for the sound financial status of our seminary.

**Resolution 10: Thanksgiving for blessings to Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary**

WHEREAS, The Lord has blessed Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary with continued support through estate planning, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod give thanks to the Lord for these faithful donors.

**Resolution 11: Hispanic outreach**

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the seminary and college be encouraged to continue studying the matter of Hispanic outreach, in consultation with the synod president, and deliver a report to the synod for the next convention, and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourage its young men who are considering the pastoral ministry to use opportunities for learning Spanish at their level of education.

**Resolution 12: Faithful service of the Rev. Raymond Branstad**

WHEREAS, The Reverend Raymond Branstad vigorously supported Christian education throughout his ministry, and,  
WHEREAS, He served as President of Bethany Lutheran College, 1970-78, and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary, 1970-76, and,  
WHEREAS, He served Bethany Lutheran College and Seminary as a member of the Board of Regents in various leadership capacities including secretary, vice-chairman and chairman for twenty-six years, and,  
WHEREAS, He was taken home to be with his Savior for eternity on April 1, 2009, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank the Lord for all of the blessings given His church through this faithful servant.

**Resolution 13: Faithful service of the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr.**

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College, Inc. has accepted the resignation of the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr. on account of illness, and,  
WHEREAS, The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr. served as professor and Dean of Students at Bethany Lutheran College, and served on the Board of Regents for thirty years and as chairman for nineteen years, therefore,  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank the Lord for all the blessings given His church through the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr., and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank the Rev. John A. Moldstad, Sr. for his faithful service.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS**

Jesus assigned the Church to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). The ELS Board for Home Missions serves the synod by overseeing our efforts to carry out that command in the United States. We are privileged to represent ELS members synod-wide in

establishing new congregations and working to enable them to become partners with their sister congregations in support of the Great Commission.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

The board is made up of the following members: the Rev. Dan Basel,\* chairman; Mr. Robert Smith,\* vice-chairman; the Rev. Richard Wiechmann, the Rev. Rod Flohr, secretary; Prof. Michael Smith, chaplain; Mr. Keith Duin, and Mr. Loren Meyer. Members marked with an asterisk (\*) also serve on the Trustees/Home Missions Sub-committee. Chairman Basel represents the board on the Planning and Coordinating Committee. Missions Counselor, the Rev. Steven Petersen, also attends board meetings.

## GENERAL 2008 WORK HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to regular quarterly board meetings, special meetings at the synod convention and pastoral conference, conference phone calls, visitations at mission congregations for consultation, exploration of potential sites for mission work, ongoing supervision of home mission through monthly pastoral and financial reports, etc., the following are highlights of work and blessings in 2008.

**February Discussion:** possible new work in Minnesota and Ohio; Board for Home Missions support for vicar-in-mission opportunities. **Resolutions:** signage at Farmington; kindergarten at Rogers; School-in-Mission block grant to Rogers; joint Call with King of Grace, Waukon, Iowa for vicar placement; eliminate 90-75-50% Capital Subsidy from Handbook to allow development of more manageable subsidy program.

**May Discussion:** vicar-in-mission; metropolitan mission possibilities; mission financing; Missions Counselor position; 2009 Winter Home Missions Seminar. **Resolutions:** commit \$20,000 to vicar-in-mission; decline grant request from Messiah, Omro, Wisconsin and encourage application of loan from Trustees; support summer vicar at Farmington, Minnesota; recommend loan of \$24,000 to Redeemer, Scottsdale, Arizona for roof repair; reverse mortgage loans must have Trustees' approval; thank Pastor Erwin Ekhooff for twenty-seven years of faithful service.

**August Discussion:** Metropolitan missions. **Resolutions:** D. Basel elected Chairman; explore the possibility of sharing the Missions Counselor position with Evangelism; \$4500 grant request from Peace, Kissimmee, Florida declined; \$10,000 loan request from Peace to be repaid in two years approved; report to each home mission the year-to-date funding and current total funding from synod each year as well as notation of contributions to synod; Board for Home Missions and Redeeming Grace leadership to discuss support and timetable.

**November Discussion:** new start options; future of Missions Counselor position. **Resolutions:** Board for Home Missions and Redeeming Grace, Rogers, Minnesota to share Quickbook accounting; decline invitations to start work in Ohio and Oregon; salary adjustment at Faith, Medford; housing allowances as applicable; regarding Missions Counselor position: the following resolution were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions and the Board for Foreign Missions share equally the Missions Counselor position to assist them in carrying out their duties, and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions is requesting increased attention from the Missions Counselor position due to its expanding role in the Thoughts of Faith, Inc., acquisition, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees make available to the Board for Home Missions up to \$30,000 to fund assistance of the Missions Counselor position for the period of November 2008 through June 2009 (No action by Trustees), and,

WHEREAS, The Missions Counselor position will, in all likelihood, cease to exist as it does at present when the synod acquires Thoughts of Faith, Inc., in June, 2009, and,

WHEREAS, Thereafter the Board for Home Missions would still require part-time manpower for carrying out many aspects of its work, and,  
WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism is also in need of part-time manpower in assisting pastors and congregations in the work of carrying out the Lord's Great Commission, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions develop a job description and guidelines for a new position that would serve both the Board for Home Missions and Board for Evangelism. (No action by Trustees.)

## MISSIONS COUNSELOR

In addition to serving as liaison between board and missions, the Missions Counselor also worked with Cross-stitch, the network of ELS Women's Missionary Societies, which raised funds in support of Home Missions: matching grant for outreach; Peru: women's scholarships; Chile: English as Foreign Language training; and India: support for orphans and schools.

Among topics under consideration for future ELS Video-link presentations are: Hope, Farmington, Minnesota home mission; students from ELS fields attending Bethany Lutheran College; summary of the 2009 Convention; students from our Korean mission attending high school in the United States; and Thoughts of Faith.

In view of what will likely be a vacancy in the position of the Home Missions Counselor the Board for Home Missions submits the following resolution for consideration:

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions anticipates acceptance of its proposal to restructure itself and bring Thoughts of Faith, Inc., under its management, and,

WHEREAS, Such restructuring would effectively eliminate the current Missions Counselor position as presently constituted in our synod's *Handbook* (a position shared jointly by the Board for Foreign Missions and the Board for Home Missions and funded through the Synod fund), and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions is in great need of the ongoing services of a counselor for the synod's home mission congregations and missionaries, and,

WHEREAS, There is an urgency to ensure that continued exploration for new mission starts not be neglected, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod direct the Synod Review Committee to rework the current guidelines to allow for continuation of the half-time Missions Counselor position already designated for the Board for Home Missions, and,

BE IT RESOLVED, That expenditures for this part-time position **be maintained** (requiring no necessary increase in synod funding) within the existing budget.

## RESPONSE OF THE BHM TO THE "METROPOLITAN MISSIONS MEMORIAL"

The 2008 synod convention sent the following memorial, originally submitted by Faith Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wisconsin, to the board:

WHEREAS, The Lord says in Matthew 28:19–20, "Go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," and,

WHEREAS, Eight of the largest cities in the USA have two or fewer ELS or WELS churches within thirty miles, and these cities (New York, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Jacksonville, FL; Baltimore, MD; Charlotte, NC; Boston, MA; Virginia Beach, VA; and Miami, FL) comprise many millions of souls, and,

WHEREAS, The Lord says in Matthew 9:37–38, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field," and,

WHEREAS, There may be non-traditional possibilities for funding and evangelism that have not yet been considered, therefore,



BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions explore the opportunities for ministering to the many souls in such metropolitan areas and report to the 2009 convention.

The board appreciates the spirit in which this memorial was submitted, because it reflects the emphasis on outreach and evangelism that is necessary for our synod. The board also appreciates the opportunity to consider specific potential mission fields as it endeavors to persevere in its work.

In consideration of this memorial, the board’s discussion focused primarily on the financial feasibility of beginning mission work in major metropolitan areas. The costs related to real estate for church-related purposes, whether for purchase, lease, or rental; the costs related to supporting an exploratory missionary, including housing costs (which are regionally adjusted) and cost of living; and the costs related to outreach, especially advertising, tend to be substantially higher in these areas. In part because of the recent economic downturn, the funding the board has available has also decreased. Additionally, the missions currently being funded through the board consume a large portion of the board’s capital outlay. Since the board has no current prospects of “non-traditional” funding, presently it cannot offer resources to reach out with the gospel to the aforementioned metropolitan areas. The board prays that in the future the Lord of the harvest will provide laborers and funding to reach these metropolitan areas. The board remains willing to consider mission outreach in these metropolitan areas when appropriate funding becomes available.

**SALARY SCALE FOR 2010**

In addition to the following scale, housing and utilities allowance for home missionaries is determined using 135% of the four-bedroom fair market value within a specific county according to the most recent survey of the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (Federal Register, Part III, 24 CFR Part 888). Increment for years of service and education allowance is provided within the salary scale. Car allowance is paid per mile for actual miles driven based on the Internal Revenue Service rate for mileage. Health insurance is provided at the \$1000 deductible level. The board approves the use of a Health Savings Account (HSA) or other alternative deductibles, as long as the called worker receives similar benefits. Pension is 6% of base salary.

Vacation time allotted:

- 1–5 years
- 2 Sundays and 20 days
- 5–10 years
- 3 Sundays and 25 days
- 16+ years
- 4 Sundays and 30 days

<i>Years of Service</i>	<i>Home Mission Salary</i>	<i>Increment Increase</i>
0	29,577	250
1	29,827	
2	30,077	
3	30,327	
4	30,577	
5	30,827	

6	31,152	325
7	31,477	
8	31,802	
9	32,127	
10	32,452	
11	32,852	400
12	33,252	
13	33,652	
14	34,052	
15	34,452	
16	34,927	475
17	35,402	
18	35,877	
19	36,352	
20	36,827	
21	37,377	550
22	37,927	
23	38,477	
24	39,027	
25	39,577	
26	40,202	625
27	40,827	
28	41,452	
29	42,077	
30	42,702	
31+	42,702	N/A

## FUTURE PLANS

Economic downturn issues faced by our country at present also complicate ELS home missions. In arranging long-term financing for missions, banks take into account the devalued holdings that collateralize loans. The board's customary lender has imposed a somewhat more restrictive lending protocol.

The board continues to work with a ten-year plan of funding missions which includes scheduled new starts, present and projected mission subsidies, capital interest subsidies, board

expenses, and sources of income. Much of the financial planning for the board is provided by the synod's Business Administrator, Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft.

In addition to the metropolitan mission initiative proposed at the 2008 convention, the board considers options for future work, among them:

- 1) continuing the pattern of opening missions with large expenditures for land and building (e.g., Abiding Shepherd, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin; Peace, North Mankato, Minnesota; Redeeming Grace, Rogers, Minnesota), noting not only the blessings God has granted to these missions but also the fact that co-signing for large mortgages reduces the amount of money the board is able to borrow for new projects;
- 2) creative approaches such as:
  - a. bi-vocational missionaries,
  - b. subsidizing the man instead of the location
  - c. mission teams,
  - d. vicars-in-mission, and
  - e. daughter congregations from established congregations.

The board is grateful to those who have offered advice and solicits continued input from members of the ELS on potential new start sites, innovative mission methods, etc.

## OPERATING BUDGET

	2008 Actual	2009 Budget
SUBSIDY — HOME MISSIONS		
Abiding Shepherd, Cottage Grove	10,000	
Asian Mission, Irvine	78,369	60,119
Faith, Medford	20,000	7,000
Redeeming Grace, Rogers	<u>200,067</u>	<u>102,000</u>
	308,436	169,119
SUBSIDY — CONGREGATIONS RECEIVING SUPPORT		
Faith, San Antonio	20,000	35,000
King of Grace, Waukon	9,000	3,000
Peace, Lakeland	<u>9,500</u>	
	38,500	38,000
EXPLORATORY MISSIONS		
2009 New Start		75,000
Farmington New Start	<u>112,927</u>	<u>106,842</u>
	112,927	181,842
SUBSIDY — CAPITAL INTEREST		
Abiding Shepherd, Cottage Grove	57,395	47,548
Abiding Word, Bowling Green	17,313	12,150
Faith, San Antonio		21,000
Family of God, Fort Mohave	9,442	7,606
Peace, North Mankato	32,433	25,199
Redeeming Grace, Rogers	<u></u>	<u>92,261</u>
	116,583	205,764

## BOARD EXPENSES

Board expenses	31,018	12,000
Moving expense		
Advertising Subsidy	<u>3,614</u>	<u>4,662</u>
	34,632	16,662

## THANK YOU

During the past year, various individuals, congregations and other organizations have contributed special gifts toward our home mission efforts. We wish to express our thanks to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. We are especially grateful to the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation for continued support of ELS home mission projects.

In 2008 the synod budgeted \$168,152 for the home mission program. The remainder of the money needed to fund the program came from special gifts, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation, estates, and earned and accumulated interest.

*The Rev. Steven P. Petersen,  
ELS Missions Counselor*

## HOME MISSIONS

### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution 1: Missions Counselor**

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee is currently in the process of developing a strategic plan, and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions recommendation concerning a missions counselor would require planning and coordinating with the Board for Evangelism, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the matter of a missions counselor be referred to the Planning and Coordinating Committee, as it continues the process of strategic planning.

#### **Resolution 2: Metropolitan Missions Memorial**

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has considered the 2008 Metropolitan Missions memorial and has determined that it is beyond their financial capabilities at this time, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Home Missions continue to explore any options for home missions which the Lord sets before them.

#### **Resolution 3: Salary Scale, Future Plans, and Operating Budget**

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions has prayerfully considered the salary scale, future plans, and their operating budget, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod recognize and affirm the Board for Home Missions' salary scale, future plans, and operating budget.

#### **Resolution 4: Thanks for Financial Support**

WHEREAS, Various organizations and individuals have contributed generously to our synod for the development of home missions, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod express gratitude to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for its generous gifts in the support of home missions, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod express gratitude to the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation for its generous support of home missions, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod express gratitude to the various individuals, congregations, and other organizations that have contributed special gifts toward home mission efforts.

#### **Resolution 5: Mission Counselor Funding**

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions has been restructured as the Board for World Outreach and brought Thoughts of Faith, Inc. under its management, and,

WHEREAS, Such restructuring has effectively eliminated the current missions counselor position as presently constituted in our synod's *Handbook* (a position shared jointly by the Board for Foreign Missions and the Board for Home Missions and funded through the Synod Fund), and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Home Missions is in great need of the ongoing services of a counselor for the synod's home mission congregations and missionaries, and,

WHEREAS, There is an urgency to ensure that continued exploration for new mission starts not be neglected, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod direct the Synod Review Committee to rework the current guidelines to allow for continuation of the half-time mission counselor position already designated for the Board for Home Missions, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That expenditures for this part-time position be maintained (requiring no necessary increase in synod funding) within the existing budget.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS**

### **BOARD PERSONNEL**

The Board for Foreign Missions is composed of three pastors and four laymen. They are Rev. Paul Fries, chairman and head of the Asia Committee; Mr. Marlin Goebel, vice chairman; Prof. Silas Born recording secretary and education consultant; the Rev. Wayne Halvorson, Chairman of the South American Committee; Mr. Paul Nielsen, Treasurer, and newly appointed members the Rev. Paul Schneider, and Mr. Dan Browning. We wish to thank Professor Adolph Harstad and Professor William Kessel for their years of service to the board. The board normally holds four two-day meetings in a year, in January, April, July and October. Usually the meetings are held at the synod building in Mankato. The president of the synod, the Rev. Steven Petersen (missions counselor), and Keith Wiederhoeft (treasurer and business administrator) attend our meetings regularly.

The Board for Foreign Missions has been divided into two committees to concentrate on certain fields. This arrangement streamlines the board's effectiveness. The South American Committee focuses on the management and operations of the mission in Peru and Chile. The Asia Committee focuses on the management and operations of the mission in India and in South Korea.

### **SOUTH AMERICA REPORT**

#### **Field Personnel**

There are two missionaries serving in Peru. They are the Rev. David Haeuser (President of the Seminary in Peru), the Rev. Terry Schultz (Field Coordinator for Peru). There are two missionaries in Chile. They are the Rev. Oto Rodriguez, and the Rev. Timothy Erickson (Field Coordinator for Chile).

## **Visits to the mission fields**

Missions Counselor, the Rev. Steven Petersen, the South America Committee chairman, board Chairman Adolph Harstad and synod President John Moldstad visited the South America fields this past August. They held meetings with the Chile team and some of the congregation leaders and visited some of the mission stations. A visit to the Peru field may be upcoming some time this summer.

### **Peru**

There are thirteen national pastors working in Peru serving congregations. There are vicars serving congregations nearly full time. Some of the new pastors have additional employment which can be combined with their serving the congregations and schools. About six other students are studying in the seminary in Lima. There are others studying in extension seminaries and training schools in the mountains and the Amazon region. The seminary is directed by Missionary David Haeuser. Some of the national pastors are now teaching in the seminary, along with the missionaries. The goal is to eventually have the seminary training accomplished by the national workers as they become trained as professors. The seminary program in Peru is generally comparable to what is required of the seminary students in Mankato, Minnesota.

Two elementary schools have been established in the Lima area, in Año Nuevo on the north side of Lima and at Reynoso, on the west side of Lima, in the port city of Callao. These two schools have now celebrated their eighth year of operation. The Reynoso school completed the construction of the second phase of its building. They now have sufficient rooms for teaching the students enrolled. These schools will strengthen the national church in Peru for generations to come. Both these schools are nearly self-supporting in their operating costs.

Another Christian school has been conducting classes for six years in the Amazon village of Nueva Barranquita. Another school has begun in a neighboring village, Louis Terry. A third school opened in March of 2009 in Nuevo Oriente.

Work in the mountains has been expanding in recent years, with several national pastors and vicars serving about twenty churches or preaching stations. This work is being supervised by the mission team and by national pastors Fidel Coversio and his son Pastor Edison Conversio. Seminary classes and pre-seminary classes are helping the pastors and vicars grow in their service to the Lord Christ and His church.

Over fifty groups now meet in the country of Peru for worship and study regularly. Membership has surpassed the 1,500 mark. Growth is continuing in numbers and in spiritual understanding.

One of the special blessings in Peru is that the national pastors and national leaders are taking more and more of a leadership and management roll. This indigenization is a sign of the growth and maturing of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru. In the not too distant future most of the operations of this field may be turned over to the national pastors under the Board for Foreign Missions supervision. The plan for indigenization calls for one missionary to withdraw from the field in 2010.

### **Chile**

The missionaries serve congregations in the greater Santiago area and south in the town of Linares. Many Baptisms and confirmations have taken place to strengthen the spiritual life of the churches. Worship services and study of the Word of God by members and pre-seminary students continues. About six young men continue to study for leadership in the church, with some of them planning to become pastors. Some seminary-level courses are being taught by Timothy Erickson and Oto Rodríguez. While they are learning they take on some tasks in the outreach of the church into the community. The students are conducting some of the worship services and helping to guide the church work as leaders.

The four sites: La Cisterna, Las Vertientes, San Bernardo, and Linares, are now becoming more mature as congregations. Other areas for church planting have recently materialized in growing and middle class neighborhoods. A Worship-Learning center has enabled substantial advancement into a growing neighborhood. There is hope to expand to other areas as the opportunity presents itself. The Lord is blessing the work of the Lord in Chile. The Board for Foreign Missions and the Chile Team are committed to refocusing work in middle-class communities. This will involve selling some property and redirecting resources to new ministries.

English as a Second Language Classes are being offered by the churches now for the fourth year. These classes are a means to increase the number of prospects for the congregations. This year Rachel (Meyer) Khamrang has been our teacher. It is hoped that these classes can be continued and serve as an education opportunity which will lead many to hear the message of Jesus Christ.

### **FAITH MISSION SOCIETY**

Our thanks to Marlin Goebel who faithfully continues to oversee the work of *Mission News*, and *Faith Mission Society*. In the thirty-eight years that the magazine has been published it has encouraged the people of the church to support the mission projects of the synod. This year the publishing of the magazine has been done by Books of the Way printing, directed by the Rev. Shawn Kauffeld.

### **HELPING HANDS**

Helping Hands organization supports two of our missionaries in Latin America. An endowment fund of over \$700,000 together with gifts from corporate and individual donors provides the funding for the missionaries. In the past year \$22,000.00 was received in individual gifts from individuals, to support the missionaries. An additional \$250,000.00 was given by a corporate foundation to assist in the funding of projects to help the foreign mission fields. Thanks to all the donors for their generous gifts to the foreign mission program of the synod.

### **MISSIONS COUNSELOR**

In addition to serving as liaison between board and missions, the Missions Counselor also worked with Cross-stitch, the network of ELS Women's Missionary Societies, which raised funds in support of Home Missions: matching grant for outreach; Peru: women's scholarships; Chile: English as Foreign Language training; India: support for orphans and schools.

Among topics under consideration for future ELS Video-link presentations are: Hope, Farmington, Minnesota, home mission; students from ELS fields attending Bethany Lutheran College; summary of the 2009 Convention; students from our Korean mission attending high school in the United States; and Thoughts of Faith.

### **LUTHERAN MISSION OF SALVATION—INDIA**

The Lutheran Mission of Salvation—India (LMSI) is a mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, funded through the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation. LMSI is served by two national pastors: Pastor Solomon Mamidi and Pastor Ananda Raju. The mission is divided into the Hyderabad, Rajahmundry and Jabalpur districts. Pastor Mamidi serves as president of the Hyderabad District, Pastor Raju serves as president of the Rajahmundry District and Mr. Vijay Sidney serves as president of the Jabalpur District.

The ELS began a seminary program for LMSI in January of 2006. The seminary met once in 2007 for a two-week intensive session. Professors from the United States travel to India for each session. Currently, twenty-two men are enrolled in the seminary program in India.

The top priority of the ELS Board for Foreign Missions for India is the training of national pastors. In addition to the seminary training in India, two students began their seminary training at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in Mankato in January of 2007 and will complete their classroom studies in December of 2008. They will then return to India to serve vicarages.

ELS Missions Counselor Steve Petersen meets with the LMSI presidents and other leaders annually to review the work of the mission, discuss issues and opportunities and plan for the coming year.

The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation granted a total of \$270,000 for our mission work with LMSI. This generous donation is divided on a percentage basis between districts, with district presidents and elders determining how discretionary funds are used in each district. Other donations from individuals and congregations are gratefully received and are also divided between the districts.

## LMSI STATISTICS

	Rajahmundry	Hyderabad	Jabalput
Souls	9,876	6,217	5,957
Baptisms	738	678	778
Attendance	6,364	6,924	4,000
Orphan homes	12	6	1
Orphans	207	90	20
Offerings	\$18,687	\$18,566	\$9,953

## SOUTH KOREA

At the end of 2008, East Seoul Canaan Lutheran Church had over 250 members with approximately 175 people in attendance each Sunday. Adult instruction classes are offered several times per week, using Luther's *Small Catechism* (translated into Korean) and the WELS program "Communicating Christ." The ELS booklet *We Believe, Teach and Confess* has also been translated into Korean and is used in instruction.

A building in Seoul has been leased and remodeled to serve the congregation, with a sanctuary, office space, a kitchen, a fellowship hall and classrooms. From the congregation's offerings the mission contributes a tithe monthly to the ELS. The mission has recently completed work on a five-year plan.

An English as a foreign language school operated by the mission was granted official status with the Korean government in 2006. This school offers training in the English language to many native Koreans, while providing the opportunity for outreach through the classes. Mr. Dennis Morrison and Mrs. Dolores Morrison continue to serve as teachers in the school. In addition to teaching English, the Morrison's help to prepare Korean high school students for enrollment in WEL/ELS high schools. Currently, there are over seventy students from this congregation enrolled in Lutheran high schools of our fellowship in the United States. The English as a foreign language school is self-supporting, with assistance from the Korean congregation, including the teachers' salaries.

## SUMMARY

The Lord has truly blessed the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in its foreign mission outreach efforts. What a wonderful blessing to be able to look at the globe of the world and see the many countries where the good new of Jesus Christ the Savior is having its effect on the lives of thousands, who did not know the way of salvation. The Board for Foreign Missions truly appreciates your interest and support. May the Lord continue to bless our continued efforts to spread the Gospel of Christ.



## THOUGHTS OF FAITH, INC.

Thoughts of Faith is a *church related organization* of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. The Lord continues to bless the efforts of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. as the Gospel message is shared with the people of Central and Eastern Europe, specifically the countries of Ukraine, Czech Republic and Latvia. Partial support is provided for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Moldova. St. Sophia Seminary in Ternopil, Ukraine provides theological training for students from Moldova, Belarus and other countries.

The Thoughts of Faith stateside staff includes Mr. Kermit Traska, Executive Director, Mr. Larry Dilgard, Assistant Executive Director, Mrs. Susan Dilgard, Program Specialist, and Mrs. Pam Schultz, Executive Assistant. Mrs. Dilgard left her position at the end of April 2008 and Mr. Dilgard's position was eliminated at the end of December 2008.

Staff members are available to make presentations on the mission programs to church organizations, Bible studies, Lutheran schools and mission society meetings. Arrangements can be made with pastors that have served on the mission field to preach at mission festivals. Thoughts of Faith publishes a mission newsletter six times during the year.

### Board of Directors

President: Rev. Paul Schneider, Midland, Michigan; Vice-President: Mr. Paul Fick, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Secretary: Rev. John Petersen, North Mankato, Minnesota; Treasurer: Mr. Leroy Meyer, Lombard, Illinois; Directors: Rev. Wayne Borgwardt, Waukesha, Wisconsin; Mr. Dan Browning, Minnetonka, Minnesota; Rev. Erwin Ekhoft, Golden Valley, Minnesota; Rev. George Orvick, Mankato, Minnesota; Mr. David Ewert, North Mankato, Minnesota; Mr. Tom Conzelmann, Frankenmuth, Michigan; Mr. Mark Schwan, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Mr. Tom Vik, Appleton, Wisconsin. Mr. Vik passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft was elected to take his place.

### Proposal for Thoughts of Faith to be Acquired by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

A resolution from the 2008 ELS synod convention was adopted as follows: "Be it resolved, that Thoughts of Faith be brought into the organizational structure and under the direction and control of the synod through its Board for Foreign Missions." The synod also directed the Board for Foreign Missions, in consultation with TOF, to bring a detailed resolution concerning restructuring to the 2009 convention.

### Ukraine

#### A. The Ukrainian Lutheran Church (ULC)

Currently the Lord's work in Ukraine continues as a partnership between Thoughts of Faith (TOF) and the Ukrainian Lutheran Church (ULC). As of March 2009, the ULC had 24 congregations and 10 preaching stations with a membership of about 2,000 souls.

There are 23 Ukrainian pastors. One pastor was ordained and one pastor left the church. Some preaching stations are served by pastors from neighboring congregations, by deacons or by seminary students. There is one deaconess that works with the Gift of Life medical mission.

Pastor Richard Warnke serves as the pastoral mentor for the ULC and as the liaison between TOF and the ULC. He began his work in June 2007 and accepted a call to serve an additional year in Ukraine.

The ULC is headed by Pastor V'yacheslav Horpynchuk whose title is Bishop. The newly elected Vice-Bishop is Serhiy Romanyuk. Bishop Horpynchuk was re-elected for another five-year term at the ULC's annual convention in September 2008.

TOF and the ULC jointly operate St. Sophia Lutheran Theological Seminary in Ternopil to train men to become pastors in the ULC. Pastor John Vogt has been the rector (president)

of the seminary since August 2006. He has initiated an extensive exchange program by which numerous professors have been brought into Ukraine to teach both the current students of St. Sophia and to provide in-service training for ULC pastors. A “summer quarter” has been established for advanced training that takes place in Ukraine. The program is extended to men from other countries including Ukraine, Latvia, Bulgaria, Belarus, Moldova, Sweden, Norway and Russia. Andriy Honcharuk is the first Ukrainian pastor to receive a Master of Sacred Theology (STM) degree from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Pastor Honcharuk’s credits for this degree were earned primarily by repeated trips to the U.S. to attend summer quarter classes at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary through courses in St. Sophia Seminary’s summer quarter each June. A total of 27 pastors and theological students attended St. Sophia’s summer quarter last year.

Additional work of the ULC includes a regional radio programs and streaming audio on the internet. The national church has a newsletter *Styag* or *Banner* in which it publishes articles about the ULC. The *Good News Journal* is also distributed regularly in Ukrainian and Russian.

Construction of the church building in Sevastopol progresses at a slow pace, propelled by local funding and labor. The congregation has improved the basement and currently uses it for Sunday services, Bible classes, meetings, and Sunday coffee/tea. Much work still needs to be done to have a finished church building.

The Resurrection congregation in Kyiv continues its efforts to find ways to fund and construct a building on leased land.

The Ukrainian Lutheran Church hosted the sixth triennial convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference in Kyiv in June 2008. There were about nearly 75 participants and guests representing 14 of the 21 member church bodies.

#### B. International Charitable Fund Gift of Life

Humanitarian work of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. is provided by Gift of Life. Nick and Kerry Laper direct the on-site Ukrainian and stateside management of the program.

The pediatric dental and medical clinics continue to travel throughout Ukraine providing free medical and dental care to children in towns, villages and cities. The Gift of Life program also operates five Pro-Life Counseling Centers. The counselors at these centers provide Christian pregnancy counseling, pro-life presentations, and humanitarian assistance. Services provided in 2008 include: 3,909 visits to the medical clinic; 4,837 visits to the dental clinic; 44,287 attending pro-life presentations at various institutions throughout Ukraine; 6,151 attended programs conducted in the centers themselves; 1,723 individual counseling sessions were given; with 2,022 attending group counseling sessions as well. The total number of saved babies is not known because some of the women do not return to the counseling center. However, it is known that a total 56 babies were baptized with three of those in the ULC. In addition, material aid (clothing, etc.) is collected at the TOF office/warehouse in Oregon, Wisconsin. A 40-foot shipping container was loaded and sent to Ukraine in April 2009. This aid is distributed through the congregations of the Ukrainian Lutheran Church, the pro-life counseling centers, to prisons, orphanages and others in need.

#### C. Summer Vacation Bible School

The 2008 Ukraine Vacation Bible School was organized by Larry Dilgard using volunteers to work with the Ukrainian teachers. In 2008, 46 American volunteers taught about 550 Ukrainian Youth and over 120 adults at 14 locations throughout Ukraine. The volunteers pay their own travel expenses for the opportunity to spread the gospel.

#### D. TOF Branch Office – Kyiv, Ukraine

The TOF Branch Office in Kyiv, Ukraine coordinates funding between TOF in the US and the ULC. The Branch Office in Ukraine operates as International Charitable Fund Faith in Action.

#### Moldova

Pastor Vladimir Moser, the head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Moldova, decided to not work toward fellowship within the CELC. Thus TOF's work with the ELCRM was ended.

#### Belarus

One pastor from Belarus continues his studies at St. Sophia Seminary in Ukraine.

#### Czech Republic

##### A. St. Paul Lutheran Church of Plzen

The Lord continues to bless the work of this congregation, just as He blesses all work done in His Name. The congregation's current baptized membership is nearly 195. A weekly English Conversation Club, sponsored by the congregation, continues to generate interest in the church. The congregation publishes a monthly newsletter for its members, *The Sign of Faith*, and several publications for its U.S. supporters. Pastor Mark Grubbs serves as the administrator of the Czech mission and principal of Martin Luther School. Vicars Martin Vrsecky and Petr Krakora continue their studies to become pastors. Christian Eisenbeis, an ELS Seminary student, served the 2007-2008 school year in Plzen teaching the Czech vicars biblical languages.

Two Czech men are nearing the completion of their studies to become pastors: Martin Vrsecky and Petr Krakora. Graduation and ordination for these men has been set for June 2009.

##### B. Martin Luther School

Enrollment at Martin Luther School for the 2008-2009 school year is 205 in grades K-9. The children are taught the traditional secular subjects by Czech teachers but, more importantly, they daily hear God's Word from six American volunteer teachers this school year. Our American and Czech staff work closely together to ensure that our children are receiving a quality, Christ-centered education.

Due to a change in Czech immigration law, the American volunteers were forced to return to the States in February 2008 and were not able to complete the school year.

Pastor Mark Grubbs and Mary Grubbs announced their retirement at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. We thank the Lord for their service in the Czech mission since 1998.

##### C. Humanitarian

The mission continues to support the work of Mulac Hospital, the first private hospital in the Czech Republic after the fall of communism. Periodic support is provided to a local orphanage.

##### D. Horni Briza

Our Lutheran mission began outreach work in Horni Briza in December 1999. Weekly services have been held since March 2000 that has become the congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. In addition to worship services, this congregation also has weekly Bible classes for its members and others from the community.

#### E. Tlucna

Due to the efforts of one of our Czech school teachers, we have been allowed to rent an historic chapel in the town of Tlucna, located 10 kilometers west of Plzen, for the equivalent of 3 cents a year for 20 years. There are weekly services and Bible studies in the church. Vicar Krakora is able to place monthly announcements in the local mailboxes.

#### F. Rochlov

Rochlov is a neighboring village of Tlucna that has a palace with a chapel. People from the community have asked Petr Krakora if he would conduct services there beginning around Christmas 2009. Regular services are now planned for Rochlov.

#### G. Additional Outreach Opportunities

A Christian Information Center continues to operate in Plzen, staffed by Vicars Vrsecky and Krakora. The Center is located on a main street immediately at a tram stop that receives a high volume of traffic and many people have stopped in to pick up literature.

### **Latvia**

#### A. Augsburg Institute

Thoughts of Faith, Inc., continues to support confessional Lutheran work in Latvia. This work is being conducted by the Augsburg Institute, an organization dedicated to sharing Confessional Lutheran doctrine with the people of Latvia. The Augsburg Institute is active in publishing a newspaper, *The Latvian Lutheran*, a theological journal, and confessional Lutheran writings.

#### B. Confessional Lutheran Church of Latvia (CLCL)

The Confessional Lutheran Church of Latvia consists of eight national pastors serving seven congregations with 600 baptized souls. Construction continues on the church building in Ozolnieki. The congregation is able to meet in the new sanctuary as the work proceeds. The Jelgava congregation continues to remodel and improve the building they purchased from the city. Much work in both Ozolnieki and Jelgava is provided by congregation volunteers.

### **SUMMARY**

The Lord has greatly blessed the efforts of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. and we are confident that He will continue to do so as His Word is shared with the people of Central and Eastern Europe. The Board of Directors serve diligently throughout the year by the Grace of God to make TOF a successful mission organization. We greatly appreciate the encouragement and support we receive from President Moldstad, the Board for Foreign Missions, Mission Counselor Steve Petersen, and Rev. Keith Boheim and Mr. Erik Burgdorf of the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation.

To God Alone Be The Glory.

*The Rev. Wayne Halvorson, Chair, South America Committee*

*The Rev. Paul Fries, Chair, Asia Committee*

*The Rev. Steven P. Petersen, Missions Counselor*

*Mr. Kermit Traska, Executive Director, Thoughts of Faith, Inc.*

*FOREIGN MISSIONS*  
*ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution 1: Gratitude for Service**

WHEREAS, Professors Adolph Harstad and William Kessel have recently completed many years of service on the Board for Foreign Missions, and,  
WHEREAS, Pastor Mark Grubbs and his wife, Mary, have announced their retirement, and,  
WHEREAS, Faith Mission Society, Helping Hands, and the ELS Women's Mission Society have continued to provide support for the work of our foreign mission field, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for the gifts of these faithful servants.

**Resolution 2: Peru**

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions has already begun the process of indigenization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Peru (ELSP), which is a sign of growth and maturity in this mission field, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage the Board for World Outreach to continue this process, with the goal that the ELSP someday become self-supporting.

**Resolution 3: Chile**

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions and our missionaries in Chile have determined that it would be most productive to focus our efforts in the growing and middle class neighborhoods, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That we commend the Board for World Outreach and the local missionaries for seeking ways to establish a viable confessional Lutheran church body in Chile.

**Resolution 4: India**

WHEREAS, The Board for Foreign Missions indicates that the top priority for continued mission work in India is the development of national clergy and seminary instruction, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for World Outreach be encouraged to continue in this process.

**Resolution 5: South Korea**

WHEREAS, The Lord has provided a promising field for the spread of the Gospel in Korea through the ministry of the East Seoul Canaan Lutheran Church and its outreach through its English language education program, and,  
WHEREAS, This could serve as a base for future mission work, and,  
WHEREAS, The congregation is also moving toward self-support, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for World Outreach encourage and assist the congregation to develop further outreach in South Korea and beyond.

**Resolution 6: Thoughts of Faith**

WHEREAS, The work of Thoughts of Faith in the former Soviet-dominated countries of Ukraine, the Czech Republic and Latvia has borne fruit in establishing a confessional Lutheran presence, therefore,  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for World Outreach continue this work, and seek to strengthen this presence in these countries, and among other Christians who desire unity with confessional Lutherans, and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the board assist these churches in becoming self-supporting.

### **Resolution 7: Thoughts of Faith Acquisition**

WHEREAS, The process of considering the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) taking full control and supervision of the Thoughts of Faith (TOF) has been going on for several years, and,

WHEREAS, The work of the ELS–TOF Exploratory Committee resulted in resolutions from both the Board for Foreign Missions (BFM) and TOF supporting the move to the ELS, and,

WHEREAS, By resolution of the ELS in convention in 2008 approved “That TOF be brought under the direction and control of the synod through the Board for Foreign Missions,” and,

WHEREAS, The work of the Mission Acquisition Committee (MAC) resulted in direction to the Synod Review Committee (SRC) to revise the guidelines for the BFM including changing its name to the Board for World Outreach (BWO), and,

WHEREAS, The SRC completed its revision of the BWO guidelines that were presented to the 2009 synod convention, and,

WHEREAS, The revised BWO guidelines were approved by the synod in convention on June 23, 2009, and,

WHEREAS, The work of the committees has been reviewed and advised by legal counsels from the ELS and TOF, and,

WHEREAS, An audit review of the financial records of TOF for 2008 has been received and examined by the synod treasurer, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for the blessings of the work of TOF, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That all conditions for consolidation have been met and TOF will come under the governance and control of the ELS as of the date of acceptance of this resolution.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR EVANGELISM**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8 NIV).*

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

The board has six elected members: Pastors – the Rev. Larry Wentzlaff (chairman, beginning April 2009), the Rev. Tom Westendorf, the Rev. Michael Dale, the Rev. Matthew Crick. Laymen –Mr. Dennis Benzing and Mr. Neil Willert. The Rev. Matthew Crick has fulfilled his elected term and is leaving the board at this convention.

