

# Convention Resolutions



The 42<sup>nd</sup> Convention  
of

***Iowa District West***

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Camp Okoboji

Milford, IA

June 8-10, 2025

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1 RESOLUTION #2-01: To Promote Wellness Among Church Workers  
2 OVERTURE #2-01 (*Overtures, p. 3*)  
3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025  
6

7 WHEREAS, The spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of church workers is paramount  
8 to the health and effectiveness of the Church’s mission (1 Tim. 5:17-18, 1 Thes. 5:12-13, Rom. 12:10-  
9 12); and  
10

11 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the 2016 Synodical Convention  
12 (Res 18-02A, 18-03A, 18-04, and 18-05) identified the promotion and nurturing of church worker  
13 wellness as a top priority and recognized the direct correlation between the health of the ministry  
14 and the care of its workers; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) identified that church workers and  
17 their spouses have expressed the need for encouragement, spiritual care, and reminders of their  
18 identity in Christ, as well as support in creating a culture of mutual care and encouragement  
19 (<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness>); and  
20

21 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) identified that barriers such as  
22 perceived weakness, lack of services, concerns about cost, and isolation can impede the mental  
23 wellness of church workers (<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness>); and  
24  
25

26 WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) identified it is essential to address  
27 these needs through accessible resources, advocacy, and a supportive community  
28 (<https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/church-worker-wellness>); Therefore be it  
29

30 *Resolved*, that Iowa District West and its congregations are encouraged through the  
31 leadership and stewardship of the Human Care Committee of Iowa District West to:  
32

33 **Develop** and implement comprehensive wellness programs that address the nine common themes  
34 (Identity in Christ; Supportive and encouraging culture; healthy churches, schools, and ministries;  
35 finances; relationships; caregivers; recognition and connection; awareness, resources, advocacy; care  
36 provided locally) identified by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to help church workers and  
37 their spouses.  
38

39 **Encourage** local congregations to create supportive environments that foster open dialogue and  
40 mutual care among church workers.  
41

42 **Provide** resources and training to help church workers manage financial, relational, and vocational  
43 challenges.

1 **Promote** awareness and understanding of mental health issues within church communities.

2

3 **Facilitate** access to Christian-based counseling and support services for church workers and their  
4 families; be it finally

5

6 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West and its congregations are encouraged to continually  
7 improve the wellness of its workers, ensuring that they are equipped to serve joyfully and effectively  
8 in their sacred callings.

9

10 Respectfully submitted,  
11 Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry

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1 RESOLUTION #2-02: To Build a Culture of Church Work Formation and Recruitment  
2 OVERTURE #2-03 (*Overtures, p. 5-6*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025  
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7

8 WHEREAS, Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray  
9 earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matt. 9:37–38); and  
10

11 WHEREAS, Since 1847 to the present day, the LCMS adopted resolutions in nearly every  
12 convention to form and recruit pastors, teachers and other commissioned church workers to preach,  
13 teach and share the Gospel of Jesus for eternal salvation in these full-time vocations; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged that church worker formation and recruitment  
16 intentionally take place in every LCMS congregation and school by pastors, teachers, commissioned  
17 church workers and laity; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, These convention resolutions urged *districts and congregations* to have active  
20 committees focused on forming and recruiting our youth and adults to consider full-time church  
21 work; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, The pastoral office is the one divinely mandated office by our Lord (John 20:19–23;  
24 Rom. 10:14–15; Eph. 4:11–16) and the seven LCMS commissioned church work vocations have been  
25 established in love to support the Office of the Holy Ministry (Lutheran school teachers, directors of  
26 Christian education, directors of family life ministry, deaconesses, directors of parish music, directors  
27 of church ministries, directors of Christian outreach) (*Lutheran Service Book: Agenda, p. 210 and 218*);  
28 and  
29

30 WHEREAS, In the last five years, approximately twice as many LCMS pastors are exiting the  
31 pastoral office (retirement or death) as there are newly called and ordained pastors; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, In April 2024, there were 51 unfilled calls of congregations calling a seminary  
34 candidate, 406 congregations calling a sole pastor, 56 congregations calling a senior pastor, 67  
35 congregations calling an associate pastor, and 529 non-calling congregations for various reasons (as  
36 per Set Apart to Serve Initiative); and  
37

38 WHEREAS, In 2023, our LCMS schools requested 455 new teachers from our Concordia  
39 universities, but only 84 students were graduating with teaching degrees; furthermore, LCMS  
40 congregations, schools and entities requested 79 other LCMS commissioned workers for placements,  
41 but only 64 church work students were graduating from the Concordia universities (Concordia  
42 Placement Directors); and  
43

