

Section 1 - General Information

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INFORMATION AND ORIENTATION

Dear Friend in Christ,

If this should happen to be your first opportunity to attend a Northwest District Convention, the experience could be a bit bewildering. The next two pages outline the purpose of this Workbook and will familiarize you with our Convention format and procedures. Also, at the Convention, the Rev. Warren Schumacher, District President, will conduct a **delegate orientation meeting at 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 18**. All delegates are encouraged to attend.

WHO WILL ATTEND

You will find a roster of voting delegates from member congregations (received as of 3/13/09). This includes the pastor delegate and a lay delegate from every congregation that has submitted one.

In addition to voting delegates, there are also advisory delegates. These include all other pastors (emeritus, assistant, etc.), teachers, Directors of Christian Education and Directors of Christian Outreach who are on our professional church worker roster, and also youth advisory delegates.

CONVENTION FLOOR COMMITTEES

The Floor Committees were appointed by the District President. Their task is to meet prior to the Convention to study the Reports and Overtures contained in this Workbook. These committees will meet on April 25 to prepare Resolutions. The District Office will send copies of these Resolutions to all delegates prior to the Convention. Open hearings will be provided upon request on Thursday afternoon, June 18 at 12:30 PM. Those requesting a hearing will meet with the Floor Committee members at that time.

Delegates who wish to appear at the June 18 open hearing with any Floor Committee should contact the chairperson of that committee in advance by mail or phone. Committees will hold open hearings only upon request from one or more delegates.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

You will notice that Convention time has been carefully allocated. The schedule and the adoption of the Ground Rules will be one of the first actions of the Convention. Voting delegates, advisory delegates, and youth representatives have the right to speak on the Convention floor as Resolutions are proposed by the Floor Committee chairpersons. Because of limited time for Convention floor debate, delegates are strongly encouraged to participate in stating concerns regarding Resolutions with Floor Committees in the earlier scheduled open hearing sessions on Thursday, June 18 at 12:30 PM. Individuals may also send comments and suggestions regarding Overtures or Resolutions to the Floor Committee Chairman listed in Section 6 of this Workbook.

GROUND RULES

Previous Conventions have adopted ground rules. The following Ground Rules will be presented along with the Schedule at the opening of the Convention.

1. A two-minute limit shall be observed by speakers from the floor.
2. Only one speech per delegate on any given issue.
3. In highly controversial issues, the chairman shall alternate between pro and con speakers.
4. The reading of the Minutes shall be dispensed with because they will be published in the Convention Proceedings.
5. When recognized by the Chair: state your name, congregation, city and state.
6. Your vote will be cast by raising your right hand and saying “Yes” or “No.”
7. The so-called “Behnken” rule may be invoked . . . “If a substitute motion is offered and seconded, the presenter shall be offered two minutes to provide the rationale for presenting it. The Convention shall then decide by majority vote, without debate, whether or not to consider the substitute. If the decision is in the affirmative and the substitute motion is subsequently adopted, the original motion fails; if the substitute motion does not receive favorable action either to consider or to adopt, the original motion is again before the house.” (Synod Convention Proceedings 1992, p. 44)
8. Floor Nominations procedures will be followed as outlined in Synodical Bylaw 3.12.3.7 (Handbook 2007, page 184)
9. Robert’s Rules of Order will be used when not in conflict with these Ground Rules.
10. Motions and amendments are to be **written out** and given to the Secretary.
11. The Floor Committees may place Overtures in Omnibus Resolutions used by LCMS Convention protocol; namely
 - Omnibus A refers Overtures to individuals or entities;
 - Omnibus B refers Overtures to previous Convention action;
 - Omnibus C respectfully declines Overtures;
 - Omnibus D receives Overtures with thanks, gratitude or encouragement; and
 - Omnibus E receives Overtures with consent.
12. Cell phones, internet connected electronic devices, and pagers are to be turned off during Convention sessions.
13. Electronic balloting will be used, including an electronic protocol for ranking of Vice Presidents 2 through 6 following the election of the Regional Vice Presidents.

REPORTS AND OVERTURES

Much in this Workbook is devoted to reports by the various task forces, committees, and elected or appointed personnel of the District. This is your opportunity to study these reports and use these reports as resources and ideas for local congregation implementation. Overtures are recommendations from member congregations and official entities of the District. These are presented in the form of Resolutions at the Convention and usually add much interest to the Convention discussion. These Floor Committee presented Resolutions stimulate delegates to prayerfully consider God's direction for His Church. Delegates reflect upon the issues, listen to all sides of an issue, ask questions, make observances and vote accordingly.

IN CONCLUSION

While we shall have an abundance of work to do, a Convention like this is also a splendid opportunity "for worship, nurture, inspiration, fellowship, and the communication of vital information and for making new friends." We invite you to come to the Convention in the spirit of Christ, ready to give and receive the expressions of that same spirit to all in attendance.

The Lord be with you.

Together in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Warren Schumacher". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Together in Christ,".

