



## RESOLUTIONS

| <b>Resolution</b>           | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Convention Action</b> |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>1-01</b>                 | To Allow Ministers Of Religion–Commissioned To Serve As Delegates At Conventions  |                          |
| <b>1-02</b>                 | To Support The Work Of The Blue Ribbon Task Force On Synod Structure & Governance   |                          |
| <b>1-03</b>                 | To Retain Licensed Deacon Program   |                          |
| <b>1-04</b>                 | To Memorialize The Synod To Revise Bylaw 4.3.2  |                          |
| <b>1-05</b>                 | To Realign Alaska Into Two Circuits   |                          |
| <b>1-06</b>                 | To Recognize Synod Trained Church Workers Not On Synod’s Roster For IRS Purposes  |                          |
| <b>1-07</b>                 | To Accept Reports A-L   |                          |
| <b>2-01</b>                 | To Continue Tracking The Spirit as an Effective Movement of Outreach for the 21st Century   |                          |
| <b>2-02</b>                 | Resolution Regarding End of Life Issues   |                          |
| <b>2-03</b>                 | To Minister To Youth In A Post-Church, Postmodern Culture   |                          |
| <b>2-04</b>                 | To Utilize Graduates Of LAP   |                          |
| <b>2-05</b>                 | To Encourage Intentional Outreach To The Older Generation   |                          |
| <b>2-06</b>                 | To Memorialize The Synod To Include Disabilities Awareness Ministry Training In The Curricula Of Synod's Seminaries & Universities  |                          |
| <b>2-07</b>                 | To Work With Other Christians To Reach Those Who Do Not Know Christ And Memorialize Synod To Do The Same  |                          |
| <b>2-08</b>                 | Stewards Of Creation  |                          |
| <b>2-09</b>                 | To Encourage Operation Barnabas Training Seminars   |                          |
| <b>2-10</b>                 | To Thank The Lord Of The Church For Blessing President Schumacher With Gifts Of Leadership & To Recognize His Use Of Those Gifts In Dedicated Service To The District & To The Church |                          |
| <b>2-11</b>                 | To Accept Reports M-Z   |                          |
| <b>Omnibus Resolution A</b> | Overtures 1-05, 1-06, 1-11, 1-13  |                          |
| <b>Omnibus Resolution C</b> | Overtures 1-04, 1-07, 1-09, 1-10  |                          |

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-01**

2  
3 **TO ALLOW MINISTERS OF RELIGION – COMMISSIONED TO SERVE AS**  
4 **DELEGATES AT CONVENTIONS**

5  
6 WHEREAS, God has called His people to be workers in His kingdom as Ministers of  
7 Religion – Commissioned (Teachers, Directors of Christian Education,  
8 Family Life Ministers, etc.); and

9  
10 WHEREAS, Ministers of Religion - Commissioned are looked upon to provide  
11 leadership in many schools, congregations, and agencies of the Lutheran  
12 Church – Missouri Synod; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, there has been a long tradition of service from such Ministers of Religion -  
15 Commissioned; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, the Synod Handbook does not allow such individuals to serve as voting  
18 delegates at either District or Synod Conventions; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, Ministers of Religion - Commissioned are allowed to be advisory  
21 delegates, to the ratio of one Ministers of Religion - Commissioned per  
22 sixty (60) rostered Ministers of Religion - Commissioned in each district,  
23 at Synod Conventions (2007 Synod Handbook 3.1.3.1); and

24  
25 WHEREAS, We the members of the Northwest District consider this voting privilege to  
26 be a high priority because of the ministry of the Ministers of Religion –  
27 Commissioned and the issue of equity, therefore, be it

28  
29 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention urge the Blue Ribbon Task Force  
30 on Synod Structure and Governance to present a solution to this issue in  
31 its final report.

32  
33  
34 COMMITTEE #1

35 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman

36 Ministers of Religion – Commissioned: 2007 Synod Handbook Bylaws 3.1.3 ff

37  
38 (cf Overture: 1-01, To Provide For More Equitable Representation At District And Synod  
39 Convention; Overture: 1-05, To Establish A Process By Which Commissioned Ministers  
40 May Be Elected Delegates For *District*; Overture: 1-06, To Establish A Process By  
41 Which Commissioned Ministers May Be Elected Delegates for *Synod* Conventions)

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-02**

2  
3 **TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ON SYNOD**  
4 **STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

5  
6 WHEREAS, the Gospel is God's precious gift to His people, and sharing this Gospel  
7 effectively with the people He loves must be the church's top priority; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the Gospel message is unchanging, yet the world in which we live is  
10 rapidly changing and requires the organization of the church to adopt  
11 practices and structures that enhance the Gospel's proclamation; and,

12  
13 WHEREAS, the present polity of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has contributed  
14 to strife and a party spirit and inhibits the Gospel witness; and,

15  
16 WHEREAS, the President's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and  
17 Governance has been working with Synod and District leaders to design  
18 changes that better support the mission and ministry of the Gospel; and,

19  
20 WHEREAS, the Northwest District appreciates that the Task Force has been posting its  
21 work on Synod's website so Synod is kept actively advised of its work, so  
22 that this important report can be available for maximum review and  
23 critique throughout the Synod prior to the convention; and be it

24  
25 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention call upon the people of the  
26 Northwest District to be involved in prayer for this important effort and  
27 for the convocation to be held immediately prior to the 2010 Synod  
28 Convention; and be it finally

29  
30 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention support the work of the Blue  
31 Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance.