44 WHEREAS, *Set Apart to Serve* began with the 2019 LCMS Convention (Resolution 6-01) with  
45 the overarching goal of developing a culture of church work formation and recruitment in every LCMS  
46 congregation, school and entity; and



1 RESOLUTION #2-03: To Encourage Every Congregation to Enact Sexual Abuse Prevention Strategies  
2 OVERTURE #2-05 (*Overtures, p. 8*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025

6  
7 WHEREAS, The psalmist writes, "Children are a reward from the Lord," (Psalm 127:3); and

8  
9 WHEREAS, The psalmist calls us to "Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand  
10 of the wicked," (Psalm 82:4); and

11  
12 WHEREAS, God's Apostle Paul directs us to "look not only to your own interests, but also to  
13 the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4); and

14  
15 WHEREAS, MinistrySafe [<https://ministrysafe.com/lcms>] reports statistics such as:  
16 + 90% of sexual abuse victims are abused by someone they know and trust.  
17 + Protective barriers in the church tend to be critically low, creating a target for predators.  
18 + Most molesters appear helpful, trustworthy and responsible.  
19 + Additional statistics available on aforementioned website; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, Background checks are one deterrent in ensuring protection for our youth and also  
22 provide some legal protection and it is important to provide additional safeguards; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, There are many vendors that provide sexual abuse prevention training,  
25 background checks, and policies for the protection of our children; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, IDW has budgeted funds for the use of congregations to have access to provide  
28 sexual abuse prevention training; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, Church insurance companies have example sexual abuse prevention policies; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, The District Executive for Education, Youth and Family Life is available to assist  
33 congregations concerning best practices, training, and other youth safety concerns; Therefore be it

34  
35 RESOLVED, That each congregation of IDW be encouraged to develop and implement safety  
36 policies to protect those under 18 years of age as well as other vulnerable adults in our congregations  
37 through the use of background checks, sexual abuse prevention training and policies.

38  
39 Respectfully submitted,  
40 Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry

1 RESOLUTION #2-04: To Give Thanks for the One True Faith as Confessed in the Nicene Creed on its  
2 1700<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
3 OVERTURE #2-07 (*Overtures, p. 11*)

4  
5 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
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8  
9 WHEREAS, In the year of our Lord 2025, the One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church  
10 celebrates the 1700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicea and the adoption of the Nicene Creed;  
11 and

12  
13 WHEREAS, In the year of our Lord 325 Emperor Constantine  
14 (<https://blog.cph.org/read/church-year/commemoration/constantine-helena>) convened the First  
15 Ecumenical Council at Nicaea, ([https://blog.cph.org/read/church-year/commemoration/ecumenical-](https://blog.cph.org/read/church-year/commemoration/ecumenical-council-of-nicaea)  
16 [council-of-nicaea](https://blog.cph.org/read/church-year/commemoration/ecumenical-council-of-nicaea)) in Bithynia, present day Iznik, Turkey, for the purpose of settling the controversy  
17 precipitated by the teaching of Arius, who denied the true divinity of Christ, denying that Jesus is true  
18 God, begotten of the Father; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, The council, attended by 318 bishops, ruled against the Arians, who taught that  
21 Jesus was not the eternal Son of God but was created by the Father and was called Son of God  
22 because of His righteousness; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, The council at Nicea, faithfully defended and confessed the one true faith of the  
25 Homoousians, that the Father and the Son are of the same essence, as the Nicene Creed confesses;  
26 and

27  
28 WHEREAS, The Nicene Creed, as confessed at Nicea, was fully adopted at the Council of  
29 Constantinople in the year of our Lord 381, is a symbol of our faith, which we believe, teach and  
30 confess, as pastors and congregations of Iowa District West and The Lutheran Church—Missouri  
31 Synod, to be a confession of the unanimous, universal Christian faith, pledging ourselves to this  
32 symbol, as was done by those at Nicea; Therefore be it

33  
34 *Resolved*, That the congregations and pastors of Iowa District West, at their forty-second  
35 convention, as PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL and as ONE GENERATION COMMENDING GOD’S WORKS TO  
36 ANOTHER, be encouraged to study and give thanks for the one true faith as was confessed and  
37 handed down by those at Nicea; and be it finally

38  
39 *Resolved*, That upon passage of this resolution, the assembly stand and confess the Nicene  
40 Creed, followed by the singing of the common doxology.  
41