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

The board met three times since last convention (October 2008, January and April 2009).

### **CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS**

All members of the board are available to assist the congregations of the ELS. Each can be contacted by telephone or email as listed in the *Synod Report*.

### **SYNOD EVANGELISM WORKSHOPS**

The board is presenting two evangelism workshops.

The first is titled, *Evangelism Lights The World Until the End*. There are four parts to the workshop: 1. Do we douse the light? 2. Keep the Light in Sight! 3. Keep the Light Burning

Bright Over Time! 4. Welcoming Visitors to Your Church. The presenters are the Rev. Brad Kerkow and the Rev. Matthew Crick. Since 2006 this workshop has been presented and well-received in Arizona, Minnesota, Iowa, and Oregon.

The second workshop is titled, *Evangelism and the Believer*. The presenters are the Rev. Larry Wentzlaff and the Rev. Tom Westendorf. This is a new workshop.

To have either workshop presented in your circuit, please contact the board chairman, Rev. Larry Wentzlaff at <still1580@citlink.net>.

## **SEMINARY WORKSHOP**

On April 21, 2009, the board presented the workshop titled, *Evangelism and the Believer*, at Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

## **TRACTS**

The board offers the *We're Glad You Asked!* tract series. Currently, there are nine tracts available to ELS congregations at no cost. The board encourages ELS congregations to use these tracts to spread the Gospel in their communities. Tracts may be ordered through the board's website, <www.learnaboutJesus.com>. They also may be picked up at the Board for Evangelism's convention display booth. Recently updated "We're Glad You Asked!" Tracts are: The Lord's Supper and Creation

## **OTHER EVANGELISM MATERIALS**

- God's Message to You (tract)
- "How Do I Study the Bible?" (one session Bible Study)
- CD, "A Look Inside the Lutheran Church"
- DVD, "In the Dark about Jesus?"

## **WEBSITE**

The board's website address is: <www.learnaboutJesus.com>. On the site you can view the board's evangelism tracts and other materials, and order them for use in your congregation. Also, there has links to other evangelism resources.

## **EVANGELISM RESOURCE**

*Evangelism Resource* is the board's annual periodical. The 2009 issue features an article on Bible study, titled, *A New Look At Bible Study*. The article discusses the various uses of Bible study and how it can serve the Great Commission. Each congregation of the ELS should have received five copies by mail this past April. Also, you may order *Evangelism Resource* at <www.learnaboutJesus.com>.

## **OUTREACH NEWSLETTER DEVOTIONS**

The board makes available monthly outreach devotions. Each month a devotion is distributed via email for use in congregational or prospect newsletters. The devotion is geared toward the unchurched, presenting a simple law and gospel message. The devotions are available by contacting the Rev. Larry Wentzlaff at <still1580@citlink.net>.

## **PARISH EVANGELISM ASSISTANCE**

Parish Evangelism Assistance funds of \$7,100 are remaining and available to congregations from the synod's *2000 Years of Grace* thank offering. Parish Evangelism Assistance can help your congregation in two ways: 1. To provide 50% funding for an evangelism project; 2. With the guidance an evangelism consultant, to organize and implement long-range outreach plan.

Any ELS congregation may apply for Parish Evangelism Assistance by contacting the board chairman, Larry Wentzlaff.

### **LUTHERAN SENTINEL ARTICLES**

Each year the board writes a series of articles concerning evangelism and outreach for inclusion in the *Lutheran Sentinel*. The 2009 series has five articles, applying Paul's words to Philemon, "I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith so that you may have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ" (Philemon 6).

*"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ" (Acts 5:42 NIV).*

*The Rev. Michael Dale, secretary*

### **EVANGELISM**

#### **ACTION OF THE SYNOD**

#### **Resolution 1: Pastor Crick's Service**

WHEREAS, Pastor Matthew Crick has completed eight and one-half years of faithful service on the Board for Evangelism, and,  
WHEREAS, As of this convention he has fulfilled his elected term, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That he be thanked for his time and work on behalf of the synod.

#### **Resolution 2: Synod Evangelism Workshops and Parish Evangelism Assistance**

WHEREAS, The synod Evangelism Workshops, *Evangelism Lights the World Until the End* and *Evangelism and the Believer*, are available for presentation to circuits, and,  
WHEREAS, There are very limited Parish Evangelism Assistance (PEA) funds available, therefore,

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That circuits and/or congregations be encouraged to make use of the Evangelism workshops by contacting Pastor Larry Wentzlaff, and,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations be encouraged to pursue PEA.

#### **Resolution 3: Use of Board for Evangelism Materials**

WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism makes available a large number of publications including tracts, the Evangelism Resource, outreach newsletter devotions, the *Lutheran Sentinel* articles, online downloadable content, DVDs, and CDs as well as other resources, therefore,

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board be thanked for their diligence, and,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations be encouraged to make use of these materials.

#### **Resolution 4: Feedback on Evangelism Materials**

WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism provides the aforementioned materials, and,  
WHEREAS, The Board for Evangelism seeks input to improve and revise the resources that are offered to the congregations as well as new ideas, therefore,

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations are encouraged to offer feedback on how they use the materials provided by the Board for Evangelism, and,
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations offer and the board seeks input for future activities.



### **Resolution 5: Inter-Board Cooperation**

WHEREAS, Several activities with which the Board for Evangelism is involved cross over with the work of other boards, and,

WHEREAS, The input of these boards could be useful in furthering and developing existing projects and ideas, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Evangelism and all other synodical boards actively seek opportunities to share resources and ideas.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA**

### **MEETINGS**

The Board for Lutheran Schools of America met in full session twice since the last convention. One meeting was held September 30–October 1, 2008 in Lakewood, Washington. The meeting was held in conjunction with a classical education workshop at Parkland Lutheran Church and School in Tacoma. The second meeting was held February 16–17, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois.

Business was also conducted by the internet and by conference phone call.

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Elected members of the board are: Mr. Herb Berg, the Rev. Ed Bryant, Mr. Allen Labitzky, Mr. Curt Mantey, the Rev. Ken Mellon, Mr. Jim Murphy, the Rev. Alex Ring, and Mr. John Tetzloff

Advisory members are: Wayne Anderson (representing President Moldstad), Silas Born, Pres. Dan Bruss, or Pres. John Moldstad, Jr., Pres. Gaylin Schmeling, and Keith Wiederhoeft (treasurer). Mr. Michael Butterfield served as the LSA President.

### **CHANGES IN THE BOARD**

Mr. Mike Butterfield resigned as president of LSA on February 16, 2009. This was due strictly to financial considerations, since no large continuing financial gifts have been received. Mike had served the synod for three years. He began by seeking large continuing grants for new school starts. Additional duties were added for him, such as promotion of Lutheran schools, offering feasibility studies to churches that considered starting a new school, annual visits to all schools, and tract and web-site development.

Mr. Curt Mantey unexpectedly passed away in March 2009. He had served on the synod education sub-committee for many years before the creation of LSA. He continued to serve as Secretary of Schools while on the Board for LSA for the past three years.

We thank God for these two men and their service to our synod.

### **WORK OF THE BOARD IN 2008**

1. The board has produced its first education newsletter called the *LSAvocate*. It is available in print form or electronically.
2. The board also held a workshop in July to evaluate curriculum textbooks for elementary level classes. The textbook recommendation guide will be available soon.
3. The board continues to provide funds for Christian elementary school projects and development.
4. Promotion of Christian education continued at convention, pastors' conference, and in articles in the *Lutheran Sentinel*.

5. Three model LSA schools have begun. Training was conducted for teachers and principals in Tacoma, Washington, in October. The project will continue with the completion of the sample curriculum and by working through the LSA Strategic elements with the schools.

## **LSA MODEL SCHOOLS**

The implementation of the Model Schools program will continue, providing a working model of a distinctive form or “brand” of Lutheran school. This will assist in the pursuit of eventual major gifts, it will enable schools to try out certain practices to gauge their effectiveness, and it will serve all the schools in the synod that wish to benefit from them.

## **SHORT-TERM PLANS – 2009**

Over the course of the next year the LSA board plans to “make haste slowly” in deciding what needs to be changed as we go forward. This decision is made in view of the fact that the ELS is undertaking a strategic plan, and LSA wishes to make any structural changes in accord with the plan. In the mean time, the board has specifically decided to lower costs by meeting once per year face to face, and otherwise communicating by conference call, email, and possibly at synod convention or in conjunction with other meetings.

1. The board will clarify its roll in support of our Lutheran schools in relationship to the Director of Christian Education, particularly as it relates to school feasibility studies, starts, and expansion.
2. The board will assign responsibility to each board member to execute particular functions of LSA.
3. The board will undertake an active campaign of publicity in support of Lutheran schools and examine additional opportunities to promote schools.
4. The board will undertake a program to recognize the vocation of Christian teacher, and those who serve in that calling.
5. The board will continue to administer all programs previously in place to serve ELS schools. The position of Secretary of Schools should be preserved on the board, and a constant flow of information be maintained with schools and teachers. School subsidies, teacher education grants, the school mentor program, and similar activities will continue.
6. The board will work with the ELS Giving Counselor to promote financial gifts to Christian education within the synod, and will continue to cultivate major donors to this mission.
7. The board will adopt a policy of assigning gifts that will direct funds into new or existing endowments for the support of schools, while also using current funds to accomplish necessary objectives.
8. The board will work with Bethany Lutheran College to clarify relative roles in serving Lutheran Elementary Schools in the ELS.
9. The board will effectively carry out the Model Schools Project, working with selected schools to identify and set in place a distinctive form of Lutheran Classical Education defined by the Strategic Elements of LSA schools.

## **SHORT-TERM PLANS – 2010-2014**

### **2010**

Maintain the program of support for our Lutheran Schools.  
Participate and carry out objectives of the ELS Strategic Plan.  
Evaluate additional resources that may be available, e.g. Marketing Guide.  
Assist and support new school starts.

Increase the level of publicity in support of Christian Education.  
Continue an appropriate level of solicitation of gifts to synodical support of our schools.  
Conclude the implementation of the Model Schools Project.  
Plan and sponsor workshops in focused on issues of Lutheran Education.

## **2011**

Maintain the program of support for our Lutheran Schools.  
Implement additional resources identified for the support of our schools.  
Assist and support new school starts.  
Increase the level of publicity in support of Christian Education.  
Continue an appropriate level of solicitation of gifts to synodical support of our schools.  
Put plans in motion for an all-synod teacher conference.  
Plan and sponsor workshops in focused on issues of Lutheran Education

## **2012–2014**

Maintain the program of support for our Lutheran Schools.  
Develop additional resources for support of the idea of Lutheran schools.  
Continue an appropriate level of solicitation of gifts to synodical support of our schools.  
Hold an all-synod teacher conference.  
Plan and sponsor workshops in focused on issues of Lutheran Education

## **CONTINUATION OF THE BOARD**

The Board for Lutheran Schools of America has been made aware of the memorials from congregations and the recommendations of the ELS Board of Trustees for the disbanding of LSA. It is our hope that the floor committee receiving these memorials will extend us the courtesy of speaking with them before recommending action.

The board took action very early this year to reorganize LSA in view of the fact that significant funds would not be available to pursue the goal of funding the start of new schools. The board acted to reduce costs and to focus on the long-standing priorities of encouraging and fostering the schools in our synod, as well as implementing the model school grant that would help address the challenges that many of our schools face.

In view of the action already taken by the LSA board, the disbanding of LSA appears unwarranted. The board therefore submits the attached resolution as a suggested course of action for the synod to follow.

We face many challenges as part of the church militant, and Christian schools are an important part of our work together. It is important that the action we take as a synod is part of an overall plan to feed the lambs of our churches and to reach out to the lost.

### **Proposed Resolution from the Board of Lutheran Schools of America:**

WHEREAS, full time Christian education is important to the ELS at all levels, and,  
WHEREAS, for the seven years (2000–2006) prior to the establishment of LSA the expenditures for meeting expenses (travel, meals, and lodging) averaged \$7,376 per year, (approximately \$2,459 for each subcommittee including CDS/LES and,  
WHEREAS, the amount in the synod budget carrying over from former BEY to LSA was all distributed to schools, because meeting expenses were met by private donations, and,  
WHEREAS, the expenditures for meeting expenses in 2009 as of 4/30/09 were \$4,334 with no more face-to-face meetings scheduled for the year, except when together for other reasons, such as convention, and,

WHEREAS, in order to minimize costs LSA has effectively restructured already, among other things accepting the resignation of its CEO, conducting meetings via teleconference, reducing its meetings to one face-to-face per year, and,

WHEREAS, as a separate 501(c)(3) organization, LSA has received corporate matching funds, and will be able to continue to receive such funds only as a separate 501(c)(3) organization, and,

WHEREAS, LSA continues to receive gifts and commitments, and,

WHEREAS, the Planning and Coordinating Committee continues to work on a strategic vision for the synod which would include the role of Lutheran Elementary Schools, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the structure of the board remain as it is, subject to the outcome of the synod's strategic plan, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That at the 2011 convention of the ELS, LSA present an evaluation of its work and present recommendations for its future, coordinated with the work of the Planning & Coordinating Committee, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That LSA consider a change of name under which to conduct business, possibly to "Board for Lutheran Elementary Schools."

### RECOMMENDED 2008–2011 ELS TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULE

The following is the recommended 2008-2011 ELS teacher salary schedule. Given the current economic conditions, this table reflects a change from what was recommended and approved at last year's convention. The change calls for a one year pay freeze effective in the 2009-10 academic year. Congregations are always urged to reflect upon the professional preparation, educational expertise, and Christian commitment provided by our teachers in establishing your teachers' salaries. Furthermore, the Board for LSA urges the consideration of these suggested salary levels to be the minimal levels referenced in establishing professional educator compensation.

Years of Service	ELS Bachelor of Science Salaries for 2008/09	Increment Increase	ELS Bachelor of Science Salary proposal 2009/10	ELS Bachelor of Science Salary proposal 2010/11
			0%	4%
0	\$26,002	\$250	\$26,002	\$27,042
1	\$26,252		\$26,252	\$27,292
2	\$26,502		\$26,502	\$27,542
3	\$26,752		\$26,752	\$27,792
4	\$27,002		\$27,002	\$28,042
5	\$27,252		\$27,252	\$28,292

Years of Service	ELS Masters Degree Base Salaries for 2008/09	Increment Increase	ELS Masters Degree Proposed Salaries for 2009/10	ELS Masters Degree Proposed Salaries for 2010/11
			0%	4%
0	\$27,774	\$250	\$27,774	\$28,885
1	\$28,024		\$28,024	\$29,135
2	\$28,274		\$28,274	\$29,385
3	\$28,524		\$28,524	\$29,635
4	\$28,774		\$28,774	\$29,885
5	\$29,024		\$29,024	\$30,135

6	\$27,577	\$325	\$27,577	\$28,617
7	\$27,902		\$27,902	\$28,942
8	\$28,227		\$28,227	\$29,267
9	\$28,552		\$28,552	\$29,592
10	\$28,877		\$28,877	\$29,917
11	\$29,277	\$400	\$29,277	\$30,317
12	\$29,677		\$29,677	\$30,717
13	\$30,077		\$30,077	\$31,117
14	\$30,477		\$30,477	\$31,517
15	\$30,877		\$30,877	\$31,917
16	\$31,352	\$475	\$31,352	\$32,392
17	\$31,827		\$31,827	\$32,867
18	\$32,302		\$32,302	\$33,342
19	\$32,777		\$32,777	\$33,817
20	\$33,252		\$33,252	\$34,292
21	\$33,802	\$550	\$33,802	\$34,842
22	\$34,352		\$34,352	\$35,392
23	\$34,902		\$34,902	\$35,942
24	\$35,452		\$35,452	\$36,492
25	\$36,002		\$36,002	\$37,042
26	\$36,627	\$625	\$36,627	\$37,667
27	\$37,252		\$37,252	\$38,292
28	\$37,877		\$37,877	\$38,917
29	\$38,502		\$38,502	\$39,542
30	\$39,127		\$39,127	\$40,167

6	\$29,349	\$325	\$29,349	\$30,460
7	\$29,674		\$29,674	\$30,785
8	\$29,999		\$29,999	\$31,110
9	\$30,324		\$30,324	\$31,435
10	\$30,649		\$30,649	\$31,760
11	\$31,049	\$400	\$31,049	\$32,160
12	\$31,449		\$31,449	\$32,560
13	\$31,849		\$31,849	\$32,960
14	\$32,249		\$32,249	\$33,360
15	\$32,649		\$32,649	\$33,760
16	\$33,124	\$475	\$33,124	\$34,235
17	\$33,599		\$33,599	\$34,710
18	\$34,074		\$34,074	\$35,185
19	\$34,549		\$34,549	\$35,660
20	\$35,024		\$35,024	\$36,135
21	\$35,574	\$550	\$35,574	\$36,685
22	\$36,124		\$36,124	\$37,235
23	\$36,674		\$36,674	\$37,785
24	\$37,224		\$37,224	\$38,335
25	\$37,774		\$37,774	\$38,885
26	\$38,399	\$625	\$38,399	\$39,510
27	\$39,024		\$39,024	\$40,135
28	\$39,649		\$39,649	\$40,760
29	\$40,274		\$40,274	\$41,385
30	\$40,899		\$40,899	\$42,010

In determining the appropriate salary and benefits package for full-time ELS teachers, LSA strongly encourages congregational representatives to account for the following considerations.

1. Duties as principal are to be remunerated at 10% of the base salary. Other duties assigned to a teacher, but not those expected because of regular congregational membership, should also be adequately remunerated.
2. Congregations are encouraged to provide financial support for the teachers' continuing education. Teachers should be encouraged to take a minimum of three credit hours of graduate or undergraduate work during each three-year period. Congregations may also wish to establish a salary incentive program to encourage teachers to take additional coursework by providing incremental increases based upon additional credits.
3. The congregation should insist that the teachers attend the annual teachers' conference and should provide ways and means to do so.
4. The congregation should encourage all male teachers to attend the synod convention and become permanent advisory members to the synod. Congregations should assist these teachers by providing ways and means to attend.

5. A sick leave of five days shall be granted each year. These shall be accumulated to a maximum of fifty days. For any sick leave beyond the accumulated amount, the substitute teaching may be deducted from the salary of the teacher who is absent.
6. Personal leaves are not to exceed five days each year. The cost of substitute teaching is to be deducted from the teacher's salary for all days over five days. In the event of a death or serious illness in the immediate family, an additional leave shall be considered. The extent of this leave is to be determined by the congregational Board for Christian Education based upon distance and circumstances.
7. In addition, we recommend that teachers also receive: a) housing based upon family need or a housing allowance equivalent to 135% of the HUD rental value of a four-bedroom home in their community; b) family health insurance; and c) a pension set at 6% of the teacher's salary.

*The Rev. Ed Bryant, chairman*

## *ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

### **Resolution 1: Butterfield resignation**

WHEREAS, Mr. Mike Butterfield served as president of the Board for Lutheran Schools of America from 2006 to 2009, and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Butterfield resigned as president on February 16, 2009, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank Mr. Mike Butterfield for his dedicated work in the field of Christian education and for his efforts to promote the goals, funding, and starting of LSA schools.

### **Resolution 2: Mr. Curt Mante**

WHEREAS, Mr. Curt Mante served as principal of Bethany Lutheran School, Port Orchard, Washington, as a member of the Board for Education and Youth for many years, as the Secretary of Schools for the past nine years, and as a member of the Board for Lutheran Schools of America, and,

WHEREAS, The Lord has called him from his labors to rest in His heavenly home, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Lord be thanked for the many blessings that students, congregations, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have received through his faithful work in the Lord's kingdom.

### **Resolution 3: Board for Elementary Education**

WHEREAS, Full time Christian education is important to the ELS at all levels, and,

WHEREAS, For the seven years (2000–06) prior to the establishment of LSA the expenditures for meeting expenses (travel, meals, and lodging) averaged \$7,376 per year, (approximately \$2,459 for each subcommittee including CDS/LES), and,

WHEREAS, The amount in the synod budget carrying over from former BEY to LSA was all distributed to schools, because meeting expenses were met by private donations, and,

WHEREAS, The expenditures for meeting expenses in 2009 as of 4/30/09 were \$4,334 with no more face-to-face meetings scheduled for the year, except when together for other reasons, such as convention, and,

WHEREAS, In order to minimize costs LSA has effectively restructured already, among other things accepting the resignation of its CEO, conducting meetings via teleconference, reducing its meetings to one face-to-face per year, and,

WHEREAS, As a separate 501(c)(3) organization, LSA has received corporate matching funds, and will be able to continue to receive such funds only as a separate 501(c)(3) organization, and,

WHEREAS, LSA continues to receive gifts and commitments, and,

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee continues to work on a strategic vision for the synod which would include the role of Lutheran Elementary Schools, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the structure of the board remain as it is, subject to the outcome of the synod's strategic plan, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That at the 2011 convention of the ELS, LSA present an evaluation of its work and present recommendations for its future, coordinated with the work of the Planning and Coordinating Committee, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That LSA consider a change of name under which to conduct business, possibly to "Board for Lutheran Elementary Schools."

#### **Resolution 4: Financial planning**

WHEREAS, At its 2008 convention, the synod resolved "That the BLSA submit their three-year plan with estimated financial information to the 2009 ELS convention, in addition to the five-year plan schedule for 2009" (p. 119, 2008 *Synod Report*), and,

WHEREAS, The Board for LSA has presented a five-year plan which addresses the work it intends to do without financial information, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for Lutheran Schools of America continue the planning process by presenting to the 2010 synod convention a three-year and a five-year financial plan.

#### **Resolution 5: 2008–11 ELS Teacher Salary Schedule**

WHEREAS, The Board for Lutheran Schools of America has recommended a salary schedule for the academic years 2008–09 through 2010–11, and,

WHEREAS, The schedule for the academic year 2009–10 represents a one-year salary freeze, and,

WHEREAS, The synod needs to be responsive to future economic conditions, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the salary schedule recommended by the Board for LSA be adopted, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That congregations with Christian Day Schools be encouraged to meet the salary recommendations, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board for LSA develop a new three-year salary schedule beginning with the academic year 2010–11 and report it to the 2010 convention.

#### **Resolution 6: Thanks**

WHEREAS, Mr. Silas Born has worked diligently as Director of Christian Education, and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Born has served Christian elementary education for over 50 years, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod gives thanks to the Lord for giving Mr. Silas Born to the church, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod thank Mr. Silas Born for his interest in and work toward promoting Christian education in our synod and in the Czech Republic.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PARISH EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Since the 2008 ELS Convention, the Board for Parish Education and Youth (PEY) met in October of 2008 and January of 2009. The regular work of the PEY makes Bible studies available, conducts an annual youth convention, encourages and supports circuit youth retreats, summer camps, etc.

The members of the Board for Parish Education and Youth include the following: Pastor Matt Brooks, Mr. Peter Bloedel, Mr. Glen Hansen, Pastor Aaron Hamilton, Pastor Tony Pittenger, Pastor Bernt Tweit, Chaplain Don Moldstad, Pastor Jonathan Madson. Officers of the PEY include Chairman – Bernt Tweit; Recording Secretary – Jonathan Madson; Secretary of Sunday Schools – Tony Pittenger.

The 2008 ELS Youth Convention was held on the campus of Texas Lutheran University, Seguin, Texas. Seguin is about thirty minutes east of San Antonio. The convention was held from July 24–27 with the theme of *Friends Forever*. Approximately 240 youth and counselors attended the convention. Excursions were made to Sea World – San Antonio and the Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio. We are thankful to all who took time to help as counselors and Bible study and devotion leaders.

The 2009 youth convention will be held at Camp Berachah near Seattle, Washington. The theme for the convention (Bible studies and devotions) will be *The Trees of the Lord Are Forever Green*. The dates of the convention are July 22–26. Pastor Tony Pittenger is the director. Pastors Alex Ring and Jim Braun will be assisting him. The 2010 LYA convention is scheduled to be held in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Several area youth retreats were held throughout the synod in addition to summer youth camps. The PEY has committed some funds to help defray some of the costs for camps and retreats. We also provided some financial support for the 2008 Youth Honor Choir held at Bethany Lutheran College in June. Last year's honor choir had the largest number of participants in its twenty year history.

Two Bible studies should be published soon. The studies include one on the family and another on the book of Hebrews. The teen devotion book, *Cling to the Cross II*, is scheduled to be published soon. The board has been suggesting that congregations purchase Lenten and Advent devotions from various sources (determined by the PEY) and receive a subsidy from the PEY for those purchases. We also review various VBS programs and Sunday School curriculums. A Vacation Bible School series is being developed by Leah Matzke, and the PEY is purchasing the rights to the series from her. The theme of the series is *The Armor of God*. The board has not abandoned the song book project. This song book could be used for camps, youth conventions, retreats, etc. It has been a slow process, but it is still being pursued by the board.

We continue to subsidize ELS youth (ages 17–22) who help with the Ukraine VBS program. In 2009, \$400 per youth will be available. We did help subsidize some participants in 2008.

We give thanks to the Lord for the privilege and responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the youth of our synod and assisting in the Christian education of all ages in the synod. God be praised for his glad tidings!

*The Rev. Jonathan N. Madson, secretary*



*YOUTH AND PARISH EDUCATION  
ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

**Resolution 1: Honor Choir**

WHEREAS, The Youth Honor Choir focuses young musicians on quality Christian music, and introduces them to the work of the synod in convention, and,

WHEREAS, The choir's performance greatly enhances the worship at the convention, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the convention once again express its appreciation to the Youth Honor Choir, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod recommend that congregations encourage their youth to participate.

**Resolution 2: Ukraine Vacation Bible School**

WHEREAS, The Board for Parish Education and Youth (PEY) has provided a subsidy for youth to attend the Ukraine Vacation Bible School (VBS) run by Thoughts of Faith (TOF), and,

WHEREAS, The Ukraine VBS program has been a blessing to our synod's youth as well as the Ukraine mission field, and,

WHEREAS, The organizations of the synod with regard to the functions of TOF is in transition, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the PEY and other boards that may be involved with the Ukraine mission field and its VBS strive to continue this opportunity for our youth.

**Resolution 3: Devotional Resources for Senior Citizens**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourage the Board for Parish Education and Youth to continue working on this project.

**Resolution 4: Military and College**

WHEREAS, The synod guidelines give the Board for Parish Education and Youth (PEY) responsibility for maintaining "a current file of armed services personnel and provide them with worthwhile devotional materials and tracts" and maintaining "a current file of all the synod members attending college and provide them with devotional materials," therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod encourage the PEY to implement this project.

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS**

Your Board for Publications serves three purposes. We assist in determining what should be published under the synod's name. We determine the best way to print and distribute what is published. And third we oversee the development and maintenance of our synod website <evangelicallutheransynod.org>.

Reporting to our board is the *Lutheran Sentinel* editor, Rev. Theodore Gullixson and his staff. Significant time, effort and talent goes into the production of the *Lutheran Sentinel* which is the synod's primary print vehicle for communicating with all of our congregations and their members. The editor and a group of regular contributors are responsible for most of the *Lutheran Sentinel* copy; however additional articles and synod news items are solicited. Our editor screens all materials to determine whether they are appropriate for the *Lutheran Sentinel*. Editor Gullixson has also asked that all pastors be encouraged to send copies of their newsletters and related photos to his attention.

Our printer, Stoyles Graphics, has merged with another graphics firm. The new name of the firm is Dimensional Graphics and they continue to be located in Mason City, Iowa. This merger came at a time when our board was pursuing means by which we could give the *Lutheran Sentinel* a fresher more modern look. We authorized the use of full color on at least half of the pages. This addition of more color, some new design techniques and more color photos has achieved a look that is more appealing to the reader. These changes are apparent in the last two issues of the *Lutheran Sentinel*. We appreciate the contributions made by the new merged firm to help us achieve this goal.

The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* is printed and delivered to all synod pastors three times each year. The *Lutheran Synod Quarterly* is now also available on the seminary website which is linked to <evangelicallutheransynod.org>.

The *Synod Report* will again be printed and available to all at a cost of \$10.00 each.

The synod website <evangelicallutheransynod.org> continues to add content under the watchful eye of our “webmaster,” the Rev. Jesse Jacobsen. The most utilized department within the website continues to be the directory. All pastors should, at least twice a year, check to see that the information related to their church or school is current and complete. Everyone should also be aware that if a church has its own website, it can easily be linked to this synod website.

One of the best ways for any synod board or committee to get a message in front of the most people is to ask the Board for Publications to have a bulletin insert printed. Approximately 10,000 each of up to sixteen different inserts are printed in January, and distributed to all churches along with a schedule of when each one should be inserted into the Sunday bulletins.

Not everything published within the synod is required to be authorized by the Board for Publications. However, any person, or group that would like advice, or assistance in having something published and printed is invited to contact us. The current board members are the Rev. Roger Holtz, Chairman, the Rev. James Braun, Mr. Paul Wold, the Rev. Eric Gernander and Mr. Howard Siewert. Mr. Robert Deering, long time board member and former chairman is no longer able to serve as a regular board member but will continue to serve as an advisory member of the publications board. We are grateful for having had access to Bob’s wisdom and leadership all these years.

*Mr. Howard Siewert, secretary*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

The Board for Christian Service consists of the following personnel: the Rev. Richard Fyffe, chairman and Term Insurance Coordinator; the Rev. Mark Marozick, secretary; Mr. Jeff Younge, Widows and Retired Workers Special Needs Coordinator and our board’s representative to the synod’s Planning and Coordinating committee; Mr. Joel Petersen, Retired Benefit Coordinator; Mr. Herb Berg. The board has met twice since the last report: in August and February. Rev. Richard Fyffe has recently resigned from the board. Herb Berg is acting as the temporary chairman of the board.

### **TERM LIFE INSURANCE**

Although there hasn’t been any word as to whether term life insurance rates will go up, it is expected that they will do so. All of our congregations reimburse those premiums to the synod except for one.

# WORLD NEEDS FUND

During 2008, \$12,443.89 was given to the World Needs Fund by the congregations of the synod and \$2,345 was given by individuals – adding up to a total of \$14,788.89. The board has granted financial assistance to a number of needy individuals and congregations throughout this past year, including tornado victims in Arkansas and Iowa, flood victims in Washington, earthquake relief, and a hardship case in India. The board published an article in the April issue of the *Lutheran Sentinel* promoting donations to the World Needs Fund and also encouraging congregations to be charitable, doing Christian service in their communities. A bulletin insert was distributed in late April in order to solicit contributions to this fund.

# RECOMMENDED LIMITS ON ASSISTANCE

These are the recommended limits on assistance as published in the 2008 *Synod Report*:

\$0 – \$2,000	Individuals
\$5,000 – \$10,000	Congregations & organizations
\$5,000 – \$10,000	World Relief

Please note that the Board for Christian Service can adjust these amounts as need and situations arise.

# PENSION PLAN

As of January 1, 2009, the government put into effect new guidelines for 403(b) pension plans. Instead of being controlled by the individual they are now being controlled by the employer. There are now much stricter reporting requirements. WELS and ELS have contracted with the company *One America* to provide and administer our synods' pension plans. So far ninety-nine of our pastors and teachers have enrolled in this plan. The trustees of our synod approved our synod's enrolling in this plan.

During 2008 the synod gave a \$400 match to pastors' and teachers' pension funds. This money comes from program funds provided by the Marin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation. Because of budget restrictions this match will be reduced to \$350 for full time workers this year.

# WIDOWS' SUBSIDIES

Currently we are supporting eight widows with a \$300 per month subsidy. Even though there are budget cuts for all synod boards, this subsidy will remain the same.

# DISABILITY INSURANCE

There is currently not enough interest to secure disability insurance coverage for those pastors and teachers who have opted out of the WELS-VEBA health insurance plan and are in another health insurance program that does not provide disability insurance.

# PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR 2009

Widow support	\$25,200
Pastor Retirement support	\$53,200
Group Insurance support	\$500
Board expenses	<u>\$1,125</u>
Total	\$80,025

*The Rev. Mark E. Marozick, secretary*

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

No report.

### *PARISH SERVICES*

### *ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

#### **Resolution 1**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of the Board for Publications be received with thanks.

#### **Resolution 2**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of the Board for Christian Service be received with thanks.

#### **Resolution 3**

WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship shall keep abreast of trends, movements, and new materials in all aspects of worship, and,

WHEREAS, The Committee on Worship shall endeavor to develop and deepen an understanding and love for the Lutheran heritage in Christian worship throughout the synod, and,

WHEREAS, At this time alternatives to our forms of worship seem to present a challenge to our practice, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Committee on Worship be encouraged to provide materials for the congregations and pastors of the synod to help understand and explain our rich, Christ-centered heritage of hymnody and worship.

## REPORT OF THE LAYMEN'S DELEGATES EQUALIZATION FUND COMMITTEE

As acting chairman of the Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee it is my privilege and responsibility to contact the congregations of our synod for funds to carry on the work of this committee for the annual convention of the synod. The purpose of the fund is to help defray the transportation costs of the laymen delegates. Each congregation needs to carry out its responsibility by responding with a check to the fund so that our committee may render the best possible service to the laymen delegates.

We are submitting a statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the 2008 convention period

### Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

Balance on Hand 3/1/2008		\$ 5,023.30
Receipts:		
Church Assessments Received	\$ 28,518.00	
Interest Income	\$ <u>16.77</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>\$ 28,534.77</u>
Total		\$ 33,558.07

Disbursements:

Delegates:

Air Fares and Mileage	\$ 25,445.69
Printing, Postage, checks, etc.	\$ <u>73.53</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 25,519.22</u>
Balance on Hand 2/28/2009	<u>\$ 8,038.85</u>

1. Mileage payments were made at the rate of \$.20 per mile (round trip) to a laymen delegate who drove his own car (home to convention site) and \$.35 per mile if accompanied by a second delegate or a pastor. Mileage from the point of departure was reimbursed at the lesser of the mileage rate or the cost of an airline ticket, as determined by the Equalization Committee. (Rates for 2009 are set at \$.05 more for each category.)

2. Delegates were encouraged to ride together, whenever possible. This stewardship of money enabled the Equalization Fund to cover more of the expenses.

3. Air travel and bus fares were also accepted. Only mileage to or from an airport was reimbursed. Car rental costs were not reimbursed.

4. Delegates registered at the convention showing name, congregation, round trip mileage, and/or travel expenses in order to receive reimbursement.

5. The Chairman was to receive \$.20 per mile or actual expenses; whichever was less, out of the fund to cover his costs of attending the convention. (Note: if chairman was a delegate he was to be reimbursed according to rules for delegates.) Since the chairman is a Bethany employee, no reimbursement was necessary.

6. Maximum reimbursement had been set at \$600.00 per delegate.

*Mr. Ralph Miller, chairman*

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP**

Your Board for Stewardship has met since last convention in September, February, and teleconference in March in preparation for the sectionals based on the convention essay *All We Have – A Trust From Thee*.

Thanks to those who serve on the board: Mr. Jon Natvig (secretary), Mr. John Merseth Jr., Mr. Ed Finlay, and the Rev. Kurt Kluge (chairman), the Rev. Daniel Basel, and Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft (ex officio member).

The board thanks the Rev. David Russow for his years of service. He resigned serving on the board as of January 2009.

The board continues to carry out its requirements:

- Promote Christian Stewardship on the basis of Biblical principles.
- Submit to the Planning and Coordination Committee an estimate of anticipated income from regular synodical contributions.
- All new synod-wide appeals for funds by synodical boards or individuals must be approved and coordinated by the Board for Stewardship.

In carrying out such requirements the board has continued to prepare the *Ambassador Updates* to contacts in the individual parishes, changing from monthly to bi-monthly issues. May the churches continue to provide the *Ambassador Updates* to the members of our synod.

The board reviewed and recommends new guidelines to be brought to the convention floor, to clarify the membership, duties, meetings and expenses of the board in order to better serve the synod.

The board discussed the concerns on the state of the “Lutheran Schools of America.” The offering is done, yet not as was expected or hoped. The position of director, CEO of LSA may be lost due to no supporting funds. Still the LSA board of directors will continue.

Much discussion and work has been ongoing, preparing for the synod convention of 2009, as sectionals are planned, based on the essay being presented. As mentioned earlier, the theme is *All We Have – A Trust From Thee*. Along with the board members, others will be asked to assist with the sectionals, comprising two days of discussion. One day of “personal stewardship,” and the second, “for your congregation.” The input from the discussions will be as an addendum and ready by the General Pastoral Conference.

The topic is very important due to the times we are enduring, especially when it means the difference between keeping missionaries in the field and pulling missionaries from the foreign mission fields.

While each one of is considered about God’s word being preached and taught that others may hear of Jesus, believe and be saved, we need to continue in praying and supporting the work of our synod, both at home and abroad.

We ought not forget the area of end of life issues, which are a part of end of life. The Rev. Daniel Basel our synod-giving counselor can help you remember the Lord in your will, transfer on death, etc. He can assist you in planning your gift which will continue to give after you are in heaven, that God’s work may continue, all to His glory.

The themes for the upcoming congregational emphases will include: Bible study, sermon outline, bulletin insert and worship helps for: Love for Love, 1 John 4:19 and Faith and actions working together, James 2:22.