32  
33  
34 COMMITTEE #1  
35 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman

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37  
38 (cf Overture: 1-02, To Support The Work Of The Blue Ribbon Task Force On Synod  
39 Structure and Governance; Overture: 1-04, To Exercise Appropriate Care In Considering  
40 Structure Changes; Overture: 1-10, To Memorialize Synod To Exercise Due Diligence In  
41 Implementing Structural Changes)

1 **RESOLUTION: 1-03**

2  
3 **TO RETAIN LICENSED DEACON PROGRAM**

4  
5  
6 WHEREAS, small congregations and preaching stations in Alaska and other parts  
7 of the Northwest District have been wonderfully blessed through the Word  
8 and Sacrament ministries of Licensed Deacons; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program is very expensive and,  
11 as presently constituted, cannot supply pastoral leadership to those  
12 Congregations now being served by Licensed Deacons; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the present Leadership Advancement Process (LAP) program of the  
15 Northwest District continues to provide theological education relevant to  
16 congregations and preaching stations in the District; and for training  
17 Licensed Deacons to serve in these settings, therefore, be it

18  
19 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention memorialize the Synod at  
20 its 2010 convention to retain the use of Licensed Deacons in ministry.

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24  
25 COMMITTEE #1  
26 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman

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29 (cf Overture: 1-03, To Retain Licensed Deacon Program)  
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1 **RESOLUTION: 1-04**

2  
3 **TO MEMORIALIZE THE SYNOD TO REVISE BYLAW 4.3.2**

4  
5  
6 WHEREAS, Synod Bylaw 4.3.2 states that the District Treasurer shall be a  
7 *layperson* (italics added) elected or appointed according to the Bylaws of  
8 the District, and  
9

10 WHEREAS, with the ever increasing number of second career people entering pastoral  
11 ministry, some current church workers have served as officers in financial  
12 institutions, and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the Church seeks to utilize the gifts of the most qualified people available  
15 for a position, such as treasurer; therefore, be it  
16

17 RESOLVED, that the NW District of the LCMS memorialize the Synod to revise  
18 Bylaw 4.3.2 as follows:  
19 Proposed Changes (wording unchanged is in normal type; old wording to  
20 be deleted is crossed out)  
21

22 Bylaw 4.3.2

23 Each district shall have a treasurer who ~~shall be a layperson and~~ shall be elected  
24 or appointed as the Bylaws of the district may provide; and be it finally  
25

26 RESOLVED, that if this overture is passed by the Synod in Convention, the Northwest  
27 District will change its Bylaw 4.1.3 to be in agreement with the changes  
28 made at the Synod in Convention in 2010.  
29

30  
31 COMMITTEE #1

32 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman  
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35 (cf Overture: 1-08, To Memorialize The Synod To Revise Bylaw 4.3.2)

1 **RESOLUTION 1-05**

2  
3 **TO REALIGN ALASKA INTO TWO CIRCUITS**

4  
5 WHEREAS, the 2007 Handbook of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS)  
6 stipulates “An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent  
7 visitation circuits, as shall be determined by each district on the basis of  
8 the following requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent from 7  
9 to 20 member congregations involving an aggregate communicant  
10 membership from 1,500 to 10,000.” (By-law 3.1.2 (a) p. 90); and  
11

12 WHEREAS, the 2004 Handbook of the LCMS also describes a visitation circuit as “...7  
13 to 20 congregations involving an aggregate communicant membership  
14 from 1,500 to 10,000.” (By-law 5.1.1, p. 194); and  
15

16 WHEREAS, since 1994 five new congregations have been planted in Alaska and  
17 received into membership in the Northwest District of the LCMS so that  
18 there are now 14 congregations and so that there has been sufficient  
19 communicant membership to form two circuits in Alaska (not including  
20 the many mission sites of the Alaska Mission for Christ); and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the size of Alaska, the distance between congregations, and the large area  
23 for ministry can be a difficult job for one circuit counselor; therefore be it  
24