42  
43 Respectfully submitted,  
44 Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry  
45

1 RESOLUTION #2-05: To Support and Encourage Adoption  
2 OVERTURE #2-06 (*Overtures, p. 9-10*)  
3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
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7 WHEREAS, Christians have a legacy of caring for “widows and orphans in their affliction”  
8 (James 1:27, Deuteronomy 14:29, Deuteronomy 24:19, Psalm 82:3) through the practice of adoption;  
9 and  
10

11 WHEREAS, In the United States, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, her congregations,  
12 and affiliated parachurch organizations have especially exemplified these concerns and embodied  
13 this mercy; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, Some 115,000 children nationwide are awaiting families and homes through  
16 adoption this year (<https://adoptioncouncil.org/article/foster-care-and-adoption-statistics/>); and  
17

18 WHEREAS, In many jurisdictions, state involvement in adoption imposes restrictions that  
19 result in a significant proportion of these children receiving placements in situations contrary to the  
20 Heavenly Father’s design and intention for sexuality and marriage and without regard for their  
21 eternal welfare; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, The 2022 *Dobbs* verdict of the U. S. Supreme Court overturned the *Roe v. Wade*  
24 abortion access framework and directed renewed public attention to childbearing; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, It is our duty to speak up for those unable to speak for themselves (Proverbs 31:8-  
27 9); Therefore be it  
28

29 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West, in grateful response to our own baptismal adoption as  
30 children of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, affirm our Christian privilege and responsibility to  
31 advocate and undertake protecting and providing for children awaiting adoption and fostering,  
32 particularly that they might enter His kingdom by baptism and belief in His saving name; and be it  
33 further  
34

35 *Resolved*, That we encourage our District’s leaders and congregations to promote awareness  
36 of Christian adoption and fostering needs, agencies, and opportunities; and be it further  
37

38 *Resolved*, That we recognize and commend the Recognized Service Organizations of The  
39 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod engaged in these services with our prayers, our advocacy, and our  
40 contributions to further their labors among us and on our behalf; and be it finally  
41

42 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West memorialize in convention and refer this important work to  
43 the Synod’s Convention for their concurrence and support of these efforts to love and support  
44 orphans with leadership and necessary actions.  
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Respectfully submitted,  
Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry

1 RESOLUTION #2-06: To Commission a Study to Support Ethnic Ministry Pastors and Commissioned  
2 Workers  
3 OVERTURE #2-04 (*Overtures, p. 7*)

4  
5 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
6 JUNE 8-10, 2025

7  
8 WHEREAS, The mission of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is to make known the  
9 love of Christ by word and deed within our churches, communities, and the world(Matthew 28:19);  
10 and

11  
12 WHEREAS, The LCMS recognizes the importance of ethnic diversity in ministry and the unique  
13 challenges faced by ethnic ministry pastors and commissioned workers as demonstrated by the  
14 formation of the All Nations Council; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, There is a need, as demonstrated by the formation of the All Nations Council, for a  
17 deeper understanding of the specific support required by ethnic ministry leaders to serve their  
18 congregations and communities effectively; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, The LCMS has previously engaged in discussions to address the challenges and  
21 opportunities of ethnic and intercultural ministry (All Nations Council); and

22  
23 WHEREAS, Supporting ethnic ministry leaders is essential for the health of the church;  
24 Therefore be it

25  
26 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West memorialize The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in  
27 convention to commission a comprehensive study to identify effective ways to support ethnic  
28 ministry pastors and commissioned workers; and be it further

29  
30 *Resolved*, That this study will involve a wide range of stakeholders throughout the LCMS; and  
31 be it further

32  
33 *Resolved*, That the study will examine best practices, resources, and educational support that  
34 can be implemented for the sake of the ministry of ethnic leaders; and be it further

35  
36 *Resolved*, That the findings of the study will be used to develop a strategic plan to provide  
37 ongoing support, mentorship, and resources for congregations, ethnic ministry pastors, and  
38 commissioned workers; and be it finally

39  
40 *Resolved*, That the LCMS will allocate the necessary funds and resources to conduct this study  
41 and implement its recommendations, reaffirming its commitment to an ethnically diverse church  
42 body.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry

1 RESOLUTION #2-07: To Advance the Reach of Word and Sacrament Ministry in Our Local Community  
2 OVERTURE #2-02 (*Overtures, p. 4*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
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7

8 WHEREAS, The Great Commission calls us to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and  
9 teaching them to observe all that Christ has commanded (Matthew 28:19-20); and  
10