The following is the annual summary of the congregational synod contributions at a glance over the past year:

# Congregation/Circuit Contribution Comparison

12/31/2008

Congregation	Circuit	Comm.	Budget Giving P/Cmm	2008 Total Budget Contributions	2007 Total Budget Contributions	2006 Total Budget Contributions	2005 Total Budget Contributions	2004 Total Budget Contributions	2003 Total Budget Contributions	2002 Total Budget Contributions	2001 Total Budget Contributions
Crises, Port St. Lucie, FL	1	61	6,173	5,000.00	4,000.00	3,500.00	5,000.00	5,300.00	6,373.00	6,300.00	7,055.00
Grace West Baptist, FL	1	61	6,173	5,000.00	4,000.00	3,500.00	5,000.00	5,300.00	6,373.00	6,300.00	7,055.00
Grace West Baptist, FL	1	45	17,866	7,169.68	29,793.00	29,793.00	30,260.00	32,407.00	33,645.00	27,544.00	36,789.00
Our Savior, Lakeland, FL	1	39	103.98	4,020.19	4,512.80	2,268.81	5,796.78	6,477.54	4,566.68	4,470.00	3,709.00
Our Savior, Naples, FL	1	188	91.27	17,159.60	18,995.25	15,148.57	15,706.92	14,660.82	14,428.92	11,789.92	11,073.87
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	1	112	32.14	3,600.00	3,650.00	3,650.00	3,650.00	4,050.00	3,800.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Peace, Lakeland, FL	1	112	32.14	3,600.00	3,650.00	3,650.00	3,650.00	4,050.00	3,800.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Trinity, Ft. Pierce, FL	1	91	18.99	1,300.00	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00
Trinity, Vero Beach, FL	1	78	28.28	2,234.00	3,000.00	1,850.00	2,205.00	3,580.00	1,000.00	3,396.00	3,769.00
Trinity, Sebastian, FL	1	88	75.84	65,301.48	73,285.58	68,553.77	74,732.20	82,302.90	77,081.14	78,789.72	87,539.03
Providence, Burlington, MA	2	104	54.09	5,625.00	7,250.00	5,750.00	10,453.50	3,653.50	4,835.00	6,895.00	8,955.00
Trinity, Brewster, MA	2	168	33.48	5,820.00	7,250.00	5,820.00	10,453.50	4,103.85	834.00	1,313.00	1,615.00
Abiding Word, Bowling Green, OH	3	110	21.08	2,317.05	2,658.09	628.18	1,894.00	2,504.00	4,853.89	4,612.00	2,265.25
Faith, East Jordan, MI	3	43	20.35	975.00	2,100.00	2,012.00	2,090.00	2,088.00	1,634.00	1,945.00	1,800.00
Faith, Haines, MI	3	53	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	1,533.00	1,533.00	1,533.00
First, St. James Bay, MI	3	216	61.87	13,543.54	11,811.87	13,494.07	13,845.64	13,838.00	14,735.74	15,237.81	13,840.97
Grace, Westport, MI	3	85	15.60	1,688.00	1,167.00	1,108.00	1,271.00	1,955.71	1,446.00	1,895.50	526.00
Holton, Holton, MI	3	234	10.19	45.00	0.00	645.00	230.00	1,050.00	0.00	15.00	0.00
Holy Scripture, Midland, MI	3	166	168.72	31,872.75	32,236.85	32,659.87	32,555.00	33,759.63	28,838.18	30,547.47	29,550.00
Lord of Life, Holland, MI	3	58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,615.00	1,615.00	1,615.00
St. John's, Farmington, MI	3	385	75.97	44,919.50	37,809.00	5,061.85	3,945.00	N/A	2,301.00	4,645.50	3,307.00
St. Matthew, Detroit, MI	3	41	0.00	0.00	0.00	251.68	168.34	506.68	780.34	N/A	N/A
Trinity, Rogers City, MI	3	33	36.36	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,260.00	1,105.00	487.00	382.00	495.00	462.00
Zion, North Huntingdon, PA	3	24	12.92	10,635.00	11,200.00	965.00	480.00	483.00	2,675.00	2,675.00	2,675.00
Good Shepherd, Brownsburg, IN	4	42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,345.83	2,884.20	3,042.32	4,626.95	4,116.62
Grace, Holet, IN	4	176	78.47	14,145.64	15,195.78	15,352.45	15,845.21	15,720.23	13,063.27	8,434.98	8,077.42
Hope, Portage, IN	4	116	12.71	1,900.00	1,775.00	1,825.00	1,410.00	199.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	4	128	84.02	10,635.00	10,705.00	9,945.00	13,743.90	10,595.00	15,831.00	13,811.00	13,811.00
St. Timothy, Lombard, IL	4	487	56.71	26,483.04	27,836.79	27,133.45	33,364.54	34,472.02	28,932.79	20,177.44	25,807.74
Abiding Shepherd, Cottage Grove, WI	5	205	17.48	3,600.00	3,420.00	2,200.00	4,800.00	3,000.00	2,688.65	4,008.00	3,985.00
Faith, Oregon, WI	5	120	51.11	6,132.72	5,647.40	5,159.04	6,800.00	4,095.00	4,221.00	4,075.00	4,125.52
Grace, Madison, WI	5	65	57.00	3,705.00	3,695.00	3,971.00	4,780.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,135.00	5,000.00
Holy Cross, Madison, WI	5	1,002	0.05	10,190.00	9,638.00	8,588.00	9,728.98	54,712.00	44,678.00	40,413.74	34,833.27
Holy Trinity, Oregon, WI	5	40	26.81	2,675.00	2,475.00	3,320.00	3,406.00	3,200.00	2,120.00	2,755.00	2,760.00
Our Savior, Madison, WI	5	241	12.86	3,100.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,300.00	2,850.00	2,850.00
St. Pauls, Portage, WI	5	65	15.11	982.00	400.00	1,160.00	800.00	1,250.00	325.00	1,261.00	1,040.00
Trinity, West Bend, WI	5	322	57.34	18,402.50	16,659.00	17,866.85	13,397.50	16,685.00	11,860.00	13,400.00	13,400.00
Western Kalikonorth, College Grove, WI	5	2,585	43.48	111,441.22	103,107.00	107,034.36	103,085.64	108,052.22	105,515.21	105,628.21	115,032.88

12/31/2008

Circuit	Comm.	Budget Giving PIComm	2008 Total Budget Contributions	2007 Total Budget Contributions	2006 Total Budget Contributions	2005 Total Budget Contributions	2004 Total Budget Contributions	2003 Total Budget Contributions	2002 Total Budget Contributions	2001 Total Budget Contributions
Ascension, Eau Claire, WI	9	125	23.12	2,860.00	2,431.00	2,553.00	2,716.00	2,511.00	4,069.80	1,026.00
Cleric the King, Green Bay, WI	6	150	66.67	10,000.00	8,000.00	2,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	1,500.00	5,000.00
Concordia, Eau Claire, WI	6	333	25.46	8,479.00	8,000.00	9,221.25	4,241.00	4,241.00	3,115.00	5,000.00
First Trinity, Marinette, WI	6	286	14.65	3,949.00	5,137.00	5,355.50	2,638.20	3,37.20	3,444.00	8,10.88
Good Shepherd, Blomberg, WI	6	48	18.18	5,084.50	4,813.00	4,395.50	4,849.00	2,413.00	2,707.00	2,760.00
Marathon, Oniro, WI	6	34	2.71	62.00	131.00	155.00	291.00	503.00	500.00	2,480.00
Our Saviors, Junction, WI	6	34	2.71	62.00	131.00	155.00	291.00	503.00	350.00	465.00
Our Saviors, Elberton, WI	6	57	74.96	4,274.50	1,867.50	3,423.50	3,217.50	1,600.00	2,150.00	1,862.00
Prophets, Eau Claire, WI	6	122	20.12	2,454.41	2,310.35	2,528.79	3,136.63	2,411.64	2,400.00	2,436.15
Ridgeman, Iowa, WI	6	40	42.33	1,663.00	1,629.00	1,540.00	1,395.00	1,787.00	614.00	827.00
St. Klemens, Menomonie, WI	6	103	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
St. Martin, Shawano, WI	6	153	72.55	11,100.00	11,100.00	10,100.00	10,100.00	10,100.00	17,958.21	18,119.10
		1,498	34.67	51,583.41	48,016.85	40,988.18	50,631.92	43,312.32	39,317.01	48,210.53
Beverly Ames, IA	7	36	167.36	8,025.00	9,285.12	4,700.00	6,650.00	4,250.00	3,875.00	1,380.46
Central, Searsville, IA	7	66	22.50	1,465.00	1,725.00	1,460.00	3,030.00	2,530.00	4,575.00	2,811.50
First Shall Rock, Northwood, IA	7	60	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	742.00	1,000.00	96.00	0.00
Forest, Forest City, IA	7	30	14.60	459.00	781.00	888.50	4,005.00	5,245.00	4,850.00	5,285.00
Good Shepherd, Indiana, IA	7	53	38.68	2,050.00	2,400.00	2,500.00	788.00	682.00	918.50	4,485.00
Grass Newton, IA	7	72	17.95	3,123.24	3,854.01	3,559.00	3,220.00	1,105.00	3,000.00	1,750.00
Harmon, Iowa, IA	7	174	30.94	1,510.50	832.75	734.35	9,887.50	9,244.50	10,092.20	9,300.00
Lebanon, Potosi, IA	7	13	80.46	785.00	966.77	0.00	501.21	38.00	2,887.00	2,492.00
Lebanon, New Hampton, IA	7	124	0.91	100.00	1,300.00	611.00	3,351.00	5,072.00	5,049.25	7,512.55
King of Grace, Waukon, IA	7	36	110.72	3,885.75	4,486.03	2,384.30	628.00	695.00	472.25	9,814.18
Lake Mills, Lake Mills, IA	7	47	9.96	468.00	36.00	210.00	15.00	392.75	737.50	614.00
Lime Creek, Lake Mills, IA	7	25	119.80	2,895.00	2,475.00	2,530.00	2,430.00	2,240.00	1,730.00	1,01.00
Manchester, Manchester, IA	7	48	12.42	7,598.00	8,422.00	7,540.35	9,887.50	9,244.50	684.00	1,500.00
Our Saviors, Albert Lee, MN	7	72	20.94	1,510.50	832.75	734.35	9,887.50	9,244.50	10,092.20	9,300.00
Rejoice, New Hampton, IA	7	78	8.97	700.00	681.60	639.50	603.00	968.50	580.00	550.00
Ridgeman, Thornton, IA	7	79	23.05	1,821.00	10,165.00	2,615.00	3,580.00	9,818.37	1,297.50	0.00
Sauk, Lawie, IA	7	123	31.46	3,870.00	2,875.00	1,995.00	5,083.88	4,410.75	7,228.77	9,205.65
Somerset, Northwood, IA	7	32	62.34	1,955.00	1,335.00	835.00	1,739.00	1,000.00	2,290.00	2,171.00
Synod, Searsville, IA	7	82	67.63	5,546.00	5,345.00	5,960.00	6,037.25	5,672.69	7,088.00	6,845.00
Trinity, Cairn, IA	7	21	10.48	220.00	345.00	438.00	816.00	1,25.52	1,006.70	848.46
Zion, Thompson, IA	7	1,729	32.23	55,721.46	60,065.90	48,655.30	59,518.23	64,511.60	61,482.96	58,964.74
Carew, Glen, MN	8	50	69.81	3,490.50	3,811.90	1,741.75	2,194.50	3,542.00	2,708.00	2,117.50
Immanuel, Audubon, MN	8	105	73.43	7,712.00	8,973.00	12,080.00	12,445.00	13,215.00	12,466.00	14,860.00
Mt. Olive, Trail, MN	8	11	13.82	152.00	54.00	62.00	137.00	96.00	75.00	76.00
Nazareth, Trail, MN	8	52	6.79	350.00	140.00	80.00	165.00	85.00	180.00	200.00
Oak Park, Odessa, MN	8	105	34.48	3,400.00	3,260.00	3,200.00	3,360.00	2,400.00	2,800.00	0.00
Our Saviors, Embury, MN	8	56	0.00	1,315.00	1,207.00	2,392.36	2,420.00	1,110.00	1,702.28	2,307.00
Our Saviors, Embury, MN	8	56	0.00	1,315.00	1,207.00	2,392.36	2,420.00	1,110.00	1,702.28	2,307.00
Our Saviors, Roseau, MN	8	12	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00
River Heights, East Grand Forks, MN	8	97	10.03	873.00	686.00	475.00	7,570.00	6,350.00	6,010.00	5,260.00
St. Paul, Lenoir, MN	8	106	16.37	1,738.00	721.00	0.00	3,879.06	1,663.25	2,419.00	2,278.00
St. Peter, Ogish, MN	8	736	25.67	18,598.50	15,128.50	18,990.75	31,712.92	28,424.23	25,623.26	27,210.55



12/31/2008

Circuit	Congregation	Comm.	Budget Giving P/Comm	2008 Total Budget Contributions	2007 Total Budget Contributions	2006 Total Budget Contributions	2005 Total Budget Contributions	2004 Total Budget Contributions	2003 Total Budget Contributions	2002 Total Budget Contributions	2001 Total Budget Contributions
9	Behavay, Luverne, MN	251	5179	13,000.00	11,000.00	3,011.00	14,711.60	8,039.00	15,988.50	9,227.80	13,324.00
9	Behavay, Princeton, MN	163	2184	4,216.00	4,083.00	1,110.00	3,445.28	4,110.50	4,451.50	3,451.50	4,522.00
9	English, Cottonwood, MN	148	6826	10,256.00	10,652.00	2,380.00	12,341.00	13,411.50	13,544.98	15,182.01	15,522.00
9	Faith, Oakes City, MN	143	5905	10,624.00	10,552.00	2,380.00	12,341.00	13,411.50	13,544.98	15,182.01	15,522.00
9	Hillside, Argyle Valley, MN	148	12488	18,450.50	10,237.00	10,080.19	9,570.55	7,549.92	6,121.40	7,890.60	7,914.18
9	Hope, Farmington, MN	133	15356	1,957.55	N/A	N/A	21,590.00	2,575.00	9,800.00	13,320.00	7,805.10
9	King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN	507	113,711	57,650.02	58,705.00	62,284.00	59,483.00	56,759.79	54,411.55	50,831.35	52,236.58
9	King of Grace, Minneapolis, MN	768	6555	51,173.73	49,685.24	58,387.23	59,817.54	51,490.29	52,720.35	43,943.00	48,883.31
9	Marshall, St. Peter, MN	188	11571	21,754.08	22,520.09	23,190.71	25,327.77	21,469.20	20,615.00	20,151.50	19,515.00
9	Northland, St. Peter, MN	188	11571	21,754.08	22,520.09	23,190.71	25,327.77	21,469.20	20,615.00	20,151.50	19,515.00
9	Our Savior, Bayview, MN	133	14,311	9,852.00	9,585.00	10,080.19	10,080.19	10,080.19	10,080.19	10,080.19	10,080.19
9	Our Savior, Lakeview, MN	156	2,721	425.00	14,628.81	15,115.85	15,945.75	19,298.85	13,877.60	12,895.95	18,086.03
9	Peace, North Mankato, MN	60	8394	18,975.00	15,272.50	10,178.00	13,115.81	8,331.10	6,414.28	5,024.97	5,024.97
9	Redeeming Grace, Rogers, MN	9	20	31.94	4,983.23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Redeeming Grace, Rogers, MN	9	20	31.94	4,983.23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Rock Dell, Behavay, MN	104	15,482	1,645.00	685.00	1,602.00	1,319.00	2,288.00	1,528.00	2,431.00	2,888.00
9	St. Luke, Mont Vernon, WA	146	21,481	3,135.00	8,080.98	1,849.21	1,780.00	3,587.00	2,440.00	3,205.95	5,285.00
9	Zion, Tracy, MN	3,327	6879	228,364.57	231,987.48	220,242.51	246,296.97	215,721.22	224,794.56	202,240.28	215,387.11
10	Faith, Cathlamet, MO	91	0.00	0.00	0.00	527.55	484.95	555.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Grace, Farmington, MO	38	143,660	5,458.52	5,345.88	5,445.26	4,741.85	6,074.72	3,903.59	3,084.94	2,897.41
10	Grace, Piedmont, MO	10	11	0.00	0.00	200.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	85.00	0.00
10	Grace, Jefferson City, MO	71	12,560	881.54	0.00	3,156.95	4,861.87	5,310.07	5,033.59	7,197.09	500.00
10	Scapular, Cape Girardeau, MO	98	6,380	581.00	583.00	630.00	400.00	520.00	520.00	520.00	260.00
289		23,121	6,911.95	5,628.89	9,999.71	11,088.88	12,462.79	9,457.48	10,887.03	3,307.41	
11	Apollonia, Ukiah, CA	28	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	650.00	600.00	300.00	N/A	N/A
11	Christ the King, Irvine, CA	48	8,700	400.00	4,960.00	4,820.00	5,100.00	4,370.00	4,600.00	3,912.00	1,735.00
11	Christ the King, Ball, Gardens, CA	28	35,711	988.86	918.83	1,083.29	800.00	550.00	600.00	950.00	600.00
11	Christ, Windsor, CA	70	101,559	7,111.00	3,088.00	4,624.00	4,470.00	2,443.00	4,105.00	5,881.57	6,806.58
11	Faith, Irvine, CA	52	0.00	0.00	2,550.00	1,500.00	2,750.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,810.00	3,020.00
11	Family of God, R. Motware, AZ	73	12,333	900.00	1,470.00	880.00	640.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00
11	Our Savior, Bisbee, CA	23	0.00	0.00	200.00	500.00	950.00	400.00	200.00	200.00	895.50
11	Our Savior, Lake Havasu City, AZ	165	95.00	15,840.00	19,200.00	9,700.00	14,400.00	13,200.00	15,600.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
11	Our Savior, Lake Havasu City, AZ	165	95.00	15,840.00	19,200.00	9,700.00	14,400.00	13,200.00	15,600.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
11	Redeemer, Somerville, AZ	450	45,069	25,250.56	32,084.63	29,576.28	38,837.88	30,120.85	32,143.70	31,255.90	34,401.34
12	Behavay, Port Orchard, WA	423	23,641	10,000.00	10,000.00	9,000.00	9,900.00	7,700.00	9,035.00	9,842.00	4,918.00
12	Behavay, The Dalles, OR	51	39,671	2,520.00	2,600.00	2,050.00	1,200.00	1,705.00	1,860.00	1,717.00	1,500.00
12	Christ, Klamath Falls, OR	41	7,115	3,415.00	1,324.00	1,810.00	2,926.00	2,754.00	3,210.00	1,895.00	1,515.00
12	Christ, Sutherlin, OR	51	0.00	0.00	0.00	474.75	2,078.78	2,023.10	2,485.91	2,477.25	2,630.37
12	Concordia, Hood River, OR	24	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00
12	Faith, Gresham, OR	46	18,739	5,510.00	5,010.50	3,438.17	3,585.53	2,255.84	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Hope, West Jordan, UT	425	0.00	0.00	921.11	0.00	2,152.91	697.55	940.51	326.87	0.00
12	Lakewood, Lakewood, WA	78	0.00	0.00	0.00	114.00	2,252.00	3,427.00	979.50	1,431.33	0.00
12	Our Redeemer, Yelm, WA	55	0.00	0.00	0.00	896.00	0.00	45.00	70.22	260.31	1,107.00
12	Our Savior, Grants Pass, OR	63	16,697	1,050.00	1,000.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	1,525.00
12	Parkland, Tacoma, WA	397	18,290	7,860.00	3,025.00	6,050.00	3,875.00	6,500.00	4,985.50	6,520.00	4,166.00
12	Resurrection, North Bend, OR	31	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	St. Luke, Mount Vernon, WA	41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	St. Matthew, Myrtle Creek, OR	42	0.80	35.00	97.00	75.00	75.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
1,608		20,445	32,880.00	23,977.61	25,157.92	29,735.77	24,502.50	25,284.14	26,141.36	17,283.57	

12/31/2008

Congregation	Circuit	Conn.	Budget Giving P/Comm	2003 Total Budget Contributions	2007 Total Budget Contributions	2008 Total Budget Contributions	2005 Total Budget Contributions	2004 Total Budget Contributions	2003 Total Budget Contributions	2002 Total Budget Contributions	2001 Total Budget Contributions
Closed or no longer with synod:											
Beautiful Savior, Sarnyboro, OH	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	1,410.40	4,478.83	5,955.75	9,041.97	5,325.08	N/A	N/A
East Point Creek, Waterville, IA	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,515.00	3,882.00	4,194.00
Faith, Alpena, MI	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	90.00	27.00	0.00	480.00	300.00	0.00	420.00
First Lutheran, Litchfield, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	5,213.00	5,902.20	5,707.63
First Lutheran, Litchfield, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	472.00	0.00	1,020.00
First Lutheran, Litchfield, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,340.00	0.00	0.00	330.00	735.00
First Lutheran, Litchfield, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	295.00	375.00	82.00
Grace, Crookston, MN	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Harbor Trinity, Gig Harbor, WA	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Light of Life Lutheran, Plainfield, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	1,244.37	0.00	0.00	2,010.50
Reformation, Hillsboro, OR	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,000.00	22,000.00	15,887.59	18,000.00	17,035.63
St. Mark's, Chicago, IL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Paul, Cantonville, WI	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	296.75	0.00	1,581.78	96.00	204.00	1,046.62
St. Timothy, Williamsburg, IA	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	4,748.00	7,327.50	8,893.50	8,944.50	8,475.15	8,689.00	9,648.00
South Lake, Clamont, FL	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	3,687.87	2,000.00	1,650.00	2,505.56	5,325.47	4,725.39	4,151.21
Waydrene Chapel, Ventura, CA	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	975.00	825.00	900.00	1,000.00	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	38,684.83	44,934.18	45,776.24	41,025.49	51,708.66
<b>Synod Totals</b>		<b>15,886</b>	<b>46.08</b>	<b>\$732,091.22</b>	<b>\$735,577.26</b>	<b>\$891,687.58</b>	<b>\$776,820.68</b>	<b>\$757,062.23</b>	<b>\$746,893.07</b>	<b>\$733,373.43</b>	<b>\$754,075.21</b>

“But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving... This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God” (2 Corinthians 8:7, 9:12).

*The Rev. Kurt D. Kluge, chairman*

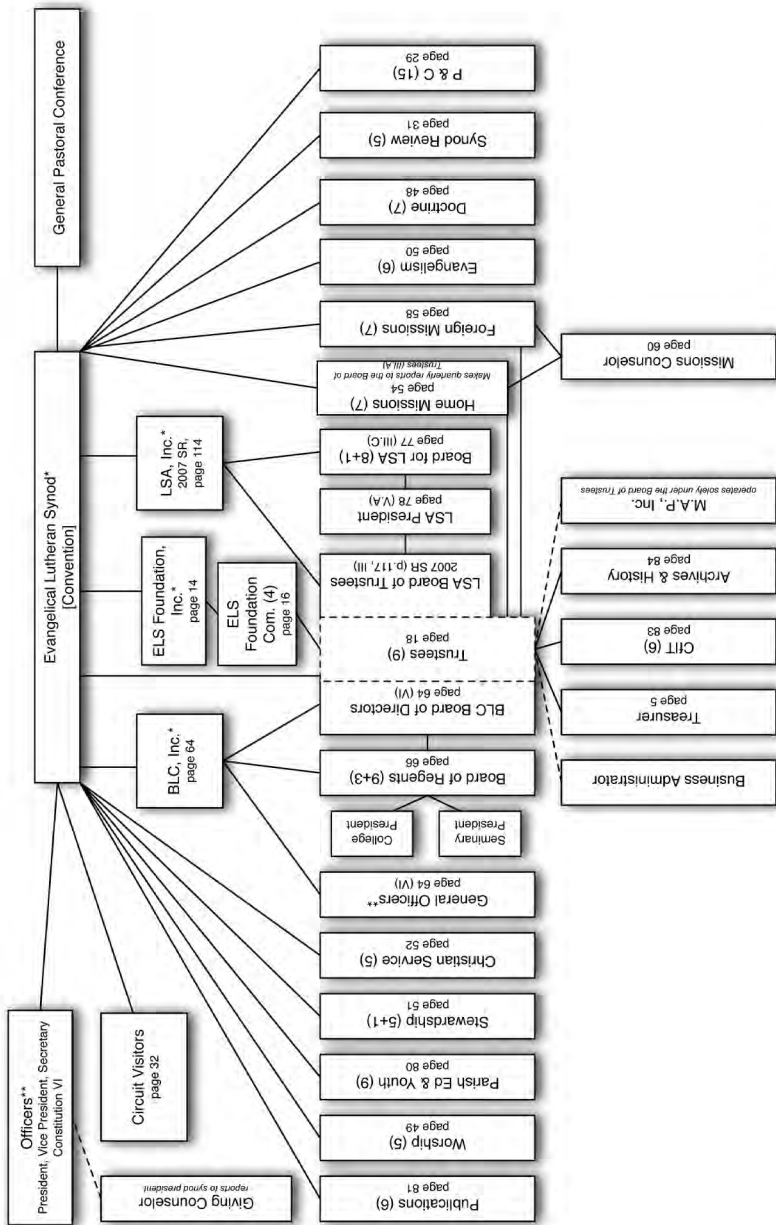
## **REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

The Planning and Coordinating Committee consists of the three officers of the synod, the chairmen (or their designated representatives) of the Board for Christian Service, the Board for Home Missions, the Board for Foreign Missions, the Board for Lutheran Schools of America, the Board for Parish Education and Youth, the Board for Publications, the Board of Regents, the Board for Stewardship, the Board for Evangelism, and three laymen elected by the synod. The president and the secretary of the synod serve as the chairman and secretary of the committee. The committee has conducted two meetings since the last convention on September 16–17, 2008 and April 20–21, 2009.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

At last year’s convention, the synod urged the president to initiate a strategic planning process to be led by the Planning and Coordinating Committee. The process has been started but there still is a great deal of work to be completed. Mr. Arvid Schwartz, from our sister-synod, has served as the facilitator for the two meetings which have been held to date. In addition, three individuals have been asked to serve as advisory members, with non-voting privileges, to assist in the process of strategic planning; they are the president of Bethany Lutheran college, the president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Rev. E.Ekhhoff (due to his past service on this board).

In the early stages of planning, the committee has recognized the following organization chart as the current operation of the synod:



\*Membership of these four entities is identical  
 \*\*Both boxes represent officers of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## 2010 BUDGET

The board proposes a 2010 budget is as follows:

	<u>Operating Needs</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Net Needs</u>	<u>Proposed Synod Budget</u>
<b>Bethany Lutheran College:</b>				
Operation Subsidy	281,000			
Less Revenue		<u>0</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			281,000	<b>202,033</b>
<b>Bethany Lutheran Seminary:</b>				
Operation Subsidy	66,600			
Less Revenue		<u>0</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			66,600	<b>42,794</b>
<b>Home Missions:</b>				
Program Needs	780,818			
Less Revenue		<u>445,273</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			335,545	<b>202,033</b>
<b>Foreign Missions:</b>				
Program Needs	1,078,340			
Less Revenue		<u>783,184</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			295,156	<b>174,483</b>
<b>Evangelism:</b>				
Program Needs	25,560			
Less Revenue		<u>0</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			25,560	<b>23,473</b>
<b>Parish Education and Youth:</b>				
Program Needs	115,150			
Less Revenue		<u>67,676</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			47,474	<b>20,203</b>
<b>Lutheran Elementary Schools:</b>				
Program Needs	66,280			
Less Revenue		<u>36,280</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			30,000	<b>27,550</b>
<b>Board for Publications:</b>				
Program Needs	103,400			
Less Revenue		<u>51,000</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			42,400	<b>41,325</b>
<b>Board for Christian Service:</b>				
Program Needs	82,700			
Less Revenue		<u>55,000</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			27,700	<b>25,200</b>
<b>Synod Fund:</b>				
Program Needs	581,000			
Less Revenue		<u>229,514</u>		
Total Synod Fund Request			351,486	<b>315,906</b>
 Total Program Needs	 3,180,848			
Less Revenue		<u>1,667,927</u>		
Total Funds Needed			<u>1,512,921</u>	<b>1,075,000</b>
Less Schwan Program funds			<u>-350,000</u>	<b>-350,000</b>
<b>TOTAL SYNOD BUDGET NEEDS FROM MEMBER CONGREGATIONS</b>			<b>1,162,921</b>	<b>725,000</b>

*The Rev. Craig A. Ferkenstad, secretary*

# **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod consists of nine trustees: the Rev. Karl Anderson, Mr. Wayne Anderson, Mr. Robert Brown, Mr. David Ewert, the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, Mr. Donald Heiliger, Mr. Wilbur Lieske, Mr. Leroy Meyer, and the Rev. John A. Moldstad. The Rev. Glenn Obenberger serves as an advisory member of the board.

## **MEETINGS**

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod has met since the last convention for regular quarterly meetings on August 13, November 11, and February 10. The board also has met via telephone conference call on January 16 and March 30 and will meet in May 2009.

The president of the synod, the Rev. John A. Moldstad, and the secretary of the synod, the Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, also serve as the chairman and secretary of the Board of Trustees. Members who served on the Board of Regents–Board of Trustees Subcommittee are Mr. David Ewert, Mr. Wilbur Lieske, and Mr. Leroy Meyer. Members serving on the Board of Trustees–Missions Subcommittee are Mr. Donald Heiliger and the Rev. Karl Anderson. The Rev. Keith Boheim represents the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation as an advisory consultant.

## **STAFF**

The Giving Counselor, the Rev. Daniel Basel, and the Business Administrator, Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft, serve under the direction of the board and report regularly. Regular reports also are received from the Missions Counselor, the Rev. Steve Petersen. Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft is appointed, by the board, as the treasurer of the synod. A request from the Board for Home Missions to provide interim assistance to the Missions Counselor during the time of transition, while Thoughts of Faith is brought into the organizational structure of the synod, was declined. It was felt that a recommendation for such added staff should come from the Planning and Coordinating Committee as it completes its work on strategic planning.

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE, INC.**

The Board of Trustees and the officers of the synod also are the Board of Directors and the officers of Bethany Lutheran College, Inc., and, as such, receive regular quarterly reports concerning the finances of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. Bethany Lutheran College, Inc., is the legal entity that comprises both our synod's college and seminary. A sub-committee also meets as a liaison between the Board of Trustees and the Board of Regents.

## **LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA (LSA)**

The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod also serves as the Board of Trustees for the LSA (*Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Lutheran Schools of America*, Article VII, 2007 *Synod Report*, page 115). The president of the synod, or his representative from the Board of Trustees, serves as a voting member of the LSA (*LSA Bylaws*, Article V,C). In addition, the president of the LSA is to make a written report at each meeting of the Board of Trustees (*Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees*, Article X,A). Due to financial constraints, the board received the resignation of M.Butterfield from the presidency of the LSA effective

February 16, 2009. The board has received notice that the Board for Lutheran Schools of America is recommending the vacated position not be filled at the present time.

### **MISSIONS ADVANCEMENT PROJECT (MAP)**

The Missions Advancement Project (MAP) reports regularly to the board. This organization receives funds from the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation and other donors (1999 *Synod Report*, page 134, resolution 8). MAP is a supporting organization operated, supervised and/or controlled by the ELS. (See the convention report of the Synod Review Committee for the proposed guidelines for MAP.) The organization has its own Board of Directors which is appointed by the synod's Board of Trustees at its August meeting. The following serve as members of the MAP Board of Directors: Mr. Dan Browning, Mr. David Ewert (treasurer), Mr. Marlin Goebel, the Rev. William Kessel, the Rev. Michael Smith (chairman). For the 2008 year, the MAP treasurer reports, \$2,316,300 was distributed in support of various entities that promote the objectives of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod as follows:

Thoughts of Faith	\$1,746,300
Helping Hands	\$300,000
LMSI - India	\$270,000

A 2009 total MAP request of \$1,750,000 has been approved by the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation.

### **SYNOD PROPERTIES**

The board receives reports at its regular quarterly meetings from the thirteen congregations where it has any financial responsibility through loans which have been issued. These loans total \$1,377,490, in addition to \$4,303,436 where the synod has co-signed on behalf of congregations. An itemized listing is found in "Notes to Financial Statements: Loans Receivable." Correspondence with these congregations is through the office of the Business Administrator.

During this past year, additional loans were granted to: Peace Lutheran Church (Lakeland, Florida)—\$15,000, and Redeemer Lutheran Church (Scottsdale, Arizona)—\$10,000. A \$100,000 bridge-loan was extended to Lakewood Lutheran Church (Lakewood, Washington). A \$10,000 deposit, to be repaid within two years, was made for Peace Lutheran Church (Kissimmee, Florida) to enable them to become "scholarship eligible" in the state of Florida.

The board ratified the action of the Board of Regents of Bethany Lutheran College concerning the use of fixed investments to cover the completion costs of the construction of the college's new academic building.

The board also approved the sale of the church property in Las Vertientes, Chile, under the proposal for future work in Chile, as recommended by the Board for Foreign Missions.

### **ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM**

The Rev. George Orvick, Director of the Museum and Archives, reports regularly to the board. The Ottesen Museum is located at 4 Browns Court.

### **MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT**

The 2008 convention encouraged the Board of Trustees to consider adjusting the rate of reimbursement for travel for lay delegates to the synod convention (2008 *Synod Report*, page 141, resolution 2). Upon recommendation from the Equalization Committee of the synod, it was resolved that both laymen's and pastors' equalization remain at 25¢ per mile for a single traveler or 40¢ per mile with another pastor or delegate in the car to a maximum

reimbursement of \$600.00. The *per diem* for pastors and professors emeriti is actual expenses not to exceed \$60/day.

Effective September 1, 2008, the mileage reimbursement for boards and committees was set at 75% of the IRS guidelines (rounded up to the nearest cent).

**RETIREMENT PLANS**

Due to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and United States Department of Labor guidelines of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, 403(b) retirement plans for synod employees need to come under an investment funds policy. As the synod has fiduciary responsibility for synodical workers, who are paid by the synod, the synod contracted with “American United Life Insurance Company” which is a “One America” company, as a third party administrator to be compliant with IRS guidelines by January 1, 2009. Congregations have fiduciary liability for their own called workers and are eligible to enroll in the synod’s plan.

The synod provides supplement funds to encourage local congregations to provide for the future retirement of her pastors and Lutheran elementary school teachers. According to the synod-adopted guidelines for the Board for Christian Service, synod tax sheltered annuity (TSA) contributions will be remitted *only* to those synod congregations that placed money into the TSA plans of their workers. Congregational contributions must be at least similar to, and preferably larger than, the amount contributed by the synod. The synod’s contribution level is determined by the Board of Trustees and is contingent upon the availability of funds from the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation. The synod supplement for TSA contributions for 2009 will be \$350 (\$175 for part-time workers).

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS**

A church-wide grant for the year 2008 was received from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation in the amount of \$70,000. The grant has been used for the following three projects:

Fraternal Leadership	\$ 8,000
Board for Home Missions Educational Outreach	36,000
LSA Model Schools	26,000

**WILLS AND ESTATES**

The synod gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following estates:

Wilbert L. Seydel	\$1,173
Jean Petschow	\$67,088
Carolyn Vogel	\$500,000 (Foreign Missions)

Estates received by the college or the seminary are acknowledged within their respective reports.

**SYNOD BUDGET MATTERS**

The operational cost of the synod is approximately \$3.24 million (see 2008 *Synod Report*, page 137) which is provided through congregation contributions, investment income, estates, the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation, and other sources. In 2007, congregation contributions were 17% of the operational cost of the synod.

In 2008, the synod received \$732,091 toward the 2008 reduced congregational contribution budget of \$750,000. The synod-adopted congregational contribution budget for 2009, as recommended by the Planning and Coordinating Committee, was \$818,360, an 11.8% increase over the previous year.



The board has some overall concerns regarding synod finances. Among these concerns are the following items:

- In recent years, the congregation support of the general synod budget has not shown a measurable increase:
- | <u>2008</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2005</u> | <u>2004</u> | <u>2003</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$732,091   | \$739,873   | \$691,817   | \$778,820   | \$757,062   | \$768,103   |
- The synod's congregational contribution budget has been exceeded only once since 1995.
  - This adopted annual budget has required reduction in six of the past eight years.
  - ELS Foundation investments, as of December 31, 2008, showed a negative return of -31.4% which reduces the interest income available from the investments of the synod, including endowments, available for the work of boards and committees.
  - Lack of funds are restricting the expansion of new home mission congregations.
  - The 2008 budget reduction was borne especially by the Board for Home Missions, and also by the Board for Foreign Missions.

The Board of Trustees, in accord with the synod's guidelines, has taken action to reduce the 2009 Synod Budget to \$725,000. This budget reduction applies as follows:

#### **2009 Revised Budget**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Bethany Lutheran College	\$220,000	\$202,033	-17,967
Bethany Lutheran Seminary	46,600	42,794	-3,806
Home Missions	220,000	202,033	-17,967
Foreign Missions	190,000	174,483	-15,517
Evangelism	25,560	23,473	-2,087
Parish Education and Youth	22,000	20,203	-1,797
Lutheran Elementary Schools	30,000	27,550	-2,450
Board for Publications	45,000	41,325	-3,675
Christian Service	25,200	25,200	0
Synod Fund	<u>344,000</u>	<u>315,906</u>	<u>-28,094</u>
Total Funds Needed	\$1,168,360	\$1,075,000	
Less Schwan Program funds	<u>350,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>	
Synod Budget Needs from congregations	\$818,360	\$725,000	-93,360

## **PROGRAM FUNDS**

The board is grateful to the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation for its support in providing \$1,000,000 in Program Funds for synodical use during the past year. While this foundation's overall support for its beneficiaries has been reduced by approximately 20% in 2009, we are grateful that it intends to provide \$1,000,000 to the synod in program support for this current operating year. We have, however, been informed that there is a possibility of a reduction in Program Funds by 30–40% for 2010. This would equal a reduction of \$300,000 – \$400,000. The Board of Trustees urges all synodical boards and committees to have a contingency plan in place for 2010 in order to prepare for possible reductions in funding from the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation.

The Board of Trustees, according to synodical guidelines, makes recommendation to the synod concerning the distribution of Program Funds. The board recommends the following allocation of Program Funds for 2010; this recommendation comes with the understanding that, should economic conditions prevent the distribution of \$1 million, the allocation of the Program Funds will follow the same percentage reflected below.

Foreign Missions	\$ 200,000
Home Missions	300,000

Retirement contribution	55,000
CDS match (3%)	30,000
Budget supplement	350,000
Board of Trustees	<u>65,000</u>
Total	\$ 1,000,000

## PROJECT GRANTS

In addition to the synodical budget, normally each year application is made to the Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation for additional Special Project Grants. These are to be used for special short-term projects which are not a part of the normal budget of the synod. Projects are considered by the Foundation upon recommendation from the ELS Board of Trustees. Applications are reviewed at the regularly scheduled November meeting of the board. In 2008, \$155,000 of projects received funding (2008 *Synod Report*, page 141). In addition, approval was given for a \$25,000 grant to assist the Planning and Coordinating Committee with strategic planning. We have been informed that no Project Grants will be available in 2009.