25 RESOLVED, that Circuit 25 of the Northwest District, LCMS, the Alaska Circuit, be  
26 divided into two circuits for the purpose of working together in the Lord’s  
27 Kingdom and as member congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri  
28 Synod, subject to the approval of the President of the Synod under Bylaw  
29 5.1.1 (b).  
30

31  
32 COMMITTEE #1

33 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman  
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1 **RESOLUTION 1-06**

2  
3 **TO RECOGNIZE SYNOD TRAINED CHURCH WORKERS NOT ON SYNOD'S**  
4 **ROSTER FOR IRS PURPOSES**

5  
6 WHEREAS, the roster of commissioned ministers now does not fully reflect the Synod  
7 trained and serving individuals simply because of the definitions imposed  
8 by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service for taxing purposes; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, this categorization within the Synod affects its recognition of ministry and  
11 other applications within Synod simply because a name is not "on the  
12 roster"; therefore be it

13  
14 RESOLVED, that the District send this issue to the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod  
15 Structure and Governance for consideration.

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17  
18 COMMITTEE #1

19 Jonathan Rockey, Chairman

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1 **RESOLUTION 1-07**

2  
3 **TO ACCEPT REPORTS**

4  
5 WHEREAS, the Governance and Structure Floor Committee has reviewed the reports of the  
6 Alaska Mission for Christ, Ambassadors of Reconciliation, Archives – Northwest  
7 District, Camp Lutherhaven, Camp Lutherwood – Bellingham, WA, Camp  
8 Lutherwood – Cheshire, OR, Camp Ortoha, Camp Perkins, Compass Center  
9 (The), Concordia International School Shanghai, Concordia Lutheran School –  
10 Tacoma, WA, Concordia University, Constitutional Matters Task Force,  
11 Consultation to Clergy, CROSSings Ministries, Disability Awareness Task  
12 Force, Ethnic Ministries Task Force, Good Shepherd Communities – Pacific NW  
13 Region, Holden Village, Intentional Interim Ministries, Laborers for Christ,  
14 Leadership Advancement Process – LAP, LENS – Continuing Education,  
15 Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots – U.S., Lutheran Community  
16 Services NW, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), Lutheran  
17 Latino Ministries, Lutheran Laymen’s League, Lutheran Ministry Services NW,  
18 Lutheran Services in America (LSA), Lutheran Social Services of Alaska,  
19 Lutheran World Relief (LWR), LWML – Idaho/Utah District, Oregon District,  
20 Washington/AK District, LWML 2009 Convention, and the President’s Report,  
21 therefore be it  
22

23 RESOLVED, that we accept these reports with thanksgiving to God for the contributions  
24 of these strategic alliances to the life and mission of the District during the  
25 past triennium; and be it finally  
26

27 RESOLVED, that we encourage their continuing efforts in the Lord’s service during the  
28 next three years.  
29

30 COMMITTEE NO. 1, Jonathan Rockey, Chairman  
31

32 (cf Alaska Mission for Christ, page 4-1; Ambassadors of Reconciliation, page 4-2; Archives –  
33 Northwest District, page 4-3; Camp Lutherhaven, page 4-4; Camp Lutherwood –  
34 Bellingham, WA, page 4-5; Camp Lutherwood – Cheshire, OR, page 4-7; Camp  
35 Ortoha, page 4-8; Camp Perkins, page 4-9; Compass Center (The), page 4-11;  
36 Concordia International School Shanghai, page 4-13; Concordia Lutheran School  
37 – Tacoma, WA, page 4-14; Concordia University, page 4-15; Constitutional  
38 Matters Task Force, page 4-18; Consultation to Clergy, page 4-19; CROSSings  
39 Ministries, page 4-20; Disability Awareness Task Force, page 4-21; Ethnic  
40 Ministries Task Force, page 4-22; Good Shepherd Communities – Pacific NW  
41 Region, page 4-23; Holden Village, page 4-24; Intentional Interim Ministries,  
42 page 4-25; Laborers for Christ, page 4-26; Leadership Advancement Process –  
43 LAP, page 4-28; LENS – Continuing Education, page 4-29; Lutheran  
44 Association of Missionaries and Pilots – U.S., page 4-30; Lutheran Community  
45 Services NW, page 4-31; Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS),  
46 page 4-32; Lutheran Latino Ministries, page 4-33; Lutheran Laymen’s League,  
47 page 4-34; Lutheran Ministry Services NW, page 4-35; Lutheran Services in  
48 America (LSA), page 4-36; Lutheran Social Services of Alaska, page 4-37;  
49 Lutheran World Relief (LWR), page 4-39; LWML – Idaho/Utah District, Oregon  
50 District, Washington/AK District, page 4-40; LWML 2009 Convention, page 4-  
51 41; President’s Report, page 3-1 thru 3-95)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-01**

2  
3 **TO CONTINUE TRACKING THE SPIRIT AS AN EFFECTIVE**  
4 **MOVEMENT OF OUTREACH FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