11 WHEREAS, Word and Sacrament Ministry is central to our Lutheran faith, providing the means  
12 through which God gives His grace, forgiveness, and eternal life; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Our local communities are diverse and ever-changing, with many yet to hear the  
15 Gospel or partake in the Sacraments; Therefore be it  
16

17 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West and its congregations be encouraged to commit to a  
18 strategic initiative to meet the spiritual needs of our neighbors by expanding Word and Sacrament  
19 Ministry into the local community; and be it further  
20

21 *Resolved*, That this initiative will include the development of new mission plants and  
22 community outreach programs designed to engage with the unreached and unchurched; and be it  
23 finally  
24

25 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West through the Missions Committee be encouraged to provide  
26 resources and training for pastors and lay leaders to equip them for effective evangelism and ministry  
27 in a variety of cultural contexts.  
28

29 Respectfully submitted,  
30 Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry  
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1 RESOLUTION #2-08: To Allow Greater Access to the Lutheran Confessions  
2 OVERTURE #2-08 (*Overtures, p. 12-13*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
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6

7 WHEREAS, The primary objectives of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), as stated  
8 in Article III of the Constitution of the LCMS, are: “Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith,  
9 work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide  
10 a united defense against schism, sectarianism, and heresy”; and “Strengthen congregations and their  
11 members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and  
12 Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world”; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, The Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Lutheran Confessions),  
15 as listed in Article II of the Constitution of the LCMS, as a true and unadulterated statement and  
16 exposition of the Word of God, are an indispensable resource for achieving the primary objectives of  
17 the LCMS; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House (CPH) is the official publishing house of the Lutheran  
20 Church—Missouri Synod; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, CPH in 2006 published the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church  
23 under the title: Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions-A Reader’s Edition of the Book of Concord – 2nd  
24 edition; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, The said publication, with its historical introductions and other included materials,  
27 presents the Lutheran Confessions most intelligibly and clearly; and is the generally preferred English  
28 translation among native and non-native English speakers alike; and is the preferred source for most  
29 derivative translations into other languages; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, The said publication is currently restricted by Copyright and licensing, so that the  
32 full text is not accessible on the LCMS website nor anywhere else online; nor is the print publication  
33 available in most countries; nor is any derivative translation permitted to be made and published in  
34 print or online without prior permission; and  
35

36 WHEREAS, Removing the current restrictions of the said publication would greatly assist the  
37 LCMS in achieving her primary objectives, by enabling a wider distribution and accessibility of the  
38 Lutheran Confessions; Therefore be it  
39

40 *Resolved*, that we give thanks to CPH for their immense work in bringing the Lutheran  
41 Confessions into contemporary English for the good of the church and the building up of the faith;  
42 and be it finally  
43

44 *Resolved*, That the LCMS in convention direct CPH to grant license to any and all interested  
45 parties to publish, with appropriate attribution, the text of Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions-A

1 Reader's Edition of the Book of Concord – 2nd edition in print and online.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Floor Committee 2 Missions and Ministry

1 RESOLUTION #3-01: To Recognize and Give Thanks for the Leadership of President Steven Turner  
2 OVERTURE #3-01 (*Overtures, p. 14*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
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6

7  
8 WHEREAS, The apostle Paul encourages us to “give recognition to” those who devote  
9 themselves to the service of the saints and bring refreshment to the soul  
10 (1 Cor. 16:15-18); and  
11

12 WHEREAS, faithful district leadership has been vital for the mission and vision of Iowa District  
13 West being “On a Mission to Support Christ’s Mission”; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, Iowa District West has been blessed through district presidency leadership with an  
16 encouragement of “Joy in Salvation” (Luke 15), “Bound Together in Christ’s Love” (Colossians 3:12-  
17 17), “Partners in the Gospel” (Philippians 1:3-5), and as “One Generation Commends Your Works to  
18 Another” (Psalm 145:4); Therefore be it  
19

20 *Resolved*, That President Rev. Dr. Steven Turner be commended for his 39 years of service in  
21 Iowa District West, as parish pastor for 29 years and district president for 10 years; and be it finally  
22

23 *Resolved*, That district in convention stand and give thanks for the blessing of President Rev.  
24 Dr. Steven Turner, henceforth recognized as President Emeritus, and express our gratitude to the  
25 Lord’s work through him by joining together in the doxology.  
26