## OTTESEN OFFICE BUILDING

At its May 12, 2009 meeting, the Board of Trustees gave the name “Ottesen Office Building” to the building located at 4 Browns Court. This is reflective upon the two current uses of the building which are to house the mission department of the synod along with the synod’s Ottesen Museum. The Rev. J.A. Ottesen, who is considered to be one of the “founding fathers” of the synod, was elected as a member of the first foreign mission board of the Norwegian Synod in 1864. The Ottesen Museum had its beginnings in 1941 when Hannah Ottesen’s estate was first put on display.

## LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA (LSA)

The Board of Trustees is aware of memorials being submitted to this year’s convention concerning the Lutheran Schools of America. Since the synod’s Board of Trustees also serve as the Board of Trustees for the Lutheran Schools of America, Inc. (*Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Lutheran Schools of America*, Article VII, 2007 *Synod Report*, page 115), the following recommendation is made to the synod:

WHEREAS, Christian education is important to the ELS, and,

WHEREAS, In support of Christian education the Trustees approved a feasibility study funded by an outside gift to support the premise that the LSA initiative could be totally funded from public and corporate sources outside of the ELS and no money was to be used from the ELS budget to support LSA, and,

WHEREAS, After four years, no support of outside funding has been made available, and,

WHEREAS, No consensus has been reached with BLC on the methods of Christian education, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That LSA be dissolved, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we use an existing committee to work in conjunction with BLC and the former LSA board to include the LSA concepts in future Christian education programs in our synod.

*The Rev. John Moldstad, chairman*  
*The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad, secretary*

# REPORT OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation Committee meets concurrently with the quarterly meetings of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Board of Trustees.

The president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod also serve as the officers of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation Committee is made up of four members elected to two-year terms. Mr. Leroy Meyer and the Rev. Richard Wiechmann were elected in 2008. Mr. Robert Brown and Mr. Wilbur Lieske were elected in 2007. The committee considers and makes recommendations regarding the investment of its assets and the use of the income from those investments. The rate of return for all investments for the calendar year 2008, was -31.4%. The investment counselor has recommended a larger diversification in large-cap value stocks, real estate, and emerging markets. For the year 2009, the payout from the endowments will be 3% of three year rolling average of 2005-06-07. An accounting is found in the "Financial Statements and Supplementary Information."

As of June 30, 2009, there will be a \$5,000 minimum amount of investment for organizations and congregations who have funds invested with the synod, and an annual interest rate will be established at the ten-year CD rate at Wells Fargo of Minnesota on June 30 annually.

*Mr. Leroy Meyer, chairman*

## FINANCES

### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution 1: Report of the Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee**

WHEREAS, The Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee has provided its report on the cash receipts and disbursements for the 2008 convention period, and,

WHEREAS, The equalization rate remains at 25¢ unaccompanied, 40¢ accompanied as recommended, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of the Laymen's Delegates Equalization Fund Committee be accepted.

#### **Resolution 2: Report of the Board for Stewardship**

WHEREAS, Congregational synod contributions over the past several years have declined, and,

WHEREAS, The Board for Stewardship has provided its report on activities, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the congregations be encouraged to increase support of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in order carry out the work of the church, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of the Board for Stewardship be accepted.

#### **Resolution 3: Report of the Board of Trustees**

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees has provided its report on activities, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of Board of Trustees be accepted.

#### **Resolution 4: Report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

WHEREAS, The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation has provided its report on activities, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the report of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation be accepted.

### **Resolution 5: Report of the Planning and Coordinating Committee – Budget 2010**

WHEREAS, The committee has provided its report on the proposed budget for 2010, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod approve the proposed budget for the year 2010.

### **Resolution 6: Report of the Planning and Coordinating Committee – Strategic Planning**

WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee has begun the planning process to develop a strategic mission and vision for the future work of the synod, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the committee continue this planning process and present a strategic mission and vision for the future work of the synod at the 2011 convention.

### **Resolution 7: Synod Treasurer's Reports**

WHEREAS, The treasurer has provided the “Evangelical Lutheran Synod Financial Statements and Supplementary Information” and the “Treasurer’s Addendum to the Financial Statements and Supplementary Information” as of December 31, 2008, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the treasurer’s reports as of December 31, 2008 be accepted.

## **REPORT OF THE SYNOD REVIEW COMMITTEE**

In accordance with its guidelines (*Handbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod*, 2006 edition,<sup>1</sup> p.31), the Synod Review Committee takes up matters for study that are assigned to it by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in convention, the synod’s Board of Trustees, or the synod’s president.

The members of the committee are Prof. Erling T. Teigen, Chairman, Robert Brown, the Rev. Ernest Geistfeld, the Rev. Paul G. Madson and Norman Werner. President John Moldstad is an advisor to the committee. Since the last convention the committee has met seven times to review and report on the work that has been assigned.

A question has arisen regarding the term of office at such time as the president makes an appointment of an advisory member to a board or committee. It has been the conclusion of the Synod Review Committee that each appointment is for one year, subject to reappointment, unless a different term is assigned at the time of appointment.

Please note that proposed new guidelines, additions and amendments are underlined and recommended deletions are shown as ~~strikethroughs~~.

### **1. BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH**

(2008 *Synod Report*, Resolution #6, pp.107, 108)

#### **Background:**

The 2008 synod convention adopted a resolution that stated in part: “That Thoughts of Faith be brought into the organizational structure and under the direction and control of the synod through its Board for Foreign Missions according to” a proposed schedule that included the preparation of (1) a “detailed resolution for the 2009 synod convention for full implementation of bringing TOF under the direction and control of the synod through the Board for Foreign Missions,” (2) that the “2009 synod convention considers/approves the adoption of a proposed structure for its reorganized foreign missions program,” and (3) that on “January 1, 2010 TOF [be] brought under the direction and control of the synod through its Board for Foreign Missions according to [its] implementation plan.”

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1 The *Handbook* is available on the synod website: <[www.evangelicallutheransynod.org](http://www.evangelicallutheransynod.org)>

### Discussion:

The Board for Foreign Missions appointed a three-member committee called the Missions Acquisition Committee (MAC). On August 5–6, 2008, the committee and three members of the Board of Directors of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. met and adopted a report titled “Mission Acquisition Committee Foundational Thinking.” The report included goals, objectives, guiding principles, applications, assumptions and proposed guidelines. Four different assumptions were designated: (1) utilize the different talents that may be available, (2) structure the guidelines of the board around work assignments, (3) “simplicity is to be preferred over complexity” in designing the organizational structure, and (4) “flexibility is key.”

The guidelines presented here were prepared by the MAC based on the current guidelines of the Board for Foreign Missions with additions and revisions necessary to accommodate the additional programs of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. That draft was reviewed by the Synod Review Committee in consultation with MAC and coordinated with other current guidelines.

The work of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. is being transferred to the Board for Foreign Missions. To effectively implement the change, the Board for Thoughts of Faith, Inc. will be represented on the Board for World Outreach. The current Board for Foreign Missions has been concerned with establishing churches in South America and Asia. Thoughts of Faith has been primarily involved in assisting small groups to become established congregations in Eastern Europe. It is the recommendation of the Synod Review Committee that all three geographic areas of work be fully represented on the Board for World Outreach.

Two vacancies on the Board for Foreign Missions were filled by the appointment of members of the Board of Directors of Thoughts of Faith. The SRC believes that two additional representatives from Thoughts of Faith added to the Board for World Outreach would be very helpful.

These guidelines describe an organization whose responsibility is to represent the synod in establishing policy for the total foreign mission work of the synod. There is authority for the board to establish committees and staff to administer and manage the board's work, according to assignments made by the board. While the recommended guidelines contain several articles concerning duties for the board, for the officers and for staff members, it must be kept in mind that their implementation may lead to the discovery of the need for necessary amendments. The board should recommend to the synod convention any changes that it proposes to be made to the synod-adopted guidelines, and further, recommend that the Synod Review Committee examine the proposed changes for coordination with other guidelines before the changes are implemented.

The Missions Advancement Project, Inc. (MAP) is a vehicle through which Thoughts of Faith, Inc. has received substantial financing. That vehicle will continue to be used by the Board for World Outreach, and MAP's proposed guidelines are included for review and approval, as well as other related guidelines.

The Synod Review Committee appreciates the initiative and cooperation of the Board for Foreign Missions and the Board of Directors of the Thoughts of Faith, Inc., in the preparation of these guidelines.

### Recommendation:

That the Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod include the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Missions Advancement Project, Inc. in the *Handbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod*, and

That these proposed guidelines, including many guidelines currently in effect, are recommended to replace the current Guidelines for the Board for Foreign Missions:

## GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod resolved at its 2008 convention that on January 1, 2010, “Thoughts of Faith [be] under the direct control of the synod through its Board for Foreign Missions according to [its] implementation plan.” The current Thoughts of Faith, Inc. Board of Directors is dissolved upon the synodical adoption of the Guidelines for the Board for World Outreach. A new board will be elected at the 2009 convention of the ELS. At that time the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, through its Board for Foreign Missions (which is renamed Board for World Outreach), shall assume all obligations of Thoughts of Faith, Inc. The sphere of responsibility of the Board for World Outreach shall not include the United States and Canada.

### ARTICLE I: BOARD MEMBERSHIP, OFFICERS, DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- A. The Board for World Outreach shall consist of nine members, all of whom shall be elected by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod meeting in convention. Three members shall be clergy, three members shall be lay and three members may be either clergy or lay. The term of office shall be three years. The terms of individual members will be staggered.<sup>2</sup> After not more than three years from the adoption of these guidelines, the number of members to serve on this board will be reevaluated as directed by the president.
- B. The board shall elect from its members a chairman, vice chairman, and recording secretary. The board may designate committees whose members it shall elect. The board may also call or hire individuals to such positions as it deems necessary to conduct its business, e.g., Missions Administrator, Missions Field Coordinator and secretaries. While the called or hired positions are authorized, they are not mandated. The board shall prepare its own internal guidelines which may include duties in addition to those that are included in these guidelines. Advisors may serve in accordance with General Synodical Rules and Regulations, Article IV.
- C. Duties of the Officers:
  - 1. The chairman shall call and preside over all the meetings of the board and shall prepare the agenda for each meeting. He shall supervise the work of the World Outreach Field Coordinator and the World Outreach Administrator. He shall authorize all expenditures and present them in voucher form for payment by the treasurer.
  - 2. The vice chairman shall preside in the absence of the chairman.

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<sup>2</sup> Upon synod adoption of the guidelines for the Board for World Outreach, the seven members of the Board for Foreign Missions will assume positions as board members for the Board for World Outreach. In addition, two members, one clergy and one lay, of which at least one should be from the Thoughts of Faith, Inc. board of directors, are to be appointed by the synod president to serve a one year transitional term. These nine men shall comprise the first membership of the Board for World Outreach. After completing a one year transitional term, the two additional appointees shall be nominated by the nominating committee, together with other nominees, for election by the 2010 synod convention as follows: one clergy for a three year term, one layman for a two year term. It should be noted that in addition to the two people discussed in the previous sentence as standing for election at the 2010 convention, the two people appointed to the Board for Foreign Missions in October 2008 (who were selected from the TOF board) must stand for election at the 2009 convention—one person for a term of one year and one person for a term of two years. This footnoted information shall not be included in the published guidelines, but shall be included in the 2009 *Synod Report* and made available for the information of the Nominating Committees elected in 2009 and in 2010, then be deleted.

3. The duties of the recording secretary are defined in General Synodical Rules and Regulations, Article III. C.
4. The treasury duties will be administered by the office of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Business Manager/Treasurer. The synod treasurer shall serve as an advisor to the board.

## ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- A. In general it shall be the duty of the board to locate promising world mission fields and, with the authorization of the synod, to establish missions according to the confession of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.
- B. In keeping with the Great Commission ("All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."—Matthew 28:18–20 NKJV), the board shall have the responsibility to call qualified men from the Evangelical Lutheran Synod or from its wider fellowship to fill positions created by vacancies in the missionary staff, and, subject to synod authorization through the Board of Trustees, to make necessary additions to the staff.
- C. The board shall counsel with, support and pray for the missionaries under its jurisdiction and shall encourage them to be faithful stewards of the mysteries of God.
- D. The board shall keep accurate records. It shall also prepare and present a budget request for each fiscal year under consideration and present it to the Planning and Coordinating Committee annually. The board shall submit annually a detailed budget request to the Missions Advancement Project, Inc. (MAP) for the portion of the Board for World Outreach budget that is specially funded through MAP.
- E. The board shall recommend a salary scale and benefit package for its missionaries in keeping with the current economies of the respective mission fields and include its recommendation in its report to the synod for its approval.
- F. Should the board find a given field to show little or no progress, it shall make careful survey of the situation and report to the synod before any action is taken to abandon the field. (The withdrawing of missionaries or staff members does not of itself mean that the field is abandoned.)
- G. The board shall be responsible for establishing priorities for the fields, budgeting, and deciding major and/or difficult issues brought forward by each committee.

## ARTICLE III: COMMITTEES UNDER THE BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH

- A. Membership for each committee authorized by Article I. B. shall consist of at least one clergy and one lay member.
- B. Duties of the committees:
  1. Four meetings annually are anticipated for each committee, and more if needed.
  2. Each committee is responsible for the tasks assigned to it, and shall implement programs and activities carried out in the respective field(s), including liaison correspondence with, and advice to, congregations receiving support from the synod.
  3. Each committee shall carry out the objectives and policies set by the board and shall provide regular reports to the same through the committee chairman.
  4. Each committee shall counsel with, support and pray for the missionaries under the board's jurisdiction and shall encourage them to be faithful stewards of the mysteries of God.

5. Each committee shall work together with the World Outreach Administrator and the World Outreach Field Coordinator in carrying out its business.
6. Each committee shall prepare its budget draft annually and submit it to the board.

#### ARTICLE IV: STAFF LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

If the Board for World Outreach fills both the positions of World Outreach Field Coordinator and World Outreach Administrator, it is imperative that these men work in close conjunction with each other, with board committees and the board chairman, and work together in assessing financial needs and making budget proposals to the board. The board may add duties in addition to those included in these guidelines.

In the event that only one of these two positions is filled, the board shall prepare a position description, selecting appropriate duties from Articles V and VI. In its report to the next synod convention, the board shall include this position description. The board may include additional duties to those scheduled in Articles V and VI.

#### ARTICLE V: THE OFFICE OF WORLD OUTREACH FIELD COORDINATOR

- A. The purpose of the office of World Outreach Field Coordinator is to increase the effectiveness of the Board for World Outreach by:
  1. Assisting in planning and conducting gospel outreach programs in our synod's world mission fields.
  2. Assisting and advising the foreign missionaries and churches they serve.
  3. Analyzing trends in modern mission methodology in light of biblical theology and making recommendations to the board.
  4. Locating new mission fields for consideration by the board.
- B. The World Outreach Field Coordinator will serve as staff to the Board for World Outreach, under the direction of the chairman. The position shall be held by a clergyman. Besides the general duties outlined below, the World Outreach Field Coordinator will also be responsible for carrying out any duties as may be contained in internal guidelines prepared by the board. His duties shall include but not be limited to:
  1. Praying for foreign mission workers called by the synod.
  2. Assisting in the coordination of activities of the board's committees.
  3. Promoting missions through preaching, teaching, and other activities.
  4. Performing activities that each committee resolves to implement on the mission field when feasible and in conjunction with the direction of the board.
  5. Coordinating humanitarian activities on the mission field (e.g., Medical Clinic on Wheels and Gift of Life).
  6. Coordinating mission field mentoring programs for pastors and laymen.
  7. Fostering fraternal relations between the board and its various world missions.
  8. Providing mission information to the academic institutions (elementary schools, college, and seminary).
  9. Visiting each mission field as directed by the board.
  10. Teaching seminary courses in the field when assigned by the board or requested by the national church, and coordinating the work of visiting seminary professors when called upon to do so.
  11. Serving as a consultant or advisor for the training of national pastors on the mission field.
  12. Attending conferences and workshops on mission theology and methodology and sharing pertinent information with the board.



13. Serving as counselor to the called workers in the field.
  14. Presenting humanitarian requests from the fields to the World Outreach Administrator.
- C. The World Outreach Field Coordinator will be accountable to the Board for World Outreach. In partial fulfillment of his responsibility to the board, the coordinator shall provide monthly reports to the chairman of the board and to the synod president and be included in regular staff meetings.
  - D. The salary and benefits of the World Outreach Field Coordinator will be set and monitored by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Board for World Outreach. (See Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, Article III.M.) Operational expenses will be budgeted for and monitored by the Board for World Outreach. Funding for this position will be borne within the portion of the budget submitted by the board to Missions Advancement Project, Inc.
  - E. When there is a vacancy in the position, the Board for World Outreach will consult with the synod president who will provide a call list for its use in extending a call.

#### ARTICLE VI: THE OFFICE OF WORLD OUTREACH ADMINISTRATOR

- A. The purpose of the office of World Outreach Administrator is to increase the effectiveness of the Board for World Outreach by:
  1. Providing the day-to-day management of the world mission fields especially with regard to financial and logistical matters.
  2. Promoting the cause of missions within the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.
  3. Assisting with the planning and implementation of board decisions.
  4. Maintaining financial and other statistical information needed by the board.
- B. The World Outreach Administrator will serve as staff to the Board for World Outreach, under the direction of the chairman. This position may be held by either a clergyman or a layman. In addition to the general duties outlined below, he will also be responsible for carrying out any duties as may be contained in the board's internal guidelines. His duties shall include but not be limited to:
  1. Praying for foreign mission workers called by the synod.
  2. Promoting financial support from sources within and outside the synod in coordination with the synod's Giving Counselor.
  3. Assisting in the coordination of activities of the committees that operate within the board.
  4. Promoting within the synod support for foreign missions by coordinating the development of promotional materials, such as articles for the *Lutheran Sentinel*, *Mission News*, *Thoughts of Faith Newsletter*, bulletin inserts, brochures, videos, etc.
  5. Preaching, if a member of the clergy.
  6. Visiting mission fields at the board's direction.
  7. Preparing an annual field report to the synod to be included in the report submitted by the recording secretary.
  8. Performing activities that each committee resolves to carry out when feasible and in conjunction with the direction of the board.
  9. Coordinating arrangements for conferences, meetings, and other related activities, such as missionaries' preaching and/or presentation schedules during furloughs.
  10. Coordinating the training in the United States of national pastors from the mission field.
  11. Coordinating American volunteers for service on the mission field.

12. Coordinating American humanitarian efforts for the mission fields, such as donations of clothing and medical supplies.
- C. The World Outreach Administrator will be accountable to the Board for World Outreach. In partial fulfillment of his responsibility to the board, he shall provide monthly reports to the synod president and chairman of the board, and be included in regular staff meetings.
- D. The salary and benefits of the World Outreach Administrator will be set and monitored by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Board for World Outreach. (See Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, Article III.M.) Operational expenses will be budgeted for and monitored by the Board for World Outreach. Funding for this position will be borne within the portion of the budget submitted by the board to Missions Advancement Project, Inc.
- E. When there is a vacancy in the position, the Board for World Outreach will consult with the synod president who will provide a call list when appropriate.

#### ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND COMMITTEES

Ordinarily, the board shall meet at least twice annually. Special meetings, as well as conference calls, may be arranged by the chairman. Committee chairmen shall arrange for committee meetings prior to each plenary meeting as well as additional meetings as needed.

#### ARTICLE VIII: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*(See Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, Article IX)*

- A. When the Board for World Outreach finds its interests to be best served by the purchase of real estate property, it shall proceed in the following manner:
  1. The Board for World Outreach shall make known to the Board of Trustees any need or plan for the purchase of real estate property. Its report shall include the need for the property, the location and size of the property. The Board of Trustees shall review the report and either approve or reject further study of such possible property purchase.
  2. If further study is approved, the Board for World Outreach shall investigate the proposed property acquisition, always keeping the Board of Trustees informed, and shall make recommendations to the Board of Trustees when it has completed such investigation. The final report and recommendations from the Board for World Outreach shall include:
    - a. The projected need and use of the property.
    - b. The description and location of the property.
    - c. The cost.
    - d. The timing.
    - e. The source of available financing. The Board of Trustees shall make arrangements for any loan.
    - f. The potential repayment plan.
    - g. The assurance that the national church body, the congregation or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod is able to satisfy the legal requirements for the ownership of the property.
- B. When these points have been considered and agreed upon, a plan of implementation shall be established between the two boards for each individual project. This plan shall include an outline of the responsibilities of each board in each case.
- C. The Board of Trustees has the responsibility and authority to make the final decision in all matters involving financial obligations. (See Articles of Incorporation of

the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Articles VIII and IX; Constitution Chapter V, Paragraph 1.)

- D. The Board of Trustees shall have the final determination on the disposition of any property.
- E. The Board for World Outreach and the Board of Trustees shall establish a joint subcommittee to meet as necessary.

#### ARTICLE IX: DISCIPLINE IN CASES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD

*(See Guidelines for Synodical Discipline and Appeals, Article III)*

- A. In cases of discipline involving missionaries, teachers and staff under the jurisdiction of the board, the board shall exercise original jurisdiction. It shall hear the case and render a decision on the basis of Scripture.
- B. If after due admonition, the decision of the board is not accepted, the board shall have the authority to remove the worker from his position and shall report its action to the president of the synod.
- C. The president of the synod shall review the case in consultation with the board and the party(ies) concerned. In special and urgent cases where no resolution is reached, the president shall exercise the power of suspension from synodical membership. He shall report his action to the convention.
- D. The suspended party has the right to appeal the decision. This appeal shall be addressed to the Board of Trustees through its secretary. In the case of a congregation, the same procedure shall be followed. An appeal must be received by the secretary within sixty days of the date of suspension.

#### **GUIDELINES FOR MISSIONS ADVANCEMENT PROJECT, INC.**

##### ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- A. Missions Advancement Project, Inc., is an entity created by the Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod on April 1, 1999, and which thereby operates under the auspices of the board.
- B. Missions Advancement Project, Inc. is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and religious purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code.
- C. The members of the Missions Advancement Project, Inc. Board of Directors are appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for three-year terms. The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members: two (2) clergy and three (3) laymen. The president of the synod is an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors.
- D. The Board of Directors of Missions Advancement Project, Inc. shall elect its own president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

##### ARTICLE II: ACTIVITIES AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- A. Missions Advancement Project, Inc. shall limit its activities to furnishing support for the synod and the organizations and entities that promote the core charitable, educational, and religious objectives of the synod.
- B. Missions Advancement Project, Inc. shall receive and consider funding requests from such organizations and entities.

### ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

The Missions Advancement Project, Inc. Board of Directors shall meet at least once per year.

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

#### ARTICLE III: DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- M. The salary and benefits of the World Outreach Field Coordinator and the World Outreach Administrator will be set and monitored by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Board for World Outreach. (See Guidelines for the Board for World Outreach, Article V. D. and Article VI. D.)

*(The following new Article IX will replace the existing Article IX.)*

#### ARTICLE IX: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH

*(See Board for World Outreach, Article VIII)*

- A. When the Board for World Outreach finds its interests to be best served by the purchase of real estate property, it shall proceed in the following manner:
1. The Board for World Outreach shall make known to the Board of Trustees any need or plan for the purchase of real estate property. Its report shall include the need for the property, the location and size of the property. The Board of Trustees shall review the report and either approve or reject further study of such possible property purchase.
  2. If further study is approved, the Board for World Outreach shall investigate the proposed property acquisition, always keeping the Board of Trustees informed, and shall make recommendations to the Board of Trustees when it has completed such investigation. The final report and recommendations from the Board for World Outreach shall include:
    - a. The projected need and use of the property.
    - b. The description and location of the property.
    - c. The cost.
    - d. The timing.
    - e. The source of available financing. The Board of Trustees shall make arrangements for any loan.
    - f. The potential repayment plan.
    - g. The assurance that the national church body, the congregation or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod is able to satisfy the legal requirements for the ownership of the property.
- B. When these points have been considered and agreed upon, a plan of implementation shall be established between the two boards for each individual project. This plan shall include an outline of the responsibilities of each board in each case.
- C. The Board of Trustees has the responsibility and authority to make the final decision in all matters involving financial obligations. (See Articles of Incorporation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Articles VIII and IX; Constitution Chapter V, Paragraph 1)
- D. The Board of Trustees shall have the final determination on the disposition of any property.
- E. The Board for World Outreach and the Board of Trustees shall establish a joint subcommittee to meet as necessary.

## GUIDELINES FOR SYNODICAL DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

### ARTICLE III: BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH FOREIGN MISSIONS

- A. In cases of discipline involving missionaries, teachers and staff under the direction of the Board for World Outreach ~~Foreign Missions~~, the board shall exercise original jurisdiction. It shall hear the case and render a decision on the basis of Scripture.

## 2. DISCIPLINE OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Initially included as a part of the report of the Synod Review Committee to the 2008 convention, this article was removed from that report because of a flaw in the wording. The correction has been made and these revisions to the guidelines are recommended:

## GUIDELINES FOR SYNODICAL DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

### ARTICLE V: SYNODICAL OFFICERS

~~If it is necessary to suspend the president of the synod, the secretary shall act through, and on behalf of, the synod's Board of Trustees and also in consultation with the visitor of the circuit in which the president resides. If it is necessary to suspend the vice president or the secretary, the president shall act in consultation with the visitor of the circuit in which the officer resides.~~

Articles V. and VI. are changed to Articles VI. and VII.

In Article I.G, Article II.F, Article III.D and Article IV.D, the phrase “(See Article V.)” should be amended to “(See Article VI.)”

## 3. GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

On September 24, 2008 President Moldstad assigned the study of a revision of the duties of the Board for Stewardship. The suggested revisions have been prepared by the board, reviewed by the Synod Review Committee and are recommended for adoption.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP

### ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

- A. The Board for Stewardship shall consist of two (2) clergymen and three (3) laymen elected at the annual convention of the synod. The term of office shall be three years; the terms are to be staggered.
- B. The board shall elect from its own midst a chairman and a secretary. The chairman shall perform such duties as necessarily pertain to that office. The duties of the secretary are defined in General Synodical Rules and Regulations, Article III.C.
- C. The synod treasurer shall be an ex-officio member; as such he serves as the sixth voting member of the board.
- D. The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Giving Counselor shall serve as an advisory member to the board.

### ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- A. The Board shall promote Christian stewardship on the basis of biblical principles of the use of time, abilities and personal finances.

- B. ~~The board shall submit to the Planning and Coordinating Committee an estimate of anticipated income from regular synodical contributions, including data used in making this estimate. (November 1)~~
- B. The board shall offer encouragement to the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in the financial support of their local congregational outreach, the support of their called workers and the mission outreach of the synod.
- C. The board shall prepare stewardship materials for dissemination and recommended use in the parishes of the synod. These materials shall be made available annually for pastors and their congregations.
- D. The board shall also strive to provide instructional and motivational guidance to an individual congregation for the congregation's own local stewardship efforts, upon receiving a request from the same for the board's assistance.
- E. The board shall endeavor to conduct seminars or workshops on the topic of Christian stewardship, seeking funding as necessary for its operations through the office of the synod president and/or the synod's Board of Trustees.
- F. The board shall provide an estimate of anticipated income from regular congregational contributions for the synod's work. This estimate shall be shared annually with the Board of Trustees, including any data used by the board in making the estimate.
- G. All new synod-wide appeals for funds by synodical boards or individuals must be approved and coordinated by the Board for Stewardship.

### ARTICLE III: MEETINGS

~~The board shall have an annual meeting soon after the synod convention and, when necessary, shall meet at the call of its chairman.~~

The board shall hold at least two meetings annually. Generally the first meeting shall be held soon after the synod convention, with the second normally occurring early in the following calendar year. Further meetings may be held at the call of its chairman.

### ARTICLE IV: EXPENSES OF THE BOARD

Regular expenses of the Board for Stewardship shall be charged against the Synod Fund. Funding for seminars or workshops shall be sought from the office of the synod president and/or the synod's Board of Trustees.

## 4. GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

(2008 *Synod Report*, Resolution 3, p.129) The 2008 convention directed that the proposed changes and recommendations to the board's guidelines that had been prepared by the board "be referred to the Synod Review Committee and that [it] report back to the next convention."

The Synod Review Committee reviewed the report of the Board for Christian Service and noted that the board has dealt with the stated concerns administratively, including providing necessary application forms on the internet. No guideline changes are necessary.

## 5. BOARD FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

On October 22, 2008, President Moldstad assigned a study of the Guidelines for the Lutheran Schools of America, Article V and Article VII, including two resolutions adopted by the ELS Board of Trustees.

### Background:

On May 8, 2007, the ELS Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, That the terms, conditions, responsibilities, and remuneration of the employment of the LSA president be delegated to the Board for the Lutheran Schools of America, until such time as the Synod Review Committee comes with an appropriate recommendation to be acted upon by the synod.”

### Discussion:

Following a meeting of the Board of Trustees and representatives of the Board for Lutheran Schools of America, it was jointly agreed that the assignment of the responsibilities and remuneration of LSA staff would be better managed by the Board for LSA.

### Recommendation:

The following guideline amendments are recommended for adoption:

## **BYLAWS FOR THE LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA**

### **ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

- A.—The president of the Lutheran Schools of America shall be the chief administrator of the LSA. The educational and personal qualifications for the office shall be determined by the Board for Lutheran Schools of America Board of Trustees of the synod who shall fill the office by appointment and shall designate the responsibilities, conditions, term and remuneration of the office. He shall serve at the discretion of the Board for Lutheran Schools of America Board of Trustees. In addition to other duties that may be assigned by the Board for Lutheran Schools of America and these guidelines, he shall: *(The succeeding list of duties remain unchanged.)*
- B.—The board shall elect a chairman from its members who shall conduct meetings and, with the president of the LSA, establish the agenda. The chairman shall supervise the work of the president and staff members unless other policies are established by the board. He shall perform such other duties as the board may direct.

### **ARTICLE IX: MANAGEMENT COMPENSATION**

Annual compensation for the employed members of the Lutheran Schools of America professional and support staff shall be determined by the synod's Board of Trustees (see Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, Article XI.C):

Succeeding Articles X, XI, and XII should be renumbered as IX, X and XI:

*(If the above guidelines are adopted, it appears that amendments to the Board of Trustee guidelines, Article XI, are also appropriate.)*

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **ARTICLE XI: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE BOARD FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA**

- A.—The Board of Trustees will appoint the president of Lutheran Schools of America, designating the duties, conditions of employment, and remuneration: will receive quarterly reports from him the president of the Lutheran Schools of America and review and approve the annual budget of the LSA (see Bylaws for Lutheran Schools of America, Article VII.A. and XII).
- B.—*No change.*

- C. Annual compensation for any employed members of the Lutheran Schools of America professional and support staff shall be determined by the synod's Board of Trustees (see Guidelines for Lutheran Schools of America, Article IX);
- D. and E. should be relettered as C. and D.

## 6. COMMISSION ON CHURCH AND STATE

(2008 *Synod Report*, Resolution, pp.154-159)

### Background:

Three congregations submitted a memorial to the 2008 convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod entitled "Commission on Church and State." A subsequent addendum suggested amending the title to "Religious Liberty Commission." The memorial with included footnotes, the addendum and a proposed resolution including five resolves are printed on pages 154 to 159 of the *Report of the 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod*.

The convention adopted the following resolution: "That [the memorial and its addendum] be referred to both the Doctrine Committee and the Synod Review Committee for study and possible recommendation to the 2009 convention."

### Discussion:

The memorial concerning a Commission on Church and State by Peace, Mt. Olive and St. Timothy congregations was referred to the Doctrine Committee and to the Synod Review Committee.

At its December 8, 9, 2008 meeting, the Doctrine Committee reviewed the memorial, and resolved that it found no theological objections to the proposal. The Synod Review Committee then took up the matter at its January 7, 2009 meeting. In its discussion, the committee agreed that the issues raised by the memorial were important issues, and that such issues need to be brought to the attention of the synodical membership in various ways.

However, the Synod Review Committee does not believe that adding such a committee dedicated to a specific issue to the present ELS structure would be wise stewardship; neither would it be likely to accomplish the goals the proposal has in mind. There are at least four present committees of the synod which can properly address the issues involved: The Doctrine Committee, Lutheran Schools for America, Christian Service, and the Board for Parish Education and Youth, as well as Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

At the same time, the synod needs to continue to be cautious, as it has been in the past, to avoid political entanglements, suggesting policies on matters of social liberty and political opinion.

### Recommendation:

The Synod Review Committee proposes that the following statement be added to the duties of each of the above mentioned boards and committees:

## GUIDELINES FOR THE DOCTRINE COMMITTEE

### ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

- H. To keep informed, through an individual member of the committee or a subcommittee, of issues in government, law, and society which may encroach on the religious freedom or exercise of confessional freedom, and to communicate such information to the other committees and to the synodical membership in venues open to the committee.



## GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

### ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- E. The board shall keep informed, through an individual member of the board or a subcommittee, of issues in government, law, and society which may encroach on the religious freedom or exercise of confessional freedom, and to communicate such information to the other committees and to the synodical membership in venues open to the board.

## BYLAWS FOR THE LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

### ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF THE BOARD

- E. To keep informed, through an individual member of the board or a subcommittee, of issues in government, law, and society which may encroach on the religious freedom or exercise of confessional freedom, and to communicate such information to the schools under the board's authority.

Change the existing F. to G.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE BOARD FOR PARISH EDUCATION AND YOUTH

### ARTICLE IV: DUTIES OF THE BOARD (p.80)

- N. Keep informed, through an individual member of the board or a subcommittee, of issues in government, law, and society which may encroach on the religious freedom or exercise of confessional freedom, and to communicate such information to the other committees and to the synodical membership in venues open to the board.

*Mr. Norman Werner, Secretary*

*[Secretary's note: The report of the Synod Review Committee has been regarded as a working document and modified to correspond with the convention resolutions.]*

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### ACTION OF THE SYNOD

#### **Resolution 1: Board for World Outreach**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod Review Committee guidelines for the Board for World Outreach be adopted.

#### **Resolution 2: Board for World Outreach relating to Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline revisions for the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees be adopted.

#### **Resolution 3: Board for World Outreach relating to Guidelines for Synodical Discipline and Appeals**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline revisions for Synodical Discipline and Appeals be adopted.

**Resolution 4: Guidelines for Missions Advancement Project, Inc.**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guidelines for the Missions Advancement Project, Inc. be adopted.

**Resolution 5: Discipline of Elected Officers**

WHEREAS, The proposal is lacking in specific procedures regarding determining grounds for suspension and jurisdiction, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod refer Article V: “Synodical Officers” to the Synod Review Committee for further revisions.

**Resolution 6: Guidelines for the Board for Stewardship**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline revisions for the Board for Stewardship be adopted.

**Resolution 7: Guidelines for the Board for Christian Service**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Synod Review Committee report be accepted.

**Resolution 8: Board for Lutheran Schools of America and Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees**

WHEREAS, The Board for LSA has accepted the resignation of its president, and,

WHEREAS, It has affectively restructured, and,

WHEREAS, It is unclear as to how this affects the proposed guideline amendments, therefore,

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline amendments for LSA be referred to the Synod Review Committee for further revisions, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guidelines for the Rules and Regulations for the Board of Trustees as they relate to LSA be referred to the Synod Review Committee.

**Resolution 9: Commission on Church and State**

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline additions for the Doctrine Committee be adopted, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline additions for the Board for Christian Service be adopted, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline additions for Lutheran Schools of America be adopted, and,

D. BE IT RESOLVED, That the proposed guideline additions for the Board of Parish Education and Youth be adopted.

**Resolution 10: Synod Convention Date**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the 2010 synod convention be held June 20-24, 2010 at Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary in Mankato, Minnesota.

*PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE AND REPORT**ACTION OF THE SYNOD***Resolution 1: Work of the President**

WHEREAS, The committee reviewed the activities of the president in regard to his participation in and reporting of ordinations and installations, dedications, visits to conferences and congregations, and other synodical activities, and,

WHEREAS, The committee reviewed the reports of dedications, anniversaries and anniversaries of ordination, and,

WHEREAS, The committee noted the resignations and retirements of a number of pastors and members of synodical boards, and,  
WHEREAS, Our president has reminded us again of the great blessings the Lord has bestowed on us in every area of our work and that these blessings are a trust from the Lord, therefore,  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for His goodness and mercy toward us, and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That the President's Message and Report be accepted and printed in the 2009 *Synod Report*.

#### **Resolution 2: Faithful Servant**

WHEREAS, The Rev. John A. Moldstad, Jr. has faithfully served as president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, therefore,  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for this faithful leader, and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That we remember him and our synod in our prayers.

#### *SECRETARY'S MINUTES* *ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

#### **Resolution 1: Secretary's Minutes**

WHEREAS, The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the activities held on Synod Sunday, June 21, 2009, as well as the Monday morning and afternoon business sessions, June 22, 2009, and found them to be correct, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the minutes as read.

#### **Resolution 2: Secretary's Minutes**

WHEREAS, The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Tuesday morning and afternoon business sessions, June 23, 2009, and found them to be correct, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the minutes as read.

#### **Resolution 3: Secretary's Minutes**

WHEREAS, The Minutes Committee has heard the minutes of the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for the Wednesday morning and afternoon business sessions, June 24, 2009, and found them to be correct, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod adopts the minutes as read.

#### **Resolution 4: Secretary's Minutes**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the President and Vice President of the synod be instructed to read and approve the secretary's minutes for Thursday, June 25, 2009, morning and afternoon sessions.

#### *PASTORAL CONFERENCE RECORDS* *ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

#### **Resolution 1**

WHEREAS, Minutes from Circuits 1,2,5,7 and 12 were submitted and reviewed, and,  
WHEREAS, These minutes reflect a continual interest by our pastors in fostering spiritual growth and theological studies, and,  
WHEREAS, such conferences serve to promote Christian fellowship among the brethren, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the above named circuits for their courtesy in submitting this material.