5  
6 WHEREAS, Luke 5:1-11, Matthew 4:18-22, Matthew 28:16-20, and Luke 19:10 provide the church  
7 with a Biblical basis for outreach to lost people; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, Acts 16:15, Acts 2:46, Acts 20:20, Philemon 2, Romans 16:5, and 1 Timothy 5:13  
10 provide an effective model for outreach to the lost by planting churches; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Synod through ABLAZE, has concentrated on critical events of reaching 100 million lost or  
13 misdirected people with the Gospel message by 2017; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, the Northwest District Board of Directors and leaders have encouraged the continued  
16 development of Tracking the Spirit as a movement of pastors, lay leaders, congregations,  
17 and individuals; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, the Tracking the Spirit movement supports the ABLAZE goal, the Council of Presidents  
20 definition of church, and the Biblical definition that where two or three are gathered; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, valid research has shown that culture has modified, society has transformed, and  
23 congregations can no longer expect that worship services will automatically attract people  
24 who have no connection to Church; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, people are not asking, "Is Christianity true?" they are asking, "What works for me?" which  
27 means to understand God they need to experience Him through personal transformation; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, the culture of the area included in the Northwest District has been identified as the 'most  
30 unchurched and previously churched' area of our country; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, professional church workers, lay leaders, congregations, schools and individuals throughout  
33 the district have recognized that the primary emphasis of the church is conversion growth and  
34 identified with these principles through Tracking the Spirit in their daily lives; therefore, be it

35  
36 RESOLVED, that we thank the Lord of the harvest for the 29 new church plants which the Holy Spirit has  
37 created in the past 3 years through the Tracking the Spirit movement, and be it finally

38  
39 RESOLVED, the Northwest District-LCMS will continue to support Tracking the Spirit which encourages  
40 the following missional and incarnational models of Gospel outreach:

- 41  
42 1. Renewed or continued focus on prayer for the lost; and  
43 2. Going to the people, not expecting them to come to the churches; and  
44 3. Transforming lives, not isolating new Christians from their existing network of  
45 relationships; and  
46 4. Emerging within the culture around them rather than ignoring it, adapting to the steady  
47 wind of the Holy Spirit as He leads to Gospel opportunities; and  
48 5. Forming churches of many small groups where members are engaged in the activities  
49 based on the mission of the communities while always remaining in the harvest; and  
50 6. Intentionally planting the seeds of the Gospel in their daily relationships with whomever  
51 they meet with the confidence that God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, will grow,  
52 prosper and multiply these seeds into thriving, Gospel outreach churches and  
53 congregations.

54  
55 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman  
56 (cfOverture2-04, To Continue "Tracking the Spirit" as an Effective Movement of Outreach for the 21<sup>st</sup>  
57 Century)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-02**

2  
3 **RESOLUTION REGARDING END OF LIFE ISSUES**

4  
5 WHEREAS, Life is a gift given by God for God's purposes and to God's glory, and

6  
7 WHEREAS, Life is overshadowed by sin so that what was intended for good can become a  
8 burden and that what was intended to reflect the Creator and an ultimate  
9 purpose reveals primarily the creature and immediate concerns, and

10  
11 WHEREAS, Life has been redeemed through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus  
12 Christ, so that even though it continues under the shadow of sin, joy is restored,  
13 the Creator's hand is seen, and the fullness of redemption awaited in hope, and

14  
15 WHEREAS, the benefits of medical science to care, relieve, and extend life, can be  
16 understood as signs of the Creator's providential care, and the Redeemer's  
17 restorative activity, and

18  
19 WHEREAS, the last stages of life can become a time of enduring the limitations and  
20 frailty of human life, and

21  
22 WHEREAS, many would seek to forego these stages of life by taking the matters of life  
23 and death into their own hands through suicide, and

24  
25 WHEREAS, the states of Oregon and Washington have granted permission for  
26 Physician Assisted Suicide, and

27  
28 WHEREAS, this elevates death by one's own hand as the response to fear of not being  
29 in control of one's own life, and

30  
31 WHEREAS, this distorts the healing relationship between physician and individual, the  
32 trust relationship among family members and ultimately the faith  
33 relationship between God and people, and

34  
35 WHEREAS, a subsequent result can be the demeaning of life and death decisions to a  
36 level of financial expediency, i.e., so as not to be a financial burden,  
37 therefore be it

38  
39 RESOLVED, that the 62nd Convention of the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church  
40 Missouri Synod go on public record against Physician Assisted Suicide, and be it  
41 further

42  
43 RESOLVED, that we encourage the people of our congregations to become more knowledgeable  
44 about end of life issues: the burdens of those living in the last stages of life; the  
45 ability of medical science to provide palliative care, the helpfulness of a caring  
46 community and the importance of spiritual care, and be it finally

47  
48 RESOLVED, that we encourage the leaders of congregations annually on the last Sunday of  
49 January to provide opportunities for individuals to think about end of life issues  
50 prior to the time when these issues arise and give avenues for people to  
51 participate actively in a caring ministry to and with those in the last stages of life.