27 Respectfully submitted,  
28 Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances  
29

1 RESOLUTION #3-02: To Strengthen Through Realignment Congregations of Circuits 1, 6, 8, 16  
2 OVERTURE #3-07 (*Overtures, p. 20*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025

6  
7 WHEREAS, The Southwest Circuit (Circuit number 16) consists of: Bedford, St. Timothy;  
8 Clarinda, Immanuel; Clarinda, St. John; Clarinda, St. Paul; Corning, Redeemer; Creston/Mt. Ayr,  
9 Trinity; Leon, Our Savior's; Osceola, Immanuel; Shenandoah, Trinity; and Villisca, Mt. Calvary; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, The Southwest Circuit has fallen below Synodical requirements for communicant  
12 members, as stated in Constitutional Bylaw 3.1.2

13 "Electoral circuits shall meet as required by the Bylaws of the Synod to elect circuit  
14 voting delegates to the Synod's national conventions.

15 (a) An electoral circuit shall consist either of one or two adjacent visitation circuits, as  
16 shall be determined by the district board of directors on the basis of the following  
17 requirements: each pair of delegates shall represent from 7 to 20 member  
18 congregations, involving an aggregate confirmed membership ranging from 1,500 to  
19 10,000"; Therefore be it

20  
21 *Resolved*, That the Southwest Circuit be dissolved and the congregations be realigned as  
22 follows:

23 Clarinda, Immanuel  
24 Clarinda, St. John  
25 Clarinda, St. Paul  
26 Shenandoah, Trinity  
27 and Villisca, Mt. Calvary  
28 be aligned with the Council Bluffs Circuit (Circuit 6)

29  
30 Bedford, St. Timothy  
31 Corning, Redeemer  
32 and Creston/Mt. Ayr, Trinity  
33 be aligned with the Adair Circuit (Circuit 1)

34  
35 Leon, Our Savior's  
36 and Osceola, Immanuel  
37 be aligned with the Des Moines East Circuit (Circuit 8)

38  
39 Respectfully submitted,  
40 Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances  
41

1 RESOLUTION #3-03: To Bring Awareness to Congregations by Encouraging Them to Develop a Disaster  
2 and Risk Response Plan

3 OVERTURE #3-02 (*Overtures, p. 15*)

4  
5 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA

6 JUNE 8-10, 2025

7  
8 WHEREAS, The world we live in is increasingly subject to various natural and human-caused  
9 disasters, which can cause significant harm to communities and disrupt the lives of the faithful; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, Our faith calls us to be stewards of our communities, to “love thy neighbor,” and to  
12 assist those in need during times of distress; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, Preparedness is a virtue that reflects wisdom and foresight, enabling us to act  
15 swiftly and effectively in the face of calamity; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, The lack of a disaster response plan can result in confusion, delayed action, and  
18 increased suffering for both our congregants and our neighbors; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, The Iowa District West Human Care Committee in conjunction with the director of  
21 Iowa Outreach With Adults and Youth (I.O.W.A.Y.) and Lutheran Early Response Team (L.E.R.T.)  
22 provides resources, support, and training to assist congregations in developing and implementing  
23 their disaster response plans; Therefore be it

24  
25 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West do hereby encourage and urge all member congregations  
26 to:

27  
28 **Assess Community and Congregational Risks:** Engage in a thorough assessment of potential disasters  
29 specific to their geographical location and community context; and congregational risk including  
30 appropriate risk coverage (including insurance and other procedural policies).

31 **Develop a Comprehensive Plan:** Create a disaster response plan that includes evacuation procedures,  
32 sheltering strategies, and resource allocation;

33 **Form a Response Team:** Establish a dedicated team trained in disaster response, first aid, and  
34 emotional and spiritual care;

35 **Educate the Congregation:** Conduct regular educational sessions for congregants on disaster  
36 preparedness and response;

37 **Collaborate with Local Authorities:** Foster relationships with local emergency management agencies  
38 and other faith-based organizations for coordinated response efforts;

39 **Review and Practice:** To ensure readiness, regularly review and update the disaster response plan  
40 and conduct practice drills.