## **Resolution 2**

WHEREAS, It appears that some circuit secretaries are in need of being reminded that they are to bring a copy of their minutes and papers presented to be reviewed by the convention floor committee, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Circuit Visitors be urged to include this matter in their agenda at their annual meeting.

## *RESOLUTIONS*

### *ACTION OF THE SYNOD*

## **Resolution 1**

A. BE IT RESOLVED, That letters of congratulations be sent to the following pastors upon the anniversary of 25 years of service in the pastoral ministry: Rev. Darryl Bakke, Rev. Thomas Fox, Rev. Daniel Larson, Rev. Kenneth Mellon, Rev. Steven Sparley, and,

B. BE IT RESOLVED, That letters of condolence be sent to the spouse and/or families of each of the following pastors or pastors' wives: Mrs. Marjorie Otto, Mr. Dorothea Vetter, Rev. John Schmidt, Mrs. Janet Theiste, Rev. Donald McElwain, Rev. Raymond Branstad; and the families of teacher Curtis Mantey and of Mr. Wilbur Lieske, and,

C. BE IT RESOLVED, That letters acknowledging receipt of greetings to the 92<sup>nd</sup> annual convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod be sent to the following: Rev. Gundars Bakulis, Rev. Timothy Erickson, Rev. Peter Prange, Rev. Otto Trebelhorn, Rev. V'yacheslav Horpynchuk.

## **Resolution 2**

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilbur Lieske was called to his heavenly home, and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Lieske served the synod as a member of the Board of Trustees for twenty-seven years as well as on the ELS Foundation Committee, the Trustees-Regents Subcommittee, and in other capacities, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we thank the Lord for the talents and dedication of this faithful servant.

# **MEMORIALS**

## **Subject: Synod Convention and General Pastoral Conference**

WHEREAS, Each synod convention and general pastoral conference is a costly undertaking, and,

WHEREAS, The ELS and its congregations have limited funds to support the administration of word and sacrament at home and abroad, and,

WHEREAS, Smaller congregations (especially those farther away from Minnesota) find it difficult to attend, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the ELS consider holding synod conventions and general pastoral conferences on alternating years.

*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Indianola, Iowa*

**Synod Convention and General Pastoral Conference**

WHEREAS, Meeting biennially would change the character of the synod, and,  
WHEREAS, The guidelines for the synod would be greatly affected, and,  
WHEREAS, The Planning and Coordinating Committee is involved in strategic planning,  
therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That the synod refer this memorial to the Planning and Coordinating  
Committee for a thorough study.

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**Subject: Lutheran Elementary School Committee**

WHEREAS, Providing high quality Lutheran elementary education is critical to nurture the  
youth of the synod and to serve as an outreach tool, and,  
WHEREAS, We recognize that the original motion to establish two new elementary schools  
each year was a noble attempt to advance such education, and,  
WHEREAS, The present economy is suffering from a severe recession, and,  
WHEREAS, The economic downturn has affected our synod's work, and,  
WHEREAS The anticipated gifts for LSA have not materialized, and,  
WHEREAS, The synod needs to be mindful stewards of its resources, therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That LSA be dissolved and the synod return to a Lutheran elementary  
school committee structure to promote Christian education.

*Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
Mankato, Minnesota*

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**Subject: Lutheran Elementary Schools**

WHEREAS, The advancement of Christian Education is a most vital task, and,  
WHEREAS, The 2003 ELS convention directed the Board for Education and Youth (BEY) to  
address the memorial, "Calling for Establishment of Parochial Schools," and,  
WHEREAS, This assignment has been diligently followed through the Lutheran Schools of  
America (LSA), and,  
WHEREAS, The Special Offering, "For You And Your Children," as well as all other appeals  
to individuals and foundations has not provided adequate funding to support such an  
endeavor, and,  
WHEREAS, Especially in these challenging economic times, the ELS needs to maintain sound  
biblical stewardship practices, and,  
WHEREAS, The original structure of the Lutheran Elementary Schools subcommittee  
under the ELS Board for Education and Youth served the synod faithfully for many years,  
therefore,  
A. BE IT RESOLVED, That LSA be dissolved, and,  
B. BE IT RESOLVED, That a subcommittee of Lutheran Elementary Schools again be  
established to promote Christian Education within the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

*Holy Scripture Lutheran Church  
Midland, Michigan*

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**Subject: Encouraging Lutheran Schools of America**

WHEREAS, In 2003, when the Lutheran Schools Initiative memorial submitted by Redeemer Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona was adopted by the ELS, it was observed that all Lutheran synods in America were experiencing a decline in the number of Lutheran elementary schools and that trend continues today except now in the ELS, and,  
WHEREAS, Since the establishment of LSA in 2006 there have been foundations identified, which are interested in providing transformational gifts for a unique classical approach to Lutheran primary and secondary education institutions, and,  
WHEREAS, The ELS now has three model LSA schools which are under development in different regions of our country, and,  
WHEREAS, The “differently” constituted LSA board reflects representation from a variety of regional experiences, and has adjusted its meeting schedules and locations to fit the limited resources on hand; and  
WHEREAS, In all aspects of synodical work, we live under the cross and experience set-backs, as LSA has recently experienced disappointments in funding all of its goals at this time; therefore,  
BE IT RESOLVED, That we encourage LSA to continue in its important tasks, which have already benefited the work of our synod, as it seeks to develop the model schools to attract those promising outside gifts in the future and possibly to set an example for other synod congregations to follow.

*Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington  
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Scottsdale, Arizona*





# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007**

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
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DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

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**ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT**

Board of Trustees  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Mankato, Minnesota

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of Evangelical Lutheran Synod as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

A review consists principally of inquiries of Synod personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, with the exception of the matters described in the following paragraph, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As disclosed in Note 1, the financial statements of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary should be consolidated into the financial statements of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod to conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America on the financial statements have not been determined.

Our review was made for the purpose of expressing limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The information included in the accompanying combining schedule of financial position is presented only for supplementary analysis purposes. Such information has not been subjected to the inquiry and analytical procedures applied in the review of the basic financial statements, but were compiled from information that is the representation of management, without audit or review. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the supplementary information.

*LarsonAllen LLP*  
LarsonAllen LLP

Austin, Minnesota  
May 26, 2009



(1)

LarsonAllen LLP is a member of Nexia International, a worldwide network of independent accounting and consulting firms.

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 90,387	\$ 200
Accounts Receivable	130,038	138,121
Interest Receivable	4,831	4,825
Inventory of Publications	84,167	89,718
Prepaid Expenses	417,153	375,067
Loans Receivable	1,377,488	1,064,391
Investments	12,020,195	17,315,024
Property, Plant, and Equipment, Net	<u>944,879</u>	<u>1,397,044</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 15,069,138</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 20,384,390</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 74,451	\$ 80,951
Interest Payable	4,146	4,127
Other Liabilities	13,038	3,934
Deferred Revenue	125,153	-
Notes Payable	543,380	556,545
Annuities Payable	622,910	529,564
Agency Obligations	789,810	1,165,783
Mortgages Payable	13,863	56,745
Total Liabilities	<u>2,186,751</u>	<u>2,377,649</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted		
Designated	1,774,027	3,069,358
Undesignated	<u>2,367,096</u>	<u>2,917,303</u>
	4,141,123	5,985,661
Temporarily Restricted	3,995,140	7,424,956
Permanently Restricted	<u>4,746,124</u>	<u>4,598,124</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>12,882,367</u>	<u>18,006,741</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 15,069,138</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 20,384,390</u></u>

*See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.*

(2)

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008  
(SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>				
Contributions:				
Congregations/Organizations/Individuals	\$ 1,015,718	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 1,165,718
Estate, Trusts, and Memorials	90,185	-	-	90,185
Thrivent	70,000	-	-	70,000
Helping Hands	570,000	-	-	570,000
Schwan Funds	1,421,476	-	-	1,421,476
Others	23,549	-	-	23,549
Interest	5,203	39,247	-	44,450
Investment Income	148,519	287,790	-	436,309
Rent and Royalties	1,035	-	-	1,035
Publications	20,396	-	-	20,396
Registration Fees	44,020	-	-	44,020
Subscriptions	36,422	-	-	36,422
Bad Debt Recovery	-	-	-	-
Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses)				
on Long-Term Investments	(381,818)	(4,656,285)	-	(5,238,103)
Gain on the Sale of Property	-	-	-	-
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(1,099,432)	1,099,432	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	1,965,273	(3,429,816)	150,000	(1,314,543)
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Bethany Lutheran College	196,744	-	-	196,744
Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary	59,023	-	-	59,023
Christian Services	134,265	-	-	134,265
Church Extension	32,266	-	-	32,266
Education and Youth	84,021	-	-	84,021
Evangelism	35,087	-	-	35,087
Foreign Missions	1,145,703	-	-	1,145,703
Home Missions	693,832	-	-	693,832
Publications	87,614	-	-	87,614
Synod Fund	572,880	-	-	572,880
Other Programs and Costs	756,930	-	-	756,930
Depreciation	11,446	-	-	11,446
Total Expenses	3,809,811	-	-	3,809,811
<b>DECREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	(1,844,538)	(3,429,816)	150,000	(5,124,354)
Net Assets - Beginning	5,885,661	7,424,956	4,596,124	18,006,741
<b>NET ASSETS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 4,141,123</u>	<u>\$ 3,995,140</u>	<u>\$ 4,746,124</u>	<u>\$ 12,882,387</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(3)

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)  
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007  
(SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>				
Contributions:				
Congregations/Organizations/Individuals	\$ 729,178	\$ 183,492	\$ 100,000	\$ 1,012,670
Estate, Trusts, and Memorials	133,876	-	-	133,876
Thrivent	34,000	18,500	-	52,500
Helping Hands	316,656	-	-	316,656
Schwan Funds	1,509,799	58,068	-	1,568,467
Others	20,183	-	-	20,183
Interest	18,242	74,907	-	93,149
Investment Income	107,050	430,076	-	537,126
Rent and Royalties	-	-	-	-
Publications	23,948	-	-	23,948
Registration Fees	34,330	-	-	34,330
Subscriptions	53,192	-	-	53,192
Bad Debt Recovery	-	-	-	-
Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) on				
Long-Term Investments	107,895	505,566	-	613,461
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	990,037	(990,037)	-	-
	<u>4,078,386</u>	<u>281,192</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>4,459,578</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Bethany Lutheran College	265,701	-	-	265,701
Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary	62,974	-	-	62,974
Christian Services	98,870	-	-	98,870
Church Extension	59,573	-	-	59,573
Education and Youth	63,311	-	-	63,311
Evangelism	35,876	-	-	35,876
Foreign Missions	1,121,975	-	-	1,121,975
Home Missions	636,665	-	-	636,665
Publications	92,555	-	-	92,555
Synod Fund	578,398	-	-	578,398
Other Programs and Costs	348,540	-	-	348,540
Depreciation	10,055	-	-	10,055
Total Expenses	<u>3,374,493</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,374,493</u>
<b>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<u>703,893</u>	<u>281,192</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>1,085,085</u>
Net Assets - Beginning	<u>5,281,788</u>	<u>7,143,764</u>	<u>4,496,124</u>	<u>16,921,656</u>
<b>NET ASSETS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 5,985,681</u>	<u>\$ 7,424,956</u>	<u>\$ 4,596,124</u>	<u>\$ 18,006,741</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(4)

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007  
(SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)**

	2008	2007
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Increase in Net Assets	\$ (5,124,354)	\$ 1,085,085
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	11,446	10,055
Increase (Decrease) in Liability for Charitable Gift Annuities	(275,235)	19,098
Land to Congregation	-	-
Realized and Unrealized (Gains) Losses on Investments	5,238,103	(613,481)
(Increase) Decrease In:		
Accounts Receivable	8,083	5,498
Interest Receivable	(6)	-
Inventory of Publications	5,551	(22,242)
Prepaid Expenses	(42,086)	16,962
Increase (Decrease) In:		
Accounts Payable	13,500	(8,275)
Interest Payable	19	(502)
Deferred Revenue	125,153	(150,000)
Other Liabilities	8,104	(2,069)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	(30,722)	340,129
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Proceeds from Investments	750,000	555,000
Purchases of Investments	(693,274)	(2,480,907)
Loans to Congregations	(323,316)	(542,470)
Payments on Loans Receivable	10,219	655,160
Purchase Furniture	(13,003)	-
Proceeds from Sale of Land	453,722	-
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	184,348	(1,813,217)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Payment of Mortgages	(42,882)	(155,445)
Payment of Notes Payable	(13,165)	(297,411)
Payments of Charitable Gift Annuities	(98,152)	(18,445)
Additional Annuities	90,760	1,567,577
Additional Notes and Accumulated Interest	-	4,490
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	(63,439)	1,100,766
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	90,187	(372,322)
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning	200	372,522
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 90,387</u>	<u>\$ 200</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION</b>		
Cash Paid for Interest	<u>\$ 33,819</u>	<u>\$ 56,943</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(5)

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008

NOTE 1    SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Organization**

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod (Synod) is a national nonprofit organization of Lutheran congregations. The Synod exists to carry out the command of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:19-20), to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and to promote the development of Christian life (Galatians 5:22-25) within its membership. This is accomplished by providing programs and support for various church purposes and responsibilities such as evangelism, foreign and home missions, education, Bethany Lutheran College, and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the Synod have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting conforming to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applicable to not-for-profit organizations except for the following:

The board of trustees of the Synod has majority control over Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. Therefore, the financial statements of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary should be consolidated into the financial statements of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. In previous years, the Synod elected to report in their financial statements certain land and buildings, net of debt, of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. As of May 10, 2005, the Synod elected to discontinue reporting property, plant, and equipment of Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary.

**Basis of Presentation**

Financial statement presentation follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in its Statement of Financial Standards (SFAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Under SFAS No. 117, the Synod is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following three classes of net assets:

**Unrestricted net assets** represent the portion of expendable funds that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations and are available for support of operations of the Synod.

**Temporarily restricted net assets** are subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met, either by actions of the Synod and/or the passage of time when a restriction expires. Temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets are released from restrictions.

**Permanently restricted net assets** consist of contributions that have been restricted by the donor that stipulate the resources be maintained permanently by the Synod. Generally, the donor's permit the Synod to use all or part of the income derived from the donated assets for either specified or unspecified purposes.



**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 1    SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of the Statements of Cash Flows, the Synod considers all highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. The Synod had cash deposits in excess of federal insurance limits as of December 31, 2008.

**Charitable Gift Annuity Agreements**

The Synod has agreements with donors classified as charitable gift annuities. Under these agreements the Synod agrees to pay the donor stipulated amounts over the donor's life. The Synod records an unrestricted contribution upon receipt of the gift as the difference between the fair value of the amounts received and the actuarially determined present value of future payments to the donor. On an annual basis, the Synod revalues the liability to annuitants based on actuarial assumptions. The present value of the estimated future payments is calculated using a discount rate of 6% and applicable mortality tables and amounted to \$197,609 and \$201,133 at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, and is included in annuities payable on the statement of financial position. Also included in annuities payable at December 31, 2008 and 2007 is \$200,344 and \$16,316, respectively, which represents the fair value amount of the charitable gift annuity agreements that is to be distributed to others at the time of the donor's death.

**Trust Agreements**

The Synod administers various charitable remainder unitrusts that provide, among other matters, that the Synod, as trustee shall pay to the donors an annual income payment over the life of the beneficiary. At the time of the donor's death, the trust is to terminate and the remaining trust assets are to be distributed to others or retained by the Synod. The present value of the future benefit to be received by the Synod is recorded in Statement of Activities as a temporarily restricted contribution. The Synod records an agency obligation for those charitable remainder unitrusts that are to be distributed to others. These agency obligations amounted to \$789,810 and \$1,165,783 at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The liability for the charitable remainder unitrust that is designated to beneficiaries of the trust agreement and retained by the Synod is revalued on an annual basis based on actuarial assumptions. The present value of the estimated future payments is calculated using a discount rate of 7% and applicable mortality tables and amounted to \$224,957 and \$312,115, at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, and is included in annuities payable on the statement of financial position.

Assets held by the Synod under Trust agreements are reported at fair value based on quoted market prices and amounted to \$1,033,201 and \$1,501,674 at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, and are included in investments.

**Income Tax Status**

The Synod is exempt from federal and state income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Synod has elected to defer application of FASB Interpretation No. 48 "*Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*." The Synod follows Financial Accounting Standard No. 5 "*Accounting for Contingencies*" for evaluating uncertain tax positions.

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Inventory**

Inventories consist of publications held for sale and are reported at lower of cost or market.

**Investments**

Generally, marketable securities and fixed rate investments are recorded at fair value. Lutheran Association for Church Extension, Inc. certificates are stated at cost as market value is not determinable. Unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets in the accompanying Statement of Activities.

Certain investment accounts are pooled and maintained by the Synod. Realized and unrealized gains and losses from securities in the pooled investment accounts are allocated annually to the individual funds based on the relationship of the market value of each individual investment account to the total market value of the pooled investment accounts.

**Property and Equipment**

Acquisitions of property, equipment, and improvements that materially prolong the useful lives of assets are capitalized and carried at cost. Depreciation is computed using primarily the straight-line method.

The Synod has vested ownership rights in the real estate held by Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. For a nominal fee, the Synod leases the real estate to Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary under a long-term capital lease with initial duration of 99 years. Because the present value of this lease is approximately zero, no value is shown in these financial statements.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Fair Value**

On January 1, 2008, the Synod adopted SFAS 157. As permitted, adoption of SFAS 157 has been delayed for certain nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities to January 1, 2009. SFAS 157 applies to reported balances that are required or permitted to be measured at fair value under an existing accounting pronouncement. SFAS 157 emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement. Therefore, a fair value measurement should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability and establishes a fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy consists of three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value as follows:

Level 1 – Inputs that utilize quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Synod has the ability to access.

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 1    SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**Fair Value (Continued)**

Level 2 – Inputs that include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets and inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the financial instrument. Fair values for these instruments are estimated using pricing models, quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics, or discounted cash flows.

Level 3 – Inputs that are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability, which are typically based on an entity's own assumptions, as there is little, if any, related market activity.

In instances where the determination of the fair value measurement is based on inputs from different levels of the fair value hierarchy, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the entire fair value measurement falls is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

The Synod also adopted SFAS 159 on January 1, 2008. SFAS 159 allows entities the irrevocable option to elect fair value for the initial and subsequent measurement for certain financial assets and liabilities on a contract-by-contract basis. The Synod has not elected to measure any existing financial instruments at fair value at January 1, 2008, as permitted under SFAS No. 159. However, the Synod may elect to measure newly acquired financial instruments at fair value in the future.

The valuation methods used for financial assets and liabilities recorded at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Assets:				
Investments	<u>\$ 11,815,195</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11,815,195</u>

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 2 INVESTMENTS**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Corporate Stock	\$ 5,590,303	\$ 10,808,709
Real Estate Closely Held Interest	475,267	486,437
Corporate Bonds and Bond Funds	1,830,635	1,814,204
Government Obligations	997,793	910,757
Short-Term Money Funds and Other	1,200,238	1,350,577
Preferred Securities	20,965	88,551
Real Estate Investment Trusts	291,018	168,933
Mutual Funds	1,205,217	1,209,629
Alternate Investments	112,929	189,026
Mortgage Back Securities	-	52,775
Real Estate Funds	<u>90,830</u>	<u>30,426</u>
Marketable Securities	11,815,195	17,110,024
Lutheran Association for Church Extension, Inc., Certificates	<u>205,000</u>	<u>205,000</u>
Total Investments	<u>\$ 12,020,195</u>	<u>\$ 17,315,024</u>

Assets held by the Synod under the charitable remainder unitrust agreements as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, totaled \$1,033,201 and \$1,501,674, respectively. They are included in the various investment categories.

Investment return is summarized as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Interest Income	\$ 44,450	\$ 93,149
Investment Income	436,309	537,126
Realized and Unrealized Gains and (Losses)	<u>(5,238,103)</u>	<u>613,481</u>
Total	<u>\$ (4,757,344)</u>	<u>\$ 1,243,756</u>

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 3 LOANS RECEIVABLE**

Loans receivable consist of various secured and unsecured loans advanced to member congregations primarily for land, construction, or building purchase. The Synod subsidized 50% to 90% of the interest on loans to mission congregations for up to ten years.

	Interest Rate	Maturity	2008	2007
Congregational Loans:				
Faith, Medford, OR	5.00%	N/A	\$ 10,182	\$ 10,540
Faith, Oregon, WI	7.00%	9/1/2019	63,414	73,021
Faith, San Antonio, TX	3.25 - 6.00%	Construction Loan	297,818	155,818
Family of God, AZ	6.00%	3/1/2014	6,598	6,598
Family of God, AZ	3.25 - 6.00%	Construction Loan	190,000	80,000
Hope, West Jordan, UT	7.00%	12/1/2010	147,274	149,399
Our Savior Lutheran, FL	8.25%	N/A	-	15
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	8.00%	6/1/2015	81,581	81,581
Peace, Kissimmee, FL	Variable	8/2/2010	8,942	-
Peace, Lakeland, FL	3.25 - 5.00%	N/A	39,333	20,000
Redeemer, Scottsdale AZ	8.00%	2/1/2012	293,190	262,245
Resurrection, FL	8.00%	11/1/2016	239,156	225,174
Total Loans Receivable			<u>\$ 1,377,488</u>	<u>\$ 1,064,391</u>

Loans receivable over 90 days past due at December 31, 2008 cannot be determined because of special arrangements made with various congregations.

An allowance for uncollectible accounts is estimated by management based on an assessment of receivable aging, credit worthiness of customers, and historical bad debts. However, if the financial condition of any customer was to deteriorate and their ability to make required payments is impaired, increases in the allowance may be required. As of December 31, 2008 and 2007, there was no allowance for uncollectible accounts.

**NOTE 4 PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT**

	12/31/07	12/31/08
Land and Land Improvements	\$ 1,219,257	\$ 765,535
Buildings	197,842	197,842
Equipment	<u>39,015</u>	<u>52,018</u>
	1,456,114	1,015,395
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>59,070</u>	<u>70,516</u>
	<u>\$ 1,397,044</u>	<u>\$ 944,879</u>

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 5 NOTES PAYABLE**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Demand promissory notes payable to the Marvin Schwan Foundation; interest rate 7% per annum	\$ 55,419	\$ 73,076
Unsecured working capital demand loan from a congregation; interest rate 6% per annum	100,000	100,000
Investment program notes, unsecured, amounts loaned by individuals, congregations, and organizations for periods less than one year; interest rates at 0% - 6% per annum	380,536	376,094
Life Loan Plan notes, unsecured, amounts loaned by individuals at interest rates from 5% to 6% per annum	7,425	7,375
	<u>\$ 543,380</u>	<u>\$ 556,545</u>

**NOTE 6 ANNUITIES PAYABLE**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Charitable Gift Annuities Due to Donors	\$ 197,609	\$ 201,133
Charitable Gift Annuities Due to Others Upon Death of the Donor	200,344	16,316
Charitable Remainder Unitrusts Due to Beneficiaries	224,957	312,115
	<u>\$ 622,910</u>	<u>\$ 529,564</u>

**NOTE 7 MORTGAGES PAYABLE**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Payable to Thrivent for Lutherans:		
5% mortgage, due in monthly installments of \$2,384, including interest through June 2011, secured by real estate and other property	\$ -	\$ 115,850
Payable to Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation:		
8% mortgage, due in monthly installments of \$3,823 including interest through April 2009, secured by a mortgage deed on real estate	13,863	56,745
	13,863	172,595
Less current portion	<u>(13,863)</u>	<u>(42,881)</u>
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 129,714</u>

**NOTE 8 RELATED ORGANIZATIONS**

Related Organizations to the Synod are Bethany Lutheran College and Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary. The Synod provided \$196,744 and \$265,701 to Bethany Lutheran College and \$59,023 and \$62,974 to Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 9 CONTINGENCIES**

As of December 31, 2008, the Synod is contingently liable to the extent of approximately \$4,238,000 as guarantor of the indebtedness for the following congregations: Abiding Shepherd – Cottage Grove, WI; Abiding Word – Bowling Green, Ohio; Christ – Windsor, California; Family of God - Ft. Mohave, Arizona; and Peace – North Mankato, Minnesota. Redeeming Grace – Rogers, Minnesota. As of December 31, 2008, congregations were current with their loan payments.

As of December 31, 2007, the Synod is contingently liable to the extent of approximately \$2,761,000 as guarantor of the indebtedness for the following congregations: Abiding Shepherd – Cottage Grove, WI; Abiding Word – Bowling Green, Ohio; Christ – Windsor, California; Family of God - Ft. Mohave, Arizona; and Peace – North Mankato, Minnesota. As of December 31, 2007, congregations were current with their loan payments.

**NOTE 10 UNRESTRICTED DESIGNATED, TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSET BALANCES**

	2008	2007
Unrestricted Designated Nets Assets consist of the following:		
Foreign Missions	\$ 800,606	\$ 637,600
Home Missions	74,234	238,510
Lutheran Schools of America	101,648	203,918
Projects and Grants	112,481	70,878
Publications	69,406	64,723
Evangelism	55,691	61,814
Parish Education	115,784	53,544
Youth	-	48,932
World Needs	24,380	25,595
Book of Family Prayer	19,559	20,964
Christian Service	11,716	20,254
Parish Evangelism	-	20,201
BEY Board	-	15,386
Cross Stitch	-	8,778
Pension Plan	(3,198)	403
Video Link	-	(6,178)
ELS Foundation		
Donated	544,053	853,386
Board of Trustees	508,283	729,650
Robert & Madelyn Soule Endowment Fund	(61,774)	-
Partners in the Gospel	(66,910)	-
Foreign Mission Seminary	(178,888)	-
President's Office	(58,153)	-
Charitable Gift Annuity	(47,747)	-
Marvin and Delores Schwan	(115,757)	-
75th Anniversary / His Truth for Our Youth	(106,218)	-
St. Martin Lutheran Church - Shawano, WI	(3,284)	-
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment	(18,993)	-
Preschool	(2,892)	-
	<u>\$ 1,774,027</u>	<u>\$ 3,068,358</u>

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008

**NOTE 10 UNRESTRICTED DESIGNATED, TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSET BALANCES (CONTINUED)**

	2008	2007
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets consist of the following:		
Home Mission Expansion	\$ 2,509,615	\$ 3,895,503
General Foreign Mission	416,447	658,093
Church Extension	904,820	1,125,030
Home Mission Reserve	164,258	259,482
Partners in the Gospel	-	309,113
Foreign Mission Seminary	-	297,695
President's Office	-	256,305
Charitable Gift Annuity	-	265,124
Marvin and Dolores Schwan	-	165,302
75th Anniversary / His Truth for Our Youth	-	70,100
Lutheran Schools of America	-	87,146
St. Martin Lutheran Church - Shawano, WI	-	6,657
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment	-	28,024
Preschool	-	1,232
Celebrate 2000	-	150
	<u>\$ 3,995,140</u>	<u>\$ 7,424,956</u>

	2008	2007
Permanently Restricted Net Assets consist of the following:		
Partners in the Gospel	\$ 1,755,977	\$ 1,755,977
Foreign Mission Seminary	1,000,000	1,000,000
President's Office	600,000	600,000
Marvin and Dolores Schwan	600,000	600,000
75th Anniversary / His Truth for Our Youth	410,000	410,000
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment	100,000	100,000
Robert & Madelyn Soule Endowment Fund	250,000	100,000
Preschool	10,000	10,000
St. Martin Lutheran Church - Shawano, WI	20,147	20,147
	<u>\$ 4,746,124</u>	<u>\$ 4,596,124</u>

**NOTE 11 ENDOWMENT**

The Synod's endowment consists of both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the Board of Directors to function as an endowment. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Directors to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.



**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**NOTE 11 ENDOWMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Interpretation of Relevant Law**

The Board of Directors of the Synod has interpreted the Minnesota Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment fund absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Synod classifies as permanently restricted net assets the original value of the gifts to the permanent endowment and the value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment. The remaining portion of donor-restricted endowment funds, if any that is not classified as permanently restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Synod. In accordance with UPMIFA, the Synod considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- (1) The duration and preservation of the fund
- (2) The purposes of the local synod and the endowment fund
- (3) General economic conditions
- (4) The possible effect of inflation or deflation
- (5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- (6) Other resources of the local synod
- (7) The investment policies of the local synod

**Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act**

During 2008 the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) became effective in the State of Minnesota. In August 2008 the FASB released FASB Staff Position 117-1 (FSP 117-1) which provides guidance on the classification of endowment fund net assets for states that have enacted versions of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA), and enhances disclosures for endowment funds. Under UPMIFA all unappropriated endowment fund assets are considered restricted. The implementation of FSP 117-1 did not result in a reclassification of the Church's net assets.

**Funds with Deficiencies**

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor requires the Synod to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. In accordance with GAAP, deficiencies of this nature, related to temporarily restricted net assets, that are reported in unrestricted net assets were \$659,463 and \$-0- as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 respectively. These deficiencies resulted from unfavorable market fluctuations that occurred during 2008.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2008

NOTE 11 ENDOWMENT (CONTINUED)

Investment Objectives and Strategies

The Synod has adopted an investment policy to provide guidelines for investing endowment assets. Under this policy, as approved by the Investment Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to:

- Achieve a balanced return of current income and modest growth of principal.
- To minimize the probability of loss of principal over the investment horizon. Emphasis is placed on minimizing return volatility rather than maximizing return.
- To emphasize long-term growth of principal while avoiding excessive risk. Short-term volatility will be tolerated in as much as it is consistent with the volatility of a comparable market index.

Spending Policy

The Investment Committee will attempt to balance the shorter-term grant making obligations with its goal to provide grants into perpetuity, and therefore design a spending policy which is flexible. Since expected investment returns from "riskier" portfolios are not consistent and predictable, the Investment Committee feels that shorter-term spending in dollar terms must be flexible enough to endure periods of underperformance without excessive deterioration of real principal. Therefore, this endowment may tend toward a more "aggressive" investment strategy seeking higher long-term investment returns than would be the case if grant making from year to year were less flexible. The Investment Committee will set spending equal to 5% (plus or minus 2%) of fund assets, based on a 3 year rolling average. The Investment Committee expects that annual contributions to the endowment will remain relatively consistent and will increase somewhat over time.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

	Evangelical Lutheran Synod 12/31/08	Bethany Lutheran College 6/30/2008	Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary 6/30/2008	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash	\$ 90,387	\$ 2,164,167	\$ 102,861	\$ 2,357,435
Inter-Company Receivable (Payable)	-	73,390	(73,390)	-
Accounts Receivable	130,038	-	-	130,038
Student Accounts Receivable, Net of Allowance for Doubtful Accounts of \$65,000	-	65,707	-	65,707
Contributions Receivable	-	1,501,059	-	1,501,059
Interest Receivable	4,831	-	-	4,831
Other Receivables, Net of Allowance for Doubtful Accounts of \$2,000	-	133,322	18,108	151,430
Inventory	84,167	274,464	-	358,651
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	417,153	9,046	7,471	433,670
Student Notes Receivable, Net of Allowance for Doubtful Notes of \$40,000	-	515,995	-	515,995
Loans Receivable	1,377,488	-	-	1,377,488
Investments	12,020,195	43,041,181	7,511,078	62,572,454
Deferred Debt Acquisition Costs	-	137,026	-	137,026
Beneficial Interest in Funds Held in Trust	-	57,273	119,288	176,561
Property, Plant, and Equipment, Net	944,879	43,814,628	1,752,504	46,512,211
Total Assets	<u>\$ 15,069,138</u>	<u>\$ 91,787,496</u>	<u>\$ 9,437,920</u>	<u>\$ 116,294,556</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>				
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 74,451	\$ 241,857	\$ 7,898	\$ 324,206
Interest Payable	4,146	-	-	4,146
Other Liabilities	13,038	-	-	13,038
Deferred Revenue	125,153	-	-	125,153
Accrued Liabilities	-	681,937	768	682,705
Deposit Accounts	-	87,027	-	87,027
Line of Credit Payable	-	122,501	-	122,501
Notes Payable	543,380	-	-	543,380
Charitable Gift Annuity	622,910	-	-	622,910
Current Portion of Mortgages Payable	789,810	-	-	789,810
Mortgages Payable	13,863	-	-	13,863
Long-Term Debt	-	12,500,000	-	12,500,000
Annuities Payable	-	513,864	601,483	1,115,347
Deposits Held in Custody for Others	-	107,321	1,190	108,511
U.S. Government Grants Refundable	-	486,817	-	486,817
Total Liabilities	<u>2,186,751</u>	<u>14,741,324</u>	<u>611,339</u>	<u>17,539,414</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>				
Unrestricted:				
Designated	1,774,027	-	-	1,774,027
Undesignated	2,367,086	24,818,923	3,220,431	30,406,450
Temporarily Restricted	4,141,123	24,818,923	3,220,431	32,180,477
Permanently Restricted	3,995,140	26,049,946	364,840	30,409,926
Total Net Assets	<u>12,882,387</u>	<u>77,046,174</u>	<u>8,826,581</u>	<u>96,755,142</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 15,069,138</u>	<u>\$ 91,787,496</u>	<u>\$ 9,437,920</u>	<u>\$ 116,294,556</u>

(17)

**TREASURER'S ADDENDUM**  
**TO THE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008**

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
MANKATO, MINNESOTA**

**C O N T E N T S**

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## BALANCE SHEET

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

## EXHIBIT I

## ASSETS

Cash - checking account \$30,384.94  
Accounts receivable 117,164.34  
Investment contributions 84,166.67  
Inventory of publications 18,403.44  
Prepaid expenses/deposits

## Investments:

Real estate management accounts  
Loans receivable from congregations (Schedule B)  
Allowance for doubtful accounts  
Downpayment Deposits  
Interest receivable  
Real estate and buildings (Note B)  
Accumulated depreciation  
TOTAL

Due from (to) other funds

## TOTAL ASSETS

## LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

## Liabilities:

Notes payable (Note C)  
Working capital  
Investment program  
Mortgage/Demand notes (Schedule C)  
Life loan plan  
Accounts payable  
Accounts receivable  
Deferred revenue  
Annuities payable  
Agency obligations payable  
Mortgages payable (Schedule C)  
Other liabilities

## TOTAL LIABILITIES

## Fund Balances:

Unrestricted - designated (Note D)  
Unrestricted (Note E)  
Permanently restricted (Note F)  
Temporarily restricted (Note G)

## TOTAL FUND BALANCES

## TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES

GENERAL FUND 1	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN FUND 2	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE FUND 3	HOME MISSIONS FUND 6	FOREIGN MISSIONS FUND 7	LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
\$30,384.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80,384.94
117,164.34	0.00	0.00	2,974.33	7,147.51	2,752.00	\$0.00	130,038.18
84,166.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	84,166.67
18,403.44	0.00	0.00	9,900.25	388,848.21	0.00	0.00	417,152.90
\$1,089,854.72	\$329,402.93	\$0.00	\$560,655.19	\$897,254.84	\$99,892.39	\$5,963,183.44	\$12,020,193.51
0.00	1,029,426.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	346,063.55	1,377,489.55
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	477.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,832.19	4,832.19
0.00	0.00	1,015,954.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	537,974.46	1,015,954.46
0.00	0.00	(70,816.48)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(70,816.48)
\$1,379,924.11	\$1,388,826.93	\$408,963.80	\$573,529.77	\$1,383,251.56	\$102,644.39	\$5,853,993.55	\$15,069,136.21
\$213,110.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$213,110.62)	\$0.00
\$1,593,034.73	\$1,388,826.93	\$408,963.80	\$573,529.77	\$1,383,251.56	\$102,644.39	\$5,640,883.03	\$15,069,136.21
\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
0.00	380,536.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	380,536.82
0.00	13,863.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,863.49
7,424.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,424.86
70,856.00	0.00	0.00	55.24	1,047.83	995.82	0.00	73,052.14
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
110.00	4,146.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,146.42
0.00	43.29	0.00	0.00	125,000.00	0.00	0.00	125,153.29
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	397,953.92	397,953.92
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,014,766.89	1,014,766.89
0.00	55,419.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55,419.01
14,397.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,397.55
\$192,925.50	\$454,009.03	\$0.00	\$55.24	\$126,047.83	\$995.82	\$1,412,720.81	\$2,186,754.33
\$405,819.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$74,233.84	\$800,865.75	\$101,646.47	\$391,718.14	\$1,774,026.15
984,289.28	0.00	406,993.80	499,246.00	460,596.00	0.00	0.00	2,367,091.75
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,746,123.95	4,746,123.95
0.00	9804,819.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,090,320.13	3,995,140.03
\$1,400,109.23	\$904,819.90	\$406,993.80	\$573,472.83	\$1,267,203.73	\$101,646.47	\$5,225,152.22	\$12,882,381.88
\$1,593,034.73	\$1,388,826.93	\$406,993.80	\$573,529.77	\$1,383,251.56	\$102,644.39	\$5,640,883.03	\$15,069,136.21