52  
53 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

54  
55 (cfOverture2-02, Resolution Regarding End of Life Issues)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-03**

2  
3 **TO MINISTER TO YOUTH IN A POST-CHURCH, POSTMODERN CULTURE**

4  
5 WHEREAS, youth in the early 21<sup>st</sup> Century live in a post-church, postmodern world quite different  
6 from the modern world in which most church members were raised, and

7  
8 WHEREAS, postmodernism contains current manifestations of lies fostered by the Evil One exalting  
9 the individual as the measure of all things and maintaining all truth is only subjective and  
10 relative, and

11  
12 WHEREAS, two key elements of ministry among post-church, postmodern youth are relationships and  
13 stories, and

14  
15 WHEREAS, post-church, postmodern youth live and breathe technology which many moderns find  
16 discomforting, therefore, be it

17  
18 RESOLVED, that moderns seeking to do ministry among post-church, postmodern youth make friends  
19 with technology enough to be aware of current gadgets so they can at least listen in an  
20 interested and inviting way as youth talk about their latest devices, and, further, be it

21  
22 RESOLVED, that those in the church utilize the internet and published books to research the multiple  
23 available resources for ministry to youth in a post-church, postmodern world, and be it  
24 further

25  
26 RESOLVED, that church people keep in mind the lies of the Evil One, even in their present versions,  
27 are not combated with sociology and with ministry technique, but with the Word of God  
28 and the Gospel of Jesus' blood shed for all, and be it further

29  
30 RESOLVED, that church people work at developing listening, caring relationships with youth inside  
31 and outside the church, and be it further

32  
33 RESOLVED, that church people recognize the importance of listening as youth and others tell their  
34 story, and recognize the importance of telling God's truth in story form to a culture that  
35 gathers information from narrative more than from propositional statements so common  
36 in our usual way of communicating in the church, and be it further

37  
38 RESOLVED, that church people who have always been devoted to a print culture embrace the personal  
39 distribution of God's Word in digital audio forms that youth can hear, copy, and share  
40 freely with one another for playing on their personal digital devices, and be it finally

41  
42 RESOLVED, to request the Center for Applied Lutheran Leadership to develop ministry ideas for  
43 outreach in the peculiar mission context of the Pacific Northwest, particularly outreach to  
44 alienated young adults.

45  
46 (e.g. the World English audio Bible in MP3 available free through Vicki Knutsen at the NOW District  
47 Office)

48  
49  
50 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

51  
52 (cf Overture 2-05, To Minister to Youth in a Post-Church, Postmodern Culture)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-04**

2  
3 **TO UTILIZE GRADUATES OF LAP**

4  
5 WHEREAS, God has gifted His church with many gifts “for the common good and He  
6 intends that we use these gifts to faithfully serve Him and spread the  
7 Gospel (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Matthew 25:14-30), and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the Northwest District has over 47 congregations with an average of 50  
10 members or less attending church; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, utilization of trained Licensed Deacons is an effective way to do ministry  
13 in small and isolated areas as well as in various congregational ministries,  
14 and

15  
16 WHEREAS, trained Licensed Deacons are used extensively throughout the District in a  
17 variety of congregations, agencies, and ministries; therefore, be it

18  
19 RESOLVED, that Northwest District congregations, agencies, organizations and  
20 ministries recruit and enable faithful laity to enter the Northwest District  
21 lay ministry training program, known as the Leadership Advancement  
22 Process – LAP; and be it finally

23  
24 RESOLVED, that LAP graduates continue to be utilized by the Northwest District  
25 congregations, agencies, organizations and ministries.

26  
27  
28 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

29  
30 (cf Overture 2-06, To Utilize Graduates of LAP)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-05**

2  
3 **TO ENCOURAGE INTENTIONAL OUTREACH TO THE OLDER GENERATION**

4  
5 WHEREAS, the Lord has given us the mandate to “make disciples of all nations,” and

6  
7 WHEREAS, no one is excluded from “all nations,” regardless of age, gender, ethnicity,  
8 orientation, circumstance, condition, or anything else that might be used to  
9 define or divide people, and

10  
11 WHEREAS, older men and women are often more conscious of, and ready to talk  
12 about, the end of life and life after death, and

13  
14 WHEREAS, one’s peer group is an especially open opportunity, for all ages, to share  
15 the Good News of God’s love and salvation in Jesus Christ, and

16  
17 WHEREAS, statistics tell us that our United States is increasing in an older population,  
18 and