41  
42  
43 Respectfully submitted,

Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances

1 RESOLUTION #3-04: To Support the Compassionate Mission of Lutheran Family Service  
2 OVERTURES #3-03 & #3-04 (*Overtures, p. 16-17*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025  
6

7 WHEREAS, Lutheran Family Service of Iowa has been a beacon of hope and support for  
8 individuals and families in need for over a century, providing essential services such as adoption,  
9 unplanned pregnancy support, and mental health and marriage counseling; Church worker wellness;  
10 and  
11

12 WHEREAS, The organization upholds the values of grace, life, family, compassion, and  
13 accountability, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone of their ministry; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, The work of Lutheran Family Service of Iowa aligns with the Biblical call to “bear  
16 one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2) and to care for the least of these (Matthew 25:40); and  
17

18 WHEREAS, The need for such services continues to grow, with many in our communities  
19 facing challenges that require the professional and faith-based support that Lutheran Family Service  
20 of Iowa provides; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, The organization is Iowa’s only Recognized Service Organization (RSO) by The  
23 Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) for pregnancy support, adoption services, marriage  
24 counseling, mental health counseling, & church worker wellness, making it a unique and vital  
25 resource for our state; Therefore be it  
26

27 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West recognizes and commends the work of Lutheran Family  
28 Service of Iowa for their dedication to serving the needs of our communities; and be it further  
29

30 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West encourages its member congregations to actively  
31 support the mission of Lutheran Family Service of Iowa through prayer, volunteerism, and financial  
32 contributions; and be it further  
33

34 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West encourages the Board of Directors to continue support of  
35 the mission of Lutheran Family Service of Iowa; with a contribution of 3% of the annual budget and  
36 be it further  
37

38 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West will partner with Lutheran Family Service of Iowa to  
39 promote awareness of the services they offer and to facilitate access to these services for those in  
40 need within our congregations and communities; and be it finally  
41

42 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West will seek to collaborate with Lutheran Family Service of  
43 Iowa in outreach efforts and initiatives that align with our shared mission of demonstrating Christ’s  
44 love through service.  
45

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Respectfully submitted,  
Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances

1 RESOLUTION #3-05: To Embrace Biblical Stewardship for the Flourishing of Christ’s Mission  
2 OVERTURE #3-05 (*Overtures, p. 18*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025  
6

7  
8 WHEREAS, The Holy Scriptures provide numerous examples of faithful stewardship, from  
9 Joseph’s wise administration in Egypt (Genesis 41-47) to the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-  
10 30); and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Stewardship is a calling to manage God’s creation responsibly, reflecting our  
13 accountability to Him as outlined in Genesis 2:15; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, The current state of God’s creation, financial and relational stewardship within our  
16 communities and congregations often falls short of the biblical mandate to “tend and keep” the earth  
17 (Genesis 2:15); and

18  
19 WHEREAS, There is a pressing need to educate and empower members of our congregations  
20 in the principles of biblical stewardship, ensuring that all resources are used for the glory of God and  
21 the good of His people; Therefore be it

22  
23 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West encourages its congregations to undertake initiatives  
24 focused on biblical stewardship; and be it further

25  
26 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West will continue to make available and distribute resources  
27 through its website, including sermon series, Bible study, devotions and practical tools, to assist  
28 congregations in implementing stewardship initiatives that address the care of God’s creation,  
29 financial wisdom and community service; and be it finally

30  
31 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West will encourage its congregations to establish an annual  
32 stewardship emphasis, dedicated to celebrating and promoting the stewardship of time, talent, and  
33 treasure within our congregations and communities.  
34

35 Respectfully submitted,  
36 Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances  
37

1 RESOLUTION #3-06: To Review the *Handbook* of Iowa District West  
2 OVERTURE #3-06 (*Overtures, p. 19*)

3  
4 TO IOWA DISTRICT WEST IN CONVENTION AT CAMP OKOBOJI, IOWA  
5 JUNE 8-10, 2025

6  
7  
8 WHEREAS, God has blessed Iowa District West with competent and forward-looking district  
9 leadership; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, Iowa District West desires to transition this leadership to future generations of  
12 leaders; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, Iowa District West will have new leadership and it has been ten years since  
15 leadership has done an extensive review of the *Handbook* of Iowa District West; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, Iowa District West wants to continue to support its mission in an effective and  
18 resource-efficient manner; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, The Board of Directors, as stewards of district resources, holds the responsibility to  
21 oversee and recommend adaptations necessary for a vibrant and sustainable future; Therefore be it

22  
23 *Resolved*, That Iowa District West in convention encourage the Board of Directors to appoint a  
24 district *Handbook* committee to undertake an extensive review of all district boards, committees,  
25 staff positions, and executive assistants; and be it finally

26  
27 *Resolved*, That the Board of Directors bring forth any recommended actions at the next  
28 convention of Iowa District West.

29  
30  
31 Respectfully submitted,  
32 Floor Committee 3 Administration and Finances  
33  
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