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

EXHIBIT II

	GENERAL	CHURCH EXTENSION AND LOAN	RESIDENCES AND REAL ESTATE	HOME MISSIONS	FOREIGN MISSIONS	LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA	EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN FOUNDATION	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
	FUND 1	FUND 2	FUND 5	FUND 6	FUND 7			
Balance 12/31/2007	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,596,123.95	\$4,596,123.95
Permanently Restricted								
Temporarily Restricted		1,125,029.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	87,146.26	7,066,165.50	8,278,341.53
Unrestricted	1,377,300.10	0.00	\$406,408.19	405,754.21	705,065.19	0.00	23,776.00	2,917,303.69
Unrestricted - Designated	405,293.96	0.00	0.00	238,510.43	637,600.23	203,917.91	729,649.50	2,214,972.03
TOTAL FUND BALANCES 12/31/2007	\$1,782,594.06	\$1,125,029.77	\$406,408.19	\$644,264.64	\$1,342,665.42	\$291,064.17	\$12,415,714.95	\$18,006,741.20
ADD:								
Investment Portfolio Income	\$43,446.95	\$46,827.72	\$0.00	\$22,653.94	\$7,267.46	\$7,646.63	\$313,114.54	\$442,967.24
Investment Services	(9,571.14)	(4,812.20)	0.00	(5,596.15)	(8,887.49)	(1,888.93)	(82,502.18)	(113,058.09)
Annuity/Trust Amortization	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(510,752.62)	(510,752.62)
Market Value Gains (Losses)	(470,922.99)	(236,771.32)	0.00	(275,344.96)	(427,445.06)	(92,939.89)	(4,112,032.12)	(5,615,455.66)
Excess of Income Over Expenditures	67,564.00	(27,453.87)	(11,446.04)	187,456.16	353,403.42	(102,233.51)	204,624.95	671,955.11
and Appropriations for the Period								
TOTAL ADDITIONS	(\$569,483.18)	(\$220,203.87)	(\$11,446.04)	(\$70,790.11)	(\$75,461.63)	(\$189,415.70)	(\$4,167,552.73)	(\$5,124,359.32)
SUBTOTAL	\$1,413,110.88	\$904,819.90	\$393,962.15	\$573,474.53	\$1,267,203.73	\$101,648.47	\$8,228,162.22	\$12,882,381.88
ADJUSTMENTS:								
Equipment Capitalization	\$13,001.65	\$0.00	(\$13,001.65)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Debt Secured by Real Estate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$13,001.65	\$0.00	(\$13,001.65)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance 12/31/2008								
Unrestricted - Designated (Note D)	\$405,819.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$74,233.84	\$900,605.75	\$101,648.47	\$391,718.14	\$1,774,026.15
Unrestricted (Note E)	994,289.26	0.00	\$406,963.80	469,240.89	466,597.98	0.00	0.00	\$2,367,091.75
Permanently Restricted (Note F)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,746,123.95	\$4,746,123.95
Temporarily Restricted (Note G)	0.00	904,819.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,090,320.13	\$3,995,140.03
TOTAL FUND BALANCES 12/31/2008	\$1,413,110.88	\$904,819.90	\$393,962.15	\$573,474.53	\$1,267,203.73	\$101,648.47	\$8,228,162.22	\$12,882,381.88



**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

EXHIBIT III  
Page 1 of 2

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Statement of Activities  
12/31/2008**

**INCOME**

40010	Congregational Contributions	\$895,521.06
40510	Organization Contributions	241,476.05
40900	Investment Portfolio Income	436,308.76
40920	Interest	44,450.00
40950	Individual Gifts and Bequests	270,196.92
40990	Miscellaneous	29.04
42000	Schwan Program	650,000.00
42010	Schwan Program Budget Supplement	350,000.00
42020	Schwan - Project Grants	180,000.00
43010	Thrivent	70,000.00
45000	Estates/Trusts	88,260.41
46000	Memorials	1,925.00
47000	Helping Hands	300,000.00
47010	Mission Advancement Project	270,000.00
49200	Registration/Fees/Dues	44,020.00
49210	Subscriptions	36,421.90
49220	Sale of Publications	20,395.98
49270	Royalties	1,035.03
49290	Services Provided	3,519.78
49300	Seminary Salary Reimbursement	20,000.00
49990	Unrealized Loss	(5,238,103.69)

Total Income

(\$1,314,543.76) \*

**EXPENSES**

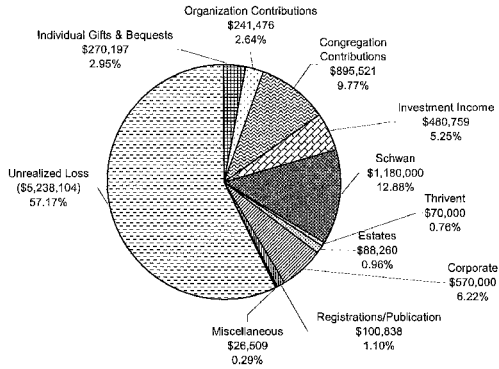
51100	Salaries/Admin/Sup	\$515,938.50
51110	Salaries/Administrative Assistant	15,285.00
51200	Salaries/Clerical	20,087.98
52100	Housing & Furnishing Allow.	131,627.00
52110	Furlough Expense	9,588.34
52140	Student Travel	783.00
52150	School Tuition	10,861.82
52200	FICA/Medicare	6,639.20
52250	Health/Disability Insurance	115,713.93
52270	Emergency Evacuation Insurance	1,038.00
52300	Life Insurance	1,260.00
52400	Tax Sheltered Annuities	35,159.05
52450	Workers Compensation	4,432.00
53050	Investment Services	113,058.09
53100	Auditor Services	11,720.00
53150	Legal Services	25,146.54
53170	Other Professional Services	33,346.82
53200	Printing & Publishing	75,178.53
53250	Data Processing Services	7,700.00
53300	Communication Services	8,383.30
53350	Postage & Parcel Services	21,914.38
53460	Commercial Multi-Peril	5,003.49
53470	Umbrella Liability	1,000.00
53500	Repairs & Maintenance	8,232.24
53550	Travel/Meals/Lodging	204,722.26

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (cont.)**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 2008

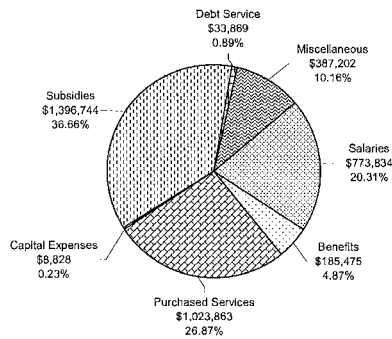
**EXHIBIT III**  
 Page 2 of 2

<b><u>EXPENSES (cont.)</u></b>	
53570 Auto Expenses	\$3,708.40
53600 Registration Fees	8,361.73
53650 Leases or Rentals	34,590.64
53800 Stipend	43,032.04
53900 Payment to Others	481,276.99
53410 Heat	4,627.61
53420 Light	3,132.19
53440 Water/Sewer/Garbage	807.99
45050 Supplies & Materials	16,841.36
54600 Publications/Subscriptions	1,766.74
54700 Books	1,207.20
55300 Equipment/Furniture	8,727.53
55400 Software/Upgrade Purchases	100.00
56050 Advertising Support	3,614.06
56100 Operating Support	1,054,042.98
56110 Rent Support	39,491.34
56200 Interest Support	132,002.13
56300 Maintenance Support	29,000.03
56400 Parish Support	3,000.00
56570 Cross-Cultural Ministry Support	4,518.88
56600 LYA Travel Support	18,700.00
56610 Youth Retreat Grant	4,450.00
56620 Continuing Education Grant	6,417.00
56630 Christian Day School	75,534.00
56640 Camp Grants	500.00
56700 Widow Support	24,010.00
56720 Group Term Insurance Support	1,463.83
57400 Interest	33,869.15
58890 Depreciation	11,446.04
58990 Miscellaneous	1,035.13
59990 Change in Charitable Gift Annuity	<u>374,721.22</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$3,809,815.68</u> *
Net Loss	<u>(\$5,124,359.44)</u>
* Excludes Transfers	

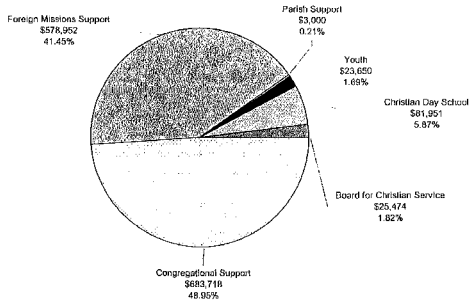
**Income**  
**\$ (1,314,544)**



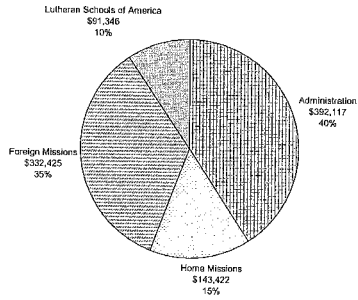
**Expenses**  
**\$3,809,816**



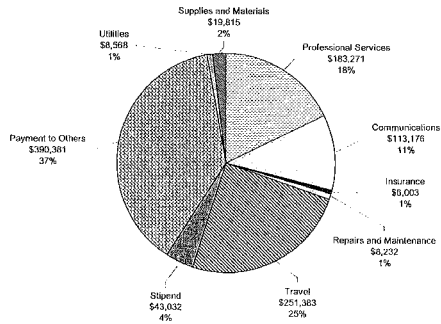
**SYNOD SUBSIDIES**  
\$1,386,744



**SALARIES AND BENEFITS**  
\$958,300



**PURCHASED SERVICES**  
\$1,023,863



**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

**EXHIBIT IV**  
Page 1 of 6

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**12/31/2008**

12/31/2020												
Account Number	INCOME/EXPENSES	Total	OPERATING					FOUNDATION				
			General 1	Church Extension 2	Residence and Real Estate 5	Home Missions 6	Foreign Missions 7	LSA	President's Office 19	Schwan Foreign 20	Partners in the Gospel 21	Whipple Olson 22
	INCOME											
4010	Congregational Contributions	895,521.06	760,950.41			47,442.28		89,372.05	17,746.34			
4010	Chargebacks	(732,091.22)	(732,091.22)									
41000	Congregational Funding	752,091.22				116,362.61			11,495.66			
41000	Schwan Program	39,500.00				300,000.00			30,000.00			
40510	Organizational Contributions	241,476.05				43,805.45			170,115.36			
49000	Investment Portfolio Income	435,368.76	19,460.38			22,633.94			35,168.06			
49000	Interest	44,450.00	39,745.21									
49030	Rent	0.00	4,707.14			1.02						
49030	Real Estate Gifts & Bequests	270,115.36				6,096.00			61,362.51			
49060	Miscellaneous	29.04										
42010	Schwan Program Budget Supplement	350,000.00	293.50			53,502.90			4,772.72			
42020	Schwan - Project Grants	160,000.00	420.00			75,000.00			75,000.00			
43010	Thrift	70,000.00	8,000.00			35,000.00						
43010	Gifts	8,000.00										
46000	Materials	1,825.00	43,938.38									
46000	Memorials	300,000.00	7,125.00						100.00			
47000	Helping Hands	300,000.00										
47010	Mission Advancement Project	270,000.00							300,000.00			
49020	Registration/Fees/Dues	48,800.00							270,000.00			
49020	Registration	24,020.00										
49020	Publications	35,780.00	36,421.90									
49200	Gifts	20,395.98	20,395.98									
49300	Sale of Real Property	0.00										
49370	Royalties	1,035.03	1,035.03									
49370	Services Provided	3,519.78	3,519.78						3,519.78			
49380	Reimbursement	20,000.00	20,000.00									
49400	Permanent Transfers Unreimbursed	570,758.04	124,185.48						10,202.24			
49800	Unrealized Loss	(5,238,163.69)	(238,771.52)			(275,344.06)						
	Total Income	(603,786.72)	831,256.56			0.00		623,041.87	1,070,241.44			
	EXPENSES											
51100	Salaries/Admin/Sup	57,638.90	208,960.00			60,556.40			246,422.10			
51100	Salaries	20,860.00										
51100	Administrative Assistant	20,087.98	20,087.98									
52050	Moving Expenses	0.00										
52100	Housing & Furnishing Allow.	131,627.00	60,000.00									
52110	Furlough Expense	9,566.34							9,566.34			
52140	Student Travel	10,861.82	75.00						75.00			
52150	School Tuition		10,851.92						10,861.82			

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND (cont.)  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Statement of Activities  
12/31/2008

EXHIBIT IV  
Page 2 of 6

Account Number	INCOME/EXPENSES	OPERATING					FOUNDATION				
		General 1	Church Extension 2	Residence & Real Estate 5	Home Missions 6	Foreign Missions 7	LSA	President's Office 19	Schwan Foreign 20	Partners in the Gospel 21	Whipple Olson 22
	<b>Total</b>										
52000	ICA/Medicare	6,639.20									
52050	Health/Osability Insurance	115,713.83	34,728.00		26,654.00	54,321.93					
52270	Emergency Evacuation Insurance	1,028.00			128.00	1,038.00					
52300	Life Insurance	1,690.00	504.00			180.00					
52400	Tax Statement Annulities	35,785.85	24,118.85		3,675.85	7,998.15					
52500	Life Insurance	4,782.00	1,828.85			1,479.16	450.20				
52600	One Employee Benefits	0.00									
53050	Investment Services	113,098.09	9,571.14	4,812.20	5,595.15	6,687.49	1,888.93	5,337.64	5,306.71	7,168.90	887.74
53100	Audio Services	11,720.00									
53150	Legal Services	15,854.44			19,357.04						
53200	Medical Services	33,446.82	10,768.82		3,437.00						
53300	Printing & Fueling	75,178.53	71,585.74		373.00	9,040.00	10,080.00				
53250	Data Processing Services	7,700.00				788.60	2,450.99				
53300	Communication Services	6,393.30			94.92	1,235.56	522.59				
53350	Postage & Freight Services	2,583.00			1,425.00		655.49				
53400	Postage & Freight Services	3,969.00			1,034.49						
53470	Unbeheld Liability	1,000.00	1,000.00								
53480	Auto Insurance	0.00									
53500	Repairs & Maintenance	8,232.24			18,302.60						
53550	Repairs & Maintenance	20,775.50	957,053.31			46,076.01	44,638.14				
53600	Meals/Lodging	3,708.40				3,708.40					
53670	Registration Fees	4,866.83			121.25	195.00	547.90				
53600	Leased or Rentals	34,590.64	30,684.39		1,411.26	2,495.00					
53700	Advertising	15,176.61									
53700	Advertising	43,032.00	29,832.04			13,200.00					
53900	Payment to Others	49,127.69	151,754.63		69,143.68	145,184.79	115,187.39				
53410	Heat	4,527.61	4,158.46		9.59	459.56					
53420	Light	3,132.19	2,779.27		103.13						
53440	Water/Sewer/Garbage	877.99	67.42								
54000	Auto Expenses	16,877.00	7,397.72			337.19	8,516.45				
54000	Auto Expenses	0.00									
54600	Publications/Subscriptions	1,795.74				150.00					
54700	Books	1,207.20	600.69			442.52	184.00				
55000	Bldg & Acquisition/Construction	1,076.05			1,223.76						
55300	Equipment/Furniture	8,727.53	5,046.57			1,457.20					

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND (cont.)**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Statement of Activities  
12/31/2008**

Account Number	INCOME/EXPENSES	OPERATING					FOUNDATION				
		General 1	Church Extension 2	Residence & Real Estate 3	Home Missions 6	Foreign Missions 7	LSA	President's Office 19	Schwan Foreign 20	Partners in the Gospel 21	Whipple Olson 22
	<b>Total</b>	100.00									
55400	Software/Upgrade Purchases	100.00									
55500	Vehicle Purchase	0.00									
56000	Advertising Support	3,514.06			3,514.06						
56100	Operating Support	1,054,042.94	255,767.01		2,554,452.02	578,351.55					
56150	Travel Support	35,745.00			35,745.00						
56160	Noting Expenses- Support	0.00			38,491.34						
56200	Interest Support	132,002.13			132,002.13						
56300	Maintenance Support	23,000.03			23,000.03						
56400	Relief Support	3,000.00									
56450	Relief Support	0.00									
56500	Relief Support	0.00									
53600	Village Support	0.00									
56570	Cross-Cultural Ministry Support	4,516.88			4,516.88						
56600	LVA Travel Support	18,700.00									
56610	Youth Rental Grant	4,450.00					6,417.00				
56620	Relief Support	4,450.00					73,175.00				
56630	Christian Day School Grant	75,534.00									
56640	Camp Grants	500.00									
56650	Teacher Conference Grants	0.00									
56700	Window Support	24,010.00									
56710	Window Support	0.00									
56720	Group Term Insurance Support	1,463.83									
57400	Interest	33,869.15	27,453.87								
58200	Dues & Membership	0.00									
58300	Depreciation	11,446.04		11,446.04							
58900	Transfers	510,757.92									
59100	Bad Debt	0.00									
59900	Change in Charitable Gift Annuity	374,221.22									
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	4,320,573.60	32,286.07	11,446.04	893,831.96	1,145,703.13	78,674.57	46,338.72	41,436.35	60,763.50	6,932.14
	<b>Net Loss</b>	(6,124,359.32)	(370,583.16)	(11,446.04)	(70,796.11)	(75,461.69)	(198,315.70)	(314,467.37)	(261,056.06)	(376,022.89)	(47,017.16)

Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Statement of Financial Activities  
12/31/2008

12/31/2006												
Account Number	INCOME/EXPENSES	FOUNDATION										
		Foreign Missionary 23	Gen Foreign Mission 24	Charitable Gift 25	Mission Reserve 26	Soule Endowment 27	Mission Expansion 28	St. Martins 29	75th Anniversary 30	Pre School 31	Celebrate 2,000 32	Trustees Designated 46
INCOME												
40010	Congregational Contributions											
40110	Chargeback											
41000	Congregational Funding											
42000	Constitutional											
43000	Schwan Program											
40510	Organizational Contributions											
49000	Investment Portfolio Income	36,406.68	18,473.37	1,711.88	7,284.97	5,418.07	106,217.64	770.93	13,476.55	315.30		23,672.87
49500	Interest											20,632.00
49900	Rent			550.00								500.00
						150,000.00						
40600	Individual Gifts & Bequests											
40900	Miscellaneous											
42010	Schwan Program Budget Supplement											
42020	Schwan Project Grants											
43010	Thruvent											
45000	Estate/Trusts											
46000	Memorials											
47000	Helping Hands											
47010	Mission Advancement Project											
48000	Registration/Fees/Dues											
49210	Subscriptions											
49220	Sale of Real Property											
49230	Publications											
49270	Royalties											
49280	Services Provided											
49300	Seminary Salary Reimbursement											
49400	Permanent Transfers Unrestricted											
49900	Unrealized Loss	(442,742.85)	(224,554.33)	44,143.69	(85,544.10)	(65,853.19)	(1,251,006.94)	(9,366.87)	(163,798.84)	(3,532.26)		(267,728.43)
	Total Income	(406,316.17)	(206,060.81)	46,405.37	(81,259.13)	89,064.88	(1,184,785.32)	(8,996.23)	(150,322.28)	(3,516.96)	0.00	(263,555.56)
												(165,411.62)
EXPENSES												
51100	Salaries/Admin/Sup											
51110	Salaries/Admin/Sup											
51200	Salaries/Clinical											
52050	Moving Expenses											
52100	Housing & Furnishing Allow.											
52110	Furlough Expense											
52120	Travel Expense											
52150	School Tuition											



## 12/31/2008

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**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES BY FUND (cont.)**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Marquette, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Statement of Activities  
12/31/2008**

12/31/2006		FOUNDATION											
Account Number	INCOME/EXPENSES	Foreign Missionary	Gen Foreign Mission	Charitable Gift	Mission Reserve	Soule Endowment	Mission Expansion	St. Martins	75th Anniversary	Pre School	Celebrate 2,000	Donated	Trustees Designated
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	40	45
55400	Software/Upgrade Purchases												
55500	Vehicle Purchase												
56050	Advertising Support												
56100	Operating Support												
56150	Rent Support												
56150	Moving Expenses - Support												
56200	Interest Support												
56300	Maintenance Support												
56400	Perish Support												
56500	National Pastors Support												
53560	Village Support												
56570	Cross-Cultural Ministry Support												
56600	LVA Travel Support												
56610	Youth Retreat Grant												
56620	Continuing Education Grant												
56630	Christian Day School												
56640	Camp Grants												
56650	Teacher Conference Grants												
56700	Widow Support												
56710	Religious Education Support												
56720	Group Term Insurance Support												
57400	Interest												
58200	Dues & Membership												
58800	Depreciation												
59100	Transfers												
59890	Bad Debt												
59990	Change in Charitable Gift Annuity												
	Total Expenses	70,267.16	35,556.01	383,062.50	13,964.95	1,338.41	201,698.15	1,345.83	25,996.24	607.69	150.00	45,777.38	35,955.04
				374,721.22									
	Net Loss	(470,593.33)	(241,646.82)	(336,547.13)	(86,224.09)	88,226.47	(1,395,887.45)	(9,941.12)	(76,318.62)	(4,124.85)	150.00	(309,332.94)	(271,586.66)

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

**EXHIBIT V**

Page 1 of 4

(A) Summary of significant accounting policies:

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis. The significant accounting policies followed are described below to improve the usefulness of the financial statements.

These financial statements are presented in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds according to their nature and purpose.

The General Fund, Home Mission Fund, Foreign Mission Fund, and Lutheran School of America Fund represents resources available for current operating purposes.

The Church Extension and Loan Fund represents resources used for loans to congregations for building and improvement programs.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation is an "endowment" fund established by the Synod's Board of Trustees. In addition to donations specified for the Foundation, two-thirds of undesignated trust and estate income is appropriated to the Foundation each year.

(B) Residences and real estate have been stated at cost or acquisition.

(C) Notes Payable:

The working capital note is a 6% demand loan from a congregation.

Investment program notes are amounts loaned by individuals, congregations and organizations for varying periods at interest rates ranging principally from zero to 6%.

Life Loan Plan notes are amounts loaned by individuals at interest rates from zero to 6%.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 2008

**EXHIBIT V**  
 Page 2 of 4

**(D) Unrestricted - Designated:**

General Fund

Christian Service	11,715.94	
Pension Plan	(3,197.50)	
World Needs	24,380.32	
Evangelism	55,891.19	
Publications	68,405.95	
Parish Education	115,783.71	
Book of Family Prayer	<u>19,559.04</u>	293,338.65
Project/Grants		
Cross-Stitch	\$29,454.63	
Stewardship	1,403.20	
Kessel Book	9,450.65	
4 Browns Court - Archives	1,268.93	
President	5,859.53	
Large Print Sentinel	13,332.02	
Pre-School Endowment	4,473.68	
CFIT	3,790.00	
PEA	15,901.01	
Festival Writing	1,375.87	
P & C Planning	18,026.08	
TOF-ELS Exploratory	<u>8,145.70</u>	<u>112,481.30</u>
Total General Fund Unrestricted - Designated		\$405,819.95

Home Missions

Project/Grants		
Conference	\$2,329.50	
Strategy	\$40.24	
Vicar Support	40,788.74	
Farmington Min. Center	<u>30,575.36</u>	
Total Home Mission Fund Unrestricted - Designated		\$74,233.84

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 2008

**EXHIBIT V**  
 Page 3 of 4

**Unrestricted - Designated:(cont.)**

**Foreign Missions**

Conference	\$36,801.59	
Special Mission Projects	152.43	
Australia	0.00	
Chile - General	43,680.86	
ESL	34,127.01	
Seminary Startup	155,200.00	
Korea Exploratory	89,147.29	
Scandinavia	0.00	
India-General	24,720.00	
India-College Fund Orphans	14,667.00	
India-Seminary	(11,130.84)	
India-Supervision	4,250.15	
India-Mankato Seminary Students	(13,620.38)	
Peru-General	59,809.76	
Peru-Jungle School	11,300.35	
Peru-Drug Rehab	10,628.44	
Peru-Christian Day School	35,330.62	
Peru-Seminary	62,532.08	
South America Contingencies	51,864.57	
Amazon	32,205.48	
Project/Grants		
Field Visit Conference	35,760.14	
Jungle School	40,500.00	
Seminary Repair	50,000.00	
Junk Yard Property	2,000.00	
Peru Seminary Replacement	24,500.00	
Peru Transition	6,179.20	
<b>Total Foreign Mission Fund Unrestricted - Designated</b>		<b>\$800,606.75</b>

**Lutheran Schools of America**

Lutheran Schools of America	(\$47,558.29)	
Lutheran Elementary Schools	25,237.18	
Project/Grants		
Teacher Conference	14,621.98	
Classical Education	26,000.00	
BOT Grant	63,465.85	
School Visit	19,881.75	
<b>Total LSA Fund Unrestricted - Designated</b>		<b>\$101,648.47</b>

**Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

Trustees	\$508,282.84	
Donated	\$544,053.02	
President's Office Endowment	(\$58,152.81)	
Marvin & Delores Schwan Foreign Mission Ti	(115,757.35)	
Partners in the Gospel Home Missions Fund	(66,909.89)	
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment	(18,993.41)	
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment	(176,888.19)	
Spill Trust Agreements	(47,747.42)	
St. Martin Lutheran Church	(3,284.42)	
75th Anniversary - Truth for our Youth	(106,218.29)	
Pre-School Endowment Fund	(2,892.41)	
Robert & Maddyln Soule Endowment	(61,773.53)	
<b>Total Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation</b>		<b>\$391,718.14</b>

**Total Unrestricted - Designated** **\$1,774,026.15**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
 December 31, 2008

**EXHIBIT V**  
 Page 4 of 4

**(E) Unrestricted**

General Fund	\$994,289.28
Charitable Remainder Trusts	\$0.00
Residences & Real Estate	408,963.80
Home Missions	498,240.69
Foreign Missions	466,597.98

**Total Unrestricted** **\$2,367,091.75**

**(F) Permanently Restricted - Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

President's Office Endowment	\$600,000.00
Marvin & Dolores Schwan Foreign Mission Trust Fund	600,000.00
Partners in the Gospel Home Mission Fund	1,755,977.00
Whipple-Olson-Wilson Endowment	100,000.00
Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment	1,000,000.00
Robert & Madelyn Soule Endowment	250,000.00
St. Martin Lutheran Church	20,146.96
75th Anniversary - Truth for our Youth	410,000.00
Pre-School Endowment Fund	10,000.00

**Total Permanently Restricted** **\$4,746,123.95**

**(G) Temporarily Restricted**

Church Extension & Loan Fund	\$754,819.90
Herbert and Cathy Schulz	150,000.00
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	
General Foreign Mission Fund	416,446.99
Home Mission Reserve Fund	164,257.97
Home Mission Expansion Fund	<u>2,509,615.47</u>
Total Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation	\$3,090,320.43

**Total Temporarily Restricted** **\$3,995,140.03**

### Descriptions of ELS Foundation Funds

<b>Fund Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>
19	Pres. Office Endowment \$600,000 Permanently Restricted	Principal donated by Dorothy Arbury. Income only available. To be used to support full-time president's office.
20	M & D Schwan FM Trust \$600,000  Permanently Restricted	First funds received by Synod from Marvin Schwan. Income only Available. To be used to support the Helping Hand's Programs – Income limited to the amount of contributions to Helping Hands
21	Partners in the Gospel \$1,755,977 Permanently Restricted	Principal derived from special synod wide offering. Income only available. To be used as endowment for Home Missions.
22	Whipple – Eleanor Wilson \$100,000 Permanently Restricted	Principal donated as endowment for Foreign Missions. Income only available.
23	Foreign Mission Seminary Endowment \$1,000,000 Permanently Restricted	Principal donated by Marvin Schwan as endowment to support seminary in South America. Income only available.
24	General Foreign Missions  Unrestricted	From estates designated for Foreign Missions. "Fund functioning as endowment". Income for Foreign Missions.
25	Charitable gift annuities  Temporarily Restricted	Fund established to account for charitable gift annuities of which the beneficiaries are Synod programs when the donor dies.
26	Home Mission Reserve \$100,000  Temporarily Restricted	Original principle from Marvin Schwan to serve as contingency for use by Home Missions if deficits occur. Principal can be used but never has been. Deficits have been funded from estates and other available sources.
27	Soule Endowment	Principal donated from Bob & Madelyn Soule as endowment. Income only available. Income to be divided equally between Bob & Madelyn Soule Scholarship Fund (BLC), Foreign Student Support (BLTS), and Foreign Missions.
28	Home Mission Expansion   Temporarily Restricted	Original principal from Marvin Schwan To be used for expansion program. Principal not restricted. Income and principal used to absorb annual deficits in Home Mission program. Also used for capital purposes in form of loans.
29	St. Martin Lutheran Church, Shawano Endowment \$20,146.95 Permanently Restricted	Principal donated from St. Martin Lutheran Church, Shawano, WI. Income only available. Income to be divided between Home and Foreign Missions for work in the USA and abroad.

**EXHIBIT VI**

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**Fund Description for ELS Foundation (cont.)**

30	Truth for Youth \$410,000 Permanently Restricted	Principal derived from special synod wide offering. Income only available. To be used for youth programs.
31	Pre-School Endowment  \$10,000  Permanently Restricted	Principal donated by John Arends. Income only available. To be used for pre-school development in missions; 1/2 for Bethany, Luverne and 1/2 ELS pre-schools. The following is taken from a letter dated June 11, 1999: "If Bethany Church does not have a pre-school in operation after ten years (2009 AD.) then all of the annual earnings from the \$10,000 will go to the schools of the ELS nationwide."
40	Donated Temporarily Restricted	Principal from estates designated for ELS without program identification. Income used for general synod purposes.
45	Trustee   Unrestricted Designated	"Fund functioning as endowment". Board of Trustees established a policy of applying 2/3 of non-designated estates to this fund. Income goes to general synod purposes with principal available for use at discretion of Board of Trustees.



**BALANCE SHEET AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
December 31, 2005

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**ASSETS**

	PRESIDENTS OFFICE FUND 19	MARVIN AND DEBORA SCHWAN FOREIGN MISSION TRUST FUND 20	PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL HOME MISSIONS FUND 21	WHIPPLE - WILSON ENDOWMENT FUND 22	FOREIGN SEMINARY FUND 23	GENERAL FOREIGN MISSION FUND 24	SPLIT INTEREST AGREEMENTS FUND 25	HOME MISSION RESERVE FUND 26
Cash in Bank	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment management accounts	\$541,847.19	484,242.65	912,184.16	81,008.59	\$21,111.81	416,446.69	1,577,028.64	164,257.97
Loans receivable from congregations (Schedule B)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accounts receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Downpayment deposits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest receivable	0.00	0.00	4,562.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	186.34	0.00
Land	0.00	0.00	425,101.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00
	\$541,847.19	\$484,242.65	\$1,069,537.14	\$81,008.59	\$21,111.81	\$416,446.69	\$1,577,215.96	\$164,257.97
	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$870.03)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$21,242.59)	\$0.00

Due from (to) other funds

**TOTAL ASSETS**

**LIABILITIES**

Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Charity Gift Annuity Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	397,893.92	0.00
Agency Obligations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,674,706.89	0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,412,793.81	\$0.00

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**

**FUND BALANCES**

Balance 12/31/2007								
Permanently Restricted	\$600,000.00	\$1,755,977.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Temporarily Restricted	256,304.56	165,310.00	368,110.00	28,022.75	297,686.14	658,093.51	285,123.71	299,482.05
Unrestricted - Designated	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$856,304.56</b>	<b>\$765,307.73</b>	<b>\$2,665,096.00</b>	<b>\$128,022.75</b>	<b>\$1,297,686.14</b>	<b>\$658,093.51</b>	<b>\$285,123.71</b>	<b>\$299,482.05</b>

Add:

Income - Net

Investment Income

Interest Income

Investment Services

Amortization

Distributions

Market value gains (losses)

**TOTAL**

Balance 12/31/2008								
Permanently Restricted (Note F)	\$600,000.00	\$1,755,977.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Temporarily Restricted (Note G)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	416,446.69	0.00	164,257.97
Unrestricted - Designated (Note D)	156,152.61	116,000.00	68,969.00	18,892.75	173,893.81	67,742.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$541,847.19</b>	<b>\$484,242.65</b>	<b>\$1,069,537.14</b>	<b>\$81,008.59</b>	<b>\$21,111.81</b>	<b>\$416,446.69</b>	<b>\$21,742.42</b>	<b>\$164,257.97</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES**

Balance 12/31/2007								
Permanently Restricted (Note F)	\$600,000.00	\$1,755,977.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Temporarily Restricted (Note G)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	416,446.69	0.00	164,257.97
Unrestricted - Designated (Note D)	156,152.61	116,000.00	68,969.00	18,892.75	173,893.81	67,742.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$541,847.19</b>	<b>\$484,242.65</b>	<b>\$1,069,537.14</b>	<b>\$81,008.59</b>	<b>\$21,111.81</b>	<b>\$416,446.69</b>	<b>\$21,742.42</b>	<b>\$164,257.97</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (cont.)**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation  
December 31, 2008

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	ROBERT & MADELYN SOULE FUND	HOME MISSION EXPANSION FUND 27	FUND 28	ST. MARTIN SHAWANO FUND 29	TRUTH OUR YOUTH FUND 30	CELEBRATE 2000 FUND 31	TRUSTEES FUND 45	TOTAL FUND 45
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash in Bank	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment management accounts	188,226.47	2,398,802.96	16,892.53	303,761.71	7,107.39	\$0.00	508,282.84	4,908,173.96
Accounts receivable (Schedule B)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	348,963.55
Downpayment Deposits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land	0.00	112,812.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.38	4,832.19
	\$188,226.47	\$2,509,615.47	\$16,892.53	\$303,761.71	\$7,107.39	\$0.00	\$508,282.84	\$5,277,514.47
Due from (to) other funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$521,310.62
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$188,226.47</b>	<b>\$2,509,615.47</b>	<b>\$16,892.53</b>	<b>\$303,761.71</b>	<b>\$7,107.39</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$508,282.84</b>	<b>\$9,540,883.03</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Charity Gift Annuity Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$397,953.92
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,412,720.81</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>								
Balance 12/31/2007	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,146.95	\$410,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,598,123.96
Permanently Restricted	3,865,562.92	0.00	0.00	70,183.65	1,422.24	150.00	853,385.96	0.00
Temporarily Restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,086,165.50
Unrestricted - Designated	\$100,000.00	\$3,865,562.92	\$26,803.65	\$480,100.23	\$17,232.24	\$150.00	\$853,385.96	\$729,649.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,865,562.92</b>	<b>\$26,803.65</b>	<b>\$480,100.23</b>	<b>\$17,232.24</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>\$853,385.96</b>	<b>\$12,391,038.96</b>
<b>Add:</b>								
Income - Net	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44,725.05	\$204,824.95
Investment Income	418.07	108,217.84	770.58	13,476.86	315.30	0.00	24,172.87	313,114.54
Investment Services	(1,338.41)	(26,238.71)	(190.35)	(3,323.08)	(77.89)	0.00	(5,847.89)	(82,502.18)
Annually amortization	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Distributions	0.00	(174,856.44)	(1,155.48)	(22,867.16)	(959.80)	(150.00)	(39,928.52)	(30,858.96)
Market value gains (losses)	(65,653.19)	(1,297,000.44)	(3,383.57)	(16,818.69)	(3,324.48)	0.00	(1,028.53)	(11,577.35)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$88,226.47</b>	<b>\$1,305,067.49</b>	<b>\$9,911.12</b>	<b>\$916,316.02</b>	<b>\$4,416.93</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$30,352.94</b>	<b>\$4,187,852.73</b>
Balance 12/31/2008	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,146.95	\$410,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,746,123.96
Permanently Restricted (Note F)	0.00	2,509,615.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,509,615.47
Temporarily Restricted (Note G)	(81,773.50)	0.00	(3,260.00)	(108,217.84)	(7,866.00)	0.00	544,053.00	391,751.14
Unrestricted - Designated (Note D)	\$188,226.47	\$2,509,615.47	\$16,892.53	\$303,761.71	\$7,107.39	\$0.00	\$544,053.02	\$8,238,167.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$188,226.47</b>	<b>\$2,509,615.47</b>	<b>\$16,892.53</b>	<b>\$303,761.71</b>	<b>\$7,107.39</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$544,053.02</b>	<b>\$9,617,107.03</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$188,226.47</b>	<b>\$2,509,615.47</b>	<b>\$16,892.53</b>	<b>\$303,761.71</b>	<b>\$7,107.39</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$544,053.02</b>	<b>\$9,617,107.03</b>

# **LOANS RECEIVABLE**

Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Markato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

## **SCHEDULE B**

### **Church Extension Loan (Fund 02)**

Faith - Oregon, Wisconsin  
Church  
Faith - San Antonio, TX (Construction)  
Family of God - Fort McHale, AZ (Construction)  
Hope - West Jordan, Utah  
Peace - Kissimmee, Florida  
Resurrection - Winter Haven, Florida  
Faith - Matford, Oregon

ORIGINAL LOAN BALANCE	REMAINING LOAN BALANCE 12/31/2007	RECLASS./ NEW LOANS 2008	PAID 2008	TOTAL PAID	REMAINING LOAN BALANCE 12/31/2008
\$155,500.62	\$73,021.17	\$0.00	\$9,606.81	\$92,086.26	\$63,414.36
264,808.00	155,817.61	142,000.00	0.00	108,990.39	297,817.61
80,000.00	80,000.00	110,000.00	0.00	0.00	190,000.00
186,203.42	149,398.99	0.00	2,124.64	38,929.07	147,274.35
414,408.72	81,581.11	0.00	0.00	332,827.61	81,581.11
479,572.97	225,173.51	11,037.86	-2,944.91	251,454.55	239,156.28
123,515.96	10,540.27	0.00	357.98	113,333.67	10,182.29
<b>\$1,704,009.69</b>	<b>\$776,532.66</b>	<b>\$263,037.86</b>	<b>\$9,144.52</b>	<b>\$937,621.55</b>	<b>\$1,029,426.00</b>

### **Home Missions (Fund 06)**

\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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### **Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

#### **Partners in the Gospel (Fund 21)**

Family of God - Riviera, Arizona  
Peace - Kissimmee, FL (Scholarship)  
Peace - Lakeland, Florida  
Redeemer - Scottsdale, Arizona

127,800.00	6,598.13	0.00	0.00	121,201.87	6,598.13
0.00	0.00	10,000.00	1,057.78	1,057.78	8,942.22
19,999.70	19,999.70	19,333.33	0.00	0.00	39,333.03
318,062.44	262,245.17	30,945.00	0.00	55,817.27	293,190.17
<b>\$465,862.14</b>	<b>\$288,843.00</b>	<b>\$60,278.33</b>	<b>\$1,057.78</b>	<b>\$178,076.92</b>	<b>\$348,063.55</b>

### **Total Loans Receivable**

<b>\$2,169,871.83</b>	<b>\$1,064,375.66</b>	<b>\$323,316.19</b>	<b>\$10,202.30</b>	<b>\$1,115,898.47</b>	<b>\$1,377,489.55</b>
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**MORTGAGE DEMAND NOTES PAYABLE**  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Mankato, Minnesota  
December 31, 2008