19  
20 WHEREAS, many, if not most, of our congregations have a significant number of older  
21 adults, therefore be it

22  
23 RESOLVED, that our congregations give special emphasis, without neglecting other  
24 opportunities for sharing the Gospel, to reach out to the older men and  
25 women in their community, and be it further

26  
27 RESOLVED, that our pastors, other professional church workers, and trained lay  
28 leaders, give prayerful and diligent attention and follow through to equip  
29 the older saints in our congregations to be aware of, and prepared to take  
30 opportunities to reach out to their peers with God’s love and the Good  
31 News of the saving Gospel of our Lord, and be it further

32  
33 RESOLVED, that our congregations make it an intentional part of their ministry to be  
34 open, look for, create, and take opportunities to serve the older population  
35 in their community through various ministries such as health care  
36 ministries in the name of Christ; and be it finally

37  
38 RESOLVED, that the District make available to congregations resources and  
39 information to assist them in their outreach to older adults.

40  
41 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

42  
43 (cf Overture 2-07, To Encourage Intentional Outreach to the Older Generation)  
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1 **RESOLUTION: 2-06**

2  
3 **TO MEMORIALIZE THE SYNOD TO INCLUDE DISABILITIES AWARENESS**  
4 **MINISTRY TRAINING IN THE CURRICULA OF SYNOD'S**  
5 **SEMINARIES AND UNIVERSITIES**  
6

7 WHEREAS, an estimated thirty to forty million Americans experience disabilities of  
8 one degree or another; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the ministry of Christ reveals a special care for people with disabilities,  
11 and the Christian church throughout the centuries has strived for  
12 hospitality to all people in the spirit of Christ;

13  
14 WHEREAS, an aging population brings to the local congregation a significant  
15 challenge of increasing disabilities; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, that number is steadily increasing as American troops serving in foreign  
18 wars return with physical, emotional, and mental disabilities; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, there is a need to equip professional church workers to minister effectively  
21 and confidently with people with disabilities; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, ministry with people with disabilities does not appear to be articulated in  
24 the core curriculum requirement of our seminaries and universities; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, the rich gifts of people with disabilities are thereby not being used in the  
27 body of Christ; therefore be it

28  
29 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention memorialize the 2010  
30 convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to encourage our  
31 seminaries and universities to incorporate in their core curricula of training  
32 pastors and other professional church workers an emphasis on ministry to,  
33 with, and through people who have disabilities; and be it further

34  
35 RESOLVED, that the Synod's Board for Pastoral Education together with Synod's Board  
36 for University Education take the responsibility of assisting our seminaries  
37 and universities in articulating objectives to be included in the core  
38 curriculum within the next triennium; and be it finally

39  
40 RESOLVED, that the Synod's Board for Pastoral Education together with Synod's  
41 Board for University Education take the responsibility of assisting our  
42 seminaries and universities in articulating objectives to be included in the  
43 core curriculum within the next triennium.

44  
45 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman  
46 (cf Overture 2-09, To Memorialize the Synod to Include Disabilities Awareness Ministry Training in the  
47 Curricula of Synod's Seminaries and Universities)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-07**

2  
3 **TO WORK WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS TO REACH THOSE WHO DO NOT**  
4 **KNOW CHRIST AND MEMORIALIZE SYNOD TO DO THE SAME**

5  
6 WHEREAS, the Lord has given a command to all His followers to “make disciples of  
7 all nations,” (Matthew 28:18-20) and

8  
9 WHEREAS, we members of the Northwest District are part of the followers of Christ  
10 who make up the “One, Holy, Christian (catholic), and Apostolic Church,”  
11 and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the task of reaching those who do not know Christ is greater than we can  
14 do alone, therefore be it

15  
16 RESOLVED, that we give thanks and praise to God for all our brothers and sisters in  
17 Christ in the whole Christian Church on earth, and be it finally

18  
19 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District encourage congregations, boards and agencies  
20 of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, to work with congregations,  
21 boards and agencies of various Christian bodies to give direction as to how  
22 we can more effectively and appropriately work with other Christian  
23 church bodies in reaching out to those who do not know Christ.

24  
25  
26  
27  
28 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

29  
30 (cf Overture 2-03, To Work With Other Christians to Reach those who do not know Christ  
31 and Memorialize Synod to Do the Same)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-08**

2  
3 **STEWARDS OF CREATION**

4  
5 WHEREAS, we acknowledge God as the almighty maker and sustainer of His gracious  
6 gift of creation, and that He entrusts care giving of His creation to  
7 humankind; Psalm 24: 1, Genesis 1, Genesis 2: 15, First Article of  
8 Apostles' Creed and its Explanation by Martin Luther; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the responsibility to be good stewards of the earth serves the sustainability  
11 of life and is to reflect God's love and care for the earth which He  
12 marvelously made Genesis, 1: 31; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, care for the earth is not merely a scientific, social, or political issue but is a  
15 profoundly spiritual issue; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, the effects of sin in the world is evident in humankind's neglect and  
18 exploitation of the earth and its resources; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, wasteful use of energy and natural resources, emissions of harmful  
21 pollutants, and other failures of stewardship have created serious  
22 environmental challenges that threaten the welfare of God's creation and  
23 of human communities around the world, be it