Rev. Warren Schumacher
President Northwest District – LCMS



62nd Northwest District Convention

Tentative Schedule – April 2009 June 18-20, 2009

Oregon Convention Center Portland, OR

Time	Description
THURSDAY	June 18, 2009
8:00 AM	Setup by Exhibitors and Vendors
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM	Delegate Registration at Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR
12:30 – 2:00 PM	Floor Committee Open Hearings on Resolutions (Rooms TBD)
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Floor Committees Meet in closed session
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Delegate Orientation with Rev. Warren Schumacher (Convention Floor)
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Pages and Youth meet for training and walk through (Room TBD)
3:00 – 5:30 PM	Convention Welcome & Opening - Convention Session #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✠ Opening music ✠ Registration and Credentials Report (Paul Linnemann) ✠ Standing Rules Adoption (Warren Schumacher) ✠ Convention Schedule adoption (Warren Schumacher) ✠ Introductions and Elections (Warren Schumacher) ✠ Elections process instruction with practice ballot (Elections Chairman – TBD) ✠ Chaplain: Prayer ✠ Balloting: (elect District President and Vice Presidents) ✠ Bible study
5:30 – 7:30 PM	Dinner on own at local restaurants
7:15 - 7:30PM	Pre-session Music
7:30 – 9:00 PM	Convention Session #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✠ District President Report ✠ Balloting ✠ Convention Business – Floor Committee #1: Theology, Practice, District Ministries ✠ Concordia University ✠ Delegate Reception – hosted by Concordia University (Doubletree Hotel)

Time	Description
FRIDAY	
June 19, 2009	
8:15-8:30 AM	Pre-session Music
8:30– 10:00 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Host Congregation – Trinity, Hillsboro ✚ LCMS President Rev. Jerry Kieschnick - Preaching ✚ Announcements
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Break and Circuit Caucus
10:30 – 12:00 Noon	Convention Session #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Pre-session music ✚ Synod – Kieschnick Q & A (one hour) ✚ Bible Study
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch on own at local restaurants
1:30 – 3:00 PM	Convention Session #4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Pre-session music ✚ Floor Committee #1: Theology, Practice, District Ministries ✚ Floor Committee #2: Structure & Governance
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Convention Session #5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Pre-session music ✚ Floor committee #2: Structure & Governance ✚ Guest speaker: Rev. John Nunes, President, Lutheran World Relief ✚ Consultation to Clergy Installation: Rev. Philip Streufert
5:00 – 7:00 PM	Dinner on own at local restaurants
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Presidents' Reception <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ 50th Anniversary of Erhart Bauer's Ordination ✚ Incoming District President-Elect ✚ Outgoing District President
SATURDAY	
June 20, 2009	
8:15 – 10:00 AM	Convention Session #6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Pre-session music ✚ Youth Presentation ✚ Synod Presentation – Structure (Rev. Larry Stoterau, PSW Pres.) ✚ Rev. L. Dean Hempelmann – What a Way!
10:00 – 10:15 AM	Break
10:15 – 12:00 PM	Convention Session #7 to Adjournment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Synod Presentation (continued) ✚ Rev. Thomas Zehnder, Interim Executive Director, LCMS World Missions ✚ Unfinished business ✚ Installation of newly elected officers (Chaplain & Warren Schumacher)
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Gavel – Closing: Sending and benediction by District President-Elect

A CHART OF MOTIONS AND ACTIONS from President Warren Schumacher:

Motions in order of precedence – When one of them is pending, you cannot introduce the one below it. You may introduce the one above it.

A CHART OF MOTIONS AND ACTIONS

	“Quote”	May a speaker be interrupted?	Second Needed?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote % Needed
1) Adjourn	“I move we adjourn”	NO	YES	NO	NO	Majority
2) Recess	“I move we recess until...”	NO	YES	NO	YES	Majority
3) Register a Complaint	“Point of Privilege, Mr. Chairman”	YES	NO	NO (any resulting motion is...)	NO	No vote chair decides
4) Table – suspend consideration	“I move we table this matter”	NO	YES	NO	NO	Majority
5) End discussion	“I move the previous question”	NO	YES	NO	NO	2/3 Majority
6) Postpone consideration	“I move we postpone this matter until...”	NO	YES	YES	YES	Majority
7) Have further study on a matter	“I move we refer this matter to a committee”	NO	YES	YES	YES	Majority
8) Amend a motion	“I move this motion be amended to read...”	NO	YES	YES	YES	Majority
9) Primary motion	“I move that...”	NO	YES	YES	YES	Majority

POINT OF ORDER AND OTHER ACTIONS

YOU want to:	“SAY”:	May a speaker be interrupted?	Second Needed?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Procedure
1) Object to error or personal affront	“Point of Order”	YES	NO	NO	NO	No vote chair decides
2) Request information	“Point of information”	If urgent and to the point	NO	NO	NO	None
3) Verify voice vote by count	“I call for division of the house”	No BUT it must be done before more business	NO	NO	NO	No vote required UNLESS someone objects
4) Object to the consideration of a matter you consider improper or undiplomatic	“I object to the consideration of this question”	YES	NO	NO	NO	2/3 vote required against consideration
5) Take up a matter previously tabled	“I move we take from the table”	NO	YES	NO	NO	Majority
6) Reconsider an action taken earlier	“I move we reconsider our action re:”	May interrupt for record only	YES	YES IF original was	NO	Majority
7) Consider something out of its scheduled order	“I move we suspend the rules/orders”	NO	YES	NO	NO	2/3 vote required
8) Vote on a ruling of the chair	“I appeal the chair’s decision”	YES	YES	YES IF original was	NO	Majority