**SCHEDULE C**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Congregation</u>	<u>Secured</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2009 Current</u>	<u>Long Term</u>
<u>Long term mortgage</u>					
Schwan Foundation	Resurrection - Winter Haven, FL	Land	13,863.49	13,863.49	0.00
Total			<u>\$13,863.49</u>	\$13,863.49	\$0.00
<u>Demand promissory Notes</u>					
Schwan Foundation	Hope - W Jordan, UT	No	55,419.01		
Total			<u>\$55,419.01</u>		





**STATISTICS**

# Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Parochial Report for the year 2008

CONGREGATION			MEMBERS			MINISTRATIONS							SERVICES		
	State	Location	Congregation	Baptized	Communicant	Voters	Children Baptized	Adults Baptized	Children Confirmed	Adults Confirmed	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Sunday Services	Average Attendance
1	AZ	Fort Mohave	Family of God	62	56	25	2				380	1		52	45
2	AZ	Lake Havasu City	Our Saviour	215	159	70	7	1	3	6	1,603	1	1	65	136
3	AZ	Scottsdale	Redeemer	78	42	29	2	1	1	1	1,359			104	58
4	CA	Bell Gardens	Christ the King	44	27	9	1				358			52	24
5	CA	Bishop	Our Savior	32	22	7	1				190			52	16
6	CA	Irvine	Asian Mission*	14	46	13	6	8	15	6	286	1	2	53	33
7	CA	Irvine	Faith*	93	82	28			3	3	521	1	4	52	65
8	CA	Ukiah	Apostles*	35	28	14							1	52	30
9	CA	Windsor	Christ	40	38					2	352			52	27
10	FL	Kissimmee	Peace	137	111	44	1	1		3	1,612			52	83
11	FL	Lakeland	Our Savior	50	42	18	2	1		1	922		1	52	44
12	FL	Lakeland	Peace	70	60	24	1		1	8	956	1		52	51
13	FL	Naples	Our Savior*	226	188	50	3		3	6	2,304	2	3	53	148
14	FL	Port St. Lucie	Christ	114	74	27	5		1	4	1,178			52	71
15	FL	Sebastian	Trinity	104	83	15			2	2	1,262		1	51	63
16	FL	Sebring	New Life	80	79	35					110			52	61
17	FL	Vero Beach	Grace	230	197	30	1			2	1,971	1	5	52	118
18	FL	Winter Haven	Resurrection	101	85	16	1			2	1,432		1	52	62
19	IL	Lombard	St. Timothy	165	124	21	4		1	2	1,035		2	52	68
20	IN	Avon	Good Shepherd*	62	42	11	1				509		1	52	28
21	IN	Hobart	Grace	212	174	20	7		2	3	3,017	1	3	52	128
22	IN	Portage	Hope	124	94	30	3			8	974		2	51	63
23	IA	Ames	Bethany	49	36	10	3		1		514			52	32
24	IA	Calmar	Trinity	29	24	7			1	1	193			47	18
25	IA	Forest City	Forest	43	40	6					144		2	50	12
26	IA	Indianola	Good Shepherd	61	48	17					633	2	1	52	37
27	IA	Lake Mills	Lake Mills	49	41		1				210	1	4	17	46
28	IA	Lake Mills	Lime Creek	26	26						142		1	17	46
29	IA	Lawler	Saude	167	123	55	3				561	2	2	49	55
30	IA	New Hampton	Jerico	152	114	52					587		3	46	53
31	IA	New Hampton	Redeemer	87	80	33				3	545		1	51	44
32	IA	Newton	Grace	25	18	5					209		2	51	15
33	IA	Northwood	First Shell Rock	72	66		1				240		1	50	33
34	IA	Northwood	Somber	30	30						210		2	17	46
35	IA	Parkersburg	Faith*	70	60	12	2				325	1	5	51	27
36	IA	Riceville	Immanuel	14	14						100			39	10
37	IA	Scarville	Center*	82	66	24		1		1	24		2	49	
38	IA	Scarville	Scarville Synod*	116	82	28	1		1		1,103	3	2	49	
39	IA	Thompson	Zion	33	33	11	2				196		3	50	17

	SERVICES		EDUCATION									FINANCES				
	Special Services	Average Attendance	CDS Enrollment	CDS Teachers	Sun Sch Enrollment	Sun Sch Teachers	Bible Class	VBS	Summer Camp	Lutheran H.S. & College	Public H.S. & College	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes	Value of Property	Debt on Property	Legacies
1	13	30	21	2	2	1	12				2	209,076	900	1,387,500	427	
2	23	126	31	3	15	3	50	60			5	345,413	15,840	1,250,000	125,779	
3	15	17	1		13	4	35		4	4	5	100,137	132	1,100,000	336,479	
4	15	12			8	2	11	8				40,183	250	200,000		
5	14	15				1	8			1	1	37,584	488	700,000		19,210
6	6	38	2		11	1	4	8	7	2	12	34,081			3,047	
7	12	27			10	4	20	27	1	1	7	164,518	4,552	30,000		
8	10	25			5	2	15									
9	5	21					15					40,903		550,000	153,140	78,000
10	13	45	24	2	9	3	26	23				134,288	4,687	961,000	554,448	
11	24	24			6	2	11					82,566	6,129	700,000		
12	14	34			7	4	17	8	8		5	71,000	1,000	900,000	40,906	
13	13	89			30		20	100	20			350,831	2,382	3,500,000	156,622	
14	14	37			35	5	12	64	6		6	93,685	5,000	900,000		
15	15	40			6	2	28	6			9	86,271	2,234	550,140	156,302	
16	17	30														
17	40	40			20	5	30	45			5	197,522	23,478	1,132,250		
18	16	41					25					93,355	3,000	270,000	230,000	
19	16	37			29	6	51			2	8	169,648	14,981	2,200,000	83,000	
20	16	19			12	3	18	6			4	51,475	3,685	5,000		
21	13	93			32	4	73	44			30	128,006	20,874	800,000		
22	15	27			21	11	14				1	153,211	2,719	2,750,000		7,500
23	15	23			10	3	20				3	64,515	25	315,400		
24	9	10			1	1	8		2		2	23,290	369	390,000		30,000
25	10	20			1	1	8					11,861	541	525,000		
26	15	23			15	4	25	40		1	3	79,335	6,945	100,000	3,200	
27	2	22			8	1		8		1	2					
28	2	22														
29	11	30			17	4	12	33			6	41,000	3,000			
30	12	40			16	3	12	33			4	50,000	2,000			51,000
31	12	31			7	1	15	8			6	43,227	700	300,000		10,413
32	13	12			5	3	5					21,510		131,000		
33	6	17			6	3		8			3					
34	2	22														
35	10	23			2	1					2	49,172	1,200			180,000
36																
37	5						16				2	26,370	1,925			
38	8		10	1	16	4	30	12	2	5	6	37,450	50,000			
39	9	19					11					20,644	535			

\* Current statistics not provided # Not yet a member of the synod



	CONGREGATION			MEMBERS			MINISTRATIONS							SERVICES	
	State	Location	Congregation	Baptized	Communicant	Voters	Children Baptized	Adults Baptized	Children Confirmed	Adults Confirmed	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Sunday Services	Average Attendance
40	IA	Thornton	Richland	79	77	26				1	433	1	2	50	30
41	IA	Waterloo	Pilgrim*	111	72	22			1	2	333		1	52	50
42	IA	Waukon	King of Grace	53	41	15					300		1	52	32
43	MA	Brewster	Trinity	77	66	25		1			1,800	1	4	52	35
44	MA	Burlington	Pinewood	160	106	39	5		2	1	1,018		3	51	74
45	MI	East Jordan	Faith	50	40	18					225		1	51	24
46	MI	Frankenmuth	St. John's	606	523	121	10	1	5	1	4,228	4	7	104	192
47	MI	Hillman	Faith	78	56	20	1		3	1	641		4	51	44
48	MI	Holland	Lord of Life*	88	66	33	3		1	1	798	1		51	55
49	MI	Holton	Holton	305	237	23	4		4		1,653	1	2	51	89
50	MI	Midland	Holy Scripture	188	162	33	3		2		1,792	1	5	52	100
51	MI	Rogers City	Trinity	40	33	11				2	260		2	52	15
52	MI	Saginaw	Gloria Dei	261	227	56	3	2	1	7	2,877	4	4	89	99
53	MI	Suttons Bay	First	86	70	21			2		447		3	52	24
54	MN	Albert Lea	Our Savior's	515	400	150	8				1,673	4	14	51	83
55	MN	Apple Valley	Heritage		141	55	4		2		1,212		1	91	138
56	MN	Audubon	Immanuel	120	103	43					849			51	62
57	MN	Bagley	Our Savior's	135	121	13	2	1		1	589		1	50	29
58	MN	Belview	Our Savior's	115	79	17	1		3		796		4	50	38
59	MN	Belview	Rock Dell	116	87	18			3		809		3	50	34
60	MN	Clara City	Faith	64	53	20	2		1		378		1	52	32
61	MN	Cold Spring	Gloria Dei	221	177	77	5		5	2	215	2	2	53	89
62	MN	Cottonwood	English	179	150	20	1		3	2	540		1	51	47
63	MN	East Grand Forks	River Heights	115	88	22			2		827		1	52	69
64	MN	Farmington	Hope #	48	25	13	3		1	7	150	3	1	52	30
65	MN	Gaylord	Norwegian Grove	98	89	35					340		2	48	31
66	MN	Golden Valley	King of Grace	715	527	213	8		10	4	6,698	5	6	104	396
67	MN	Grygla	St. Petri* #	58	33	9			2		403			50	29
68	MN	Hartland	Hartland	236	183	83	9		7		712	1	2	52	69
69	MN	Hawley	Our Savior's	71	53	22	2				390		1	51	46
70	MN	Lengby	St. Paul	130	104	18	1				480	1	1	49	45
71	MN	Luverne	Bethany	262	249	43	2		2	1	1,023		3	50	79
72	MN	Manchester	Manchester	72	47	19	3	1	1	3	237	1	2	51	26
73	MN	Mankato	Mt. Olive	1,150	821	332	16		14		10,480	6	8	154	487
74	MN	North Mankato	Peace	300	210	97	9		2	5	3,124	3	1	83	190
75	MN	Oklee	Oak Park*	147	105	25	4				1,401	2	1	45	70
76	MN	Princeton	Bethany*	246	193		2			1	2,402			52	83
77	MN	Princeton	Our Savior's*	204	156	70	4		1		453		1	52	73
78	MN	Rogers	Redeeming Grace	116	90	41	6	1	9	2	954	4		52	70
79	MN	Roseau	Our Savior's*	12	12	5									8
80	MN	St. Peter	Norseland	234	192	94	2		3		916			50	106
81	MN	Tracy	Zion	172	141	26	3		2		640	1	1	51	54
82	MN	Trail	Mt. Olive*	17	11	5							3	51	12
83	MN	Trail	Nazareth*	87	52	14			2		451	1	2	46	22
84	MN	Ulen	Calvary*	62	50	20	1				300		1	52	35

	SERVICES		EDUCATION										FINANCES					
	Special Services	Average Attendance	CDS Enrollment	CDS Teachers	Sun Sch Enrollment	Sun Sch Teachers	Bible Class	VBS	Summer Camp	Lutheran H.S. & College	Public H.S. & College	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes	Value of Property	Debr on Property	Legacies		
40	9	39			2	1	11		1		3	50,159	3,151					
41	12	16			18	6	10	20			5	43,201	660	661,000				
42	9	25			5	2	12	8	6	1	7	24,550	2,500	90,000	53,545			
43	18	35					29	5				76,500						
44	12	25			24	6	27	28			2	114,100	9,500	1,300,000		50,000		
45	6	15			7	3	3	10		2	7	34,425	875	14,000				
46	16	74	12		33	5	21	56		2	32	349,169	65,298	3,000,000		2,711		
47	16	19					9	28	2	1	8	54,337	1,363					
48	18	26			15	5	17	8			14	56,500	1,200					
49	18	40			20	5	20	30		2	11	112,211		1,000,000	267,000			
50	16	68			20	5	76				12	133,868	34,663	2,750,000				
51	3	9			3	1	10				2	33,000	1,200	150,000				
52	14	52			25	5	30	76	3	2	9	126,689	15,188	731,000		264,160		
53	11	12			3	2					4	404,901	1,100	400,000				
54	11	32			24	5	25	9		2	11	79,457	10,192	402,000				
55	18		5	1	45	19	30	45	2	2	8	444,359	22,700	1,383,464	791,546			
56	14	39			19	3	16	17	4	3	8	83,676	8,826	1,131,000				
57	14	29			7	4	7	7			1	27,555	1,376	379,773				
58	10	26			13	7	7	11	3	2	10	43,670	2,600	160,000				
59	4	45			19	7	7	15		1	12	43,125	2,125	150,000				
60	14	28			13	3	12	13		1	5	55,560	4,449	233,000	18,000			
61	13	72			31	6	38	42		1	4	98,409	10,510	1,000,000	40,000	74,000		
62	14	43	2		12	3	12	15	1	1	18	61,574	10,871	900,000				
63	15	30			25	4	25	18	4	1	2	80,290	840	400,000				
64	4	17			12	4	12	39			1							
65	9	29	1		4	2	8	5			3	27,621	10,360	518,250				
66	16	226	182	11	105	12	145	83	12	44	23	543,284	84,850	2,500,000	330,000			
67	9	20	10	2	10	3	14		3		4	12,560	259	60,000				
68	9	14			31	8	6	47			10	93,000	4,200	400,000		2,570		
69	11	22			12	5	12	12	1		5	40,838			20,700			
70	10	49			21	5	5	11			5	32,698	2,629	194,000				
71	12	40	1		7	3	18	1	12	1	11	96,173	15,152	335,000		24,000		
72	10	14			15	6	2	12			5	20,158	716	125,000		11,864		
73	19	220	152	9	158	16	90	99		42	38	1,047,837	63,825	3,635,116	1,439,386			
74	15	93			42	5	73			14	4							
75	7	59	5	2	15	4	25	34	3	2	14	40,190	2,200	240,000	45,500			
76	12	80	5	1	28	10	29	60	3	1	5	81,043	17,083					
77	15	43	27	3	19	4	10	20	2	3	5	65,321	11,644	400,000				
78	16	63			14	3	34	42		2	9	80,975	7,775	1,400,000	1,481,243			
79																		
80	9	85	9		28	5	9	26		6	7	124,595	29,245	2,096,250				
81	11	26			28	4		28	2		17	72,440	8,461	250,000		26,000		
82	12	17			4	1		4										
83	6	41									9	18,372	730	100,000		5000		
84	7	22			10	3	8	12		1	2	32,235	1,863					

\* Current statistics not provided # Not yet a member of the synod

CONGREGATION				MEMBERS			MINISTRATIONS							SERVICES	
	State	Location	Congregation	Baptized	Communicant	Voters	Children Baptized	Adults Baptized	Children Confirmed	Adults Confirmed	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Sunday Services	Average Attendance
85	MO	Cape Girardeau	Scriptural	100	88	10			1					51	32
86	MO	Carthage	Faith*	109	91	28	3		1	3	1,497		2	52	75
87	MO	Jefferson City	Peace*	89	71	22	2	3	1	3	564	2		52	54
88	MO	Piedmont	Grace*	16	11	2			1		12			53	7
89	OH	Bowling Green	Abiding Word	136	111	38	3		2		872	2	1	51	62
90	OH	Deshler	Peace #	439	345	67	3		3	3	1,843	2	4	52	160
91	OH	Weston	Grace	175	90	15	1		1	5	804	1	1	52	47
92	OR	Grants Pass	Our Savior*	70	63	16				2	1,271		2	52	41
93	OR	Gresham	Saved by Grace*	130	107	27	3			1	1,154		2	53	58
94	OR	Hood River	Concordia*	42	24	8				1	192		1	52	18
95	OR	Klamath Falls	Christ	59	48	20	1		1		654		2	131	41
96	OR	Medford	Faith	57	41	13	4	2			516		2	51	32
97	OR	Myrtle Creek	St. Matthew*	48	44	12	2			2		1		52	25
98	OR	North Bend	Resurrection	38	30	6	1		1		702			52	15
99	OR	Sutherlin	Christ*	60	51	15	2					1		52	30
100	OR	The Dalles	Bethany	99	65	25			4		79			51	32
101	PA	Irwin	Zion	22	14	3								52	22
102	TX	San Antonio	Faith	58	36	9	1			4	485			52	38
103	UT	West Jordan	Hope	182	123	8	1			2	1,117			85	54
104	WA	Lakewood	Lakewood	90	74	16	3	1	2	2	617			51	40
105	WA	Mt. Vernon	St. Luke	69	52	11	2			2	779	1		51	36
106	WA	Port Orchard	Bethany	604	405	65	6	2	5	10	3,840	5	5	156	235
107	WA	Tacoma	Parkland	568	413	55	9	2	9	11	3,204	1	6	148	174
108	WA	Yelm	Our Redeemer*	69	55	19	1		2		837		2	52	45
109	WI	Amherst Jct.	Our Savior's	35	32	9					174			47	12
110	WI	Bloomer	Good Shepherd	79	70	17					750		3	52	36
111	WI	Cottage Grove	Abiding Shepherd	306	228		8	1	3	2	2,624	4	1	148	176
112	WI	Cottage Grove	Western Koshkonong	95	81	25	3			2	472		4	51	54
113	WI	Eau Claire	Ascension	150	126	26	6		1	1	1,226	1	1	52	61
114	WI	Eau Claire	Concordia	409	337	126	6		5		3,223	1	9	52	159
115	WI	Eau Claire	Pinehurst*	147	122	44	2		3	3	1,154	1	4	103	63
116	WI	Elderon	Our Savior's	72	54	25		1	2		475	1		51	24
117	WI	Green Bay	Christ the King	193	155	31	4		3	5	1,618		1	104	101
118	WI	Iola	Redeemer	62	42	18			3		840			52	42
119	WI	Madison	Grace	70	66	17					624		3	51	32
120	WI	Madison	Holy Cross	1,107	906	325	26	2	12	6	5,707	8	15	149	414
121	WI	Madison	Our Saviour's	274	201	54	4		7	1	1,501	4	7	52	71
122	WI	Marinette	First Trinity	308	265	108	3		3			1	7	88	108
123	WI	Menomonie	St. Katherine's	115	95		4		3	4	486	1	2	52	35
124	WI	Okauchee	Holy Trinity	489	382	135	3		7	3	5,464	2	5	124	270
125	WI	Omro	Messiah	52	44	12	2	1		1	475		1	52	20

SERVICES			EDUCATION									FINANCES				
Special Services	Average Attendance		CDS Enrollment	CDS Teachers	Sun Sch Enrollment	Sun Sch Teachers	Bible Class	VBS	Summer Camp	Lutheran H.S. & College	Public H.S. & College	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes	Value of Property	Debr on Property	Legacies
85	10	13			4	2					5	33,558	528	350,000		
86	8	50						23				62,000	5,000	1,000,000		300,000
87	13	32			11	4	14	20	2		4					
88					1	1					1	11,100	2,440	252,000		
89	13	32			8	3	27	19			10	122,698	2,986	630,000	386,863	
90	14	90	22	4	41	5	60	12			7	120,754	45,794	800,000		
91	17	23			10	6	18	32			5	57,936	1,770			
92	14	26			5	2	40			1	3	53,821	1,750	235,000		
93	13	46			12	3	15	31	1	3	1	90,698		1,100,000	172,000	
94	8	6			11	3	4	3			1			150,000		
95	17	18			2	1	25			3	7	75,022	25,565	725,000		
96	11	12			6	1	20	50			5	62,251	5,114	400,000	10,211	
97	11	15														
98	14	8			3	1	14			1		26,948				
99	11	15														
100	5	30			15	4	10	40			9	82,000	4,000			
101	2	6			11	3						65,000	1,000	310,000		
102					14	4	20				1	75,892	7,501	400,000	400,000	
103	7	17			20	5	17	30		1	15	103,790		1	150,000	
104	11	32	27	2	4	1	7	26		3	2	60,092	703	2,511,500	101,321	
105	9	26			5	3	9	15	1		4	66,277	3,300	250,000		
106	12	210	55	4	90	9	75	88	95	6	46	379,394	40,733	2,254,203	497,928	
107	23	46	94	6	4	2	30	41	128	22	52	748,005	11,367	5,148,189	916,563	
108	18	20	13	2	6	2	10		7	2	7	89,885	286	2,000,000	300,962	
109	5	16					10	7			3	25,000	140	350,000		
110	13	33			4	1	22	24		1	4	44,222	5,658	250,000	15,974	7,650
111	6	100	4		19		90		3	10	18	268,380	29,958	1,049,000	1,006,000	
112	12	33			10	4	15				10	77,415	3,373	1,620,000		15,084
113	17	29			12	3	7				5	64,249	1,695	700,000		
114	15	75	4		43	17	52			1	20	193,792	9,363	2,860,000	153,644	
115	16	34			20	5	12	34	2		7	900,050	2,809	836,500		
116	9	21			8	2	8	14	5		6	23,105	4,178	150,000		20,458
117	16	53			30	4	53	45		2	17	143,641	10,000	900,000		
118	7	22			7	3	14				4	45,121	1,603	150,000		74,000
119	35	15			6	2	15	6		3	4	84,450	7,764	1,100,000		
120	15	197	103	8	79	12	90	60	29	33	76	691,730	59,634	3,500,000	407,571	168,927
121	22	36			18	3	16			3	18	95,801	3,000	1,255,000	205,000	45,000
122	11	67			28	5	30				20	87,058	20,245			
123	6	17			8	2		12				24,867	1,000	73,000		
124	16	137	54	6	50	6	100	45		18	26	610,000	61,000	1,650,000	653,000	
125	12	18			6	2	20	23			8	68,476	485	50,000		

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CONGREGATION			MEMBERS			MINISTRATIONS							SERVICES		
	State	Location	Congregation	Baptized	Communicant	Voters	Children Baptized	Adults Baptized	Children Confirmed	Adults Confirmed	Communed	Marriages	Burials	Sunday Services	Average Attendance
126	WI	Oregon	Faith	136	110	44	5					1	1	52	68
127	WI	Portage	St. Paul's*	68	65	27	2		1		525		1	53	24
128	WI	Shawano	St. Martin	187	154	67	2		2		1,778	2	1	51	92
129	WI	West Bend	Trinity	407	323	142	14			2	245	2		52	189
130	WI	Wisconsin Dells	Newport*	95	90	24			2		525		1	53	28
TOTALS (December 31, 2008)				19,777	15,672	4,664	330	35	222	189	135,439	110	258	7,598	8,809
Chile															
Czech Republic				182	90	10	8	1	2	2	1,096	2		148	89
India															
Korea				210	170	63		37	26	11	92			52	131
Peru				1,892	804	172	109			47		11		1,440	719

SERVICES		EDUCATION										FINANCES				
	Special Services	Average Attendance	CDS Enrollment	CDS Teachers	Sun Sch Enrollment	Sun Sch Teachers	Bible Class	VBS	Summer Camp	Lutheran H.S. & College	Public H.S. & College	For Home Purposes	For All Other Purposes	Value of Property	Debt on Property	Legacies
126	11				12	2	12					97,467			67,000	
127	9	28					5	2			6	26,760	800			
128	15	55			16	5	10	16	4	3	13	9,396	12,200	500,000		40,000
129	14	124	53	5	22	3	25	60		25	11	458,902	20,384	2,000,000	271,000	
130	7	32					7	3			5	25,350	3,300			
	1,554	5,075	929	74	2,002	448	2,639	2,318	391	298	977	14,565,105	1,070,176	87,645,536	12,045,307	1,507,547
	9	85	202	16	15	2	35	12	7	1	20					
		88	18	4	25	4	45		52	68		232,922		535,000	380,000	
	3	190			893	49	587	1,788			165	139,700				

\* Current statistics not provided # Not yet a member of the synod





# DIRECTORIES



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# CHURCH BODIES IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

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## CONFESSIONAL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFERENCE

[www.celc.info](http://www.celc.info)

The Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC) is the successor to the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference of North America—with one important exception: it is international in scope rather than restricted to North America.

Founded in 1993 with thirteen confessional Lutheran national churches as members, the conference has grown to twenty-one members today. Plenary sessions are held every three years. To date there have been six plenary meetings (1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008) with regional meetings held in the intervening years.

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Secretary:	Prof. Thomas Nass
Treasurer:	Mr. Mark Schulz
Planning Committee Members at Large:	Prof. William Kessel The Rev. Wayne Mueller

### MEMBER CHURCHES

Bulgarian Lutheran Church  
Christ the King Lutheran Church (Nigeria)  
Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Church (Mexico)  
Confessional Lutheran Church in Latvia  
Czech Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Church (Finland)  
Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Church (Puerto Rico)  
Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (Germany)  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod (USA)  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Australia  
Gereja Lutheran—Indonesia  
Lutheran Church of Cameroon  
Lutheran Church of Central Africa—Malawi  
Lutheran Church of Central Africa—Zambia  
Lutheran Church of Portugal (associate)  
Lutheran Confessional Church (Sweden and Norway)  
Lutheran Evangelical Christian Church—Japan  
Peruvian Evangelical Lutheran Confessional Church  
Soglasie (Concord) Evangelical Lutheran Church (Russia)  
Ukrainian Lutheran Church  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (USA)

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Rev. Joel V. Peterman

nadpwels@sab.wels.net / 603-880-8574 ..... North Atlantic District

Rev. Douglas J. Engelbrecht

nwdpwels@sab.wels.net / 920-722-6712 ..... Northern Wisconsin District

Rev. Theodore D. Lambert

pnwdpwels@sab.wels.net / 360-792-0139 ..... Pacific Northwest District

Rev. John R. Guse

sadpwels@sab.wels.net / 770-928-7919 ..... South Atlantic District

Rev. Vilas R. Glaeske

scdpwels@sab.wels.net / 903-860-7411 ..... South Central District

Rev. David N. Rutschow

sewdp@aol.com / 630-852-7914 ..... Southeastern Wisconsin District

Rev. Herbert H. Prah

wwdpwels@sab.wels.net / 715-834-2595 ..... Western Wisconsin District

---

# EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

6 Browns Court  
Mankato Minnesota 56001  
507-344-7354  
[www.evangelicallutheransynod.org](http://www.evangelicallutheransynod.org)

---

## OFFICERS

President ..... The Rev. John A. Moldstad  
6 Browns Court, Mankato MN 56001  
Office: 507-344-7356; Home: 507-386-7267  
Fax: 507-344-7426; E-mail: [jamjr@blc.edu](mailto:jamjr@blc.edu)

Vice President ..... The Rev. Glenn R. Obenberger  
919 120th Street South, Tacoma WA 98444  
Office: 253-537-5492; Home: 253-531-0777  
Fax: 253-537-0172; E-mail: [obiwhine@aol.com](mailto:obiwhine@aol.com)

Secretary..... The Rev. Craig Ferkenstad  
37777 State Hwy 22, Saint Peter MN 56082  
Office: 507-246-5312; Home: 507-246-5140  
E-mail: [elsec@blc.edu](mailto:elsec@blc.edu)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2010  
Mr. Donald Heiliger  
Mr. Leroy Meyer  
Rev. John Moldstad  
Rev. Frederick Theiste

2011  
Mr. Robert Brown  
Mr. David Ewert

2012  
Rev. Karl Anderson  
Mr. Wayne Anderson  
Rev. Craig Ferkenstad

Advisory Members: The Rev. Glenn Obenberger, vice-president  
Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft, treasurer

## BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE, INCORPORATED

### GENERAL OFFICERS

President  
Rev. John Moldstad

Vice-President  
Rev. Glenn Obenberger

Secretary  
Rev. Craig Ferkenstad

### BOARD OF REGENTS

#### Type A members

2010  
Rev. Mark Bartels  
Rev. Herbert Huhnerkoch  
Rev. Kenneth Schmidt

2011  
Dr. Willis Anthony  
Mr. Roland Reinholtz  
Mr. Harold Theiste

2012  
Mr. Paul Chamberlin  
Rev. Erwin Ekhoft  
Rev. J. Kincaid Smith

#### Type B members

2010  
Mr. Lyle Fahning

2011  
Mr. James Minor

2012  
Rev. Joel Willitz

By virtue of office: The Rev. John Moldstad, president  
Advisory: Mr. William Overn

## BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

### THE SYNOD'S VISITORS

(2010)

Circuit 1.....	The Rev. Herbert Huhnerkoch Alt. The Rev. Matthew Luttmann
Circuit 2.....	The Rev. Thomas Fox Alt. The Rev. James Krikava
Circuit 3.....	The Rev. Paul Schneider Alt. The Rev. Joel Willitz
Circuit 4.....	The Rev. Frederic Lams Alt. The Rev. Edward Bryant
Circuit 5.....	The Rev. Jonathan Madson Alt. The Rev. Nathan Krause
Circuit 6.....	The Rev. Frederick Theiste Alt. The Rev. Tosten Skaaland
Circuit 7.....	The Rev. Wayne Halvorson Alt. The Rev. Thomas Rank
Circuit 8.....	The Rev. David Thompson Alt. The Rev. Nile Merseeth
Circuit 9.....	The Rev. Erwin Ekhooff Alt. The Rev. Karl Anderson
Circuit 10.....	The Rev. Erik Gernander Alt. The Rev. Richard Waters
Circuit 11.....	The Rev. Timothy Hartwig Alt. The Rev. Larry Wentzlaff
Circuit 12.....	The Rev. James Braun Alt. The Rev. Alex Ring

### DOCTRINE COMMITTEE

2010  
Rev. Erling Teigen  
Rev. Paul Zager

2011  
Rev. Thomas Rank  
Mr. Paul Tweit

2012  
Mr. Allen Quist  
Rev. David Jay Webber

By virtue of office: President of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary

### BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

2010  
Rev. Daniel Basel  
Mr. Loren Meyer

2011  
Mr. Keith Duin  
Rev. Rodney Flohr  
Rev. Michael Smith

2012  
Mr. Robert Smith  
Rev. Richard Wiechmann

### BOARD FOR WORLD OUTREACH

2010  
Rev. Wayne Halvorson  
Mr. Dan Browning  
to be appointed  
to be appointed

2011  
Mr. Silas Born  
Mr. Marlin Goebel  
Rev. Paul Schneider

2012  
Rev. Paul Fries  
Mr. Paul Nielsen

### **BOARD FOR EVANGELISM**

2010  
Rev. Thomas Westendorf  
Mr. Neil Willert

2011  
Rev. Michael Dale  
Rev. Larry Wentzlaff

2012  
Rev. Timothy Hartwig  
Mr. Steve Jaeger

### **BOARD FOR PARISH EDUCATION AND YOUTH**

2010  
Rev. Jonathan Madson  
Rev. Donald Moldstad  
Rev. Bernt Tweit

2011  
Rev. Matthew Brooks  
Mr. Glen Hansen  
Rev. Anthony Pittenger

2012  
Mr. Peter Bloedel  
Rev. Aaron Hamilton  
Mr. Bruce Swenson

### **BOARD FOR PUBLICATIONS**

2010  
Mr. Scott Mikkelson  
Mr. Paul Wold

2011  
Rev. Erik Gernander  
Rev. Roger Holtz

2012  
Rev. James Braun  
Mr. Greg Costello

### **BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

2010  
Mr. Joel Petersen  
Rev. S. Piet Van Kampen

2011  
Rev. Mark Marozick  
Mr. Jeff Younge

2012  
Mr. Herb Berg

### **COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP**

2010  
Rev. Dennis Marzolf  
Mr. James Olson

2011  
Mr. James Baxter  
Rev. Timothy Hartwig

2012  
Rev. Mark DeGarmeaux

### **BOARD FOR STEWARDSHIP**

2010  
Mr. Ed Finlay

2011  
Rev. Robert Harting  
Mr. John Merseth Jr.

2012  
Rev. Kurt Kluge  
Mr. Mark Perlwitz

By virtue of office: Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Advisory member: Giving Counselor of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

### **EQUALIZATION COMMITTEE**

2010  
Mr. Ralph Miller

2011  
Rev. Roger Holtz

2012  
Mr. William Anderson

## BOARD FOR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

2010  
Rev. Kenneth Mellon  
Mr. John Tetzloff

2011  
Rev. Edward Bryant  
Mr. Jim Murphy  
vacant

2012  
Mr. Herb Berg  
Mr. Allen Labitzky  
Rev. Alex Ring

By virtue of office: President of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod or designee  
Advisory members: President of Bethany Lutheran College  
President of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary  
Elementary Ed. Coordinator of Bethany Lutheran College  
Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## PLANNING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The officers of the synod

The chairman (or his representative) of the following boards:

Board of Regents  
Board for Home Missions  
Board for Foreign Missions  
Board for Evangelism

Board for Parish Education and Youth  
Board for Publications  
Board for Christian Service  
Board for Stewardship  
Board for Lutheran Schools of America

Three (3) laymen:

2010  
Mr. Keith Eisberg

2011  
Mr. Phillip Honsey

2012  
Mr. Dennis Behr

## BOARD OF APPEALS

2010  
Rev. David Russow  
Rev. Paul Schneider  
Rev. Thomas Westendorf  
Mr. Dan Browning  
Mr. Ted Manthe  
Mr. Tim Thiele

2011  
Rev. Erwin Ekhooff  
Rev. John Petersen  
Rev. Frederick Theiste  
Rev. David Thompson  
Mr. Oakleigh Natvig  
Mr. Ray Pederson

2012  
Rev. Mark Bartels  
Rev. Theodore Gullixson  
Rev. Jonathan Madson  
Rev. Kenneth Mellon  
Mr. Dennis Behr  
Mr. Glen Hansen

## SYNOD REVIEW COMMITTEE

### Elected Positions

2010  
Mr. Robert Brown

2011  
Rev. Paul Madson

2012  
--

### Appointed by the synod president

2010  
Mr. Norman Werner

2011  
Rev. Erling Teigen

2012  
Rev. Ernest Geistfeld

## COMMITTEE FOR INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY

### Appointed by the synod president

2010  
Mr. Dennis Behr  
Mr. Christopher Johnson

2011  
Rev. Phillip Lepak  
Mr. Mark Meyer

2012  
Mr. Rod Kuznicki

By virtue of office: Chairman of the Board for Publications or designee

## MISSIONS ADVANCEMENT PROJECT

### Elected by the Board of Trustees

2010  
Mr. Marlin Goebel  
Rev. Michael Smith

2011  
Mr. David Ewert

2012  
Mr. Dan Browning  
Rev. William Kessel

By virtue of office: President of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2010 CONVENTION

Rev. Karl Anderson  
Rev. William Kessel  
Rev. Paul Schneider

Rev. Steve Sparley  
Mr. Dan Browning  
Mr. Paul Chamberlain

Mr. Greg Costello  
Mr. Juel Merseth

### COMMITTEE ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

507-344-7360

#### Elected by the Board of Trustees

2010  
Rev. Mark Harstad  
Rev. Norman Madson

2011  
Rev. John Petersen  
Mr. Erik Soule

2012  
Mr. Sigurd Lee  
Mr. Norman Werner

Archivist (pro tem): The Rev. Paul Madson

Museum Director: The Rev. George Orvick

years indicate expiration of current term

#### Administration

Rev. Daniel Basel.....	Giving Counselor
Rev. Steven Petersen .....	World Outreach Field Coordinator
Mr. Keith Wiederhoeft.....	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Elsa Ferkenstad.....	507-344-7354 / elsa.ferkenstad@blc.edu
Denise Luehmann .....	507-344-7848 / dluehmann@blc.edu

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## WORLD OUTREACH

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### PERUVIAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CONFSSIONAL CHURCH

(Peru, South America)

**Seminary Building:**

Enrique Barron 964  
Santa Beatriz  
Lima, 1, Peru, SA  
Tel./Fax 011-51-14-133-126  
postmas@mselp.org.pe

**Mailing Address:**

Skyexpress Enterprises  
*Name of Missionary*  
6410 NW 82 Ave, Box 136  
Miami FL 33166

**Missionaries:**

The Rev. David Haeuser  
The Rev. Terry Schultz

**National Pastors:**

The Rev. Elmer Carrera  
The Rev. Edison Convercio  
The Rev. Fidel Convercio  
The Rev. Jaime Cortez  
The Rev. Oswaldo Fernández  
The Rev. Segundo Gutierrez  
The Rev. Santos Melandez  
The Rev. Giovany Rivas  
The Rev. Ronal Rivas  
The Rev. Andres Robles  
The Rev. Abraham Rosario  
The Rev. Antonio Vilchez

### IGLESIA CRISTIANA DE LA REFORMA LUTERANA

(Chile, South America)

**Mailing Address:**

*Name of Missionary*  
Exp #1141  
PO Box 025285  
Miami FL 33102-5285

**Missionaries:**

The Rev. Timothy Erickson  
The Rev. Othoniel Rodriguez

### LUTHERAN MISSION OF SALVATION—INDIA

(India, Asia)

**Hyderabad District:**

President: Pastor Mamidi Solomon  
8-3-228/678/13 Karmikanagar  
Yousufuguda  
Hyderabad 500 045 AP  
India

**Jabalpur District:**

President: Mr. Vijay Sidney  
Plot No. 43  
Ramnagar Rampur  
Jabalpur M.P. 482008  
North India

**Rajahmundry District:**

President: Pastor G.J. Ananda Raju  
101 Municipal Colony  
Rajahmundry 533 105 AP  
India



## **KOREA**

(Korea, Asia)

### **Mailing Address:**

East Seoul Canaan Church  
Seoul Kangdonggu Kilildong 368-1  
Seoul 134-182  
South Korea

### **Missionary:**

The Rev. Young Ha Kim

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

### **Mailing address:**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and The  
School of Martin Luther  
Skolni Namesti 1  
31805 Plzen  
Czech Republic  
Tel./Fax: 011-420-37-738-0754

### **National Pastors:**

The Rev. Petr Krakora  
The Rev. Martin Vrsecky

## **LATVIA**

Augsburg Institute  
Tel. 011-3712-655-8903  
aai@latnet.lv

### **Confessional Lutheran Church of Latvia:**

The Rev. Gundars Bakulis  
The Rev. Karlis Bush  
The Rev. Uldis Fandjevs  
The Rev. Didzia Melkis  
The Rev. Egons Mudulis  
The Rev. Ilars Plume  
The Rev. Ivo Sildegis  
The Rev. Ugis Sildegis