24  
25 RESOLVED, that we as individual Christians commit ourselves to be faithful creation  
26 caregivers as we consider such personal matters as the level of our  
27 consumption, waste of environmental resources, and any despoiling of  
28 creation's beauty and bounty; and be it further

29  
30 RESOLVED, that congregations challenge themselves to explore the biblical  
31 foundations for the stewardship of creation, to be examples of and  
32 advocates for caring of God's creation, and to celebrate God's creation  
33 and the importance of our caring for it in our prayers and in other liturgical  
34 and worship opportunities; and be it finally

35  
36 RESOLVED, that the District's focus on the stewardship of creation be nurtured by the  
37 Center for Applied Lutheran Leadership and that resources, programs and  
38 materials be made available to District congregations and schools within  
39 one year.

40  
41  
42 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

43  
44 (cfOverture2-01, Stewards of Creation)

1 **RESOLUTION: 2-09**

2  
3 **TO ENCOURAGE OPERATION BARNABAS TRAINING SEMINARS**

4  
5 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod remains supportive of the men and  
6 women serving in the United States Armed Forces, and

7  
8 WHEREAS, the Northwest District has been at the forefront of modeling  
9 compassionate ministry to military personnel and their families, and

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Synod’s Operation Barnabas program provides outstanding resources  
12 for enhancing the Ministry to Military Personnel within every one of our  
13 congregations; therefore be it

14  
15 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District of the LCMS, in convention, reiterate its  
16 commitment to caring for military personnel and their families; and be it  
17 finally

18  
19 RESOLVED, that we strongly encourage all of our congregations to participate in  
20 upcoming Operation Barnabas training seminars.

21  
22  
23  
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25  
26 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

27  
28 (cfOverture2-10, To Encourage Operation Barnabas Training Seminars)  
29  
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1 **RESOLUTION: 2-10**  
2

3 **TO THANK THE LORD OF THE CHURCH FOR BLESSING PRESIDENT SCHUMACHER**  
4 **WITH GIFTS OF LEADERSHIP AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS USE OF THOSE GIFTS IN**  
5 **DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT AND TO THE CHURCH**  
6

7 WHEREAS, the Lord of the Church blesses His church with people to serve Him and  
8 extend the mission of the church, (Ephesians 4) and  
9

10 WHEREAS, the Lord of the Church has, through His people gathered in convention  
11 June 24-26, 1994, as an election body, called Dr. Warren W. Schumacher  
12 to the Presidency of the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church-  
13 Missouri Synod, which he has served with distinguished dedication for 15  
14 years, and  
15

16 WHEREAS, we thank the Lord for giving President Schumacher a patient, pastoral and  
17 evangelical heart, blessing him with strength and health and keeping him  
18 safe during thousands of miles of travel, and  
19

20 WHEREAS, President Schumacher has lovingly and faithfully empowered the talented  
21 Executive Staff and Support Staff serving in the District Office, and  
22

23 WHEREAS, he has used wisdom to deal evangelically, forthrightly and effectively with  
24 individuals and congregations in conflict, and  
25

26 WHEREAS, he has led the District and the Church with vision in the Lord's Mission in  
27 relation to the Church Universal and is highly regarded by leaders of both  
28 the LCMS and other church bodies, and  
29

30 WHEREAS, the Northwest District Board of Directors, as the elected governing body  
31 of the District between conventions, has annually evaluated President  
32 Warren Schumacher on the basis of its Ends and Executive Limitations  
33 Policies and  
34

35 WHEREAS, the Board has determined that in speaking the word of God to District and  
36 congregational members, he has served the Northwest District with  
37 faithful, effective service, leading it to be in the mission of Jesus Christ to  
38 'seek and save the lost' (Luke 19:10), using the Board's Ends Policies  
39 which were developed as a response to Jesus' mission mandate.  
40

- 41 1.0 The mission of the Northwest District is that more people are disciples of  
42 Jesus, in communion with God and with one another, in the Northwest  
43 District than the previous year., Matthew 28:19-20; Ephesians 1:9-10  
44 1.0.1 that "Lay leaders and professional church workers are well equipped,  
45 supported, encouraged and impelled in their congregation's ministry of  
46 reaching lost souls

- 1 1.0.2 “LCMS congregations as part of the whole Christian church on earth work  
2 with congregations of various Christian bodies to reach the lost.”  
3 1.0.3 School teachers and administrators are well equipped, supported,  
4 encouraged and impelled to prepare students to be strong leaders in their  
5 churches and communities  
6 1.0.4 Defenseless, weak and hurting people individually and corporately are  
7 cared for and defended as an integral part of our Gospel proclamation,”  
8 and  
9

10 WHEREAS, Christians are enjoined to “remember your leaders who spoke the word of  
11 God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their  
12 faith.” (Hebrews 13:7), therefore be it  
13

14 RESOLVED, that the Northwest District assembled in convention in Portland, Oregon  
15 on June 18-20, 2009, thank God for the gifts of vision and administration  
16 He has given Dr. Warren W. Schumacher which has made him a blessing  
17 to the District and to the Church, and be it further  
18

19 RESOLVED, that we recognize that he has used those gifts in fulfilling the mission of  
20 the Presidency of the Northwest District and to the glory of God, and be it  
21 finally  
22

23 RESOLVED, that in praise to God and in recognition of Dr. Schumacher’s dedicated  
24 service, the convention rise and sing the common doxology.  
25  
26

27 COMMITTEE #2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman  
28  
29

30 (cf Overture 2-08, To Thank the Lord of the Church for Blessing President Schumacher  
31 with Gifts of Leadership and to Recognize His Use of Those Gifts in Dedicated Service  
32 to the District and to the Church)  
33  
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38

1 **RESOLUTION 2.11**

2  
3 **TO ACCEPT REPORTS**

4  
5 WHEREAS, the Theology, Practice and District Ministries Committee has reviewed the  
6 reports of the Martha & Mary Lutheran Services, Ministry to Military  
7 Personnel, Families, and Congregations (MMPFC), Mount Rainer  
8 Lutheran High School, Northwest District PRAYER MINISTRY, NW  
9 Parish Nurse Ministries, Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ, Pacific  
10 Lutheran University, Pacific Rim Outreach Society, Riverview Retirement  
11 Community, Seminary Applicant Interview Committee, Student Aid Task  
12 Force, Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Home, Tacoma Seafarer's Center,  
13 Theological Consultant for NWD, Trinity Lutheran College, Wheat Ridge  
14 Ministries, therefore be it

15  
16 RESOLVED, that we accept these reports with thanksgiving to God for the contributions  
17 of these strategic alliances to the life and mission of the District during the  
18 past triennium; and be it finally

19  
20 RESOLVED, that we encourage their continuing efforts in the Lord's service during the  
21 next three years.

22  
23  
24 COMMITTEE NO. 2: Rev. Paul Doellinger, Chairman

25  
26 (cf Martha & Mary Lutheran Services, page 4-42; Ministry to Military Personnel,  
27 Families, and Congregations (MMPFC), page 4-43; Mount Rainer Lutheran High School,  
28 page 4-45; Northwest District PRAYER MINISTRY, page 4-46; NW Parish Nurse  
29 Ministries, page 4-47; Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ, page 4-48; Pacific Lutheran  
30 University, page 4-49; Pacific Rim Outreach Society, page 4-50; Riverview Retirement  
31 Community, page 4-51; Seminary Applicant Interview Committee, page 4-52; Student  
32 Aid Task Force, page 4-54; Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Home, page 4-55; Tacoma  
33 Seafarer's Center, page 4-56; Theological Consultant for NWD, page 4-57; Trinity  
34 Lutheran College, page 4-58; Wheat Ridge Ministries, page 4-60)  
35

## **OMNIBUS RESOLUTION A**

| <b><u>Overtures</u></b> | <b><u>Subject</u></b>   | <b><u>Board, Commission, or Individual</u></b>           |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| 1-05                    | To Establish a Process By Which Commissioned Ministers May be Elected Delegates for DISTRICT          | Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance |
| 1-06                    | To Establish a Process by Which Commissioned Ministers May be Elected Delegates for SYNOD Conventions | Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance |
| 1-11                    | To Memorialize Synod to Abandon Its ‘Guttenberg’ Ways and Embrace our ‘Google’ World                  | Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance |
| 1-13                    | To Recognize Synodly Trained Church Workers Not on Synod’s Roster for IRS Purposes                    | Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance |

## **OMNIBUS RESOLUTION C**

| <b><u>Overture</u></b> | <b><u>Subject</u></b>   | <b><u>Reason</u></b>                    |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 1-04                   | To Exercise Appropriate Care in Considering Structure Changes                     | Inaccurate; combined in 1-02            |
| 1-07                   | To Create Electoral Circuits For the 2010 LCMS Convention                         | Contrary to Synod Bylaws                |
| 1-09                   | Improvement to the Information Provided in District Financial Reports             | Does not conform with Synod Bylaw 1.5.4 |
| 1-10                   | To Memorialize Synod to Exercise Due Diligence in Implementing Structural Changes | Inaccurate; combined in 1-02            |