## UKRAINE

### Mailing Addresses:

#### Kyiv:

Ukrainian Lutheran Church  
14 Velyka Vasylkivska St  
Kv #15  
01004 Kiev  
Ukraine  
Tel. 011-380-44-235-7721  
Fax 011-380-44-234-0800

#### Ternopil:

The Rev. John Vogt  
St. Sophia Seminary  
Lyuterans'ka Bohoslovs'ka Seminariya  
Vulytsya Peremohy 46  
47724 Velyka Berezovytsya  
Ukraine  
Tel. 011-380-35-225-7613  
Fax 011-380-35-222-8567

#### Gift of Life:

Nickolas & Kerry Laper  
Yaremchuka St 6  
46000 Ukraine  
Tel./Fax 011-380-35-253-7965  
giftoflife@tr.ukrtel.net

### National Pastors in Ukraine:

The Rev. V'yacheslav Horpynchuk  
The Rev. Roman Andruntsiv  
The Rev. Olexander Dich  
The Rev. Oleksandr Feschenko  
The Rev. Yuriy Fizer  
The Rev. Andriy Honcharuk  
The Rev. Oleksandr Husar  
The Rev. Viktor Khaustov  
The Rev. Taras Kokovskiy  
The Rev. Vadim Kolesnik  
The Rev. Serhiy Kudrick  
The Rev. Mikola Lutskiy

The Rev. Oleh Okruhin  
The Rev. Pavlo Oskolov  
The Rev. Viktor Pashchenko  
The Rev. Serhiy Romanyuk  
The Rev. Olexandr Simashko  
The Rev. Serhiy Somin  
The Rev. Olexandr Sonne  
The Rev. Yuriy Tytsky  
The Rev. Oleh Yukhymenko  
The Rev. Serhiy Zuyev  
The Rev. Vadim Zinchenko

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## OTHER ADDRESSES

---

### **Cross-stitch**

Contact: The Rev. Steven Petersen

### **ELS Historical Society**

Contact: The Rev. Mark Harstad

### **Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

Contact: The Rev. Daniel Basel

### **Faith Mission Society**

Contact: Mr. Marlin Goebel 989-742-4505  
24885 Morrow Rd, Hillman MI 49746

### **Helping Hands**

Contact: 2133 Kenneth Dr, Albert Lea MN 56007

### **Ottesen Museum**

Contact: The Rev. George Orvick

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## AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

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### **Arizona Lutheran Academy**

6036 S 27th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85041-5200 602-268-8686

### **California Lutheran High School**

31970 Central Ave, PO Box 1570, Wildomar CA 92525 909-678-7000

### **Evergreen Lutheran High School**

2021 S 260th St, Des Moines WA 98198 253-946-4488

### **Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School**

3399 Division Rd, Jackson WI 53037 262-677-4051

### **Lakeside Lutheran High School**

231 Woodland Beach Rd, Lake Mills WI 53551 920-648-2321

### **Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School**

45638 561st Ave, New Ulm MN 56073 507-354-6851

### **Saint Croix Lutheran High School**

1200 Oakdale Ave, St Paul MN 52118 651-455-1521

### **West Lutheran High School**

3350 Harbor Lane N, Plymouth MN 55447 763-509-9378

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# BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

700 Luther Drive  
Mankato Minnesota 56001  
507-344-7000 or 800-944-3066  
Fax 507-344-7376  
[www.blc.edu](http://www.blc.edu)

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## ADMINISTRATIVE

Bruss, Dan R. <i>President</i>	Merseth, Juel O. <i>Director of Facilities</i>
Ausen, Orrin H. <i>Director of Library Services</i>	Miller, Ralph L. <i>Director of Accounting</i>
Born, Silas V. - Education/Psychology <i>Director of Christian Education</i>	Moldstad, Donald L. * - Religious Studies <i>Director of Campus Spiritual Life/ Chaplain</i>
Costello, Gregory W. <i>Controller</i>	Mundahl, Daniel L. <i>Chief Financial and Administrative Officer</i>
Fager, Karl E. <i>Director of Athletics</i>	Schwartz, Lance W. <i>Director of Marketing and Public Relations</i>
Harstad, Sarah A. <i>Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving</i>	Schloff, John M. - Biology/Computer Science <i>Director of Information Technology</i>
Jaeger, Lois A. <i>Director of Fine Arts</i>	Westphal, Arthur P. <i>Chief Advancement Officer</i>
Jaeger, Steven C. <i>Vice President for Student Affairs</i>	Westphal, Donald, M. <i>Dean of Admissions/Sports Information</i>
Johnson, Christopher T. - Communication <i>Director of Studio Services</i>	<i>Director</i>
Kind, Christopher G. <i>Director of Development</i>	Wold, Paul G. <i>Bookstore Manager</i>
Kragh, Ruthann C. - Business Administration <i>Registrar</i>	Younge, Jeffrey W. <i>Director of Financial Aid</i>
Manthe, Theodore E. - Education <i>Dean of Student Services</i>	Younge, Ronald J. <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>

## PROFESSIONAL

Bartscher, Ellen M. <i>Computer Systems Specialist</i>	Flunker, Thomas G. <i>Admissions Counselor, Coordinator of the Multi Ethnic Center</i>
Board, Tami L. <i>Data Specialist</i>	Forsberg, Kathy L. <i>Assistant Librarian, Catalog</i>
Booker, Paulette Tonn - Business <i>Manager of Employee Relations</i>	Homan, Tanya M. <i>Admissions Counselor</i>
Ewert, Julie A. <i>Coordinator of Circulation and Interlibrary Loan</i>	Johnson, Erin A. <i>Assistant Librarian, Electronic Resources</i>

Kovaciny, Jonathan E.  
*Coordinator of Web Services*

Kragh, Ryan P.  
*Assistant Director of Athletics*

LaFave, Leigh Ann M.  
*Coordinator of Student Activities and Intramurals*

Lange, Dustin D.  
*Admissions Counselor*

Loge, Linda S.  
*Associate Dean of Admissions*

Marozick, Jonathan M.  
 - Computer Science  
*Programmer*

Marzinske, Todd R.  
*Manager of Network Systems*

Meyer, Mark S.  
 - Computer Science/Education  
*Manager of Academic Computing*

Moldstad, Jonathan L.  
*Manager of Security Services*

Norris, David J.  
*Coordinator of Publications*

Osterman, Paul J.  
*Head Athletic Trainer*

Paulsen, Kurt W.  
 - Communication  
*Media Communication Specialist*

Reagles, Patti J.  
 - Sociology  
*Coordinator of Student Counseling*

Shubert, Lisa A.  
*Manager of Administrative Computing*

Starkson, Mary Jo H.  
*Coordinator of Career Services and Internships*

Vlieger, Estelle B.  
*Admissions Counselor*

## FACULTY

Bloedel, Peter J.

Boubel, John P.

Browne, Polly E.

Buch, Laura A.

Bukowski, William S.

Caron, Matthew L.

Czer, Ramona M.

DeGarmeaux, Mark E.\*

Hanna, Robert C.

Harstad, Mark O.\*

Heins, Chad J.

Holbird, Doyle F.

Johnson, Lars O.

Jones, Lyle D.

Kessel, William B.\*

Kjeer, Julie M.

Kjeer, Peter M.

Klockziem, Tiffany Young

Kuster, Matthew D.

Lind, Patty J.

Lo, Adrian H.

Loging, Jon L.

Lyngholm, Derick M.

MacPherson, Ryan C.

Marzolf, Dennis W.\*

Moldstad, Janet L.

Murilla, Angie L.

Nissen, Jonas K.

Ouren, Eric C.

- Theatre

- History

- Education

- Mathematics

- Art

- Theatre

- Communication/English

- Religious Studies/Norwegian/Latin

- Education/English

- Hebrew /Religious Studies

- Biology

- Biology

- Communication/English

- Physical Education/Health

- Sociology/Religious Studies

- Mathematics

- Physics

- Physical Education/Health

- Exercise Science/Physical Education

- Health/Sociology

- Music

- Communication/Speech Team

- Communication

- History/Philosophy

- Music

- Business

- Communication

- Communication

- Art

Overn, Andrew T.  
 Pipal, Rob F.  
 Reagles, Steven L.\*  
 Riehl, Matthew E.  
 Shoop, Dean W.  
 Teigen, Erling T.\*  
 Tollefson, Timothy G.  
 Wiechmann, Mark E.  
 Woller, Eric K.  
 Wosmek, Jennifer A.D.

- Art
- Physical Education
- Communication/Religious Studies
- Chemistry
- Business/Accounting/Economics
- Philosophy/Religious Studies
- Music
- Psychology
- Chemistry
- Psychology

\*Theologically Trained

### EMERITI:

Hilding, Arlene  
 Holte, Norman  
 Honsey, Rudolph  
 Johnson, Calvin  
 Lee, Sigurd  
 Meyer, Marvin  
 Petersen, Wilhelm  
 Weberg, Cynthia

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# BETHANY LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

6 Browns Court  
Mankato, Minnesota 56001  
507-344-7354  
Fax 507-344-7426  
[www.blts.edu](http://www.blts.edu)

---

Gaylin R. Schmeling  
*President*  
Adolph L. Harstad  
*Registrar*  
Michael K. Smith  
*Dean of Students*

## FACULTY

Harstad, Adolph L.  
– Biblical Theology  
– Historical Theology  
– Practical Theology  
Kuster, Thomas\*  
– Practical Theology  
Marzolf, Dennis\*  
– Practical Theology

Schmeling, Gaylin R.  
– Systematic Theology  
– Historical Theology  
– Practical Theology  
Smith, Michael K.  
– Biblical Theology  
– Systematic Theology  
– Practical Theology  
Teigen, Erling T.\*  
– Systematic Theology

\*College professor teaching  
classes in the seminary

## EMERITI

Honsey, Rudolph  
Petersen, Wilhelm W.

## PERIODICAL

*Lutheran Synod Quarterly*  
Editor: Gaylin R. Schmeling  
Subscription: \$20.00

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# LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND PRESCHOOLS

June 15, 2009

**Director of Christian Education** (Bethany Lutheran College) ..... Silas Born  
700 Luther Drive, Mankato MN 56001

Home: 507-388-6963, Office: 507-344-7431, e-mail: sborn@blc.edu

**Secretary of Schools** (Lutheran Schools of America) ..... Allen Labitzky  
3108 Utah Ave N, Crystal MN 55427

Tel. 573-544-6081; email: alabitzky@kog-els.org

---

## **Bethany Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)

151 Tremont West

Port Orchard, WA 98366-3737

Tel. 360-876-1300

Fax 360-876-5098

Becky Bergemann

Sarah Gullixson

Barb Mantey

Janine Techtman

Timothy Thies\*

## **Christ Ev. Lutheran Preschool**

(Preschool Only)

1592 S.E. Floresta Dr.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34983

Tel 772-879-1353

Marcella Lowry \*

## **Concordia Preschool**

(Preschool Only)

3715 London Road

Eau Claire, WI 54701-7813

Tel 715-834-9097

E-mail: concordi@execpc.com

Lynda Krueger\*

## **Dei Spring Academy**

(Preschool and Kindergarten)

601 Red River Ave. S.

Cold Spring, MN 56320

Tel. 320-685-4120

E-mail: deispringacademy@clearwire.net

Heather Miller\*

Melissa Notch

Angela Timmerman

## **Family of God Lutheran School**

(Preschool and K-3)

P.O. Box 10949

1863 Panadaro Rd,

Fort Mohave, AZ

Tel. 928-763-5303

Rachel Nemitz

Stephanie Wentzlaff\*

## **Gracie's Preschool**

(Preschool Only)

1150 41st Ave.

Vero Beach, FL 32960

Tel. 772-562-2904

E-mail: gracevbpreschool@bellsouth.net

Amanda DiTrocchio

Ann Holmes\*

Noelle Weston

## **Heritage Lutheran School**

(Preschool and Kindergarten)

13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Road

Apple Valley, MN 55124

Tel. 952-431-6225

Stacy Kiecker

Teresa Lehne

Sarah Smith



**Holy Cross Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
2670 Milwaukee Street  
Madison, WI 53704  
Tel. 608-249-3101  
Fax 608-249-0601

Rebecca Clevén  
Camilla Dashcund  
Ione Ibeling  
Elizabeth Krause  
Linda Marozick  
Barbara Pape (PT)  
Timothy Schubkegel\*  
Shelly Schoenherr (PT)

**Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
35181 Wisconsin Avenue  
PO Box 146  
Okauchee, WI 53069  
Tel. 262-567-0669  
Fax 262-567-2615

Marjorie Bentz  
Susan Callaway  
Shu-Ting Lai\*  
Dawn Sauer  
Christina Westendorf  
James Young

**Hope Lutheran Jr. Kindergarten**

(Preschool Only)  
6322 Portage Ave.  
Portage, IN 46368  
Tel 219-762-7635  
Gail Cloyd  
Janice Shield

**Hope Lutheran Academy**

(Preschool Only)  
2930 W. 9000 S.  
West Jordan, UT 84088  
Tel 801-569-1111  
Liz Pieros\*

**Jesus' Lambs at Peace**

(Preschool Only)  
2090 Commerce Drive  
North Mankato, MN 56003  
Tel 507-385-1386  
Joslyn Moldstad\*

**King of Grace Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
6000 Duluth Street  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
Tel. 763-546-3131  
Fax 763-540-0028

Sheila Degner  
Joshua Gregovich  
Janet Knutson  
Allen Labitzky\*  
William Lubansky  
Judy Luxford  
Karen Madson  
Jonathan Matzke  
Karen Merseth  
Aaron Olmanson  
Carol Robison  
Kay Russow  
Joy Veach  
Ruth Vomhof  
Amy Warren

**Lakewood Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
10202 112th Street SW  
Tacoma, WA 98498  
Tel. 253-584-6024  
Fax 253-584-4615  
Megan Enstad  
Sue Jankens\*  
Tina Murray

**Mt. Olive Lutheran School**

(Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)  
1123 Marsh Street  
Mankato, MN 56001  
Tel. 507-345-7927  
Steven Beilke  
Susan Beilke  
Mary Born  
Miranda Dittmer  
Alissa Griebel  
Larry Rude\*  
Kari Sehloff  
LuAnn Sting  
Craig Zibrowski

**Our Savior Lutheran Preschool**

(Preschool only)  
 10,000 Airport Road North  
 Naples, FL 34109  
 Tel. 239-597-6009  
 Fax 239-597-8846

Kimberley Jones\*  
 Karla Broad  
 Alexandra Jimenez

**Our Saviour Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
 3045 Arapaho Drive  
 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406  
 Tel. 928-680-6181

Katie Denney  
 Rachel Carson  
 vacancy\*

**Parkland Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
 120 123RD St S  
 Tacoma, WA 98444  
 Tel. 253-537-1901  
 Fax 253-537-0172

Connie Davis  
 Sharon King  
 Jolene McClung  
 Linda Perry  
 Brent Sorn  
 Chris Rogich  
 vacancy\*

**Peace Lutheran School**

(Pre-K, Kindergarten – Gr. 3)  
 3249 Windmill Point Blvd.  
 Kissimmee, FL 34746  
 Tel. 407-870-5965

Barbara Huhnerkoch  
 David Zubke\*

**Princeton Ev. Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
 PO Box 340  
 Princeton, MN 55371  
 Tel. 763-389-0704

Beverly Bentz  
 Linda Larson  
 Lee Stroschine\*

**Redeeming Grace Lutheran School**

(Preschool and K-1+)  
 14077 Monarch Lane  
 Rogers, MN 55374  
 Tel. 763-424-5535

Andrew Kruse\*  
 Linda Hoffmann

**Scarville Lutheran School**

(Kindergarten through Eighth Grade)  
 Box 20  
 Scarville, IA 50473  
 Tel. 641-568-3372

Carrie Enderson

**St. John's Lutheran Child Development Center**

(Preschool)  
 1200 E. Genesee St.  
 Frankenmuth, MI 48734  
 Tel. 989-652-6201  
 stjohnspreschool@yahoo.com

Misty Parker\*

**Trinity Lutheran School**

(Preschool through Eighth Grade)  
 1268 Pleasant Valley Road  
 West Bend, WI 53095  
 Tel. 262-675-6627

E-mail: trinpvw@nconnect.net

Diana Borman  
 Richard Brei\*  
 Jeanine Heller  
 George Kellermann  
 Barbara Speerschneider

**The School of Martin Luther**

(Kindergarten through Ninth Grade)  
 Skolní náměstí  
 131805 Plzeň, Czech Republic  
 Tel. 011-420-377-387-009

\* indicates school administrator/  
 principal/director

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# CONGREGATIONS

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## CIRCUIT 1

### FLORIDA

**Kissimmee:** *Peace*

10:00; Spanish 12:00

H. Huhnerkoch

3249 Windmill Point Blvd; 34746

**Lakeland:** *Our Savior*

9:30

A. Palmquist

6920 North Socrum Loop Rd

Mail: PO Box 91905; 33804-1905

**Lakeland:** *Peace*

10:00 (S 9:00)

A. Schmidt

5970 Lakeland Highlands Rd; 33813

**Naples:** *Our Savior*

9:00 (8:00 & 10:30 Jan. – Easter)

G. Schmidt

1955 Curling Ave; 34109

**Port St. Lucie:** *Christ*

10:00

M. Dale

1592 SE Floresta Dr; 34983

**Sebastian:** *Trinity*

10:00

T. Schmeling

611 Schumann Dr; 32958

**Sebring:** *New Life*

10:00

B. Klebig

3725 Hammock Rd; 33872

**Vero Beach:** *Grace*

10:30

M. Luttman

1150 41st Ave; 32960

**Winter Haven:** *Resurrection*

10:30

C. Keeler

4620 Cypress Gardens Rd; 33884

## CIRCUIT 2

### MASSACHUSETTS

**Brewster:** *Trinity*

9:30

J. Krikava

1883 Main St (Route 6A); 02631

**Burlington:** *Pinewood*

10:45 (S 10:00)

T. Fox

24 Wilmington Rd; 01803

## CIRCUIT 3

### MICHIGAN

**East Jordan:** *Faith*

10:00

J. Londgren

02148 S Wilson Rd; 49727

**Frankenmuth:** *St. John's*

10:00, Sat. 6:00 p.m.

J. Willitz, J. Luplow, K. Madson

1200 E Genesee St; 48734

**Hillman:** *Faith*

11:00

D. Jaech

24640 Veterans Memorial Hwy; 49726

**Holland:** *Lord of Life*

9:00

D. McQuality

512 S Waverly Rd; 49423

**Holton:** *Holton*

9:30

P. Zager

6655 Marvin Rd; 49425

**Midland:** *Holy Scripture*

9:00

P. Schneider

4525 West Main St; 48640

**Rogers City:** *Trinity*

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

J. Londgren

6134 US 23 North

Mail: 6789 – 40 Mile Pointe Rd; 49779

**Saginaw:** *Gloria Dei*

8:00 & 10:45 (S 9:30)

H. Mosley Jr.

5250 Mackinaw

Mail: 3718 Mannion Rd; 48603

**Suttons Bay:** *First*

10:00

R. Pederson

321 St Mary's Ave

Mail: PO Box 189; 49682

### OHIO

**Weston:** *Grace*

10:00

J. Merseth Sr.

20425 Taylor St; 43569

**Bowling Green:** *Abiding Word*

10:00

L. Ulrich

17202 N Mercer Rd; 43402

**Deshler:** *Peace*

9:30

T. Smuda

5039 County Rd G; 43516-9788

### PENNSYLVANIA

**Irwin:** *Zion*

10:30

B. Leonatti

351 Robbins-Station Rd; 15642

## CIRCUIT 4

### ILLINOIS

**Lombard:** *St. Timothy*

10:15

E. Bryant

547 N Main St; 60148

### INDIANA

**Avon:** *Good Shepherd*

10:15

G. Lilienthal

7105 E US Hwy 36; 46123

**Portage:** *Hope*

10:30

P. Lepak

6322 Portage Ave; 46368

**Hobart:** *Grace*

9:00

F. Lams

6240 Grand Blvd

Mail: 1031 Hickey St; 46342

## CIRCUIT 5

### WISCONSIN

**Cottage Grove:** *Abiding Shepherd*

9:00 & 10:45, Mon. 7:00 p.m.

N. Krause

406 West Cottage Grove Rd; 53527

**Cottage Grove:** *Western Koshkonong*

9:30

T. Heyn

2633 Church St; 53527

**Madison:** *Grace*

10:00

T. Gullixson

1 South Rosa Rd; 53705-4438

**Madison:** *Holy Cross*

8:00 & 10:30, Mon. 6:30 p.m.

(S 8:00 & 10:00, Mon. 6:30 p.m.)

M. Bartels, B. Tweit

2670 Milwaukee St; 53704

**Madison:** *Our Saviour's*

9:15, Sat. 5:30 p.m.

B. Homan

1201 Droster Rd; 53716

**Okauchee:** *Holy Trinity*

7:45 & 10:15 (S 8:30, Thu. 7:00 p.m.)

J. Madson

35181 Wisconsin Ave

Mail: PO Box 146; 53069

**Oregon:** *Faith*

9:00

K. Hermanson

143 Washington St; 53575

**Portage:** *St. Paul's*

9:00

W. Grimm

W11355 Hwy 127 (6 miles NW)

Mail: 212 Volk St; 53901

**West Bend:** *Trinity*

8:00 & 10:00, Mon. 7:15 p.m.

K. Mellon

1268 Pleasant Valley Rd; 53095

**Wisconsin Dells:** *Newport*

10:30

W. Grimm

N8794 Peterson Rd (4 miles E)

Mail: 212 Volk, Portage; 53901

## CIRCUIT 6

### WISCONSIN

**Amherst Junction:** *Our Savior's*

5:30 Sat.  
G. Haugen  
5355 Hwy K  
Mail: N6916 TU Lakes Rd, Scandinavia;  
54977

**Bloomer:** *Good Shepherd*

9:30  
R. Otto  
1504 Vine St; 54724

**Eau Claire:** *Ascension*

9:00, Mon. 6:30 p.m.  
P. Sullivan  
1500 Peterson Ave; 54703

**Eau Claire:** *Concordia*

8:00, 10:30 (S 9:00, Mon. 7:00 p.m.)  
F. Theiste  
3715 London Rd; 54701-7813

**Eau Claire:** *Pinehurst*

9:00, Mon. 6:30 p.m.  
B. Schwark  
3304 Fern Ct; 54703

**Elderon:** *Our Savior's*

9:00  
T. Skaaland  
Hwy 49 N; 54429

**Green Bay:** *Christ the King*

9:00, Thu. 6:30 p.m. (Apr.–Nov.)  
9:00, Sat. 5:00 p.m. (Dec.–Mar.)  
L. Buelow  
1700 Cardinal Lane; 54313

**Iola:** *Redeemer*

9:00  
R. Holtz  
125 North St  
Mail: PO Box 95; 54945-0095

**Marinette:** *First Trinity*

8:00 & 10:00 (S 9:00)  
E.C.F. Stubenvoll, Jr.  
920 Wells St; 54143

**Menomonie:** *St. Katherine's*

10:30 (last Sunday of month: 8:30)  
S. Kauffeld  
E7250 N Cty Hwy E  
Mail: N4931 572nd St; 54751

**Omro:** *Messiah*

Sat. 4:30 p.m., Wed. 6:45 p.m.  
G. Haugen  
5535 Hwy K, Oshkosh  
Mail: PO Box 214; 54963-0214

**Shawano:** *St. Martin*

9:00  
J. Smith  
W8032 Belle Plaine Ave  
Mail: W8079 Belle Plaine Ave; 54166

## CIRCUIT 7

### IOWA

**Ames:** *Bethany*

11:00  
M. Hoesch  
3113 Diamond St  
Mail: 3219 Diamond Ave; 50010

**Calmar:** *Trinity*

10:30  
G. Smith  
306 W. Clark St (Box 814)  
Mail: 611 W Court St, New Hampton;  
50659

**Forest City:** *Forest*

9:00 (September 2008 – September 2009)  
10:30 (September 2009 – September 2010)  
H.B. Longshore  
546 West M St; 50436

**Indianola:** *Good Shepherd*

9:00  
R. Harting  
202 North Kenwood; 50125

**Lake Mills:** *Lake Mills*

9:00 (October – January)  
vacant  
107 N 1st Ave E  
Mail: 106 13th St S, Northwood; 50459

**Lake Mills:** *Lime Creek*

9:00 (June – September)  
vacant  
4 miles N, 1 mile W  
Mail: 106 13th St S, Northwood; 50459

**Lawler:** *Saude*

9:00 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
10:30 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)  
D. Larson  
10 miles N, 1 mile W  
Mail: 2940 Stevens Tr; 52154

**New Hampton:** *Jerico*

9:00 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)  
10:30 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
D. Larson  
9 miles N, 3 miles E  
Mail: 2940 Stevens Tr, Lawler; 52154

**New Hampton:** *Redeemer*

8:00  
G. Smith  
611 West Court St; 50659

**Newton:** *Grace*

9:00  
M. Hoesch  
814 1st Ave E  
Mail: 3219 Diamond St, Ames; 50010

**Northwood:** *First Shell Rock*

10:45  
vacant  
1406 Central  
Mail: 106 113th St S; 50459

**Northwood:** *Somber*

9:00 (February – May)  
vacant  
10 miles W, 1 mile S  
Mail: 106 13th St S; 50459

**Parkersburg:** *Faith*

11:00  
D. Finn  
608 Sixth St  
Mail: PO Box 149; 50665

**Riceville:** *Immanuel*

6:00 p.m.  
vacant  
Main St  
Mail: 106 13th St S, Northwood; 50459

**Scarville:** *Center\**

T. Rank  
5 miles S  
Mail: PO Box 105; 50473

**Scarville:** *Scarville Synod\**

T. Rank  
411 Logan St  
Mail: PO Box 105; 50473

**Thompson:** *Zion*

10:30 (September 2008 – September 2009)  
9:00 (September 2009 – September 2010)  
H.B. Longshore  
226 Monroe St; 50478



**Thornton:** *Richland*

10:30 (S 9:30)

S. Schmeling

300 Elm St

Mail: PO Box 86; 50479

**Waukon:** *King of Grace*

9:00

J.K. Smith

101 Second St NW; 52172

**Waterloo:** *Pilgrim*

9:00

D. Finn

3815 Ansborough Ave; 50701

**MINNESOTA****Albert Lea:** *Our Savior's*

9:00 (S 9:00, Mon. 7:00)

W. Halvorson

320 W College St; 56007

**Manchester:** *Manchester*

9:00 (S 10:30)

D. Schmidt

101 McKinley

Mail: PO Box 188, Hartland; 56042

**Hartland:** *Hartland*

10:45 (S 9:00)

D. Schmidt

414 Broadway

Mail: PO Box 188; 56042

## CIRCUIT 8

### MINNESOTA

**Audubon:** *Immanuel*

9:30  
D. Thompson  
180 E Swan Dr  
Mail: Box 187; 56511

**Bagley:** *Our Savior's*

9:00  
S. Stafford  
36021 County 7  
Mail: PO Box 26, Lengby; 56651

**East Grand Forks:** *River Heights*

10:15 (S 9:00)  
N. Merseth  
2214 10th Ave NW; 56721

**Grygla:** *St. Petri*

8:00  
J. Abrahamson  
3 miles E, 1 mile N  
Mail: 13478 330th Ave S, Oklee; 56742

**Hawley:** *Our Savior's*

10:45  
C. Dale  
604 6th Street  
Mail: PO Box 246; 56549

**Lengby:** *St. Paul*

10:30  
S. Stafford  
38978 450th St SE  
Mail: PO Box 26; 56651

**Oklee:** *Oak Park*

10:00 (S 11:00)  
J. Abrahamson  
8 miles N, 4 miles E  
Mail: 13478 330th Ave S; 56742

**Roseau:** *Our Savior's*

9:00  
vacant  
204 4th Ave NE  
mail: 2214 10th Ave NW, East Grand  
Forks; 56721

**Trail:** *Mt. Olive*

Sat. 8:30  
J. Abrahamson  
Mail: 13478 330th Ave S, Oklee; 56742

**Trail:** *Nazareth*

1:00 p.m. (S 9:45)  
J. Abrahamson  
11 miles N, 2 miles E  
Mail: 13478 330th Ave S, Oklee; 56742

**Ulen:** *Calvary*

9:00  
C. Dale  
Hwy 32  
Mail: PO Box 326; 56585

## CIRCUIT 9

### MINNESOTA

**Apple Valley:** *Heritage*

8:00 & 10:30, Wed. 6:30

(S 9:00)

K. Anderson

13401 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd; 55124

**Belview:** *Our Savior's*

8:30 or 11:00\* (S 8:30 or 10:00\*)

D. Faugstad

306 Main St

Mail: PO Box 187; 56214

**Belview:** *Rock Dell*

8:30 or 11:00\* (S 8:30 or 10:00\*)

D. Faugstad

4 miles NE

Mail: PO Box 187; 56214

**Clara City:** *Faith*

9:00

E. Hoeft

4015 SE 115th Ave

Mail: PO Box 796; 56222

**Cold Spring:** *Gloria Dei*

10:15 (S 9:00)

C. Hahnke

601 Red River Ave S; 56320

**Cottonwood:** *English*

9:00 (S 9:00, Mon. 7:00)

S.P. Van Kampen

110 East Main St

Mail: PO Box 37; 56229

**Farmington:** *Hope*

9:30

D. Oberer

20700 Chippendale Ave, Suite 5; 55024

**Gaylord:** *Norwegian Grove*

9:00 or 10:30\* (S 8:30 or 10:00\*)

C. Ferkenstad

33879 State Hwy 22

Mail: 37777 State Hwy 22, St Peter;  
56082

**Golden Valley:** *King of Grace*

8:15 & 10:45, Mon. 7:00

(S 8:15 & 10:00, Mon. 7:00)

E. Ekhoft, R. Flohr

6000 Duluth St; 55422

**Luverne:** *Bethany*

10:15

P. Fries

720 N Kniss Ave

Mail: 735 N Freeman Ave; 56156

**Mankato:** *Mt. Olive*

8:30 & 10:45, Mon. 7:00

(S 8:30 & 10:00, Mon. 7:00)

J. Petersen, M. Brooks

1123 Marsh St; 56001

**North Mankato:** *Peace*

8:00 & 10:30 (S 9:00)

B. Kerkow

2090 Commerce Dr; 56003

**Princeton:** *Bethany*

9:00

J. Gernander

801 South Sixth St; 55371

**Princeton:** *Our Savior's*

9:00

T. Zenda

18977 17th St; 55371

**Rogers:** *Redeeming Grace*

10:00 (S 9:00, Mon. 7:00)

D. Russow

14077 Monarch Ln; 55374

**St. Peter:** *Norseland*

9:00 or 10:30\* (S 8:30 or 10:00\*)

C. Ferkenstad

37777 State Hwy 22; 56082

**Tracy:** *Zion*

10:15

K. Kluge

200 Emroy Street

Mail: Box 1172; 56175

## CIRCUIT 10

### MISSOURI

**Cape Girardeau:** *Scriptural*

10:00

H. Gieschen

3587 County Rd 635; 63701

**Jefferson City:** *Peace*

8:30

E. Gernander

7808 New Church Rd; 65101

**Carthage:** *Faith*

10:30

R. Waters

2134 Grand; 64836

**Piedmont:** *Grace*

10:30

vacant

114 E Green St; 63957

### TEXAS

**San Antonio:** *Faith*

10:30

M. Crick

14819 Jones-Maltsberger Rd; 78247

## CIRCUIT 11

### ARIZONA

**Fort Mohave:** *Family of God*

10:15  
L. Wentzlaff  
1863 Panadaro Rd  
Mail: PO Box 10949; 86427

**Lake Havasu City:** *Our Saviour*

9:00  
T. Hartwig  
3163 Maricopa Ave; 86406

**Lake Havasu City:** *Our Saviour's Chapel*  
[Mission of Our Saviour Lutheran]

10:45  
T. Hartwig  
Nautilus Elementary School  
1425 Patrician Dr  
Mail: 3163 Maricopa Ave; 86406

**Scottsdale:** *Redeemer*

9:00  
D. Webber  
7670 E Jomax Rd; 85266

**Queen Creek:** *Sun of Righteousness*

[Mission of Redeemer Lutheran]  
4:00 p.m.  
D. Webber  
Frances Brandon-Pickett Elementary  
School  
22076 East Village Loop Road South  
Mail: 7670 E Jomax Rd; 85266

### CALIFORNIA

**Bell Gardens:** *Christ the King*

10:45  
E. Zimdars  
6541 Eastern Ave; 90201

**Bishop:** *Our Savior*

9:30  
C. Wosje  
162 Sneden St; 93514

**Irvine:** *Asian Mission*

9:30 (Korean)  
J. Kim  
8 Hammond St. #103; 92618

**Irvine:** *Faith*

9:30  
W. Stehr  
Mail: 52 Cleret; 92614

**Ukiah:** *Apostles*

9:30  
K. Dethlefsen  
710 E—S State St  
Mail: PO Box 1511; 95482

**Windsor:** *Christ*

11:00  
J. Smith  
125 Shiloh Rd; 95492

## CIRCUIT 12

### OREGON

**Grants Pass:** *Our Savior*

10:15  
S. Sparley  
230 Buysman Way; 97526

**Gresham:** *Saved By Grace*

9:30  
T. Bartels  
2010 NE Division St; 97030

**Hood River:** *Concordia*

9:00  
J. Jacobsen  
1107 Pine St; 97031

**Klamath Falls:** *Christ*

9:30, Wed. 7:00  
M. Muehlenhardt  
127 N Spring St; 97601

**Medford:** *Faith*

10:30  
T. Westendorf  
1773 S Columbus Ave; 97501

**Myrtle Creek:** *St. Matthew*

11:00  
F. Fiedler III  
436 Old North Pacific Hwy; 97457

**North Bend:** *Resurrection*

10:30  
J. Wilson  
1890 Monroe  
Mail: 1320 Ford Ln; 97459

**Saint Helens:** *Ascension*

J. Burkhardt  
1911 Columbia Blvd; 97006

**Sutherlin:** *Christ*

8:30  
F. Fiedler III  
161 W 2nd St  
Mail: Box R; 97479

**The Dalles:** *Bethany*

11:00  
J. Jacobsen  
2323 East 12th St; 97058

### UTAH

**West Jordan:** *Hope*

9:00  
A. Hamilton  
2930 W 9000 S; 84088

### WASHINGTON

**Lakewood:** *Lakewood*

11:00  
A. Ring  
10202 112th St SW; 98498

**Mt. Vernon:** *St. Luke*

10:00 (S 9:00)  
J. Dalke  
1524 E Blackburn Rd; 98274

**Port Orchard:** *Bethany*

8:15 & 11:00, Mon. 7:00  
A. Pittenger  
151 Tremont W; 98366

**Tacoma:** *Parkland*

8:00 & 10:30  
G. Obenberger, P. Faugstad  
120 123rd St South; 98444

**Yelm:** *Our Redeemer*

10:45  
J. Braun  
805 East Yelm Ave  
Mail: PO Box 2169; 98597

\*Consult pastor for service time

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## PERIODICALS

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### **LUTHERAN SENTINEL**

Published monthly.

Subscription—\$12.00 per year

Blanket subscription—\$10.00 per year

Bulk subscriptions (20 copies & over)—\$10.00 per year

Send to: The Lutheran Sentinel  
Box 185  
Albert Lea MN 56007

### **LUTHERAN SYNOD QUARTERLY**

Published quarterly.

Subscription—\$20.00 per year (\$30.00 international)

Send to: Lutheran Synod Quarterly  
6 Browns Ct  
Mankato MN 56001

### **ANNUAL SYNOD CONVENTION REPORT**

Cost—\$10.00

Order through: Lutheran Synod Book Company  
700 Luther Drive  
Mankato MN 56001

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## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD FOUNDATION

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“The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation is established for the purpose of soliciting gifts, other than for current operating funds, for the synod, its agencies, and as requested, for its congregations and for the theological seminary, college, and other institutions related to the synod. The foundation is to encourage the making of wills, gift annuity agreements, trust agreements, insurance contracts, etc., under which the synod or any of its parts or agencies may become an actual or contingent beneficiary.”—(Adopted by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, 1969.)

### **IS GOD’S WILL INCLUDED IN YOUR WILL?**

The foundation is ready to serve those who are concerned about their responsibility to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as those who are concerned about the needs of our church. It stands ready to serve as no other agency can.

### **A. GIFTS AND DONATIONS OF MONEY**

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation is ready to receive, administer, and distribute gifts of money designated for the general work of our church or any specific phase of its activities. Such gifts may be designated for any purpose the donor may desire, and they may be divided in any way.

In keeping with the donor’s wishes, the principal may be used for the purpose designated, or the principal may be held intact while the income alone is used for the work of the church.

## B. GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE AND OTHER PROPERTY

The foundation is ready to receive, administer, and distribute gifts of real estates, securities, or other property designated for the general work of our church or for any specific phase of its activities (including local congregations). If desired the foundation is ready to make arrangements whereby the donor will receive a gift annuity agreement income for life or a life income agreement.

## C. BEQUESTS THROUGH WILLS

In a very real sense your will is a continuation of your own life and influence. It is an expression of your wishes, a document that acts as your representative in distributing the material things you leave behind. Only you know how you wish them distributed. Only you have the power and the right to make your own will. If you don't have a will, the state makes a will for you through the laws that apply when a person leaves no will.

The ELS Foundation urgently appeals to you: Make a will, and make your will a "Christian" will by remembering the Lord Jesus Christ and His Church in it.

Gift Annuity Agreements, Life Income Gift Agreements, Life Insurance Gifts, Gifts Through Trusts, and Memorial Gifts, may be used; and the foundation is ready to serve you or counsel with you.

### **Legal Form for Gifts to the Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation Through Your Will**

*(check with your attorney)*

I give, devise and bequeath to the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD  
FOUNDATION (a Minnesota Corporation):

---

*(insert sum of money or description of property which sum, or property, or proceeds thereof)*

to be used as directed by the donor or, if no direction as to use is stated,  
as its Board of Directors may determine.

Send inquiries to:

Giving Counselor  
6 Browns Court  
Mankato MN 56001



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